COMPILATION OF UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Selected resolutions of the General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Security Council Resolutions and Decisions
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This matrix is a compilation of relevant language from General Assembly (GA), Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and Security Council (SC) resolutions, adopted since 46/182, and captures the policy and normative advancements in the following issues:

- Principles and framework for humanitarian assistance;
- Protection of civilians;
- Humanitarian access;
- Internally displaced persons;
- Safety and security of humanitarian personnel;
- Humanitarian – military relations in humanitarian assistance;
- Prevention preparedness and capacity building;
- Transition;
- Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC);
- Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC);
- Humanitarian financing including the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF);
- Consolidated Appeals Process;
- Humanitarian Coordination in the field;
- Other mechanisms, including Stab-by capacity;
- Information management.

This compilation is prepared as part of an OCHA commissioned project to review and analyze normative developments pertaining to humanitarian assistance since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 46/182 in 1991. The study is intended to provide a comprehensive overview of United Nations intergovernmental decisions on humanitarian principles and issues of concern to relevant stakeholders, including Member States and humanitarian practitioners.

General Assembly resolution 46/182 provides the basic framework for humanitarian assistance. Since its adoption in 1991, the intergovernmental legislative framework has expanded considerably, reflecting both the broadening of the humanitarian endeavor and the UN’s concerted response to the changing environment in which assistance is provided. This matrix tracks this legislative expansion and organizes the humanitarian legislative directives adopted by UN intergovernmental bodies since 46/182 thematically. This compilation is complemented by a Reference Guide which summarises the normative developments and advancements and is styled as an aide memoire. The scope of this
document has been limited to those UN resolutions or decisions which address humanitarian principles, policies, or operational guidance. All resolutions and decisions included in the Legislative Matrix were adopted by one of the three principal organs of the UN, namely the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the Security Council. The matrix is not meant to be exhaustive and does not include decisions adopted by other intergovernmental bodies of the UN system.

The matrix is organized in line with the overall structure of 46/182 and excerpts of relevant intergovernmental decisions are grouped into three sections.

1. A first section capturing issues pertaining to the guiding humanitarian principles and framework for assistance,
2. A second section addressing the linkage between emergency assistance, disaster reduction and transition, and
3. A third section examining humanitarian coordination and related tools and mechanisms, including humanitarian financing.

SYMBOLS

REPETITION: UN intergovernmental bodies have a practice to reiterate key language of previous decisions to highlight their importance, to solidify normative progress, and/or to balance comprehensive legislative documents. In the Legislative Matrix, the verbatim repetition of language in intergovernmental decisions and resolutions from previous years has been noted with a [=] sign, immediately followed by the document symbol of the resolution it replicates.

APPROXIMATE REPETITION: The approximate repetition of language from a previous year’s operating or preambular paragraph is indicated by the [-] symbol, and is followed by the document symbol of the para it is linked to. The approximation symbol is used in cases where there is a reordering of the identical clauses found in previous years’ decisions, or where there was little or no substantial change to the meaning of the text of paragraph.

In cases where the later approximation of language could potentially alter or add to the meaning of the previous year’s provisions, the exact text of the later para is included, followed by the relevant document symbol in brackets at the end of the text.

The Legislative Matrix will be updated by OCHA regularly and will be made available online to all interested Member States and other humanitarian stakeholders.
I. Guiding Principles
## 1. PRINCIPLES AND FRAMEWORK FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

### General Assembly Resolutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>OP</th>
<th>Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>A/RES/46/182</td>
<td>OP1</td>
<td>Humanitarian assistance is of cardinal importance for the victims of natural disasters and other emergencies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>OP2</td>
<td>Humanitarian assistance must be provided in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality</td>
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<td>OP3</td>
<td>The sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of States must be fully respected in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. In this context, humanitarian assistance should be provided with the consent of the affected country and in principle on the basis of an appeal by the affected country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP4</td>
<td>Each state has the responsibility first and foremost to take care of the victims of natural disasters and other emergencies occurring on its territory. Hence, the affected state has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination, and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP5</td>
<td>The magnitude and duration of many emergencies may be beyond the response capacity of many affected countries. International cooperation to address emergency situations and to strengthen the response capacity of affected countries is thus of great importance. Such cooperation should be provided in accordance with international law and national laws. Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations working impartially and with strictly humanitarian motives should continue to make a significant contribution in supplementing national efforts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
States whose populations are in need of humanitarian assistance are called upon to facilitate the work of these organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance, in particular the supply of food, medicines, shelter and health care, for which access to victims is essential.

States in proximity to emergencies are urged to participate closely with the affected countries in international efforts, with a view to facilitating, to the extent possible, the transit of humanitarian assistance.

...acknowledges the need further to develop and strengthen system-wide coordination, including cooperation among operational agencies, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs and non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the provisions of resolution 46/182, to improve the capability for a quick and coordinated response to natural disasters and other emergencies while preserving the non-political, neutral and impartial character of humanitarian action.

Strongly emphasizing the urgent need to ensure, respect and promote international humanitarian law, principles and norms, the safety of humanitarian personnel and the need for States whose populations are in need of humanitarian assistance to facilitate the work of humanitarian organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance, in particular the supply of food, medicines, shelter and health care, for which access to victims is essential, and reaffirming that humanitarian assistance must be provided in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality.

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of the humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters.
Reaffirming the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance

Recognizing that independence, meaning the autonomy of humanitarian objectives from the political, economic, military or other objectives that any actor may hold with regard to areas where humanitarian action is being implemented, is also an important guiding principle for the provision of humanitarian assistance.

Reaffirming the responsibility first and foremost of States to take care of the victims of humanitarian emergencies within their own borders, while recognizing that the magnitude and duration of many emergencies may be beyond the response capacity of many affected countries.

Reaffirming also that States whose populations are in need of humanitarian assistance are called upon to facilitate the work of humanitarian organizations and that States in proximity to humanitarian emergencies are urged to facilitate, to the extent possible, the transit of humanitarian assistance.

Calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure that the design and implementation of United Nations integrated missions take into account the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality as well as independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Paragraph</th>
<th>Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>A/RES/60/124</td>
<td>PP4</td>
<td>Reaffirming the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>OP8</td>
<td>Recognizes the importance of the work of international and, as appropriate, regional organizations in supporting State efforts to improve international cooperation in disaster response, and encourages Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account, as appropriate, the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, adopted at the thirtieth International Conference of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent, held in Geneva in November 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION</td>
<td>OP</td>
<td>RESOLUTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION</td>
<td>OP6</td>
<td>The Council affirms its support for the principles and norms of international humanitarian law, and stresses the urgent need to ensure respect for and promotion of these principles and norms. The Council is also concerned by the increasingly difficult context in which humanitarian assistance in some areas takes place, in particular the continuous erosion, in many cases, of the respect for international humanitarian law and principles, through deliberate violence both against civilians, particularly women and children, and aid workers….The Council notes the importance of engaging a much wider segment of civil society in raising awareness for humanitarian issues and respect for international humanitarian law and principles, and in supporting humanitarian programmes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION</td>
<td>OP4</td>
<td>The Council expresses its concern, in the year of the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Geneva Conventions, about the continuous erosion, in many cases, in the respect for international humanitarian and human rights law and principles, both in terms of denial of safe and unimpeded access to people in need and through deliberate violence against all those protected under international humanitarian law, especially women and children. The Council therefore calls upon all parties to conflicts to respect international humanitarian and human rights law and stresses the importance for all Governments, relevant United Nations system actors, non-governmental organizations and other partners to further promote and diffuse such laws and integrate them into their activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION</td>
<td>OP21</td>
<td>Calls upon all parties to armed conflict to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reaffirming further that independence, meaning the autonomy of humanitarian objectives from the political, economic, military or other objectives that any actor may hold with regard to areas where humanitarian action is being implemented, is also an important guiding principle for the provision of humanitarian assistance, and should be applied in full respect for and compliance with international humanitarian law.

Encourages, in this regard, the United Nations system and its Member States to urge international humanitarian organizations and implementing partners serving within the framework of United Nations humanitarian and other relevant operations to live up to the highest standards of conduct and accountability.

Underlining the need for all parties concerned to comply with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and with rules and principles of international law, in particular international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and to implement fully the relevant decisions of the Security Council.
OP11 Emphasizes the importance for humanitarian organizations to uphold the principles of neutrality, impartiality and humanity in their humanitarian activities and recalls, in this regard, the statement of its President of 9 March 2000 (S/PRST/2000/7)

OP17 Reaffirms its condemnation of all incitements to violence against civilians in situations of armed conflict, further reaffirms the need to bring to justice individuals who incite or otherwise cause such violence, and indicates its willingness, when authorizing missions, to consider, where appropriate, steps in response to media broadcasts inciting genocide, crimes against humanity and serious violations of international humanitarian law.

2006 S/RES/1674 OP8 Emphasizes in this context the responsibility of States to comply with their relevant obligations to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity and serious violations of international humanitarian law, while recognizing, for States in or recovering from armed conflict, the need to restore or build independent national judicial systems and institutions.

OP9 Calls on States that have not already done so to consider ratifying the instruments of international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and to take appropriate legislative, judicial and administrative measures to implement their obligations under these instruments.

OP10 Demands that all States fully implement all relevant decisions of the Security Council, and in this regard cooperate fully with United Nations peacekeeping missions and country teams in the follow-up and implementation of these resolutions.
OP21  Stresses the importance for all, within the framework of humanitarian assistance, of upholding and respecting the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence

2006  S/RES/1738  PP7  Recalling that the States Parties to the Geneva Conventions have an obligation to search for persons alleged to have committed, or to have ordered to be committed a grave breach of these Conventions, and an obligation to try them before their own courts, regardless of their nationality, or may hand them over for trial to another concerned State provided this State has made out a prima facie case against the said persons

OP7  Emphasizes the responsibility of States to comply with the relevant obligations under international law to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law

2. PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

General Assembly Resolutions

1997  A/RES/52/167  PP3  Conscious of the need for the international community to assist and protect the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons, in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular armed conflicts and post-conflict situations
We recognize that, in addition to our separate responsibilities to our individual societies, we have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level. As leaders we have a duty therefore to all the world’s people, especially the most vulnerable and, in particular, the children of the world, to whom the future belongs.

We will spare no effort to ensure that children and all civilian populations that suffer disproportionately the consequences of natural disasters, genocide, armed conflicts and other humanitarian emergencies are given every assistance and protection so that they can resume normal life as soon as possible…We resolve therefore:

- To expand and strengthen the protection of civilians in complex emergencies, in conformity with international humanitarian law.

Reaffirms the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities.

Gravely concerned that violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other violence against women, girls and boys, continues to be, in many emergency situations, deliberately directed against civilian populations.

Strongly encourages the United Nations to address more systematically protection of civilians and other humanitarian issues with regional organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, *inter alia*, through dialogue.
**OP13**

Strongly condemns all acts of violence committed against civilian populations in situations of humanitarian crisis, especially against women, girls and boys, including sexual violence and abuse, and reiterates that such acts can constitute serious violations or grave breaches of international humanitarian law and constitute, in defined circumstances, a crime against humanity and/or a war crime.

**OP14**

Calls upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to acts of violence committed against civilian populations as well as to ensure that those responsible are promptly brought to justice, as provided for by national law and obligations under international law.

**OP15**


2005 A/RES/60/1

**OP138**

Each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes, including their incitement, through appropriate and necessary means. We accept that responsibility and will act in accordance with it. The international community should, as appropriate, encourage and help States to exercise this responsibility and support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability.
The international community, through the United Nations, also has the responsibility to use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means, in accordance with Chapters VI and VIII of the Charter, to help to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. In this context, we are prepared to take collective action, in a timely and decisive manner, through the Security Council, in accordance with the Charter, including Chapter VII, on a case-by-case basis and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations as appropriate, should peaceful means be inadequate and national authorities are manifestly failing to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. We stress the need for the General Assembly to continue consideration of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and its implications, bearing in mind the principles of the Charter and international law. We also intend to commit ourselves, as necessary and appropriate, to helping States build capacity to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and to assisting those which are under stress before crises and conflicts break out.

Noting also with grave concern that violence, including gender-based violence and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations.
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP19</td>
<td>A/RES/58/114 OP12</td>
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<td>OP20</td>
<td>A/RES/59/141 OP14</td>
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<td>OP21</td>
<td>A/RES/58/114 OP12</td>
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<td>OP22</td>
<td>A/RES/59/141 OP14</td>
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<td>OP23</td>
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OP23 Urges all Member States to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence, and calls upon States, the United Nations and all relevant humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, harmonize response and strengthen capacity in support services to victims of such violence.

ECOSOC Resolutions

1999 ECOSOC DECISION OP10

...The Council also recognizes the need to give proper consideration to the issue of the humanitarian impact of sanctions, in particular on women and children, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian effects of sanctions.
OP22 The Council recognizes that all humanitarian emergencies have a direct and particular impact on children. The Council underlines the need to respect and ensure every child’s rights as contained in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and calls for efforts to enhance international standards for the rights of the child. Violation of these rights often results in irreparable damage. The Council also calls for systematic, concerted and comprehensive interagency efforts on behalf of children as well as adequate and sustainable resource allocation, to provide both immediate emergency assistance to, and long-term measures for children, throughout all phases of an emergency. The Council underlines the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific vulnerabilities of children and adolescents in armed conflict. Given the long-term consequences for society, the Council underlines the importance of including specific provisions for children in peace agreements and in arrangements negotiated by parties to conflicts as well as in transitions from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development. The Council particularly recognizes the importance of earliest efforts to demobilize, reintegrate and rehabilitate children who have been used in armed conflict. The Council welcomes the continued efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on the question of the impact of armed conflict on children and encourages follow-up to his recommendations by all concerned parties.

OP24 The Council recognizes that all humanitarian emergencies have gender-specific impacts. In this context, the Council recognizes that such emergencies have direct and particular impact on women. At the same time, the Council recognizes the positive role women can play in post-conflict peace-building and reconciliation. The Council stresses the need to integrate a gender perspective in the planning and implementation of activities and recommends that such a perspective be further promoted, and in this regard notes the IASC policy statement on the integration of a gender perspective in humanitarian assistance.
Deeply concerned about alleged sexual abuse, exploitation and misuse of humanitarian assistance by personnel involved in humanitarian assistance activities and stressing the need for appropriate measures in this regard

Stresses the continued need and relevance of integrating a gender perspective in the development and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities throughout all their phases and in prevention and recovery strategies

Reaffirms the obligation of Member States to protect civilians in armed conflict in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites them to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities

Invites Member States and other partners, as appropriate, to participate actively in workshops on the protection of civilians in order to impart knowledge and improve practice based on shared experiences

Encourages Governments, the United Nations system and humanitarian organizations to share experiences and lessons they may have learned with regard to the development of criteria and procedures for the identification of armed elements and their separation from the civilian population in situations of complex emergencies, and urges Governments and relevant United Nations bodies to strengthen measures in this regard

Strongly urges the United Nations system and all humanitarian organizations to adopt and implement appropriate measures, including codes of conduct, for all personnel involved in humanitarian assistance activities, to review protection and distribution mechanisms, and to recommend actions that protect against sexual abuse and exploitation and the misuse of humanitarian assistance, and requests the Secretary-General to report back to the Council in this regard
Reaffirms the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities

Stresses the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of existing policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective in the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities [(= ECOSOC DECISION 2002/32 OP5. (2002)]

Welcomes the establishment by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee of the six core principles in the Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises, representing minimum standards of behaviour required of all United Nations civilian staff members, and urges the United Nations to take appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual violence and exploitation by humanitarian workers

Encourages Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies, and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations

Gravely concerned that violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other violence against women, girls and boys, continues to be, in many emergency situations, deliberately directed against civilian populations, and reiterating that acts of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict can constitute serious violations or grave breaches of international humanitarian law and constitute, in defined circumstances, a crime against humanity and/or a war crime, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

OP4 Notes that some of the issues affecting the protection of civilians in armed conflict could also be effectively addressed at a regional level, and welcomes in this context the fact that States and some regional organizations, within their mandates, have increasingly taken measures to address these and related protection concerns.

OP5 Strongly encourages the United Nations to address more systematically the protection of civilians and other humanitarian issues with regional organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, *inter alia* through continued dialogue.

OP7 Calls upon States to comply fully with the provisions of international humanitarian law, in particular as provided in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war, in order to protect and assist civilians in occupied territories.

OP8 Urges the international community and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, in this regard, to strengthen humanitarian and other assistance to civilians under foreign occupation.

