

# **National Model United Nations**

## **Week A**

**March 17 – March 21, 2013**



**United Nations Human Rights Council**

**Documentation**

# United Nations Human Rights Council

## Committee Staff

Director                      Amanda Wong  
Assistant Director        Evin Sanders  
Chair                            Alex Goll

Rapporteur                 April Annechiarico

## Agenda

1. Access to Safe Drinking Water as a Fundamental Human Right
2. Strengthening Human Rights of Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Conflict-Ridden Regions
3. Deterring Discrimination and Violence against Persons with Disabilities

## Resolutions adopted by the committee

Document Code	Topic	Vote (Y/ N/ Abstention/ Non-Voting)
RES/HRC /1/1	2015 convention on accessibility; a UN Water Oversight Panel; and measures through training and regional partnerships.	33/0/10/0
RES/HRC /1/2	Funding, further technology development, and highlighting existing programs)	37/0/6/0
RES/HRC /1/3	Infrastructure pertaining to water access, education, and best practice exchanges.	Acclamation
RES/HRC /1/4	Social inclusion of women and children with regards to water and health as fundamental human rights.	40/0/3/0

## Summary Report

The Human Rights Council (Council) held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Strengthening Human Rights of Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Conflict-Ridden Regions;
- II. Access to Safe Drinking Water as a Fundamental Human Right; and
- III. Deterring Discrimination and Violence against Persons with Disabilities. There were 41 states in attendance.

The annual session opened with several statements concerning the adoption of the agenda. In the first session the Council began discussing Topic II as the first item. Working groups formed to work on sub-topics within the agenda topic. A motion was passed to reduce speaking time to 90 seconds, in an effort to hear a wider range of views from the member states on this important topic. Education for water sustainability, public-private partnerships, and post-2015 goals for water-scarce states were the most prevalent themes in the emerging working papers. During the third session, the Council refined the working papers, and several working groups merged papers in the spirit of community and consensus. By the end of the session, five working papers had been officially submitted to the dais.

To advance the progress of the Council working papers the fourth session was primarily informal session during which the dais gave each working group feedback on how to further develop the papers, and encourage consensus. Two working papers merged in the fifth session to more thoroughly approach the topic. This led to the following proposals: a 2015 convention on accessibility; a UN Water Oversight Panel; and measures through training and regional partnerships. This merged working paper, known as Blue/Purple, was submitted to the dais for further consideration. The Director suggested to the Council to consider discussing the social and cultural aspects of the agenda topic, and to look further into solutions that could benefit vulnerable groups of people. Further to this, delegations voted in favor of a motion to close the speakers' list. Throughout the sixth session the Council made great progress moving through the speakers' list. There was a failed motion to reopen the speakers' list. At the end of the session there were four working papers: the aforementioned Blue/Purple paper, Red/Green (funding, further technology development, and highlighting existing programs), Yellow (infrastructure pertaining to water access, education, and best practice exchanges), and Orange (social inclusion of women and children with regards to water and health as fundamental human rights). The seventh session centered on speeches reaffirming the delegates' aspirations towards consensus within the Council. Draft resolution HRC/1/1, previously the Orange working paper, was accepted by the dais and presented to the delegates for consideration. A second motion to reopen the speakers' list passed.

In the eighth session, draft resolutions HRC/1/2, HRC/1/3, and HRC/1/4 were presented to the body by the dais for a total of four draft resolutions on the floor. A motion for closure of debate failed, but after several speakers and informal caucuses a motion for the closure of debate passed and the Council moved into formal voting procedure. Draft resolution 1/1, with one friendly amendment, passed to become resolution HRC/1/1 by a vote of 33 in favor, 10 abstentions, and 0 against; the motion to pass

this resolution by acclamation failed. Draft resolution HRC/1/2, with one friendly amendment, passed to become resolution HRC/1/2 by a vote of 37 in favor, 6 abstentions, and 0 against; the motion to pass this resolution by acclamation failed. A motion for a division of the question in draft resolution HRC/1/3 failed, but the draft resolution passed by acclamation to become resolution HRC/1/3. Draft resolution HRC/1/4, with one friendly amendment, passed to become resolution HRC/1/4 after a roll call vote resulting in 40 in favor, 3 abstentions, and 0 against. After a productive voting procedure the Council moved directly into discussing the next topic on the agenda: Strengthening Human Rights of Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Conflict-Ridden Regions. In order to more efficiently converse on the topic, the dais entertained speakers from the speakers' list and an informal caucus. The meeting was adjourned without a substantive decision on the second topic on the agenda.

