

Assessing International Legal Architecture for Disaster Response Laws

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ABSTRACT

Disasters are common phenomenon occurring due to natural event or with anthropogenic concentrated economic development. According to the CRED Data 2018, 3.9 billion people, or about half the worldwide population, were potentially exposed to natural disasters in 2018. The adverse impacts of disasters can be mitigated by effective and efficient enforcement of legal framework related with disasters. However addressing the disasters, the legal analysis relating the same has been quite limited and perplexes with scattered and heterogeneous international legal instruments related to disaster response laws. In 2018, 4340 Death toll in Indonesia due to earthquake, and 504 deaths and 23.2 million affected due to Flood in India which shows the lack of humanitarian assistance provided at national and international level. The impacts of such disasters can only mitigated by effective and efficient coordination amongst enforcement by states.

The aim of this paper is to critically analyze the existing international instruments on disaster management for better implementation by the member countries to address their vulnerabilities to various disasters.

Keywords: Awareness, Cooperation, Disaster, Humanitarian Assistance, Mitigation, Natural Disaster,

INTRODUCTION

Disasters have affected people and planet since our existence. The intensity or degree of disaster impacts varies from its vulnerability level of people, community, organization and nation. This vulnerability criterion depends upon the capacity of individual, society, and nation to cope up with such hazardous event socially, economically and politically. According to EM-DAT reports, 24000 mass disasters in the world from 1900 to present day have been occurred. In 2018, there were 315 natural disaster events recorded with 11,804 deaths, over 68 million people affected, and US\$131.7 billion in economic losses across the world. The burden was not shared equally as Asia suffered the highest impact and accounted for 45% of disaster events, 80% of deaths, and 76% of people affected. Globally, Indonesia recorded nearly half the total deaths (47%), while India recorded the highest number of people affected (35%). Hence no individual, no organization, no society, no country is immune from the impacts of disasters. However community can be prepared for to give fight against such disasters through effective and efficient management in the form of preparedness, mitigation, relief, and recovery and rehabilitation strategies formulation in sustainable development plans at regional and global level.

DEFINING TERM DISASTER: A COMPLEX ISSUE

The root word of disaster derived from Latin word 'dis astrum' which means 'evil star' which simplifies that a sudden overwhelming and unforeseen event. As per the general concept any hazardous event or activity which may result into the loss of life, property or environment originates either form forces of nature or from human induced activity can be defined as disaster. As definition given by Center for Epidemiology of Disaster (CRED), Disaster means "a situation or event that overwhelms local capacity, necessitating a request at the national or international level for external assistance; an unforeseen and often sudden event that causes great damage, destruction and human suffering". Hence the word disaster is plurality of terms which not only limited to natural or manmade disaster but also includes nuclear or biological disaster but

question arises as to whether the armed conflict or situation like war and Health emergency between territories exists amongst and between the nations be considered as disaster or not ?

Data Base: Worldwide Disaster Occurrence 2018

Sr. No.	Disaster Type	Number of Death	No. of Affected (in millions)	Economic Losses (billion US\$)
1	Drought	0	10.8	9.7
2	Earthquake	5264	1.4	7.1
3	Extreme Temperature	536	0.3	0
4	Flood	2879	34.2	19.7
5	Landslide	275	<0.1	0.9
6	Storm	1734	19.4	70.8
7	Volcanic Activity	878	1.9	0.8
8	Wildfire	221	0.3	22.8

Source: CRED DATA BASE 2018

NO. OF DEATH BY TOP 5 COUNTRIES BY DISASTER 2018

Sr. No.	Disaster Type	No. of Death by top 5 country	
1	Earthquake/Tsunami	Indonesia	4340
2	Earthquake	Indonesia	564
3	Flood	India	504
4	Volcano/Tsunami	Indonesia	453
5	Volcano	Guatemala	425

Source: CRED DATABASE 2018

NO. OF AFFETCTED BY TOP 5 COUNTRIES BY DISASTER 2018

Sr. No.	Disaster Type	% affected by top 5 Country (in million)	
1	Flood	India	23.2
2	Typhoon Mangkut	Philippines	3.8
3	Afghanistan	Drought	3.6
4	Kenya	Drought	3.0
5	China	Storm	2.5

Source: CRED DATABASE 2018

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ARCHITECTURE FOR DISASTER RESPONSE LAWS

United Nations has come out with several international instruments regulating disaster management, disaster mitigation, preparedness, and addressing problems as and when necessitated through binding and non binding instruments which most of the countries have tried to internalize this obligation via formulation their municipal laws, rules, regulations and policies guidelines.

