



University of New Haven  
West Haven, CT  
ChargerMUN  
October 29, 2023

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the ChargerMUN 2023! We are excited to introduce you to our committee, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The topic under discussion is:

**\*\*\*Disaster Risk Reduction\*\*\***

This background guide serves as an introduction to the topic for this committee. However, it is not intended to replace individual research. We encourage you to explore your Member State's policies in depth and participate in individual research.

There are two resources, available to download from the National Model United Nations (NMUN) website, to serve as essential instruments in preparing for the Conference, and as a reference during committee sessions:

1. [NMUN Delegate Preparation Guide](#) - explains each step in the delegate process, from pre-Conference research to the committee debate and resolution drafting processes. Please take note of the information on plagiarism and the prohibition on pre-written working papers and resolutions. Delegates should not start discussing the topics with other members of their committee until the first committee session.
2. [NMUN Rules of Procedure](#) - include the long and short form of the rules, as well as an explanatory narrative and example script of the flow of procedure.

In addition, please review the mandatory NMUN Conduct Expectations on the NMUN website. They include the Conference dress code and other expectations of all attendees. We want to emphasize that any instances of sexual harassment or discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or disability will not be tolerated.

We wish you all the best in the coming week and look forward to the final conference!

Sincerely,

*Chris Haynes*

Chris Haynes, Ph.D.

Sydney Altieri

Deepak Dinesh

Sean MacDonald



## Committee Overview

### Introduction

Article 7 of the *Charter of the United Nations* established the General Assembly (GA) as one of the six foundational organs of the United Nations (UN).<sup>1</sup> The six Main Committees of the GA share similar arrangements in structure, governance, membership, functions, and powers, but each Committee addresses a specific thematic area.<sup>2</sup> The Second Committee drafts proposals, prepares recommendations, and reports back to the Main Committee of the General Assembly.<sup>3</sup>

In this conference, you will be participating in the Second Committee, which represents the economic and financial aspects of the General Assembly.<sup>4</sup> It addresses a variety of issues related to financing for development, information and communication technologies (ICTs), macroeconomic policy, globalization and interdependence, as well as the eradication of poverty.<sup>5</sup> The work of the Second Committee involves other UN development bodies such as, but not limited to, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the World Trade Organization (WTO); to complete its policy work and to bridge national action and international policies.<sup>6</sup> For instance, the Second Committee partners with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), through which it gains substantive support and reports on development targets.<sup>7</sup> Likewise, the Second Committee works in collaboration with the United Nations Development Group and the Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination to operationalize and implement development policies and activities.<sup>8</sup> Additionally, to support General Assembly resolution 70/1 on *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda) (2015), the Second Committee works to implement the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* (AAAA) (2015) through policy recommendations that address economic growth and development.<sup>9</sup>

### Mandate Functions, and Powers

As part of the General Assembly, Articles 55 to 60 of the *Charter of the United Nations* mandates the Second Committee to promote higher standards of living and employment, and improved conditions of economic and social development.<sup>10</sup> The Second Committee has a strong focus on development-related

---

<sup>1</sup> *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p.21.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p.23.

<sup>4</sup> UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*; Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations, *The PGA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly*, 2017, p. 71.

<sup>6</sup> UN General Assembly, *Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the special high-level meeting of the Council with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (A/69/83)*, 2014.

<sup>7</sup> UN DESA, *About UN DESA*, 2019; Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations, *The PGA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly*, 2017, p. 73.

<sup>8</sup> UN ECOSOC, *Office for Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development*, 2019.

<sup>9</sup> UN General Assembly, *Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda) (A/RES/69/313)*, 2015; UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015.

<sup>10</sup> UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020; *Charter of the United*



topics such as international trade, poverty eradication, human settlements, globalization, financing for development, and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.<sup>11</sup> To fulfill its mandate, the Second Committee drafts proposals and reports to the General Assembly Plenary on policy recommendations, convenes conferences and summits, and requests the Secretary-General to report on significant issues and host side events.<sup>12</sup> Once reports have been discussed and voted on, the General Assembly may make recommendations to Member States through resolutions.<sup>13</sup>

Due to its special focus on development issues and the 2030 Agenda, the Second Committee observes the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).<sup>14</sup> To track and monitor progress on the SDGs, the Second Committee requests reports from the Secretary-General.<sup>15</sup> For example, in the report to the General Assembly on “Macroeconomic Policy Questions: External Debt Sustainability and Development,” the Second Committee requests the Secretary-General to assess the impact of investment requirements on external debt sustainability in developing states.<sup>16</sup> Following this report, the General Assembly adopted resolution 73/221 “External Debt Sustainability and Development,” which requests the Secretary-General to analyze the core indicators on external debt sustainability in developing states and invites Member States to take the necessary measures to achieve SDG 17.4.<sup>17</sup> Additionally, the Second Committee supports Member States in enacting legislation and implementing policies.<sup>18</sup> For instance, the Second Committee collaborates with the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development and ECOSOC to enact policy recommendations on financing for sustainable development and to implement the 2030 Agenda.<sup>19</sup>

Additionally, General Assembly resolution 72/313 “Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,” seeks to improve the working methods and practices of its committees by formulating more concise, action-orientated resolutions and grouping agenda items together thematically.<sup>20</sup> As a result, the Second Committee can reduce duplications in the agendas of the Second and Third Committee, ECOSOC and its substantive bodies, and the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).<sup>21</sup> Further, the Second Committee may provide directions on special situations including least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), and small island developing states (SIDS).<sup>22</sup> Moreover, the Second Committee may make recommendations related to international social and health

---

*Nations, 1945; UNEG, UNEG Handbook for Conducting Evaluations of Normative Work in the UN System, 2014.*

<sup>11</sup> UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020.

<sup>12</sup> UN General Assembly, *Organization of work of the Second Committee: Note by the Secretariat (A/C.2/73/L.1)*, 2019; New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, *United Nations Handbook 2019-20*, 2020, p. 23.

<sup>13</sup> UN General Assembly, *Functions and powers of the General Assembly*, 2020.