OP32 Stresses the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of all relevant resolutions, agreed conclusions, policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities, and calls upon the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to undertake a review of its 1999 policy statement on the integration of a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance. [(=ECOSOC DECISION 2003/5 OP10 (2003))]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OP33</th>
<th>Strongly condemns all violence committed in situations of humanitarian crisis, especially against women, girls and boys, including sexual violence and abuse, and calls upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to these acts as well as to ensure that those responsible for these acts are promptly brought to justice, as provided for by national law and obligations under international law.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OP13</td>
<td>Requests Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to ensure that all aspects of humanitarian response address the specific needs of women, girls, men and boys, including through the improved collection, analysis and reporting of sex and age-disaggregated data, taking into account, inter alia, the available information provided by States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP14</td>
<td>Urges Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence, including sexual violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member states and relevant organizations to strengthen support services to victims of such violence, and also calls for a more effective response in this regard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Security Council Resolutions</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2000 S/RES/1265</td>
<td>Strongly condemns the deliberate targeting of civilians in situations of armed conflict as well as attacks on objects protected under international law, and calls on all parties to put an end to such practices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP20</td>
<td>Stresses the importance of consultation and cooperation between the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other relevant organizations, including regional organizations, on follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General and encourages the Secretary-General to continue consultations on this subject and to take concrete actions aimed at enhancing the capacity of the United Nations to improve the protection of civilians.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reaffirms its strong condemnation of the deliberate targeting of civilians or other protected persons in situations of armed conflict, and calls upon all parties to put an end to such practices

Notes that the overwhelming majority of internally displaced persons and other vulnerable groups in situations of armed conflict are civilians and, as such, are entitled to the protection afforded to civilians under existing international humanitarian law

Notes that the deliberate targeting of civilian populations or other protected persons and the committing of systematic, flagrant and widespread violations of international humanitarian and human rights law in situations of armed conflict may constitute a threat to international peace and security, and, in this regard, reaffirms its readiness to consider such situations and, where necessary, to adopt appropriate steps

Indicates its willingness to consider the appropriateness and feasibility of temporary security zones and safe corridors for the protection of civilians and the delivery of assistance in situations characterized by the threat of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes against the civilian population

Reaffirming also the need to implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts

Calls upon all parties to armed conflict to respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls, especially as civilians, in particular the obligations applicable to them under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977, the Refugee Convention of 1951 and the Protocol thereto of 1967, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979 and the Optional Protocol thereto of 1999 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 and the two Optional Protocols thereto of 25 May 2000, and to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
OP10  Calls on all parties to armed conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict

OP11  Emphasizes the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes including those relating to sexual and other violence against women and girls, and in this regard stresses the need to exclude these crimes, where feasible from amnesty provisions

OP12  Calls upon all parties to armed conflict to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and to take into account the particular needs of women and girls, including in their design, and recalls its resolutions 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000

OP15  Reaffirms its readiness, whenever measures are adopted under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, to give consideration to their potential impact on the civilian population, bearing in mind the special needs of women and girls, in order to consider appropriate humanitarian exemptions

2001  S/RES/1379  OP7  Undertakes to consider, as appropriate when imposing measures under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, the economic and social impact of sanctions on children, with a view to providing appropriate humanitarian exemptions that take account of their specific needs and their vulnerability and to minimize such impact

2006  S/RES/1674  OP3  Recalls that deliberately targeting civilians and other protected persons as such in situations of armed conflict is a flagrant violation of international humanitarian law, reiterates its condemnation in the strongest terms of such practices, and demands that all parties immediately put an end to such practices
| OP4 | Reaffirms the provisions of paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document regarding the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity |
| OP5 | Reaffirms also its condemnation in the strongest terms of all acts of violence or abuses committed against civilians in situations of armed conflict in violation of applicable international obligations with respect in particular to  
   (i) torture and other prohibited treatment, (ii) gender-based and sexual violence, (iii) violence against children, (iv) the recruitment and use of child soldiers, (v) trafficking in humans, (vi) forced displacement, and (vii) the intentional denial of humanitarian assistance, and demands that all parties put an end to such practices |
| OP13 | Urges the international community to provide support and assistance to enable States to fulfill their responsibilities regarding the protection of refugees and other persons protected under international humanitarian law |
| 2006 S/RES/1738 | PP6 | Emphasizing that there are existing prohibitions under international humanitarian law against attacks intentionally directed against civilians, as such, which in situations of armed conflict constitute war crimes, and recalling the need for States to end impunity for such criminal acts |
| OP1 | Condemns intentional attacks against journalists, media professionals and associated personnel, as such, in situations of armed conflict, and calls upon all parties to put an end to such practices |
Recalls in this regard that journalists, media professionals and associated personnel engaged in dangerous professional missions in area of armed conflict shall be considered as civilians and shall be respected and protected as such, provided that they take no action adversely affecting their status as civilians. This is without prejudice to the right of war correspondents accredited to the armed forces to the status of prisoners of war provided for in article 4.A.4 of the Third Geneva Convention.

Urges States and all other parties to an armed conflict to do their utmost to prevent violations of international humanitarian law against civilians, including journalists, media professionals and associated personnel.

Urges all parties involved in situations of armed conflicts to respect the professional independence and rights of journalists, media professionals and associated personnel as civilians.

Recalls that the deliberate targeting of civilians and other protected persons, and the commission of systematic, flagrant and widespread violations of international humanitarian and human rights law in situations of armed conflict may constitute a threat to international peace and security, and reaffirms in this regard its readiness to consider such situations and, where necessary, to adopt appropriate steps.

Stresses that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security, affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to, where necessary, adopt appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence.
OP3

Demands that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence, which could include, *inter alia*, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility, training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians, debunking myths that fuel sexual violence, vetting armed and security forces to take into account past actions of rape and other forms of sexual violence, and evacuation of women and children under imminent threat of sexual violence to safety; and requests the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to encourage dialogue to address this issue in the context of broader discussions of conflict resolution between appropriate UN officials and the parties to the conflict, taking into account, *inter alia*, the views expressed by women of affected local communities.

OP4

Notes that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide, stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes, and calls upon Member States to comply with their obligations for prosecuting persons responsible for such acts, to ensure that all victims of sexual violence, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and stresses the importance of ending impunity for such acts as part of a comprehensive approach to seeking sustainable peace, justice, truth, and national reconciliation.

OP5

Affirms its intention, when establishing and renewing state-specific sanctions regimes, to take into consideration the appropriateness of targeted and graduated measures against parties to situations of armed conflict who commit rape and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in situations of armed conflict.
Requests the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations agencies, *inter alia*, through consultation with women and women-led organizations as appropriate, to develop effective mechanisms for providing protection from violence, including in particular sexual violence, to women and girls in and around UN managed refugee and internally displaced persons camps, as well as in all disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration processes, and in justice and security sector reform efforts assisted by the United Nations.

### 3. HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

**General Assembly Resolutions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>OP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>A/RES/46/182</td>
<td>OP35 (d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>A/RES/48/57</td>
<td>OP19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Under the aegis of the General Assembly and working under the direction of the Secretary-General, the high-level official would have the following responsibilities:

(d) Actively facilitating, including through negotiation if needed, the access by the operational organizations to emergency areas for the rapid provision of emergency assistance by obtaining the consent of all parties concerned, through modalities such as the establishment of temporary relief corridors where needed, days and zones of tranquility and other forms.

Emphasizes the importance of the role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator in facilitating access by the operational organizations to emergency areas for the rapid provision of emergency assistance by obtaining the consent of all parties concerned, through modalities such as the establishment of temporary relief corridors where needed, days and zones of tranquillity and other forms, including facilitating for those organizations the return of refugees and displaced persons.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>OP</th>
<th>Text</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>A/RES/52/167</td>
<td>OP2</td>
<td>Strongly condemns any act or failure to act which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails their being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack frequently resulting in injury or death.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP3</td>
<td>Calls upon all Governments and parties in conflicts...to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP4</td>
<td>Strongly condemns any act or failure to act which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails their being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts [(=A/RES/52/167 OP2. (1997)]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP5</td>
<td>Strongly condemns any act or failure to act which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts and, for that purpose, the need to enact national legislation, as appropriate (=A/RES/52/167 OP2.1997)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>OP</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>A/RES/58/114</td>
<td>PP7</td>
<td>Gravely concerned also about the lack of access by humanitarian personnel to victims of humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in many regions of the world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP10</td>
<td>Calls upon all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel as well as supplies and equipment in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>A/RES/59/141</td>
<td>OP17</td>
<td>Strongly condemns all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel are increasingly subjected, as well as any act or failure to act, contrary to international law that obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>Opp.</td>
<td>Text</td>
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**ECOSOC Resolutions**

2002 ECOSOC DECISION 2002/32

**OP22**
Calls upon all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected population, including refugees and internally displaced persons.

2003 ECOSOC DECISION 2003/5

**OP6**
Bearing in mind that reaching the vulnerable is essential for providing adequate protection and assistance in context of natural disasters and complex emergencies as well as for strengthening local capacity to cope with humanitarian needs in such contexts.

**OP7**
Strongly condemns any act, or failure to act, contrary to international law, which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions.

= ECOSOC DECISION 2002/32 OP22.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>ECOSOC Decision/Resolution</th>
<th>OP</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>PP12 2004/50</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gravely concerned that, in some of the world’s current complex emergencies, access by humanitarian agencies to affected civilian populations remains limited, sporadic and sometimes restricted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>OP9 2005/4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Requests the Secretary-General to encourage the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to identify and use, as appropriate and available, local resources and expertise from within the affected country and/or its neighbours in response to humanitarian needs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Security Council Resolutions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>OP</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>S/RES/1265</td>
<td>OP7</td>
<td>Underlines the importance of safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to civilians in armed conflict, including refugees and internally displaced persons, and the protection of humanitarian assistance to them, and recalls in this regard the statements of its President of 19 June 1997 (S/PRST/1997/34) and 29 September 1998 (S/PRST/1998/30).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP10</td>
<td>Expresses its willingness to respond to situations of armed conflict where civilians are being targeted or humanitarian assistance to civilians is being deliberately obstructed, including through the consideration of appropriate measures at the Council’s disposal in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and notes, in that regard, the relevant recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>S/RES/1296</td>
<td>OP8</td>
<td>Underlines the importance of safe and unimpeded access of humanitarian personnel to civilians in armed conflicts, calls upon all parties concerned, including neighbouring States, to cooperate fully with the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator and United Nations agencies in providing such access, invites States and the Secretary-General to bring to its attention information regarding the deliberate denial of such access in violation of international law, where such denial may constitute a threat to international peace and security, and, in this regard, expresses its willingness to consider such information and, when necessary, to adopt appropriate steps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>OP</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>S/RES/1674</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Urges all those concerned as set forth in international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions and the Hague Regulations, to allow full unimpeded access by humanitarian personnel to civilians in need of assistance in situations of armed conflict, and to make available, as far as possible, all necessary facilities for their operations, and to promote the safety, security and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel and their assets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>A/RES/46/182</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Deeply concerned about the suffering of the victims of disasters and emergency situations, the loss in human lives, the flow of refugees, the mass displacement of people and the material destruction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>A/RES/48/118</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Calls upon the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and United Nations humanitarian agencies to continue their efforts to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the relief, repatriation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons, including those refugees in urban areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>OP</td>
<td>Text</td>
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<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>A/RES/48/135</td>
<td>PP3</td>
<td>Conscious of the human rights as well as the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Encourages the representative, through dialogue with Governments, to continue his review of the needs for international protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including his compilation and analysis of existing rules and norms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>A/RES/49/169</td>
<td>OP11</td>
<td>Calls upon the international community to provide timely and speedy humanitarian assistance and support to countries affected by internal displacement to help them fulfil their responsibility towards the displaced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>A/RES/50/149</td>
<td>OP25</td>
<td>Calls upon the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations humanitarian organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, regional and international financial institutions, the International Organization for Migration and non-governmental organizations to increase the capacity for coordination and delivery of humanitarian emergency assistance and disaster relief in general, with States and others concerned in respect of asylum, relief, repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons, including those refugees in urban areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>A/RES/50/195</td>
<td>OP3</td>
<td>Noting the efforts of the representative to develop a framework and to promote strategies for better protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Encourages the representative to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to increase protection, assistance and solutions for internally displaced persons.

1996 A/RES/51/71 OP22
1997 A/RES/52/101 OP22
1997 A/RES/52/130 OP3
1998 A/RES/53/126 OP25
1999 A/RES/54/167 PP2

Conscious of the human rights and the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons and the responsibilities this poses for States and the international community to explore methods and means better to address their protection and assistance needs.

Encourages the representative to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to increase protection, assistance and solutions for internally displaced persons, including their safe return.

Welcomes the fact that the representative of the Secretary-General has made use of the Guiding Principles in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and requests him to continue his efforts in that regard.
Notes with appreciation that the United Nations agencies, regional and non-governmental organizations are making use of the Guiding Principles in their work, and encourages the further dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles.

We resolve therefore: To strengthen international cooperation, including burden sharing in, and the coordination of humanitarian assistance to, countries hosting refugees and to help all refugees and displaced persons to return voluntarily to their homes, in safety and dignity and to be smoothly reintegrated into their societies.

Expresses grave concern about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in this regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, and urges the international community, led by relevant United Nations organizations, to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating the plight of internally displaced persons.

Commends the Representative of the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken so far, for the catalytic role that he continues to play in raising the level of consciousness about the plight of internally displaced persons and for his efforts to promote a comprehensive strategy that focuses on prevention as well as better protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons.
OP4 Encourages the Representative of the Secretary-General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs and rights of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to strengthen protection, assistance and solutions for internally displaced persons, taking into account specific situations, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly

OP6 Also welcomes the fact that the Representative of the Secretary-General has made use of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and requests him to continue his efforts in that regard, including considering strategies for addressing such concerns

OP7 Notes with appreciation that an increasing number of States, United Nations agencies and regional and non-governmental organizations are making use of the Guiding Principles, encourages the further dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles, expresses its appreciation for the dissemination and promotion of the Guiding Principles at regional and other seminars on displacement, and encourages the Representative of the Secretary-General to continue to initiate or support such seminars in consultation with regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant institutions, and to provide support for efforts to promote capacity-building and use of the Guiding Principles

OP8 Calls upon all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the Representative of the Secretary-General, in particular Governments with situations of internal displacement, encourages them to give serious consideration to inviting the Representative to visit their countries so as to enable him to study and analyse more fully the issues involved, and thanks those Governments that have already done so
OP10 Calls upon Governments to provide protection and assistance, including reintegration and development assistance, to internally displaced persons, and to facilitate the efforts of relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations in these respects, including by further improving access to internally displaced persons.

OP11 Notes with appreciation the increased attention paid to the issue of internally displaced persons in the consolidated inter-agency appeals process, and encourages further efforts to improve the integration of the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons in consolidated appeals.

OP12 Emphasizes the central role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the inter-agency coordination of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, and in this regard urges the Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement and all relevant United Nations humanitarian assistance, human rights and development organizations concerned to enhance further their collaboration and coordination, especially through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, in order to promote and better carry out protection, assistance and development activities for internally displaced persons and to enhance further their accountability, as well as to provide all possible assistance and support to the Representative of the Secretary-General, and invites the Network better to inform Member States of its activities.


2003 A/RES/58/177 OP3

Encourages the Representative of the Secretary General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non governmental organizations concerned, to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs and rights of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to strengthen protection, assistance and solutions for internally displaced persons, taking into account specific situations...
OP4 Expresses particular concern at the grave problems faced by many internally displaced women and children, including violence and abuse, sexual exploitation, forced recruitment and abduction, and welcomes the commitment of the Representative of the Secretary-General to pay more systematic and in depth attention to their particular assistance, protection and development needs, as well as to other groups with special needs such as older persons and persons with disabilities, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000

OP5 Notes with appreciation the increasing role of national human rights institutions in assisting internally displaced persons and in promoting and protecting their human rights

OP6 Notes the importance of taking the human rights and the specific protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons into consideration, when appropriate, in peace processes and reintegration and rehabilitation processes

OP7 Expresses its appreciation of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as an important tool for dealing with situations of internal displacement, welcomes the fact that an increasing number of States, United Nations agencies and regional and non governmental organizations are applying them as a standard, and encourages all relevant actors to make use of the Guiding Principles when dealing with situations of internal displacement

OP8 Welcomes the fact that the Representative of the Secretary General continues to use the Guiding Principles in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors, and requests him to continue his efforts to further the dissemination, promotion and application of the Guiding Principles

Invites Governments to give serious consideration, in dialogue with the Representative of the Secretary General, to the recommendations and suggestions addressed to them, in accordance with his mandate, and to inform him of measures taken thereon.


2004 A/RES/59/141 OP16

Encourages Member States with internally displaced persons to develop or strengthen, as appropriate, national laws, policies and minimum standards on internal displacement, \textit{inter alia}, taking into account the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, and to continue to work with humanitarian agencies in endeavors to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for international support, upon request, to the capacity-building efforts of Governments.

2005 A/RES/60/1 OP132

We recognize the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons and resolve to take effective measures to increase the protection of internally displaced persons.

2005 A/RES/60/168 PP1

Deeply disturbed by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world, for reasons including armed conflict, violations of human rights and natural or human-made disasters, who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious challenges that this is creating for the international community.

PP2

Recognizing the significant number of persons who have become internally displaced owing to natural disasters over the course of the past twelve months.
Conscious of the human rights and the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons, including in long-term displacement situations, and the responsibilities of States and the international community to strengthen further their protection and assistance.

Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem in appropriate cooperation with the international community.

Welcomes the fact that the Representative of the Secretary-General continues to use the Guiding Principles in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors, and requests him to continue his efforts to further the dissemination, promotion and application of the Guiding Principles and to provide support for efforts to promote capacity-building and the use of the Guiding Principles, as well as the development of domestic legislation and policies.

Recognizes the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together in endeavors to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for international support, upon request, to capacity-building efforts of States [A/RES/59/141 OP16. (2004)]
Reaffirms the right of return and the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, where appropriate and feasible, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home.

Deeply disturbed by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world, for reasons including armed conflict, violations of human rights and natural or human-made disasters, who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious challenges that this is creating for the international community.

Recognizing that natural disasters are a cause of displacement and that the consequences of hazards can be prevented or substantially mitigated by integrating disaster risk reduction strategies into national development policies and programmes.

Commends the Representative of the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken so far, for the catalytic role that he plays in raising the level of awareness about the plight of internally displaced persons and for his ongoing efforts to address their development and other specific needs, including through the mainstreaming of the human rights of internally displaced persons into all relevant parts of the United Nations system.
OP3  Encourages the Representative of the Secretary-General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non governmental organizations concerned, to continue his analysis of the root causes of internal displacement, the needs and human rights of those displaced, the development of benchmarks for assessing when displacement ends, measures of prevention and ways to strengthen protection, assistance and durable solutions for internally displaced persons, taking into account specific situations.

OP4  Also encourages the Representative of the Secretary-General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non governmental organizations concerned, to continue his efforts to promote comprehensive strategies that focus on prevention of displacement, on better protection and assistance and on durable solutions for those displaced, taking into account in this regard the primary responsibility of the States within their jurisdiction.


OP8  Notes the importance of taking the human rights and the specific protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons into consideration, when appropriate, in peace processes, and emphasizes that durable solutions for internally displaced persons, including through voluntary return, sustainable reintegration and rehabilitation processes and their active participation, as appropriate, in the peacebuilding process, are necessary elements of effective peacebuilding.
OP9 Welcomes the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in this regard, and urges the Commission to intensify its efforts, within its mandate, in cooperation with national and transitional Governments and in consultation with the relevant United Nations entities, to incorporate the rights and the specific needs of internally displaced persons, including their voluntary return, reintegration and rehabilitation, as well as related land and property issues, when advising on or proposing country-specific peacebuilding strategies for post-conflict situations in cases under consideration, where applicable.

