

NMUN•NY 2016



27 – 31 MARCH 2016

Documentation of the Work of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)

Courage
for **peace**



Compassion
in **action**

CONFERENCE B

United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)

Committee Staff

Director	Sarah Walter
Assistant Director	Michael Valdivieso
Chair	Timothy Hunt
Rapporteur	Marielisa Figuera
Rapporteur	Alejandra Londono

Agenda

- I. Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.
- II. Realizing the Right to Adequate Shelter through the New Urban Agenda.
- III. Inclusive Urbanization for the Promotion of Equality and Social Cohesion.

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
HABITATIII/RES/1/1	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	124 votes in favor, 10 votes against, 16 abstentions
HABITATIII/RES/1/2	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	115 votes in favor, 10 votes against, 25 abstentions
HABITATIII/RES/1/3	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	136 votes in favor, 3 votes against, 11 abstentions
HABITATIII/RES/1/4	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	113 votes in favor, 11 votes against, 26 abstentions
HABITATIII/RES/1/5	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	Adopted without a vote
HABITATIII/RES/1/6	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	114 votes in favor, 10 votes against, 26 abstentions
HABITATIII/RES/1/7	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	124 votes in favor, 10 votes against, 16 abstentions

HABITATIII/RES/1/8	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	113 votes in favor, 11 votes against, 26 abstentions
HABITATIII/RES/1/9	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	124 votes in favor, 7 votes against, 19 abstentions
HABITATIII/RES/1/10	Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	123 votes in favor, 11 votes against, 26 abstentions

Summary Report

The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development held its Third Conference to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction
- II. Realizing the Right to Adequate Shelter through the New Urban Agenda
- III. Inclusive Urbanization for the Promotion of Equality and Social Cohesion

The session was attended by representatives of 154 Member States and 2 Observers.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda as I, II, III, beginning discussion on the topic of “Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.” By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of 21 working papers covering a wide range of issues such as education, regional institutions, city-to-city cooperation, early warning systems, technology transfer, climate change adaptation, public-private partnership regarding as to how to strengthen the resilience of cities. Delegates were committed to discuss the topic at hand and were eager to find solutions to the issues based on consensus.

On Wednesday, 10 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, none of which had amendments. The committee adopted 10 resolutions following voting procedure, one receiving unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including investment in infrastructure, the establishment of regional institutions to implement disaster risk reduction strategies, and improving the effectiveness of early warning systems through efficient technology transfer. Throughout the week, delegates showed their commitment to build consensus and to develop a comprehensive framework furthering sustainable urban development.



Code: HABITATIII/RES/1/1

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

2
3 *Emphasizing* the need for access to water to enable resiliency and the effectiveness of the non-governmental
4 organization (NGO) Water for Good, which increases access to water and training for communities in Central
5 Africa,

6
7 *Recognizing* the impact of natural disasters and climate change on Least Developed Countries (LDCs), as shown in
8 Committee for Development Policy Background Paper ST/ESA/2012/CDP/15 on Climate Change Vulnerability and
9 the Identification of Least Developed Countries, which emphasizes the role of climate change vulnerability from a
10 sustainable development perspective,

11
12 *Reaffirming* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 and the responsibility of the international community to
13 cooperate in order to ensure access to water, which is necessary for urban resilience, and without which cities will be
14 more vulnerable to the effects of disasters,

15
16 *Emphasizing* the impact of the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) Tap Project in providing
17 access to clean water through innovative and effective measures, and in improving access to safe water facilities in
18 communities requiring urgent attention,

19
20 *Recognizing* the importance of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) in providing water to enable urban
21 resilience in the face of natural disaster and crisis,

- 22
23 1. *Encourages* Member States to implement water access programs in LDCs, modeled after the Water for Good
24 programs that increase resiliency by:
25
26 a. Encouraging the sustainable provision of drinking water;
27
28 b. Community training in maintenance and use of water sources;
29
30 2. *Recommends* LDCs to implement National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPA) to address climate change
31 adaptation needs, in order to:
32
33 a. Define more detailed goals on individual needs to address adaptation to climate change aimed at
34 building resilient cities;
35
36 b. Establish appropriate steps to ensure access to clean water is resilient to disasters;
37
38 c. Enable Member States to effectively contribute to the success of LDC's adaptation to climate change;
39
40 3. *Suggests* that all willing and able Member States and nongovernmental organizations provide developmental
41 assistance to LDCs including:
42
43 a. Monetary support, in order to enable resiliency projects;
44
45 b. Incentivized water quality improvements and water-use efficiency to improve the sustained availability
46 of drinking water;
47
48 c. Best-practice sharing, in order to update and improve on National Adaptation Programs of Action;
49

- 50 d. Technical support, in order to enable efficient communication with and between LDCs and encourage
51 information sharing;
52
- 53 e. Technology sharing, such as water harvesting and desalination technology;
54
- 55 4. *Encourages* Member States to apply the UNICEF Tap Project ideas to local and regional programs that draw
56 attention to the need for clean water access;
57
- 58 5. *Urges* Member States to utilize the Central Emergency Fund to improve emergency response to natural
59 disasters and guarantee continued access to drinking water in the face of crisis.



Code: HABITAT/III/RES/1/2

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

2
3 *Recognizing* that methods of disaster preparation must meet the unique needs of each community,

4
5 *Emphasizing* the importance of collaboration among Member States in the creation of frameworks and policies to
6 prepare for natural disasters and prevent man-made disasters,

7
8 *Recalling* the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held in Vancouver, Canada in
9 1976, and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held in Istanbul, Turkey in 1996,

10
11 *Viewing with appreciation* Member States currently practicing environmentally-friendly building procedures,

12
13 *Deeply concerned* with the lack of data being utilized in preparation for inevitable risks and hazards,

14
15 *Acknowledging* the continued commitment of Member States to provide support to countries that are dedicated to
16 preparing their communities for the impacts of natural and man-made disasters,

- 17
18 1. *Calls upon* Member States to further promote educational programs on the understanding of disaster risk
19 reduction and climate change within local communities alongside all levels of government by:
- 20
21 a. Utilizing the Red Cross guide for public awareness and public education for disaster risk reduction
22 as a tool for choosing which approaches to use in informing local authorities and citizens on how
23 to respond before, during, and after natural disasters;
- 24
25 b. Partnering natural disaster experts with local authorities to create disaster preparation education
26 programs that are best suited to fit the specific needs of the community;
- 27
28 c. Partnering natural disaster experts with the existing workforce and volunteers who respond in
29 times of emergency by training them in the most efficient methods of post-disaster recovery in
30 order to best assist the community in its reconstruction efforts;
- 31
32 2. *Calls upon* Member States who face similar natural and man-made disasters to work cohesively,
33 collaborating to create innovative disaster preparation tactics and to share those tactics that have been
34 successful in the aftermath of the event;
- 35
36 3. *Encourages* the creation of a task force led by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-
37 HABITAT) to provide reports that assess the progress of natural disaster preparation in the next 5 years to
38 be submitted to and utilized by the UN-HABITAT Preparatory Committees;
- 39
40 4. *Further recommends* that Member States offer tax incentives to those in both the public and private sectors
41 who invest in environmentally conscious infrastructure;
- 42
43 5. *Calls for* the improvement of data collection methods to be more accurate and beneficial to communities
44 who are working to better prepare themselves for natural and man-made disasters by:
- 45
46 a. Training local and regional authorities to have the primary responsibility of collecting data, in
47 order to ensure that the information is pertinent to specific areas and therefore, useful in preparing
48 for emergencies;
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- b. Utilizing this new data to establish more effective early warning systems, more precise hazard mapping, and higher quality risk assessments in order to achieve greater awareness on the dangers that pose threats to cities;
 - c. Sharing these methods of data collection that have proven to be successful with other Member States, so that they may be implemented in the disaster preparation strategies of those Member States;
6. *Reminds* Member States of the importance of assisting each other as well as developing countries in their progress towards successful disaster preparation techniques.



Code: HABITATIII/RES/1/3

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

2

3 *Recalling the Istanbul Declaration of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, the*
4 *International Strategy of Disaster Risk Reduction, the Hyogo Framework for Action, and the Sendai Framework*
5 *for Action, which prioritize disaster risk reduction (DRR) in the context of climate change as a significant goal of*
6 *urbanization and urban planning,*

7

8 *Encouraging* Member States to collaborate with intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental
9 organizations (NGOs) that offer expertise and education training programs in urban planning and disaster risk
10 reduction (DRR) mitigation and management, including but not limited to those offered through the United
11 Nations Development Programme (UNDP), such as the United Nations One Program, the United Nations Office
12 for Disaster Risk Reduction, as well as recognizing the success of National Education Development Plans,

13

14 *Further encouraging* international financial institutions and IGO's, including but not limited to the World Bank,
15 the United Nations Capital Development Fund, and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
16 (UNISDR), to continue their provision of financial resources towards urban development,

17

18 *Emphasizing* the urgency to give proper warning stated by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster
19 Reduction,

20

21 *Affirming* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development established by General Assembly resolution 70/1 and
22 the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) developed therein, specifically SDG 11, which promotes the
23 development of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities, as well as Goals 4, 9, 10, and 13,

24

25 *Drawing attention to* the "Making Cities Resilient" program of UNISDR, which strives to educate communities
26 on disaster prevention measures and promote resilient rebuilding, increasing financial resilience capacity, and
27 improve infrastructure resilience,

28

29 *Stressing* the importance of considering disaster risk reduction in future urban development planning and policies
30 on the international and local levels while recognizing the value of regional governmental solutions, including
31 those developed by relevant regional organizations,

32

33 *Noting with concern* the disproportionate effects of natural disasters and climate change on the
34 socioeconomically disadvantaged groups, and appreciating the programs implemented by NGOs, such as Urban
35 Poor: Cities Building Resilience for a Changing World and Urban Poor Fund International, to renew slums and
36 other disadvantaged areas in urban centers in the context of reducing the effects of natural disasters,

37

38 1. *Encourages* the further implementation of National Education Development Plans specifically aimed at
39 disaster resilience training for at-risk groups, by:

40

- 41 a. Expanding on the World Bank's Disaster Risk Management program (DRM) to provide training
42 and educational resources for community leaders, who will present the information to their
43 respective populations;
- 44 b. Ensuring that education programs are accessible to all residents, especially marginalized and
45 underrepresented minority groups such as women, youth, indigenous groups, and the impoverished
46 worldwide;
- 47 c. Incorporating DRR into public school curricula, placing priority on youth involvement in DRR;
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- d. Creating training programs for students in higher education and for unemployed youth with the assistance of the World Program of Action for Youth, led by volunteer specialists on architecture, engineering and construction from countries who already have developed successful techniques for building cost-appropriate, time-efficient, resilient and stable structures;
 - e. Introducing continual education programs for municipal workers on best-practices with regards to building codes and zonings to create resilient cities, as done in Singapore’s program “Leader’s in Urban Governance Program” (LUGP);
2. *Strongly recommends* Member States engage in technology-sharing by utilizing regional institutions, as well as the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in order to:
- a. Expand the use of Early Disaster Warning Systems (EDWS) including mobile phone applications, radios, and media systems that will ensure that citizens have the most updated and current information about disasters affecting their area and the ability to locate survivors and casualties;
 - b. Ensure that these technologies are available to Member States that do not currently have access to these vital systems, especially Least Developed Countries (LDCs);
3. *Suggests* the creation of an online database of best practices for disaster risk reduction with contributions by various regional organizations, so as to increase regional and localized preparedness to respond quickly and efficiently in the event of disaster, by:
- a. Focusing on sharing policy ideas in the areas of disaster risk assessment, urban planning for resilience, and sustainable management of development;
 - b. Centering this online database on connections to potential funding sources that domestic government bodies can use to make cities more resilient to the consequences of natural disasters;
 - c. Managing the database through continuous policy updates contributed to it by regional organizations, such as but not limited to the African Union, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the European Union;
 - d. Expanding upon the database with contributions from the biannual Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction conference held by UNISDR, the World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR), and the Knowledge Centre on Cities and Climate Change (K4C);
4. *Reaffirms* the UNISDR, especially by:
- a. Employing risk assessment to provide information to set priorities for mitigation and prevention strategies and designing early warning systems by working with NGOs such as The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC);
 - b. Applying systems with monitoring and predicting capabilities to provide timely estimates of the potential risk faced by communities, economies, and the environment;
 - c. Operating using disseminating information, including communication systems that are needed for delivering warning messages to the potentially affected locations to alert local and regional governmental agencies;
 - d. Developing regionally-specific disaster risk reduction policies that incorporate legal, fiscal, and urban planning aspects for successful and cohesive resilience;

- 105 5. *Requests* that the reconstruction of all devastated cities is achieved with special emphasis on permanent
106 resilience and sustainability by:
107
- 108 a. Maintaining support for programs such as the United Nations Human Settlements Programme's
109 (UN-HABITAT) Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI) and the City Resilience Profiling
110 Programme (CRPP);
111
 - 112 b. Emphasizing the monitoring of allocated funds, ensuring effective implementation of the resilient
113 and sustainable building strategies;
114
 - 115 c. Assessing on area's highest disaster threat and integrating resilience and DRR in urban planning by
116 cooperating and communicating with the devastated communities, in order to ensure the
117 implementation of the best building strategies;
118
- 119 6. *Recommends* Member States to invest in resilient infrastructure and sustainable building methods, both in
120 the materials used and the ability to resist disasters, by:
121
- 122 a. Improving regional and local standards for sustainable development of new infrastructure in urban
123 spaces;
124
 - 125 b. Utilizing green technologies when building new infrastructures, such as solar panels and wind
126 turbines, and other eco-friendly practices;
127
 - 128 c. Using recycled materials and water, such as eco-bricks, in building resilient infrastructures that
129 endure disasters;
130
 - 131 d. Adopting consistent building codes to make Member States more resistant to natural hazards and
132 implementing these codes based on key performance indicators;
133
- 134 7. *Further encourages* Member States to strengthen local city management authorities and their capacities to
135 manage urban resilience projects by:
136
- 137 a. Expanding cooperation with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) in their task to connect
138 urban authorities globally for the purpose of best practice sharing;
139
 - 140 b. Promoting community participation and representation when creating new initiatives, in
141 cooperation with their respective governments, so that best practices in resilience can be
142 implemented effectively;
143
 - 144 c. Further decreasing the cost of infrastructure projects by approving public-private partnership
145 initiatives supported by the United Nations Capital Development Fund;
146
- 147 8. *Emphasizes* the importance of assisting displaced and impoverished individuals in urban areas, specifically
148 those disproportionately affected by disasters, by:
149
- 150 a. Investing in resilient housing developments for these individuals, to better protect vulnerable urban
151 populations from climate change-related disasters;
152
 - 153 b. Incorporating programs allowing all persons, especially from disadvantaged groups within urban
154 centers, to have equitable access to DRR training and educational programs.



Code: HABITATIII/RES/1/4

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

2
3 *Recalling* Article 1.3 of the *Charter of the United Nations* and its emphasis on international cooperation to address
4 problems on a global scale,

5
6 *Reaffirming* the commitment made by General Assembly resolution 70/107 on mutual assistance in dealing with the
7 consequences of natural disasters,

8
9 *Bearing in mind* the socioeconomic differences between Member States and the resounding impact this has on the
10 ability of states to develop independently,

11
12 *Fully aware* that there has been a significant increase in economic costs associated with environmental disturbances
13 and that this will increase the needs of investments from Member States and other stakeholders,

14
15 *Recognizing* the importance of alternative actors, such as the private sector or organizations like the Global
16 Environment Facility and the Climate Funds Update,

17
18 *Recognizing* the work of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and its continued work in
19 researching, collecting data and bringing suggestions to states,

20
21 *Having considered* the difficulties developing states face in integrating disaster risk reduction programs into national
22 policies since such programs often require extensive fiscal and human capital,

23
24 *Having considered further* the benefits of programs integrated on national, regional, and local levels of Member
25 States in accordance with their needs and individual conditions,

26
27 *Acknowledging* the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 as created by General Assembly
28 resolution 69/283,

29
30 *Noting with satisfaction* the adoption of the *Paris Agreement* at the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations
31 Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21),

32
33 *Keeping in mind* that urban development requires maximization of the active use of space and land to create
34 resilience,

35
36 *Reminding* Member States of the importance of rebuilding cities previously devastated by natural and manmade
37 disasters with an emphasis on resilience and sustainability,

38
39 *In support of* the *Hyogo Framework for Action* and its mission to build resilient cities and communities that can
40 withstand disasters,

41
42 *Stressing* the need to develop an inclusive political, social, and economic environment that works to both empower
43 nations as individuals and link them as neighbors,

44
45 *Welcoming* the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

46
47 *Reaffirming* European Council's resolution 339 on "Making Cities Resilient" and its directive for Member States to
48 boost their capacity to deal with disaster risk management,

49

50 *Recognizing* the distinctive struggles faced by victims of disasters, both natural and man-made, and the
51 intensification of the subsequent recovery process in relation to baseline measures,
52

- 53 1. *Encourages* member states to adopt a bottom up approach to disaster risk reduction, in order to empower local
54 communities with tools necessary for both assessing and preventing any possible effects of natural and man-
55 made disasters;
56
- 57 2. *Suggests* the development of adaptive plans for disaster risk reduction (DRR) with an emphasis on assessment
58 of the unique struggles of vulnerable groups, in particular women, children and displaced people;
59
- 60 3. *Instructs* Member States to provide access to environmentally sound technology for affected or vulnerable states
61 through support of United Nations resources such as the Green Climate Fund under Article 11 of COP16;
62
- 63 4. *Supports* the linkage of international databases such as the United Nations International Disasters Database (UN
64 EM-DAT) and national disaster risk databases through information sharing, to improve analyzing past disaster
65 data and to provide more information on future disasters;
66
- 67 5. *Invites* Member States to include all parts of society such as local governments, civil society and NGOs into the
68 decision making process and all approaches to assure equity and sustainability;
69
- 70 6. *Calls upon* Member States to address DRR not as a reactionary measure, but with a preparatory approach with
71 strong engagement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and by creating infrastructure that can withstand the
72 current changing climate as it exists;
73
- 74 7. *Invites* non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other civil society groups to increase awareness of disaster
75 risks and climate change in urban areas, as these areas are exposed to a higher magnitude and severity of natural
76 disasters and climate change impacts;
77
- 78 8. *Endorses* the call to reduce the rural-urban divide regarding access to water, sanitation and infrastructure in
79 order to decrease uncontrolled rural-urban migration in case of natural disasters;
80
- 81 9. *Recommends* Member States to consider alternative opportunities for funding sustainable development projects
82 in order to mitigate environmental challenges, while stimulating private sector growth as well as minimizing
83 public debt by strengthening public-private partnerships (PPP) to guarantee initial construction as well as
84 lifetime maintenance procured by private entities;
85
- 86 10. *Invites* developed countries, privately and publicly funded NGOs, and private actors to provide knowledge,
87 technology, and further resources to community leaders and local governments with the goal of building
88 infrastructural improvements in developed and developing countries for both natural disaster prevention and
89 post natural disaster reconstruction;
90
- 91 11. *Encourages* the efficient use of funds contributed by Member States as well as alternative actors, by means such
92 as:
93
 - 94 a. A proposed gradient scale to assess countries' needs measured by economic capacity (GDP and
95 nominal GDP) and propensity for disaster, to determine which Member States require greater funds;
96
 - 97 b. Participate in the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), which aims at
98 risk reduction, risk identification, financial protection, and resilient recovery for developing countries;
99
 - 100 c. Increased cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to
101 monitor the allocation of funds, ensuring effective implementation of resilient and sustainable building
102 strategies;
103

104 12. *Further reminds* Member States that the reconstruction of devastated cities is best achieved with special
105 emphasis on resilience and sustainability, such as through cooperation and communication with the affected
106 communities in order to ensure the adaptability of future building strategies.