<sup>14</sup> UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020.

<sup>15</sup> Dag Hammarskjöld Library, *Reports of Principal Organs to the General Assembly*, 2019.

<sup>16</sup> UN General Assembly, *Macroeconomic policy questions: external debt sustainability and development (A/73/536/Add.3)*, 2018.

<sup>17</sup> UN General Assembly, *External Debt Sustainability and Development (A/RES/73/221)*, 2019; UN General Assembly, *External Debt Sustainability and Development Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/234)*, 2019.

<sup>18</sup> UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020.

<sup>19</sup> UN General Assembly, *Fourth Industrial Revolution Taken Up in Report of Task Force on Financing for Development (GA/EF/3492)*, 2018.

<sup>20</sup> UN General Assembly, *Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (A/72/313)*, 2017.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>22</sup> UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020; Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, *Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (A/CONF.219/3/Rev.1)*, 2011.



issues through cultural and social cooperation and the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms.<sup>23</sup>

### **Conclusion**

The General Assembly Second Committee addresses the international economic and financial priorities of the UN, including those established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.<sup>24</sup> The Second Committee continues to streamline its work with the overarching goals of improving economic and financial systems worldwide and achieving the SDGs.<sup>25</sup> In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, measuring and reporting on the progress made towards achieving the SDGs has been limited due to meeting restrictions.<sup>26</sup> However, the Second Committee continues to function due to the adopted silence procedures and it seeks to utilize emerging trends and ideas to promote the most effective solutions to address financing for development and attaining the SDGs in an effort to emerge more resilient and sustainably from the pandemic.<sup>27</sup> The Second Committee will continue to play a pivotal role in advancing efforts to promote sustainable development in the global recovery response to the ongoing pandemic.<sup>28</sup> The 75th anniversary of the United Nations is marked by a series of unprecedented global challenges that require Member States to enhance multilateral cooperation in order to overcome them.<sup>29</sup>

### **Bibliography**

*Charter of the United Nations*. (1945). Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <http://www.un.org/en/charter-united-nations/index.html>

Dag Hammarskjöld Library. (2019). *Reports of Principal Organs to the General Assembly*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <http://research.un.org/en/docs/ga/reports>

Dag Hammarskjöld Library. (2019). *UN Documentation: General Assembly*. Retrieved 1 November 2020 from: <http://research.un.org/content.php?pid=337769&sid=2890373>

Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. (2011). *Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (A/CONF.219/3/Rev.1)*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <http://undocs.org/A/CONF.219/3/Rev.1>

New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. (2020). *United Nations Handbook 2019-20*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/peace-rights-and-security/work-with-the-un-and-other-partners/un-handbook-2019-20>

Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations. (2020). *Press Release – Election of Ambassador Rai as Chairman of the Second Committee*. Retrieved 20 August 2020 from:

---

<sup>23</sup> UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020.

<sup>24</sup> UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015; UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020.

<sup>25</sup> *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945; UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020.

<sup>26</sup> UN General Assembly, *2020 ECOSOC Forum on FfD – Final Draft*, 2020.

<sup>27</sup> UN General Assembly, *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*, 2020.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>29</sup> UN News, *New General Assembly underscores ‘necessity of multilateralism’*, 2020.



[https://www.un.int/nepal/statements\\_speeches/press-release-election-ambassador-rai-chairman-second-committee](https://www.un.int/nepal/statements_speeches/press-release-election-ambassador-rai-chairman-second-committee)

Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations. (2017). *The PGA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from:

[https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/mission-new-york/en/documents/UN\\_GA\\_Final.pdf](https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/mission-new-york/en/documents/UN_GA_Final.pdf)

United Nations. (2020). *United Nations Comprehensive Response to COVID-19: Saving Lives, Protecting Societies, Recovering Better*. Retrieved 20 September 2020 from:

<https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un-comprehensive-response-to-covid-19>

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. (2012). *Rio Conventions Join Forces for Sustainable Development and the Future We Want*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from:

<https://www.unccd.int/news-events/rio-conventions-join-forces-sustainable-development-and-future-we-want>

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (2019). *About UN DESA*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/about.html>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. (2018, September 15). *Address to the General Assembly by Secretary General Antonio Guterres on 25 September 2018 in New York*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/speeches/2018-09-25/address-73rd-general-assembly>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. (2018). *Fourth Industrial Revolution Taken Up in Report of Task Force on Financing for Development (GA/EF/3492)*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from:

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/gaef3492.doc.htm>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. (2018). *Least Developed Nations Lagging Behind on Attaining Sustainable Development (GA/EF/3504)*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from:

<http://www.un.org/press/en/2018/gaef3504.doc.htm>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. (2019). *Delegates Call for Multilateralism, Closing Digital Divide to Spur Economic Growth, as Second Committee Debates Globalization, Interdependence (GA/EF/3522)*. Retrieved 23 August 2020

from: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gaef3522.doc.htm>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. (2019). *The United Nations System*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: [https://www.un.org/en/pdfs/18-00159e\\_un\\_system\\_chart\\_17x11\\_4c\\_en\\_web.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/pdfs/18-00159e_un_system_chart_17x11_4c_en_web.pdf)

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. (2020). *Sustainable Development Goals Report*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/progress-report/>

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (2018). *Report of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up (E/FFDF/2018/3)*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from:

<http://undocs.org/E/FFDF/2018/3>

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (2019). *Office for Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from:

<https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/node/454160>

United Nations, Environment. (2019). *Emissions Gap Report 2019*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.unenvironment.org/interactive/emissions-gap-report/2019/>





United Nations Evaluation Group. (2014). *UNEG Handbook for Conducting Evaluations of Normative Work in the UN System*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <http://www.uneval.org/document/detail/1484>

United Nations, General Assembly. (2020). *2020 ECOSOC Forum on FfD – Final Draft*. Retrieved on 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/financing/sites/www.un.org.development.desa.financing/files/2020-05/Final-draft-FFD-Outcome-2020.pdf>

United Nations, General Assembly. (2019). *Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/second/index.shtml>

