



Documentation of the Simulation of the

General Assembly Third Committee (GA3)*



Conference A

6 - 10 April 2025

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The General Assembly Third Committee (GA3)

Committee Staff

Director	Sebastian Hieke
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Chair	Elyse Halbreich

Agenda

1. The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation
2. Protection of and Assistance for Refugees, Returnees, and Displaced Persons

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (In favor - Against - Abstention)
GA3/1/1	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	114 in favor, 18 against, 62 abstentions
GA3/1/2	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	133 in favor, 11 against, 50 abstentions
GA3/1/3	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	115 in favor, 36 against, 43 abstentions
GA3/1/4	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	122 in favor, 31 against, 41 abstentions
GA3/1/5	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	118 in favor, 24 against, 52 abstentions
GA3/1/6	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	94 in favor, 40 against, 60 abstentions
GA3/1/7	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	120 in favor, 17 against, 57 abstentions
GA3/1/8	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	119 in favor, 24 against, 51 abstentions

GA3/1/9	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	114 in favor, 24 against, 56 abstentions
GA3/1/10	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	122 in favor, 18 against, 54 abstentions
GA3/1/11	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	105 in favor, 33 against, 56 abstentions
GA3/1/12	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	125 in favor, 18 against, 51 abstentions
GA3/1/13	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	119 in favor, 24 against, 51 abstentions
GA3/1/14	The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	124 in favor, 19 against, 51 abstentions

Summary Report

The United Nations General Assembly Third Committee (GA3) held its annual session to consider the following Agenda items:

1. Protection and Assistance for Refugees, Returnees, and Displaced Persons
2. The Human Rights to Drinking Water and Sanitation

The session was attended by representatives of 176 Member States and 2 Observers.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda in the order of topic 2, followed by topic 1, beginning discussion on the topic of “The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation.” By Tuesday, the dais received a total of 19 proposals. Throughout Monday and Tuesday, delegates formed working paper groups on a wide range of sub-topics including sustainable water infrastructure, water and vulnerable populations, as well as data mapping on water scarcity. By the end of Tuesday, delegates decided to merge several proposals.

On Wednesday, a total of 15 draft resolutions were accepted by the dais, with 14 draft resolutions being adopted as resolutions by the committee. During voting procedure each draft resolution was voted on with a recorded vote. Two delegations put forward proposals for division of the proposals. The working processes in the committee were characterized by efficiency, a high level of collaboration, and an overall positive atmosphere.



Code: GA3/1/1

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Appreciating the previous work done by the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee towards accessibility to water for all such as General Assembly resolution 5/212 (2020) on the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010) on the human right to water and sanitation, which explicitly recognizes the human rights to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights, as well as the Pacific Partnership on Sustainable Water Management,

Emphasizing United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 12/8 (2009) on human rights and access to safe drinking water and sanitation, which calls upon Member States to eliminate inequalities in access to water and sanitation and to create enabling environments to address such gaps at all levels,

Affirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), which declares the right to an adequate standard of living, including access to water and sanitation,

Recognizing the importance of sustainable and climate-resilient water infrastructure in addressing long-term water insecurity exacerbated by climate change, particularly in vulnerable regions,

Recalling the disproportionate vulnerability of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDC), and the Pacific region to climate-induced water scarcity,

Acknowledging the vital role of indigenous peoples in sustainable water management and their right to participate in decisions affecting their communities and natural resources,

Noting with concern that refugees and displaced persons face severe barriers to accessing safe drinking water and sanitation due to inadequate infrastructure in camps and host communities,

Concerned that the global circulation of physical currency, especially in low-resource environments, facilitates the transmission of infectious diseases,

Emphasizing the public health lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly the need for contactless sanitation infrastructure such as automatic doors, elbow-push mechanisms, and public hand-sanitizer stations,

Recognizing the importance of the role of the World Bank Group in global financing,

Concerned that the worldwide circulation of physical currency, especially in low-resource environments, facilitates the transmission of infectious diseases,

Acknowledging half of healthcare facilities globally lack basic hygiene services, providing more danger to already vulnerable people,

1. *Recommends* that UN-Habitat, the United Nations Capital Development Fund, and the United Nations Development Programme work in collaboration with Member States to identify vulnerable communities to establish sanitation facilities, necessary infrastructures, and educational campaigns, by:
 - a. Identifying vulnerable communities through collaboration with local leaders in regional meetings to identify the needs of those vulnerable communities;
 - b. Creating a database to gain wider knowledge and to collect data on prior sanitation initiatives;
2. *Encourages* Member States to invest in sustainable, climate-resilient infrastructure to ensure access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation, by:
 - a. Raising awareness within Member States using Water4, which has educated hundreds of thousands of people on the consequences of the lack of clean drinking water and sanitation facilities through campaigns and educational programs;
 - b. Manufacturing sustainable water technologies to promote the use of renewable energy in water technologies to promote the use of renewable energy in water treatment and distribution systems, a strategy which has been experienced by the organization Aqua Tech;
 - c. Prioritizing funding for decentralized water collection systems, such as rainwater harvesting and household-scale filtration technologies, especially in rural or remote areas, incentives will be provided to people who work at individual household level;
3. *Urges* Member States to advocate for the importance of increased support and awareness of groups that advocate for sustainable water and wastewater management, such as the Pacific Partnership on Sustainable Water Management, increasing support through increased awareness, funding, and political support to such organizations, by:
 - a. Launching international awareness campaigns, potentially in collaboration with UN-Water and the United Nations Environment Programme, that highlight the work of regional initiatives like the Pacific Partnership on Sustainable Water Management and the critical role they play in achieving SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation);
 - b. Establishing voluntary funding channels through national development agencies or multilateral trust funds, earmarked explicitly for community-based water management projects coordinated by such partnerships;
 - c. Encouraging the formal inclusion of regional water management organizations in relevant international dialogues and policy forums, thereby increasing their political visibility and influence within global water governance structures;
4. *Calls for* the construction and improvement of healthcare and sanitation facilities, especially within LDCs, to support humanitarian responses in refugee camps and informal settlements, in coordination with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and relevant Non-Governmental Organizations in the following ways, by:

