



Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations

Statement by Hungary
78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
Sixth Committee Working Group Item 86: Working Group on Protection of persons in
the event of disasters
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Check against delivery!

Thank you, Mr Chair,

At the outset, allow me to start by congratulating you on your election and wish you a successful work. Hungary did not take the floor during the plenary debate,

Concerning Article 3, subparagraph (a), we point out that the definition of disasters refers to, among others, large-scale material or environmental damage. The commentary of this article explains that the ILC recognized that a wide-scale damage to property, livelihoods, or economic, physical, social and cultural assets, as well as the environment, may result in the disruption of the functioning of society. In this context, Hungary wishes to highlight that the destruction of cultural heritage, be it tangible or intangible, can severely impact and endanger social cohesion and peaceful coexistence of peoples. In some cases, they may even lead to an escalation of conflicts. It renders communities vulnerable as they are deprived of an important part of their identity and the relationship to their past, which can reinforce divisions within communities. For this reason, we see merit in considering that this connection is reflected in the draft articles.

Thank you for your attention.