



COMMITTEE UNHRC

**CHANGE
THE
WORLD**

Topic resolution: *Establishing a global alliance to dealing with climate migration*

Sponsors: Cuba, Dominican Republic, Libya, Mauritius, Paraguay, South Africa

Signatories: *Australia, Bahamas, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Eritrea, Fiji, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, South Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Ukraine*

The Committee,

Recognizing the growing impact of climate change as a driver of displacement, including sea-level rise, desertification, extreme weather events, and environmental degradation that threaten livelihoods, security, and the habitability of affected regions,

Emphasizing the urgent need to develop an international legal framework that specifically addresses cross-border displacement caused by climate-related factors and ensures adequate protection for affected individuals,

Defines a climate refugee as a person who is forced to leave their habitual place of residence due to sudden-onset or slow-onset environmental events and processes linked to climate change, which pose serious threats to life, health, or subsistence, and where return or internal relocation is not possible or sustainable,

Affirms that climate refugees shall be entitled to fundamental human rights and humanitarian protections in accordance with international law, including but not limited to the right to life, dignity, non-refoulement, access to basic services, and the right to seek asylum,

Calls upon Member States and relevant international organizations to engage in dialogue and cooperative frameworks aimed at establishing legal recognition, protection standards, and durable solutions for persons displaced due to climate-related causes,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, particularly Article 25, which affirms the right to an adequate standard of living,

Acknowledging that the 1951 Refugee Convention does not currently cover individuals displaced by climate-related causes,

Alarmed by the growing number of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and low-lying coastal nations facing existential threats from climate change,

Noting the absence of legal recognition for climate-induced displacement within existing international frameworks and the urgent need for policy development in this area,

Affirming the sovereignty of states while underscoring the shared responsibility of the international community to protect people displaced by climate change,

Recognizing that defining climate refugees would strengthen data collection, improve resource allocation, and facilitate international solidarity and support,

Concerned that failure to address the international status of climate refugees will exacerbate global inequality, environmental injustice, and human rights violations,

Encouraging the creation of new frameworks for protection that respect national sovereignty while providing support mechanisms for affected countries,

Recognizing the global cooperation is essential to face Climate Change effects for the most vulnerable countries,

Reminding that the most vulnerable countries are not the first responsible of Climate Change, but are the most impacted by climate migrations,

Recognizing the lack of resources accessible to nations vulnerable for climate change, and ability to response to climate migration in mentioned states,

Acknowledging the crucial role of education in fostering climate awareness, promoting sustainable practices, and empowering local communities to mitigate and adapt to climate change,

Recognizes the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which highlight that knowledge-sharing and innovation are critical to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050,

Emphasizing the importance of international cooperation in supporting education initiatives that enhance knowledge and skills related to CO2 reduction and environmental sustainability,

Acknowledging that education plays a pivotal role in equipping future generations with the knowledge, skills, and mindset needed to address and mitigate the effects of the climate crisis,

Emphasizing the urgency of integrating comprehensive climate change education programs into national curricula, particularly in the most vulnerable regions,

Recognizing the impact of climate change on internal displacement, knowing the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has doubled over the last ten years due to climate change, conflict, and disasters,

Recalling the commitments made under the Paris Agreement, which aims to limit global temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which provides a framework for international cooperation to combat climate change,

Acknowledging the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant international human rights instruments,

Emphasizing the vulnerabilities of indigenous communities, women, children, and other marginalized groups affected by climate change, as documented in reports by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which highlight the disproportionate impacts of climate change on these populations,

Noting the importance of balancing national sovereignty with international human rights obligations to effectively address internal displacement, as outlined in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998), which

emphasize the primary responsibility of states to protect and assist IDPs while recognizing the supportive role of international cooperation,

Acknowledging the increasing impact of climate change on forced migration, displacing millions due to rising sea levels, desertification, and extreme weather conditions,

Recognizing that transit countries, such as Libya, face immense pressure from irregular migration, often becoming overwhelmed by the influx of asylum seekers and economic migrants attempting to reach wealthier nations,

Concerned about the exploitation of migrants by human traffickers, the strain on transit countries' economies and infrastructure, and the humanitarian crises emerging from inadequate migrant protection,

Emphasizing the importance of international cooperation in addressing the root causes of climate migration and ensuring fair responsibility-sharing among nations,