1. Convention On Facilitation Of International Maritime Traffic (1965)

The contracting governments aim to facilitate maritime traffic by providing easy and reducing minimum documentary requirements on the arrival, stay and departure of ships internationally. Public authorities shall facilitate the arrival and departure of vessels engaged in natural disaster relief work alongwith entry of persons and cargo arriving in vessels (Section 5F of Annex).

2. Multilateral International Convention On The Simplification And Harmonization Of Customs Procedures (Known As Kyoto Convention 1973)

The aim of this convention is to contribute effectively to the development of such trade and exchanges by simplifying and harmonizing Customs procedures and practices and by fostering international co-operation through which significant benefits of facilitation of international trade may be achieved without compromising appropriate standards of Customs control. The convention specifies about relief consignment under chapter 5, which states the provisions of disaster. The "relief consignments" means and includes goods, vehicles and other means of transport, foodstuffs, medicaments, clothing, blankets, tents, prefabricated houses, water purifying and water storage items, or other goods of prime necessity, forwarded as aid to those affected by disaster; and all equipment, vehicles and other means of transport, specially trained animals, provisions, supplies, personal effects and other goods for disaster relief personnel in order to perform their duties and to support them in living and working in the territory of the disaster throughout the duration of their mission. In case of any economic prohibition or restriction, export duties or taxes payable should be waived for the clearance of these relief consignments. The approved organization who receives such relief consignments for the distribution of free of charge, should admit this relief consignments without charging import duties and free of economic import prohibition or restriction.

3. Convention On The Assistance In The Case Of Nuclear Accident Or Radiological Emergency, (1986)

The need for this international framework is to facilitate the prompt provision of assistance in nuclear accident or radiological emergency to minimize and mitigate its consequences and to protect life, property and environment from the dangerous effects of radioactive releases. State party needs assistance in the event of nuclear accident or radiological emergency, It may request for assistance from any other state party either directly or through the agency or international organization. At such duration, requesting state party specifies the scope and type of assistance required. Then state party to whom the request has been made is required to promptly decide and notify to requesting state party about its capacity or position to render assistance so requested. State party may also request the medical treatment or temporary relocation into territory of another state party of people involved in nuclear and radiological emergency. The overall direction, control, coordination and supervision of the assistance shall be the responsibilities within the territory of requesting state.

4. Convention On Early Notification Of Nuclear Accident(1986)

This convention comes into existence with the need for States to provide relevant information about nuclear accidents as early as possible in order to minimize transboundary radiological consequences and to provide comprehensive measures to ensure a high level of safety in nuclear activities and with the aim to prevent nuclear accidents and to strengthen further international co-operation in the safe development and use of nuclear energy. This Convention shall apply in the event of any accident involving facilities or activities of a State Party or of persons or legal entities under its jurisdiction or control, from which a release of radioactive material occurs or is likely to occur and which has resulted or may result in an international transboundary release that could be of radiological safety significance for another State. In the event of such nuclear accident, the state party shall notify directly or through International Atomic Energy Agency, about those states which may be physically affected with such available information relevant to minimizing the radiological consequences.

5. United Nations Convention To Combat Desertification In Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought And/or Desertification, Particularly In Africa (1994)

The objective of this Convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa, through effective international cooperation, in consistent with Agenda 21 through long-term integrated strategies. In order to achieve this convention parties should ensure public participation of local communities while framing design and implementation of programmes to combat desertification and or to mitigate the effects of draught with coordinate efforts and long term strategies and putting into an integrated approach at all levels. The obligation lies upon the affected country parties to give due priority to combat desertification and mitigate effects of drought via establishing strategies with the consideration of sustainable development goals. The developed country party also obliged to provide active support, financial resources, and any other forms of support in the development of long term plans and strategies to combat desertification and mitigate efforts of drought. While implementation of provisions of this convention, affected African country parties should be given priority, however affected developing country should not be neglected. Annex II of the convention specifies the guidelines and arrangements for the effective implementation of the Convention in the affected country parties of the Asian region.