## I. Disaster Risk Reduction

### **Introduction**

Over the past 10 years, disasters have affected more than 1.5 billion people globally, and led to casualties, displacement, and large-scale economic, social, and environmental consequences.<sup>30</sup> The cost of disasters has amounted to more than \$1.3 trillion in recovery efforts worldwide over the past decade, including the rebuilding of infrastructure as well as the restoration of social services and local markets.<sup>31</sup> In an ongoing attempt to mitigate the impact of these disasters, the United Nations (UN) engages in disaster risk reduction, a process defined as “preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the achievement of sustainable development.”<sup>32</sup> In order to complete effective disaster risk management, the UN applies “disaster risk reduction policies and strategies to prevent new disaster risk, reduce existing disaster risk and manage residual risk, contributing to the strengthening of resilience and reduction of disaster losses.”<sup>33</sup> The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) emphasizes risk assessments in the form of socioeconomic analysis for Member States to prepare biological hazards, in order to mitigate impact on human lives, property damage, social and economic disruption, and environmental degradation that may result.<sup>34</sup>

The 2015 *Sendai Declaration and Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* (Sendai Framework) is the current UN framework document on disaster risk reduction.<sup>35</sup> The Sendai Framework centers climate change as a key driver of disaster risk, and emphasizes the importance of good governance for disaster risk reduction.<sup>36</sup> It particularly recognizes that disasters also present a threat to achieving sustainable development, as states which are trapped in an endless cycle of trying to respond to and recover from disasters are then unable to focus on sustainable development, particularly those states with already limited infrastructure capacity.<sup>37</sup>

---

<sup>30</sup> UNDP, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020; UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/74/218)*, 2019.

<sup>31</sup> UNDP, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020; UNDP, *Planning and implementing recovery*, 2019.

<sup>32</sup> UNDRR, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020.

<sup>33</sup> UNDRR, *Disaster Risk Management*, 2020.

<sup>34</sup> UNDRR, *Hazard definition and classification review*, 2020, p. 7; UNDRR, *Addressing Disaster Risk Reduction of multiple hazards during the COVID-19 crisis*, 2020, p. 5.

<sup>35</sup> UN General Assembly, *Sendai Declaration and Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (A/RES/69/283)*, 2015, p. 2.

<sup>36</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>37</sup> UNDRR, *2019 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2019, p. 11.



## ***International and Regional Framework***

The first global framework document on disaster risk reduction was the *Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World*, which was adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 1994 and set out the first disaster risk reduction principles, a plan action for disaster risk reduction, and follow-up guidelines.<sup>38</sup> As a follow-up to the Yokohama Strategy, the 2005 World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction adopted the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015* (2005) (Hyogo Framework), which aimed to create a more comprehensive and detailed plan for disaster risk reduction that focused on the role required by different partners, including local and national governments.<sup>39</sup> The Hyogo Framework provides practical guidelines with the purpose of creating more resilient communities by reducing the negative impact of disasters on social, economic and environmental assets.<sup>40</sup> In 2015, the World Conference on Disaster Risk reduction adopted the Sendai Framework with its four priority action areas: comprehending disaster risk, improving disaster risk governance for disaster risk management, mobilizing financial resources for disaster risk reduction, and improving disaster preparedness.<sup>41</sup> A major development was the inclusion of biological hazards in the Sendai Framework to reduce disaster losses.<sup>42</sup> The Sendai Framework had highlighted biological hazards as major risks for the 21st century, as confirmed by the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>43</sup>

In 2015, the General Assembly adopted the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda), which focuses on the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to initiate action to promote sustainable development.<sup>44</sup> Out of the 17 SDGs, SDGs 1, 11 and 13 are particularly relevant to disaster risk reduction.<sup>45</sup> For example, SDG 13 (climate action) aims to “[s]trengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters [sic] in all countries.”<sup>46</sup> Additionally, SDG 1 (no poverty) works to decrease vulnerable populations’ exposure to climate-related disasters along with the consequences of these disasters, while SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) targets a reduction of economic losses resulting from disasters.<sup>47</sup>

In addition to the pivotal Sendai Framework, in 2016, the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspect of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 adopted the *Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*.<sup>48</sup> In these principles, the conference provided a number of key

---

<sup>38</sup> UNDRR, *Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World: guidelines for natural disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation*, 1994.

<sup>39</sup> UNDRR, *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters*, 2007.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> UN General Assembly, *Sendai Declaration and Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* (A/RES/69/283), 2015, pp. 9-16.

<sup>42</sup> UNDRR, *COVID Action Plan. Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020, p. 1.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid.

<sup>44</sup> UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (A/RES/70/1), 2015, p. 1.

<sup>45</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction* (A/RES/74/218), 2019, p. 6.

<sup>46</sup> UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (A/RES/70/1), 2015, p. 23.

<sup>47</sup> Ibid., pp. 15, 21-22.

<sup>48</sup> International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspect of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, *Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*, 2016.



recommendations to further the existing Sendai Framework, including systematically integrating health into existing disaster reduction policies, and enhancing cooperation between health authorities and other relevant stakeholders.<sup>49</sup>

Other key frameworks that support disaster risk reduction include the *Paris Agreement* (2015) and the *New Urban Agenda* (2016).<sup>50</sup> The *Paris Agreement* was adopted in 2015 by the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as a framework document for climate action in order to limit the rising temperatures resulting from climate change to below 2° Celsius.<sup>51</sup> The *Paris Agreement* aims to assist in disaster risk reduction efforts by mitigating the effects of climate change, which exacerbates coastal vulnerability, sea levels, atmospheric heat, and other phenomena, thereby increasing the quantity and impact of many types of natural disasters.<sup>52</sup> The *New Urban Agenda*, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), is a key framework to address the growing urban population of the world.<sup>53</sup> The *New Urban Agenda* highlights the connection between sustainable urban development and disaster risk reduction, as it stipulates that Member States who “[a]dopt and implement disaster risk reduction and management” have more sustainable urban infrastructure, and therefore less loss of life due to disasters.<sup>54</sup>

