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Documentation of the Work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)



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Conference B

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

- I. Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health
- II. Eliminating Urban Slums and Ensuring Access to Adequate Housing
- III. Promoting Sustainable and Resilient Urbanization through Information and Communications Technology

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
UN-Habitat/1/1	Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health	Adopted without a vote
UN-Habitat/1/2	Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health	Adopted without a vote
UN-Habitat/1/3	Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health	Adopted without a vote
UN-Habitat/1/4	Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health	Adopted without a vote
UN-Habitat/1/5	Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health	37 votes in favor, 3 votes against, 3 abstentions
UN-Habitat/1/6	Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health	33 votes in favor, 3 votes against, 7 abstentions
UN-Habitat/1/7	Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Promoting Sustainable and Resilient Urbanization through Information and Communications Technology
- II. Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health
- III. Eliminating Urban Slums and Ensuring Access to Adequate Housing

Representatives of 44 Member States attended the session. On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of II, III, I, beginning discussion on the topic of “Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health.” By Tuesday, the Dais had received a total of seven proposals covering a wide range of subtopics including sustainable water and waste management, information-sharing on global databases, and technology and infrastructure strategies, as well as global inequalities in accessibility to sanitation. Additional emphasis on the topics sparked a debate.

On Wednesday, seven draft resolutions were approved by the Dais, four of which had friendly amendments. The committee adopted seven resolutions following voting procedure, five of which received unanimous support from the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including waste management and prevention strategies, water and sanitation technology transfer, water, sanitation and hygiene for vulnerable populations, universal global data platforms, and infrastructure and policy.

The hard work and dedication of all delegates are thoroughly reflected in the adopted resolutions. The high-level cooperation among all delegates created a transparent and efficient atmosphere that resulted in fruitful outcomes addressing the pressing topic of ensuring access to adequate water and sanitation.



Code: UN-Habitat/1/1

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Topic: Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health

1 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme,*

2
3 *Guided by article 31 of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states, “water is a basic human*
4 *right and a necessity,”*

5
6 *Emphasizing the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 that aims to “ensure availability and sustainable*
7 *management of water and sanitation for all,”*

8
9 *Encourages global collaboration to achieve SDGs 6 and 17, outlining the significance of issues pertaining to water*
10 *and sanitation and strengthening global partnerships for international development, respectively,*

11
12 *Recognizing that established programs such as the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and*
13 *UN-Water that acknowledge water as a basic human necessity and strive to generate global accessibility to water,*
14 *sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) for all,*

15
16 *Affirming organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations International Children’s*
17 *Emergency Fund (UNICEF), UN-Water, Human Rights Council (HRC), Global Water Cluster, Committee on*
18 *Economic and Social Rights, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Global Water Operators’ Partnership Alliance,*
19 *and Sanitation and Water for All, and the lack of cooperation between these organizations in supporting a unified*
20 *system of data,*

21
22 *Noting the success of the Global Water Forum, an international database for digital information collected through*
23 *multiple agencies around the world,*

24
25 *Viewing with appreciation the UN-Water’s Task Force on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), that*
26 *specifically monitors and reports on water and sanitation management strategies,*

27
28 1. *Calls upon* the creation of the universal data program called Universal Data Platform (UDP) that generates a
29 coalition uniting UN agencies’ communication systems and fosters opportunities to share information between
30 organizations to:

- 31
32 a. Aid in bridging gaps in communication between UN organizations;
33
34 b. Minimize organizational overlap to streamline the availability of data;
35
36 c. Express hope in reconciling the discourse between UN organization that focus on the same topic but
37 have different methods of reporting data;

38
39 2. *Further recommends* the implementation of UDP to follow the same outline as the Global Water Forums with
40 technological methods gathered by all UN bodies dedicated to researching and implementing information and
41 data solutions for clean water and sanitation to be shared to Member States by holding to:

- 42
43 a. The sovereignty of Member States through the voluntary use of the organization information;
44
45 b. The agreement that no information would be required by Member States;
46
47 c. The encouragement that UN-Habitat will lead in monitoring and collecting this data;

48

- 49 3. *Urges* the creation of a training program under the auspices of UDP that will allow all Member States to access
50 and input their information regarding workable water management systems and the promotion of universal
51 access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and proper urban health on a global scale that:
52
- 53 a. Asks that UN-Habitat compose a document on how to load and share collected information to the UDP
54 that is distributed by the UN to all affiliated and cooperating Member States and organizations;
 - 55 b. Agrees that UDP is solely voluntary to ensure Member States sovereignty is upheld;
 - 56 c. Requests selected members from each participating organization's governing council that pertains to
57 the data sharing be submitted to the UDP;
- 58
59
60 4. *Bearing in mind* that the UDP has the ultimate objective of being able to create a universal platform for the
61 sharing of information between UN entities that will aid in the completion of the sustainable development goals
62 by 2030.
63



Code: UN-Habitat/1/2

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Topic: Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health

1 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme,*

2
3 *Deeply concerned* for populations that are susceptible to natural disasters and economic deficiencies as they have a
4 harder time receiving adequate water and sanitation in their respective regions,

5
6 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution 64/292 as it explicitly recognizes the human right to water and sanitation,
7 *emphasizing* the crucial role that the World Health Organization's (WHO) Guidelines for drinkable water quality as a
8 basis for developing a national standard for the drinking and access of water, sanitation and hygiene,

9
10 *Affirms* the need for increased global cooperation to ensure that Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, achieving
11 universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all, can be accomplished with international
12 partnerships through the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat),

13
14 *Fully aware* of existing international organizations whose government structure, financial transparency, and
15 resources, model that of the French IGO 'Secours Islamique France (SIF)' and the LifeStraw Corporation campaign
16 'Follow the Liters', which have successfully provided humanitarian relief worldwide,

17
18 *Emphasizing* the need for ensuring proper allocation of funds to vulnerable populations through the UN-Habitat
19 Committee to prevent fraud and possible misuse of humanitarian aid,

20
21 *Noting with satisfaction* the great success of humanitarian aid partnerships, as these partnerships are vital and offer
22 monetary support, resources, and volunteers enabling regional organizations to spread their aid globally,

23
24 *Expressing* appreciation for the success of International Campaigns such as the World Toilet Day, which has
25 partnered with companies, like Nestlé's, to pledge to perform accurate water testing procedures, proper sanitation,
26 and providing education on individual hygiene needs to ensure proper water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)
27 facilities,

28
29 *Fulfilling* the demand for clean drinking water in rural and urban areas through partnerships among the World
30 Health Organization (WHO), Global Water Operators' Partnership (GWOP), UN-Water, African Union (AU),
31 European Union (EU), and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF),