6. International Convention On Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response And Cooperation (1990) The objective of this convention is to provide prompt and effective action in the event of oil pollution in order to minimize the damage with the effective international co-operation and to enhance existing national, regional, and globally capabilities concerning oil pollution preparedness and response. "Oil pollution incident" means an occurrence or series of occurrences having the same origin, which results or may result in a discharge of oil and which poses or may pose a threat to the marine environment, or to the coastline or related interests of one or more States, and which requires emergency action or other immediate response (2 of article 2). This convention emphasis that each state party shall ensure that a ship and offshore units required to have on board an oil emergency plans which are to be coordinated with national system and article 6 of the convention. If any event arises which may leads to discharge or probable discharge of oil , then persons having charge of ships or offshore units shall required to report without delay to the nearest coastal states. When party receives such report, first of all assess that whether it is oil pollution incident or not, nature and consequences of such accident and without delay al other states party whose interest affected or likely to be affected alongwith the assessment and action it has taken or going to be taken to deal with such oil pollution incident. Article 6 of the convention focus upon national and regional plans needs to be formulated for responding promptly and effectively to oil pollution incidents. To deal with such accidents, as convention put emphasis on the international co-operation (article 7), where on receiving the request from state party affected or likely to affect, other state party subject to their capabilities and availabilities of resources , will cooperate and provide advisory services, technical support and equipment in order to respond such oil pollution incident. However (clause 3 of article 1) this Convention shall not apply to any warship, naval auxiliary or other ship owned or operated by a State and used only on government non-commercial service.

7. Convention On Temporary Admission (1990)

The aim of this convention by providing simplification and harmonization of Customs procedures and the adoption of a single international instrument combining all existing Conventions on temporary admission in order to facilitate access to international provisions governing temporary admission and effectively contribute to the development of international trade and of other international exchange. According to Article 1(a) of the convention,

“temporary admission” means the Customs procedure under which certain goods (including means of transport) can be brought into a Customs territory conditionally relieved from payment of import duties and taxes and without application of import prohibitions or restrictions of economic character; such goods (including means of transport) must be imported for a specific purpose and must be intended for re-exportation within a specified period and without having undergone any change except normal depreciation due to the use made of them. According to article 1 of annex concerning goods imported for the humanitarian assistance "relief consignments" means all goods, such as vehicles and other means of transport, blankets, tents, prefabricated houses or other goods of prime necessity, forwarded as aid to those affected by natural disaster and similar catastrophes. Goods imported for humanitarian assistance shall be provided temporary admission.

8. Convention On International Civil Aviation (1944)

This convention has been taken into place for the purpose of future development of international Civil Aviation which helps to create and preserve the friendship and understanding amongst nations and peoples of the world via promoting cooperation between nations and peoples for retaining the peace of world. This convention provides mechanism for the relief flights, if situation which exists like natural or man-made disaster. Chapter 8 from annex 9 specifies that after obtaining agreement with the recipient state, contracting states shall facilitate the transit of aircraft engaged in relief flights performed by or on behalf of international organizations recognized by UN or by behalf of states themselves in order to response natural or man-made disaster which seriously endanger human health, environment and other similar emergency.

9. Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World

Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation 1994

This document is the output of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, held in Yokohama, Japan, from 23 May to 27 May 1994. It provides guidelines for natural disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation. Part I describes the principles on which a disaster reduction strategy should be based. Part II is a plan of action agreed upon by all member states of the United Nations. Part III gives some guidelines concerning the follow-up of action. Human suffering and economic losses has risen in recent years and society become more vulnerable to disasters. The less equipped developing countries mostly affected by natural disasters as they are poor and socially disadvantaged to cope with such disastrous event. Hence Disaster

prevention, mitigation, preparedness and relief are four fundamental elements which can contribute and can be gained from implementation of sustainable development policies.

Part I article I elaborates consideration of principles while formulating policies framework about risk assessment, disaster prevention, preparedness with effective early warnings and dissemination using telecommunication, strengthening of capacities to prevent disasters and mitigation, involvement and active participation from local to national level to the regional and international level as effective preventive measures, reducing vulnerability through education and training of whole community, freely and timely availability of technology for effective technical cooperation, environment protection alongwith poverty alleviation an imperative in disaster prevention and mitigation and puts stress upon primary responsibility for protecting people, infrastructure, and other national assets from the impacts of disaster.

