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Sixty-ninth session Agenda item 19 (c)

Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Report of the Second Committee*

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I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/69/468, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 30th, 33rd and 35th meetings, on 5 and 20 November and 1 December 2014. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/69/SR.30, 33 and 35).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/69/L.17 and A/C.2/69/L.46

2. At the 30th meeting, on 5 November, the representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon" (A/C.2/69/L.17), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999, 55/197 of 20 December 2000, 56/194 of 21 December 2001, 57/255 of 20 December 2002, 59/232 of 22 December 2004, 61/199 of 20 December 2006, 63/215 of 19 December 2008, 65/158 of 20 December 2010 and 67/208 of 21 December 2012 and

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Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

"Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

"*Reaffirming* the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters resulting from the El Niño phenomenon,

"*Noting* that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

"Taking into account the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled 'The future we want', the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), in particular paragraph 37 (i) thereof, and the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled the 'SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway',

"*Reaffirming* the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,

"*Noting* the convening of the Climate Summit by the Secretary-General on 23 September 2014,

"Acknowledging the importance of the ongoing efforts to mainstream disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation across sustainable development efforts, including taking into account the future impacts of El Niño in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation activities,

"Recognizing that the El Niño phenomenon is expected to occur in late 2014 or early 2015 and that it is likely to have a global impact,

"Recognizing also that most of the negative effects will occur in developing countries,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, in particular the annex to the report, entitled 'Update on international cooperation to reduce the impact of El Niño/La Niña', and calls upon the international community to make further efforts to assist countries affected by this phenomenon;

"2. *Recognizes* the continued efforts being made by the Governments of Ecuador and Spain, the World Meteorological Organization and the interagency secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to support the International Research Centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, Ecuador,

and encourages them and other members of the international community to continue such contributions for the advancement of the Centre;

"3. Welcomes the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including the national oceanographic institutions, and encourages further efforts to enhance regional and international recognition of and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and government authorities for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

"4. Notes the contribution of the International Research Centre on El Niño as a reference centre on El Niño, including through developing a new climatic database for El Niño/Southern Oscillation-sensitive countries, carrying out applied research in climate change and vulnerability assessments in highlands, coastal zones and marine-protected and urban areas and providing professional training in the Americas, and encourages the sharing of best practices and lessons learned with climate centres located in other El Niño-affected regions;

"5. *Notes also* the assistance provided to Governments by the International Research Centre on El Niño in the development of early warning systems that allow for the implementation of anticipatory risk reduction measures that contribute to the reduction of the potential human, economic and environmental impact of the phenomenon;

"6. *Recognizes* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization in producing regionally coordinated monthly and seasonal forecasts, in particular its establishment of a consensus mechanism for the development of updates on El Niño/La Niña conditions, which receives contributions from several climate centres, including the International Research Centre on El Niño;

"7. *Encourages* the World Meteorological Organization, in this regard, to continue to strengthen collaboration and the exchange of data and information with relevant institutions;

"8. *Notes* the convening of the third International Conference on El Niño-Southern Oscillation from 12 to 14 November 2014 in Guayaquil, Ecuador, which will provide an opportunity to synthesize progress in research on the El Niño phenomenon, address linkages between climate and society and share experiences on El Niño vulnerability assessment methodologies;

"9. Welcomes the convening of the third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction from 14 to 18 March 2015 in Sendai, Japan, and acknowledges the ongoing preparatory process for the Conference, which is taking place in Geneva;

"10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the measures necessary to further enhance the services provided by the International Research Centre on El Niño, and encourages the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

"11. *Calls upon* the international community to urgently provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries that are likely to be affected by the El Niño phenomenon;

"12. Underlines the importance of maintaining the El Niño/Southern Oscillation observation system, continuing research into extreme weather events, improving forecasting skills and developing appropriate policies for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon and other extreme weather events, and emphasizes the need to further develop and strengthen these institutional capacities in all countries, in particular developing countries;

"13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, under the sub-item entitled 'International Strategy for Disaster Reduction' of the item entitled 'Sustainable development', a section on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At its 33rd meeting, on 20 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon" (A/C.2/69/L.46), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Tishka Francis (Bahamas), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.17.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.46 had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.46 (see para. 13, draft resolution I).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.46, draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.17 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/69/L.18 and A/C.2/69/L.51