In resolution 76/128 (2021), the General Assembly called upon Member States to “implement effectively, necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning”.<sup>55</sup> In the same resolution, the Assembly urged Member States to improve preventative measures to disasters, such as early warning systems and hazard mapping.<sup>56</sup> In resolution 76/204 (2022), the GA recognizes how climate change can impact future disasters by urging Member States to conduct disaster risk assessments that account for future climate patterns that will assist public and private development in being “risk-informed”.<sup>57</sup> Resolution 76/204 also emphasizes the need to increase financing disaster risk through the cooperation of the UN system, regional development banks, international financial institutions, and other relevant organizations to assist developing countries.<sup>58</sup>

### **Role of the International System**

Within the current disaster risk reduction framework, the General Assembly is mandated by the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in the Sendai Framework to review the progress and the implementation of disaster risk reduction efforts.<sup>59</sup> As such, the General Assembly Second Committee considers disaster risk reduction as part of its agenda item on “sustainable development.”<sup>60</sup> In 2019, the

---

<sup>49</sup> International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspect of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, *Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*, 2016.

<sup>50</sup> COP 21, *Paris Agreement*, 2015.

<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>52</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/73/231)*, 2018, p. 3.

<sup>53</sup> UN General Assembly, *New Urban Agenda (A/RES/71/256)*, 2016, p. 2.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 14.

<sup>55</sup> UN General Assembly, *International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, relief to development (A/RES/76/128)*, 2021, p. 6.

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 8.

<sup>57</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster risk reduction (A/RES/76/204)*, 2022, p. 7.

<sup>58</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 9.

<sup>59</sup> UN General Assembly, *Sendai Declaration and Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*

<sup>60</sup> UN General Assembly, *Agenda items and periodicity*, 2020; UN General Assembly, *International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/RES/56/195)*, 2002, p. 2.





General Assembly adopted resolution 74/218 on “Disaster risk reduction,” which stresses that capacity-building support, in particular for developing states, should be a top priority in the implementation of the Sendai Framework.<sup>61</sup> The General Assembly further stated in its resolution that national and local disaster risk reduction strategies are key to achieving sustainable development, and called for the creation and effective implementation of national and local disaster risk reduction plans by 2020.<sup>62</sup> In September 2019, the UN also hosted the Climate Action Summit where resilient infrastructure and resilience to climate impacts were key agenda items and recurrent themes in discussion.<sup>63</sup>

In General Assembly resolution 61/198 of 2006 on the “International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction,” the General Assembly established the “Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction” (Global Platform).<sup>64</sup> The purpose of the Global Platform is to assist in the review of the progress on disaster risk reduction as well as the monitoring and implementation of the Sendai Framework.<sup>65</sup> In May 2019, the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was held in Geneva Switzerland.<sup>66</sup> At this session, the Global Risk Assessment Framework (GRAF) was launched.<sup>67</sup> GRAF is an interdisciplinary platform to improve disaster risk understanding and disaster risk management with the goal of supporting decision-makers in disaster risk reduction efforts and to mobilize financial resources for disaster risk reduction.<sup>68</sup> In addition to GRAF, the sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction also focused on gender-sensitive and inclusive-disaster risk reduction.<sup>69</sup>

The General Assembly established UNDRR, the main focal point for disaster risk reduction strategies and data, with resolution 56/195 (2001) on the “International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction,” with the main objective of the UNDRR being to better coordinate disaster risk reduction efforts of Member States.<sup>70</sup> In 2017, the UNDRR updated the *United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience* (Plan of Action) to better align the Plan of Action with the Sendai Framework, the *Paris Agreement*, and the 2030 Agenda.<sup>71</sup> The goal of the Plan of Action is to better coordinate the work of the wider UN system on disaster risk reduction.<sup>72</sup> In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, UNDRR developed a COVID-19 Action Plan that states that “biological hazards (pandemics) are integrated in disaster risk reduction and development planning and programming, including in the development of national and local DRR strategies”.<sup>73</sup>

Some additional examples of UN system-wide efforts on disaster risk reduction include the work of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World

---

<sup>61</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/74/218)*, 2019, p. 4.

<sup>62</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5.

<sup>63</sup> UN General Assembly, *Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/248)*, 2020. 365 *Ibid.*

<sup>64</sup> UN General Assembly, *International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/RES/61/198)*, 2006, p. 4.

<sup>65</sup> Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, *About the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2019.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>67</sup> *Ibid.*; Mead, *Global Assessment Report Explores Role of Risk Reduction in Achieving SDGs*, *International Institute for Sustainable Development*, 2019.

<sup>68</sup> UNDRR, *Global Risk Assessment Framework*, 2019.

<sup>69</sup> Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, *About the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2019. 372 UNDRR, *Who we are*, 2019.

<sup>70</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>71</sup> UNDRR, *United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience*, 2017, p. 8.

<sup>72</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 8-13.

<sup>73</sup> UNDRR, *COVID Action Plan. Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020, p. 1.



Health Organization (WHO), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).<sup>74</sup> UN-Women promotes and facilitates the contribution of women to disaster risk reduction and the leadership of women therein.<sup>75</sup> To this end, UN-Women has proposed creating gender-responsive disaster risk reduction sector briefs for different sectors to raise awareness of the role that gender plays in disaster risk mitigation and recovery.<sup>76</sup> WHO has focused on cooperating with a large group of partners, civil society organizations to ensure health outcomes for people at risk of emergencies and disasters.<sup>77</sup> Recent efforts by WHO include creating community capacity building in health and other sectors to “manage the health risks associated with emergencies and disasters.”<sup>78</sup> Similarly, UNDP emphasizes disaster risk reduction by fostering risk-informed development and promoting cooperation and coherence of disaster risk plans among states as an important piece of disaster risk reduction.<sup>79</sup> UNDP also works to provide information regarding risks and early warning systems to states and presently has 64 programs focused on early warning systems.<sup>80</sup>