Code: HABITATIII/RES/1/5

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

2
3 *Emphasizing* the importance of creating guidelines to prevent and react quickly and efficiently to natural disasters
4 striking urban areas,

5
6 *Recognizing* the importance of the work accomplished by the *Hyogo and the Sendai Frameworks for Disaster Risk*
7 *Reduction* and the need to push further the implementation of these frameworks,

8
9 *Realizing* the need for different sources of funding to strive for resilient and sustainable cities,

10
11 *Recognizing* the progress made by vocational training initiatives to low income communities living in poor urban
12 areas under the purview of United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk*
13 *Reduction*,

14
15 *Emphasizing* the importance of the second key point of the 2015 *Paris Agreement* regarding adapting to climate
16 change through collaboration between international and regional organizations in order to strengthen a societies’
17 ability to address the effects of climate change,

18
19 *Fully alarmed* by the anticipated difficulty of keeping global temperatures increases under 2 degrees Celsius, a goal
20 set by the Paris Climate Conference, considering member states’ common but differentiated responsibilities and
21 commitment towards financing the building of resilient cities,

22
23 *Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in
24 general and SDG 11, Goals 3 and 9 in particular, which address enhancing inclusive and sustainable urbanization as
25 well as promoting the building of safe and resilient cities,

26
27 *Alarmed* by the fivefold increase of disasters like draughts, floods and storms since the 1970s, according to the
28 World Meteorological Organization (WMO) 2015 report “The Escalated Impact of Climate Related Natural
29 Disasters,”

30
31 *Guided by the Vancouver Declaration and the Istanbul Declaration* in seeking to create more livable, attractive and
32 efficient settlements which recognize human scale, the heritage and culture of people and the needs of disadvantaged
33 groups, including children, women and the infirm in order to ensure the provision of education and social justice
34 with regards to disaster risk reduction and response efforts,

35
36 *Noting* the importance of regionally oriented programs that address a need for early warning system to promote
37 disaster risk reduction (DRR) in accordance with Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
38 (GFDRR),

39
40 *Aware of* the need for United Nations bodies to coordinate efforts to build capacities regarding food and water
41 gathering, as well as transportation to prevent shortages of these supplies, in the event of a natural disaster,

42
43 *Noting* the inherent need to coordinated efforts in the realm of DRR with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk
44 Reduction (UNISDR), in developing comprehensive strategies to respond to these disasters,

45
46 *Recalling* the relevance of the expertise of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations
47 Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) in
48 providing data and risk assessment for cities affected by natural disasters and climate stresses,

49

50 *Realizing* the role of programs such as the biennial Global Assessment Report on DRR under UNISDR, which
51 provides information pertaining to effective disaster risk strategies used worldwide,
52

53 *Promoting* the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, which addresses the need to bridge the
54 digital and developmental divide by providing information communication technologies (ICTs) for information-
55 sharing, which is especially important in times of disaster,
56

57 *Acknowledging* the ethical relationship that developed countries have towards developing and least developed
58 countries becoming more adapted towards climate change and the threats posed by natural disasters,
59

60 *Recognizing* that national efforts should be accompanied by helpful international programs, actions and strategies
61 meant to increase development opportunities of other countries only while respecting national sovereignty,
62

63 *Endorsing* all regional and local approaches that facilitate exchange of information and best-practices in terms of
64 improving the resilience of cities,
65

66 *Reiterating* the relevance of the continuation of vocational training in the field of disaster risk reduction by local
67 initiatives, following models such as the Swaziland Workshops, the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
68 (GFDRR), and UNISDR,
69

70 *Further recognizes* cities that have made substantial progress in the realm of resilient urban policy, regardless of
71 financial or economic investment capabilities, thereby highlighting the efforts of cities in the process of urban
72 development and poverty reduction, especially those classified by the United Nations as Least Developed Countries
73 (LDCs),
74

75 1. *Suggests* the implementation of United Nations guidelines for infrastructure emergency plan (IEP) aiming at
76 reducing the economic and social cost of natural hazards according to a five steps approach, proposed for
77 Member States to be adopted as national plans, those steps being:
78

- 79 a. Identification of possible dangers and natural hazards for cities and their environment;
80
- 81 b. Evaluation of damages that will take into account population density, economic and industrial
82 infrastructures, water and electric systems, and emergency response infrastructure by taking into
83 account the particularities of national systems;
84
- 85 c. Classification of the risks for different cities, depending on the vulnerability, that ranges from very
86 high, high, medium to low;
87
- 88 d. Disaster preparedness and prevention concerning of integral aspect of resilience and disaster
89 preparedness, promotes cooperation among local government bodies through grassroots organization
90 such as sister-city agreements;
91
- 92 e. Early community warning systems, as well as effective weather forecast system;
93

94 2. *Recommending* the adoption of a clear national target for *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*
95 (SFDRR) Global Target F, mindful of the need to respect the principle of equity and in accordance with the
96 common, but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities of Member States, as expressed in article
97 2 of the Paris Agreement, and respectful of Member States' sovereignty;
98

99 3. *Calls for* the development of United Nations guidelines for post-disaster recovery on Rebuilding Resilient
100 Urban Housing (RRUH) by:
101

- 102 a. Prioritizing potable water and wastewater treatment as key issue in response to natural disasters;
103
- 104 b. Building sustainable and resilient housing to cope and minimize the effects of disasters;
105

- 106 c. Rebuilding housing more resiliently after a disaster has taken place (Build Back Better);
107
108 d. Rebuilding housing more energy efficiently by insulating houses properly to reduce CO₂ and other
109 greenhouse gas emissions to counter climate change;
110
111 e. Establishing a standard operation procedure system for relief in response to disasters, which includes:
112
113 i. Emergency evacuation plans;
114 ii. Releasing information and coordination and enhancing coordination between local and central
115 governments;
116 iii. Allocating resources and relief teams by coordinating the emergency disaster relief teams and
117 the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) under the United
118 Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in order to activate an
119 emergency command center for the region;
120
- 121 4. *Encourages* ECOSOC to review multilateral and regional financial institutions, such as the World Bank, the
122 Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), African Development Bank (AfDB), and the Inter-American
123 Development Bank (IADB) as sources of financing for resilience programs to reduce a reliance on emergency
124 relief in the long term, so that developing countries can recover from disasters more sustainably;
125
- 126 5. *Recommends* the further support of the United Nations Environmental Programme's (UNEP) International
127 Environmental Technology Centre (IETC) program which supports local authorities by establishing guidelines
128 for providing access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and wastewater management;
129
- 130 6. *Calls for* the continued development and implementation of primary educational and public awareness
131 programs on urban adaptation to climate change through civil society organizations (CSOs), non-governmental
132 organizations (NGOs), inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) and civil interest groups such as:
133
- 134 a. Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR);
135
136 b. 100 Resilient Cities (100RC);
137
138 c. The Central African Republic's National Education Development Plan;
139
140 d. UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme in the Interagency Network on Education in
141 Emergencies;
142
143 e. Medellín Collaboration on Urban Resilience;
144
145 f. The Knowledge Centre on Cities and Climate Change (K4C);
146
- 147 7. *Recommends* to utilize the education system of Member States in order to distribute information and education
148 materials for the integration of climate change and disaster risk education through the United Nations
149 Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in an effort to inform the public about urban
150 climate vulnerabilities, as well as adequate behavior in the face of disasters by distributing free materials or
151 making use of conventional media and social media campaigns;
152
- 153 8. *Promotes* the expansion of the Livelihoods Early Assessment Program (LEAP), to be used as a model, which
154 currently works in Ethiopia, the World Food Programme (WFP), and the Production Safety Net Programme
155 (PSNP) to implement transportation guidelines to safely and adequately transfer food stocks from production
156 facilities to cities in anticipation of natural disasters such as flood and droughts, while enlarging self-
157 sufficiency of people building their own housing through financial and food transfer contingencies in order to
158 benefit from a greater access to cities amenities from the crop data and impromptu weather reports created by
159 LEAP in order to promote early warning systems against these disasters;
160

- 161 9. *Encourages* the expansion of the Climate Change Adaptation Program on Water and Agriculture, a program in
162 congruence with the UNDP, for the establishment of technical agriculture facilities and smart agriculture and
163 soil erosion preventative measures, so as to ensure that they have enough resources before a disaster strikes so
164 as to not leave them even more vulnerable;
165
- 166 10. *Encourages* all Member States to collaborate with the UNISDR and the United Nations Habitat Cities Climate
167 Change Initiative to further develop regional DRR Committees that focus on collaboration between ministries,
168 agencies and local governments with a DRR agenda;
169
- 170 11. *Suggests* to conduct studies that can identify the specific policy and program needs of different regions and
171 creating regional disaster response training authorities to integrate technical expertise with context specific
172 knowledge from state governments through the International Federation of the Red Crescent Societies for the
173 most pressing difficulties faced in particular geographic regions through:
174
- 175 a. “Resilient Cities” Conferences in accordance with the International Innovative Cities Forum as a
176 means for information and expertise sharing between relevant stakeholders to create a social bridge
177 between information sharing and DRR;
178
 - 179 b. Affirming the continuation of the *Hyogo Framework* as well as the *Sendai Framework for Action* in
180 the aim of building resilience in disaster situations;
181
 - 182 c. Collaboration with the Resilient Cities Program funded by the World Bank, in accordance with the
183 GFDRR in providing reports through rapid diagnostic methodology that assesses city specific risks;
184
- 185 12. *Further recommends* the building up of early warning systems of disasters in cooperation with the World
186 Meteorological Organization (WMO) by gathering data and expertise, within regional frameworks that
187 correspond to an area exposed to similar risk-sets, also modeling after the UN-SPIDER, United Nations
188 Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and the United Nations Operational Satellite Applications
189 Program (UNOSAT) that has the ability to gather information about the climate from using satellites that create
190 city wide reports as well as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) that assess a city’s risk based upon their
191 geographical and topographical location;
192
- 193 13. *Suggests* further cooperation and transfer of knowledge and technology between the International
194 Telecommunications Union Development Sector (ITU) under UNISDR and national and regional disaster
195 response systems, such as the Iranian Seismic Network, to promote a strong response to natural and other
196 disasters that not only works to build back better urban areas based on local conditions and knowledge, but also
197 to strengthen the role of local and regional actors in the response process;
198
- 199 14. *Further recommends* support from the International Telecommunication Union Development Sector and
200 financial assistance from willing and able Member States to the revitalized provision of ICTs for climate change
201 adaptation, to assist developing countries, for the purpose of:
202
- 203 a. Developing effective climate and disaster risk management and early warning systems using such
204 technologies;
205
 - 206 b. Promoting Urban Planning and Design Laboratories, by providing high-quality data and information
207 for city planners and architects to help build resilient cities and adaptive urban landscape;
208
 - 209 c. Facilitating communication and exchange of information between the relevant stakeholders for
210 informed decision making from experts and local authorities;
211
 - 212 d. Enhancing city-wide alarm systems capabilities among developing nations in order to promote real-
213 time communications and urban resiliency;
214