7. At the 30th meeting, on 5 November, the representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" (A/C.2/69/L.18), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 60/195 of 22 December 2005, 64/200 of 21 December 2009, 65/157 of 20 December 2010, 66/199 of 22 December 2011, 67/209 of 21 December 2012 and 68/211 of 20 December 2013, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

"Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled 'The future we want', in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

"Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),

"Recalling also the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

"Recalling further resolution 68/309, in which it welcomed the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and decided that the report should be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda,

"*Noting* the Climate Summit hosted by the Secretary-General on 23 September 2014,

"Noting that 26 December 2014 marks the tenth anniversary of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster, which struck the Indian Ocean and South-East Asian regions and killed approximately 240,000 people, affecting the lives of victims and their families, and resulted in severe socioeconomic and environmental damage,

"Recalling that the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which will be held in Japan from 14 to 18 March 2015, will review the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters and adopt a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/211;

"2. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction, and encourages Member States and the relevant United Nations bodies to take into consideration the important role of disaster risk reduction activities for, inter alia, the achievement of sustainable development;

"3. *Strongly encourages* giving appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience to disasters within the post-2015 development agenda;

"4. *Reiterates its appreciation* to the Government of Japan for its generous offer to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and its generous pledge to cover the costs of the Conference, welcomes the voluntary contributions already made to facilitate the participation in the Conference of representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and invites those States that have not yet done so to make such voluntary contributions;

"5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Switzerland for hosting the meetings of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee for the Third World Conference;

"6. *Welcomes* the work of the ongoing preparatory process for the Third World Conference, which is being carried out in Geneva;

"7. *Reiterates its strong encouragement* of the promotion of a complementary and coherent approach to the relationship among the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, the post-2015 development agenda and the climate change intergovernmental process;

"8. Also reiterates its invitation to Member States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other relevant intergovernmental agencies and organizations, including regional development banks, to participate actively in the Third World Conference, and encourages major groups, as identified in Agenda 21, and other relevant stakeholders, to contribute further to and participate actively in the Conference, according to the rules of procedure agreed upon by its Preparatory Committee;

"9. *Further reiterates* the importance of regional coordination in the framework of the preparatory process in order to promote broad participation in the Third World Conference, and welcomes in this regard the deliberations of the regional platforms and meetings which have been held in Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Italy, Nigeria and Thailand;

"10. Takes note of the update on progress regarding the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters at the national, regional and global levels, as contained in the report entitled 'Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action: summary of reports 2007-2013', and notes the support work of intergovernmental organizations and other relevant bodies in this regard;

"11. Acknowledges the increasing demands addressed to the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and the importance of disaster risk reduction in the work of the United Nations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to provide adequate funds and human resources, beginning in the biennium 2016-2017, to enable the secretariat to effectively respond to the growing needs reflected in the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the outcome document of the Third World Conference to the attention of Member States, relevant international and regional organizations, multilateral financial institutions and the regional development banks, as well as relevant intergovernmental processes and conferences;

"13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session, under the item entitled 'Sustainable development', the sub-item entitled 'International Strategy for Disaster Reduction';

"14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the outcome of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction."

8. At its 35th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" (A/C.2/69/L.51), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Tishka Francis (Bahamas), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.18.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.51 had no programme budget implications.

10. Also at the same meeting, the Vice-Chair (Bahamas) made a statement and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.51 (see A/C.2/69/SR.35).

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.51, as orally corrected (see para. 13, draft resolution II).

12. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.51, draft resolution A/C.2/69/L.18 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

13. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999, 55/197 of 20 December 2000, 56/194 of 21 December 2001, 57/255 of 20 December 2002, 59/232 of 22 December 2004, 61/199 of 20 December 2006, 63/215 of 19 December 2008, 65/158 of 20 December 2010 and 67/208 of 21 December 2012 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters resulting from the El Niño phenomenon,

Noting that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

Taking into account the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",¹ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development² and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),³ in particular paragraph 37 (i) thereof, and the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled the "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway",⁴

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration⁵ and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,⁶

¹ Resolution 66/288, annex.

² Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

³ Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

⁴ Report of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, Apia, Samoa, 1-4 September 2014 (A/CONF.223/10), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁵ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

⁶ Ibid., resolution 2.

