



**United Nations General Assembly | Sixth Committee**

**Protection of persons in the event of disasters**

**(Agenda item 86)**

**CLUSTER I**

*7 October 2024*

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*(check against delivery)*

Mr. Chair,

I am pleased to see you presiding over the Working Group. Once again, you may count on Brazil's constructive engagement throughout our discussions.

Cluster I addresses cross-cutting issues and should be considered in the context of all the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters.

The preamble of a treaty plays a crucial role in defining its purposes and objective, as well as its interpretation.

Brazil appreciates the references to the needs and rights of persons affected by disasters in the preamble, as well as to the value of solidarity and the importance of international cooperation.

We also welcome the reference to the principle of State sovereignty and the recognition of the primary role of the affected State in providing disaster relief assistance.

In order to strike the right balance between the need to protect individuals and sovereign equality among States, we reiterate the importance of including a reference to the principles of non-intervention and the prohibition of the use of force in the preamble of a future convention.

A future convention may not be used as a pretext for interference in the domestic affairs of other States, nor may external assistance serve as a disguise for so-called humanitarian interventions.

This is even more important when considering the scope of a future convention, as per draft article 1, which includes the pre-disaster phase.