- 215 15. *Invites* developed countries to provide assistance towards least developed and developing countries with regard
216 to the implementation of:
217
218 a. Fostering the construction of disaster resistant infrastructures;
219
220 b. Advancing early warning systems in regional areas in order to stimulate preparedness and information
221 sharing among potentially affected areas;
222
223 c. Offering humanitarian and financial aid for disaster affected populations;
224
- 225 16. *Encourages* to expand the collaboration between the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-
226 HABITAT) and cities to expand its collaboration with cities to further consolidate its “City Resilience Profile
227 Programme” into a public statistical database of civil development with additional information from, but not
228 limited to, the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations
229 Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Department of Economic and Political Affairs (UNDESA),
230 and the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) to expand its capabilities to include statistical
231 analysis of large, medium and small sized cities as well as slums located in and around cities;
232
- 233 17. *Strongly recommends* the implementation of a global forum, to be initiated, organized, and overseen by UN-
234 HABITAT, that builds off the work of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction for the purpose of city-
235 to-city information sharing, with expertise from the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
236 (UNISDR), on the subject of best practices and innovative ideas concerning resilience, climate change, and
237 disaster risk reduction, which will:
238
- 239 a. Be hosted initially in Manila, Philippines, followed by a participant city who is chosen at the previous
240 conference based on its demonstration of exemplary innovation practices related to urban sustainability
241 and resilience;
242
- 243 b. Rotate in continental location to ensure inclusivity of all geographic locations;
244
- 245 c. Be held on a repeating basis every 5 years for a week long basis starting in 2018;
246
- 247 d. Promote an open and productive dialogue on key challenges faced by global 31 cities and regions to
248 discuss opportunities to improve quality of life through sustainability and resilience efforts;
249
- 250 e. Include existing NGOs, CSOs, Member States, and experts familiar with this topic;
251
- 252 f. Urge Member States leading in resilience technologies to send Science, Technology, Engineering and
253 Math (STEM) researchers and experts specializing in civil, transportation, environmental, industrial
254 and structural engineering relevant to designing and strengthening urban landscapes;
255
- 256 g. Encourage developing states to choose and send representatives to train under the expertise of UN38
257 approved educators in the fields of engineering and economic research in accordance of United
258 Nations standards;
259
- 260 h. Be financed partly by the world bank and regional development banks as well as voluntary country
261 contributions;
262
- 263 18. *Encourages* the empowerment of the International Recovery Platform (IRP), within the Sendai Framework,
264 acting with the spirit of “Building Back Better”, in order to organize the actions of NGO’s participating in
265 humanitarian actions, sharing experience and lessons, and avoid competition between NGOs, in terms of
266 priorities, suppliers, work style and funding.



Code: HABITATIII/RES/1/6

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

2
3 *Emphasizing* the need for better post-disaster management,

4
5 *Highlighting* the importance of positive actions between Member States especially by means of technology transfer
6 as outlined in the Habitat Agenda,

7
8 *Reminding* the global community of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in which all 193 Member States
9 agreed to end poverty and build a life of dignity for all on a healthy planet and the necessity of equal access under
10 the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* to all resources that will accomplish such a role for every Member State,

11
12 *Building* further on the achievements of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction
13 (UNISDR),

14
15 *Recognizing* the *Kyoto Protocol* and the implications it has in adjusting the consumption patterns of industrialized
16 Member States,

17
18 *Appreciating* past efforts of the second United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development
19 (Habitat II), which created the *Istanbul Declaration* in 1996 and future discussions like the World Humanitarian
20 Summit,

21
22 *Recalling* Article 2 of the *Charter of the United Nations* on state sovereignty,

23
24 *Bearing in mind* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 which emphasizes the necessity to ensure access to
25 affordable, reliable, sustainable, and clean energy for all, SDG 9 which highlights the need to build resilient
26 infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation, SDG 12, which affirms the
27 desire to ensure sustainable consumption and production pattern, and SDG 17 on strengthening the means of
28 implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development,

29
30 *Reaffirming* Article 1.3 of the Charter as it pertains to international cooperation at all levels,

31
32 *Recognizing* the importance of vulnerable populations such as women and their inalienable right to sustainable
33 development as outlined in the *Vienna Declaration*,

34
35 *Stressing* the importance that ecosystem and green space preservation has on climate change and the intensity of
36 natural disasters,

37
38 *Bringing into full awareness* the intense stress that mass rural-urban migration places on cities' infrastructure
39 capacity and their subsequent increased vulnerability to natural disasters,

40
41 *Recognizing* the success of the Global Environment Facility's Poznan Strategic Program on Technology Transfer
42 which outlines a successful strategy for the transfer of green technologies,

43
44 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 69/243 on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the
45 field of natural disasters, from relief to development which emphasizes the importance of cooperation of all Member
46 States when preparing, dealing with, and recovering from a natural disaster,

47
48 *Recognizing* the benefits of using natural resources towards sustainable practices in urban areas,

49

50 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 69/294, which calls for the establishment of intergovernmental groups
51 relating to disaster risk reduction,
52
53 *Cognizant* of the efficiency of the Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) and the loss of resources by urban spreading
54 and the increasing need of them,
55
56 *Acknowledging* the need for educational awareness on climate change within school curriculums,
57
58 *Taking into consideration* the ideas established by the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
59 (GFDRR), particularly its five pillars on risk identification, risk reduction, preparedness, financial protection, and
60 resilient recovery,
61
62 *Emphasizing* a course of action in line with the UNISDR and The Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction
63 that will implement sustainable development in all facets of urban settlements,
64
65 *Taking into account* the economic strain that accompanies families moving from a self-sufficient rural area into a
66 developed urban area,
67
68 *Recognizing* the relationship between the empowerment of women by providing resources to women and its
69 importance in promote resilience in urban areas,
70
71 *Noting* the 2011 World Bank Report Climate Change Disaster Risk, and the Urban Poor: Cities building resilience
72 for a changing world found that urban poor living in substandard housing are at much greater risk to the negative
73 social and economic effects of climate change and environmental disaster,
74
75 *Expressing its concern* over past agendas that remain unaccomplished,
76
77 *Reaffirming* points raised in General Assembly resolution 58/215 pertaining to the importance of combatting climate
78 change, especially in developing countries, including the utilization and development of efficient green technologies
79 to promote disaster risk reduction,
80
81 *Noting* the importance of involving youth in environmental and sustainable issues,
82
83 *Bearing in mind* the necessity to building with consideration while remaining attentive to changing climate and the
84 regional characteristics of Members States and their differing regional needs as stated in General Assembly
85 resolution 70/204,
86
87 *Taking note* of the continued efforts of the General Assembly Fifth Committee in their budgetary tasks,
88
89 *Alarmed by* the ecological degradation that leads to climate alteration and the subsequently increased disaster risk, as
90 well as the drift of economic resources from inner-city districts, as a result of urban sprawl,
91
92 *Stressing* the importance that ecosystem and green space preservation has on climate change and the intensity of
93 natural disasters,
94
95 *Acknowledging* each Member State's individual progress in addressing the pressing issue of natural and
96 anthropogenic disasters,
97
98 1. *Urges* the sharing of innovative technologies to cope with climate-change induced natural disasters and other
99 such ramifications similar to:
100
101 a. The Kgalagadi Sand Building Block technology that allows the cheaper construction of stronger
102 disaster resilient structures;
103
104 b. Drip-irrigation technology that allows arid location farming to relieve rural-urban migration and
105 resource strain on urban areas;

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- c. Promote the role of the Climate Technology Centre and Network in supervising sharing of these technologies;
 2. *Emphasizes* that Member States with successful urban protection programs similar to Nouakchott’s Green Belt which has successfully slowed desertification and protected Nouakchott from dust storms should share these programs and their respective expertise on an international level;
 3. *Stresses* the need for the creation of innovative economic opportunities in rural areas devastated by climate change in order to alleviate stress induced by mass rural-urban migration in urban areas;
 4. *Emphasizes* the need to implement educational programs which work with already established women's and family planning organizations, particularly those supported by the United Nations, such as the Women Network for Peace and Dialogue in Burundi, and the United Nations Girls’ Education Initiative, further expand the support of the community to help promote resilience in urban areas;
 5. *Encourages* local governments to initiate awareness-raising campaigns, akin to the You Control Climate Change program of the European Commission, to inform individuals about the importance of reducing climate change and disasters risks;
 6. *Recommends* green sustainable urban resilience in the development of climate change adaption and disaster risk reduction by the Poznan Strategic Program on Technology Transfer to include all technology transfers through the use of North-South and South-South cooperation;
 7. *Encourages* Member States to support CBD’s Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI), which seeks to coagulate member states in an effort to manage and conserve the biodiversity and health of Oceans and bodies of water. The CBD proposes initiatives titled the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABT) which seeks to address the loss of biodiversity through adapting to climate change by establishing sustainable ocean systems by 2020;
 8. *Emphasizes* the importance of supporting programs such as the Blue Carbon Initiative (CBI) and Global Marine and Polar Program that seek to regulate and maintain fisheries and aquaculture, which are key economic aspects to building resilient fisheries in cities for the purposes of sustainability;
 9. *Recommends* that Member States work with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) similar to Bird Life International and local community groups to focus on the greater role of ecosystems in climate change and adaptation;
 10. *Recommends* to strengthen the capacity of regional organizations and their relationships with NGOs to build upon and improve the five pillars of the GFDRR;
 11. *Encourages* further action and involvement by all willing and able Member States in various global forums that pertain to the importance of urban resilience and disaster risk reduction such as the UNISDR Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as well as the Knowledge Center on Cities and Climate Change (K4C) as they pertain to the sharing of information on the global scale in regards to disaster risk reduction practices so Member States can more easily implement preventive measures, especially in urban areas and cities;
 12. *Recommends* the expansion of the Luxembourg’s General Plan of Instillations (GPI) to all Member States to ensure rational and harmonious development of urban and rural structures, division of urban areas into various sectors for which it determines allocation and usage while simultaneously strengthening Urban Area Councils that work in conjunction with Local Governments, to evaluate each development plan for environmental impact, sustainability, and longevity;
 13. *Suggests* Member States to utilize Brazil’s innovative green space planning practices such as the Ecological and Economic Cites (ECO2 Cities) program to reduce the impacts of climate change and natural disasters;

- 161 14. *Commends* various resilience programs that have already proved effective at protecting cities from threats posed
162 by climate change and natural disasters, like China’s Great Green Wall;
163
- 164 15. *Encourages* collaboration between the United Nations Human Settlements Programme’s (UN-HABITAT)
165 Global Energy Network for Urban Settlements (GENUS) and UN-Women to empower and involve women in
166 the overall development process, especially in building of resilient human settlements, by increasing their
167 access to information and energy technologies as it pertains to disaster risk reduction practices;
168
- 169 16. *Encourages* Member States to facilitate the integration of refugees displaced by climate change into cities
170 through pre-emptive urban planning;
171
- 172 17. *Recognizes* that programs such as The Fund for the Promotion of Urban Housing (FPHU) which provides
173 funding to citizens moving into urban homes, have dramatically reduced the discrepancy between those who
174 need homes and those who can afford homes;
175
- 176 18. *Further requests* Member States to initiate a sustainable development course through organizations such as the
177 Energy Efficiency Subsidy Programme, to provide affordable and reliable sources of electricity for post-disaster
178 urban resilience;
179
- 180 19. *Encourages* further north-south cooperation in the implementation of sustainable development and disaster risk
181 reduction practices on a global scale;
182
- 183 20. *Invites* fellow Member States to reaffirm their political and economic commitment;
184
- 185 21. *Suggests* the development of effective frameworks for financing and transparency;
186
- 187 22. *Welcomes* the international community to adopt this clause of equality which will respect the rights of all states
188 regardless of geographic region and political affiliation to have access to lifesaving construction supplies such
189 as financing, humanitarian aid, and building material that will be used towards establishing climate change
190 resilient cities.