Noting the conclusion of the Secretary-General's Climate Summit, and welcoming its contribution to existing political momentum with a view to galvanizing action to address climate change,

Acknowledging the importance of the ongoing efforts to mainstream disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation across sustainable development efforts, including taking into account the future impacts of El Niño in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation activities,

Recognizing that the El Niño phenomenon is expected to occur in late 2014 or early 2015 and that it is likely to have a global impact,

Recognizing also that most of the negative effects will occur in developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,⁷ in particular the annex to the report, entitled "Update on international cooperation to reduce the impact of El Niño/La Niña", and calls upon the international community to make further efforts to assist countries affected by this phenomenon;

2. *Recognizes* the continued efforts being made by the Governments of Ecuador and Spain, the World Meteorological Organization and the inter-agency secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to support the International Research Centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and encourages them and other members of the international community to continue such contributions for the advancement of the Centre;

3. Welcomes the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including the national oceanographic institutions, and encourages further efforts to enhance regional and international recognition of and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and government authorities for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

4. Notes the contribution of the International Research Centre on El Niño as a reference centre on El Niño, including through developing a new climatic database for El Niño/Southern Oscillation-sensitive countries, carrying out applied research in climate change and vulnerability assessments in highlands, coastal zones and marine-protected and urban areas and providing professional training in the Americas, and encourages the sharing of best practices and lessons learned with climate centres located in other El Niño-affected regions;

5. *Notes also* the assistance provided to Governments by the International Research Centre on El Niño in the development of early warning systems that allow for the implementation of anticipatory risk reduction measures that contribute to the reduction of the potential human, economic and environmental impact of the phenomenon;

6. *Recognizes* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization in producing regionally coordinated monthly and seasonal forecasts, in particular its establishment of a consensus mechanism for the development of updates on El Niño/La Niña conditions, which receives

⁷ A/69/364.

contributions from several climate centres, including the International Research Centre on El Niño;

7. *Encourages* the World Meteorological Organization, in this regard, to continue to strengthen collaboration and the exchange of data and information with relevant institutions;

8. *Notes* the convening of the third International Conference on El Niño-Southern Oscillation from 12 to 14 November 2014 in Guayaquil, Ecuador, which provided an opportunity to synthesize progress in research on the El Niño phenomenon, address linkages between climate and society and share experiences on El Niño vulnerability assessment methodologies;

9. *Welcomes* the convening of the third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction from 14 to 18 March 2015 in Sendai, Japan, and acknowledges the ongoing preparatory process for the Conference, which is taking place in Geneva;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the measures necessary to further enhance the services provided by the International Research Centre on El Niño, and encourages the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to urgently provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries that are likely to be affected by the El Niño phenomenon;

12. Underlines the importance of maintaining the El Niño/Southern Oscillation observation system, continuing research into extreme weather events, improving forecasting skills and developing appropriate policies for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon and other extreme weather events, and emphasizes the need to further develop and strengthen these institutional capacities in all countries, in particular developing countries;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, under the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", a section on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution II International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 60/195 of 22 December 2005, 64/200 of 21 December 2009, 65/157 of 20 December 2010, 66/199 of 22 December 2011, 67/209 of 21 December 2012 and 68/211 of 20 December 2013, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",¹ in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,² Agenda 21,³ the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,⁴ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁵ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),⁶

Recalling also the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals⁷ and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,⁸

Recalling further its resolution 68/309 of 10 September 2014, in which it welcomed the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals⁹ and decided that the proposal of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals contained in its report shall be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda, while recognizing that other inputs will also be considered, in the intergovernmental negotiation process at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly,

Noting the conclusion of the Secretary-General's Climate Summit, and welcoming its contribution to the existing political momentum with a view to galvanizing action to address climate change,

Noting also the initiative of the Secretary-General to hold the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016 and its possible contributions to disaster risk reduction,

¹ Resolution 66/288, annex.

² Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

³ Ibid., annex II.

⁴ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁵ Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁶ Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

⁷ Resolution 65/1.

⁸ Resolution 68/6.

⁹ A/68/970 and Corr.1.