Part II explains about the activities or plan of action required at the community and local levels to be formulated and implemented accordingly such as political commitment to reduce vulnerability, encouragement for continued mobilization of domestic resources, development of risk assessment programme, comprehensive national disaster management plans, strengthening National committees for promotion and coordination of disaster reduction actions, upgrade resistance of infrastructure, enhancement of role of local authority in safety standards, increases institutional capacity for natural disaster management, consideration of NGO support for improvement in disaster reduction, incorporation of Environment Impact Assessment mechanism in developmental plans, accessing knowledge or expertise from other countries or from United Nations system for disaster prevention for example training programmes to enhance human resources, implementing educational programmes for creating general awareness, enhances role of media as contributing factor in raising awareness, empowerment of women and other socially disadvantaged groups at all phased of disaster management, application of traditional knowledge, practices and values of local communities for disaster reduction. This part puts stress upon activities to be carried out at regional and sub regional level such as establishment or strengthening of sub-regional or regional centers in cooperation with international organization in order to perform: dissemination information for improving general awareness, formulating education, training programme and technical exchanges for human resources development, and strengthening natural disaster reduction mechanism. To find out and due importance should be given to vulnerability of developing countries, least developed countries in order to perform such functions alongwith technical mechanical and financial resources to support sub-regional or regional centers. Improved communication, early warning mechanism, establishing mutual agreements & joint projects, effective role in implementation of regional plans, highest priority and special support to activities relating to natural disaster reduction by international community, regional arrangements in close coordination with national programme on disaster reduction, assistance to developing country by international community in establishing measures to integrate disaster prevention and reduction within existing machinery at national, sub-regional and regional levels in order to achieve sustainable development. In order to reduce impacts of disasters in the context of global interdependence activities through bilateral and multilateral arrangements should be carried out such as: voluntary contribution from governments, international organization as extra budgetary resources and to ensure effective and efficient administration of Trust Fund established in general assembly, Priority on disaster prevention, mitigation, and preparedness should be on priority base by donor countries, disaster prevention an integrated component of development projects financed by multilateral financial institutions, Integration of natural disaster reduction into development assistance programme, ensuring co-operation in research, science and technology, priority in financing, establishing and strengthening early warning system to Trust Fund, improving exchange of information, supporting ongoing efforts in increases indices of vulnerability, promoting awareness of benefits of disaster reduction and reaffirmation of the roles of the Special High-Level Council, enhancing activities and cooperation between organization and programmes of United Nations, intergovernmental-nongovernmental organization and private sector for disaster reduction, providing adequate support in order to ensure timely implementation of Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action.

Part III ensures the functions to be carried out fort early and successful implementation of the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action such as all countries to continue working towards objective of safer world for twenty first century, transmit the outcome of the world conference held in 1995 on the implementation of the programme of action for least developed countries and to the commission on sustainable development with regards to initial review of the implementation of the programme of action for the sustainable development for Small Island Developing States, consideration of crucial importance of loss of lives and property caused by disasters for continuing the disaster reduction process, ensuring with the Secretary-General for dissemination & transmission of the Yokohama Strategy to international and regional organization, multilateral financial institution and the regional development banks, ensuring communication about outcome of the conference to national committee, non-governmental organization, scientific and technical association and private sector, requesting Secretary-General to submit the annual report on the progress made in the implementation of Yokohama Strategy to General Assembly based on the information provided by governments, regional and international organization, multilateral financial institutions and regional development banks, and requesting United Nations for technical assistance in the preparation and development of disaster management plans & programme.

10. Tampere Convention On The Provision Of Telecommunication Resources For Disaster Mitigation And Relief Operations (1998)

This convention specifically comes into existence for providing effective and prompt telecommunication assistance regarding occurrence of disasters to facilitate the immediate and safe humanitarian relief to the affected states for disaster mitigation and relief operation. For the purpose of this convention, the disaster means and includes natural, health hazards and disasters. According to article 2 of the convention United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator shall act as coordinator for the purpose of carrying out the responsibilities to fulfill the objective of this convention. For requiring this telecommunication assistance for disaster mitigation and relief, state party may request directly to another state party or through operational coordinator and accordingly states party, to whom request has been made, will render the assistance to requesting state parties. No telecommunication assistance provided without the consent of the requesting party and authority to reject all or part of telecommunication lies with the requesting states party. The requesting state party or assisting state party may at any time terminate telecommunication assistance provided or received by providing notification in writing to operational coordinator. State parties by an agreement have to pay or reimburse specified cost or fees for receiving such assistance. In case of any disputes arises between states party then they consult each other in written declaration for the purpose of settlement. However if disputes not settled within six months, states party to disputes may request to other state party non-state entity or intergovernmental organization to use its good offices for dispute settlement. If neither of party seeks this remedy, then either of disputant states party may refer disputes for binding arbitration or International court of justice subject to ratification or accepted jurisdiction of International Court of Justice.

