FORUM: United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

QUESTION OF: Performing Risk Assessments of Emerging Technologies and their Potential Hazards

SUBMITTED BY: Republic of Korea

CO-SUBMITTED BY: Afghanistan, China, Federation of Russia, Greece, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, Venezuela.

THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION,

Recognizing the rapid development and integration of emerging technologies into societies worldwide,

Deeply concerned by the rapid advancements in artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, cybersecurity, biotechnology and other emerging fields that have the potential to introduce new risks to global security, human health, and the environment,

Emphasizing the importance of comprehensive risk assessments to identify, mitigate, and manage the potential hazards associated with emerging technologies,

Remembering the work of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction UNDRR in addressing the risks associated with technological advancements,

1. Calls for the establishment of a Risk and Control Self Assessment (RCSA) framework on the issue of emerging technologies and their potential hazards by means such as but not limited to:
    a) identifying:
        i. business targets and objectives,
        ii. risks that can threaten objectives,
        iii. the roles and process of performing the controls,
    b) assessing the effectiveness of the controls and unmitigated risk by:
        i. collecting and compiling assessments to create a comprehensive understanding of organizational risks within an organization;
2. Requests for the establishment of international framework and ethical standards for the assessment, regulation and oversight of emerging technologies, including the development of biotechnology and artificial intelligence, by measures such as but not limited to:
    a) creating and implementing a safety global framework that will:
        i. control biotechnology, AI research and development,

ii. ensure that all new technologies are evaluated for potential hazards before widespread adoption,
iii. establish guidelines for data collection and usage in AI and other modern applications,
iv. develop anonymization methods, which will balance data utility and privacy,

b) endorsing the implementation of global ethical guidelines for biotechnology and AI, while:
i. prioritizing human rights, focusing on safety, transparency and accountability,
ii. preventing from injustice and information leakage,
iii. enforcing legal charges in case of violation of other's online privacy,
iv. conducting security controls for the accuracy and safety sites where password is required,
v. adopting a two-step verification as a mandatory requirement for data sharing and communication;

3. Suggests the creation of an international cooperation to create standardized tools and methodologies for emerging technology risk assessments by:
a) establishing an international repository of case studies and practices learned to guide future risk management efforts,
b) promoting bilateral and multilateral agreements to share data, expertise and resources between states for the assessment and mitigation of technological risks,
c) developing a UNDRR led framework for collaborative research on the interplay between emerging technologies and disaster risks, the findings of which shall be stored in the aforementioned repository for future use,
d) establishing international organizations to prevent misunderstandings caused by leaked confidential files through enforcing strict confidentiality agreements, in order to:
i. organize international conferences to create trust in-between the countries,

ii. publish comprehensive annual reports detailing progress and areas of concern;

4. Recommends the establishment of an international regulatory body, under the supervision of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), to oversee actions, such as but not limited to:
    a) conducting global risk assessments to detect emerging threats, vulnerabilities and trends related to disasters, including:
        i. incidents caused by climate change,
        ii. technological advancements
        iii. geopolitical instability,
    b) facilitating knowledge, technology and technical expertise exchange among member states and stakeholders through platforms for information sharing, collaborative research and training programs,
    c) promoting the integration of disaster risk reduction and resilience-building into national and local development planning to connect sustainable development goals with disaster risk management objectives,
    d) setting guidelines for a minimum percentage of human employees, encouraging workplaces to develop regulations that ensure human workforces;
5. Supports the establishment of help centers to assist victims of cyber abuse, in ways such as but not limited to:
    a) creating therapy programs addressing psychological impacts of technology misuse which could:
        i. include specialized programs for vulnerable populations, such as children and teenagers,
        ii. utilize modern technological tools such as VR to teach the patients how to properly use the internet and benefit from it,
    b) partnering with health professionals and tech companies to mitigate addictive design patterns by encouraging tech companies to fund research into the effects of technology usage;
6. Proposes the establishment of a Global Emerging Technology Registry, to promote transparency and accountability that will be:

a) documenting new technologies according to the specific date they will need to be implemented,
b) explaining the applications of new and emerging technologies,
c) informing about the identified risks of these technologies;

7. Endorses capacity building programs, particularly for developing countries, to increase their technical expertise in identifying and mitigating risks associated with new technologies by:
    a) developing accreditation programs that recognize proficiency in risk management,
    b) establishing training sessions and workshops to equip professionals,
    c) facilitating the exchange of best practices, case studies and experiences through means such as but not limited to:
        i. conferences,
        ii. webinars,
        iii. forums;
8. Approves the creation of a globally recognized Emerging Technology Risk Assessment Framework (ETRAF) under the United Nations, focusing on evaluating emerging technologies, including AI, biotechnology, nanotechnology, quantum computing and nuclear technology which will:
    a) be composed of neutral and professionally related people who will be chosen by the UN,
    b) be commissioned to research the potential hazards associated with emerging technologies such as but not limited to:
        i. using nuclear technology as a weapon,
        ii. leveraging advanced algorithms to collect and misuse personal data for manipulation, surveillance, or discriminatory practices,
        iii. using quantum computing to decode strongly encrypted passwords to access unauthorized platforms,
    c) publish annual reports so other nations and people can also get a better knowledge about the topic.