Additionally, UNESCO and UNDRR are part of the Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector (GADRRRES), which aims to provide a comprehensive approach to safe school facilities, school disaster risk management, and risk reduction management.<sup>81</sup> Civil society organizations (CSOs), in particular nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), are also part of GADRRRES, such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Plan International, and Save the Children.<sup>82</sup> IFRC aims to reinforce disaster preparedness, promote the mitigation of the negative impacts of hazards, and protect development from disasters.<sup>83</sup> Plan International, an NGO that aims to advance children’s rights, works to enhance disaster preparedness through education and school programs.<sup>84</sup> Similarly, Save the Children, another NGO that focuses on children’s rights, centers their disaster risk reduction efforts on children and provides guidelines for the protection of children in disasters.<sup>85</sup> Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Save the Children has provided medical supplies, preparedness training to its partners, and educational schooling to 300,000 children and donating an estimated 6 million meals.<sup>86</sup>

### ***Developing Local and National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies***

National and local disaster risk reduction strategies help monitor the success of disaster risk reduction efforts and determine the roles and responsibilities of relevant actors.<sup>87</sup> Disaster risk reduction strategies also identify the technical and financial capacities and how to allocate them.<sup>88</sup> Furthermore, national disaster risk strategies need to comply with the Sendai Framework, while local disaster risk strategies

---

<sup>74</sup> UN-Women, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020; UNESCO, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020; UNDP, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020.

<sup>75</sup> UN-Women, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020.

<sup>76</sup> Ibid.

<sup>77</sup> WHO, *Health emergency and disaster risk management*, 2020. 381 Ibid.

<sup>78</sup> UNDP, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020.

<sup>79</sup> UNDP, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020.

<sup>80</sup> Ibid.; UNDP, *Preparedness & early warning*, 2019.

<sup>81</sup> UNESCO, *School Safety*, 2017; GADRRRES, *GADRRRES Members*, 2020.

<sup>82</sup> GADRRRES, *GADRRRES Members*, 2020.

<sup>83</sup> IFRC, *The IFRC’s Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020.

<sup>84</sup> Plan International, *Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaption*, 2019. 388 Save the Children, *Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)*, 2020.

<sup>85</sup> Save the Children, *Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)*, 2020.

<sup>86</sup> Save the Children, *Responding to the Coronavirus Outbreak*, 2020.

<sup>87</sup> UNDRR, *2019 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2019, p. 316.

<sup>88</sup> Ibid.



have to comply with national strategies.<sup>89</sup> The Sendai Framework establishes seven targets, out of which target (e) aims to “substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020.”<sup>90</sup> However, by May 2019, only 91 national disaster risk reduction strategies were in place.<sup>91</sup> Furthermore, these strategies created by states had varying extents of coverage and were not of equal quality.<sup>92</sup> For instance, in 2017, only 47 national disaster risk reduction strategies were aligned with principles laid out in the Sendai Framework.<sup>93</sup> Out of those 47 strategies, only six national strategies were in full compliance with the Sendai Framework.<sup>94</sup> Additionally, local disaster risk reduction strategies were reported by only 42 Member States, out of which only half were in strong compliance with their respective national strategy.<sup>95</sup>

In its resolution 74/218 (2019), the General Assembly recognized the shortfall on the progress towards target (e) and urged the prioritization of the development of national disaster risk reduction strategies.<sup>96</sup> In particular, the General Assembly highlighted the importance of local disaster risk reduction strategies in this regard.<sup>97</sup> Furthermore, the General Assembly also urged Member States in its resolution 74/218 to align their national disaster risk reduction strategies with the 2030 Agenda and their climate change adaptation strategies for the *Paris Agreement*.<sup>98</sup> It was noted that a lack of progress on target (e) of the Sendai Framework could potentially endanger the progress on the remaining six targets of the Sendai Framework as well as the SDGs.<sup>99</sup>

One solution to facilitate further progress on target (e) is capacity building, in particular through regional and international organizations, to assist Member States in developing and implementing national and local disaster risk reduction strategies.<sup>100</sup> Additionally, national and local disaster risk reduction strategies are best developed when they are part of a diverse collaboration of different stakeholders, such as representatives from different sectors, NGOs, and academia, among others.<sup>101</sup> This refers back to an inclusive approach to disaster risk reduction emphasized in the SDGs and the Sendai Framework, but demonstrates the need for more extensive disaster risk planning and capacity.<sup>102</sup> Lastly, the actual implementation of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies is an additional topic, which further relies on the creation of implementation guidelines, and the mobilization of financial resources for disaster risk reduction and risk-informed development.<sup>103</sup> Altogether, there is growing need for increased risk reduction capacity, but obstacles to effective implementation continue to hinder full Member State success.<sup>104</sup>

---

<sup>89</sup> Ibid., p. 252.

<sup>90</sup> UN General Assembly, *Sendai Declaration and Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* (A/RES/69/283), pp. 6-7.

<sup>91</sup> UN General Assembly, *Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: Report of the Secretary-General* (A/74/248), 2019, p. 4.

<sup>92</sup> Planitz, *Sendai Target E: Just One More Year to Go*, UNDP, 2019.

<sup>93</sup> Ibid.

<sup>94</sup> UNDRR, *2019 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2019, p. 253. 398 Ibid., pp. 254-255.

<sup>95</sup> Ibid., pp. 254-255.

<sup>96</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction* (A/RES/74/218), 2019, p. 5.

<sup>97</sup> Ibid.

<sup>98</sup> Ibid., p. 7.

<sup>99</sup> UN General Assembly, *Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: Report of the Secretary-General* (A/74/248), 2019, p. 4.

<sup>100</sup> UNDRR, *2019 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2019, p. 297.

<sup>101</sup> Ibid., p. 324.

<sup>102</sup> Ibid.

<sup>103</sup> Ibid., p. 328

<sup>104</sup> Ibid.