OP12 Encourages States to continue to develop and implement domestic legislation and policies dealing with all stages of displacement, including through the identification of a national focal point within the Government for issues of internal displacement and through the allocation of budget resources, and encourages the international community and national actors to provide financial support and cooperation to Governments, upon request, in this regard.


OP20 Recognizes the relevance of the global database on internally displaced persons advocated by the Representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Governments to continue to collaborate on and support this effort, including by providing relevant data on situations of internal displacement and financial resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution Type</th>
<th>Decision Number</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION</td>
<td>OP11 1998/1</td>
<td>The Council notes with satisfaction the designation of the Emergency Relief Coordinator as the focal point for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs), and also notes the adoption by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee of the guiding principles on IDPs and encourages the Emergency Relief Coordinator, in fulfilling this function, to work closely with all agencies and organizations involved, in particular with the Representative of the Secretary General on IDPs, who will report to the Commission of Human Rights on his efforts and on the views expressed to him on these guiding principles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION</td>
<td>OP23 1999/1</td>
<td>The Council acknowledges the specific needs of internally displaced persons in the transition from conflict to peace. The Council calls on all States to apply internationally recognized norms with regard to internally displaced persons. It also calls for further strengthening and coordinating of international efforts for those persons in this regard. The Council takes note of the fact that the Inter-Agency Standing Committee is using the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. The Council welcomes the efforts of the Representative of the Secretary General on internally displaced persons, the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the members of the IASC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION</td>
<td>OP28 2002/32</td>
<td>Notes with appreciation the establishment of the non-operational inter-agency Unit on Internal Displacement in the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and encourages Member States and relevant agencies to provide it with the necessary resources to enable it to carry out its activities;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notes that an increasing number of States, United Nations organizations and regional and non-governmental organizations are making use of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, encourages the strengthening of legal frameworks on the protection of internally displaced persons and urges the international community to strengthen its support to affected States in their efforts to provide, through national plans or initiatives, protection and assistance to their internally displaced persons.

2003 ECOSOC DECISION 2003/5


2004 ECOSOC DECISION 2004/50

PP13 Bearing in mind that success in peace negotiation, among other processes, could lead to a significant increase in voluntary repatriation of refugees and in the possible reintegration of internally displaced persons, and expressing its belief that the United Nations system should give due consideration to these developments in the planning of its response.


Security Council Resolutions

1993 S/RES/820 OP7

Reaffirms its endorsement of the principles that all statements or commitments made under duress, particularly those relating to land and property, are wholly null and void and that all displaced persons have the right to return in peace to their former homes and should be assisted to do so.

2000 S/RES/1265 PP10

Mindful of the particular vulnerability of refugees and internally displaced persons, and reaffirming the primary responsibility of States to ensure their protection, in particular by maintaining the security and civilian character of refugee and internally displaced person camps.
2000  S/RES/1296  OP3  Notes that the overwhelming majority of internally displaced persons and other vulnerable groups in situations of armed conflict are civilians and, as such, are entitled to the protection afforded to civilians under existing international humanitarian law

OP14  Invites the Secretary-General to bring to its attention situations where refugees and internally displaced persons are vulnerable to the threat of harassment or where their camps are vulnerable to infiltration by armed elements and where such situation may constitute a threat to international peace and security, expresses, in this regard, its willingness to consider such situations and, where necessary, adopt appropriate steps to help create a secure environment for civilians endangered by conflicts, including by providing support to States concerned in this regard, and recalls, in this regard, its resolution 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998

2006  S/RES/1674  OP12  Recalls the prohibition of the forcible displacement of civilians in situations of armed conflict under circumstances that are in violation of parties’ obligations under international humanitarian law

OP13  Urges the international community to provide support and assistance to enable States to fulfill their responsibilities regarding the protection of refugees and other persons protected under international humanitarian law

OP14  Reaffirms the need to maintain the security and civilian character of refugee and internally displaced person camps, stresses the primary responsibility of States in this regard, and encourages the Secretary-General where necessary and in the context of existing peacekeeping operations and their respective mandates, to take all feasible measures to ensure security in and around such camps and of their inhabitants
Reaffirms its practice of ensuring that the mandates of United Nations peacekeeping, political and peacebuilding missions include, where appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, provisions regarding (i) the protection of civilians, particularly those under imminent threat of physical danger within their zones of operation, (ii) the facilitation of the provision of humanitarian assistance, and (iii) the creation of conditions conducive to the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of refugees and internally displaced persons, and expresses its intention of ensuring that (i) such mandates include clear guidelines as to what missions can and should do to achieve those goals, (ii) the protection of civilians is given priority in decisions about the use of available capacity and resources, including information and intelligence resources, in the implementation of the mandates, and (iii) that protection mandates are implemented.

5. SAFETY AND SECURITY OF HUMANITARIAN PERSONNEL

General Assembly Resolutions

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>A/RES/49/139</td>
<td>OP20 A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>A/RES/52/167</td>
<td>OP2</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Welcomes the adoption of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (Res. 49/59)

Strongly condemns any act or failure to act which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails their being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack frequently resulting in injury or death.
OP6 Urges all States to ensure that any threat or act of violence committed against humanitarian personnel on their territory is fully investigated and to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law and national legislation, to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are prosecuted.

1998 A/RES/53/87 PP8 Welcoming the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, adopted on 17 July 1998 by the Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, held at Rome from 15 June to 17 July 1998, and noting the role that the Court could play in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law.

OP3 Also urges all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel, to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations, and to ensure the speedy release of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who have been arrested or detained in violation of their immunity, in accordance with the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law.


1999 A/RES/54/147 OP13 
Urges States and all other actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, to prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and to ensure their safety and security, and requests organizations and aid workers to abide by the national laws and regulations of the countries in which they operate.

1999 A/RES/54/192 OP2 
Also urges all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations.

OP4 
Strongly condemns any act or failure to act which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails their being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts.

OP5 
OP6


OP7

Also urges all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations personnel, to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and further urges all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfillment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who have been arrested or detained in violation of their immunity, in accordance with the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law.

OP10

Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, falling within his responsibilities, to ensure that security matters are an integral part of the planning for existing and newly mandated United Nations operations and that such precautions extend to all United Nations and its associated personnel.

OP11

Also requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with United Nations agencies and other relevant international organizations, to compile examples of best practices, obstacles encountered and lessons learned with regard to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel, to ensure that this information is widely disseminated in the field and to include in his comprehensive report to it at its fifty-fifth session on the subject of the present resolution detailed information in this regard.
...urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, to prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and to ensure their safety and security, calls upon States to investigate fully any crimes committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice persons responsible for such crimes, and calls upon organizations and aid workers to abide by the national laws and regulations of the countries in which they operate.

Emphasizing the need to give further consideration to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who account for the majority of casualties, and United Nations and its associated personnel.

Strongly condemns any act or failure to act which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts and, for that purpose, the need to enact national legislation, as appropriate.
OP9 Calls upon all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, to ensure the safety and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, to refrain from abducting or detaining them in violation of their immunity under relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm, any abductee or detainee

OP12 Calls upon all States to promote a climate of respect for the security of United Nations and humanitarian personnel


OP17 Reaffirms the need to strengthen the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, and in this regard expresses its appreciation for the recommendation of the Secretary-General to appoint a full-time Security Coordinator so as to enable the Office to enhance its capacity in the discharge of its duties, in consultation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and appropriate agencies within the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and calls for expeditious consideration of the recommendation

2001 A/RES/56/89 PP6 Expressing concern that locally recruited personnel are particularly vulnerable to attacks

OP5 Encourages the Secretary-General and relevant bodies within the United Nations system to continue to take such other practical measures as are within their authority and existing institutional mandates to strengthen protection for United Nations and associated personnel
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>A/RES/57/155</td>
<td>PP12</td>
<td>Expressing concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the ability of the Organization to provide assistance and protection to civilians in fulfilment of its mandate under the Charter of the United Nations</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>OP11</td>
<td>Recommends that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission and host country agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements</td>
</tr>
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</table>
OP20 Emphasizes the need to give further consideration to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who account for the majority of casualties.

OP23 Welcomes the appointment of a full-time United Nations Security Coordinator at the level of Assistant Secretary-General, and reaffirms the need to further strengthen security coordination and management and to sustain the initiatives aimed at increasing the efficacy of the security management system.

2003 A/RES/58/114 PP6 Gravely concerned about the acts of violence against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, in particular deliberate attacks, which are in violation of international humanitarian law or other international law that may be applicable.

OP7 Strongly condemns all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel are increasingly subjected, as well as any act or failure to act, contrary to international law, which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions.

OP8 Urges all States to take necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel.


OP8 Strongly urges all States to take stronger actions to ensure that any threat or act of violence committed against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel on their territory is investigated fully and to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice in accordance with international law and national law, and notes the need for States to end impunity for such acts.
OP9 Calls upon all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments, in particular the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel


OP21 Welcomes the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to further enhance the security management system of the United Nations, and in this regard invites the United Nations and other humanitarian organizations to strengthen the analysis of threats to their safety and security in order to minimize security risks and to facilitate informed decisions on the maintenance of an effective presence in the field, *inter alia*, to fulfil their humanitarian mandate


2004 A/RES/59/211 OP19 Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfillment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with the minimum operating security standards and relevant codes of conduct and are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant national and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights law and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support
Takes note with appreciation of the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, which expands the scope of legal protection under the Convention, and calls upon all States to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol as soon as possible so as to ensure its rapid entry into force, and urges States parties to put in place appropriate national legislation, as necessary, to enable its effective implementation.

Calls upon all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of the arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel, so as to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and urges them to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of those who have been arrested or detained in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law.

Also emphasizes the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who are particularly vulnerable to attacks and who account for the majority of casualties.

Underlines the need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations personnel, including through the consolidated appeals process, and encourages all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System.
OP18
Also emphasizes the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who are particularly vulnerable to attacks and who account for the majority of casualties, and calls upon humanitarian organizations to ensure that their staff are adequately informed about and trained in their respective organization’s relevant security measures, plans and initiatives, which should be in line with applicable national law and international law.

OP19
Requests the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, to continue to promote increased cooperation and collaboration among United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations, including between their headquarters and field offices, in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security, training and awareness, and calls upon all relevant United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations to support those efforts.

OP28
Underlines the need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations personnel, including through the consolidated appeals process, and encourages all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System, inter alia, with a view to reinforcing the efforts of the United Nations Department of Safety and Security for the safety and security of personnel working in emergency and humanitarian operations.
2007  A/RES/62/94  OP15
Stresses the importance of ensuring that humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel remain sensitive to national and local customs and traditions in their countries of assignment and communicate clearly their purpose and objectives to local populations.

2007  A/RES/62/95  OP2
Urges all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel.


OP15
Also emphasizes the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who are particularly vulnerable to attacks and who account for the majority of casualties, requests the Secretary-General to keep under review the relevant internal United Nations policy, operational and administrative arrangements that can contribute to providing locally recruited personnel with adequate safety and security, and calls upon humanitarian organizations to ensure that their staff are adequately informed about and trained in their respective organization’s relevant security measures, plans and initiatives, which should be in line with applicable national law and international law.

OP21  Emphasizes the importance of information on the range and scope of security incidents involving humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, including attacks against them, to clarify their operating environment

OP25  Requests the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, to continue to promote increased cooperation and collaboration among United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations, including between their headquarters and field offices, in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security, training and awareness, and calls upon all relevant United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations to support those efforts

OP26  Recognizes the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far, as well as the need for continued efforts to enhance coordination and cooperation, both at the headquarters and the field levels, between the United Nations and other humanitarian and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field, taking into account relevant national and local initiatives in this regard, encourages collaborative initiatives to address security training needs, invites Member States to consider increasing support to those initiatives, and requests the Secretary-General to report on steps taken in this regard

2008 A/63/L.48 OP2

Urges all States to make every effort to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel [(=A/RES/62/95 OP2. (2007)]

OP3

Strongly urges all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations [(=A/RES/54/192 OP2. (1999)]

OP5


OP7

Further calls upon all States to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol as soon as possible so as to ensure its rapid entry into force, and urges States parties to put in place appropriate national legislation, as necessary, to enable its effective implementation [(=A/RES/60/123 OP7. (2005)]

OP10

Strongly condemns all threats and acts of violence against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, reaffirms the need to hold accountable those responsible for such acts, strongly urges all States to take stronger action to ensure that any such acts committed on their territory are investigated fully and to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice in accordance with national laws and obligations under international law, and urges States to end impunity for such acts [(=A/RES/58/122 OP8. (2003)]
OP11  Calls upon all States to comply fully with their obligations under international humanitarian law, including as provided by the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949, in order to respect and protect all humanitarian personnel in territories subject to their jurisdiction


OP13  Calls upon all other parties involved in armed conflicts to refrain from abducting humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel or detaining them in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm or requirement of concession, any abductee or detainee [=A/RES/55/175 OP9. (2000)]


OP15  Recommends that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission, host country and other related agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements, and encourages further efforts in this regard [=(A/RES/57/155 OP11. (2002)]

Also emphasizes the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who are particularly vulnerable to attacks and who account for the majority of casualties and cases of harassment and unlawful detention, requests the Secretary-General to keep under review the relevant internal United Nations policy, operational and administrative arrangements that can contribute to providing locally recruited personnel with adequate safety and security, and calls upon humanitarian organizations to ensure that their staff are adequately informed about and trained in their respective organization’s relevant security measures, plans and initiatives, which should be in line with applicable national laws and international law [A/RES/62/95 OP18. (2007)]

Recognizes the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far, as well as the need for continued efforts to enhance coordination and cooperation, both at the headquarters and the field levels, between the United Nations and other humanitarian and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field, taking into account relevant national and local initiatives in this regard, inter alia, those derived from the Saving Lives Together framework, encourages collaborative initiatives to address security training needs, invites Member States to consider increasing support to those initiatives, and requests the Secretary-General to report on steps taken in this regard [A/RES/62/95 OP (2007)]

OP32 Also underlines the need for better coordination between the United Nations and host Governments, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, on the use and deployment of essential equipment required to provide for the safety and security of United Nations personnel and associated personnel working in the delivery of humanitarian assistance by United Nations organizations

ECOSOC Resolutions

1999 ECOSOC DECISION OP4 1999/1

…The Council also calls upon all parties to take measures to ensure the safety and security of international and local humanitarian personnel. Furthermore, the Council calls upon all States to consider signing and ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

2003 ECOSOC DECISION PP14 2003/5

Recalling the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which was adopted on 17 July 1998 and entered into force on 1 July 2002, and noting the role that the Court could play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law

OP5 Urges all States to take necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel

OP8 Strongly urges States to ensure that those responsible for attacks against humanitarian staff are promptly brought to justice, as provided by national law and obligations under international law, and notes the need for States to end impunity for such acts
Expressing profound regret and grave concern at the tragic loss of the lives of humanitarian staff while providing humanitarian assistance and the increased insecurity encountered by humanitarian staff as well as the acts of violence committed against them, in particular deliberate attacks, and mindful of the need to provide the fullest possible protection for their security and, in this regard, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 58/122 of 17 December 2003 and Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003

Encourages United Nations organizations and other humanitarian actors to address security risks posed to humanitarian staff, *inter alia* by promoting accountability at all levels and by promoting and enhancing collaborative actions, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and national laws, where applicable.

Security Council Resolutions

Emphasizes the need for combatants to ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as personnel of international humanitarian organizations, and recalls in this regard the statements of its President of 12 March 1997 (S/PRST/1997/30 (and 29 September 1998)
OP9 Takes note of the entry into force of the Convention of the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 1994, recalls the relevant principles contained therein, urges all parties to armed conflicts to respect fully the status of United Nations and associated personnel and, in this regard, condemns attacks and the use of force against United Nations and associated personnel, as well as personnel of international humanitarian organizations, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts.

2000 S/RES/1296 OP12 Reiterates its call to all parties concerned, including non-State parties, to ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as personnel of humanitarian organizations, and recalls, in this regard, the statement of its President of 9 February 2000 (S/PRST/200/4).

2006 S/RES/1674 OP23 Condemns all attacks deliberately targeting United Nations and associated personnel involved in humanitarian missions, as well as other humanitarian personnel, urges States on whose territory such attacks occur to prosecute or extradite those responsible, and welcomes in this regard the adoption on 8 December 2005 by the General Assembly of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel.
### 6. HUMANITARIAN-MILITARY RELATIONS IN HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>A/RES/58/114</td>
<td>OP9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Reaffirms the leading role of civilian organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance, particularly in areas affected by conflicts, affirms the need, in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be in conformity with international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles, and in this regard takes note of the 2003 “Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets to Support United Nations Humanitarian Activities in Complex Emergencies”, as well as of the 1994 “Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief”; Department of Humanitarian Affairs, document DHA/94/95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>A/RES/59/141</td>
<td>OP11</td>
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<td>Emphasizes the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, reaffirms the leading role of civilian organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance, particularly in areas affected by conflicts, and affirms the need, in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be in conformity with international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>A/RES/60/124</td>
<td>OP7</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>A/RES/61/134</td>
<td>OP5</td>
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<td>OP6</td>
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<td>Requests the Secretary-General to continue to develop more systematic links with Member States offering military assets for natural disaster response in order to identify the availability of such assets</td>
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<td>Year</td>
<td>Resolution Code</td>
<td>OP</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>A/RES/62/92</td>
<td>OP15</td>
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<td>OP7</td>
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**ECOSOC Resolutions**

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<td></td>
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<td>OP20</td>
<td>Encourages United Nations humanitarian organizations and other relevant United Nations entities to carry out jointly an in-depth examination of the extent to which current developments in international peace and security have affected the understanding and acceptance of the United Nations humanitarian organizations by local populations, as well as the understanding and acceptance of other humanitarian organizations, and the ability of humanitarian organizations to operate in the context of an international military presence, and to provide advice to these organizations on how they may respond better to these new developments.</td>
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OP21

Bearing in mind the 2003 Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets to Support United Nations Humanitarian Activities in Complex Emergencies and the 1994 Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief, stresses the value of their use and of the development by the United Nations in consultation with States and other relevant actors of further guidance on civil-military relations in the context of humanitarian activities and transition situations

2005 ECOSOC DECISION OP11
2005/4

OP19

Recommends to the General Assembly that it request the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations humanitarian organizations work, as appropriate, with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat in order to better ensure that humanitarian issues are accounted for from the earliest stages of planning and design of United Nations multidimensional integrated peacekeeping operations with humanitarian components and that the mandates of such operations continue to respect the need for their humanitarian activities to be carried out in accordance with humanitarian principles

2006 ECOSOC DECISION OP12
2006/5

OP13

Requests the Secretary-General to continue to develop more systematic links with Member States offering military assets for natural disaster response in order to identify the availability of such assets and to report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council in this regard

2007 ECOSOC DECISION OP12
2007/3

Requests the Secretary-General to review and report on, in consultation with Member States, the use of military assets for disaster relief, with the aim of improving the predictability and use of these assets, based on humanitarian principles
Takes note with interest of the independent study on the use of foreign military assets in disaster relief mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General, emphasizes the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirms the need in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles.

