FORUM: The Economic and Social Council

QUESTION OF: Measures to facilitate economic recovery after natural disasters.

MAIN SUBMITTER: The Republic of Mozambique

CO-SUBMITTERS: Islamic State of Afghanistan, Republic of Yemen, United States of America, Republic of Ecuador

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

*Recognizing* the devastating impact of natural disasters on economies and societies, particularly in developing countries,

*Fully aware* that natural disasters may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage,

*Recognizing* the need for comprehensive measures to facilitate economic recovery after natural disasters to ensure sustainable economic growth and development,

*Emphasizing* the importance of preparedness and resilience-building measures to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters on economies,

*Reaffirming* the commitments made Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which calls for a comprehensive approach to disaster risk reduction that includes measures to ensure economic resilience and sustainable development and calls for enhanced international cooperation and support to mitigate the impact of natural disasters on economies,

*Acknowledging* the critical role that international cooperation and support can play in facilitating economic recovery after natural disasters,

*Reaffirming* that the magnitude 9.1 earthquake in Chile in the same year killed 500 people and had a moderately small negative impact on the national economy,

*Further recalling* that the recent magnitude 7.8 earthquake occurred in Turkey and Syria brought a lot of harm to the economy and the society, the earthquake killed approximately 42,000 individuals and injured 115,000 individuals, 2.4 million individuals were displaced, and 24 million individuals were affected by the earthquake,

1. Encourages Member States to assist in facilitating the recovery and reconstruction of affected economies through methods including, but not limited to:

1. provide immediate humanitarian assistance for affected communities, including the provision of but not limited to:
2. food
3. water
4. shelter
5. survival technologies
6. medical care
7. daily essentials;
8. more economically developed countries (MEDC) provide low interest rate monetary and technological assistance to the LEDC;

2. Calls upon all nations to provide and reinforce possible donation streams to mitigate countries’ economic burden resulted by natural disasters, by methods including, but not limited to:

* 1. collaborating with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to raise money used for purposes including providing humanitarian relief and reconstruction projects;
  2. more economically developed countries (MEDCs) donating money or providing assistance listed in operative clause 3 when less economically developed countries (LEDCs) are affected by the natural disaster;
  3. countries donating money in proportion to their gross domestic product (GDP);
  4. constantly, specifically at least monthly, reporting the situation of the countries that underwent natural disasters to encourage donation, which:
     1. non-governmental organizations (NGOs) should collaborate with United Nations to collect and organize data of the affected countries
     2. data collected can include but not limited to deaths, injuries, number of buildings destroyed, cost of reconstruction, employment rates, and labor productivity
     3. data should be shared with major news agencies and on social media to ensure sufficient awareness of the disaster;

3. Advises member states to develop precautionary measures for future natural disasters to alleviate the process of recovering the economy;

a. strengthens disaster risk reduction strategies, through methods including, but not limited to:

1. integrating disaster risk reduction into national development plans and budgets
2. investing in education and public awareness campaigns on disaster risk reduction;

b. administering policies on evacuation measures and the practice of evacuation under circumstances, through means including, but not limited to:

1. obligating and promoting natural disaster drills in companies and schools to reduce loss of human capital
2. establishing better evacuation plans in disaster hotspots;

b. implements a comprehensive precautionary plan for natural disasters, which includes:

1. risk assessments and hazard mapping to identify potential areas of vulnerability
2. implementation of early warning systems to detect impending disasters and inform at-risk populations
3. establishment of emergency response plans that ensure rapid and effective assistance to affected communities
4. development of long-term recovery plans that address the rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged infrastructure, and the provision of support for affected businesses and industries;

c. invests in resilient infrastructure and sustainable development, including through the use of green technologies and sustainable practices that reduce vulnerability to natural disasters;

1. providing stricter building codes to reduce negative impacts brought by natural disasters in the future
2. fortifying coastlines that are vulnerable to tsunamis with concrete seawalls,
3. ii. promoting and supporting the construction of earthquake proof buildings in areas prone to earthquakes,
4. iii. supporting the manufacturing of storm shutters, sliding glass doors, and reinforced doors to reduce the damage of hurricanes/cyclones;

d. promoting the use of financial instruments and mechanisms, including insurance, risk-sharing facilities, and contingency funds, to mitigate the economic impact of natural disasters;