Code: HRC/1/1

Committee: United Nations Human Rights Council

Subject: Access to Safe Drinking Water as a Fundamental Human Right

1 *Recalling* clause 14.2.h of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of  
2 Discrimination against Women, Article 24 in the Convention on the Right of the Child in  
3 allowing access to potable water to be established as human right of health, and the  
4 Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

5  
6 *Noting* the need to achieve Goals 3, 4, 7 of the Millennium Development Goals in  
7 empowering women, by granting the essential resources for maternal health, and in  
8 providing a sustainable environment,

9  
10 *Considering* the barriers faced by vulnerable populations in accessing clean water as  
11 noted by the United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) report on Global Population  
12 and Water: Access and Sustainability;

13  
14 *Recognizing* the United Nations (UN) Charter Article 2 in the protection of State  
15 sovereignty, and the success of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe  
16 in eliminating social exclusion in accessing water as a human right,

17  
18 *Highlighting* passed resolutions such as A/HRC/21/2 in that all persons have the right to  
19 safe drinking water, along with opening dialogue internationally in forming clean water  
20 similar to the European Union and African Union forums for open dialogue in regards to  
21 best-practice sharing,

22  
23 *The Human Rights Council,*

- 24  
25 1. *Recommends* Member States to engage in allowing access to water in combating  
26 social exclusion and strengthening access to water for vulnerable populations;  
27  
28 2. *Invites* Member States to collaborate with the UN-Water Task Force on Gender  
29 and Water in highlighting the importance of water as an essential resource for  
30 health and development of life;  
31  
32 3. *Encourages* Member States to recognize alternative mechanisms and programs  
33 akin to Global Environment Facility International Water Strategy to improve  
34 efficiency of obtaining water for women and children;  
35  
36 4. *Requests* Member States to work with the international community in open  
37 dialogue in the promotion of water as a fundamental human right and emplacing  
38 bilateral/multilateral partnerships in accessing water for the purpose of health;  
39  
40 5. *Calls upon* Member States to recognize the correlation between the access to  
41 water and health, by highlighting the need for safe drinking water in aiding in the  
42 growth and development of vulnerable populations.

Code: HRC/1/2

Committee: United Nations Human Rights Council

Subject: Access to Safe Drinking Water as a Fundamental Human Right

1 *Affirming* that water is one of the most fundamental elements to human life as stated by  
2 A/RES/64/292 and A/HRC/RES/16/2, which support efforts to promote the expansion of rights  
3 to safe drinking water for all,  
4  
5 *Recognizing* that the UN Water Program was established in 2003 by the United Nations High  
6 Level Committee on Programmes for the purpose of supporting efforts of Member States to  
7 increase access to safe drinking water,  
8  
9 *Deeply conscious* of the need for greater empowerment of the UN Water Program and the need  
10 to strengthen its mandate,  
11  
12 *Aware* that developing Member States face greater challenges in addressing the problem  
13 providing access to safe drinking water,  
14  
15 *Recalling* the definition of access to safe drinking water by the Joint Monitoring Program as the  
16 ability to acquire water from a source less than one kilometer away that has microbial, chemical,  
17 or physical characteristics that meet World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines on drinking  
18 water,  
19  
20 *Recognizing* the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization  
21 International Hydrological Programme towards water research, water resources management,  
22 education, and capacity building,  
23  
24 *Affirming* the necessity of educational programs to increase awareness of the importance of water  
25 conservation,  
26  
27 *Expressing appreciation for* the work of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social  
28 Affairs Capacity Development Office which supports technical cooperation and capacity  
29 development activities,  
30  
31 *Remembering*, however, that as stipulated by the United Nations Partners on Millennium  
32 Development Goal, Target 7.c, as of 2012 more than 783 million persons throughout the world,  
33 constituting 11 percent of the population, do not have access to safe drinking water, particularly  
34 in developing countries,  
35  
36 *Fully aware* of state sovereignty as granted by Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations and  
37 its relation to all fundamental human rights,  
38  
39 *Remembering* A/RES/HRC/15/9, which recognizes that States may opt to involve non-State  
40 actors in the provision of safe drinking water,  
41  
42 *Reaffirming* Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights  
43 which states the human right to adequate standard of living,