32
33 *Commending* the efficient work done by the first World Humanitarian Summit that took place in 2016 which
34 committed to millions of vulnerable people worldwide to re-inspire and reinvigorate a promise to humanity to
35 prevent human suffering and ensure the success of the Sustainable Development Goals,

36
37 1. *Encourages* the support of partnerships between UN-Habitat and international organizations to foster greater
38 opportunities for global relief by:

39
40 a. Encouraging the support of humanitarian aid organizations, including but not limited to, the Secours
41 Islamique France (SIF) and the 'Follow the Liters Campaign' in order to provide short term and a
42 long-term solution that will allow for humanitarian relief to be given to all vulnerable populations
43 efficiently;

44
45 b. Ensuring that these organizations will retain their current governmental structure, financial
46 transparency, and current mission but will receive allocate funds from the UN-Habitat to allow for
47 global relief;

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- c. Emphasizing the use of financial resources from UN-Habitat by The Fifth Committee annually and by willing Member States to be distributed to the partnerships created on a basis based on:
 - i. Proposed annual budget requests from organizations that partner with UN-Habitat for the individual needs and the annual goals during that fiscal year;
 - ii. The discretion of the UN-Habitat to limit, approve, or deny the requested funds to ensure the success of humanitarian aid around the world;
 - d. Expresses the need for expanded partnerships with the UN-Habitat, UNICEF, and humanitarian aid organizations to implement the Sustainable Development Goals on the local, national, regional, and international level which would:
 - i. Encourage cooperation with NGOs and other relevant institutions and organizations to offer the prospect of creating significant water stress for thousands of communities and assuring access to adequate water for drinking, eating and basic sanitation;
 - ii. Setting Desalination Joint Venture will help promote the company's global expertise in water, wastewater, and reuse solutions;
2. *Recommends* the creation of the Supporting and Organizing Affordable Programs (SOAP), which will:
- a. Establish an oversight body by the year 2020 whose members are appointed by the UN-Habitat committee chair tasked by enacting policies that will ensure the financial access and proper allocation of funds to WASH services in developing countries and vulnerable areas combating pollution and water;
 - b. Guarantee that funds and donations under UN-Habitat for the purpose of Humanitarian Aid are given priority to countries with the least access to WASH services;
 - c. Work alongside the UN system in order to ensure the access to clean water for the urban poor and act as an oversight body which will ensure that budget allocations are in line with human rights demands and citizens are provided with the best services possible;
 - d. Assure that allocated government funds provided to UN-Habitat for the purpose of Humanitarian Aid are given to vulnerable areas with less access to WASH services;
 - e. Highly encourage the involvement of all willing Member States to provide volunteers, recruiters, and intellectual professionals, emphasizing those experienced in the fields of finance and accounting, to oversee and review the distribution of funds;
 - f. Review the need for rehabilitation of water in urban rural areas by educating Member States and becoming more involved in local districts;
3. *Encourages* WASH and other international organizations, including but not limited to, the WHO, GWOP, UN, AU, EU, and UNICEF to produce new technology to help decrease the time that it takes for clean water to get to towns which can decrease the potential for death and sickness;
4. *Suggests* the expansion of international campaigns through an increase in partnerships with private companies and IGO's in order to raise awareness of growing WASH concerns worldwide by:
- a. Encouraging further private sector involvement to increase international awareness by engaging companies to participate and take action which will thereby increase greater global cooperation, advance private public partnerships, and implement the SDGs by:
 - i. Encouraging companies to engage in sponsorships, corporate pledges, or other campaigns such as Unilever's commitment to provide proper WASH facilities to over 25 million people by 2020;

- 105 ii. Increasing citizen involvement through private-public partnership as seen in Nestlé’s 2016
106 campaign for World Toilet Day which engaged its employees in education on proper
107 sanitation and provided proper facilities in the workplace;
108 iii. Supporting the toilet industry to further engage in projects similar to American Standard’s
109 collaboration with Plumbers without Borders which mobilizes resources to build facilities
110 worldwide;
111
112 b. Working in conjunction with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation which has:
113
114 i. Utilized similar toilet innovation competitions to increase better facilities around the globe;
115 ii. Emphasized a continued theme of innovation in this competition to ensure most efficient and
116 sustainable progress;
117
118 c. Expanding UN partnership with the German Toilet Company to extend GTC’s scope more
119 internationally in order to:
120
121 i. Establish more campaigns such as the “Sanitation is Dignity” campaign which brought
122 attention to the issue of toilet bacteria;
123 ii. Expand GTC’s current projects for building sanitation facilities that not only build dry toilets
124 but also educate populations on sanitation and hygiene;
125 iii. Implement additional projects in vulnerable areas to successful GTC work in India where
126 GTC has installed toilets in local schools;
127
128 5. *Encourages* the expansion of the World Humanitarian Summit to:
129
130 a. Include discussions and international forums based on:
131
132 i. The success and failures related to urban sanitation that have occurred between each summit;
133 ii. Possible solutions to WASH issues that have arisen as technology and the needs of Member
134 States continue to develop;
135 iii. Reevaluation of all humanitarian aid provided to vulnerable areas, ensuring that resources are
136 still being used properly, or assessing problems that need to be resolved or altered to meet the
137 growing needs of the population;
138
139 b. Continue to meet annually for the purpose of betterment of humanity by ensuring the continued and
140 prosperous work of humanitarian aid worldwide;
141
142 6. *Further recommends* continued collaboration between UN-Habitat and the Special Rapporteur on the human
143 rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, to ensure safe drinking water and sanitation for generations to
144 come.



Code: UN-Habitat/1/3

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Topic: Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health

1 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme,*

2
3 *Recalling* resolution 64/292, which recognizes clean drinking water and sanitation as being fundamental to survival,
4 to human rights, and to global health, and the online platforms supporting this idea,

5
6 *Recognizing* the lack of an international technology-sharing forum concerning water technologies and the
7 outstanding work of UN-Water and the *Water and Sanitation Program* of the World Bank (WSP) with regards to the
8 promotion of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) technologies as well as WASH awareness,

9
10 *Acknowledging* the importance and achievements of the UN-Water Annual Zaragoza Conference (2005-2015) with
11 regards to water technologies and the promotion of urban health,

12
13 *Reiterating* the role of the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) as an available mediating
14 resource to all Member States, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other organizations,

15
16 *Bearing in mind* the advantages of public-private partnerships, such as economic growth; the accelerated delivery of
17 projects; and the reduction of the exploitation of natural resources,

18
19 *Reinforcing* resolution 25/2626 (XXV) and its promise of allocating funds towards international aid along with other
20 international institutions,