Stressing the importance of stronger interlinkages among disaster risk reduction, recovery and long-term development planning, calling for more coordinated and comprehensive strategies that integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation considerations into public and private investment, decision-making and the planning of development and humanitarian actions in order to reduce risks, increase resilience and provide a smoother transition between relief, recovery and development, and in this regard recognizing the need to integrate a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities into the design and implementation of all phases of disaster risk management,

Noting that 26 December 2014 marks the tenth anniversary of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster, which struck the Indian Ocean and South-East Asian regions and killed approximately 240,000 people, affecting the lives of victims and their families, and resulted in severe socioeconomic and environmental damage,

Recalling that the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which will be held in Japan from 14 to 18 March 2015, will review the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters¹⁰ and adopt a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/211;¹¹

2. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction, and encourages Member States and the relevant United Nations bodies to take into consideration the important role of coordinated disaster risk reduction activities for, inter alia, the achievement of sustainable development;

3. *Strongly encourages* giving appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience to disasters within the post-2015 development agenda;

4. *Recognizes* the importance of the development of strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels, including government-led strategies, in particular in developing countries, to achieve disaster risk reduction, reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and the risk reduction capacities of regional mechanisms, where they exist, and to strengthen them within national disaster management planning, where appropriate, and requests the regional commissions, within their mandates, to support the efforts of States in this regard, in close coordination with the implementing entities of the United Nations system;

5. Stresses the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters and to build resilience and strengthen coping capacities, in particular in developing countries, through, inter alia, the exchange of best practices, the transfer of technology, as mutually agreed, and technical knowledge, the provision of educational and training programmes for disaster risk reduction and access to relevant data and information, the strengthening of institutional arrangements and the promotion of community participation, recognizing that women play a vital role in disaster risk reduction, ownership through community-

¹⁰ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

¹¹ A/69/364.

based disaster risk management approaches and a people-centred, holistic approach, in order to build an inclusive society and to protect livelihoods and productive assets, including livestock, working animals, tools and seeds;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* to the Government of Japan for its generous offer to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and its generous pledge to cover the costs of the Conference, welcomes the voluntary contributions already made to facilitate the participation in the Conference of representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and invites those States that have not yet done so to make such voluntary contributions;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Switzerland for hosting and covering the costs of two meetings of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee for the Third World Conference;

8. *Welcomes* the work of the ongoing preparatory process for the Third World Conference, which is being carried out in Geneva, and reiterates its decision that the Conference will result in a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented outcome document;

9. *Invites* voluntary commitments by all stakeholders and their networks to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters¹⁰ and to support the development of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction;

10. *Reiterates* its strong encouragement of and the need for effective coordination and coherence between the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, the post-2015 development agenda and other relevant intergovernmental and United Nations processes, in order to build synergies;

11. *Reiterates* its invitation to Member States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other relevant intergovernmental agencies and organizations, including regional development banks, to participate actively in the Third World Conference, and encourages major groups, as identified in Agenda 21,³ and other relevant stakeholders, to contribute further to and participate actively in the Conference, according to the rules of procedure agreed upon by its Preparatory Committee;

12. *Recognizes* in this context the importance of the contributions and participation of all relevant stakeholders, including major groups, parliaments, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, national platforms for disaster risk reduction, focal points for the Hyogo Framework for Action, local government representatives, scientific institutions and the private sector, as well as organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations, at the Third World Conference and during its preparatory process;

13. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities in disaster risk management so as to strengthen the resilience of communities and reduce social vulnerabilities to disasters, and in this regard recognizes the need for the inclusive participation and contribution of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous

peoples and local communities in all forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction;

14. *Reiterates* the importance of regional coordination in the framework of the preparatory process in order to promote broad participation in the Third World Conference, and welcomes in this regard the deliberations of the regional platforms and meetings which have been held in Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Italy, Kazakhstan, Nigeria and Thailand;

15. *Takes note* of the update on progress regarding the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action at the national, regional and global levels, as contained in the report entitled "Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action: summary of reports 2007-2013", and notes the support work of intergovernmental organizations and other relevant bodies in this regard;

16. Acknowledges the importance of the work of the United Nations in disaster risk reduction, the growing demands on the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the need for increased, timely, stable and predictable resources for the implementation of the International Strategy, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to recommend options on how best to support the implementation of the natural disaster reduction strategy so as to enable the secretariat to effectively coordinate the implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the outcome document of the Third World Conference to the attention of Member States, relevant international and regional organizations, multilateral financial institutions and the regional development banks, as well as relevant intergovernmental processes and conferences;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction";

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the outcome of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.