44  
45 *Noting further* that the World Health Organization recognizes that an adequate standard of living  
46 and a minimum level of personal health is needed to enjoy other fundamental rights,  
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48 *Affirming* A/HRC/RES/7/22, which established the independent expert on the issue of human  
49 rights obligations related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation and A/HRC/RES/16/2,  
50 which further expand the mandate to report on activities by Member States,  
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52 *Further recalling* A/RES/60/251, which established the Universal Periodic Review board and  
53 A/HRC/RES/5/1, which established the objectives of promoting human rights,  
54

55 *Deeply conscious* that collaboration between United Nations specialized agencies is essential to  
56 effectively tackling of global issues and that such collaboration will enable more effective use of  
57 resources,  
58

59 *Bearing in mind*, Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stating that human  
60 being are born free and equal in dignity and rights and Article 3 that declares the right to life,  
61 liberty and security of person,  
62

63 *Recalling* the General Comment No. 15, which acknowledges the human right to water as  
64 indispensable for promoting life and human dignity,  
65

66 *Recognizing the achievement of* the Millennium Development Goal 7.c to halve the proportion of  
67 the world population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation,  
68

69 *Bearing in mind* that access to safe drinking water is a right rather than a privilege and should be  
70 guaranteed for all persons,  
71

72 *Deeply convinced* of the need to integrate water and hygiene efforts as some communities often  
73 face reduced quality or limited quantity of water as well as a lack of knowledge about water and  
74 hygiene,  
75

76 *Remembering* that access to safe drinking water is a fundamental human right that is significantly  
77 affected by the social, political, environmental, and economic conditions that affect Member  
78 States, and that solutions will require multilateral cooperation,  
79

80 *Desiring* for a global awareness of conscious and sustainable use of clean fresh water,  
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82 *The Human Rights Council*,

83  
84 1) *Encourages* the creation of an independent fund, called the UN Fund to Ensure Safe  
85 Access to Water (UNFESAW), under the auspices of the UN Water (UNW) Program;  
86

87 2) *Expresses its hope* that this fund will give special consideration to developing Member  
88 States in their attempts to ensure safe and equitable access to potable water for all;  
89

