

COMMITTEE: G77

QUESTION OF: Addressing the existential threats of rising sea levels

SUBMITTED BY: Côte D'Ivoire

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling the principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, emphasising the urgent need to address the effects of climate change, including rising sea levels,

Acknowledging that sea level rise poses a severe existential threat to coastal communities, Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and low-lying nations, disproportionately affecting those who have contributed the least to global greenhouse gas emissions,

Recognising the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which project a global mean sea level rise of up to 2 meters by 2100 in high-emissions scenarios, threatening ecosystems, infrastructure, and global economies,

Noting that, assuming no adaptation, over 70 million people may face displacement due to coastal flooding by 2100, and approximately 5% of global land area could become submerged, with devastating social and economic impacts,

Emphasising the importance of international cooperation, climate justice, and shared responsibility in addressing the multifaceted challenges posed by sea level rise,

1. ***Calls upon*** Member States to adopt and implement robust mitigation strategies to combat climate change by:
 - a. Honouring and building on commitments made under the Paris agreement, including promoting research into climate-resilient crops and renewable energy technologies to help protect vulnerable regions and advancing pathways to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050,
 - b. Implementing carbon pricing and emissions reduction policies to further assist limiting global warming to 1.5°C, including but not limited to:
 - i. Carbon taxes, incentivising industries to reduce emissions,
 - ii. The implementation of Emissions Trading Systems (ETS),
 - iii. Banning fossil fuel expansions and subsidies on coals, oil, and gas extractions,
 - iv. Tree planting, which removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere;

- 45 2. **Urges** the international community to enhance adaptation measures in
46 vulnerable regions through:
- 47 a. Constructing resilient infrastructure, including seawalls, levees, and
 - 48 surge barriers,
 - 49 b. Supporting conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems such as
 - 50 mangroves and wetlands, which serve as natural barriers against rising
 - 51 seas,
 - 52 c. Developing and deploying saltwater intrusion prevention systems to
 - 53 protect freshwater resources,
 - 54 d. Supporting the relocation of at-risk communities through planned,
 - 55 managed retreat strategies, ensuring respect for cultural and social
 - 56 integrity;
 - 57
- 58 3. **Suggests** that the above clauses could be partially or fully funded through:
- 59 a. Utilising and strengthening dedicated funding mechanisms under the
 - 60 Green Climate Fund (GCF) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) to
 - 61 address sea level rise,
 - 62 b. Encouraging both government investment and public-private
 - 63 partnerships to fund and implement coastal protection projects;
 - 64
- 65 4. **Encourages** Member States to collaborate on scientific research and data
- 66 sharing by:
- 67 a. Supporting international efforts to monitor sea level rise and its
 - 68 associated impacts through satellite and ground-based observations,
 - 69 b. Promoting knowledge exchange on climate adaptation technologies and
 - 70 coastal management best practices,
 - 71 c. Facilitating capacity-building programs in developing nations to enhance
 - 72 climate resilience;
 - 73
- 74 5. **Recommends** the strengthening of the Guiding Principles of Internal
- 75 Displacement to protect populations internally displaced by rising sea levels and
- 76 other climate-related push factors by:
- 77 a. Recognising climate-induced displacement as a humanitarian crisis
 - 78 requiring global cooperation,
 - 79 b. Ensuring that evacuation plans have been prepared for cities at particular
 - 80 risk of flooding in areas with large populations,
 - 81 c. Ensuring that relocation efforts are equitable, inclusive, and uphold the
 - 82 rights of affected communities;
 - 83
- 84 6. **Calls for** the integration of rising sea levels into international legal frameworks
- 85 concerning maritime boundaries to address the potential loss of territory for
- 86 SIDS and other impacted nations;
- 87

- 88 7. **Urges** Member States to co-operate with and strengthen support for the IPCC,
89 UNFCCC, and other relevant international bodies to ensure efficient decision-
90 making in addressing the challenges posed by rising sea levels;
91
- 92 8. **Calls upon** the International Community and all Member States to place
93 emphasis on working with communities and populations on a local level directly
94 affected by and vulnerable to climate change in regard to ecology and wildlife,
95 including:
- 96 a. Conferences and talks with leaders, spokespeople and members of
97 communities directly affected by the issue of climate change,
 - 98 b. Co-operating with these groups and leaders to implement infrastructure
99 and methods mentioned in the relevant clauses, and to make sure that
100 relevant funding is provided,
 - 101 c. Respecting the individuality, culture, privacy and independence of said
102 communities.

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