21
22 *Acknowledging* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, ensuring the availability and sustainable management of
23 water and sanitation, and SDG 11, striving for sustainable cities and communities,

24
25 *Ensuring* the New Urban Agenda, referring to the importance of information and communication technologies in the
26 promotion of urban health,

27
28 1. *Recommends* the establishment of a new multi-agency initiative on the example of the Zaragoza Conference to
29 be under the scope of UN-Water, the Water and Sanitation Technology Transfer Initiative (WASHTECH), to
30 focus the efforts of the international community on the development of water and sanitation technologies for
31 urban health, as an integral partner of the WSP;

32
33 2. *Encourages* the discussion of topics such as:

- 34
35 a. The current water and sanitation technology issues faced by Member States;
- 36
37 b. Solutions for the particular meteorological or geographic circumstances of each Member State;
- 38
39 c. The merging water and sanitation related technology;
- 40
41 d. Additional voluntary funding;

42
43 3. *Encourages* Member States and relevant actors, such as CSOs, to partake in the discussion of management
44 methods, infrastructure, the following introduced technologies and training on WASHTECH, alongside local
45 government officials and utility officials, with the potential to improve urban health such as:

- 46
47 a. Municipal water and wastewater treatment facilities for drinking water disinfection in cities that have
48 the capacity to sustain such a system, using techniques such as, but not limited to:

49

- 50 i. Membrane filtration;
51 ii. Ultraviolet irradiation technologies;
52 iii. Ozonation;
53 iv. Desalination;
54
- 55 b. Individual and household level treatment and collection technology, such as rainwater and stormwater
56 harvesting, slow-sand filters, and well-water infrastructure;
57
- 58 c. The promotion of total water-cycle and sanitation management methods, such as monitoring biological
59 and chemical contaminants in water, for research and technology to benefit all parts of the hydrological
60 cycle and provide transparency to the public on the water quality levels;
61
- 62 d. The continued development of existing online platforms, such as AQUASTAT, as a mechanism for
63 relevant actors to share information and collaborate in real-time on a local and global scale to advance
64 and support water technology initiatives and research;
65
- 66 4. *Proclaims* that UN-Habitat should work as a mediator between Member States and various groups such as
67 CSOs, regional banks, and private corporations, in between sessions of biennial forum, in order to ensure that
68 the vast network of UN-Habitat Partners can discuss solutions with relevant stakeholders and determine
69 appropriate action with regards to WASH and WASHTECH for the betterment of urban health;
70
- 71 5. *Encourages* the promotion of urban health through public-private partnerships by Member States of
72 WASHTECH to promote financial incentives, such as, but not limited, to tax breaks for private ventures to
73 pursue a cap and trade system of sustainable urban water development where:
74
- 75 a. Local communities may retain ownership and rights to water access and water facilities;
76
- 77 b. Private operators manage the implementation and operations of water systems for the limited duration
78 of the negotiated project;
79
- 80 c. International recognition is made possible through the United Nations Global Compact;
81
- 82 6. *Suggests* that stakeholders, in particular those mentioned in clause 4, work to provide funding to WASHTECH
83 for urban health through methods that include, but are not limited to:
84
- 85 a. National funding of development aid, which could be used in part for domestic small and medium
86 sized enterprises (SMEs) to work with developing nations in order to transfer sustainable water and
87 sanitation technology to those in need;
88
- 89 b. International organizations that have established funding programs for water and sanitation
90 development, such as but not limited to the World Bank, European Commission, and NGOs;
91
- 92 c. Monetary donations provided by willing Member States to assist developing Member States, which are
93 unable to capitalize on the benefits of World Bank funding;
94
- 95 7. *Further requests* the monitoring of the progress of WASHTECH projects towards SDGs 6 and 11, by ensuring
96 that biennial reports are published at the reinstated Zaragoza conference on the initiatives started by Member
97 States through the program.



Code: UN-Habitat/1/4

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Topic: Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health

1 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme,*

2
3 *Noting with deep concern* that approximately 1.8 billion people around the world still drink contaminated water and
4 that around 2.4 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation according to the World Health Organization
5 (WHO),

6
7 *Taking into account* that the average time required per round trip to collect drinking water in rural areas is 36
8 minutes in sub-Saharan Africa and 23 minutes in Asia according to the United Nations Statistics Division,

9
10 *Recognizing* the detriment to rural populations when lack of water supply systems and improper management of
11 urban cities pollute resources from runoff,

12
13 *Seeking* the adoption of the Global Chemical Outlook Program (G-COP) to mandate how all countries regulate
14 chemicals to drastically reduce the burden of down-stream contamination into rural community water,

15
16 *Aware of* the innovative solutions to water purification among the global community such as a water-purifying
17 bicycle system that can clean up to 5 liters of water per minute of cycling,

18
19 *Considering* the simple mechanics, cost efficiency and community ownership of decentralized groundwater wells in
20 rural communities funded by Water Wells for Africa, Wells Brings Hope, The Water Project and Water for Good,

21
22 *Observing* community-based and household-based Rain Water Harvesting Systems (RWHS) as a successful solution
23 pursued by WHO, WaterAid and the Global Water Partnership, that provides a safe source of drinking water, that
24 can be easily operate by locally trained men and women, has comparatively low installation costs, can be
25 constructed with locally available materials, and is independent and therefore suitable for scattered settlements,

26
27 *Believing* that the technological advancements in both water treatment and collection such as advanced
28 microfiltration, reverse osmosis, ultraviolet exposure, and indirect or direct potable reuse techniques should be
29 emphasized,

30
31 *Expressing its appreciation* for the contributions and solutions presented by various non-governmental organizations
32 (NGOs) such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN-Water, the United Nations Environmental
33 Programme (UNEP), Water Wells for Africa, Wells Bring Hope, WaterAid Bangladesh, and NEWater that address
34 the ongoing issue of water access,

35
36 *Emphasizing* the significance of the 2030 Agenda, specifically Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 which
37 "ensures healthy lives and promotes well-being for all at all ages," and SDG 6 which "ensures availability and
38 sustainable management of water and sanitation for all,"

39
40 *Acknowledging* articles 11 and 12 of the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*
41 (ICESCR), where the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) declared access to an adequate
42 water supply as an indisputable human right,

43
44 *Keeping in mind* a report compiled by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, showing that 80% of people in
45 developing nations who lack access to potable water live in rural areas,

46
47 *Improving and focusing* on infrastructure in these rural areas will lead to population dispersion resulting in a better
48 state of urban health,

49

50 *Alarmed* that, according to the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, it would cost approximately \$10
51 billion per year to solely provide low-cost services for clean water and sanitation in deficient regions,
52