- 90 3) *Encourages* the further collaboration between Member States to improve water quality to  
91 meet standards as stipulated by the World Health Organization in a multilateral, united  
92 effort;  
93
- 94 4) *Emphasizes* the necessity that the essence of UNFESAW is based on a multifaceted  
95 approach incorporating three main focuses of financial aid for infrastructure  
96 development, promotion of education programs, and the sharing of best practices and  
97 technology in increasing access to safe drinking water;  
98
- 99 5) *Suggests* that UNFESAW resources be directed at the development and maintenance of  
100 infrastructure in collaboration with the UNW Decade Program on Capacity Development,  
101 the creation of the UN Water Oversight Panel, and the upcoming United Nations  
102 Convention in Quito, Ecuador on the Accessibility, Cooperation, and United Alliance  
103 (ACUA) related to any step in the provision of clean water as a human right;  
104
- 105 6) *Recommends* that educational programs focus on local community improvement through  
106 the establishment of local knowledge centers which will:  
107
- 108 a) Be requested by non-governmental organizations working in affected areas with  
109 approval by the sovereign Member State;
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  - 111 b) Utilize radio technology to increase the awareness of water education programs to  
112 individual populations in local dialects;  
113
  - 114 c) Cooperate with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in  
115 order to train UNFESAW personnel in proper practices regarding work with local  
116 communities giving respect to national cultural traditions;  
117
  - 118 d) *Collaborate* with the UNW Decade Program Advocacy and Communication as  
119 well as representatives of non-governmental organizations to promote  
120 community-based solutions to the following issues:  
121
  - 122 i. Efficient water usage so as to reduce water waste, mismanagement, and  
123 further contamination due to improper disposal;
  - 124 ii. Safe storage of drinking water;
  - 125 iii. The importance of sanitary surroundings near pre-existing water sources  
126 and hygienic conditions in general;
  - 127 iv. The need for public consciousness with regards to the prevention of  
128 waterborne diseases and water sustainability;
  - 129 v. Water-efficient and water-conscious ways of farming including the  
130 cultivation of innovative crops growing with less water;  
131
- 132 7) *Encourages* the exchange of best practices in collaboration with Global Water Operator's  
133 Partnership Alliance in order to guarantee the acquisition of assistance and capacity  
134 building to act in concert so as to achieve a global and equal implementation of access to  
135 safe drinking water as a fundamental human right;



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- 8) *Emphasizes* the importance of technological and scientific collaboration through the sharing of research and investigating new and innovative practices in collection, sanitization, desalinization, decontamination, and provision of water;
  - 9) *Draws attention to* the fact that contributions to this fund are not exclusive or limited to the allocation of financial resources but also the provision of human capital and the exchange of knowledge;
  - 10) *Recommends* the creation of a specialized advisory within UNFESAW responsible for ensuring the equitable distribution of safe drinking water access aid and resources to vulnerable and marginalized groups within the targeted areas;
  - 11) *Declares* accordingly that it is the prerogative of Member States to propose national projects relating to the three pillars of UNFESAW, thus respecting the inalienable principle of state sovereignty;
  - 12) *Calls for* Member States to include in their Universal Periodic Review reports the status of ongoing UNFESAW funded projects;
  - 13) *Further recommends* that improvements in access to safe drinking water be measured through the percentage of persons with access to safe drinking water as defined by the WHO, determined by Member State sponsored research or by research conducted by independent UNFESAW personnel invited by the Member State;
  - 14) *Confirms* that the protection of any in-field UNFESAW personnel is chiefly the responsibility of the sovereign government of the country in which they are deployed;
  - 15) *Further proclaims* that supported projects will be monitored in order to assure the accountability, transparency and affordability as well as their completion and implementation in a non discriminatory fashion;
  - 16) *Encourages* increased cooperation between United Nations Environmental Program, United Nations Development Program, Food and Agricultural Organization, and the World Food Organization through the inclusion of recommendations put forth by UNFESAW experts in the UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water report of the World Health Organization and the World Water Development Report;
  - 17) *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council in cooperation with the United Nations Development Program establishes a certification program that would be called *AQUEDUCT* which would:
    - a) Issue certificates to enterprises and industries for substantial efforts in regards to sustainable use of water;
    - b) Encourage enterprises to follow a non-pollution policy;

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- c) Support enterprises and non-governmental organizations working with local communities to improve access to safe drinking water;

18) *Recommends* that UNFESAW and its programs utilize diversified financial resources of voluntary contributions from Member States, non-governmental organizations, and enterprises within the UNFESAW Certification Program, which would coordinate the allocation and distribution of these funds by UNFESAW to maximize efficiency, prevent misuse of funds and avoid creating a culture of dependency between Member States that may infringe on sovereignty.