Recalls the Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief, also known as the Oslo Guidelines, stresses the value of their use, and invites Member States to raise awareness about them.
II. Linkage between Emergency Assistance, Disaster Reduction and Transition
## 7. PREVENTION, PREPAREDNESS & CAPACITY BUILDING

### General Assembly Resolutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution Number</th>
<th>OP</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>A/RES/46/182</td>
<td>OP8</td>
<td>Special attention should be given to disaster prevention and preparedness by the governments concerned, as well as by the international community.</td>
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<td>OP9</td>
<td>There is a clear relationship between emergency, rehabilitation and development. In order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance should be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development. Thus, emergency measures should be seen as a step towards long-term development.</td>
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<td>OP10</td>
<td>Economic growth and sustainable development are essential for prevention of and preparedness against natural disasters and other emergencies. Many emergencies reflect the underlying crisis in development facing developing countries. Humanitarian assistance should therefore be accompanied by a renewal of commitment to economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries. In this context, adequate resources must be made available to address their development problems.</td>
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<td>OP11</td>
<td>Contributions for humanitarian assistance should be provided in a way which is not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development.</td>
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</table>
OP12  The United Nations has a central and unique role to play in providing leadership and coordinating the efforts of the international community to support the affected countries. The United Nations should ensure the prompt and smooth delivery of relief assistance in full respect of the above-mentioned principles, bearing in mind also relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971 and 45/100 of 14 December 1990. The United Nations system needs to be adapted and strengthened to meet present and future challenges in an effective and coherent manner. It should be provided with resources commensurate with future requirements. The inadequacy of such resources has been one of the major constraints in the effective response of the United Nations to emergencies.

OP13  The international community should adequately assist developing countries in strengthening their capacity in disaster prevention and mitigation, both at the national and regional levels, for example, in establishing and enhancing integrated programmes in this regard.

OP14  In order to reduce the impact of disasters there should be increased awareness of the need for establishing disaster mitigation strategies, particularly in disaster-prone countries. There should be greater exchange and dissemination of existing and new technical information related to the assessment, prediction and mitigation of disasters. As called for in the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, efforts should be intensified to develop measures for prevention and mitigation of natural disasters and similar emergencies through programmes of technical assistance and modalities for favorable access to, and transfer of, relevant technology.

OP15  The disaster management training programme recently initiated by the office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator and the United Nations Development Programme should be strengthened and broadened.
OP16 Organizations of the United Nations system involved in the funding and the provision of assistance relevant to the prevention of emergencies should be provided with sufficient and readily available resources

OP17 The international community is urged to provide the necessary support and resources to programmes and activities undertaken to further the goals and objectives of the Decade

OP18 International relief assistance should supplement national efforts to improve the capacities of developing countries to mitigate the effects of natural disasters expeditiously and effectively and to cope efficiently with all emergencies. The United Nations should enhance its efforts to assist developing countries to strengthen their capacity to respond disasters, at the national and regional level, as appropriate

OP19 On the basis of existing mandates and drawing upon monitoring arrangements available within the system, the United Nations should intensify efforts, building upon the existing capacities of relevant organizations and entities of the United Nations, for the systematic pooling, analysis and dissemination of early warning information on natural disasters and other emergencies. In this context, the United Nations should consider making use as appropriate of the early-warning capacities of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

OP20 Early-warning information should be made available in an unrestricted and timely manner to all interested Governments and concerned authorities, in particular of affected or disaster-prone countries. The capacity of disaster-prone countries to receive, use and disseminate this should be strengthened. In this connection, the international community is urged to assist these countries upon request with the establishment and enhancement of national early-warning systems
1993 A/RES/48/57 PP8 Stressing the importance of a coordinated response to natural disasters and of technical and financial assistance to the natural-disaster-prone countries in the fields of disaster preparedness and mitigation, including exchange of information and post-disaster development activities

Requests the Secretary-General to include in his annual report on the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance recommendations on practical measures to enhance the coordinated system-wide support for efforts to facilitate the transition from emergency relief to rehabilitation and development and, particularly in the context of activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the promotion of national capacity-building to help prevent and mitigate future emergencies

1996 A/RES/51/194 PP7 Bearing in mind the critical importance of prevention, preparedness and contingency planning for a timely and effective response to both natural and other emergencies by the Governments concerned and the international community

1999 A/RES/54/233 OP3 Calls upon all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, *inter alia*, by disaster prevention, including building regulations as well as disaster preparedness and capacity-building in disaster response, and requests the international community in this context to continue to assist developing countries, where appropriate
OP4 Stresses the need to strengthen efforts at all levels, *inter alia*, at the domestic level, to improve natural disaster awareness, prevention, preparedness and early warning systems, as well as international cooperation, in response to emergencies from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, bearing in mind the overall negative impact of natural disasters, the resulting humanitarian needs and requests from affected countries, as appropriate.

OP5 Encourages further efforts by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Inter-Agency Standing Committee members and other members of the United Nations system in promoting preparedness for response at the international, regional and national levels and strengthening the mobilization and coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system in the field of natural disasters, *inter alia*, through the effective deployment in all region of the world and expansion of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination roster appropriately to include more representatives from countries of Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, bearing in mind that these representatives are funded by the participating countries.

OP7 Invites the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and concerned organizations, taking due account of the evolving comprehensive strategy to maximize international cooperation in the field of natural disasters, to strengthen their support to the United Nations disaster management teams which are dispatched upon request by host Governments and steered by the United Nations resident coordinator.
Encourages Governments, in particular through their disaster management or response agencies, as appropriate, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator to maximize the effectiveness of the international response to natural disasters, based, *inter alia*, on humanitarian need, from relief to development.

Stresses that particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, regional and sub-regional capacities of developing countries for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, more efficiently and at lower cost.

Invites the Secretary-General further to consider innovative means for timely and adequate natural disaster response, *inter alia*, through mobilization of additional resources from the private sector.

Invites the Secretary-General to continue to consider innovative mechanisms to improve the international response to natural disasters and other emergencies, *inter alia*, though addressing any geographical and sectoral imbalances in such a response where they exist, as well as more effective use of national emergency response agencies, taking into account their comparative advantages and specialization, as well as existing arrangements…

We resolve therefore to adopt in all our environmental actions a new ethic of conservation and stewardship and, as first steps, we resolve…to intensify cooperation to reduce the number and effects of natural and man-made disasters.
Emphasizing also the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters.

Calls upon States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, *inter alia*, by disaster prevention, including building regulations and appropriate land use, as well as disaster preparedness and capacity building in disaster response, and requests the international community in this context to continue to assist developing countries, where appropriate.

Recognizes that economic growth and sustainable development contribute to improving the capacity of States to mitigate, respond to and prepare for natural disasters.

Recognizes efforts by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and other members of the United Nations system in promoting preparedness for response at the national, regional and international levels and in strengthening the mobilization and coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system in the field of natural disasters, and in this context welcomes the expansion of the United Nations disaster assessment and coordination teams to include experts from all areas of the world.

Encourages enhanced cooperation among Governments, in particular through the United Nations and regional organizations, in order to strengthen early warning and preparedness mechanisms for natural disasters.
OP10 Encourages Governments, in particular through their disaster management or response agencies, as appropriate, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator to maximize the effectiveness of the international response to natural disasters, based, \textit{inter alia}, on humanitarian need, from relief to development, and also to maximize the effectiveness of disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts at all levels

OP11 Encourages further cooperation between the United Nations system and regional organizations in order to increase the capacity of those organizations to respond to natural disasters

OP18 Encourages Governments in natural-disaster-prone countries to establish, with the support of the international community, in particular the donors, national spatial information infrastructures relating to natural disaster preparedness, early warning, response and mitigation, including the necessary training of personnel

OP20 Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to prepare recommendations on how to improve the potential of the United Nations to mitigate natural disasters including, in particular, through the development of an inventory of the existing capacities at the national, regional and international levels

2001 A/RES/56/103 PP6 Emphasizing the importance of raising awareness among developing countries of the capacities existing at the national, regional and international levels that could be deployed to assist them
PP7 Emphasizing also the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, including prevention, preparedness, mitigation and recovery and reconstruction, and of strengthening the response capacity of affected countries

OP4 Stresses, in that context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the provision of humanitarian assistance in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, from relief and mitigation to development, including through the provision of adequate resources, and encourages the effective use of multilateral mechanisms

OP7 Reaffirms that disaster reduction forms an integral part of sustainable development strategies and needs to be considered in the development plans of all vulnerable countries and communities, and also reaffirms that within such preventive strategies, disaster preparedness and early warning systems must be strengthened further at the country and regional levels, inter alia, through better coordination among relevant United Nations bodies and cooperation with Governments of affected countries and regional and other relevant organizations with the aim of maximizing the effectiveness of natural disaster response and reducing the impact of natural disasters, particularly in developing countries

OP13 Welcomes the role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for the promotion and coordination of disaster response preparedness among the United Nations humanitarian agencies and other humanitarian partners
OP20  Requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with relevant organization partners, to continue progress on compiling a directory of disaster mitigation capacity existing at the national, regional and international levels and developing the Directory of Advanced Technologies for Disaster Response as a new part of the Central Register of Disaster Management Capacities.

OP7  Calls upon Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with the United Nations system, other international organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, in order to ensure effective synergies in the field of natural disasters, and urges the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy to develop such synergies, as appropriate.

OP10  Calls upon Governments to establish national platforms or focal points for disaster reduction, urges the United Nations system to provide appropriate support for those mechanisms, and invites the Secretary-General to strengthen the regional outreach of the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy in order to ensure such support.

OP11  Invites Governments and relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen national participation, in particular of disaster-prone countries, in the implementation of the Strategy, including through national multisectoral and interdisciplinary platforms, in order to achieve sustainable development goals and objectives, with the full utilization of scientific and technical knowledge, including through capacity-building at all levels and the development and strengthening of global and regional approaches that take into account regional, subregional, national and local circumstances and needs, as well as the need to strengthen the coordination of national emergency response agencies.
OP12  Calls upon Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts in the field of natural disasters within the framework for action for the implementation of the Strategy, in line with their respective skills and capacities, from prevention to early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction, including through capacity-building at all levels, and the development and strengthening of global and regional approaches that take into account regional, subregional, national and local circumstances and needs, as well as the need to strengthen the coordination of national emergency response agencies in natural disasters

OP13  Recognizes the urgent need to develop further and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, and emphasizes the need for developing countries to have access to technology so as to tackle natural disasters effectively

OP14  Calls upon Governments and United Nations agencies to collaborate more closely in the sharing of disaster response and mitigation information, to take full advantage of United Nations emergency information services such as ReliefWeb, as well as the Internet, and to consider other methods for the sharing of information

OP16  Encourages the international community to provide the necessary financial resources to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and to provide adequate scientific, technical, human and other resources to ensure adequate support for the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy and for the Task Force and its working groups
OP17 Requests the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the goals of the Strategy, including by seconding technical staff to the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy

OP19 Requests the Secretary-General to optimize further and disseminate through all available channels, including handbooks and information systems, the information necessary for the effective management of international cooperation in the fields of disaster prevention, early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction

OP21 Recognizes the importance of early warning as an essential element in the culture of prevention, and encourages renewed efforts at all levels to contribute to natural hazard monitoring and impact prediction, the development and transfer of technology, capacity-building for disaster preparedness, the detection of natural hazards and the issuance and communication of early warning, as well as education and professional training, public information and awareness-raising activities, and stresses the need for appropriate action in response to early warning;

OP22 Reaffirms the need to strengthen the international framework for the improvement of early warning systems and disaster preparedness by developing an effective international mechanism for early warning, including the transfer of technology related to early warning to developing countries, which ensures that vulnerable people receive appropriate and timely information, and by expanding and improving existing systems, in particular those under the auspices of the United Nations, as an integral part of the Strategy

2002 A/RES/57/152 PP6 Stressing that national authorities need to enhance the resilience of populations to disasters through implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction so as to reduce risks to people, their livelihoods, the social and economic infrastructure and environmental resources
OP7 Reaffirms that disaster risk analysis and vulnerability reduction form an integral part of sustainable development strategies and need to be considered in development plans of all vulnerable countries and communities, including, where appropriate, in plans relating to the transition from relief to development, and also affirms that within such preventive strategies, disaster preparedness and early warning systems must be further strengthened at the country and regional levels, *inter alia*, through better coordination among relevant United Nations bodies and cooperation with Governments of affected countries and regional and other relevant organizations with the aim of maximizing the effectiveness of natural disaster response and reducing the impact of natural disasters, particularly in developing countries.

OP9 Stresses the need for partnership among Governments of the affected countries, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant humanitarian organizations and specialized companies to promote training to strengthen preparedness for and response to natural disasters.

2002 A/RES/57/256 PP11 Recognizing also the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capacity to cope with disaster risks.

2003 A/RES/58/25 PP4 Emphasizing also the importance of integrating risk reduction into development planning and post-disaster recovery.

PP6 Emphasizing the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness, response and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters, while recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities to fulfil this requirement.
Mindful of the effects that shortfalls in resources can have on the preparedness for and response to natural disasters, and underscoring, in this regard, the need to gain a more precise understanding of the impact of levels of funding on natural disaster response

Emphasizes the importance of establishing or updating, as appropriate, national disaster preparedness plans, as agreed upon at the twenty-seventh International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva in 1999

2003 A/RES/58/214

Invites Governments and relevant international organizations to consider disaster risk assessment as an integral component of development plans and poverty eradication programmes

Stresses that continued cooperation and coordination among Governments, the United Nations system, other international organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, are considered essential to address effectively the impact of natural disasters

Recognizes the importance of linking disaster risk management to regional frameworks, as appropriate, such as with the New Partnership for Africa’s Development, to address issues of poverty eradication and sustainable development

Also recognizes the importance of integrating a gender perspective as well as of engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, particularly in the disaster reduction stage
2004 A/RES/59/141 PP13 Noting with grave concern the growing intensity and recurrence of natural disasters, and reaffirming the importance of sustainable measures to reduce the vulnerability of societies to natural hazards using an integrated, multi-hazard and participatory approach to addressing vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery

2004 A/RES/59/212 PP16 Recognizing that efforts to achieve economic growth, sustainable development and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, can be adversely affected by natural disasters, and noting the positive contribution that those efforts can make in strengthening the resilience of populations to such disasters

OP17 Urges Member States, with the support of relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to strengthen efforts to identify practical ways to channel resources to and strengthen support for national disaster management capacities in disaster-prone countries

2004 A/RES/59/231 OP12 Also stresses the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities through, *inter alia*, the transfer and exchange of experiences and technical knowledge, access to relevant data and information and the strengthening of institutional arrangements, including community-based organizations

OP14 Calls upon Governments to establish national platforms or focal points for disaster reduction, encourages the platforms to share relevant information on standards and practices, encourages Governments to strengthen platforms where they already exist, urges the United Nations system to provide appropriate support for those mechanisms, and invites the Secretary-General to strengthen the regional outreach of the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in order to ensure such support
Calls upon States to fully implement the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters in particular those commitments related to assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and for disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes

Calls upon all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively, necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning, and in this regard requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition

Reiterates the commitment to support the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities at all levels in order to prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and mitigate their impact

Encourages Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and international financial institutions to enhance the global capacity for sustainable post-disaster recovery in areas such as coordination with traditional and non-traditional partners, identification and dissemination of lessons learned, development of common tools and mechanisms for recovery needs assessment, strategy development and programming, and incorporation of risk reduction into all recovery processes, and welcomes the ongoing efforts to this end
OP18 Requests the United Nations system to improve its coordination of disaster recovery efforts, from relief to development, *inter alia*, by strengthening institutional, coordination and strategic planning efforts in disaster recovery, in support of national authorities

2005 A/RES/60/195 PP5 Recognizing also the clear relationship between development, disaster risk reduction, disaster response and disaster recovery and the need to deploy efforts in all these areas

OP3 Calls for a more effective integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies, planning and programming; for the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards and for a systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes

OP4 Invites Member States, the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, regional bodies and other international organizations, as well as relevant civil society organizations, to support, implement and follow up the Hyogo Framework for Action

OP5 Calls upon the United Nations system, including international financial institutions and international organizations, to integrate the goals of and take into full account the Hyogo Framework for Action in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design disaster risk reduction measures with a sense of urgency

OP7 Recalls that the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action include the provision of assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes
OP8 Calls upon the United Nations system, including the international financial institutions as well as regional banks and other regional and international organizations to support, in a timely and sustained manner, the efforts led by disaster-stricken countries for disaster risk reduction, in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes.

OP11 Recognizes that each State has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and for taking effective measures to reduce disaster risk, including for the protection of people on its territory, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of disasters, including the implementation of and follow-up to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support those national efforts.

OP12 Also recognizes the need to strengthen the sharing of good practices, knowledge and technical support among all relevant stakeholders.

OP13 Calls upon the international community to support the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

OP17 Encourages the international community to provide adequate voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction, in the effort to ensure the adequate support for the follow-up activities to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and to review the current usage and feasibility for the expansion of the Fund, *inter alia*, to assist disaster-prone developing countries to set up national strategies for disaster risk reduction.
OP20 Stresses the importance of identifying, assessing and managing risks prior to the occurrence of disasters, for which it is necessary to combine the efforts at all levels from the development, humanitarian, scientific and environmental communities as well as the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction, as appropriate, into development plans and poverty eradication programmes.