Code: HABITATIII/RES/1/7

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

2
3 *Recognizing the sovereignty of all Member States as stated in Article 2.1 of the Charter of the United Nations,*

4
5 *Recalling General Assembly resolution 54/219 on the International Decade for Disaster Reduction establishing the*
6 *International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR),*

7
8 *Recognizing the need for a comprehensive accountability review mechanism to research and invest in the most*
9 *vulnerable regions and build any capacities necessary to take preventative action against potential disasters,*

10
11 *Determined to enhance mechanisms patterned after the Sendai Framework for Action 2015 in order to address the*
12 *urgency of having disaster risk reduction strategies and notably the Knowledge Center on Cities and Climate*
13 *Change (K4C) platform,*

14
15 *Welcoming public-private partnerships for development, as encouraged in General Assembly resolution 70/224,*
16 *particularly those aimed at strengthening political and financial support,*

17
18 *Aware that catastrophic bonds are low risk, humanitarian bonds, that are insurance-linked security investments sold*
19 *on capital markets to create a financial resource for Member States at the time of a natural disaster that generate*
20 *completely new income instead of augmenting preexisting programs,*

21
22 *Taking into consideration General Assembly resolution 63/217 on Natural Disasters and Vulnerability that*
23 *highlights the relevance of mitigating the repercussions caused by calamities among vulnerable cities,*

24
25 *Recognizing the work of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and*
26 *Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) that facilitates information sharing on international and regional levels,*

27
28 *Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for launching the Global*
29 *District Energy in Cities Initiative at the 2014 United Nations Climate Summit that seeks to include decentralized,*
30 *affordable and mobile renewable energy resources into resilient urban planning and development,*

31
32 *Noting with concern the lack of rapid response mechanisms in waste management in the Agency Standing*
33 *Committee Humanitarian Aid Efforts,*

34
35 *Acknowledging that the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) has not only provided*
36 *financial assistance but also information and technological exchange by allowing the creation of multinational*
37 *research partnerships that are covering diverse levels of governance and ultimately generating spillover effects and*
38 *economic growth,*

39
40 *Bearing in mind the pressure rapid urbanization puts on cities and the impacts this has on achieving Sustainable*
41 *Development Goals (SDGs) 11 and 13 in advocating inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities with respect to*
42 *promoting urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts,*

43
44 1. *Develops international guidelines which promote a wide range of more resilient and longer lasting critical*
45 *infrastructure, including but not limited to, roads, water sources, government buildings, and power stations*
46 *through:*

- 47
48 a. *Adopting a plan within the New Urban Agenda named The Fundamental Aid for International*
49 *Resilience Plan (FAIR);*

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- b. Promoting durable building techniques in structures and roadways that could be replicated, as a way to reach a sustainable lifestyle that is easy to attain for all populations disregarding their economic status;
 2. *Seeks* a comprehensive and effective accountability mechanism and welcomes the participation of the United Nations General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in assessing the implementation of a respective accountability review board;
 3. *Further supports* ECOSOC in being open to adapting their financial policies in regards to loans and aid requested by developing nations post-natural disasters;
 4. *Stresses* the need for United Nations Standards on Urban Housing (UN-SUH) to manage post-disaster areas, focusing on ‘Building Back Better’ in a climate neutral and resilient way through:
 - a. Using strategies from the UNEP Sustainable Buildings and Climate Initiative (SBCI) for building in a climate neutral manner, which includes:
 - i. Piloting sustainable housing approaches in the affordable and social housing markets;
 - ii. Addressing the necessity to green the construction sector supply chain;
 - iii. Implementing minimum standards of safety and housing constructions adapted to specific areas;
 - b. Encouraging Member States and local communities to share best practices through the Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the K4C platform;
 - c. Training local and regional communities and educating them on how to use the disaster risk reduction (DRR) platform and to implement the guidelines;
 5. *Also welcomes* public-private partnerships for development through the FAIR Plan to provide political and financial support to ensure an effective prevention system;
 6. *Invites* the reconstruction of disaster hazard infrastructures to be included in the FAIR Plan, which can be funded by catastrophic bonds and could:
 - a. Reduce costs for surface restoration;
 - b. Reduce safety hazards involved;
 - c. Eliminate critical utility outages;
 - d. Place no undue stress on fragile structures including no limit;
 7. *Asks* developing nations to make urban planning a substantive part of their national agenda, as adequate urban planning can bring economic, social, and environmental benefits to all areas by maximizing the potentials of Urban Planning and Design Laboratories that shall incorporate strategies for better urban landscape;
 8. *Encourages* increased cooperation between member states and the World Bank, especially the Water and Sanitation Program (WSP), to create sustainable, resilient infrastructure for efficient clean water provision, especially in developing countries;
 9. Promotes the development and expansion of smart urban planning concerning housing and infrastructure including roads, water sources, power stations, and accessible government disaster response facilities, through:
 - a. Further developing international guidelines for the modification of existing infrastructures to promote greater resilience;

- 106 b. Creating recommendations for safe living, including:
107
108 i. Location risk-level for natural destructions;
109 ii. Set-up of critical infrastructure;
110 iii. Resource accessibility;
111
112 c. Promoting durable building techniques in structures and roadways that could be replicated, as a way to
113 achieve sustainable cities, that are accessible to all populations regardless of their economic status;
114
115 d. Identifying areas and city grids that are particularly vulnerable to devastation when environmental
116 threats are posed, including fragile agricultural societies and slums;
117
118 e. Collecting sufficient data to track and develop safety standards within cities;
119
- 120 10. *Encourages* the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to expand humanitarian aid to include rapid response
121 mechanisms in waste management immediately following natural disasters to limit the spread of disease in
122 affected urban areas, especially in developing regions;
123
- 124 11. *Endorses* inclusivity and restoration of marginalized communities in order to promote cohesion and facilitate
125 feasible sustainability within cities to emphasize the integration of impoverished and underdeveloped cities into
126 tenacious and coherent cities;
127
- 128 12. *Further recommends* Member States to promote city-to-city cooperation regarding local climate and disaster
129 governance in order to distinguish, assess, and cater to specific needs of areas by utilizing the International
130 Council for Local Environment Initiative’s Knowledge Hub to share information between Member States
131 regarding urban resilience and climate change;
132
- 133 13. *Implore* Member States to use existing resources to plan resilient cities by:
134
- 135 a. Having urban planners and local stakeholders incorporate the data available from the UN-SPIDER into
136 urban resilience tactics to:
137
138 i. Developing effective evacuation plans to assess less disaster-prone zones;
139 ii. Reducing the delay for delivering resources to disaster zones by finding the safest and fastest
140 routes;
141
- 142 b. Utilizing the Environmental Disaster Assistance Program (EDAP), a system to combat the
143 ramifications caused by natural disasters which will allow for training sponsored by K4C be given to
144 political authorities, on the ground responders, and civilian counterparts;
145
- 146 c. Collaborating with the GFDRR as well as the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global
147 Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) to establish a wider network of information
148 technology;
149
- 150 14. *Further emphasizes* the need to manage funds within United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-
151 HABITAT) more efficiently and therefore encourages all Member States to participate actively within the
152 already existing GFDRR by:
153
- 154 a. Encouraging Member States to trust the expertise of the GFDRR;
155
156 b. Recommending that all Member States contribute to GFDRR;
157
158 c. Suggesting that Member States cooperating with the GFDRR help less developed countries to gain
159 knowledge and resources to finance resilient cities;
160

- 161 15. *Draws attention* to the fact that resilient cities, as an enabler for the realization of Article 1 of the *Universal*
162 *Declaration of Human Rights*, in line with SDG 10 aiming at reducing inequalities and SDG 11 on sustainable
163 cities and communities, has to be made accessible for every human being regardless of their socio-economic
164 status notably by:
165
- 166 a. Providing poorest neighborhoods with stronger and more sustainable buildings;
 - 167
 - 168 b. Encouraging local governments and institutions to take action for the achievement of upgrading
169 programs for weakest facilities;
 - 170
 - 171 c. Fostering collaboration between different stakeholders including governments, citizens and NGOs
172 through:
173
 - 174 i. A database, on estimates provided by different countries each year, to calculate the frequency
175 and power of natural disasters and prevent them including information on past disasters that
176 might indicate countries that are most at risk of natural disasters, for example, based on their
177 geographic location;
 - 178 ii. A risk analysis network spread on territory that includes sensors linked to a program module
179 able to translate the data collected and send them to the authorities, allowing an immediate
180 action in case of signals that indicate an imminent risk;
 - 181 iii. A technical experts team able to understand the data in order to plan and address the
182 instructions to the specific area of action;
 - 183
 - 184 d. Enhancing participative bottom-up approaches in order to exchange ideas, worries and needs;
 - 185
 - 186 e. Educating and sensitizing people to burning climate change and disasters so that they are more eager to
187 take action in favor of building resilient cities;
 - 188
- 189 16. *Calls upon* all Member States to establish early warning systems to ensure a rapid dissemination of alerts
190 through the communities at risk, in order to guarantee an effective state of preparedness and make cities more
191 resilient.