## **Ensuring Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction**

Gender mainstreaming is defined by the UN as a strategy to make diverse people's perspectives and experiences a key part of policy planning, specifically disaster risk reduction action plans, legislation, policies and programs with the goal of promoting equality.<sup>105</sup> Within the Sendai Framework, gender mainstreaming is part of the guiding principle of inclusivity for disaster risk reduction, and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into disaster preparedness constitutes one crucial pillar of the Sendai Framework.<sup>106</sup> Additionally, the Sendai Framework recognizes women as key stakeholders within the entire disaster risk reduction process, whose input should be considered in all designing, resourcing and implementing of disaster risk recovery plans.<sup>107</sup> This has been reiterated by the General Assembly in its resolution 74/219 in 2019, which encouraged Member States to include the opinions of women and people with disabilities in the development and implementation of disaster risk reduction strategies, as they face disproportionate risk during disasters.<sup>108</sup> Including the perspectives of marginalized communities and empowering these same communities in the policy-making process will help to reduce social vulnerabilities caused by disasters, instead of exacerbating them.<sup>109</sup>

In 2016, UN-Women, together with the Government of Viet Nam, UNDRR, and UNDP, organized the Regional Asia-Pacific Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction, which resulted in the *Ha Noi Recommendations for Action on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction*.<sup>110</sup> The recommendations build upon the four priorities of the Sendai Framework by developing indicators that are fully gender responsive.<sup>111</sup> For example, the recommendations encourage states to invest in female leadership to increase overall capacity, and allow women and girls to play a strong and substantive role in disaster risk reduction.<sup>112</sup> The document further recommended the institutionalization of women and diverse groups in disaster preparedness response, recovery and reconstruction leadership at national and local level.<sup>113</sup> The goal of the Ha Noi recommendations is to create a strong regional disaster risk reduction framework that ensures that gender mainstreaming is part of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies.<sup>114</sup>

As a relevant current example, COVID-19 has caused significant impact on pre-existing inequalities while also "exposing vulnerabilities in social, political and economic systems which are in turn amplifying the impacts of the pandemic."<sup>115</sup> The COVID-19 pandemic has also worsened existing poverty and inequality, which means significant implications for the existing DDR framework.<sup>116</sup> UN-Women has advocated for a wide range of economic policies in response to COVID-19 to prepare for immediate and long-term recovery.<sup>117</sup> These include "removal of barriers that prevent full involvement of women in economic activities, equal pay and equal opportunities, social protection schemes that factor in existing biases,

---

<sup>105</sup> UN-Women, *Gender Mainstreaming*, 2020.

<sup>106</sup> UN General Assembly, *Sendai Declaration and Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (A/RES/69/283)*, pp. 6, 17. 410 Ibid., pp. 18-19.

<sup>107</sup> Ibid., pp. 18-19.

<sup>108</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/74/218)*, 2019, p. 9.

<sup>109</sup> Ibid.; UN-Women, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020.

<sup>110</sup> UN-Women, *Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020.

<sup>111</sup> Regional Asian-Pacific Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction, *Ha Noi Recommendations for Action on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2016, p. 4.

<sup>112</sup> Ibid.

<sup>113</sup> Ibid., p. 7.

<sup>114</sup> Ibid., p. 7.

<sup>115</sup> UN Secretary-General, *The Impact of COVID-19 on Women*, 2020, p. 2.

<sup>116</sup> UNDRR, *Asia-Pacific COVID-19 Brief: Disaster-Responsive Social Protection*, 2020, p. 2.

<sup>117</sup> UN Secretary-General, *The Impact of COVID-19 on Women*, 2020, p. 5.



financing for women entrepreneurs and mechanisms to promote women's self-employment," among other social and economic recommendations.<sup>118</sup>

### ***Strengthening International Cooperation on Disaster Risk Reduction***

While states themselves have the primary responsibility to reduce disasters, there is also a shared international responsibility, especially when disasters have cross-border impacts.<sup>119</sup> International cooperation helps states fill the gaps in their knowledge about disaster risk reduction, and share the burden of recovery.<sup>120</sup> Some countries deal more frequently with disasters, most notably least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), archipelagic countries, and countries with extensive coastlines, due to their proximity to higher-risk geographic markers.<sup>121</sup> Because of this, many states that are disaster-prone do not have the capacity to prepare, respond to, and recover from disasters, therefore making international cooperation even more essential.<sup>122</sup> The General Assembly has repeatedly encouraged such international dialogue, including in General Assembly resolution 74/218 (2019) which emphasizes that developed states need to fulfill their commitments of official development assistance (ODA) regarding disaster risk reduction, in order to have meaningful partnerships that are fully effective in reducing disaster risk.<sup>123</sup>

One main focus of international cooperation is in gathering scientific knowledge in order to improve early warning systems for disaster risk reduction and to deepen the understanding of disaster risk.<sup>124</sup> For example, standardization of data collection, risk analyses, monitoring systems, and integrated assessments of risk allow for increased effectiveness of international cooperation on disaster risk reduction.<sup>125</sup> Furthermore, the Sendai Framework states that international approaches to disaster risk governance and management could be grouped, based on ecosystems, where states with similar or shared ecosystems as well as shared resources can work together.<sup>126</sup> For example, in the UNDRR *COVID-19 Action Plan (2020)*, Strategic Objective 2 highlights target E of the Sendai Framework that emphasized that "biological hazards (pandemics) are integrated in disaster risk reduction and development planning and programming, including in the development of national and local DRR strategies".<sup>127</sup> This emphasizes the need for international cooperation not just between states, but also between UN bodies, agencies, programs and funds as well as civil society and other stakeholders.<sup>128</sup>

In addition to the technical support, providing financial resources to help develop and implement disaster risk reduction strategies is another form of aid helpful to developing states, in particular LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs.<sup>129</sup> The private sector in particular can be a source of additional voluntary funding, which is

---

<sup>118</sup> Ibid.

<sup>119</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/73/231)*, 2018, p. 7.

<sup>120</sup> UNDRR, *2019 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2019, p. 3.

<sup>121</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/73/231)*, 2018, p. 3.

<sup>122</sup> Ibid.

<sup>123</sup> Ibid., p. 8.

<sup>124</sup> UN General Assembly, *Sendai Declaration and Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (A/RES/69/283)*, 2015, p. 10.