OP24 Reiterates its call upon Governments to establish national platforms or focal points for disaster reduction and to strengthen them, wherever they exist, encourages the platforms to share relevant information on standards and practices, urges the United Nations system, in this regard, to provide appropriate support for those mechanisms, and invites the Secretary-General to strengthen the regional outreach of the Inter-Agency Secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in order to ensure such support.

2006 A/RES/61/131 OP5 Welcomes the effective cooperation among the affected States, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and other relevant organizations, such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and civil society, in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout relief operations and medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards.

2006 A/RES/61/134 OP4 Encourages States to create an enabling environment for the capacity-building of local authorities and local and national non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing humanitarian assistance.

Also recognizes the efforts made by Member States to develop national and local capacities to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, including through the establishment of national platforms for disaster reduction, and encourages Member States that have not done so to develop such capacities

Encourages Governments, multilateral organizations, international and regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to systematically invest in disaster risk reduction with a view to implementing the objectives of the Strategy

Noting that local communities are the first responders in most disasters, and underlining the critical role played by in-country capacities in disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, response and recovery

Encourages relevant United Nations organizations to strengthen the coordination and collaboration between development and humanitarian entities, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, in integrating disaster risk reduction into their activities

Encourages relevant United Nations organizations to support the efforts of Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen systems for identifying and monitoring disaster risk, including vulnerability and natural hazards

Calls upon the United Nations system, and invites international financial institutions and regional and international organizations, to integrate the goals of and take into full account the Hyogo Framework for Action in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design and implement, as appropriate, disaster risk-reduction measures with a sense of urgency
OP7 Also calls upon the United Nations system, and invites the international financial institutions and regional banks and other regional and international organizations, to support, in a timely and sustained manner, the efforts led by disaster-stricken countries for disaster risk reduction in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes.

OP10 Further recognizes the importance of coordinating climate change adaptation with relevant natural disaster risk-reduction measures, invites Governments and relevant international organizations to integrate these considerations in a comprehensive manner into, *inter alia*, development plans and poverty eradication programmes, and invites the international community to support the ongoing efforts of developing countries in this regard.

OP12 Welcomes the regional and sub-regional initiatives developed in order to achieve disaster risk reduction, and reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and risk-reduction capacities of regional mechanisms where they exist and to strengthen them and encourage the use and sharing of all existing tools.

OP19 Encourages the international community to continue providing adequate voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund in the effort to ensure adequate support for the follow-up activities to the Hyogo Framework for Action.

OP20 Takes note of the conclusions of the review conducted at the request of Member States on the current usage and feasibility for the expansion of the Trust Fund, *inter alia*, to assist disaster-prone developing countries in setting up national strategies for disaster risk reduction, which indicated that the Trust Fund is an appropriate vehicle for expanded action of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system, at the global and regional levels, in support of countries’ implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.
Recognizing that building national and local preparedness and response capacity is critical to a more predictable and effective response

Reaffirms the importance of implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, and calls upon national Governments and the international community to increase resources towards disaster risk reduction measures, including for preparedness for effective response and contingency planning

Encourages the international community, including relevant United Nations organizations and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to support efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters and to support efforts, as appropriate, to strengthen systems for identifying and monitoring disaster risk, including vulnerability and natural hazards

Encourages States to create an enabling environment for the capacity-building of local authorities and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in order to ensure better preparedness in providing humanitarian assistance

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing challenges posed to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity by the consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change and by the humanitarian implications of the current global food crisis

Recognizing the significant role played by national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development
OP5 Encourages Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief taking into account as appropriate, the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, adopted at the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in November 2007 [(=A/63/L.49 OP8. (2008)]

OP8 Urges Member States to develop, update and strengthen disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with priority five of the Hyogo Framework for Action, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities to continue to support national efforts in this regard.

OP9 Member States are encouraged to consider elaborating and presenting to the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN-ISDR) their National Platforms for Disaster Reduction in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action and also encourages States to cooperate with each other to reach this objective.

OP17 Encourages the further use of space-based and ground-based remote sensing technologies, as well as the sharing of geographical data, for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate; and invites Member States to continue their support to the consolidation of the United Nations capability in the area of satellite derived geographic information for early warning, preparedness, response and early recovery.

OP22 Calls upon the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to improve the dissemination of tools and services to support enhanced disaster risk reduction.
Training is one of the most effective instruments for enhancing the preparedness and response capacity of Governments and relief personnel of the UN system. Training capacities of individual UN agencies should contribute fully to meeting system-wide training requirements. The Disaster Management Training Programme should be further developed, in full cooperation with relevant organizations of the UN system, as an important system-wide instrument for capacity-building, emergency training, and team-building at Headquarters and in the field.

The Department of Humanitarian Affairs should intensify its cooperation with Governments, organizations of the UN system and non-governmental organizations to develop a coordinated effort to build up national capacities for disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation in the context of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

...The Council reaffirms that disaster reduction forms an integral part of the sustainable development strategies and national development plans of vulnerable countries and communities. The Council stresses that disaster preparedness and early warning must be further strengthened at country and regional levels, *inter alia*, through better coordination among relevant United Nations bodies and cooperation with interested Governments, regional organizations and other relevant sectors, in order to maximize the effectiveness of natural disaster response, in particular in developing countries. Particular efforts should be undertaken to enhance local capacity in disaster response, as well as to utilize capacities already existing in developing countries which may be available closer to the site of a disaster and at lower cost...
...The Council also reaffirms that within such preventive strategies, disaster preparedness and early warning systems must be further strengthened at country and regional levels, *inter alia*, through better coordination among relevant United Nations bodies and cooperation with Governments of affected countries and regional and other relevant organizations. The aim of this strengthening is to maximize the effectiveness of natural disasters response and reduce the impact of natural disasters, particularly in developing countries. These strategies should take into account a gender perspective. Particular efforts should be undertaken in developing countries to enhance local capacity in disaster response and to utilize existing in-country capacities, which may be available closer to the site of a disaster and at lower cost.

*2002* ECOSOC DECISION PP7

**OP2**

Invites the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the capacities of and consult with, where appropriate, regional and subregional organizations so as to respond to complex humanitarian crises and natural disasters and to report to the Economic and Social Council on practical steps taken in this regard.

**OP3**

Welcomes the efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme to strengthen their coordination and regional activities so as to provide more effective support to disaster-prone countries and, to this end, calls on them, and other relief organizations and institutions to identify innovative ways to support those countries in building and, where necessary, strengthening local, national and regional capacities in disaster prevention, mitigation and management.
OP6 Calls upon United Nations country teams in consultation with and in support of Governments to promote
contingency planning for possible risks related to complex emergencies or natural disasters

OP11 Calls upon Member States to support the incorporation and operationalization of disaster risk
management analysis into humanitarian assistance activities, poverty eradication and sustainable
development strategies

2003 ECOSOC DECISION 2003/5

OP13 Stresses the need to strengthen institutional capacity at all levels as well as disaster risk reduction
programmes, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in order
to minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks as well as to avoid or to limit adverse impact of natural
hazards within the broad context of sustainable development

OP14 Encourages the United Nations Development Programme, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian
Affairs and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to continue to strengthen their coordination
with the view, inter alia, to advancing the implementation of provisions of vulnerability, risk assessment and
disaster management, including prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery as contained
in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development

OP17 Stresses the need for increased national and regional capacity-building in early warning and monitoring of
natural hazards, natural disaster preparedness, mitigation and response, including through strengthening
coordination in the areas of information sharing and analysis, logistics support, response coordination and
strengthening enhanced relationships with existing regional structures, and encourages the international
community to provide necessary technical assistance to States in this regard
Reiterates the need for coordinated humanitarian assistance and adequate financial resources to ensure ongoing capacity for prompt, timely and effective response by the United Nations system to natural disasters and other emergencies, both for immediate relief and also for the smooth transition between relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and long-term sustainable development.

Noting with grave concern the growing intensity and recurrence of natural disasters and reaffirming the importance of sustainable measures to reduce the vulnerability of societies to natural hazards using an integrated, multi-hazard and participatory approach to addressing vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

Encourages the channelling of increased resources to capacity-building activities in disaster-prone areas, particularly to address the dynamics and disproportionate risks that natural disasters pose in urban and rural environments.

Invites States, as appropriate, to give priority to and fully integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into all relevant legal, policy and planning instruments in order to address the social, economic and environmental dimensions that influence vulnerability to natural hazards, bearing in mind the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

Also requests the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to engage systematically with relevant authorities and organizations at the regional and national levels to support efforts to strengthen humanitarian response capacities at all levels, in particular through preparedness programmes, with a view to improving the overall adequacy of the deployment of resources.
OP5 Stresses that the United Nations system should make efforts to enhance existing humanitarian capacities, knowledge and institutions, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

2006 ECOSOC DECISION 2006/5 OP4 Encourages Member States to continue their efforts in preparedness and disaster risk reduction, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts in this regard.


OP8 Encourages all States to strengthen their capacity to respond to natural and man-made disasters, including by establishing or strengthening national contingency plans and developing or strengthening, as appropriate, disaster management institutions, also encourages the sharing of knowledge and experience among States, and further encourages the international community to support, upon request, national efforts in this regard.

OP9 Also encourages national Governments to create an enabling environment for capacity-building of local authorities and local and national non-governmental and community-based organizations, and encourages the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and organizations to support national authorities in their capacity-building programmes designed to enhance the participation and contribution of local authorities and local and national non-governmental and community-based organizations, including through technical cooperation, and long-term partnerships based on the recognition of their important role in providing humanitarian assistance.
Encourages national Governments to create an enabling environment for the capacity-building of local authorities and local and national non-governmental and community-based organizations, and also encourages the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and organizations to support national authorities in their capacity-building programmes designed to enhance the participation and contribution of local authorities and local and national non-governmental and community-based organizations, including through technical cooperation and long-term partnerships based on recognition of their important role in providing humanitarian assistance.

Stresses that the United Nations system should make efforts to enhance existing humanitarian capacities, knowledge and institutions, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries.

Recognizes the importance of involving, as appropriate, relevant entities, including non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, that provide humanitarian assistance in national and local coordination efforts, and invites those entities to participate in the improvement of humanitarian assistance, as appropriate.

Urges Member States to prepare and update disaster preparedness plans at all levels and to conduct regular disaster preparedness exercises in accordance with priority 5 of the Hyogo Framework for Action, as appropriate and taking into account their own circumstances and capacities, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, to support, upon request, national efforts in this regard.
OP10 Notes the establishment of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, a partnership of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system to support the Hyogo Framework for Action.

OP16 Requests the Secretary-General to encourage the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to continue to identify and use, as appropriate and available, local resources and expertise from within the affected country and/or its neighbours in response to humanitarian needs.

2008 ECOSOC DECISION OP2 Encourages Member States to create and strengthen an enabling environment for the capacity-building of their national and local authorities, national societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing timely humanitarian assistance, and also encourages the international community, the relevant entities of the United Nations system, and other relevant institutions and organizations, to support national authorities in their capacity-building programmes, including through technical cooperation and long-term partnerships based on recognition of their important role in providing humanitarian assistance.


OP9 Welcomes decisions taken during the UN climate change conference in 2007, in particular the Bali Action Plan and encourages Member States, as well as regional organizations, and relevant international organizations in accordance with their specific mandates, to support adaptation to the effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change and also encourages relevant entities to continue research on these humanitarian implications.
### 8. TRANSITION

**General Assembly Resolutions**

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>A/RES/46/182</td>
<td>OP9</td>
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There is a clear relationship between emergency, rehabilitation and development. In order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance should be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development. Thus, emergency measures should be seen as a step towards long-term development.

**OP10**

Economic growth and sustainable development are essential for prevention of and preparedness against natural disasters and other emergencies. Many emergencies reflect the underlying crisis in development facing developing countries. Humanitarian assistance should therefore be accompanied by a renewal of commitment to economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries. In this context, adequate resources must be made available to address their development problems.

**OP11**

Contributions for humanitarian assistance should be provided in a way which is not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development.

**OP41**

International cooperation and support for rehabilitation and reconstruction should continue with sustained intensity after the initial relief stage. The rehabilitation phase should be used as an opportunity to restructure and improve facilities and services destroyed by emergencies in order to enable them to withstand the impact of future emergencies.
International cooperation should be accelerated for the development of developing countries, thereby contributing to reducing the occurrence and impact of future disasters and emergencies.

1993 A/RES/48/57 OP14
Requests the Secretary-General to include in his annual report on the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance recommendations on practical measures to enhance the coordinated system-wide support for efforts to facilitate the transition from emergency relief to rehabilitation and development and, particularly in the context of activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the promotion of national capacity-building to help prevent and mitigate future emergencies.

1997 A/RES/52/167 PP4
Conscious also of the great importance of humanitarian and other recovery and rehabilitation assistance in post-conflict situations, the voluntary return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons, the return to civilian life of former combatants and the re-establishment of respect for human rights, the need to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and the promotion of economic and social development.

1999 A/RES/54/233 OP10
Welcomes innovative efforts to link various phases of international assistance from relief to rehabilitation... and stresses the need to ensure adequate assessment of and follow up to these approaches with a view to further developing and applying them in other disasters.

2001 A/RES/56/103 OP19
Invites the United Nations system to explore further the concept of transitional recovery teams for providing assistance for bridging relief assistance and development cooperation.
2002 A/RES/57/153 OP7  Calls upon the relevant humanitarian and development organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, including the Bretton Woods institutions, Governments and non-governmental organizations to review and work towards greater alignment of their planning and resource mobilization tools so as to facilitate the transition from relief to development, and to report to the Secretary-General on actions taken in this respect.

2003 A/RES/58/114 PP11  Recognizing the importance of humanitarian assistance in ensuring the effective transition from conflict to peace and in preventing the recurrence of armed conflict, and that humanitarian assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development.

2005 A/RES/60/195 OP27  Emphasizes the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond emergency relief and to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction, and stresses the importance of implementing programmes related to the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction management in the most vulnerable regions, particularly in developing countries prone to natural disasters.

2007 A/RES/62/92 OP19  Calls upon relevant United Nations humanitarian and development organizations, in consultation with Member States, to strengthen tools and mechanisms to ensure that early recovery needs and support are considered as part of the planning and implementation of humanitarian response and development cooperation activities, as appropriate.
Encourages efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination of United Nations humanitarian entities, other relevant humanitarian organizations and donor countries with the affected State, with a view to planning and delivering emergency humanitarian assistance in ways that are supportive of early recovery as well as sustainable rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts.

### ECOSOC Resolutions

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
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<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>ECOSOC Decision</td>
<td>1993/205</td>
<td>27</td>
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- Governments, development organizations of the UN system, together with the Bretton Woods institutions and regional commissions, should be involved at an early stage of emergencies to ensure that needs assessments, including those of non-governmental organizations, relief programmes and consolidated appeals, take account of rehabilitation and long-term development requirements, promote national capacity-building and help prevent and mitigate future emergencies.

- Relevant development organizations should strengthen their capacities to put into place rehabilitation, particularly basic infrastructure, programmes. Member States and development agencies should consider the establishment of appropriate funding mechanisms to expedite the execution of timely rehabilitation projects. Development organizations of the UN system, together with the Bretton Woods institutions, are invited to promote the consideration of issues relating to the continuum from emergency relief to rehabilitation and development in appropriate development forums such as UNDP round tables and World Bank consultative groups.
The Council recognizes that the phases of relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development are generally not consecutive but often overlap and occur simultaneously. It also recognizes that a ‘relief/development gap’ may occur in countries emerging from crisis which may be addressed, *inter alia*, through a strategic framework, to be developed in consultation with Governments. The Council notes the need to develop, through a strategic framework, when appropriate, a comprehensive approach to countries in crisis in which key aspects of durable recovery, peace-building, all human rights, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences, are included. The development of such a comprehensive approach must involve national authorities as well as the United Nations system, donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. National authorities must take a leading role in all aspects of the recovery plan. In this context, the Council welcomes the recognition by the World Bank of the need for its entry into an early dialogue with humanitarian agencies and to participate from the outset in effective coordination mechanisms in relation to countries emerging from crisis. The Council stresses that strengthening capacities to enable societies in post-conflict situations to manage their own affairs is a critical factor for recovery and development. In this context, the roles and responsibilities of Governments are important.

The Council calls upon all States to undertake joint efforts to create an enabling environment for the promotion of economic growth and sustainable development, and to ensure respect for all human rights, including the right to development, in order to contribute to durable peace and to the prevention and mitigation of humanitarian emergencies.
In relation to transitions, the Council reiterates that relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development are generally not consecutive but often overlap and occur simultaneously… the Council stresses the need for early joint planning and prioritization, the central role of capacity-building, and the importance of a clearly agreed division of labour through inter-agency collaboration, as well as the need for more flexible financing systems for transitional programming. The Council emphasizes that the planning for rehabilitation should begin at a very early stage, local actors should be involved, existing local capacities should be integrated, and the assessment of needs should be demand-driven rather than agency-driven, with a view to ensuring an effective response. The Council notes the role of developing countries not only as recipients, but also as active contributors to the solution of these problems. The Council welcomes the efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to enhance inter-agency coordination of transitional activities.

The Council notes that the transition phase after natural disasters and other emergencies is often excessively long and characterized by a number of gaps, and that relief agencies in planning for the meeting of immediate needs should place these needs in a perspective of sustainable development whenever such an approach is possible. At the field level, the Council calls on the Resident Coordinator and relevant agencies to improve response preparedness and capacity-building, including by maintaining a dialogue with all major actors before, during and after disasters, especially the Governments of disaster-prone countries. At the inter-agency level, the Council encourages the Emergency Relief Coordinator, Inter-Agency Standing Committee members and other members of the UN system to expand their efforts to promote response preparedness for natural disasters and other emergencies at the international, regional and national levels.
With regard to transition from complex humanitarian emergencies, the Council affirms that early reconstruction and development activities can complement and support political stabilization and the implementation of peace agreements. The Council emphasizes that relief-development linkages cannot wait for the arrival of a full-fledged peace, but must be planned at the earliest possible moment. In this regard, the Council stresses that while development agencies must become involved in a crisis, humanitarian agencies, within their respective mandates, must also integrate a development perspective in their planning. The Council also recognizes the importance of maintaining throughout the emergency, wherever possible, a certain degree of developmental functions, such as education and health care. In this regard, the Council welcomes UNICEF’s recently adopted rights-based programming, which provides a framework in which relief, recovery, rehabilitation and development are programmatically linked. The Council also acknowledged the importance of all efforts, conducted in accordance with the Charter of the UN and international law, including peace-building measures such as confidence-building, that are relevant in transitions from complex emergencies.