- a. Ensuring that residents are trained in proper hygiene practices, such as hand washing, proper bathing, and maintenance of equipment through community educational programs;
 - b. Overseeing and ensuring the regular delivery of proper resources for sterilization and adequate procedure to medical facilities of LDCs;
 - c. Providing targeted funding for Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) programs within refugee response plans and UNHCR operations;
- 5. *Proposes* an expansion of the Sanitation Financing Facility part of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Sustainable WASH Innovation hub for financing affordable household sanitation, through:
 - a. Offering supplementary awards through the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI);
 - b. Recommending that the World Bank Group evaluate the feasibility of expanding that initiative globally;
 - c. Funding this expansion through a global initiative for multi-international green bond trade;
- 6. *Recommends* Member States to make national voluntary contributions to expand the World Health Organization's (WHO) budget for school health initiatives, to include hand hygiene education for children in school to understand sanitation's role in preventing the spread of disease by:
 - a. Developing age-appropriate, culturally sensitive hygiene education modules in collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and local education ministries, which can be integrated into existing school curricula and adapted for both urban and rural learning environments;
 - b. Funding teacher training programs that equip educators with practical tools and knowledge to teach hand hygiene effectively, including the use of visual aids, community outreach projects, and interactive learning methods;
 - c. Allocating resources for the installation and maintenance of handwashing facilities in schools, particularly in under-resourced areas, ensuring that students have consistent access to clean water, soap, and hygiene infrastructure alongside the educational components;
- 7. *Stresses* the need to include indigenous communities in water governance structures and decision-making processes by working in tandem with the HRC Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to effectively recognize their traditional knowledge and rights related to resource stewardship, by:
 - a. Proposing the creation of a National Advisory Council that includes indigenous representatives to participate in water management policy-making;

- b. Integrating traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) into national water strategies through education campaigns on sustainable water use;
 - c. Focusing on capacity-building initiatives that strengthen the role of indigenous-led water projects, including support for training, legal advocacy, and community-based monitoring systems;
- 8. *Proposes* technical assistance and capacity-building be provided to developing Member States to access international development loans for sanitation upgrades, through:
 - a. Establishing new programs, utilizing artificial intelligence to manage sanitation systems for food and water waste;
 - b. Building the capacity of the existing community organizations of Member States to help strengthen their ability to participate in the implementation and management of the projects effectively;
- 9. *Encourages* UN-Water to enhance its coordination with existing United Nations sanitation programs to better protect the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, particularly in LDCs and SIDS, by:
 - a. Establishing regional consultation forums to involve women, youth, persons with disabilities, and indigenous communities in the planning and assessment of sanitation programs;
 - b. Requiring all sanitation reports to include disaggregated data by gender, age, disability, and displacement status;
- 10. *Calls upon* WHO to actively collaborate with entities in ways, such as:
 - a. Collaborating with the Swiss National Bank to champion the right to sanitation;
 - b. Testing antibacterial coatings that comply with international health and safety standards by combating it through advanced technology such as UltraViolet sanitation lights, environmentally conscious cleaning materials, and proper sanitary protocols;
 - c. Increasing awareness of the large number of infectious microbes found on items unlikely to be cleaned, such as currency, door handles, keys, cell phones, and public transportation, alongside educating communities most vulnerable to the consequences of improper sanitation, such as LDCs, indigenous communities, and those who live in poverty.



Code: GA3/1/2

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Reaffirming the General Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010) on the human right to water and sanitation, in which the United Nations (UN) General Assembly recognized access to clean water and proper sanitation as human rights and called upon States and international organizations, capacity-building, and technology transfer through international assistance, and alarmed that over 1.5 billion people rely on contaminated water and lack basic sanitation, as reported by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2023, leading to preventable death,

Appreciating the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River for its vast membership, which includes every Member State in the European Union,

Concerned that large populations living within a meter of the high tide line are especially vulnerable to rising sea levels and climate anomalies and are further disadvantaged, with 30% lacking access to reliable sanitation services,

Deeply concerned by the joint report by the WHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) titled *Progress on Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (2000-2017)*, which highlights that people in underdeveloped regions lack proper sanitation and access to safe drinking water, a crisis expected to worsen as climate change threatens to reduce water availability by 50%,

Understanding that insufficient information and technology sharing directly contribute to the continued problem of water scarcity and poorly managed sanitation, as well as the problem of improperly implemented water resource management and sanitation policies, especially among developing Member States,

Remaining aware of the declining living conditions resulting from poor sanitation and ventilation leading to illnesses, according to the Bahamas Human Rights Report (2019) and the inconsistent standards for clean water across various regions of the globe and the differing levels of sanitation accepted as noted by the WHO in its Guidelines for Water Sanitation and Health,

Emphasizing that non-revenue water (NRW), water that a utility produces but does not reach the consumer due to leaks in water infrastructure, contributes to environmental degradation through increased energy consumption for water treatment and a strain on already stressed water resources,