4. Urges governments to eradicate corruption in humanitarian actions by methods including, but not limited to:

* 1. forming an assembly within the United Nations and member states as well as willing NGOs to monitor recovery progress and to regulate the usage of funds,
  2. publicly providing transparent and regular reports on recovery progress,
  3. imposing heavy fines on corrupt officials, who used financial aid on aspects irrelevant to the response of the natural disaster and development of the country, identified by the assembly mentioned in subclause a;

5. Calls upon governments that have been affected negatively economically by natural disasters to facilitate economic recovery by imposing policies including, but not limited to:

a. Imposing supply side policies to increase the availability and affordability of goods and services to ensure that citizens who suffer from natural disasters can still have good living conditions in ways including, but not limited to:

i. lowering income taxes to increase incentives to work, which would also increase workers’ living standards as they make more money,

ii. lowering business taxes to give businesses more freedom and flexibility to grow, which will later lead to higher wages for workers as businesses have more money which results in more incentives to work and better living conditions,

iii. opening the economy to inward skilled labor migration to increase human capital and facilitate economic growth,

iv. enforcing anti-monopoly/deregulation laws in the market to increase competition;

b. Imposing labor demand policies to reduce unemployment after natural disasters and facilitate recovery in work efficiency/total output in ways including, but not limited to:

i. reductions in corporation tax to increase investment to help companies grow (direct tax on a company’s income),

ii. tax incentives for research/innovation spending to help companies grow

iii. financial support for apprenticeship programs (paid work-based training for a specific job/position) which will increase employment and also increase human capital as a side effect, which can also decrease the rate of structural unemployment including robots replacing jobs

iv. improving the flexibility of the labor market

v. extra funding for business grants (financial help for businesses in need to help them hire workers to grow and decrease unemployment),

c. Imposing monetary policies to control inflation rates and try to balance out decreased supply in capital assets especially for after natural disasters in order to prevent major income inequality and hyperinflation in ways including, but not limited to:

i. raising interest rates to reduce borrowing and spending to decrease total amount of money spent in an economy

ii. tightening credit supply to further reduce incentives for borrowing and spending to decrease total amount of money spent;

6. Encourages all member states to strengthen their cooperation and collaboration in the area of disaster management and risk reduction, through methods including, but not limited to:

1. promoting information sharing and knowledge transfer on best practices and lessons learned in disaster risk reduction and management;
2. supporting regional and sub-regional cooperation mechanisms to enhance disaster risk reduction and management;
3. developing joint disaster risk reduction and management strategies and action plans to enhance regional and global resilience to natural disasters;

*7.* Recommends governments to formulate a crisis response that protects people in such ways but not limited to:

a. prioritizes the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups, including women, children, and people with disabilities, in their post-disaster economic recovery efforts;

* 1. ensure their inclusion in decision-making processes;
  2. ensure that victims living in these areas receive compensation for harm caused to their wellbeing and shelters;

b. implementing the use of innovative technologies and approaches, including renewable energy systems and digital platforms for disaster response and recovery, to support sustainable and resilient economic recovery in affected areas;

8. Requests the United Nations Development Programmer (UNDP), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the World Bank, and other relevant international organizations to provide no or low interest rate assistance in accommodating the issue, through means including, but not limited to:

1. aid to disaster-affected member states, recognizing that including assistance is critical for their economic recovery, through means including, but not limited to:
2. provide technical assistance and capacity building support to member states, particularly those in developing countries, in the development and implementation of disaster risk reduction strategies and preparedness measures;
3. provide financial support and investment for the development of resilient infrastructure and sustainable development, including through the use of green technologies and sustainable practices that reduce vulnerability to natural disasters;
4. providing technical expertise and guidance on disaster risk reduction, preparedness, and recovery measures;
5. coordinating international support and assistance to affected countries to ensure a coherent and effective response;
6. facilitating knowledge sharing and capacity building among affected countries to enhance their resilience to natural disasters;