Code: HRC/1/3

Committee: United Nations Human Rights Council

Subject: Access to Safe Drinking Water as a Fundamental Human Right

1 *Fully believing* that access to clean drinking water and sanitation are necessities for the  
2 fulfillment of human rights for all persons under the recommendations of the UN-Water  
3 global analysis and assessment of sanitation and drinking-water (GLAAS 2012) that  
4 establishes required standards on clean drinking water and sanitization,  
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6 *Acknowledging* that the year 2013 has been declared by the United Nations as the Year of  
7 Water Cooperation,  
8

9 *Fully alarmed* by the indisputable correlation between high mortality rates and lack of  
10 proper sanitation and access to water, as specified under A/RES/66/293,  
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12 *Deeply disturbed* that nearly eight-hundred million people currently lack access to safe  
13 drinking water and sanitation, and that seven-hundred thousand children die each year  
14 due to the unavailability of water as a fundamental human right, as specified by Fact  
15 Sheet No.35, “The Right To Water”, issued by United Nations Human Rights Council  
16 (UNHRC), UNHABITAT, and World Health Organization (WHO),  
17

18 *Immensely concerned* by the *General Comment No. 15. The right to water. UN*  
19 *Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* which states that ninety percent of  
20 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working on clean water distribution projects  
21 fail within eighteen months of implementation, and of those that do last beyond eighteen  
22 months, only ten percent follow up on their projects,  
23

24 *Aware of* the crucial importance of voluntary international cooperation and information  
25 sharing as a necessary step in alleviating global water inaccessibility, as recognized by  
26 ECOSOC’s 2013 Statistical Commission, E/CN.3/2013/30,  
27

28 *Recalling favorably* A/RES/64/292, which establishes potable water as a human right  
29 without opposition,  
30

31 *Recognizing* the importance of the sovereignty of all Member States under Article 2 of  
32 the Charter of the United Nations,  
33

34 *Fully aware* that water access must be addressed on a regional and state-specific level, as  
35 stated by the March 2012 United Nations World Water Development Report 4,  
36 commissioned by United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization  
37 (UNESCO), UN-Water, and World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP),  
38

39 *Taking note* of the high costs associated with building and maintaining effective water  
40 and plumbing infrastructure, indicated by Commission on Sustainable Development  
41 report CSD-16/17,  
42

43 *Commending* the international community for its success in achieving Millennium  
44 Development Goal 7C and significant progress towards reaching the Millennium  
45 Development Goal 8B, which addresses the special needs of Least Developed Countries,  
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47 *Noting with satisfaction* the efforts of UN Water in promoting water as a human right and  
48 the need for proper infrastructure to obtain long-term sustainability for all Member States  
49 and to improve overall quality of life,  
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51 *The Human Rights Council,*  
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- 53 1) *Calls upon* Member States, in the spirit of the Millennium Declaration, to increase  
54 aid to regions most grievously affected by water and sanitation inaccessibility,  
55 with the intent of an immediate reduction in the number of individuals suffering  
56 from a lack of water and access to sanitization;  
57
- 58 2) *Approves* international aid directives to fund domestic-level organizations for the  
59 promotions of research and development for sustainable water practices to  
60 promote local capacity-building programs, including collaborative measures to  
61 bolster the independence of cooperative water accessibility programs and  
62 encourage the long-term self-sufficiency of sustainable water distribution;  
63
- 64 3) *Recommends* the distribution of funds to refurbish existing water and plumbing  
65 infrastructures and the establishment of new, sustainable water infrastructure in  
66 affected Member States;  
67
- 68 4) *Authorizes* the establishment of the 2015 United Nations Convention in Quito,  
69 Ecuador on the Accessibility, Cooperation, and United Alliance (ACUA) on the  
70 human right to water to:
  - 71
  - 72 a. Establish a post-2015 agenda for promoting water accessibility in lesser-  
73 developed regions;  
74
  - 75 b. Encourage voluntary submissions by Member State of progress reports and  
76 briefings on the implementation of new legal frameworks regarding the access  
77 to water as a human right within the sovereign territory of each Member State;  
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  - 79 c. Invite voluntary international panel discussion on innovative sustainable  
80 technology mechanisms and research aiding in the eradication of water  
81 inaccessibility;  
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  - 83 d. Encourage cooperative measures between Non-Governmental Organizations,  
84 UN agencies, and Member States to assess the status of the accessibility of  
85 potable water within the most affected states and regions with the intention of  
86 reporting this data at the 2015 ACUA Convention;  
87