53 1. *Strongly recommends* that all willing Member States extend their support on the advancement of other resilient
54 and sustainable ways to ensure access to an adequate water supply in rural areas through means such as, but not
55 limited to:

- 56 a. Financial aid;
- 57
- 58 b. Legislative support;
- 59
- 60 c. Educational programs, opportunities, and awareness that will be implemented with the help of the
61 United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), such as:
62
63
 - 64 i. Awareness workshops for all age groups;
 - 65 ii. Training workshops for teachers to incorporate water-related material in curricula;
 - 66
- 67 d. Resource assistance, such as:
68
 - 69 i. Allowing volunteer personnel to assist with projects in rural areas;
 - 70 ii. Providing supplies and materials for water-related projects;
 - 71

72 2. *Promotes* the agenda and adoption of the Global Chemical Outlook Program (G-COP), which aims for countries
73 to conform to a Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) that mandates global chemical-related use and
74 exposure to reduce contamination of water with hazardous chemicals and waste which:

- 75 a. Provides an education campaign to the public sector on negative behavioral implications to current
76 water resources;
- 77
- 78 b. Encourages stricter regulations globally for the private sector to adhere to management of chemical
79 waste and disposal for both organic and inorganic chemical, such as:
80
 - 81 i. Asbestos, which is a generalized term for a mixture of six chemicals classified as group 1
82 carcinogens;
 - 83 ii. Bulk chemicals, which are defined as both organic and inorganic basic chemicals such as
84 olefins, aromatics, methanol and halogens;
 - 85 iii. Pesticides, which is defined as substances which are used in agriculture for controlling weeds
86 or pests containing ammonia, arsenic, chlorine, dioxins, ethylene oxide, formaldehyde that
87 contaminate water resources and are toxic for consumption;
 - 88
- 89 c. Calls upon federal agencies to require corporations which use and dispose of chemicals near bodies of
90 water to perform and provide environmental assessments (EAs) to the governing body for monitoring
91 any discrepancies of chemicals against the adopted global policy of exposure levels;
- 92
- 93 d. Encourages developed nations to aid developing nations to reach the G-COP adoption for the future;
- 94

95
96 3. *Requests* that all willing and able Member States invest in bicycle technologies as a sustainable method of
97 purifying water by pedaling, and this will be achieved through:

- 98 a. Distributing the bicycle technologies in collaboration with WHO to rural areas in need of clean water;
- 99
- 100 b. Monitoring of the distribution process by the Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) under UN-Water;
- 101
- 102 c. Submitting progress reports regarding the rural areas that received the bicycle technologies;
- 103
- 104

- 105 4. *Urges* Member States to increase partnerships with NGOs such as Water Wells for Africa, Wells Brings Hope,
106 The Water Project and Water for Good for the implementation of decentralized groundwater wells in rural areas
107 which do not have access to surface-level water sources
108
- 109 5. *Further invites* willing and able Member States to install and utilize Rain Water Harvesting Systems (RWHS)
110 through the process recommended by WaterAid in partnership with WHO and Global Water Partnership in rural
111 areas with adequate rainfall who lack access to proper drinking water;
112
- 113 6. *Encourages* Member States to pursue water reclamation methods such as water purification plants on a regional
114 scale to treat grey water and wastewater for non-potable and indirect potable reuse through means such as, but
115 not limited to:
116
- 117 a. Reclaiming programs such as NEWater in Singapore can generate potable water from wastewater
118 using advanced microfiltration, ultraviolet exposure, and reverse osmosis;
119
 - 120 b. Reusing grey water immediately for non-potable purposes such as irrigation, or treated and stored for
121 future use;
122
 - 123 c. Using indirect or direct potable reuse techniques, an environmental or engineered storage buffer can
124 produce safe drinkable water from wastewater following tertiary purification in a treatment plant;
125
- 126 7. *Calls upon* all willing and able Member States to collaborate with UN-Water, WHO, and UNICEF in order to
127 achieve the following:
128
- 129 a. Distributing a sanitation device called the LifeStraw in all rural areas to provide a simple means of
130 providing drinkable water for the user;
131
 - 132 b. Submitting progress reports regarding the distribution process and for the purpose of ensuring that the
133 device has reached all rural communities;
134
- 135 8. *Notes* that the funding of any and all of the aforementioned projects and services will be referred to the General
136 Assembly Fifth Committee on administrative and budgetary matters, and additional financial support will be
137 accepted and encouraged from all willing and able Member States, the World Bank, and the International
138 Monetary Fund;
139
- 140 9. *Calls upon* Member States to enact additional policies and international legal frameworks to
141 reinforce previously established UNEP policies which aim to protect current water supply from further
142 contamination through means such as, but not limited to:
143
- 144 a. Implementing legal and administrative regulatory measures such as quality assurance audits to foster
145 accountability between business owners and national government as well as ensure compliance with
146 state rules and regulations;
147
 - 148 b. Creating a robust legislative atmosphere focused on building strong infrastructure and increased rural
149 access to clean water;
150
 - 151 c. Prioritizing investment policies to direct assistance towards disadvantaged and neglected groups.



Code: UN-Habitat/1/5

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Topic: Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health

1 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme,*

2
3 *Acknowledging* that access to clean, usable water is a universal human right, being a prerequisite, to guaranteeing
4 the “right to life” enshrined in Article 3 and 25 of the 1948 *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*,

5
6 *Expressing* its appreciation to Member States who are donating both financial and technological resources such as
7 hard currency and integrated water resources management teams to support the monitoring and evaluation of world
8 growth,

9
10 *Bearing in mind* General Assembly resolution 56/206, which created the United Nations Human Settlements
11 Programme (UN-Habitat) and established its mandate to function as a subsidiary organ to the General Assembly
12 with the purpose of promoting urban health,

13
14 *Noting with satisfaction* that, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), since 1990, access to adequate
15 water globally has increased by more than 2.6 billion people, however we are aware that 1.8 billion people currently
16 still lack access to clean water,

17
18 *Recognizing* the resourcefulness of some Member States who reside in the Middle East who communicate through
19 forums such as the Arab Ministerial Forum for Housing and Urban Development (AMFHUD), in adopting and
20 sharing new technologies pertaining to the filtering of water, and improving existing infrastructure, such as
21 desalination technology shared by Saudi Arabia,

22
23 *Reaffirming* the measures in the *Paris Agreement* reached at the twenty-first annual session of the Conference of
24 Parties (COP 21) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris in December
25 2015, pertaining to measures aimed at minimizing climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and thus
26 prevent droughts and water scarcity associated with extreme weather conditions,

