



**THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**Viet Nam's Laws, Regulations and Practice relating to
Topics on the Agenda of International Law Commission**

As of 18 August 2023

At the seventy-seventh session, the General Assembly adopted Resolution A/RES/77/103 on the Report of the International Law Commission which draws the attention of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views on the various aspects of the topics on the agenda of the Commission.

In accordance with Resolution A/RES/77/103, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam would like to provide information on its laws, regulations and practice relating to “prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea” and “sea-level rise in relation to international law”.

I. Sea-level rise in relation to international law

In the Report on the work of its seventy-third session, the International Law Commission requested the Secretariat to contact States and relevant international organizations in order to obtain information on the practice of States in this topic, including measures relating to risk reduction specific to the mitigation of the adverse impacts of sea-level rise, regulations of the displacement of persons affected by sea-level rise and international cooperation regarding humanitarian assistance to persons affected by sea-level rise.

In response to this request, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam welcomes the opportunity to provide following information:

1. Situation

According to the Report "Resilient shores: Viet Nam's Coastal Development between Opportunity and Disaster Risk" by the World Bank in 2020, in a pessimistic scenario, sea levels are estimated to rise 30 centimetres by 2050 and 70 centimetres by 2100, exposing an additional 4.5 million people in coastal areas.⁵ In addition, around 11.8 million people in coastal provinces are exposed to the threat of intense flooding.⁶ Each year, 316,000 jobs are at risk from riverline and coastal flooding in

the agriculture, aquaculture, tourism, and industry sectors.⁷

According to the Report Groundswell Part 2: Acting on Internal Climate Migration, in pessimistic scenario it is estimated that by 2050, Vietnam will have about 3.1 million climate migrants.⁸

Besides, in some coastal areas of Viet Nam, several seas-reclamation projects have been implemented, opening a new development for coastal cities and provinces such as Hai Au project in Kien Giang Province, Saigon Sunbay project in Ho Chi Minh city and Hung Thang project in Quang Ninh Province.

2. Measures to protect people

a) Sea level rise causes subsidence, flooding and saltwater intrusion in coastal urban areas. To minimize the harmful effects of sea level rise, Vietnam's provincial authorities have taken such measures as:

- Building sea walls, raising dikes, river embankments, sea embankments, building dams to prevent salt water or canals to control floods. For example, Thua Thien Hue and Ca Mau provinces have built embankments to prevent coastal erosion, restored protection forests, used hollow piers to handle landslides, implemented measures to protect dikes, especially important sea dykes, monitor and ensure the safety of dike routes. At Thuan An estuary, Thua Thien Hue province has built embankments to stabilize the channel of Thuan An estuary, build sand embankments in the North and the South as well as take measures to dredge the channel.

- Besides "hard" protection solutions, "soft" protection measures are also paid attention to, such as strengthening coastal protection forests, investing in wetlands, supplementing land for beaches, transforming coastal sand dunes and planting mangrove forests.

⁵ <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/7597ee8c-95f2-582a-b362-6e15b8397717>

⁶ <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/7597ee8c-95f2-582a-b362-6e15b8397717>

⁷ <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/7597ee8c-95f2-582a-b362-6e15b8397717>

⁸ World Bank. The Report Groundswell Part II: Acting on Internal Climate Migration.

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/2c9150df-52c3-58ed-9075-d78ea56c3267>

- Provinces, cities and localities also develop adaptation measures, such as changing farming practices, changing construction standards, and environmental protection standards in order to minimize vulnerability; planning, investing in infrastructure development of industrial parks, urban centers, residential areas, coastal resettlement areas; building, upgrading and renovating medical facilities and schools to ensure resilience to natural disasters; develop sustainable livelihood models, adaptation models which are based on nature, ecology and community.

b) Local authorities of Vietnam also carry out the relocation of people, retreating into the mainland from the areas at risk of flooding, subsidence in according domestic laws and regulations, as follows:

- Article 65 of the 2013 Land Law stipulates the taking of residential land when the land is at risk of landslide, subsidence or is affected by other natural disasters threatening human life. In this case, according to Clause 3, Article 87 of the 2013 Land Law, the person whose land is taken will be compensated and supported with resettlement to stabilize his life and production in accordance with the Government's regulations.

- Article 16 of Decree No. 47/2014/ND-CP dated May 15, 2014 of the Government specifies the compensation, support and resettlement when the State takes residential land at risk of landslide, subsidence, affected by natural disasters.

- Clause 2, Article 16 of Decree No. 47/2014/ND-CP clearly stipulates: In case the residential land of a household or individual suffers sudden landslide or subsidence over the entire area or the remaining area is no longer usable, the household or individual shall be arranged new land for resettlement according to specific local conditions.

- In addition, the Prime Minister also promulgated the Program on population allocation in natural disaster areas, areas of extreme poverty, boundary areas, islands, as well as areas of free migration and special-use forests for the 2021-2025 period, with orientations to 2030. The program offers solutions to stabilize the population, including households and individuals who have lost their houses and residential land due to landslides, land subsidence, cyclones, floods and flash floods; or live in an area at risk of landslides, land subsidence, cyclones, floods, flash floods, inundation, and water surge, including:

+ Implement investment projects to stabilize population, arrange residential and production land; support investment in building essential infrastructure.

+ Provide direct support for families and individuals to move people and

properties, to explore new land, support housing and food at resettlement places at the early stage.

- + Support households in training, technology transfer, equipment, supplies, production tools, fertilizers, animal feed, plant protection drugs, veterinary medicine; support to build livestock, renovate aquaculture ponds by favorable credit policies for agricultural and rural development.

- + Support the project area to stabilize the population and develop vocational trainings to restructure agricultural sector.

- In addition, many local authorities of Vietnam have received assistance from international sources, such as: United Nations, International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank (WB), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Oxfam, CARE International, German Development Cooperation to invest in building infrastructure for sustainable development in coastal areas./.