- 88 e. Welcome an increased level of international communication regarding water  
89 accessibility as a human right for all people;  
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- 91 5) *Requests* the establishment of the UN Water Oversight Panel prior to the 2015  
92 ACUA Convention, which shall be composed of internationally recognized  
93 independent experts and operated by the founding principles of research and  
94 development, education promotion, and long-term independent stability, which  
95 will:  
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- 97 a. Act as a facilitator between local, water-specific NGOs and Member States  
98 with the goal of enabling access to safe drinking water as a human right  
99 through voluntary acceptance by:  
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- 101 i. Establishing increased access to a network of non-governmental  
102 organizations and public-private partnerships (PPPs) to which Member  
103 States have access in order to implement programs to enable Member  
104 States to provide access to safe drinking water as a human right to all  
105 people;  
106 ii. Encouraging collaborative funding through the mechanisms of the United  
107 Nations Fund to Ensure Safe Access to Water (UNFESAW) to promote  
108 sustainable water- related projects;  
109
- 110 b. Ensure that NGOs and PPPs that are economically sound and encourage long-  
111 term, sustainable solutions to water accessibility are utilized to implement  
112 programs within Member States;  
113
- 114 c. Acting as an oversight panel for organizations enabling the right of all people  
115 to access safe drinking water according to the REP (Research, Educate,  
116 Provide) framework, which:  
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- 118 i. Researches ways of reducing water waste, promoting sustainable water  
119 purification processes, and efficiently distributing water;  
120 ii. Educates the domestic populace and regional organizations on best water  
121 and sanitation practices in correlation with technological advances found  
122 within the REP body;  
123 iii. Provides a framework for self-sustainability for lesser developed countries  
124 seeking voluntary assistance as the program continues independently;  
125
- 126 6) *Additionally requests* the continued support of the Water and Sanitation Trust  
127 Fund by Member States to facilitate the research and development of technologies  
128 that will assist in enabling all people to have access to water as a fundamental  
129 human right;  
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- 131 7) *Emphasizes* the importance of developing educational programs to aid member  
132 states in implementing country specific solutions that address diverse needs  
133 involving the access and use of safe drinking water through:

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- a. Hosting conferences that will:
    - i. Integrate the expertise of specialists into a worldwide network of research institutes and government representatives;
    - ii. Develop sustainable techniques involving desalination, infrastructure, maintenance, agricultural efficiency, and borehole construction;
    - iii. Promote the sustainable development of green energy generation in nations where this technology can be utilized to improve access to potable water;
  - b. Offering training programs that will:
    - i. Establish educational initiatives to broaden the knowledge base of pertinent policy makers in regards to effective water management techniques;
    - ii. Spread ideas of water efficient and water conscious ways of farming;
    - iii. Use the curriculum of the Farmer Field School to utilize the field of agro-ecology to reduce the use of pesticides and promote sustainability;
- 8) *Encourages* the implementation of a hydrological forecasting system under the cooperative efforts of UN-Water and UN Settlements Fund to identify suffering regions and better allocate resources, with specific attention directed towards data collection in the most affected regions, which will collect data and provide analyses resulting from reports from other Member States that will be used by the UN-Water Panel to enhance resource management and best practice;
- 9) *Suggests* additional regional and bilateral partnerships, under the auspices of UN Water, in an effort to address the problems of inequitable development and lack of water accessibility within Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East, Small Island Developing States, South East Asia, Latin America and all other Member States and regions needing assistance to:
- a. Utilize resources within these partnerships for humanitarian aid with the purpose of addressing unequal distribution of water, education, aid and sanitization among the most vulnerable populations;
  - b. Endorse programs that sustainably accelerate access to improved rural water supply and sanitation facilities as successful models of effective bilateral cooperation in establishing humanitarian aid for water accessibility and sanitation relief;
- 10) *Recommends* an annual report from the Human Population Fund on the status of Member States and regions lacking access to basic water and sanitation needs, to promote global awareness and education regarding worldwide water accessibility, specifically:

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- a. By monitoring the progress of each Member State through statistical analyses and;
- b. By advocating for the acknowledgment of safe drinking water for all persons as a fundamental human right.