27
28 *Viewing with appreciation* the progress that has been made by water supply engineering projects to access global
29 groundwater resources, such as the drilling of deep water extraction wells in Egypt, launched by the Belarusian
30 Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Ministry in 2017, to further reduce the amount of people without
31 access to a reliable water source,

32
33 *Deeply disturbed* by the devastation that immense flooding has on infrastructure and urban sanitation, as well as the
34 lack of available water in island and landlocked regions,

35
36 *Noting with success* the multi-use motor powered tunnel system that is in operation in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia,
37 which is used to divert large quantities of water to and from the city in times of natural disaster, and improve
38 sanitation levels and infrastructure conditions,

- 39
40 1. *Calls upon* Member-States to donate financial and technological resources such as water purification sensor to
41 promote the implementation of data collection and information sharing technologies towards monitoring and
42 evaluating projects for investment on behalf of the growth of urban health;
- 43
44 2. *Proclaims* the need for expanded partnerships between UNICEF and Member States to implement the post-
45 2015 development agenda which would include improving the UN-Habitat financial plan for better
46 understanding what must be prioritized and how much will be invested;
- 47
48 3. *Strongly encourages* all Member States to increase and promote water-related policies through legislation,
49 regulation, institutional contracts, and transparency by:

- 50
- 51 a. Creating non-discriminatory policies, so every Member State can get equal access to water, sanitation
- 52 and hygiene;
- 53
- 54 b. Specifically defending the rights of vulnerable populations, such as women and children within a
- 55 region, so they can have adequate water supply and sanitation,
- 56
- 57 c. Creating water regulators for bulk, raw or treated use;
- 58
- 59 d. Providing appropriate monitoring and evaluation on the implemented water policies, to share the
- 60 information with citizens;
- 61
- 62 4. *Encourages* Member States to promote collaboration and participation between governments and citizens at the
- 63 local, regional, and national levels to upgrade existing mechanisms of water access, and provide populations
- 64 with a lack of access to water, sanitation, and hygiene by:
- 65
- 66 a. Promoting the use of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and voluntary regional and international
- 67 forums similar to the Arab Ministerial Forum for Housing and Urban Development (AMFHUD) to
- 68 discuss successful past and current methods of ensuring access to water, sanitation, and hygiene in
- 69 order to increase awareness of efficient water treatment and recycling methods;
- 70
- 71 b. Ensuring rural and urban communities are involved in the discussion;
- 72
- 73 c. The expansion of cooperation between governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to
- 74 ensure that methods of waste water management and water recycling are readily available, and
- 75 infrastructure issues can be address where applicable;
- 76
- 77 d. The promotion of water conservation and waste reduction, especially in areas with high agricultural
- 78 activity;
- 79
- 80 5. *Requests* national health institutions and local authorities to work together to adapt, and innovate to promote
- 81 urban health for:
- 82
- 83 a. Member States to regulate the use of existing fresh water sources such as oceans, lakes, rivers, and
- 84 streams to enhance preservation efforts;
- 85
- 86 b. Use of remotely controlled devices to:
- 87
- 88 i. Monitor fresh water reservoirs and protect them from miss-usage and pollution because they
- 89 need to be preserved for future accessibility;
- 90
- 91 ii. Protect natural resources and reduce the amount of pollution from gasoline and other
- 92 emissions;
- 93
- 94 c. Developing a faster and more effective way to collect data samples used to prevent and alert
- 95 populations regarding imminent natural disasters;
- 96
- 97 d. Technical and engineering expertise will be made available to participating member states by the UN
- 98 Peacekeeping engineers to reinsure structural soundness and sustainability;
- 99
- 100 6. *Draws attention* to the global manufacturing community to the problem of heavy metals and toxic substances in
- 101 ground water by:
- 102
- 103 a. Encouraging factories and manufacturers to consider the consequences of their pollution by suggesting
- 104 that they:
- 105
- i. Limit the use of toxic substances;

- 106 ii. Use arsenic removal systems and identify alternative water sources;
107
108 b. Suggesting governments provide manufacturers and factories with subsidies for adopting green
109 manufacturing policies;
110
111 c. Inviting manufacturers to implement a recycling system for the reuse of excess materials
112
113 7. *Further recommends* the enforcement of greenhouse gas emission regulations according to *the Paris Agreement*
114 in an increased effort to stabilize climates and prevent droughts and water scarcity associated with low levels of
115 natural freshwater replenishment caused by air pollution;
116
117 8. *Encourages* cooperation with NGOs and other relevant institutions and organizations to offer the prospect of
118 creating significant water access for thousands of communities by:
119
120 a. Creating a Desalination Joint Venture, which will help promote global expertise in water, wastewater
121 management, and water reuse solutions;
122
123 b. Involving the Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH), and Food Agriculture
124 Organization (FAO) to manage water as a resource used to grow crops and address water scarcity in
125 agriculture;
126
127 9. *Supports all* Member States that frequently suffer from droughts or other disasters, to consider the option of
128 accessing their groundwater resources, as these have proven their potential to ensure supply of clean water even
129 in times of natural disasters, through installation of deep water extraction wells;
130
131 10. *Further invites* private sector, financial institutions, and credit facilities to invest in proper amenities, such as
132 toilets and sewage systems, to dispose of human excrement in order to promote urban health, as the lack of such
133 leads to contaminated water and promotes the spread of preventable diseases;
134
135 11. *Further invites* all Member States to implement a multi-purpose motor powered tunnel system where:
136
137 a. Structure and implementation of each tunnel system will be based on Member States' water
138 accessibility constraints which may include:
139
140 i. Pulling large quantities of water from cities in times of natural disasters or intense rainfall to
141 prevent infrastructure damage and store it in underground reservoirs to be filtered and
142 redistributed;
143 ii. Pulling water from ocean bodies to desalinate;
144 iii. Sand filtration for Member States near vast deserts such as the Sahara Desert
145
146 b. Collection points around cities will be placed to in underground storage containers in the lowest rural
147 areas to reduce the percentage of highly contaminated water that will affect the already present water
148 in the reservoirs;
149
150 c. Filtered water will be distributed back to the residents of the cities they service through the creation of
151 water points which branch off of the motor-powered tunnel systems, directly accessible by the
152 communities.