11. Framework Convention On Civil Defence Assistance (2000)

The aim of this convention is development of international co-operation in the field of Civil Defence in terms of prevention, forecasting, preparedness, intervention and post crisis management, both in the interests of disaster victims and in order to safeguard property and the environment. As per definition given under this convention disaster is an exceptional situation in which life, property or the environment may be at risk. Article 2 of the convention specifies the objective to promote co-operation between Civil Defence Services with regard to training of personnel and exchange of information and expertise with reducing obstacles to assistance. The assistance should be provided without discrimination on the request made by beneficiary state particularly when state is threatened or affected by disaster. Article 4 of the convention emphasis that beneficiary state shall provide all necessary information and timely notice of actions required for smooth implementation. In order to provide assistance, supporting states shall provide only those Defence Units which requested or accepted by beneficiary states. Both Supporting state and Beneficiary state shall entrust the tasks to Civil Defence Units. Beneficiary states within the framework of national law, grant all necessary privilege and immunity, protection for personnel and for property belonging to Civil Defence Unit of supporting state. The mission of Civil Defence Unit shall to come into end when disaster or crisis for which it was send is deemed to have end or when beneficiary stats so request or supporting states so decides.

12. ASEAN Agreement On Disaster Management And Emergency Response(2005)

The objective of this agreement is to provide effective mechanisms to achieve substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of the parties, and to jointly respond to disaster emergencies through concerted national efforts and intensified regional and international co-operation. This should be pursued in the overall context of sustainable development and in accordance with the provisions of this agreement.

13. Optional Protocol To The Convention On The Safety Of United Nations And Associated Personnel (2005)

The objective of the convention is to ensure safety and security to United Nations and associated personnel to the convention by requiring states party to take all the necessary measures, to establish criminal offence punishable with appropriate penalties, and to cooperate in the prevention of such crime and providing assistance in criminal proceedings. This Protocol supplements the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, done at New York on 9 December 1994. The idea behind enacting optional protocol to this convention to maintain the integrity of international humanitarian law alongwith strengthening the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel due to the increasing dangers and security risks faced by United Nations and associated personnel at field level. The controlling authority lies with United Nations for the operations carried out to deliver humanitarian, political or development assistance in peace building, or Delivering emergency humanitarian assistance. However such controlling mechanism may not apply in situation like emergency humanitarian assistance conducted for the sole purpose of responding to a natural disaster subject to condition that such declaration should be made prior to deployment of the operation by host state in whose territory a United Nations operation is conducted.

14. SAARC Agreement on Rapid Response to Natural Disaster (2011)

The members states of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) comprises countries Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The objective of this agreement is to provide rapid responses to natural disaster in order to reduce disaster losses in lives, social economical and environmental losses of member parties through jointly responding and intensified cooperation. For the purpose of this agreement natural disaster means a natural hazard event causing serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources. Hence this agreement specifically includes natural disasters only. According to article III of agreement the member states to this agreement have to respond to the disasters within its territory and external assistance shall be provided only upon the request of the member states. While article IV puts general obligation upon the member states to develop mechanism for disaster risk reduction via identifying existing disaster risk, development of monitoring assessment, arrangement for disaster relief, emergency response, and exchange of information with mutual assistance to deal with such disasters. So as to respond during disaster there should be some well prepared plan for effective response. Hence article V specifies about standard operating procedures such as regional standby arrangements for emergency response, utilization of personnel, transportation, communication equipments in order to smooth and expeditious early emergency response mechanism should be formulated in accordance with their national legislation. For this purposes, member states should ensure about enhancing their national capacity in order to provide such mechanism. Article VI of the convention puts stress upon providing standby arrangements such as emergency stockpiles relating to disaster relief items, emergency search and rescue directory, experts and technologist in the field of disaster management. At the time of disasters, if party needs help from the other member state, then it may request to such member states about scope and type of assistance required directly or through Secretary General. Upon receiving request, member states should promptly decide and notify about its position of providing assistance alongwith scope and conditions thereof. The requested party shall be required to inform about acceptance of assistance with such conditions from Assisting Party. For the purpose of such assistance over all control shall lies with the requesting state within its territory. Where the assistance involves personnel and a person who shall be in charge than Assisting State shall retain immediate supervision over personnel and equipment provided by it (Article IX). For this purpose, whatever the assistance provided in the form of importation and use of equipments including vehicles, telecommunication, facilities and materials brought into territory of requesting states shall be exempted from taxation, duties and other charges.