Code: HRC/1/4

Committee: United Nations Human Rights Council

Subject: Access to Safe Drinking Water as a Fundamental Human Right

1 *Reaffirming* all previous relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Human Rights  
2 Council concerning the topic of water, especially General Assembly resolution A/RES/64/292  
3 and Human Rights Council resolutions A/HRC/RES/15/9 of 2010 that declare the access to safe  
4 drinking water as a fundamental human right and resolution A/HRC/RES/21/2 of 2012  
5 welcoming the recognition of the human right to safe drinking water derived from the right to an  
6 adequate standard of living,

7  
8 *Deeply concerned* by high disparities and discrimination in the access to safe drinking water,  
9 particularly in rural regions of Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as in the poorest regions of certain  
10 Member States, all of them lacking infrastructure as stated in resolution A/RES/66/293,

11  
12 *Recalling* the Agenda 21 of June 1992 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted in  
13 September 2002, particularly chapter 18 that consists in the protection of water resources  
14 management,

15  
16 *Emphasizing* the importance of sustainable development while securing the human right to safe  
17 and clean drinking water, mirrored in goal number 7 of the Millennium Development Goal and  
18 resolution A/RES/64/197,

19  
20 *Recalling* the commitment made by all Member States to the Millennium Development Goals  
21 emphasizing on reaching 0.7% of their gross national income in Official Development  
22 Assistance, as presented in the 8<sup>th</sup> Millennium Development Goal,

23  
24 *Further recalling* clause 21 of the Monterrey Consensus, on the role of public private  
25 partnership, on Financing for Development on strategies of investment of development,

26  
27 *Acknowledging* the importance of General Comment Number 15 on the right to water of  
28 November 2002, which states that the human right to water is indispensable for leading a life in  
29 human dignity,

30  
31 *Upholding* the principles of the Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Discrimination Against  
32 Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Convention on  
33 Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,

34  
35 *Fully aware* of the role and importance of Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations  
36 recognizing the sovereignty of Member States;

37  
38 *The Human Rights Council,*

- 39  
40 1) *Declares* a post-2015 goal framework that adopts a comprehensive and integrated  
41 approach under the Purify Unify Redistribute and Educate (PURE) water plan in  
42 improving infrastructure to ensure that there is sufficient and safe water for present and



43 future generations in collaboration with all bodies under the UN-Water and the Water  
44 Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) by:

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- 46 a. Reducing the depletion of water resources through unsustainable extraction,  
47 diversion and damming;
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  - 49 b. Reducing and eliminating contamination of watersheds and water related eco-  
50 systems by substances and waste products from industrial, agriculture and or  
51 extraction techniques;
  - 52
  - 53 c. Ensuring that proposed developments do not interfere with access to adequate water;
  - 54
  - 55 d. Assessing the impacts of actions that may impinge upon water availability and  
56 natural-ecosystems watersheds, such as climate changes, desertification and  
57 deforestation and loss of biodiversity;
  - 58

59 2) *Calls upon* the WSSCC Executing Agency and the Steering Committee to enact the  
60 PURE plan as part of the Global Sanitation Fund which will work with national  
61 governments to implement these policies and oversee the program through yearly reports  
62 submitted by the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Analysis and Assessment  
63 Sanitation and Drinking Water (GLAAS) Report to assist in tracking progress;

64

65 3) *Recommends* Member States to participate in endorsing a minimum standard for  
66 purifying water by adhering to the safety standards set forth in the WHO Guidelines for  
67 Drinking-water Quality by:

- 68
- 69 a. Inducing cooperation and collaboration of stakeholders, including regional human  
70 rights mechanisms, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and  
71 academic institutions;
  - 72
  - 73 b. Understanding clean water as being free from micro-organisms, chemical substances,  
74 radiological hazards;
  - 75