Taking note that water scarcity and improper sanitation are complex issues that affect developing nations that require a deeper understanding of their root causes and the existing barriers to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation) and that there is a deep need for an increase of thematic, comprehensive reviews to understand the fine details of the issues as pertains to the mandate of Special Rapporteur on the rights to water and sanitation,

Deeply concerned that according to the UN-Water, one out of three vulnerable people in underdeveloped regions lack proper sanitation, and one out of ten lack safe drinking water; this disproportionately affects

low-income families and is expected to worsen as rising sea levels threaten to reduce water availability by 50%,

Bringing attention to the need for awareness and preventative measures, specifically in regions prone to droughts and rising seas caused by climate change and mismanagement of water resources,

Recognizing the need to strengthen national infrastructure and regulatory frameworks to ensure water quality, including the establishment of consistent testing mechanisms to detect pollutants such as microplastics, pesticides, and industrial contaminants,

Aligning with principles outlined in Human Rights Council resolution 56/8 (2024) on “Human Rights and Climate Change,” including ratification of the *Paris Agreement* (2015), enhanced international cooperation, the adoption of inclusive and equitable approaches, and the development of resilient infrastructure to address climate-related water challenges,

1. *Encourages* Member States to take continued action to address the issues of water scarcity and sanitation by increasing capacity building through climate-change-resistant infrastructure by:
 - a. Increasing capacity by ensuring sufficient technical expertise and administrative capacity that can be transferred to effective project implementation, as exemplified by the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene partnership and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council and UNICEF, which includes capacity building and implementation among its activities;
 - b. Defining climate-resistant infrastructure as services that anticipate, respond to, cope with, recover from, adapt to, or transform based on climate-related events, paying special attention to the most exposed vulnerable groups, such as the preservation of natural resources (flora, fauna) of states as infrastructure and development systems are implemented;
2. *Strongly recommends* that Member States invest in initiatives and projects such as desalination plants, rainwater harvesting systems, and the installation of solar-powered water purifiers, directed to transport water and medical services to rural and less accessible areas, which focus on long-term climate-resilient solutions by:
 - a. Rehabilitating existing groundwater systems that are currently unused or non-functioning to provide a long-term safe, reliable supply in the least developed Member States;
 - b. Promoting local institutions such as the Village Savings and Loan Association, through which communities can afford infrastructure with a loan or pay at a later date;
3. *Supports* the implementation of multilateral cooperation, such as the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, to facilitate the modernization of water infrastructure through:
 - a. Implementing stronger policies to support vulnerable communities with the necessary technologies and infrastructures;
 - b. Recommending Member States to confer at a yearly conference with expert groups set up by UN-Water to discuss the implementation of solutions for clean water and sanitation issues;

- c. Encouraging Member States to reach out to the World Bank Group or International Monetary Fund for help with the proper management of resources;
 - d. Inviting Member States to observe the example set by the Austrian Development Agency to promote the protection of developing Member States for easily accessible safe drinking water and reliable sanitation while following provisions set by directives such as the European Water Framework Directive;
 - e. Advocating for the interregional collaboration for the promotion of expansive projects in collaboration with United Nations institutions such as UNICEF to build community structures and advocate in partnership with civil society bodies for effective policies and strategies;
4. *Strongly recommends* that Member States create policies that integrate water resource management strategies to balance water demand with sustainable supply, ensuring environmental sustainability to benefit low and middle-income countries (LMICs) by:
- a. Building integrated, climate-adaptive water systems, such as, which will be achieved through collaboration and coordination with UN agencies, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), notably solar-powered water purifiers that utilize smart sensors, enhance real-time data systems, and use additional tools that can make water systems more efficient and resilient;
 - b. Keeping water piping up to date, which can strengthen infrastructure to reduce NRW, thus reducing the carbon footprint of water treatment;
 - c. Encouraging governmental regulations toward creating national water protection acts for water as a non-commodified public trust by complying with new UN legislations;
5. *Recommends* working with organizations to implement programs that follow the precedent set forth by:
- a. The *Funafuti Water Supply and Sanitation Project* (2024), approved by the Asian Development Bank, provides resources such as elevated potable water storage reservoirs, a water distribution network, and a household water connection to increase equitable access to water and proper sanitation as well as dismantle barriers also encourages raising awareness in rural areas, in certain areas, open defecation is the most common;
 - b. The “PROTÉGÉ Project,” a joint EU and Pacific Community project on water and sanitation, strengthening the cooperation of UNICEF, UN-Water, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and the WHO, extending the project to all the regions affected by issues concerning water and sanitation, especially the African, the Middle-East, the South American Regions, and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS);
 - c. The expansion of the “System-wide Strategy for Water” and improving it through better coordination between UN Bodies, such as UN-Water, WHO, UNEP, and UNICEF, ensuring a unified approach to water-related policies and crisis;