Code: HABITATIII/RES/1/8

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Development,*

2
3 *Recalling* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9 on building resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable
4 industrialization, and foster innovation,

5
6 *Reiterating* SDG 11 on making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable,

7
8 *Further reiterating* SDG 13 on taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impact,

9
10 Recognizing the importance of taking a community-driven approach towards capacity-building via means of
11 financial assistance, knowledge, information, innovation, and technology sharing in realizing the three
12 aforementioned SDGs,

13
14 *Observing* that the *Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)*, despite having proposed well-crafted disaster risk reduction
15 (DRR) policies, failed to either lower the mortality rate or fully facilitate post-disaster recovery and reconstruction,

16
17 *Noting with satisfaction* that the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* was adopted as the
18 successor to the HFA, specifically delineating the four priorities of action in realizing resilience,

19
20 *Reaffirming* the principles of the outcome document of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable
21 Development, which introduces the notion of resilience as the core strategy towards combating climate change and
22 its impacts,

23
24 *Recognizing* the unity of the international community at the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations
25 Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 21) in developing the *Paris Agreement*, providing substantial
26 momentum for further commitment to combating climate change using preventive measures,

27
28 *Understanding* proactive measures to integrate resilience in urban developments can become auspicious both
29 culturally and economically on local, national, and international levels,

30
31 *Believing* in the ability, as demonstrated by both the *Kyoto Protocol* and the *Istanbul Declaration*, of countries to
32 come together in order to develop an effective response and plan to mitigate the destruction caused by various
33 catastrophes,

34
35 *Underlining* that urban resilience, defined in Issue Paper 15 of the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and
36 Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) as the dynamic to continually adapt to various challenges in an
37 integrated and holistic manner, and thus is a key element to fighting a wide array of harms caused by natural
38 disasters,

39
40 *Taking into consideration* that the creation of resilient structures is an imperative measure for all countries
41 considering the effects of climate change that are causing a greater number of natural hazards,

42
43 *Emphasizing* the need for shelter creation within the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-
44 HABITAT) 100 Resilient Cities effort of developing urban resilience in order to better protect vulnerable urban
45 residents from climate change and related disasters,

46

47 *Noting* the 2011 World Bank Report on Climate Change, Disaster Risk, and the Urban Poor: Cities Building
48 Resilience for a Changing World which proclaims that urban poor living in slums and substandard housing are at
49 particularly high risk to the impact of climate change and environmental disaster,
50
51 *Expressing its concern* that the Participatory Slum Upgrade Program (PSUP) is currently only available to African,
52 Caribbean, and Pacific countries,
53
54 *Keeping in mind* that urban development requires us to maximize the active use of space and land to create
55 resiliency,
56
57 *With confidence* regarding the integration of the Intelligent Transportation System as the next major leap forward in
58 improving safety, convenience, and productivity of personal and commercial travel,
59
60 *Fully aware* of the damage CO₂ gases contribute and will continue to have in our air supply while taking into
61 account SDG 13, which aims to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact,
62
63 *Recognizing* the success of Copenhagen, Denmark’s program regarding the switch from “gray” water system,
64 referring to standard water pipes that are often inefficient, with “blue” water systems,
65
66 *Expressing its appreciation* to the Green Climate Fund for its dedication to carbon emission mitigation within the
67 transportation sector as expressed in Article 11 of the Report of the COP,
68
69 *Fully supports* the need for greater cooperation and international support to help developing nations progress
70 towards the SDGs and other internationally development goals to achieve mutual sustainable development,
71 *Bearing in mind* the socio-economic differences of Member States and the resounding impact this has on the ability
72 of states to integrate expensive programs that require extensive outside fiscal and human capital,
73
74 *Recognizing* the significant economic costs associated with environmental disasters and the continuous need for
75 further resource investments from Member States and other stakeholders,
76
77 *Emphasizing* the importance of alternative opportunities for investments in sustainable development contributed by
78 Member States and alternative actors,
79
80 *Acknowledging* threats of climate change and the need to take preparatory actions, rather than reactionary measures,
81
82 *Reminding* Member-States of the importance of rebuilding cities previously devastated by natural and manmade
83 disasters with an emphasis on resilience and sustainability,
84
85 *Recalling* the goals of the *Cancun Adaptation Framework* to provide necessary tools for climate change adaptation
86 through finance, technology, and capacity-building support,
87
88 *Noting* the correlation between disaster risk reduction and the protection of world heritage sites recognized at the
89 Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage and in United Nations Educational,
90 Scientific and Cultural Organization’s (UNESCO) Managing Disaster Risks for World Heritage Resource Manual,
91
92 *Noting with deep concern* the recent Nepal Earthquake of April 2015 killing more than 9.000 people and destroying
93 over 1,600,000 homes, making thousands of people homeless and destroying most of the cultural and historical sites
94 of the country,
95
96 *Draws attention* to the need for increased financial support from developed countries, along with non-governmental
97 organizations (NGOs) such as CARE, Oxfam, Humanity First, Mercy Corps and other international agencies to
98 support UN-HABITAT’s Achieving Sustainable Urban Development (ASUD) program in order to expand their
99 Planned City Extension (PCE) training programs,
100
101 *Seeking* to avoid situations like those between the United States and India in early 2016, in which India was looking
102 to undertake a massive solar project that would use a “domestic content requirement,” also known as a “local

103 purchase requirement,” to ensure that solar panels and modules were fully sourced and made within India, but the
104 United States claimed it violated international trade law in order to protect their trade and export interests,
105

- 106 1. Emphasizes the importance of implementing early warning systems regarding natural disasters and establishing
107 crisis response teams to member-states, through:
 - 108
 - 109 a. Mass communication via text message and email to alert citizens of impending disaster;
 - 110
 - 111 b. Promoting greater accessibility to internet and cellular services, partnering with internet and cell phone
112 service providers within their respective country;
 - 113
 - 114 c. Proposing that Member-States use the information provided by the World Meteorological Organization
115 (WMO) to reduce the effect of disasters and provide advice on how to build climate-smart cities;
116
- 117 2. *Endorses* the enlargement of existing databases such as the Knowledge Center for Cities and Climate Change
118 (K4C) and the United Nations EM-DAT Emergency Events Database, an international natural disasters
119 database, in addition to UN-HABITAT’s UrbanLex program:
 - 120
 - 121 a. Specifically, through the development of the program Helping Others Mature Environmentally
122 (HOME) which looks to give Member-States access to sustainable development models through a
123 database, creating an open archive for sustainable construction projects and:
 - 124
 - 125 i. Acting as a joint initiative between UN-HABITAT and United Nations Environment
126 Programme (UNEP);
 - 127 ii. Serving as a virtually cost-free program to implement;
 - 128 iii. Staffed by prominent city officials and science, technology, engineering and mathematics
129 (STEM) experts from all participating sustainable cities, specializing in the field of climate
130 change and disaster risk reduction;
 - 131
 - 132 b. Including hosting meetings and/or workshops promoting best practices for disaster prevention, from
133 the local level to the regional level:
 - 134
 - 135 i. Specifically focusing on climate change and impoverished populations during emergency
136 situations;
 - 137 ii. Creation of regional sharing of disaster alert systems by larger Member States in order to
138 allow under-developed nations faster and more adept response times;
 - 139 iii. Allowing for the presence of experts from developed countries to share capacity-building
140 support;
 - 141
 - 142 c. Encouraging cities and Member States to use and contribute to the existing K4C, database, which
143 serves as a method of sharing best practices regarding the development of cities;
144
- 145 3. *Insists* on the implementation of the Global Operation Against Lateral Stresses (GOALS) Initiative, calling for:
 - 146
 - 147 a. Retrofitting existing infrastructures, with a particular focus on hospitals, schools and bridges, with the
148 latest in technology and shock-proof sustainable building materials to withstand earthquakes, including
149 but not limited to the Steel Plate Shear Wall (SPSW) system;
150
 - 151 b. Building new educational and medical infrastructure in a more resilient and sustainable way, as
152 defined and provided for by Member States within their national capacity, in order to turn them to
153 emergency meeting points and food and water supplies storage in case of a natural disaster;
154
 - 155 c. Implementing a global formula that identifies Member States at risk of seismic events who lack the
156 educational foundation and financial capacity to implement the initiative, and then work with them to
157 categorize them of importance, whilst taking into account their ability to fund themselves, and giving

- 158 less-able countries the ability to receive priority in receiving funding and support to work with their
159 citizenry in the event of an earthquake;
160
- 161 d. Participating Member-States are allocated funding from the annual United Nations Development
162 Programme (UNDP) budget provided seismic mitigation measures to the aforementioned
163 infrastructures are nationally prioritized;
164
- 165 e. Participating Member States are to remain sovereign in their adoption of the material and technologies
166 it feels best fits their national agenda;
167
- 168 4. *Recommends* Member States establish the Environmental Disaster Assistance Program (EDAP), a new program
169 that serves as a system to:
170
- 171 a. Combat the aftermath of natural disasters in requested funding cooperation from the Rockefeller
172 Foundation and in the event of a pandemic, the Nordic International Support Foundation;
173
- 174 b. Promote voluntary training, sponsored by the K4C, be given to political authorities, on-the-ground
175 responders, and civilian counterparts;
176
- 177 c. Propose that Member States also work alongside NGOs such as the Red Cross and Habitat for
178 Humanity to supply healthcare, food, and housing to those affected by natural disasters within the
179 region;
180
- 181 5. *Further recommends* emphasis placed on education regarding potential risks caused by human-induced climate
182 change, done by:
183
- 184 a. Having experts teach educators how to promote climate literacy within their places of education;
185
- 186 b. Allowing teachers introduce a “environmental ethics” course within the curriculum;
187
- 188 c. Working with UNESCO’s Climate Change Education for Sustainable Development Programme and
189 advertise through a public outreach program;
190
- 191 d. Offering an environmental ethics class, specifically aimed at students of engineering, private and
192 public administration, business, and economics;
193
- 194 e. Encouraging the implementation of the United Nations Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth,
195 and Climate Change in the processes of raising awareness amongst children of their actions
196 contributing to the environmental effects of climate change;
197
- 198 6. *Recognizes* the importance of the participation of local urban leaders in the C40 mayors summit and the
199 discussion of topics including:
200
- 201 a. Multi-use zoning and land management policies;
202
- 203 b. Integrated public transportation plans including;
204
- 205 7. *Calls for* increased efforts in focusing on how to build resilient infrastructures within cities to make them more
206 adaptive to disasters, by reconsidering general building guidelines with regards to constructing new buildings in
207 cities;
208
- 209 8. *Encourages* Member States to approve increased financial and personnel support for the PSUP in order to:
210
- 211 a. Permit the program to expand its reach to include South America and Asia in addition existing efforts
212 in African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries;
213