Code: UN-Habitat/1/6

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Topic: Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health

1 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme,*

2
3 *Acknowledging* General Assembly resolution 64/292 (28 July 2010), which declares that water and sanitation are
4 prerequisites for a quality standard of living and aims to foster inclusiveness on the accessibility of water and
5 sanitation services,

6
7 *Guided* by the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 4 that ensures inclusive and equitable
8 quality education and promotes lifelong learning opportunities for all, SDG 5 targeting to achieve gender equality
9 and empowering all women and girls, and SDG 6 aiming to ensure availability and sustainable management of water
10 and sanitation for all,

11
12 *Emphasizing* the need to use Information and Communications Technology (ICT) as promoted in ECOSOC
13 resolution 2016/23 in order to spread awareness of the threats posed by inadequate access to water, sanitation, and
14 hygiene,

15
16 *Encourages* collaboration between government agencies, non-profit organizations, and private entities in providing
17 access to sustainable water and sanitation development as modeled by Senegal's Millennium Water and Sanitation
18 Program (PEPAM),

19
20 *Acknowledging* Oxfam International's policy note, "Gender Issues in Conflict and Humanitarian Action," on the
21 integration of gender and water programs, which highlights that women are traditionally the water managers of the
22 household and are responsible for obtaining and cleaning water, and making decisions about water use,

23
24 *Recalling* a study done by United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) reporting
25 that one in ten girls in Sub-Saharan Africa will delay their education due to inadequate access to sanitary female
26 products, private and safe toilets, and washing facilities,

27
28 *Emphasizing* the role of education in amending sanitary and hygiene practices of youths as demonstrated by the
29 WET Foundation (Water Education for Teachers) and Life Straws,

30
31 *Alarmed* by the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Joint
32 Monitoring Programme Report (2015), which states that children are missing school resulting from waterborne
33 diseases from unsafe drinking water, and that nearly 1,000 children are dying each day due to preventable water and
34 sanitation related diseases,

35
36 *Reiterating* General Assembly resolution 58/142 which affirms the positive impact of women in leadership positions
37 and their ability to reach vulnerable populations such as women and children,

38
39 *Recognizing* the importance of the UN-Habitat Water and Sanitation Fund, which allows Member States who are
40 donors to support UN-Habitat urban water and sanitation programs, such as building water facilities in developing
41 nations,

42
43 *Reaffirming* the importance of the Human Development Index (HDI), which ranks nations into four tiers of human
44 development based on life expectancy, education, and income,

45
46 *Recalling* the International Conference on Water and the Environment that stressed that developing nations,
47 particularly those experiencing poverty and rapid urbanization, frequently lack access to safe drinking water,

48

49 *Recalling the Beijing Platform for Action (1995) which states that the degradation of environmental and natural*
50 *resources affect women differently than men because they are in charge of obtaining water and resources for their*
51 *family,*
52

53 *Noting that environmental degradation is exacerbated by municipal waste and can negatively impact the health of*
54 *urban communities due to the increasing number and size of disposal sites and a worsening in underground water*
55 *contamination by non-biodegradable waste,*
56

57 *Keeping in mind the United Nations Volunteer Programme (UNV), which deploys 7,000 volunteers globally to*
58 *provide communities access to basic social services, increase community resilience for the environment, and*
59 *promote youth and national capacity development through volunteer schemes,*
60

61 1. *Requests that Member States expand women's involvement in water and sanitation development by:*
62

63 a. *Expanding upon resolution 58/142, which urges governments, UN systems, and NGOs to develop*
64 *comprehensive policies and programs to increase women's participation in development research and*
65 *policy and management decision making by:*
66

- 67 i. *Following the guidelines of the International Decade of Action 'Water for Life' program*
68 *which called for women's involvement in gender-focused projects regarding access to water;*
- 69 ii. *Utilizing information communications technology women's participation in WASH-related*
70 *research projects such as the Thomas R. Camp Scholarship and Holly Cornell Scholarship;*
- 71 iii. *Following Peru's model of establishing participatory processes for communities to include*
72 *women in water management;*
- 73 iv. *Reviewing discriminatory laws and practices that prevent women's participation in public*
74 *positions and using data-tracking to monitor gender balance in public positions;*
75

76 b. *Ensuring women's access to latrines and providing access to sanitary supplies through following the*
77 *example set by the Clean India program, which has built more than 33 million toilets and provided*
78 *low-cost sanitation products;*
79

80 c. *Including menstruation as a critical urban health issue in order to achieve gender equity within*
81 *education to reduce the number of schooldays girls miss because of the lack of accessible sanitary*
82 *supplies and facilities by:*
83

- 84 i. *Providing biodegradable female hygiene products like the Saathi Pads developed by MIT*
85 *Global Startup Lab, which are distributed in India by local women trained on sanitation and*
86 *hygiene;*
- 87 ii. *Educating women and girls about how the products work, how to use them, and why it is*
88 *important that they use them;*
- 89 iii. *Bringing affordable access to female hygiene products such as menstrual cups, towels, and*
90 *sanitary pads;*
91

92 2. *Requests that Member States focus on the education of youth in order to develop lifelong sanitary habits and a*
93 *positive attitude toward hygiene and sanitation for schoolchildren as well as for their families and future*
94 *generations by:*
95

96 a. *Mobilizing volunteers from the United Nations Volunteer (UNV) Programme to visit schools monthly*
97 *in developing nations and provide workshops on proper sanitation and hygiene in which:*
98

- 99 i. *Volunteers teach classes on hygiene practices in urban areas in the language of the local*
100 *people;*
- 101 ii. *Classes are held on water purification and how to recognize and respond to the symptoms of*
102 *common waterborne illnesses;*
- 103 iii. *Volunteers train educators in urban areas about hygiene so that these educators can then*
104 *continue teaching workshops once the volunteers have left;*

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- b. Expanding programs such as Project WET Foundation (Water Education for Teachers), which trains educators who in turn can help children, families and community members understand and value water to include women community leaders;
 - c. Implementing sanitary curriculum in schools that teach youth about the importance of washing hands and how to use sanitary facilities to prevent open defecation;
 - d. Establishing free public information centers in hospitals that inform youth and their families about how open defecation can result in illness;
3. *Recommends* that Member States collaborate with UN agencies such as WHO, UN-Water, UNICEF, and local non-profit organizations in order to bring latrines and purification supplies—including soaps and hand sanitizers—to schools by expanding programs such as:
- a. The “School Sector Reform Plan” in Nepal, in which toilets were constructed in schools and educators were provided safe health practices training in collaboration with UNICEF;
 - b. “Clean India: Clean School,” which encompassed both the technical and human aspects necessary to ensure the presence and spread of WASH practices in schools and;
 - c. “Action Contre La Faim”, which has successfully distributed Life Straws and educated populations on their use across the globe and thereby expanded information sharing on the topic of simple sanitation technologies by purifying 99.9% of the viruses and bacteria in polluted water supplies;
4. *Encourages* Member States to consider modifying, expanding, and enhancing innovative sanitation programs that can help women and children, such as:
- a. Dry sanitation programs in Mexico, where civic organizations work to create latrines that recycle nutrients from human waste without water consumption;
 - b. Senegal’s Millennium Water and Sanitation Program (PEPAM) by:
 - i. Strengthening those governments and supporting community-level infrastructure planning, management, installation, and maintenance;
 - ii. Increasing the capacity of small-scale service providers and water users associations, which are groups that manage water systems and responsible for the maintenance of infrastructure and for collecting water user fees from members, to respond to the demand for improved water and sanitation services;
 - iii. Designing and disseminating tools such as data-monitoring programs;
 - c. The expansion of public-private partnerships that provide financial support water and sanitation research such as:
 - i. Awarding grants in developing nations such as those that have been given to researchers in China and India from the Reinvent the Toilet challenge, a collaboration between state governments and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, in which researchers use innovative approaches to create sustainable management for human waste, such as by creating low-cost toilets that recover resources from human waste, and;
 - ii. Further developing relationships between small businesses, financial institutions, and households through broadening WASTE, an NGO that coordinates with financial institutions, businesses, local governments, and residents of a community to install waste management services and engage the economy, and has resulted in the creation of the Waste for Wealth program in Malawi where women are trained to transform manure from waste product into compost and the creation of 300,000 toilets in over 700 villages in India;