With respect to the financial mechanisms available for transitional activities, the Council recognizes that, while some Governments and intergovernmental funding bodies have introduced flexibility into their funding mechanisms, considerable rigidities and difficulties still exist. The Council calls on donor countries to ensure that their funding systems facilitate early, integrated approaches for recovery. Furthermore, the Council calls on donor countries to ensure continuity in and adequacy of funding from humanitarian assistance through transition activities to development cooperation, and reaffirms that contributions made for humanitarian assistance should not be to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development.
The Council recognizes that demobilization, reintegration and rehabilitation are some of the major areas where gaps between relief and development occur. The Council also stresses that demobilization, reintegration and rehabilitation should be designed and implemented taking into account a gender perspective. The Council stresses, therefore, that sustainable reintegration strategies, including comprehensive mine action programmes, wherever required, are a substantial prerequisite of stabilization in post-conflict situations. The Council urges the Secretary General and Emergency Relief Coordinator to ensure that priority attention is given to effective programming in this field. The Council stresses the importance of addressing the needs of returning refugees.

2002 ECOSOC DECISION OP9

2002/32

Calls upon the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs as well as the United Nations Development Programme, in consultation with Governments and the humanitarian and development community, with the support of international financial institutions where appropriate, to develop humanitarian strategies to support the engagement of local communities and institutions as a means of supporting humanitarian assistance activities and the transition from relief to development.

OP12

Urges the United Nations system to strengthen and align its existing planning tools such as the consolidated appeals process and, where they exist, common country assessments and the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks in order to facilitate the transition from relief to development and better to reflect disaster risk management.

OP25

Encourages efforts to provide education during and after humanitarian emergencies in order to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development.
2003 ECOSOC DECISION 2003/5

OP27 Also reiterates the need to address the strategic planning gap between relief and development activities in the context of natural disasters and complex emergencies

OP28 Notes with concern the disturbing trend of low or late funding for rehabilitation programmes aimed at helping affected communities to attain self-sufficiency

OP29 Recognizes that, inter alia, early engagement in planning, fuller coverage of the needs of all sectors, more support for recovery and long-term development activities, capacity-building at all relevant levels and enhancement of national ownership is critical to managing the transition from relief to development

OP30 Reiterates the need for coordinated humanitarian assistance and adequate financial resources to ensure ongoing capacity for prompt, timely and effective response by the United Nations system to natural disasters and other emergencies, both for immediate relief and also for the smooth transition between relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and long-term sustainable development

OP31 Stresses the importance of addressing, based on need, the situation of the least developed countries affected by conflict, natural disasters and other humanitarian situations and of improving their institutional capacity and providing adequate support for rehabilitation, reconstruction, long-term sustainable development, poverty reduction and, where appropriate, peace-building efforts of least developed countries emerging from those situations
OP32 Recognizes that the need for coordination increases and becomes more complex in post-conflict transition, and encourages States and the United Nations system, as appropriate, to enhance their efforts towards the early assumption of the coordination role of the Government as well as integrated coordination, including information management, inclusive planning, donor coordination, strengthening the United Nations Resident Coordinator system and the full participation of concerned Governments in needs assessment, planning mechanisms and coordination processes.

2004 ECOSOC DECISION OP43
2004/50

OP43 Emphasizes the need for a more inclusive dialogue with States on the complex issue of transition from relief to development, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, taking into account the range of views expressed by States at the Council’s event to discuss the issue of transition from relief to development, held during its substantive session of 2004, and with the participation of United Nations entities, including the United Nations Development Group and the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs, with the aim of improving the international community’s efforts to respond better to transition situations, in support of the efforts of affected States, bearing in mind the uniqueness of each transition situation.

OP44 Welcomes the collaborative effort of the United Nations and the World Bank on the development and implementation of post-emergency programming tools and needs assessment with the full participation of affected States, and underlines the need for further work to enhance coordination.

OP45 Encourages States to support, including through the allocation of funds, the development and implementation of the 4Rs (“repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction”) and of other programming tools, to facilitate the transition from relief to development.
Emphasizes the importance of preventing armed conflict and its recurrence, and stresses in this context the need for a comprehensive approach through promoting economic growth, poverty eradication, sustainable development, national reconciliation, good governance, democracy, the rule of law, and respect for, and protection of, human rights, and in this regard, urges the cooperation of Member States and underlines the importance of a coherent, comprehensive and coordinated approach by the principal organs of the United Nations, cooperating with one another and within their respective mandates.
III. Tools and Mechanisms for Coordination
The United Nations has a central and unique role to play in providing leadership and coordinating the efforts of the international community to support the affected countries. The United Nations should ensure the prompt and smooth delivery of relief assistance in full respect of the above-mentioned principles, bearing in mind also relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971 and 45/100 of 14 December 1990. The United Nations system needs to be adapted and strengthened to meet present and future challenges in an effective and coherent manner. It should be provided with resources commensurate with future requirements. The inadequacy of such resources has been one of the major constraints in the effective response of the United Nations to emergencies.

The leadership role of the Secretary-General is critical and must be strengthened to ensure better preparation for, as well as rapid and coherent response to, natural disasters and other emergencies. This should be achieved through coordinated support for prevention and preparedness measures and the optimal utilization of, *inter alia*, an inter-agency standing committee, consolidated appeals, a central emergency revolving fund and a register of stand-by capacities.
To this end, and on the understanding that the requisite resources envisaged in paragraph 24 above would be provided, a high-level official (emergency relief coordinator) would be designated by the Secretary-General to work closely with and with direct access to him, in cooperation with the relevant organizations and entities of the system dealing with humanitarian assistance and in full respect of their mandates, without prejudice to any decisions to be taken by the General Assembly on the overall restructuring of the Secretariat of the United Nations. This high-level official should combine the functions at present carried out in the coordinations of United Nations response by representatives of the Secretary-General for major and complex emergencies, as well as by the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator.

Under the aegis of the General Assembly and working under the direction of the Secretary-General, the high-level official would have the following responsibilities:

a) Processing requests from affected member states for emergency assistance requiring a coordinated response.

b) Maintaining an overview of all emergencies through, *inter alia*, the systematic pooling and analysis of early-warning information as envisaged in paragraph 19 above, with a view to coordinating and facilitating the humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system to those emergencies that require a coordinated response.

c) Organizing, in consultation with the Government of the affected country, a joint inter-agency needs-assessment mission and preparing a consolidated appeal to be issued by the Secretary-General, to be followed by periodic situation reports including information on all sources of external assistance.
d) Actively facilitating, including through negotiation if needed, the access by the operational organizations to emergency areas for the rapid provision of emergency assistance by obtaining the consent of all parties concerned, through modalities such as the establishment of temporary relief corridors where needed, days and zones of tranquility and other forms;

e) Managing, in consultation with the operational organizations concerned, the central emergency revolving fund and assisting in the mobilization of resources;

f) Serving as a central focal point with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerning United Nations emergency relief operations and, when appropriate and necessary, mobilizing their emergency relief capacities, including through consultations in his capacity as chairman of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

g) Providing consolidated information, including early warning on emergencies, to all interested governments and concerned authorities, particularly affected and disaster-prone countries, drawing on the capacities of the organizations of the system and other available sources;

h) Actively promoting, in close collaboration with concerned organizations, the smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction as relief operations under his aegis are phased out;

i) Preparing an annual report for the Secretary-General on the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance, including information on the central emergency revolving fund, to be submitted to the General Assembly through ECOSOC
OP36 The high-level official should be supported by a secretariat based on a strengthened Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator and the consolidation of existing offices that deal with complex emergencies. This secretariat could be supplemented by staff seconded from concerned organizations of the system. The high-level official should work closely with organizations and entities of the United Nations system, as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Organization for Migration and relevant non-governmental organizations. At the country level, the high-level official would maintain close contact with and provide leadership to the resident coordinators on matters relating to humanitarian assistance.

1992 A/RES/47/168 PP7 Emphasizing the importance of the primary role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, including with the support of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, in ensuring better preparation for, as well as rapid and coherence response to, natural disasters and other emergencies, in particular emergencies involving the supply of food, medicines, shelter and health care, taking into account the need to promote, in close collaboration with concerned agencies and international financial institutions, a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development.

OP2 Emphasizes the leadership role of the Secretary-General in ensuring the rapid and coordinated response of the United Nations system to humanitarian emergencies, including in mobilizing the necessary resources, and invites all concerned operational organizations and agencies to continue to extend their full support for the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/182.

1993 A/RES/48/57 OP3 Emphasizes the leadership role of the Secretary-General, through the Emergency Relief Coordinator and working closely with him, in coordinating a coherent and timely response to humanitarian emergencies.
OP4 Stresses the essential need for improved coordination within the United Nations system, and, while reaffirming the mandate and functions of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs to that end, requests the Emergency Relief Coordinator to improve coordination and management further, both at Headquarters and at the field level, including the coordination of the work of the relevant operational agencies.

OP5 Invites the intergovernmental bodies of the relevant operational organizations and agencies to provide full support for system-wide coordination, under the leadership of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, in order to facilitate an effective response at Headquarters and at the field level to natural disasters and other emergencies.

OP18 Stresses the importance of the Emergency Relief Coordinator participating fully in the overall United Nations planning of responses to emergencies in order to serve as the humanitarian advocate in ensuring that the humanitarian dimension, particularly the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality of relief assistance, is taken fully into account.

In accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 46/182, the Emergency Relief Coordinator’s functions will be more focused on three core functions, which will be significantly strengthened:

(a) policy development and coordination functions in support of the Secretary-General, ensuring that all humanitarian issues, including those which fall between gaps in existing mandates of agencies such as protection and assistance for internally displaced persons, are addressed. In this connection, it is also important that adequate liaison is effected with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Political Affairs, the United Nations Development Group and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights;
(b) advocacy of humanitarian issues with political organs, notably the Security Council; and

(c) coordination of humanitarian emergency response, by ensuring that an appropriate response mechanism is established, through IASC consultations, on the ground.

1997 A/RES/52/12 B. OP15
Decides to designate the Emergency Relief Coordinator as the United Nations Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator, who will, inter alia, retain responsibility for coordination of natural disaster relief

1997 A/RES/52/12 B. OP16
Decides also to transfer to the United Nations Development Programme the responsibilities of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for operational activities for natural disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness, with the understanding that the resources for this task will be separate and additional to the resources of the United Nations Development Programme for development activities and that they will be provided by a grant from the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999.

2003 A/RES/58/25 OP4
Stresses, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the provision of humanitarian assistance through all phases of a disaster, from relief and mitigation to development, including the provision of adequate resources

2004 A/RES/59/141 OP2
Encourages the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue his efforts to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations as well as other humanitarian and development actors to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in enhancing the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance

2005 A/RES/60/124 OP8
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution Code</th>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>A/RES/61/134</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>A/RES/62/94</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION 1998/1</td>
<td>OP8</td>
<td>Encourages humanitarian agencies to ensure, to the extent possible, the participation of those affected by humanitarian situations in the design, implementation and evaluation of humanitarian assistance activities, while respecting the role of authorities of affected countries.</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION 2003/5</td>
<td>OP15 =A/RES/59/141 OP2. (2004)</td>
<td>OP35 Recognizes the role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations as well as other humanitarian actors to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of their humanitarian activities, including by:</td>
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<td>(a) Enhancing their commitment to system-wide coordination both at Headquarters and in the field;</td>
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<td>(b) Strengthening efforts to report on results, activities and financial matters, including to donors, in a timely and comprehensive manner, and, where possible, to strive for harmonized reporting, bearing in mind specific requirements of donors;</td>
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(c) Developing further methods for monitoring and evaluation, including independent evaluations;
(d) Maximizing the portion of humanitarian assistance contributions that directly benefits people in need;
(e) Addressing mutual safety and security concerns at the field level

Requests the Secretary-General to encourage the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to identify and use, as appropriate and available, local resources and expertise from within the affected country and/or its neighbours in response to humanitarian needs

Expresses its intention of continuing its collaboration with the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, and invites the Secretary-General to fully associate him from the earliest stages of the planning of United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions

An inter-agency standing committee serviced by a strengthened office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator should be established under the chairmanship of the high-level official with the participation of all operational organizations and with a standing invitation to the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the International Organization for Migration. Relevant non-governmental organizations can be invited to participate on an ad hoc basis. The committee should meet as soon as possible in response to emergencies
Also stresses, in this regard, that the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, under the leadership of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, should serve as the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination, meet more frequently and act therefore in an action-oriented manner on policy issues related to humanitarian assistance and on formulating a coherent and timely United Nations response to humanitarian emergencies.

Requests the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to agree, as a matter of urgency, on the best means and guidelines to ensure adequate human and financial resources for rapid response coordination, including the provision of resources that could be drawn on by the Emergency Relief Coordinator for establishing special coordination arrangements in the initial stage of an emergency, taking into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 46/182 and 47/199 of 22 December 1992 and of the agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council related to field-level coordination.

Also requests the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to provide recommendations on other issues related to field coordination, including measures taken for clear allocations of responsibilities at an early stage of an emergency, in particular by entrusting the primary responsibility to the operational agencies, as appropriate, and on standardized procedures for joint emergency needs assessment missions, under the overall leadership and coordination of the Emergency Relief Coordinator.

Stresses the need for the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to serve as the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination under the leadership of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, to meet frequently and to conduct its business in a transparent manner, *inter alia*, through the prompt dissemination of its conclusions.
Calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure that the Inter-Agency Standing Committee…develops options and proposals to further define operational responsibilities between its members, drawing on their respective mandates, expertise, strengths and available capabilities, to identify cooperative arrangements to strengthen their joint capacities and to strengthen its work in priority setting and formulation of coherent humanitarian strategies

Requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 1997 recommendations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on measures aimed at making it a more effective and transparent mechanism, under the leadership of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, for inter-agency decision-making on coordination

Encourages members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to cooperate closely with each other, as well as with the Bretton Woods institutions and the regional development banks, to ensure that relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and long-term development is addressed in a more effective manner, taking into account the need for a clearer division of responsibilities between different actors

Stresses the importance of the timely implementation of the Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and urges the Standing Committee to continue to refine the Plan and follow-up activities consistent with experience gained at the field level

Encourages all relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian assistance, human rights and development organizations to enhance further their collaboration and coordination, through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and in countries with situations of internal displacement, and to provide all possible assistance and support to the Representative of the Secretary General
Recognizes the benefits of engagement of and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the
effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to pursue recent efforts
to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent
Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants of the Inter-
Agency Standing Committee


The Inter-Agency Standing Committee, under the leadership of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, should
serve as the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination of policy issues related to humanitarian
assistance and for formulating a coherent and timely UN response to major and complex emergencies.
It should be more action-oriented and meet more frequently. It should serve as the forum for more
intensive collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Organization
for Migration and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other non-
governmental organizations. All members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee are responsible for
the effective functioning of the structure of the committee.
As appropriate, consideration should be given, in the context of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, to entrusting the primary responsibility in specific complex emergencies to operational agencies, under the overall leadership and coordination of the Emergency Relief Coordinator.

The Council stresses the importance of ensuring an overall accountability of humanitarian actors. It supports the development by IASC of a field-based system for strategic monitoring which will help assess how programme targets and strategic objectives are being met.

Requests the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen, within their respective mandates, essential common humanitarian services that are coordinated through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee so that these services can be provided in a predictable, efficient and effective manner.

Invites the relevant United Nations humanitarian entities to continue their efforts to coordinate, as appropriate, with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in the provision of humanitarian assistance.

11. HUMANITARIAN FINANCING, INCLUDING THE CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

Organizations and entities of the United Nations system should continue to respond to requests for emergency assistance within their respective mandates. Reserve and other contingency funding arrangements of these organizations and entities should be examined by their respective governing bodies to strengthen further their operational capacities for rapid and coordinated response to emergencies.
OP22 In addition, there is a need for a complementary central funding mechanism to ensure the provision of adequate resources for use in the initial phase of emergencies that require a system-wide response.

OP23 To that end, the Secretary-General should establish under his authority a central emergency revolving fund as a cash-flow mechanism to ensure the rapid and coordinated response of the organizations of the system.

OP24 This fund should be put into operation with an amount of 50 million United States Dollars. The fund should be financed by voluntary contributions. Consultations among potential donors should be held to this end. To achieve this target, the Secretary-General should launch an appeal to potential donors and convene a meeting of those donors in the first quarter of 1992 to secure contributions to the fund on an assured, broad-based and additional basis.

OP25 Resources should be advanced to the operational organizations of the system on the understanding that they would reimburse the fund in the first instance from the voluntary contributions received in response to consolidated appeals.

OP35 (e) Under the aegis of the General Assembly and working under the direction of the Secretary-General, the high-level official would have the following responsibilities:

Managing, in consultation with the operational organizations concerned, the central emergency revolving fund and assisting in the mobilization of resources.
1992 A/RES/47/168 OP3 Invites those states in a position to do so to consider increasing the resources of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund based on voluntary contributions, in order to assist further the United Nations system in its efforts to respond rapidly to humanitarian emergencies, and calls upon those that have already pledged contributions to the Fund urgently to fulfil their commitments

OP4 Calls upon potential donors to adopt the necessary measures to increase and expedite their contributions, including setting aside, on a stand-by basis, financial and other resources that can be disbursed quickly to the United Nations system in response to the consolidated appeals of the Secretary General

1993 A/RES/48/57 OP8 Recognizes the need to increase the resources available in the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, including through timely repayment of funds, invites potential donors to make additional contributions to the Fund, and requests the Secretary-General to conduct consultations to that effect, taking fully into account the need to secure contributions to the Fund on an assured, broad-based and additional basis

OP9 Decides to expand the scope of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund to include the International Organization for Migration

OP12 Decides…to authorize, in exceptional circumstances, on a time-bound basis and while preserving the revolving nature of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, the Emergency Relief Coordinator and relevant operational agencies, under the leadership of the Coordinator, to draw from the interest earned by the Revolving Fund to enhance rapid response coordination where insufficient capacity exists at the field level
Notes that the usefulness of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund has been fully recognized by the operational agencies, in particular for enhancing their capacity to address promptly the urgent requirements of the initial phase of natural disasters and other emergencies that require a system-wide response in accordance with resolution 46/182.