1. *Proposes* the recognition of the term “*Climate Refugee*” under international law as a person forced to flee their home due to climate-related disasters, including typhoons, tsunamis, rising sea levels, or long-term environmental degradation or desertification and that the rights and protections of Climate Refugees will be distinct from those defined in the 1951 Refugee Convention, focusing primarily on internal relocation support and international cooperation;
2. *Recommends* the establishment of temporary
3. protection visas and humanitarian entry programs for Climate Refugees, especially for those affected by sudden-onset climate disasters;
4. *Supports* the creation of debt-relief programs and climate investment initiatives for countries disproportionately affected by climate displacement or hosting significant numbers of Climate Refugees;
5. *Affirms* that recognizing Climate Refugees will enhance global cooperation, improve humanitarian responses, and strengthen the protection of human rights in the face of the climate crisis.
6. *Asks* for the constitution of a UN-workgroup to face the specific needs of affected communities by the creation of
 - (1) an international community of experts (climate researchers, engineers, architects, politicians) to implement solutions against the sea-level rise, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, droughts, depending on the local situation of each country,
 - (2) a Climate Displacement Support Mechanism (CDSM) to provide technical support and financial resources to states facing displacement of the population due to climate change.
 - (3) a Climate Displacement Task Force to address the emergency situations due to climate-related natural disasters.
7. *Proposes* this Task Force to be led by an UNHCR member elected for the three years' duration of his UNHCR mandate, in order to guarantee both the national sovereignties and the human rights respect in this process ;

8. *Suggests* International Monetary Fund to expand climate adaptation funding with simplified access for developing states endangered climate change, to finance the infrastructures previously mentioned and provide them through:

(1) Voluntary contributions from member states,

(2) A part of the tourism incomes, or create a new tax on them,

(3) Contributions from development banks.

9. *Encourages* the inclusion of climate change education across disciplines—such as science, economics, policy, and social studies—to provide students with a holistic understanding of climate change and its far-reaching impacts;

10. *Recommends* that developed nations facilitate technology transfer and provide training programs to equip developing countries with the skills needed to implement sustainable solutions effectively.

11. *Calls* for collaboration among governments, international organizations, and academic institutions from developed and developing countries to foster collaboration on climate-smart innovations and sustainable policy development.

12. *Notes* that such assistance addresses historical imbalances in greenhouse gas emissions, enhances global stability by mitigating risks associated with climate-induced challenges, stimulates innovation benefiting both developing and developed countries, creates opportunities for sustainable economic growth, and demonstrates leadership while strengthening diplomatic relations;

13. *Recommends* implementing key strategies for effective climate change education, including curriculum integration at all educational levels, experiential learning through hands-on projects, utilizing digital resources to reach a broader audience, engaging communities through collaborations with local entities, and providing continuous professional development for educators to stay updated on climate science and best teaching practices;

14. *Recommends* that such support focus on developing and distributing climate-focused educational resources tailored to local contexts, training educators in teaching climate science and sustainability practices, improving school infrastructure by integrating renewable energy and sustainable practices, and expanding access to digital learning tools to ensure quality climate education in remote and underserved areas;

15. *Calls* for the establishment of legal frameworks to recognize and protect internally displaced people under international law, ensuring their access to basic human rights, including shelter, food, healthcare, and education;

16. *Advocates* for programs that build the capacity of national institutions to address internal displacement, including data collection, policy development, and implementation;

17. *Encourages* multilateral engagement and regional collaboration to develop coordinated strategies and solutions for internal displacement, promoting international cooperation and solidarity;

18. *Supports* initiatives that enhance the resilience of local communities affected by climate change, particularly indigenous populations, through sustainable development and environmental protection measures;
19. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting the rights of indigenous communities affected by climate change and ensuring their inclusion in policy-making processes;
20. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to monitor and report on the implementation of this resolution and provide guidance to member states on best practices for protecting internally displaced people and local communities.
21. Calls Upon the UN and its member states to:
 1. *Strengthen* support for Crisis in correlation to climate and the major Transit Countries affected.
 2. *Provide* financial and logistical assistance to transit nations like Libya to manage migrant influxes sustainably.
 3. *Support* the development of processing centers for migrants, ensuring humane conditions and fair treatment of people following the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

1st plenary meeting

23 March 2025

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