

STATEMENT

Item 90: Protection of persons in the event of disasters

73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly

01 November 2018, General Assembly Hall

UN Headquarters New York

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

President of the ILC, Mr. Eduardo Valencia Ospina, for his considerable work on this topic and in the elaboration of draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters.

As we affirmed in the 71st Session when this was taken up under the Agenda

We speak very much from experience here, given our extensive experience in disasters – highlighted by the example of Super Typhoon Haiyan in 2013.

...but necessary because

nature as an archipelago completely surrounded by oceans; but also brought about by the adverse effects of climate change. In this light, we support the elaboration of a

convention on the basis of the draft articles, since it would be declaratory of existing practices among States and would therefore help to clarify and systematize those practices.

We agree that the harmonization of the measures and protocols is necessary for

the effective prevention, reduction and management of disaster risk, without prejudice to