Recognizes the need to maintain an adequate level of resources in the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, and requests the Emergency Relief Coordinator, when resources fall below this level, to bring the matter to the attention of the States.

Requests the Secretary-General to continue taking measures to ensure the availability of resources in the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, *inter alia*, by encouraging States to reimburse as a high priority projects that have been financed from the Fund and by requiring operational agencies to certify that advances from the Fund have been drawn in accordance with resolution 46/182, establishing the appropriate uses of the Fund.

Also requests the Secretary-General to explore the feasibility of seeking in-kind donations to meet early emergency requirements.

Invites the Secretary-General further to pursue efforts to improve and adjust the technical and procedural functioning of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund and to explore ways and means for strengthening the complementarity between the Fund and the individual emergency funds of operational agencies.
Requests that in preparing appeals the Department of Humanitarian Affairs and the agencies highlight funds borrowed from the Central Emergency Revolving Fund and indicate which projects those borrowed funds supported.

Invites the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, to make recommendations to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session in 1997, on possible ways to strengthen the effectiveness of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, taking into account the revolving nature of the Fund, to ensure a timely response in the initial phase of an emergency, and taking into account the need for transparent complementarity between the Fund and the individual emergency funds of operational agencies, and requests the Secretary-General to invite States to submit their views on this subject in due time.

Expresses its deepest appreciation to those Governments that have contributed to the Central Emergency Revolving Fund.

Encourages better use of the Revolving Fund, and in that context endorses the proposal of the Secretary-General to expand the utilization of the Fund to include humanitarian assistance for natural disasters, humanitarian assistance for new requirements in protracted emergencies and emergency staff safety arrangements for United Nations and associated personnel.

Underlines the importance of adequate financial and administrative resources for the effective functioning of the Task Force and the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy, under the direct authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs.
2003  A/RES/58/114  OP14  Encourages the donor community to improve its response to humanitarian emergencies through policies and practices of good donorship, together with mechanisms for their review, and welcomes steps taken in this direction.

2004  A/RES/59/141  OP20  Takes note with interest of the progress being made by donors to improve their policies and practices of good donorship, including under the Good Humanitarian Donorship initiative, and calls upon donors to take further steps to improve their policies and practices with respect to humanitarian assistance.

2005  A/RES/60/124  OP14  Calls upon donors to take further steps to improve their policies and practices with respect to humanitarian action, and in that regard welcomes the continued efforts under the Good Humanitarian Donorship initiative.

OP15  Decides to upgrade the current Central Emergency Revolving Fund into the Central Emergency Response Fund by including a grant element based on voluntary contributions, to be replenished at regular intervals, so as to ensure a more predictable and timely response to humanitarian emergencies, with the objectives of promoting early action and response to reduce loss of life, enhancing response to time-critical requirements and strengthening core elements of humanitarian response in underfunded crises, based on demonstrable needs and on priorities identified in consultation with the affected State as appropriate.

OP17  Affirms its role to provide overall policy guidance on the use of the Fund to maximize its impact and to improve its functioning, and encourages the Economic and Social Council to discuss the implementation of the Fund.
OP19
Calls upon the Secretary-General, on the basis of his report on the improvement of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund and in consultations with all relevant stakeholders, to make the necessary managerial and administrative arrangements to facilitate the implementation of the grant element and set up appropriate reporting and accountability mechanisms to ensure that the funds allocated through the Fund are used in the most efficient, effective and transparent manner possible.

OP20
Urges all Member States and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider making voluntary contributions to the Fund, welcomes the financial pledges already made, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development.

OP22
Also requests the Secretary-General to commission an independent review of the Fund at the end of the second year of operation to assess, inter alia, both the grant and revolving elements of the Fund, its administration, criteria for resource allocation, actions and responses supported by it and its ability to meet its objectives, and to submit a report in that regard to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

2006 A/RES/61/134

OP13
Calls upon donors to provide adequate, predictable and flexible resources based on and in proportion to assessed needs, and to encourage efforts to implement the principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship.

OP15
Also welcomes the Secretary-General’s efforts to set up appropriate reporting and accountability mechanisms for the Fund, and stresses the importance of ensuring that the resources are allocated and used in the most efficient, effective and transparent manner possible.

OP16
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Paragraph</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>A/RES/62/94</td>
<td>OP15</td>
<td>Calls upon donors to provide adequate, timely, predictable and flexible resources based on and in proportion to assessed needs, including for under-funded emergencies, and encourages efforts to adhere to the principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>OP17</td>
<td>Reaffirms the target of 500 million United States dollars by 2008, urges all Member States and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider making voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and to resources made available for international development cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>A/63/L.49</td>
<td>PP5</td>
<td>Emphasizing the need to mobilize adequate, predictable, timely and flexible resources for humanitarian assistance based on and in proportion to assessed needs, with a view to ensuring fuller coverage of the needs in all sectors and across humanitarian emergencies, and in this regard recognizing the achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP14</td>
<td>Calls upon United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and the reliability of humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OP15</td>
<td>Calls upon donors to provide adequate, timely, predictable and flexible resources based on and in proportion to assessed needs, including for underfunded emergencies, and encourages efforts to adhere to the principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP17</td>
<td>Calls upon all Member States, and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions, to consider increasing voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development</td>
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<tr>
<td>OP19</td>
<td>Invites Member States, the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider voluntary contributions to other humanitarian funding mechanisms</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ECOSOC Resolutions**

| 1993 ECOSOC DECISION 1993/205 | OP8 | The Council recognized the increasing need for humanitarian assistance and stressed the importance of adequate financial resources from existing sources and arrangements, both for relief and for the continuum to development |
| OP21 | The financial regulations relating to the operation of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund should be reviewed by the Secretary General to ensure that disbursements from the Fund are made as quickly as possible |
| OP23 | The Department of Humanitarian Affairs should, in the context of early response, encourage the active utilization of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund to address urgent relief requirements in the initial stage of a complex emergency |
Operational agencies should make full and appropriate use of the CERF and make every effort to reimburse it, in the first instance, from contributions received.

2002 ECOSOC DECISION 2002/32

OP18  Encourages donors to ensure that financing of high-profile emergencies does not come at the expense of low-profile emergency appeals, *inter alia*, by making efforts to increase the overall levels of humanitarian assistance.

OP20  Encourages the development of a global humanitarian financial tracking system in order to contribute to improved coordination and accountability, and requests the Emergency Relief Coordinator to make proposals, without delay, for a comprehensive system for the collection and dissemination of data on humanitarian needs and contributions.

2003 ECOSOC DECISION 2003/5

OP37  Urges the Emergency Relief Coordinator to further develop the global humanitarian financial tracking system and to refine the comprehensive system for the collection and dissemination of data on humanitarian needs and contributions.


OP39  Encourages the donor community to provide humanitarian assistance in proportion to needs and on the basis of needs assessments, with a view to ensuring a more equitable distribution of humanitarian assistance across humanitarian emergencies, including those of a protracted nature, as well as fuller coverage of the needs of all sectors.
Encourages the donor community to establish reliable, predictable and timely funding to meet humanitarian needs and to consider increasing the flexibility of funding and the share of non-earmarked contributions to United Nations agencies in response to humanitarian emergencies, including within the consolidated appeals.

Encourages donors to consider taking steps to harmonize reporting requirements, based on United Nations standards for financial reporting, as well as to enhance reporting to the financial tracking system.

Recommends that the General Assembly raise the maximum limit for an emergency cash grant to 100,000 United States dollars per country in the case of any one disaster, from within existing resources available in the regular budget.

Encourages the donor community to provide humanitarian assistance in proportion to needs and on the basis of needs assessments, with a view to ensuring a more equitable distribution of humanitarian assistance across humanitarian emergencies, including those of a protracted nature, as well as fuller coverage of the needs of all sectors, and to this end requests the United Nations organizations, including, through the United Nations country teams, to continue developing and applying transparent needs assessment mechanisms.

Also encourages the donor community to establish reliable, predictable and timely funding to meet humanitarian needs, and to consider increasing the flexibility of funding and the share of non-earmarked contributions to United Nations organizations in response to humanitarian emergencies, including within the consolidated appeals, and notes with interest the progress being made by donors in improving their policies and practices of good donorship, *inter alia* under the Good Humanitarian Donorship initiative.
2005 ECOSOC DECISION OP14 2005/4

Stresses the importance of rapid access to funds for an effective United Nations humanitarian response in the initial phases of a humanitarian emergency, before an appeal is launched, or in cases of unanticipated humanitarian needs, as well as for addressing core needs in underfunded emergencies

OP15

Emphasizes the need to establish reliable, predictable and timely funding to meet humanitarian needs, including those in underfunded emergencies

OP18

Requests the Secretary-General to continue to strive to broaden the donor base for humanitarian response, including by engaging the private sector, as well as to strengthen efforts to further enhance transparency and accountability with respect to the channelling and utilization of resources

2006 ECOSOC DECISION OP21 2006/5

Encourages the international community to provide humanitarian assistance in proportion to needs and on the basis of needs assessments, with a view to ensuring a more equitable distribution of humanitarian assistance across humanitarian emergencies, including those of a protracted nature, as well as fuller coverage of the needs of all sectors, and to this end requests United Nations organizations, including the United Nations country teams, to continue developing, and improving where appropriate, transparent needs-assessment mechanisms

2007 ECOSOC DECISION OP19 2007/3

Invites Member States to make contributions to humanitarian funding mechanisms, including consolidated and flash appeals, the Central Emergency Response Fund and other funds, recognizing the importance of providing humanitarian assistance in a manner that is flexible, predictable and, where possible, multi-year and additional, taking note of chronically underfunded emergencies
## 12. Consolidated Appeals Process

### General Assembly Resolutions

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>OP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>A/RES/46/182</td>
<td>OP31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>A/RES/48/57</td>
<td>OP15</td>
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</table>

For emergencies requiring a coordinated response, the Secretary-General should ensure that an initial consolidated appeal covering all concerned organizations of the system, prepared in consultation with the affected state, is issued within the shortest possible time and in any event not longer than one week. In the case of prolonged emergencies, this initial appeal should be updated and elaborated within four weeks, as more information becomes possible.

Potential donors should adopt necessary measures to increase and expedite their contributions, including setting aside, on a stand-by basis, financial and other resources that can be disbursed quickly to the United Nations system in response to the consolidated appeals of the Secretary-General.

Under the aegis of the General Assembly and working under the direction of the Secretary-General, the high-level official would have the following responsibilities: Organizing, in consultation with the Government of the affected country, a joint inter-agency needs-assessment mission and preparing a consolidated appeal to be issued by the Secretary-General, to be followed by periodic situation reports including information on all sources of external assistance.

Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the consolidated appeals process, making it more field-oriented, and to ensure that such appeals are based on specific priorities resulting from comprehensive and realistic projections of relief requirements for natural disasters and other emergencies requiring a coordinated response, and in this context invites all concerned operational and humanitarian organizations and agencies to cooperate and fully participate in the preparation of these appeals.
OP16 Calls upon States to respond quickly and generously to consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance, taking into account rehabilitation and long-term development requirements

1994 A/RES/49/139 OP13 Calls upon States to respond quickly and generously to consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance, taking into account the need for rapid-response funding as well as rehabilitation and long-term assistance requirements

OP14 Urges all concerned operational and humanitarian organizations and agencies to cooperate and participate fully in the preparation of the consolidated appeals in order to ensure the prompt launching of such appeals, based on specific priorities

1996 A/RES/51/194 OP10 Calls upon States to respond quickly and generously to consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance, taking into account the importance for donors to be flexible in their response to the specific requirements of affected populations, for rapid-response as well as for early rehabilitation and recovery

OP11 Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, to include in his report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 1997 proposals for the clearer identification of priority needs and the formulation of a coherent humanitarian strategy within consolidated appeals, and to ensure that consolidated appeals are formulated in a manner consistent with the smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and long-term development, and also requests the Secretary-General to invite States to submit their views on this subject in due time

2001 A/RES/56/164 OP11 Notes with appreciation the increased attention paid to the issue of internally displaced persons in the consolidated inter-agency appeals process, and encourages further efforts to improve the integration of the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons in consolidated appeals
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>OP Code</th>
<th>Raw Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>A/RES/59/141</td>
<td>OP21</td>
<td>Calls upon relevant United Nations organizations to continue to improve transparency and reliability of humanitarian needs assessments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>A/RES/60/124</td>
<td>OP12</td>
<td>Calls upon relevant United Nations organizations to continue to improve the transparency and reliability of humanitarian needs assessments and to engage in the improvement of the consolidated appeals process, \textit{inter alia}, by further developing the process as an instrument for strategic planning and prioritization and by involving other relevant humanitarian organizations in the process, while reiterating that consolidated appeals are prepared in consultation with the affected State</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>A/RES/60/168</td>
<td>OP16</td>
<td>(\text{A/RES/58/177 OP15. (2003)})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>A/RES/61/134</td>
<td>OP12</td>
<td>Calls upon United Nations humanitarian organizations to further develop common mechanisms to improve their transparency and the reliability of their humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance, and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>A/RES/62/94</td>
<td>OP14</td>
<td>Calls upon United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations</td>
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</table>
Also encourages efforts to provide education in emergencies, including in order to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development.

Calls upon relevant United Nations organizations to support the improvements of the consolidated appeals process, inter alia, by engaging in the preparation of needs analysis and common humanitarian action plans, in order to further the development of the process as an instrument for United Nations strategic planning and prioritization, and by involving other relevant humanitarian organizations in the process, while reiterating that consolidated appeals are prepared in consultation with affected States.

Calls upon United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and the reliability of humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations.

Consolidated Appeals should be used selectively for major and complex emergencies that require a system-wide response. Relevant operational agencies should participate fully in their preparation. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs and the operational agencies concerned should work closely to establish priorities within consolidated appeals, based on a comprehensive and realistic projection of relief requirements. Appeals should take into account the activities of bilateral donors, as well as those of the ICRC, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and non-governmental organizations and also make reference to related disbursements from the Central Emergency Revolving Fund.
Consolidated appeals should be put together at the field level with the active participation of the host Government, the Resident Coordinator and field representatives of the organizations of the system, donors and non-governmental organizations. Consolidated appeals, with appropriate plans of operation, should be a key component of a comprehensive strategy that meets immediate humanitarian needs, is compatible with longer-term rehabilitation and development requirements and addresses root causes. Special attention should be paid to the needs of vulnerable groups, including children and women. Information on the follow-up of the consolidated appeals, including the contribution and disbursement of donors and the implementation of projects contained therein, should be provided regularly to Governments.

The Council underlines that the consolidated appeals process (CAP) remains the principle resource mobilization tool for humanitarian assistance. The Council stresses the importance of ensuring adequate funding for humanitarian activities, in particular of consolidated appeals. It welcomes efforts to prioritize needs and to enhance capabilities so as to better take into account linkages with development-oriented activities which should be carried out in full collaboration with UN bodies and other relevant humanitarian organizations, international financial institution, donors and host Governments as an important step towards a more integrated and strategic approach. It stresses that contribution to humanitarian assistance should not be provided at the expense of development assistance. The Council encourages the efforts to improve the format and structure of the CAP so as to make them effective programming instruments for the purpose of strategic planning. The Council further stresses that strengthened United Nations humanitarian activities must be supported by adequate responses to all United Nations humanitarian appeals. Broadening the base of the donors may contribute to an increased response to appeals. The Council stresses that the response to international appeals should not be overtly influenced by the levels of media interest, and must be commensurate with the needs of the affected population.
The Council stresses the importance of ensuring an overall accountability of humanitarian actors. It supports the development by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee of a field-based system for strategic monitoring which will help assess how programme targets and strategic objectives are being met.

The Council welcomes the progress made in strengthening the consolidated appeal process, particularly the joint launch of 1999 consolidated appeals. The Council notes that there is substantial further work to be done to strengthen the consolidated appeal process, especially in the area of prioritization within and among various sectors of activity, and to ensure an effective system for strategic monitoring and evaluation. The Council also notes the importance of including security requirements of humanitarian personnel in the consolidated appeals. The Council expresses concern at the lack of adequate resources and response for addressing humanitarian emergencies and the transition from relief to development and regrets the persistent trend of low and uneven funding of the consolidated appeals. The Council underlines that failure to provide adequate resources and balanced distributions, both in geographical and in sectoral terms, weaken the ability of humanitarian organizations to respond in a coherent and timely manner to emergencies. The Council therefore calls upon the international community, particularly donor countries, to increase their contributions to all consolidated appeals.

Noting with concern that, while the consolidated appeals process remains one of the most significant mechanisms for humanitarian resource mobilization, it has suffered consistent shortfalls and, in this regard, encouraging the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to continue to examine in greater depth the reasons for and implications of this
OP13 Requests the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, other members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, affected countries and other partners concerned to ensure that consolidated appeals contain adequate plans to align relief and transitional programmes, *inter alia*, in the area of resource mobilization.

OP15 Encourages further strengthening of the consolidated appeals process as a coordination and strategic planning tool and urges donors to contribute to this objective and to address priority needs identified through the process, and also urges affected countries to reflect these priorities in their national efforts.

OP16 Supports the efforts of the Emergency Relief Coordinator to engage in a dialogue with other humanitarian actors, including non-governmental organizations, on strengthening their involvement in the development of common humanitarian action plans and consolidated appeals, and encourages them to contribute actively to their implementation.

OP17 Calls upon United Nations organizations to continue to improve needs-assessment methodologies in the consolidated appeals process and to strengthen efforts to report on results.

OP19 Welcomes the initiative of donors to meet and consider the global trend in humanitarian response to ensure that imbalances can be addressed when consolidated appeals are launched.