6. *Supports* the creation of a global handbook where Member States encourage and research sharing to aid the determination of policies by providing support through technology and knowledge sharing, including:
 - a. A fully comprehensive framework based on multilateral capacity building and transparency;
 - b. A legal framework that will guarantee the principle of non-interference and state sovereignty; a list of private companies and the opportunities they offer to support Member States in water management services, data monitoring, and risk analysis, keeping in mind to use small public funds to de-risk more significant private sector investments in water resource management;
 - c. Open-sourced document that compiles sustainable technological climate-adaptive solutions provided by private and public companies verified by UN organizations such as UN-Habitat, UNEP, or Global Water Partnership;
7. *Advocates for* the expansion of WHO's "Guidelines for drinking water quality" to build on already existing infrastructure and to provide a guiding force for Member States to strengthen these guidelines, which will serve as a universally achievable standard for water, sanitation, and cleanliness;
8. *Requests* for Member States to consider concrete solutions such as:
 - a. Investing in mangrove reforestation, a global strategy to address several problems concerning water sanitation, has a key role as natural barrier against sea-level rise while providing actions such as carbon absorption, pollution filtration, and erosion prevention, according to studies conducted by the Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA);
 - b. Work on knowledge sharing with NGOs (Non-Governmental Organisations) like GMA and World Wildlife Foundation, acting today globally, supported by the UNEP and by the Environment Fund;
9. *Requests* for the Special Rapporteur on The Rights to Water and Sanitation to conduct a thematic review of SIDS, of which the islands' participation would be opt-in, to present to the General Assembly and to provide an in-depth assessment of the specific issues regarding water scarcity and improper sanitation faced by these Member States to assess better and provide solutions to these issues and for the Human Rights Council to address the problem based on the findings of the Special Rapporteur's review;
10. *Proposes* the establishment of the Ensuring Universal Rights to Equitable Knowledge and Access Program, a UN initiative designed to provide legal, infrastructural, and community-level support to improve access to water and sanitation, particularly for marginalized populations by:
 - a. Promoting General Assembly Resolution 64/292 (2010) in national legislation to ensure water access and sanitation as a protected human right;
 - b. Operating in coordination with United Nations agencies like the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UN-Women, UNICEF, and UNDP, as well as regional organizations such as Pacific Island Forum, African Union, and European Union;

- c. Prioritizing underserved rural areas, women, Indigenous peoples, and children in water infrastructure projects;
 - d. Stressing its readiness to establish an international platform;
 - e. Supporting regional workshops;
 - f. Recommending the exchange of data, technology, and successful models for tackling water scarcity in vulnerable regions between Member States;
 - g. Urging the establishment of a global initiative that connects governments, NGOs, and private companies to implement education in Integrated Water Resource Management through the inclusion of digital training for locals, construction of wells, and the regular maintenance of infrastructure for the extraction, transportation, and treatment of drinking water;
11. *Encourages* Member States to develop infrastructure with which they can sustainably pursue and maintain healthy standards and mechanisms for the testing of water to ensure cleanliness by:
- a. Pursuing the development of a sustainable national infrastructure to provide water sanitation and purification services to each state's citizens;
 - b. Developing a consistent standard, routine, and schedule for the testing for pollution from microplastics and pesticides or unnatural chemical presences in drinking water through improving smart-sensors and real-time data systems to be conducted by the individual governments of Member States on water supplies in order to ensure quality drinking water while simultaneously securing national sovereignty and keeping water piping up to date;
 - c. Endorsing the sustainable regulation of industrial wastewater discharge according to the development level and capabilities of individual Member States;
 - d. Reducing runoff of pesticides and fertilizers into freshwater sources; Recommends the inclusion of climate-displacement water planning international emergency preparedness strategies by:
 - i. Integrating water access guarantees into post-cyclone and extreme weather response policies;
 - ii. Taking preemptive action to develop a national water scarcity emergency plan that would provide guidelines for government action in case of a national water shortage;
 - e. Seeking to create an emergency water reserve in order to provide water security in the event of scarcity occurring.



Code: GA3/1/3

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Considering the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948, article 25 states that “everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for their health and well-being, including food, clothing, housing, and medical care and necessary social services,”

Reaffirming articles 11 and 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), which establishes the right to water as an indispensable component of the right to an adequate standard of living and the highest attainable standard of health,

Recalling General Assembly (UNGA) resolution 64/292 (2010) on “the Human Rights to Drinking Water and Sanitation,” which recognizes access to safe drinking water and sanitation as a fundamental human right, essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights,

Stating the African Union’s Agenda 2063 Goal 7, which calls for universal access to safe water and sanitation as a pillar of sustainable development and social stability,

Following SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), which calls for ensuring access to water and sanitation for all, yet recognizing that global efforts remain off track, as highlighted in the SDG 6 Progress Reports and the 2024 Sustainable Development Goals Report,

Noting with deep concern that 2.2 billion people worldwide lack access to safe drinking water, with 1.76 billion of them residing in rural areas, as reported by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs,

Deeply concerned by the 3.5 million people that die each year from a lack of safe drinking water, hygiene, and sanitation (WASH) services by the United Nations (UN), and the over 1.7 million people each year who perish from consumption of contaminated water, according to the World Health Organization (WHO),

Expressing its appreciation for the World Water-Tech Innovation Summit,

Taking into account the findings of the UN World Water Development Report 2024, which underscores the disproportionate impact of water insecurity on marginalized communities, particularly women and children,

Emphasizing that women and girls, especially pregnant women, are disproportionately affected by inadequate access to safe drinking water and sanitation, often bearing the primary responsibility for water procurement, which can lead to educational disadvantages and increased health risks, as highlight in the General Assembly resolution 78/206 on “the human rights to water and sanitation,”

Recognizing further the role of women in water governance and decision-making, as emphasized in the 2024 International Forum on Women and Water, yet noting that women represent only 38% of civil servants in Sub-Saharan Africa, far below the threshold of gender parity,

Acknowledging that the lack of safe water and sanitation exacerbates displacement-related vulnerabilities, increasing health risks, gender-based violence, and barriers to education and economic participation,

Stressing the need for stronger global water governance, as promoted in General Assembly resolution 68/157 (2013) on “the Right to Privacy in the Digital Age”, to ensure equitable and sustainable access to water resources, particularly for displaced populations,

