

Protection of persons in the event of disasters  
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Madam Chair.

We thank the Secretary-General for his report (A/75/214) R Q W K H 3 3 U R W H F W L R Q R  
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submit comments concerning the recommendation made by the International Law Commission  
(ILC) to the Assembly to elaborate a convention on the basis of the draft articles on the protection  
of persons in the event of disasters adopted by the ILC in 2016.

The rationale for the draft articles, the frequency and severity of natural and human-made disasters and their impact, has a special urgency for the Philippines. Given its location along the boundary of major tectonic plates, at the center of a typhoon belt, the Philippine archipelago is regularly impacted by floods, typhoons, landslides, earthquakes, volcanoes, and droughts. We rank high for population exposure and vulnerability to hazards. Climate change and sea-level rise will only exacerbate these challenges.

The Philippines recognizes that the ILC draft articles are premised on the principle of state sovereignty and reaffirm the primary role of the state affected by the disaster in providing disaster relief assistance. Many of the articles reflect State practice. We have given specific comments with respect to articles 9,10, 11, 13, 14, 15, and 16 at the 75<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General

- x Adhere to and adopt the universal norms, principles and standards of humanitarian assistance and the global effort on risk reduction as concrete expression of the