76 4) *Suggests* the implementation of existing knowledge centers through the UN International  
77 Hydrological Programme and UN Water partner UN Environment Programme in order  
78 to:

- 79
- 80 a. Develop and support the efforts of the UN International Hydrological Programme  
81 sub-programme known as the International Center for Integrated Water Resources  
82 Management (ICIWaRM) through new knowledge, innovative technologies,  
83 collaborative interdisciplinary scientific research, networking, training and capacity  
84 development;
  - 85
  - 86 b. Encourage and support the efforts of the UN Environmental Program (UNEP) sub-  
87 programme known as the International Ecosystem Management Program (IEMP)

- 88 through ecosystem support to developing Member States via interdependence of  
89 freshwater and coastal resources;  
90
- 91 5) *Calls upon* Member States to exchange strategies, solutions and programmes of water  
92 related bodies by:  
93
- 94 a. Establishing a regional approach through existing UN regional agencies to water  
95 sanitation while maintaining the sovereignty of concerned Member States;  
96
- 97 b. Understanding that Member States have the freedom to choose the management and  
98 distribution of water supply through any appropriate methods;  
99
- 100 6) *Supports* national, bilateral and multilateral approaches to the issue of access to safe-  
101 drinking water by:  
102
- 103 a. Developing national strategies for the appropriate use of water allowing waste  
104 water management plans to be enforced;  
105
- 106 b. Reaching coordination between local NGOs and governments by sharing field  
107 information and expertise;  
108
- 109 c. Exchanging agreements between countries to share information and transfer of  
110 technology, through international assistance and cooperation, in particular to  
111 developing countries, in order to scale up efforts to provide safe, clean, accessible  
112 and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all;  
113
- 114 d. Providing concessionary loans, grants or financial resources in water programs;  
115
- 116 7) *Supports* the redistribution of potable water infrastructure through:  
117
- 118 a. Drilling pipelines and boreholes, installing pumps, erecting water towers, and  
119 installing aqueducts and reservoir systems;  
120
- 121 b. Supplying technical and infrastructural support concerning water projects to regional  
122 institutions and national governments;  
123
- 124 c. Providing emergency remediation in case of extreme drought, other natural  
125 catastrophes or in the case of lacking access to safe drinking water due to conflicts or  
126 discrimination of minority groups;  
127
- 128 8) Further requests proper education on water hygiene practices, water conservation,  
129 sanitation education, and human rights perspectives with economic assistance from the  
130 Assisting Communities Together (ACT) project to fund civil society organizations to  
131 implement education programs to increase safe access to drinking water in collaboration  
132 with all relevant bodies specifically in the areas of:  
133

- 134 a. Economic usage of daily and household water usage by the general population  
135 through education within schools and communities;  
136
- 137 b. Businesses and private sectors on commercial use and water recycling in production;  
138
- 139 c. Agricultural sector on managing water use, limiting waste of water in civil society  
140 organizations to facilitate hygiene education and training to rural and impoverished  
141 areas to assist marginalized groups;  
142
- 143 9) *Calls upon* Member States to encourage the implementation of public-private  
144 partnerships (PPPs) that aims to enable sustainable development and incorporating a  
145 human rights perspective by:  
146
- 147 a. Promoting PPPs to focus on the issue of water production and water transportation  
148 specifically pertaining to:  
149
- 150 i. Concentration on building new infrastructure in a sustainable way;  
151 ii. Work that has to be done on existing infrastructure to avoid water losses;  
152
- 153 b. Aligning the partnership practices according to the CEO Water Mandate and the  
154 Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB);  
155
- 156 10) *Encourages* the universal application of the core human rights conventions in order to  
157 eradicate all forms of discrimination in the enforcement of human right on access to safe  
158 drinking water by:  
159
- 160 a. Inviting all current non-signatory States to sign the conventions;  
161
- 162 b. Calling upon all current signatories to remain actively engaged in the implementation.