Reiterating the importance of the polluter pays principle, established in principle 16 of the *Rio Declaration* (1992), to hold accountable those responsible for water pollution and ensure precautionary measures are taken,

Recognizing that the UN Secretary-General’s report 70/836 highlights the weaponization of water in conflict zones, impacting 7.7 million civilians through targeted water cuts, with incidents of water being used as a tool of coercion increasing by 34% in Africa between 2022 and 2023,

Concerned with the weaponization of water in conflict zones continuing to violate international humanitarian law, as outlined in General Assembly resolution 70/169,

Further recalling articles 54 and 14 of Additional Protocols I and II to the *Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field* and the *Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea* (1949), which prohibit the destruction or weaponization of essential civilian water infrastructure in armed conflicts,

Taking into account the findings of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) *Report on Water Pollution in Plastics and Microplastics* (2024), which warns of severe health risks posed by microplastics in drinking water, including potential genetic, neurological, and respiratory damage,

Recognizing The World Trade Organization’s (WTO) article 27.1 of the *Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property* (TRIPS) Rights,

Highlighting that the flexibilities of the TRIPS agreements can be utilized to waive or adapt patent protection for life-saving water purification systems, sanitation technologies, and climate resilience infrastructures,

Summoning The WTO Ministerial decision WT/MIN/22/30 to temporarily waive the patents for vaccines,

Taking into account the growing presence of microplastics in treated tap water and bottled water, which lead us to be concerned about the health impacts are making to drinking water on the global population, including the significant presence of those on bottled water compared to tap water,

Cognizant of the drastic threat posed by salinization of freshwater to both island and coastal Member States,

Taking note of the external review of UN-Water published in 2018, which identifies significant structural and institutional limitations in UN-Water’s current mandate and recommends an update to strengthen its coordination role within the UN system,

Highlighting mainstreaming gender equality in water resources management as mentioned by the 2025 policy brief published by UN Women and UNEP,

Alarmed by annual economic losses of \$260 billion USD caused by preventable diseases and productivity losses due to inadequate access to safe drinking water and sanitation, as highlighted in the World Bank Report and referenced in the General Assembly resolution 78/206 (2023) on “the human rights to drinking water and sanitation”, which recognizes water and sanitation as fundamental human rights,

Regretting the inequalities in access to clean drinking water and sanitation, given especially between urban and rural contexts,

Fully alarmed that more than 1,000 children the age of 5 or under die every day from diseases related to lack of WASH, a further 1.69 billion people still live without access to adequate sanitation, and 419 million people still practice open defecation,

Knowing the importance of sustainable water management in order to face the climate crisis,

Taking into account the WHO's report highlighting that three quarters of individuals in least developed States lack access to handwashing facilities,

Keeping in mind that improved sanitation facilities are defined as those that hygienically separate human waste from human contact,

Having considered that the absence of basic sanitation facilities can infect individuals and contaminate a community's land and water,

Recognizing that developing Member States spend an excess of \$1.4 billion USD on debt payments in 2023, according to the World Bank,

Acknowledging the fundamental threat posed by conflict over transboundary water basins,

Recognizing that climate-resilient infrastructure, including advanced filtration systems, chemical treatment, and elevated reservoir storage, is essential to achieving universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation, particularly in regions vulnerable to climate change, infrastructure degradation, and water scarcity,

Addressing that the principal cause of infectious diarrhea in the world is the lack of access to drinking water and adequate sanitation, also being the cause of death for roughly 1 million people per year, according to the WHO,

Deeply concerned that many water-related ecosystems are threatened by poor management and face increased uncertainty and risk, also due to climate change and other factors,

Acknowledging that, according to the WHO, over 1.8 million people each year perish from consumption of unsafe water,

Emphasizing the role of education in promoting sustainable water use,

Convinced of the necessity of cooperation between developing and fully developed Member States,

Recognizing that inadequate education on water safety and the use of contaminated water can lead to serious diseases such as cholera and malaria,

Understanding the difficulty in rural communities of gaining educational access due to travel restrictions,

Drawing upon the impact of past incidences of worldwide awareness campaigns, particularly among more developed Member States,

Acknowledges the *Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes* (1992), which promotes the sustainable management of shared water resources, conflict prevention, and peace,

Understanding that increased funding for sanitization technology is crucial,

Aware of the existing difficulties in making drinking water accessible also in areas distant from the main purification centres,

Referring to the success of the existing irrigation canal on the Massacre River in Haiti,

Keeping in mind the possible potential for more government positions to create regulations and guidelines that would protect Member States,

Alarmed by the unequal distribution of water resources in Member States with transboundary waters,

Noting with deep concern the inequalities women and children face regarding access to sanitation services,

Acknowledging that community-led projects are essential to promote equality with rural and urban areas,

1. *Calls* upon the WTO and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to consider temporary patent waivers for water purification technologies, sanitation systems and essential infrastructures in order to enable low cost manufacturing, affordable procurement and to broaden the access of water in insecure and conflict affected regions by invoking article 27.1 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of TRIPS, applying it to water purification, sanitation, and infrastructure technologies, ensuring that Member States affected by water insecurity do not face increased barriers to access vital technologies;
2. *Requests* the WTO in consultation with the WIPO, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and UN-Water to explore legal avenues for operationalising such patent waivers through an emergency declaration voluntary licensing mechanism to facilitate technology transfer and innovation diffusion;
3. *Encourages* Member States to explore regional patent pools and open-licensing frameworks for water and sanitation technology, particularly within the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and other regional integration mechanisms such as the *Bangui Agreement* to grant compulsory licensing to purchase, produce, and manufacture the production of new technology to support water infrastructure as stated in its articles 55, 56, and 57;
4. *Strongly supports* the expansion of the UN Special Rapporteur on Water and Sanitation Mandate to report on the specific cases in which water is used as a weapon of war in conflict zones in the next United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) session;
5. *Encourages* regional cooperation and the development of specialized summits hosting social scientists, financial experts, and technological professionals to further collaborate knowledge-sharing among states and humanitarian organizations to strengthen preventive measures and emergency responses to water-related crises during armed conflict;