- 161 5. *Suggests* that all Member States raise awareness of the significance of the issue of adequate water sanitation and
162 hygiene in collaboration with the UN-Water through means such as, but not limited to:
163
- 164 a. Utilizing media infrastructures to increase awareness about waterborne diseases and increasing
165 donations to and from NGOs through:
 - 166 i. Developing and launching various media campaigns, such as WaterAid’s Change the Record
167 Campaign, which relayed to underdeveloped nations the detrimental effects unclean water and
168 toilets have on women and girls;
 - 169 ii. Increase online social media advertisements and communications created by UN-Habitat,
170 primarily to reach out to youths and encourage donations from NGOs or individuals willing to
171 donate to WASH-related causes;
 - 172 iii. Working with Women’s International Forum to set up discussion panels in urban centers in
173 underdeveloped countries that highlight the importance of proper sanitation and its techniques
174 that include Q&A sessions to encourage the participation of local populations;
 - 175 b. Expanding the recognition of World Water Day and World Toilet Day by:
 - 176 i. Implementing local events and projects in schools, to provide additional information to
177 students;
 - 178 ii. Fostering involvement and create theme specific competitions where everyone is encouraged
179 to share own ideas and possible solutions;
 - 180 iii. Thematically addressing both the civil society and the private sector;
- 181 6. *Proclaims* that research on water and sanitation management must be improved through international meetings
182 that would ensure a high level of cooperation between Member States on the issue of the availability of
183 adequate water, setting a path for future partnerships on the promotion of urban health with a focus on women
184 and children by:
 - 185 a. Following the example of the International Congress on Water, Waste and Energy (EWWM), an
186 organization of academics and researchers belonging to different scientific areas which hosts an annual
187 forum to discuss worldwide results and proposals regarding to the soundest issues related Water,
188 Waste and Energy and;
 - 189 b. Expanding scientific research so that it takes into account how these new technologies can affect
190 women and youth by following the model of the American Association of University Women
191 (AAUW) which advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and
192 research, urges the implementation of an international organization that prioritizes the inclusivity of
193 Women researchers in undeveloped countries;
- 194 7. *Requests* the expansion of the Global WASH Cluster by creating specific boards made up of organizations such
195 as Builders Without Borders, WHO, and WASH Alliance to ensure the successful implementation and
196 maintenance of WASH facilities and initiatives by:
 - 197 a. Serving as a self-funded international body in through donations given by member NGOs;
 - 198 b. Allowing these groups prominent representation in the organizational board such that they have
199 substantial decision-making capacity, with a recommendation of no less than 30 percent representation
200 on the board;
- 201 8. *Emphasizes* the need for proper financial transparency and appropriate allocation of funds through the creation
202 of an oversight committee appointed by UN-Habitat’s executive director that would:
 - 203 a. Identify the countries most in need of funding and allocate funds based on the level of need of each
204 country;
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- 217 b. Track the allocation of those funds to ensure financial transparency aid;
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219 c. Submit an annual report to UN-Habitat as to its actions, preparations, and progress;
220
- 221 9. *Endorses* the Ecology and Corporate Commitment (ECOCE) as a mechanism for an effective and inclusive
222 collection of non-biodegradable waste that could contaminate underground water through subprograms and
223 recycling system through its partner company, Avangard and Promotora Ambiental S.A. de CV (PASA) that
224 includes:
225
- 226 a. Community-based programs which call upon municipalities to facilitate local-level collection of plastic
227 bottles which allows men, women, elderly, and children to participate;
228
- 229 b. School-based programs collection efforts that recover plastic bottles from students and faculty and
230 provides prize incentives to encourage youth and family participation;
231
- 232 c. Industry-based programs that encourage private sector companies to facilitate segregation of plastic
233 bottles from other waste for easy collection by offering prizes or cash incentives based on the amount
234 of waste recovered to be donated to charity;
235
- 236 10. *Calls upon* international and regional monetary institutions such as the:
237
- 238 a. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which is a donation-based
239 funding association with developed Member States who provide funds that are distributed in
240 developing nations for sustainable development projects;
241
- 242 b. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) which is a specialized agency that works
243 with the United Nations and with grants from developed nations, and seeks to educate poor people in
244 natural resource management;
245
- 246 c. Asian Development Bank (ADB), African Development Bank (AfDB) and Inter-American
247 Development Bank (IDB) to enact, at the regional level, similar actions to those listed above, including
248 providing relief to unsanitary urban slums and unhygienic urban areas;
249
- 250 11. *Incentivizes* developed Member States to support developing nations who score low on the Human
251 Development Index (HDI), through a variety of means such as:
252
- 253 a. Improving international cooperation and building up new frameworks between closely geographically
254 situated nations who are in agreement regarding water and sanitation pollution prevention;
255
- 256 b. Donating funds through multilateral corporations such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and
257 Development (EBRD);
258
- 259 c. Requesting that a portion of the UN-Habitat general budget be applied directly to nations without
260 access to clean drinking water, adequate sanitation or hygiene;
261
- 262 12. *Requests* the support of NGOs and their professional expertise to train the local population and especially girls
263 in countries who are suffering from WASH issues, following the example of:
264
- 265 a. The Project of Amref in Kenya, which trained women water artisans in Kitui to the Project of Amref in
266 Kenya, which trained women water artisans in Kitui to build and maintain different type of water
267 infrastructure like conventional wells, giant wells, boreholes, sub surface dams and rainwater harvest
268 tanks;
269
- 270 b. *Water Infrastructure: Research and Design*, a case study by Gendered Informations-Stanford that
271 suggests using a gender framework and including women into the planning process of local water and
272 sanitation sites;

