



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

STATEMENT
DELIVERED BY MR. MARVIN IKONDERE
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UNITED NATIONS
ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP
ON AGENDA ITEM 86
ON PROTECTION OF PERSONS IN THE EVENT OF DISASTERS

[Please check against delivery]

Mr. Chairperson ,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the African Group.

The African Group thanks the International Law Commission (ILC) for its crucial work in the progressive development of international law and its codification. The ILC product on the protection of persons in the event of disasters is a valuable contribution to fill the gap on the protection of persons in the event of disasters.

The frequency and the severity of natural disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change, and their damaging impacts on societies, including their impediment on the full realization of their sustainable development goals, is of concern to the African Group.

The number and scale of disasters and their devastating impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life, food insecurity, water-related challenges, displacement, humanitarian needs, and long-term negative economic, social, and environmental consequences, are worrisome. Few weeks ago, the world awakens with the devastating disaster that happened Morocco and Libya from, respectively, massive earthquake and floods, with thousands of tragic deaths, injuries and destruction of homes and livelihoods. The impact of disasters is more severe in the African region, in countries that suffer lack of capacity on early warning. Moving forward on our discussion is how to avert or to reduce to a minimum the impact of disasters. It is also important to streamline humanitarian aid and assistance detailed in General Assembly resolution 46/182 and should not be politicized.

Mr. Chairperson,

The protection of persons in the event of disasters is an important issue in many parts of the world, in particular in Africa. The impact of natural disasters often strike developing countries the hardest. Therefore, the African Group stresses that the intensity and impact on affected populations of natural disasters call for solidarity and

international cooperation , through the form of, inter alia, humanitarian assistance.

In this regard , the African Group would like to underline the strong need for the international community to address all obstacles that limits States from adequately and swiftly preparing for and responding to the devastating effects of disasters when they occur .
Regrettably, lack