6. *Recommends* the strengthening of mechanisms to protect our most vulnerable groups, giving particular focus to women, children and displaced persons, through:
 - a. Emphasizing WASH programmes to raise awareness about the prevalence of women's contributions of unpaid domestic work (labor) in many societies, to be offered in all educational institutions and free of charge to people already in the workforce in form of professional on-the-job training, further strengthening the #HeForSheAtHome initiative;
 - b. Focusing on programmes in support of women who are mainly in charge of their family's water procurement, offering financial aid and instituting freely accessible medical first aid facilities in rural underserved areas close to wells or other water procurement stations which can be seen to be putting water-seekers at disproportionate risk during water procurement, to be coordinated by UN-Water and UN Women in a joint effort;
 - c. Considering spaces in which women have access to menstrual hygiene products, through the complete flexibilization of TRIPS Agreements through both global and regional frameworks that grant compulsory licensing in order to have access to cost-of-production products, in which they can also practice safe menstrual sanitation, further recommending the institution of workshops for women on how to self-make menstrual hygiene products, through the women and feminist organizations at the UN-Water Conference, both to be instituted in educational and professional facilities, further strengthening initiatives already supported by UN-Water;
 - d. Ensuring prioritisation of infrastructure adaptation, maintenance, and building for schools and school areas, while ensuring the access to safe drinking water through shipments in all schools as an immediate solution in awaiting for the finishing of infrastructure works, both to the aim that a lack of drinking water shall not inhibit any children's educational success, recommending the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to fund targeted Member States programs for this goal, laying focus on Member States who couldn't finance similar programs with their resources;
7. *Calls upon* Member States to collaborate with UN-Water, Water For People, African Union, Association of Southeast Asian Nations, League of Arab States, Community of Latin American Caribbean States, and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to provide the needed resources and guidelines to monitor the effectiveness of the newly developed healthcare system while ensuring that a more efficient water system is used in a sanitary environment, by:
 - a. Recommending the UN-Water Conference to implement progress checks every 6 months in Member States with transboundary waters to ensure equal utilization of resources;
 - b. Proclaiming the necessity of the creation of a new institutional framework aimed to provide developing nations with the needed resources to facilitate such systems, collaborating with AU's Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and the continental Event Based Surveillance Unit (EBS), and monitored the progress being made in reaching equitable access to fully clean water;
 - c. Suggesting to enlist Member States in an index where their rankings provide proper insight on the level of attention needed to be provided to understand the weakness that need to be resolved;

- d. Further suggesting Member States to strengthen health care systems with advanced technological resources to strengthen their healthcare system under TRIPS Agreement flexibilities;
- 8. *Proposes* to address the lack of and maintenance of critical water infrastructure, with a view to minimize costs and stimulate local economies, by employing local communities and using local resources where construction and maintenance of the infrastructure is funded through multi donor trust funds such as the African Development Bank to promote, by:
 - a. Suggesting the effective access to purified water through appropriate infrastructure such as water piping, treatment plants, and reservoirs;
 - b. Proposing effective usage and collection of rainwater by harvest in a joint effort of the Member States to reduce pollution by offering a green alternative for water collection and increase water quality;
 - c. Upholding the elimination or maintenance of dilapidated pipe networks to reduce water leaks and decrease the risks of unclean water spread, aiming to minimize losses and use the available resources for their intended means;
 - d. Further suggesting the installation of water treatment facilities to improve water quality and lessen the impacts of pollution, in order to adhere to modern standards in construction and maintenance, aiming at zero detectable coliform bacteria in any 100 millimeter sample and microbial and chemical contaminants;
 - e. Focusing on the development decentralized systems such as small-scale purification units or point-of-use systems, like ceramic filters, solar disinfection, chlorination;
- 9. *Recommends* Member States to attend the Water and Sanitation Outreach Conference (WSOC) that will achieve SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and will advocate for the creation of sustainable infrastructure, by:
 - a. Inviting subject experts and researchers to give their professional opinions on how to achieve this;
 - b. Keeping in mind the need for climate-resistant infrastructure systems that are made with low-cost but modern technology and affordable water filtration;
 - c. Receiving funding from the UN Sanitation and Hygiene Fund that has focused on the creation of water and sanitation services, and being implemented by the WHO who supports the equitable distribution of water resources;
- 10. *Suggests* the implementation of a domestic National Action Committee for each Member State, bringing together different state national agencies such as Ministries of Health and Rural Development, harmonizing the implementation of WASH activities and international strategies;
- 11. *Requests* the establishment of a joint effort to bring water to communities in water-abundant regions lacking sufficient professional workforces and infrastructure through the construction of irrigation and water-supply canals in collaboration between local governments and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through:

- a. Hiring construction experts at the local level, consulting community members and hiring them according to their skill levels;
 - b. Encouraging further funding support of the UN Capital Development Fund for their work in funding water-service projects, implemented by UN-Habitat, having a focus on the establishment of prioritized water-related services;
 - c. Monitoring yearly progress reports redacted by the local community would communicate any inefficiencies, highlighting the need of maintenance points of interest to all parties involved in order to improve the efficiency and reach of the program year over year;
12. *Endorses* Member States into following the example of the irrigation canal of the Massacre River in Haiti in order to provide other Member States an easier access to water and food autonomy, by:
- a. Addressing Member States set in Middle and South Africa, being the one more affected by drought, ensuring that those facing severe water scarcity have access to adequate resources;
 - b. Considering canal infrastructure should be built at the most advantageous locations for Member States to be the most cost effective and far reaching as possible;
 - c. Considering the equitable distribution of resources, also given the significant challenges posed by climate change in certain regions;
13. *Requests* the support from UN institutions such as UNDP and UN-Habitat for constructing self-sufficient water infrastructures based on the use of renewable plants and resources by:
- a. Deploying solar-powered water pumping and filtration systems in off-grid rural and semi-arid regions, prioritizing communities most affected by water scarcity and unreliable energy access;
 - b. Providing technical training programs for local technicians, engineers, and water committees to ensure long-term operation, maintenance, and repair of sustainable water infrastructure;
 - c. Engaging local communities in the planning and implementation process to promote ownership and ensure that systems meet the needs of vulnerable groups, including women, pastoralists, and displaced populations;
14. *Emphasizes* the need for systems for collecting and storing rainwater from roofs or impermeable surfaces, through:
- a. Utilizing existing agencies like UN-Habitat and UNEP that push for rainwater harvesting and storage in developing countries;
 - b. Considering the UNDP, which encourages projects that connect clean rooftop water to sanitation, minimizing water-borne diseases, and working alongside the Global Rain Water Harvesting Collective (GRWHC) to gather rainwater for communities, especially in rural areas;

15. *Suggests* establishing water supply projects with hydropower components such as turbines to generate the necessary energy required to purify water and address water scarcity in rural areas by fostering collaboration between neighboring States with larger water resources capacity in initiatives similar to the Grand Inga Hydropower Project, through regional organizations, such as the African Union and Association of Southeast Asian Member States;
16. *Suggests* the implementation of capacity-building efforts by organizations such as the African Development Bank, World Bank, and UNDP that promote local sustainable water management, through:
 - a. Operating technical training workshops for national and regional agencies on safe well establishment and drilling;
 - b. Hosting seminars on rehabilitating and maintaining existing water infrastructure;
 - c. Teaching local communities about water recycling;
 - d. Creating initiatives to teach households how to collect their own water (i.e rainwater);
17. Encourages activity among UN organizations such as the UN-Water to spread awareness on social media, by:
 - a. Endorsing organizations to highlight issues faced by improper sanitation and water scarcity such as waterborne disease, microplastic pollution, and other issues that arise;
 - b. Highlighting the resulting opportunities and educational inequalities faced by young women due to water scarcity;
18. *Advocates* for increased support towards organizations such as the African Development Bank and monitoring instruments like Official Development Assistance (ODA) for increasing education access in rural areas that are disproportionately impacted by the lack of sanitation and contaminated water sources, by:
 - a. Calling upon European and Western world States to continue their funding and monitoring efforts, through:
 - i. Offering financial assistance including; scholarships, grants/loans;
 - ii. Presenting opportunities for teacher training and forms of basic education for marginalized populations and/or rural areas;
 - b. Encouraging consistent financial donation towards multi donor trust funds such as the African Development Bank to establish transportation infrastructure to provide education access for rural communities;
19. *Stresses* the need for the World Water-Tech Innovation Summit expansion with the support of the African Water Facility, in order to spread technological knowledge among less-developed Member States;
20. *Cooperates* with international experts to share capacity and knowledge of adequate management of water, in order to transform into suitable for human consumption, through:

- a. Sharing technological patents to contribute to the knowledge and implementation of international standard methods for water management;
 - b. Empowering women about appropriate use of water in the preparation of food and recycling or reusing water in their homes;
21. *Calls* on UN-Water to establish and engage with international platforms, including annual forums and regional workshops, such as AfricanSan where Member States can exchange data, technology, and successful models for tackling water scarcity in vulnerable regions, through:
- a. Inviting relevant UN agencies, such as UNICEF, WHO, UNEP, and regional bodies like the African Union, to ensure interdisciplinary approaches and alignment with existing water-related initiatives;
 - b. Requesting that the outcomes of these forums and workshops be summarized in periodic reports submitted to the UNGA, including recommendations for coordinated global action;
22. *Encourages* collaboration with UN entities such as UN-Water, WHO, and UNICEF's WASH program to implement and expand hygiene and safe water practices in communities and educational facilities, by:
- a. Supporting educational workshops led by trained local health workers and teachers;
 - b. Coordinating funding and technical assistance to upgrade water and sanitation infrastructure in rural schools;
 - c. Facilitating joint missions between UN agencies and national governments to streamline planning and delivery;
 - d. Strengthening community partnerships through participatory development models that ensure local ownership and sustainability;
23. *Recommends* the establishment of a Long-Term Action Plan to Combat Microplastics in Drinking Water, under the polluter pays principle, by:
- a. Developing a standardized system for collecting and analyzing microplastic data in drinking water;
 - b. Establishing a Global Measurement System to ensure consistent monitoring and reporting;
 - c. Suggesting mandating an Open-Ended Working Group to draft enforceable protocols and regulatory guidelines addressing microplastic pollution;
 - d. Suggesting International Development Banks to provide financial support and credits to assist nations in meeting these standards;
 - e. Supporting educational campaigns to inform the public about the risks associated with microplastic contamination and actions they can take to reduce plastic pollution;
24. *Advocates* for the expansion of the UNICEF Tap Project to emphasize the importance of safe water usage within classroom environments in developing Member States to further support responsibility and accountability among local communities;