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13. *Further recommends* an optional and interview review of all willing Member States' tax systems that would allow Member States to create a flexible tax rate system, that would improve the hygiene situation of developing countries by upgrading water and sanitation infrastructure, where Member States can impose a tax at their own discretion that:
 - a. Would be a progressive tax system tailored to the financial needs of each Member State and its populations without violating their sovereignty;
 - b. Does not exclude particularly disadvantaged marginalized groups, especially women and children, from access to clean drinking water and sanitation;
 14. *Fully supports* the use of micro-financing programs in order to bring water and sanitation facilities into households, following the example of:
 - a. Output Based Aid (OBA) program implemented in Bangladesh, which allowed entrepreneurs to access microcredit for producing and promoting appropriate sanitation technology options and make these technologies affordable by generating a competitive market;
 - b. WaterCredit, an organization that provides small loans to communities in need in order to bring affordable access to household water.



Code: UN-Habitat/1/7

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Topic: Ensuring Access to Adequate Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to Promote Urban Health

1 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme,*

2
3 *Recognizing* that 783 million individuals do not have access to clean water around the globe according to the World
4 Health Organization (WHO),

5
6 *Fully aware* that anthropogenically contaminated water kills more people annually than any other form of human
7 degradation, including war, and that approximately one in four city inhabitants worldwide live without improved
8 sanitation due to wastewater,

9
10 *Affirming* General Assembly resolution 71/222 which charged Member States with a decade of action to create
11 sustainable development and sanitation from 2018 to 2028,

12
13 *Reaffirming* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, Clean Water and Sanitation for all, by promoting Public and
14 Private Partnerships according to SDG 17,

15
16 *Highlighting* the need to further develop existing programs such as Practical Action Southern Africa, which
17 enhances the decentralization of waste management services in urban slums, in an effort to expand water waste
18 treatment,

19
20 *Further acknowledging* the financial constraints of developing Member States for creating new programs,

21
22 *Having examined* the value of funding from non-government organizations (NGOs) such as Charity Water's Water
23 Committee Programs, which allocates funds to existing WASH programs,

24
25 *Affirming* the important work of bodies such as the European Water Resources Association (EWRA) which
26 measures water supplies for levels of contamination,

27
28 *Acknowledging* the importance of household filtration devices such as WaterChef and Colloidal Silver Filters
29 (CSFs) in filtering water spouts for the purpose of meeting daily water needs, including cooking, cleaning, and
30 bathing,

31
32 *Observing* the temporary nature of commonly used household products in order to promote adequate waste
33 management strategies,

34
35 *Recalling* a study by the World Summit of Sustainable Development which states that the major cause of the wide-
36 scale lack of clean drinking water is the shortage of investment in water systems and their low-maintenance,

37
38 *Emphasizing* the importance of global initiatives such as World Water Day and the UN-Water Task Force on
39 Indicators, as a means of spreading international awareness on sustainable methods to discard waste while
40 promoting sanitary conditions within communities,

41
42 *Fulfilling* the viability of current marine and coastal ecosystems to achieve proliferation through ecological research
43 which aims to monitor, address, restore and prevent further contamination to natural water resources quality and
44 aquatic community,

45
46 1. *Urges* Member States to comply with SDG 17, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 71/222, to
47 further promote the development strategies of SDG 17 through partnerships with companies such as WaterChef
48 and Colloidal Silver Filters to maximize the number of individuals WASH can aid;

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2. *Recommends the creation of an oversight committee, whose members are appointed by UN-Habitat’s executive director, which will:*
 - a. Identify those countries most in need of support funding from UN-Habitat;
 - b. Draw funding from NGOs and UN-Habitat funds such as WASH Funders to support WASH programs of under-funded States as determined by the committee;
 - c. Allocate funds based on the level of need for each country, and track the allocation of those funds to ensure financial transparency;
 - d. Submit the regular, annual publication of a report by UN-Habitat’s oversight committee which will detail its actions and operations for the year to ensure financial transparency and the efficient use of funds;
 3. *Recommends the utilization by all Member States of existing water treatment evaluation systems such as the EWRA, which would allow all Member States to accurately monitor water and sanitation in terms of duration, waste management and cleanliness, by:*
 - a. Reviewing census data in each Member State, at the State’s discretion, to determine the extent of the issues created by improper waste management, including the spread of waterborne diseases associated with contaminated water;
 - b. Determine the best strategies each State can implement in order to address these issues;
 4. *Encourages the further development of national WASH programs by funding through NGOs such as the Global Water Operators’ Partnerships Alliance and Charity Water that solve the specific funding deficits the WASH programs may experience;*
 5. *Supports the use of a low-cost water filter utilized in Mexico that allows low-income individuals to produce it from local materials such as ceramics, plastics, and colloidal silver and utilize it in their households to purify contaminated water from bacteria without electricity;*
 6. *Stresses the importance of enhancing education programs in waste management prevention, in order to prevent the expounding of water waste issues and contamination of water supplies, such as:*
 - a. *Renewing the UN-Water Task Force on Indicators, Monitoring and Reporting which will:*
 - i. Raise the issue of waste water management difficulties in developing countries;
 - ii. Report the general trend within developing countries in order to recognize significant factors which contribute to waste water mismanagement;
 - b. The expansion of World Water Day to include quantitatively more conferences, advertisements, and related promotional activity focused on the education of populations regarding proper waste disposal and prevention of further contamination of water sources;
 7. *Requests Member States to reform their current institutions monitoring water resources to adopt specific ecological research to evaluate the quality, safety and upkeep of refurbished or newly built wastewater management treatment systems near aquatic ecosystem, rivers and seas to minimize the risk of leaked contamination during treatment which:*
 - a. Focuses on pollution and oil waste derivatives of wastewater treatment system sludge, urban runoff, and downstream river pollution that monitors the levels of contaminants and chemicals entering natural water resources;

- 105 b. Implement and fund ecological research through submissions of water quality will reduce the impact of
106 urbanization and degradation of natural water resources while maintaining the aquatic ecosystem;
107
- 108 8. *Fully supports* the recycling and waste reducing technology applied in urban centers and rural areas in order to
109 facilitate waste management in commitment to water supply which include:
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- 111 a. Encouraging Member States to adopt processes of Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) and
112 Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle, in accordance with chapter 5 of the Shanghai Manual, to reduce waste
113 and the contamination of water sources;
114
- 115 b. Recommending that Member States review and update waste disposal legislation to enforce regulations
116 pertinent to solid waste.