15. Food Assistance Convention (2012)

The objective of this convention is to contribute with food security and to improve nutritional status of the most vulnerable populations and to secure ability of the international community to respond to food situations and other food needs of developing countries. Article 2 of the convention explains the various principles for food assistance as to provide food assistance only when most vulnerable population needs arises taking into consideration of long term rehabilitation, to protect the livelihoods and strengthens the self-reliance and resilience of vulnerable populations, to mitigate and respond food security crisis etc.

16. Sendai Framework of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) was the first major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda and provides Member States with concrete actions to protect development gains from the risk of disaster. The Sendai Framework is the successor instrument to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters. It is the outcome of stakeholder consultations initiated in March 2012 and inter-governmental negotiations held from July 2014 to March 2015, which were supported by the UNDRR upon the request of the UN General Assembly. The Sendai Framework works hand in hand with the other 2030 Agenda agreements, including The Paris Agreement on Climate Change, The Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, the New Urban Agenda, and ultimately the Sustainable Development Goals. It was endorsed by the UN General Assembly following the 2015 Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR), and advocates for:

“The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.” It recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders.

Sendai Framework sets out the focussed priority of action to be carried out within and across sectors by states at local, national, regional and global level in following areas:

Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk

Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk.

Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience.

Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

STATUS OF RATIFICATION

SR. NO.	TREATIES/ CONVENTION/AGREEMENT	ENACTEMENT DATE	ENTRY INTO FORCE	STATUS OF INDIA
1	Convention On Facilitation Of International Maritime Traffic	1965	1967	RATIFIED 1984
2	Multilateral International Convention On The Simplification And Harmonization Of Customs Procedures (Known As Kyoto Convention	1973	1974	1974
3	Convention On The Assistance In The Case Of Nuclear Accident Or Radiological Emergency	1986	1987	1988
4	Convention On Early Notification Of Nuclear Accident	1986	1987	1988
5	United Nations Convention To Combat Desertification In Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought And/or Desertification, Particularly In Africa	1994	1996	1996
6	International Convention On Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response And Cooperation	1990	1995	1998
7	Convention On Temporary Admission	1990	1993	NA
8	Convention On International Civil Aviation	1944	Provisional Functioning from 1995 but ratified by states in 1947	1947
9	Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation	1944	NA	NA
10	Tampere Convention On The Provision Of Telecommunication Resources For Disaster Mitigation And Relief Operations	1998	2005	1999
11	Food Assistance Convention	2012	2013	NA
12	Framework Convention On Civil Defence Assistance	2000	-	-
13	ASEAN Agreement On Disaster Management And Emergency Response	2005	2010	NA
14	SAARC Agreement on Rapid Response to Natural Disaster	2011	-	-
15	Sendai Framework of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction	2015-2030	-	-

SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

In recent years, Governments and aid organizations have made various commitments about ensuring that the world's most vulnerable people are not "left behind". But those commitments are not being reached. 2018 World Disasters Report states that millions of people living in crisis are not receiving the humanitarian assistance what they desperately need, 3751 natural hazards have been recorded over the last 10 years which is more than one every day, 84.2 % of these were weather related disasters and 134 million people needed assistance. This seems that instead of having the various conventions, treaties, protocol, agreements & policy documents related with disaster response, the human death, sufferings and adverse impacts upon environments continues worldwide. This scattered and heterogeneous disaster response law creates grater confusion upon states to architecture effective disaster response & management laws into their domain. There is need to strengthen

the effective and efficient cooperation amongst states and aid organizations, raising the awareness level amongst disaster prone areas, strengthening early warning mechanism, efficient communication between the disaster prone states, increasing capacity building programmes from local to regional level in order to minimize vulnerability in various segments, mandatory funding mechanism from budget, effective political leadership, inclusion and consideration of women, children, aged people and people with disability in decision making, consideration of existing and future disaster risk in development related strategies for disaster mitigation and adaptation.

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