<sup>125</sup> UN General Assembly, *Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: Report of the Secretary General (A/74/248)*, 2019, p. 5.

<sup>126</sup> UN General Assembly, *Sendai Declaration and Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (A/RES/69/283)*, 2015, p. 3.

<sup>127</sup> UNDRR, *COVID Action Plan. Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020, p. 1.

<sup>128</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/74/218)*, 2019, p. 7.

<sup>129</sup> UN General Assembly, *Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: Report of the Secretary General (A/74/248)*, 2019, p. 12.





important to disaster risk reduction in order to offset short-falls in ODA.<sup>130</sup> This highlights the important role the financing for development framework, in particular the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* (2015), plays in achieving the targets and priorities of the Sendai Framework.<sup>131</sup> The UNDRR Action Plan also urges for partnerships to address the impacts of COVID-19 with a focus on socio-economic impact on vulnerable groups and information to be disseminated to “mitigate its socio-economic impacts and support countries to recover better.”<sup>132</sup> UNDRR currently recommends 7 economic and financial considerations to address COVID-19 that are invest in social protection before a disaster; promote universal social protection; integrate universal health coverage and social protection; adopt a human rights-based approach to social protection; strengthen digitization to enhance inclusion; adopt intersectional approaches to reduce vulnerabilities and reduce exclusions; adopt flexible assistance delivery modalities.<sup>133</sup>

### **Conclusion**

Overall, there has been progress on disaster risk reduction since the 2015 establishment of the Sendai Framework; however current efforts are not on track to meet the 2030 targets.<sup>134</sup> Additionally, reducing disaster risk has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak, which has been described as a “health crisis; an economic crisis, a humanitarian crisis, a security crisis, and a human rights crisis.”<sup>135</sup> International cooperation and the mobilization of development finance, both from the public and the private sectors, will remain important tools for disaster risk reduction, as will increased international cooperation to maintain the momentum of the SDGs.<sup>136</sup> The COVID-19 response and recovery efforts may also present a new opportunity to evolve the DDR framework and the international community's approach to mitigating the impact of biological disasters.<sup>137</sup>

### **Further Research**

As delegates begin their research, they should first ask what their Member State already has in regards to a disaster risk reduction plan, and further consider: What tools have been utilized by states to increase gender mainstreaming in disaster risk reduction planning? What have Member States done to prepare for future pandemics and creating successful programs that addresses disaster risk reduction? How can governments motivate the private sector to participate in the development of local and national capabilities to contribute to disaster risk reduction? How can data be better utilized by many states to improve disaster risk reduction? What socioeconomic impacts has COVID-19 created for member states? Is there a method to create a consistent standard of quality for disaster risk reduction plans? How can existing disaster risk reduction standards and implementation of plans be more inclusive, particularly to vulnerable populations? How can Member States improve local response to disasters?

### **Bibliography**

- 
- <sup>130</sup> UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/74/218)*, 2019, p. 9.  
<sup>131</sup> UN General Assembly, *Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda) (A/RES/69/313)*, 2015, p. 20.  
<sup>132</sup> UNDRR, *COVID Action Plan. Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020, p. 3.  
<sup>133</sup> UNDRR, *Asia-Pacific COVID-19 Brief: Disaster-Responsive Social Protection*, 2020, p. 8.  
<sup>134</sup> UNDRR, *2019 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2019, p. 21.  
<sup>135</sup> UN General Assembly, *United Nations Comprehensive Response to COVID-19*, 2020, p. 1.  
<sup>136</sup> UNDRR, *2019 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2019, p. 21; UN General Assembly, *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/73/231)*, 2018, p. 5. 440 UNDRR, *COVID-19: A risk context*, 2020, p. 6.  
<sup>137</sup> UNDRR, *COVID-19: A risk context*, 2020, p. 6.



Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Twenty-first session. (2015). *Paris Agreement*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: [http://unfccc.int/files/essential\\_background/convention/application/pdf/english\\_paris\\_agreement.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf)

Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction & Resilience in the Education Sector. (2020). *GADRRRES Members*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://gadrrres.net/who-we-are/members>

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2019). *About the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.unisdr.org/conference/2019/globalplatform/about>

International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspect of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. (2016). *Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*. Retrieved 29 September 2020 from: [https://www.who.int/hac/events/2016/Bangkok\\_Principles.pdf?ua=1](https://www.who.int/hac/events/2016/Bangkok_Principles.pdf?ua=1)

International Red Cross Federation. (2020). *The IFRC's approach to disaster risk reduction*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.ifrc.org/en/what-we-do/disaster-management/preparing-for-disaster/risk-reduction/>

Mead, L. (2019, May 21). Global Assessment Report Explores Role of Risk Reduction in Achieving SDGs. *International Institute for Sustainable Development*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/global-assessment-report-explores-role-of-risk-reduction-in-achieving-sdgs/>

Plan International. (2019). *Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaption*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://plan-international.org/emergencies/disaster-risk-reduction-drr>

Planitz, A. (2019, May 6). Sendai Target E: Just one more year to go. *United Nations Development Programme*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/blog/2019/sendai-target-e--just-one-more-year-to-go-.html>

Regional Asia-Pacific Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction. (2016). *Ha Noi Recommendations for Action on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20eseasia/docs/publications/2016/07/hanoi-recommendation-final-13-jul-en.pdf>

Save the Children. (2020). *Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/our-thematic-areas/cross-thematic-areas/disaster-risk-reduction-drr>

Save the Children. (2020). *Responding to the Coronavirus Outbreak*. Retrieved 20 September 2020 from: <https://www.savethechildren.org/us/what-we-do/emergency-response/coronavirus-outbreak>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. (2019, September 15). *United Nations General Assembly: Here are the 5 Big Summits to Watch Out For*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/09/1045782>



United Nations, Department of Global Communications. (2020). *Calling for Galvanized Action to Reach Rising Number of Crisis-Affected People, General Assembly Adopts 5 Texts Outlining Coordination Strategies (GA/12229)*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ga12229.doc.htm>