2004 ECOSOC DECISION

OP40 Calls upon the relevant United Nations entities, under the coordination mandate of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, to improve the development of common needs assessments and work towards more effective prioritization, including reviewing the Consolidated Appeals Process Needs Assessment Framework and Matrix.
2005 ECOSOC DECISION OP13
2005/4

Calls upon the relevant United Nations entities, under the coordination mandate of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, to improve the development of common needs assessments and work towards more effective prioritization, including reviewing the Consolidated Appeals Process Needs Assessment Framework and Matrix

2006 ECOSOC DECISION OP15
2006/5

Requests the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to continue to improve the analysis and reporting of comprehensive financial information through its Financial Tracking Service, and encourages Member States, multilateral and private donors, relevant United Nations humanitarian agencies and non-governmental organizations to provide timely and accurate information on contributions

OP16

Encourages the relevant United Nations entities to continue to provide timely information, through existing channels, on the results achieved in the use of funds made available for humanitarian assistance

OP19

Stresses the importance of a coordinated process of assessing lessons learned in the international response to a given humanitarian emergency

2007 ECOSOC DECISION OP14
2007/3


OP15

Requests relevant United Nations organizations, in consultation with Member States, to coordinate and strengthen needs assessments and improve data on beneficiaries by agreeing on common definitions, indicators, information management mechanisms and consistent methodologies for data collection
Encourages Member States, relevant humanitarian organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide timely and accurate information on contributions and the use of humanitarian funds through the financial tracking service, and requests the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat to continue to improve the analysis and reporting of comprehensive financial information through the financial tracking service.

### 13. HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION IN THE FIELD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Assembly Resolutions</th>
<th>1991</th>
<th>A/RES/46/182</th>
<th>OP39</th>
<th>Within the overall framework described above and in support of the efforts of the affected countries, the resident coordinator should normally coordinate the humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system at the country level. He/she should facilitate the preparedness of the United Nations system and assist in a speedy transition from relief to development. He/she should promote the use of all locally or regionally available relief capacities. The resident coordinator should chair an emergency operations group of field representatives and experts from the system</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996 A/RES/51/194</td>
<td>OP6</td>
<td>Encourages all relevant agencies of the United Nations system to collaborate closely at the country level in carrying out their relief activities, in order to enhance the overall policy coherence, operational complementarity and cost-effectiveness of the response of the United Nations system in emergencies</td>
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Encourages the Secretary-General to develop further, in consultation with the Emergency Relief Coordinator and with members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, a transparent and timely procedure for putting into place effective coordination arrangements in the field.

2001 A/RES/56/103 OP14

Also welcomes the establishment of the positions of regional disaster response advisers by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, as well as the initiative of the United Nations Development Programme to establish regional disaster reduction adviser positions, and encourages the further development of those initiatives in a coordinated and complementary manner in order to assist developing countries in capacity-building for disaster prevention, preparedness mitigation and response.

2004 A/RES/59/141 OP8

Encourages the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, in close collaboration with the United Nations Development Group Office, to improve further the training and capacity of humanitarian and resident coordinators so that they can respond to the full range of humanitarian issues and those related to transition from relief to development in a given context, including protection and assistance needs.

2005 A/RES/60/124 OP4

Calls upon the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors, to pursue efforts to improve the humanitarian response to natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies by further strengthening the humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by continuing to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance at the field level, including with national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and by further enhancing transparency, performance and accountability.
OP9 Reiterates the need for a more effective, efficient, coherent, coordinated and better performing United Nations country presence, with a strengthened role for the senior United Nations resident official responsible for the coordination of United Nations humanitarian assistance, including appropriate authority, resources and accountability

OP10 Requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the support provided to United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including through the provision of necessary training, the identification of resources, and improving the identification and selection of United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators

OP11 Calls upon the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors, to improve the humanitarian response to natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies by strengthening the humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance at the field level, including with national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and by enhancing transparency, performance and accountability


OP9 Urges Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations to take further steps to provide coordinated emergency response to food and nutrition needs of affected populations, while aiming to ensure that these measures are supportive of national strategies and programmes aimed at improving food security.

**ECOSOC Resolutions**

**1993 ECOSOC DECISION 1993/205**

OP18 The UN Resident Coordinator and the Disaster Management Team should continue to be the first line responsible for a coordinated international response to disasters and emergencies. In some instances, there may be a need to appoint a special coordinator for humanitarian assistance. Whatever the coordination structure, the in-country coordinator should work in close cooperation with the Government concerned and local relief organizations and should communicate directly with the Emergency Relief Coordinator. The organization and reporting arrangements of the various coordination structures including their financing, together with the responsibility and accountability of each part of the UN system, should be clearly defined at an early stage and communicated to those concerned.

OP19 When necessary, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs should ensure, with the full cooperation of operational organizations, the strengthening of the office of the in-country coordinator with additional emergency staff. UN agencies should provide financial, staff and other resources in support of such field coordination units. The Council recommended that the General Assembly consider the provision of resources that could be drawn on by the Emergency Relief Coordinator for establishing special coordination arrangements in the initial stage of an emergency.
The Council shares the view of the Secretary-General that the resident coordinator should normally coordinate the humanitarian assistance activities of the United Nations by assuming the dual function of resident/humanitarian coordinator. Other mechanisms, namely the appointment of a humanitarian coordinator distinct from the resident coordinator and the designation of a lead agency as well as the appointment of a regional coordinator, might be justified under appropriate circumstances. The Council fully supports enhanced efforts to clarify the parameters of authority for the resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator functions, the establishment of selection criteria and procedures, and specific training and performance review mechanisms for humanitarian coordinators, and encourages the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to pursue these goals vigorously. The Council encourages all United Nations funds and programmes to cooperate fully in developing and maintaining a roster of qualified candidates.

Encourages the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in close collaboration with the United Nations Development Group Office to improve further the training and capacity of Humanitarian and Resident Coordinators so that they can respond to the full range of humanitarian issues in a given context, including protection and assistance needs.

Requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the humanitarian response capacity of and the support to United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including through the provision of necessary training, the identification of resources and improving the identification and selection of United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators, to help provide a timely, predictable and appropriate response to humanitarian needs and to further improve United Nations coordination activities at the field level.
2006 ECOSOC DECISION OP18
2006/5

Welcomes efforts to strengthen the humanitarian response capacity of and the support to the United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including through the provision of necessary training, the identification of resources and improving the identification and selection of United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators, to help to provide a timely, predictable and appropriate response to humanitarian needs and to further improve United Nations coordination activities at the field level, and requests the Secretary-General to continue efforts in this regard.

2007 ECOSOC DECISION OP7
2007/3

OP7
Recognizes the importance of involving, as appropriate, relevant entities, including non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, that provide humanitarian assistance in national and local coordination efforts, and invites those entities to participate in the improvement of humanitarian assistance, as appropriate.

OP17
Welcomes the continued efforts to strengthen the humanitarian response capacity and the progress made in strengthening support to resident/humanitarian coordinators, including by improving their identification, selection and training, to provide a timely, predictable and appropriate response to humanitarian needs and to strengthen United Nations coordination activities at the field level, and requests the Secretary-General to continue efforts in this regard, in consultation with Member States.

2008 ECOSOC DECISION OP6
2008

OP6
Calls upon the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors, to continue to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance at the field level, including with national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and to further enhance transparency, performance and accountability.
### 14. OTHER MECHANISMS, INCLUDING STAND-BY CAPACITY

**General Assembly Resolutions**

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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>A/RES/46/182</td>
<td>OP27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>A/RES/47/168</td>
<td>OP7</td>
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**1991 A/RES/46/182 OP27**

The United Nations should build upon the existing capacities of relevant organizations, establish a central register of all specialized personnel and teams of technical specialists, as well as relief supplies, equipment and services available within the United Nations system and from Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, that can be called upon at short notice by the United Nations.

**1992 A/RES/47/168 OP7**

The United Nations should continue to make appropriate arrangements with interested Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to enable it to have more expeditious access, when necessary, to their emergency relief capacities, including food reserves, emergency stockpiles and personnel, as well as logistic support. In the context of the annual report to the General Assembly mentioned in paragraph 35 (i) below, the Secretary-General is requested to report on progress in this regard.

Further requests the Secretary-General, after consultation with Governments and United Nations organs and specialized agencies, to report on arrangements between the United Nations and interested Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that would enable the United Nations to have more expeditious access, when necessary, to their emergency relief capacities, including food reserves, emergency stockpiles and personnel, as well as logistical support.
Also requests the Secretary-General to explore the possibilities, advantages and disadvantages of the establishment of warehouses for emergency items at the regional as well as global levels, taking into account existing facilities, and to report thereon in his next annual report.

Requests the Secretary-General to include in his annual report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session recommendations on ways and means to improve the operational capacity of the emergency stockpiles, as well as an analysis of the advantages or disadvantages, including promptness of the response and cost-effectiveness, of the establishment of regional warehouses, taking into account the existing facilities and the possibility of strengthening them.

Welcoming national initiatives, such as the establishment of a national volunteer corps called “White Helmets”, undertaken in order to strengthen the stand-by capacity of developing countries, to support the United Nations activities in the area of humanitarian emergency assistance, as well as in the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development.

Further recognizing the role of the United Nations Volunteers, including in the mobilization of resources oriented towards the provision of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development.

Encourages voluntary national and regional actions aimed at providing the United Nations system, on a stand-by basis, with specialized human and technical resources for emergency relief and rehabilitation, and, in this regard, notes with satisfaction the establishment, in particular in developing countries, of national volunteer corps.
OP3 B. Also encourages those national volunteer corps to develop the appropriate capabilities in order to cooperate, at the field level and in their respective area of expertise, with the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the relevant provisions of resolution 46/182 and other relevant United Nations resolutions

OP4 B. Invites Governments to promote at the national level the development of innovative financial mechanisms to fund these national stand-by capacities, by involving, *inter alia*, the private sector

2002 A/RES/57/150 PP16 Recognizing, in this regard, the Guidelines developed by the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, as a flexible and helpful reference tool for disaster preparedness and response efforts

OP2 Encourages efforts aiming at the strengthening of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group and its regional groups, particularly through the participation in its activities of representatives from a larger number of countries

OP3 Urges all States, consistent with their applicable measures relating to public safety and national security, to simplify or reduce, as appropriate, the customs and administrative procedures related to the entry, transit, stay and exit of international urban search and rescue teams and their equipment and materials, taking into account the Guidelines of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, particularly concerning visas for the rescuers and the quarantining of their animals, the utilization of air space and the import of search and rescue and technical communications equipment, necessary drugs and other relevant materials
OP4 Also urges all States to undertake measures to ensure the safety and security of international urban search and rescue teams operating in their territory.

OP5 Further urges all States that have the capacity to provide international urban search and rescue assistance to take the necessary measures to ensure that international urban search and rescue teams under their responsibility are deployed and operate in accordance with internationally developed standards as specified in the Guidelines of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, particularly concerning timely deployment, self-sufficiency, training, operating procedures and equipment, and cultural awareness.

OP6 Reaffirms the leadership role of the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator in supporting the authorities of the affected State, upon their request, in coordinating multilateral assistance in the aftermath of disasters.

OP8 Encourages Member States, with the facilitation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and in cooperation with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, to continue efforts to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, including the further development of common standards.

2002 A/RES/57/153 PP8 Welcoming the efforts of Member States, with the facilitation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and in cooperation with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, and recalling its resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002, entitled “Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance.”
2005 A/RES/60/124 OP13 Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with States and relevant organizations, to further develop and improve, as required, mechanisms for the use of emergency stand-by capacities, including, where appropriate, regional humanitarian capacities, under the auspices of the United Nations, *inter alia*, through formal agreements with appropriate regional organizations, and to report on that issue to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session through the Economic and Social Council.

2006 A/RES/61/131 OP11 Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with States and relevant organizations, to continue to explore ways to strengthen the rapid response capacities of the international community to provide immediate humanitarian relief, building on existing arrangements and ongoing initiatives.

2007 A/RES/62/92 OP22 Emphasizes the need to mobilize adequate, flexible and sustainable resources for recovery activities.


2008 A/63/L.53 OP24 Emphasizes the need to mobilize adequate, flexible and sustainable resources for recovery, preparedness and disaster risk reduction activities.

**ECOSOC Resolutions**

1993 ECOSOC DECISION OP14 The Department of Humanitarian Affairs should continue to develop the UN Disaster Assistance Coordination standby team, working closely with the Resident Coordinator and the Disaster Management Team, to assist Governments in the immediate survival phase of natural disasters.
The Department of Humanitarian Affairs should work closely with operational agencies and other entities concerned to ensure, in the initial phase of a major or complex emergency, that there is sufficient emergency response capacity in the field. In exceptional cases where there is no such presence, the UN could consider the deployment of an inter-agency emergency response team for a limited period...

1998 ECOSOC DECISION 1998/1

The Council commends the work of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) teams in providing rapid need assessments and facilitating the coordination of disaster response...

1999 ECOSOC DECISION 1999/1

...In this context, the Council commends the efforts of the Emergency Relief Coordinator to expand the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) teams to include more representatives from countries of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean

2002 ECOSOC DECISION 2002/32

Recalls the efforts of the Emergency Relief Coordinator to expand participation in United Nations disaster assessment and coordination teams and encourages the further participation of United Nations organizations in United Nations disaster assessment coordination

OP31 Welcomes efforts to strengthen international urban search and rescue operations through, *inter alia*, activities of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group

2003 ECOSOC DECISION 2003/5

Encourages States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, adopted at Tampere, Finland, on 18 June 1998
Recalls General Assembly resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002 on strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance, and welcomes the work that is being undertaken to further strengthen the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance.

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>ECOSOC Decision</th>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>ECOSOC Decision</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>ECOSOC Decision</td>
<td>2005/4</td>
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<td>2006</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>ECOSOC Decision</td>
<td>2007/3</td>
<td>OP11</td>
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Also requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with States and relevant organizations, to further develop and improve, as required, mechanisms for the use of emergency standby capacities, including, where appropriate, regional humanitarian capacities, under the auspices of the United Nations, inter alia, through formal agreements with appropriate regional organizations, and to report on this issue to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session through the Economic and Social Council.

Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council on progress achieved in developing and improving mechanisms for the use of emergency standby capacities.

Invites Member States to work with relevant United Nations organizations to strengthen humanitarian standby capacities, in particular in the area of disaster relief, including, where appropriate, by participating in humanitarian response networks, by contributing to and maintaining the standby directories of the Central Register of Disaster Management Capacities and by facilitating standby arrangements with the private sector.
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>A/RES/46/182</td>
<td>OP19</td>
<td>On the basis of existing mandates and drawing upon monitoring arrangements available within the system, the United Nations should intensify efforts, building upon the existing capacities of relevant organizations and entities of the United Nations, for the systematic pooling, analysis, and dissemination of early-warning information on natural disasters and other emergencies. In this context, the United Nations should consider making use as appropriate of the early-warning capacities of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>A/RES/48/57</td>
<td>OP7</td>
<td>Further stresses the necessity of accelerating the development of an emergency information system, within the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, to collect and disseminate timely information on natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies, including information provided by the national Government, United Nations agencies, donors and relief organizations, to provide early warning of a crisis, to assess needs on a continuing basis and to track financial and other contributions.</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>A/RES/51/194</td>
<td>OP13</td>
<td>Requests the Secretary-General to further develop ReliefWeb as the global humanitarian information system for the dissemination of reliable and timely information on emergencies and natural disasters, and encourages all Governments, the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to support ReliefWeb and actively participate in the ReliefWeb information exchange, through the Department of Humanitarian Affairs.</td>
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</table>
OP14 Encourages the Secretary-General to develop further the Humanitarian Early Warning System, to make it fully operational as soon as possible and to consult all States on the use to which the database could be put, as well as its further development, taking into account that early warning information should be made available in an unrestricted and timely manner to all interested Governments and authorities concerned.

OP15 Calls upon the United Nations system to strengthen accountability in the field of humanitarian assistance, in particular through improved monitoring and evaluation, to ensure that: (a) Organizations of the United Nations system involved in humanitarian assistance activities develop common methodologies for data collection and reporting, situation analyses, needs assessment, monitoring and tracking of resources, in order to ensure an effective and timely response (b) Clearer arrangements are made for system-wide evaluation, that the lessons learned from evaluation exercises are systematically applied at the operational level and that joint evaluation criteria are developed for humanitarian and disaster relief operations at the planning stage.

2000 A/RES/55/163 OP13 Stresses the need for partnership among Governments of the affected countries, relevant humanitarian organizations and specialized companies to promote training in, access to and use of technologies to strengthen preparedness for and response to natural disasters and to enhance the transfer of current technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries, on concessional and preferential items, as mutually agreed.

OP14 Encourages the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate.
Also encourages in such operations the sharing of geographical data, including remotely sensed images and geographic information system and global positioning system data among Governments, space agencies and relevant international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, and also notes in this context the work being done by the Global Disaster Information Network.

Further encourages compatibility and complementarity of telecommunications and other technological equipment required in humanitarian and disaster relief operations.

Notes the establishment of the global internally displaced persons database, as advocated by the Representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Governments to continue to collaborate on and support this effort, including by providing financial resources.

Commends the Emergency Relief Coordinator and his staff for their activities in emergency information management, and stresses that there is a need for national authorities, relief agencies and other relevant actors to continue to improve the sharing of relevant information related to natural disasters and complex emergencies, including on disaster response and mitigation, and to take full advantage of United Nations emergency information services, such as Reliefweb and the Integrated Regional Information Network.
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>A/RES/59/212</td>
<td>OP11</td>
<td>Calls upon States, the United Nations and other relevant actors, as appropriate, to assist in addressing knowledge gaps in disaster management and risk reduction by identifying ways of improving systems and networks for the collection and analysis of information on disasters, vulnerability and risk to facilitate informed decision-making.</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>A/RES/60/168</td>
<td>OP17</td>
<td>Recognizes the relevance of the global database on internally displaced persons advocated by the Representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Governments to continue to collaborate on and support this effort, including by providing relevant data on situations of internal displacement and financial resources.</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>A/RES/62/92</td>
<td>OP17</td>
<td>Encourages Member States and relevant regional and international organizations to identify and improve the dissemination of best practices for improving disaster preparedness, response and early recovery and to scale-up successful local initiatives, as appropriate.</td>
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**ECOSOC Resolutions**

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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>ECOSOC DECISION</td>
<td>2002/32 OP8</td>
<td>Also encourages humanitarian agencies to engage in the further strengthening of humanitarian information centres, by providing timely and accurate information on assessed needs, and the activities developed to respond to them.</td>
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