- 214 b. Implement Strong Start Housing projects according to the model used in Chile by Elemental that
215 focuses on:
216
- 217 i. Providing critical elements of strong housing such as plumbing, concrete foundations, solid
218 roofing, etc;
 - 219 ii. Training residents to finish housing amenities as their time and resources permit;
220
- 221 9. *Considers* the development of an apprenticeship program in co-operation with the United Nations Industrial
222 Development Organization (UNIDO) providing expertise, knowledge, professionals, and techniques to teach
223 people living in poor and less-resilient or sustainable areas of urban structures to renovate their housing,
224 through:
225
- 226 a. Cooperation with NGOs like Habitat for Humanity;
227
 - 228 b. Working with private, local firms and forming public-private partnerships:
229
 - 230 i. Focusing on the reduction of waste in the streets of urban areas by working with concepts
231 such as Mexico’s EcoDomum, which converts plastic waste into affordable, quickly built,
232 long-lasting, and eco-friendly housing;
 - 233 ii. EcoDomum also serves as a program that stimulates the economy as local trash collector
234 enterprises from the private sector are paid for their waste, slum dwellers are provided with a
235 more dependent sustainable form of housing, and creates local solutions for the national level;
236 - 237 c. Helping and teaching people to build their housing in a more sustainable, efficient, and resilient way
238 by inviting experts, companies, and professionals to do workshops, with a focus on younger
239 generations;
240
 - 241 d. The allowance of funding from the World Bank IDA and UNISDR, having a commitment to helping
242 the poorest few of the population;
243
 - 244 e. Underlining the aim of including local private companies in providing and implementing new
245 affordable, innovative technologies and building measures;
246
- 247 10. *Calls* for cities to move away from “gray” water systems into “blue” water systems by:
248
- 249 a. Creating parks and spaces that can stock rainwater for further use;
 - 251 b. Using water from storms and hurricanes as efficient and effective ways of watering cities;
252
 - 253 c. Developing a permaculture-based system and offering trainings from experts;
254
 - 255 d. Encouraging the integration and use of programs such as the International Development Enterprise
256 (IDE) to help form rainwater harvesting systems in order to collect water and prepare buildings to
257 withstand the rainy season and ensuring the access to water during the dry season and would include
258 techniques such as rainwater catchment from roofs;
259
- 260 11. *Encourages* the use of green recycled aggregates to ensure sustainable construction practices, through:
261
- 262 a. The use of fly ash instead of cement, in order to reduce the carbon footprint by a great amount;
263
 - 264 b. Through the use of pollution-eating and self-cleaning concrete, which extends the life of the structure
265 and reduces the environmental impacts;
266
- 267 12. *Supports* the implementation of the Travel Demand Forecasting method to ensure that the cities are able to meet
268 the travel demand for the next twenty years;
269

- 270 13. *Further supports* the implementation of the Smart Cities Project for large urban areas from the European
271 Innovation partnership on Smart Cities and Communities that is carried out through sensor enabled mobile and
272 web applications, starting with Smart Parking, which will lead to the reduction of CO₂ between 5% and 15%
273 throughout urban areas;
274
- 275 14. *Asks* developed and resource rich nations to establish domestic urban development aid programs that help
276 developing nations to improve urban planning education and build resilient housing by following existing
277 models such as the Norwegian model for the Clean Energy for Development Initiative;
278
- 279 15. *Seeks to* establish the Community-Driven Urban Resilience Programme (CDURP), operating under the mandate
280 of UN-HABITAT, further resolves that:
281
- 282 a. The CDURP will serve as an international support network that includes all relevant stakeholders such
283 as Member States, NGOs, CSOs, and the private sector;
284
 - 285 b. The CDURP provide fair, but prioritized assistance to Member States and cities that are in dire need by
286 taking the four-step categorization approach, in cooperation with the UNEP's Community Risk Profile
287 (CRP) as follows:
288
 - 289 i. Step 1: Identifying possible threats and disaster patterns tailored to local conditions;
 - 290 ii. Step 2: Evaluating potential damage level and degree of loss accordingly, taking into account
291 characteristics of the region including, but not limited to, population density, architectural
292 characteristics, and economic and industrial systems;
 - 293 iii. Step 3: Classifying member-states and regions by their degree of vulnerability on a scale of
294 very high, high, medium, and low;
 - 295 iv. Step 4: Prioritizing the provision of assistance accordingly and assessing the vulnerability and
296 potential damage in the event of natural disasters tailored to local conditions such as
297 population density, road and transportation systems, economic and industrial infrastructures
298 and other vital infrastructure facilities, to accordingly prioritize target audiences that will
299 receive assistance from the CDURP;
 - 300 v. Once the evaluation process concludes, the CDURP will accept and assist member-states and
301 local governments with a priority towards drafting appropriate and incisive requests of
302 assistance to the CDURP;
 - 303 vi. Once national and local projects have been approved, they will automatically gain access to
304 all assistance that the CDURP has to offer, including but not limited to financial assistance,
305 technology transfer, and knowledge sharing;
306
 - 307 c. Following a mechanism of operation that works as follows:
308
 - 309 i. The Secretariat will be responsible for reporting the program's progress, agenda, and
310 activities to the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT;
 - 311 ii. The Advisory Group will consist of twenty experts, professionals, practitioners with
312 consideration of profession, gender, race, and age, as the group responsible for advising the
313 program and its national/local/regional projects on their goals, agenda, preparation,
314 implementation, and evaluation process;
 - 315 iii. The National Urban Resilience Coordinators will be responsible for supervising and reporting
316 the progress of these projects;
 - 317 iv. Branches of the CDURP will focus on knowledge sharing, specifically sharing past
318 experiences, pairing up cities and Member States with similar patterns of natural disasters that
319 can focus on topics and issues including but not limited to education, transportation, and
320 technology transfer;
321
- 322 16. *Requests* that the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT establishes the United Nations Resilience Fund as the
323 official budget for the CDURP, and further requests that:
324

- 325 a. Member States make biennial contributions to the general-purpose reserve for operation expenses of
326 the CDURP;
327
328 b. Member States make ear-marked contributions to national and local projects through the Fund;
329
330 i. In line with international climate law, requests that developed Member-States increase their
331 contribution biennially;
332 ii. In case the increment of contribution from Member-States cannot be fulfilled, the
333 International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) can be requested to help the
334 country pay for the contributions;
335
336 c. UN-HABITAT will be requested to reallocate its budget;
337
338 d. The UNFCCC's Green Climate Fund make ear-marked contributions for investment in low-emission
339 and climate-resilient development and research;
340
341 e. Regional development banks, the private sector, NGOs and CSOs contribute to the Fund;
342

343 17. *Takes note of* the potential of natural disasters disabling transportation methods in urban areas and therefore:
344

- 345 a. Recommends transportation-centered urban planning and the inclusion of integrated public
346 transportation plans including bicycle lane and side-walk expansion, bicycle share and rental
347 implementation, and electrical bus and train replacement;
348
349 b. Calls for governments to provide subsidies to enhance mobility for poor and vulnerable persons, on a
350 regular basis, on public transportation including but not limited to, train, subway, bus tickets, bicycle
351 rental stations, and hybrid and electric engines;
352
353 c. Develop programs to teach children about the use and benefits of bicycles and encourage them to favor
354 the use of bicycles over cars;
355
356 d. Invest in solar-powered lighting for self-sufficient illumination of bike paths and sidewalks, in order to
357 get people, specifically in least developed countries (LDCs) but also developed states, to commute
358 safely on bikes and on foot at night and diminish the use of cars;
359
360 e. Proposes developments to be made in the sphere of air-train systems in areas prone to potential
361 flooding;
362
363 f. Encourages Member States to seek funding from the Climate Investment Fund to promote alternative
364 greener public transportation services throughout the international community;
365

366 18. *Reaffirms* the importance of safeguarding cultural and natural heritage in cities from prospective disaster risks
367 and challenges posed by climate change through:
368

- 369 a. Partnerships at the local level that involve new actors to stimulate engagement and strengthen national
370 frameworks regarding disaster risk reduction;
371
372 b. The distribution of informational resources at the national level in coordination with UNESCO;
373
374 c. Sharing of disaster risk and adaptation policy knowledge on the regional level;
375
376 d. The encouragement of member-states to take ownership of implementing their own national strategies;
377
378 e. Incentivizing good practices from cities as engines of cultural life though the protection of cultural
379 heritage as a source of common identity;
380

- 381 19. *Proclaims* the importance of the enforcement of the International Recovery Program (IRP), currently consulting
382 to become an operational organ of the UN that coordinates the incorporation of different actors as a response to
383 natural disaster risk:
384
- 385 a. Working in partnership with NGOs and international actors, for the cleaning-up process and
386 reconstruction after natural disasters, emphasizing on the resilience and sustainability of newly created
387 structures;
 - 388 b. Including local civil society groups, alongside programs such as EDAP, in the recovery process;
389
- 390
- 391 20. *Recommends* that Member States create programs that will enhance urban resilience, particularly through
392 assistance to poor citizens and the residents of slums, by means such as:
393
- 394 a. Establishing a list of private investors/lenders who are able give micro-loans to poor citizens and
395 residents of slums in order to uplift the standards of urban living;
 - 396 b. Inviting NGOs and other civil society groups to raise awareness of disaster risks and climate change in
397 urban areas, noting these areas are exposed to a higher magnitude and severity of natural disasters and
398 climate change impacts;
399
- 400
- 401 21. *Ensures* the efficient use of funds contributed by Member States, as well as alternative actors by:
402
- 403 a. Assessing economic capacity and propensity for disaster, to determine which Member States require
404 greater funds;
 - 405 b. Participating in the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) which aims at
406 risk reduction, risk identification, financial protection, and resilient recovery for developing countries;
407
 - 408 c. Constructing measures such as a reporting system to monitor allocation of funds meant specifically for
409 the implementation of sustainable building strategies;
410
- 411
- 412 22. *Further recommends* Member States to consider alternative opportunities for financing sustainable development
413 projects in order to mitigate environmental challenges, while stimulating private sector growth and minimizing
414 public debt, through measures such as:
415
- 416 a. Constructing public-private partnerships (PPP) guaranteeing initial construction of developmental
417 infrastructures, as well as lifetime maintenance procured by private entities;
 - 418 b. Requesting funds from Regional Development Banks (RDBs) that will support developed and
419 developing states at a fixed low commission in order to increase urban resilience;
 - 420 c. Working with NGOs, such as the Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity, that will contribute aid to
421 disaster-affected areas;
 - 422 d. Using contributions from the World Bank and developed governments to fund the GEF/UNFCCC, as
423 well as developing countries needing natural disaster prevention programs and post natural disaster
424 reconstruction plans;
 - 425
 - 426
 - 427
 - 428
- 429 23. *Invites* Member State to join international think tanks, such as the Urban Thinkers Campus, allowing the
430 exchange of ideas on effective sustainable development measures between members;
431
- 432 24. *Further suggests* the World Trade Organization (WTO) to review its policy on domestic content requirements:
433
- 434 a. Avoiding situations where the sovereignty of states, that are capable of using their own infrastructure
435 to follow through on domestic projects, within trade agreements is violated;
 - 436

- 437
438
439
440
441
442
443
444
- b. Allowing developing countries to grow their domestic programs and projects, if capable of doing so, without interruption from larger states;
 - c. Recommending the WTO either allow domestic content requirements to exist or allow them up to 50% of the project being done in the home country;
 - d. Providing an outlet for larger states to expand their trade with states that traditionally might not have ties with each other whilst protecting states that can source their projects from within.



