

SUBMISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT ARTICLES ON PROTECTION OF PERSONS IN THE EVENT OF DISASTERS, PURSUANT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 79/128

1. Singapore welcomes the opportunity to submit our proposals for amendments to the draft articles on protection of persons in the event of disasters in line with paragraph 6 of resolution 79/128.

2. Singapore recognises the importance of international cooperation between States, relevant agencies and other assisting actors in facilitating effective relief efforts in response to disasters. Such response should take into account the respective needs, capabilities and situations of the States involved. In this regard, we are of the view that the draft articles should be clear in their recognition of the national situations of the respective States in determining the appropriate obligations in the draft articles. Our proposals, which draw from the language used in Article 3(3) of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response, are as follows:

Proposal 1

To introduce a new preambular paragraph after PP4 as follows:

[SG: PP4bis. *Emphasising the need to take into account the respective needs, capabilities and situations of Parties when engaging in international cooperation to achieve the objectives of this Agreement;*]

Proposal 2

To amend Article 7 as follows:

In the application of the present draft articles, States shall, as appropriate [SG: *and in accordance with their respective needs, capabilities and situations*], cooperate among themselves, with the United Nations, with the components of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and with other assisting actors.