United Nations Development Programme. (2019). *Planning and implementing recovery*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/planet/disaster-risk-reduction-and-recovery/planning-and-implementing-recovery.html>

United Nations Development Programme. (2019). *Preparedness & early warning*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/planet/disaster-risk-reduction-and-recovery/preparedness-and-early-warning.html>

United Nations Development Programme. (2020). *Disaster Risk Reduction*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/planet/disaster-risk-reduction-and-recovery/disaster-risk-reduction.html>

United Nations Development Programme. (2020). *UNDP and UNDRR strengthen partnership to further integrate disaster risk reduction measures into country planning and decision-making processes*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: [https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2020/UNDP\\_UNDRR\\_strengthen\\_partnership\\_further\\_integrate\\_disaster\\_risk\\_reduction\\_measures.html](https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2020/UNDP_UNDRR_strengthen_partnership_further_integrate_disaster_risk_reduction_measures.html)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. (2017). *Disaster Risk Reduction*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/special-themes/disaster-risk-reduction>

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. (2017). *School Safety*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/special-themes/disaster-risk-reduction/school-safety/>

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. (2020). *Disaster Risk Reduction*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/humanitarian-action/disaster-risk-reduction>

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. (2020). *Gender Mainstreaming*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/how-we-work/un-system-coordination/gender-mainstreaming>

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-sixth session (2002). *International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/RES/56/195)*. Adopted on the report of the Second Committee (A/56/561). Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/56/195>

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-first session. (2006). *International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/RES/61/198)*. Adopted on the report of the Second Committee (A/61/422/Add.3). Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/61/198>

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-ninth session. (2015). *Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda) (A/RES/69/313)*.



Adopted without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.82). Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/313>

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-ninth session. (2015). *Sendai Declaration and Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (A/RES/69/283)*. Adopted without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.67). Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://undocs.org/a/res/69/283>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. Adopted without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.1). Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-first session. (2016). *New Urban Agenda (A/RES/71/256)*. Adopted without reference to a Main Committee (A/71/L.23). Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/71/256>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-third session. (2018). *Disaster Risk Reduction (A/RES/73/231)*. Adopted on the report of the Second Committee (A/73/538/Add.3). Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/73/231>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-fourth session. (2019). *Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/248)*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://undocs.org/A/74/248>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-fifth session. (2020). *Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/226)*. Retrieved 25 October 2020 from: <https://undocs.org/A/75/226>

United Nations, General Assembly. (2020). *Agenda items and periodicity*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.un.org/en/ga/second/periodicity.shtml>

United Nations, General Assembly. (2020). *United Nations Comprehensive Response to COVID-19: Saving Lives, Protecting Societies*. Retrieved 20 September 2020 from: [https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un\\_comprehensive\\_response\\_to\\_covid-19\\_june\\_2020.pdf](https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un_comprehensive_response_to_covid-19_june_2020.pdf)

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (1994). *Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.undrr.org/publication/yokohama-strategy-and-plan-action-safer-world-guidelines-natural-disaster-prevention>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2005). *Hyogo framework for action 2005–2015: Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.unisdr.org/2005/wcdr/intergover/official-doc/L-docs/Hyogo-framework-for-action-english.pdf>.

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2007). *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: [https://www.unisdr.org/files/1037\\_hyogoframeworkforactionenglish.pdf](https://www.unisdr.org/files/1037_hyogoframeworkforactionenglish.pdf)

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2017). *United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience*. Retrieved 29 September 2020



from:<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Plan%20of%20Action%20on%20Disaster%20Risk%20Reduction%20for%20Resilience.pdf>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2019). *Global Risk Assessment Framework*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.preventionweb.net/disaster-risk/graf>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2019). *2019 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://gar.unisdr.org/sites/default/files/gar19distilled.pdf>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2020). *Disaster risk reduction?*. Retrieved 20 September 2020 from: <https://www.undrr.org/terminology/disaster-risk-reduction>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2020). *Disaster risk management*. Retrieved 20 September 2020 from: <https://www.undrr.org/terminology/disaster-risk-management>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2020). *Who we are*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.unisdr.org/who-we-are>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2020). *COVID-19: A risk context*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.undrr.org/media/47600/download>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2020). *Asia-Pacific COVID-19 Brief: Disaster-Responsive Social Protection*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/UNDRR%20Asia-Pacific%20Brief\\_Social%20Protection.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/UNDRR%20Asia-Pacific%20Brief_Social%20Protection.pdf)

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2020) *Issue Brief: Addressing Disaster Risk Reduction of multiple hazards during the COVID-19 crisis*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.undrr.org/media/47357/download>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2020). *COVID Action Plan: Disaster Risk Reduction*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://www.undrr.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/COVID19%20Action%20Plan%20EXTERNAL.pdf>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2020). *Disaster Risk Reduction*. Retrieved 20 September 2020 from: <https://www.undrr.org/terminology/disaster-risk-reduction>

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. (2020). *Hazard definition and classification review*. Retrieved 20 September 2020 from: <https://www.undrr.org/publication/hazard-definition-and-classification-review>

United Nations Sustainable Development Group. (2020). *Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19*. Retrieved 20 September 2020 from: <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/SG-Report-Socio-Economic-Impact-of-Covid19.pdf>

United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs. (2020). *Risks and Disasters*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <http://www.un-spider.org/risks-and-disasters>





United Nations Secretary-General. (2020) *The Impact of COVID-19 on Women*. Retrieved 20 September 2020 from: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2020/04/policy-brief-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-women>

World Meteorological Organization. (2020). *Natural hazards and disaster risk reduction*. Retrieved 23 August 2020 from: <https://public.wmo.int/en/our-mandate/focus-areas/natural-hazards-and-disaster-risk-reduction>

World Health Organization. (2020). *Health emergency and disaster risk management*. Retrieved 23 September 2020 from: <https://www.who.int/hac/techguidance/preparedness/en/>

*Originally written by Maike Weitzel, Martin Schunk, and Kenny Van Nguyen for NMUN New York 2021;  
Edited by Sean MacDonald for ChargerMUN 2023*