Code: HABITATIII/RES/1/9

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

2
3 *Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the International*
4 *Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,*

5
6 *Bearing in mind* the commitment made by the international community to fully achieve the Sustainable
7 Development Goals (SDGs),

8
9 *Emphasizing* the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements, affirming the urgency of providing a safe, high
10 standard of life to every human being, and creating society that encourages citizen participation within society,

11
12 *Highlighting* the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), a treaty which pursues
13 preventing further global temperature increase, looking forward to a more sustainable future,

14
15 *Fully believing* the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which serves as a solution on
16 achieving these goals, to create an emphasis on communication infrastructure in the scope of knowledge sharing,
17 and increase resiliency within urban centers,

18
19 *Acknowledging* all Member States and the United Smart Cities program on the achievements they have made
20 towards the smart city initiative,

21
22 *Congratulating* all Member States on the progress, efforts and achievements that have been made through
23 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) including General Assembly resolution 64/250,

24
25 *Welcoming* SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure; SDG 11, which names inclusivity as a primary target
26 of future urban development, with the goal of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and
27 sustainable; and SDG 13, emphasizing climate action,

28
29 *Recognizes* that infrastructure is inextricably linked to resilience and the need to act accordingly,

30
31 1. *Emphasizes* that sustainable development in its social, economic and environmental aspects is a key element of
32 the United Nations's activities and therefore focus should be placed on developmental innovation as the New
33 Urban Agenda is drafted by the international community;

34
35 2. *Highlights* the need for public-private partnerships between private, civil, as well as other sectors, along with a
36 partnership between the United Nations Trust Fund, Member States and other relevant non-governmental
37 organizations (NGOs) to reduce disaster risk by collaborating with the pre-existed funding mechanism of the
38 United Nations International Strategies for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) for prevention and post-catastrophic
39 measures;

40
41 3. *Calls attention* to socio-economic development on local, national, and international levels as being crucial to
42 bolstering the resilience of urban areas through:

43
44 a. *Advocating* architectural, agricultural, and economic innovations, which will improve Member States'
45 overall ability to implement effective policies regarding sustainable urban development;

46
47 b. *Utilizing* the aforementioned innovations as a means of maintaining resiliency and recovering more
48 quickly when nations are confronted with environmental threats and unforeseen natural disasters;

- 49
- 50 4. *Encourages* Member States to create a student exchange program which would foster the education of students
- 51 around the world in scholarly fields related to resiliency, such as engineering, agricultural and environmental
- 52 studies, thus fostering the capacity of Member States to develop holistic policies by drawing upon the expertise
- 53 of educated citizens to bolster effective policymaking;
- 54
- 55 5. *Suggests* that the General Assembly coordinate the fortification of international frameworks to be used
- 56 preceding and following natural and man-made disasters at national and regional levels through pre-existing
- 57 programs sponsored by the United Nation International Strategies for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), such as
- 58 the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction through:
- 59
- 60 a. Establishment of a concrete plan of action which includes the following steps:
- 61
- 62 i. Create adequate and safe shelters for the population in case of major disasters;
- 63 ii. Guarantee access to basic services in order to ensure primary aid to disaster victims;
- 64 iii. Pledge the above mentioned services to all, regardless of predetermined characteristics such
- 65 as gender, ethnicity, religion, or location of residence;
- 66
- 67 b. A financial plan stating which regions are at risk and how much they will need in case of disaster;
- 68
- 69 c. Advocating campaigns in schools to inform students about reactional strategies in case of disasters;
- 70
- 71 d. Intentionally incorporating preservation of natural resources as a focal point of national policy among
- 72 Member States as this is essential to the promotion of resilient cities;
- 73
- 74 e. Developing indicators through ameliorated data collection to evaluate progress made since the
- 75 occurrence of a disaster;
- 76
- 77 f. Cooperating with NGOs and other relevant institutions such as the Red Cross to ensure a synchronized
- 78 plan of action;
- 79
- 80 6. *Recommends* the implementation of the Program to Establish Efficient Resiliency (PEER) by all Member States
- 81 within the next five years, which is funded on the international level in collaboration with the International
- 82 Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which contains pre-catastrophic and post-catastrophic measures:
- 83
- 84 a. Pre-catastrophic measures urge the employment of specialists in fields related to urban development
- 85 and resiliency, preferably local specialists from vulnerable countries, but drawing upon the expertise of
- 86 foreign scholars when necessary:
- 87
- 88 i. Observing potential risks by ameliorating data collection within fragile nations, thus
- 89 discerning which areas are at the highest levels of risk and at which times said areas are most
- 90 vulnerable;
- 91 ii. Implementing better early warning systems with advanced radar technology, along with a
- 92 partnership with the World Meteorological Organization by using satellite data to warn cities
- 93 pre-disaster;
- 94 iii. Developing internet access among citizens to provide for real-time communication among
- 95 countries and their inhabitants;
- 96 iv. Making urban planning easier, with local experts who have detailed information about their
- 97 position which they have to share with other experts worldwide;
- 98 v. Facilitating global knowledge-sharing;
- 99
- 100 b. Recommending post-catastrophic measures to the Commission on Population and Development, such
- 101 as:
- 102
- 103 i. Supporting the urban citizens locally in affected areas in the event of a catastrophe;

- 104 ii. Addressing issues that are not yet dealt with by already existing organizations who also
105 support distressed populations;
106
- 107 7. *Directs attention* towards the Knowledge Centre on Cities and Climate Change (K4C) as a monitoring tool as
108 well as an option for sharing data between countries with regard to disasters, simplifying the process as a whole;
109
- 110 8. *Recommends* that Member States submit national resiliency progress reports to United Nations Human
111 Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) biannually to ensure higher standards and effective policy-making in
112 terms of infrastructure, which will consequently make cities more resilient to natural disasters.



Code: HABITATIII/RES/1/10

Committee: United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

Topic: Building Resilient Cities to Promote Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

1 *The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

2
3 *Acknowledging* the need to promote disaster risk reduction (DRR) and the inclusion of marginalized groups and
4 internally displaced persons affected by natural and man-made disasters,

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6 *Cognizant* that by 2050, 66% of the world's population will be living in urban centers and alarmed by increasing
7 amount of destruction left by natural and man-made disasters, thus highlighting the need to develop eco-friendly and
8 sustainable urban planning measures,

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10 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution 67/216, which encourages the international community to create and
11 intensify the implementation of building resilient, sustainable, and eco-friendly urban centers,

12
13 *Welcoming* Member States to incorporate into their national policies and strategies, the goals set forth by the
14 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as SDG 11, specifically the target to universal access to safe,
15 inclusive, accessible, and green public spaces, in particular for vulnerable groups,

16
17 *Stressing* the importance of marginalized groups in building new resilient cities through the Community Based
18 Disaster Risk Reduction and Managements, which focuses on the decision-making and implementation of DRR and
19 management activities,

20
21 *Recognizing* the lack of transparency as mentioned in the preparatory process for the Third United Nations
22 Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and the need for objective and
23 representative committees to facilitate proper funding of resilient cities similar to the World Bank Municipal
24 Finance Self-Assessment Tool (MFSA),

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26 1. *Calls upon* Member States to adopt an inclusive preventive framework for marginalized groups to foster climate
27 change adaptation and disaster risk reduction within an urban context;
- 28
29 2. *Endorses* a preventive framework to be implemented in bolstering current cities and building new resilient cities
30 focusing on:
- 31
- 32 a. Early warning systems within all areas of vulnerability, climate change and disaster zones modeled
33 after the ones used in the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR);
 - 34 b. Implementing better communication through the use of regional databases such as the ones established
35 by the report of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD);
 - 36 c. Sharing technological advances within the realm of resilient building practices and sustainable
37 development as orchestrated by the United Nations Regional Information Centre (UNRIC);
 - 38 d. Establishing education and training programs for populations with a focus on marginalized groups on
39 building resilient and eco-friendly cities, working with the help of UNISDR;
 - 40
41 e. Enhancing the United Nations University (UNU) research programs and recommendation policy
42 papers to strengthen existing infrastructures within each Member States based on their respective
43 environmental risks;
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47

- 48 3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt infrastructure, technology and databases that follows inclusive preventive
49 measures such as the International Recovery Platform, as outlined in the *Sendai 2015-2030 Framework for*
50 *Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR)*;
51
- 52 4. *Suggests* that groups experiencing marginalization be included in building of resilient cities through preventive
53 and post-disaster relief strategies as a means to minimize the discrepancy between those things in charge of
54 building resilience and elaborating disaster relief strategies and those who are most affected:
55
- 56 a. Gender focused data gathering in order to provide effective attention to the needs of women, with
57 cooperation of the UN-Women, as a mean of facilitating gender-equality and women's empowerment
58 in DRR and climate change adaptability;
 - 59 b. Age-based strategies that aim to assist the youth and the elderly through the support of the United
60 Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in the development of evidence-based policies;
 - 61 c. Particular programs targeting response to the needs of individuals with disabilities, with particular
62 notice to programs stated in the Red Cross' booklet, *Preparing for Disaster for People with Disabilities*
63 and other *Special Needs Accessibility*, and the *Disability Inclusion in Urban Development* as stated by
64 the Division for Social Policy and Developments (DSPD);
 - 65 d. Inclusive strategies in order to foster emergency information to include individuals living in abject
66 poverty in case of a disaster;
 - 67 e. Inclusive environments that are accepting of ethnic, racial, and religious minorities in order to combat
68 future inequalities that obstruct the recovery of cities and communities when a disaster occurs;
- 69
- 70
- 71 5. *Welcomes* the creation of an Inclusive Framework Oversight Committee (IFOC) facilitated through the
72 Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), which is composed of experts and scholars in sustainable
73 development and disaster risk reduction to find solutions for urban vulnerabilities while creating a dialogue with
74 local in respect Member States to oversee:
75
- 76 a. Transparency in money distribution to assure proper allocation of funds, with particular notice to
77 impoverished areas and marginalized populations;
 - 78 b. Research and investment that is prioritized for most vulnerable regions thus allowing for preventative
79 action to take place by using information gathered by the UNRIC;
 - 80 c. To oversee the construction of resilient cities and sustainable infrastructure by following the guidelines
81 laid out in the UNISDR in such a way that they are mindful of the needs of marginalized populations
82 as well as the construction's impact on each community;
 - 83 d. Cooperation with Conservation International (CI) and the UNU to provide experts and scholars in
84 sustainable development and DRR to assist respective regions and local bodies in urban resiliency
85 building;
 - 86 e. Regional programs and local conferences modeled after the World Cities Summit Mayors Forum that
87 encourages inclusive participation through exchanges of views and sharing of best practices from local
88 governments, regional leaders, and industry leaders in the urbanization process.
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