25. *Recommends* to expand the SDG 6 monitoring system to track the presence of microplastics in bottled and tap water;
26. *Encourages* Member States to engage with and support desalination strategies such as reverse osmosis, desalination plants, and solar desalination, in order to use the natural resources they have more access to and combat the risk of rising sea levels affecting freshwater supplies;
27. *Strongly calls* for Member States to provide WASH services to combat water contamination from industrial pollution, salination and improper waste water management by:
 - a. Engaging with Regional Banks such as the African Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank and Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean to implement programs similar to the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative (RWSSI);
 - b. Establishing and rehabilitating latrines in rural communities alongside waste water piping;
28. *Suggests* to consider substitutive packaging instead of plastic water bottles and invites to use more sustainable materials like glass, aluminium or cardboard, facilitating the availability, in terms of costs, of such materials;
29. *Endorses* the implementation of pilot projects for minimum standard hours of community services of the community to a garden growing dry-climate plants such as cacti and aloe vera for their benefits to citizens as they provide antioxidants and contain healing properties for diseases;
30. *Recommends* Member States whose territories overlap over sources of water form and strengthen transboundary organizations with neighbors to promote sustainable water usage, provide a platform for mutual discussion, and strengthen regional corporation to ensure equal access to water resources across borders;
31. *Requests* Member States to invest in and develop purification systems in order to make drinkable water accessible, by:
 - a. Considering that, in a number directly correlating with the population density of the Member States, considering that one purification system should have a capacity of 7500 m³/day;
 - b. Acknowledging also the use of solar power purification systems for those States in remote or off-grid areas, including procedure such as solar distillation, disinfection and filtration;
32. *Urges* for financial burden-sharing, encouraging developed Member States into donating to multilateral development finance institutions such as the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development;
33. Encourages the facilitation of resource based on vulnerable geographical reasons via inland waterways and the use of boats and tracks;
34. *Encourages* states to recognize ecocide, defined as a grave threat to biodiversity, human health, and the global water system, by:

- a. Exploring legal and institutional pathways for defining and addressing ecocide, with a specific focus on water-related ecosystem destruction;
 - b. Supporting and protecting Indigenous and local communities who are often the first victims of ecocidal practices, by:
 - i. Supporting forums such as the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues of the Economic and Social Council;
 - ii. Also Supporting their representation within the UN bodies;
 - iii. Prioritizing their needs in the establishment of water supplies infrastructures;
 - iv. Arranging summits with indigenous communitarian leaders to get their experience and points of view of the impact they have from ecocidal practices;
 - v. Collecting cosmovision and local management of water from focus groups of indigenous communities;
 - c. Supporting the integration of ecocide prevention mechanisms into national legislation and international legal frameworks, including cooperation with NGOs such as the Stop Ecocide Foundation;
35. *Urges* Member States in relation to the UN SafeWater mandate, to enhance international cooperation in achieving global water governance security, integrating a gender perspective, and promoting collective action to safeguard access to clean and safe drinking water for all;
36. *Compels* Member States to support regions affected by unexpected shortages of drinking water in hard-to-reach areas such as islands or landlocked regions, by:
- a. Collaborating with locally active non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as UNDP to collect and analyze data about regions in urgent need of water;
 - b. Using the UNs communication network for effective coordination of water supply between potential partner Member States;
 - c. Providing water as a humanitarian support alongside local partners' water in case of emergency;
37. *Encourages* the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination to initiate, no later than the first quarter of 2026, a comprehensive review of the mandate and operational scope of UN-Water, with the objectives to identify existing structural and functional limitations in inter-agency coordination on water and sanitation issues;
38. *Recommends* the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination to evaluate the feasibility of upgrading UN-Water to programmatic body with an operational budget and Member States level presence;
39. *Supports* the implementation of legal pathways to institutionalize the role of UN-Water in supporting the implementation and monitoring of the human rights to safe drinking water and

sanitation, as affirmed in General Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010) on “the human rights to water and sanitation;”

40. *Further encourages* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, in collaboration with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UNDP, the WTO, and the Joint Monitoring Programme, a detailed analytical report by the first quarter of 2026, which shall include:
 - a. An institutional model for strengthening UN-Water mandate, including options for partial autonomy or transformation into a specialized entity;
 - b. Recommendations on integrating rights-based approach into water governance;
 - c. Frameworks for interagency alignment that ensure accountability to the most vulnerable populations, including marginalized groups, rural communities, and displaced persons;
41. *Encourages* investing in the infrastructure of sewage treatment, like eco-san toilets, that consists in waterless composting toilets or urine-diverting toilets, ideal for drought-prone;
42. *Calls upon* the International Organization for Migration and Food and Agricultural Organization to facilitate community-led projects to address issues proposed by local citizens.



Code: GA3/1/4

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Keeping in mind that according to the United Nations, 3.5 billion people lack safely managed sanitation services,

Deeply disturbed that 26% of the global population lacks safe drinking water,

Acknowledging the overwhelming impact of changing global climates on the water access and sanitation crisis and requesting further action regarding these critical issues,

Considering the crucial need of centralized data collection and analysis in formulating effective and coordinated policy responses to global challenges,

Reaffirming the international commitments made in the SDGs, especially SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), and the necessity of aligning domestic member state policies with global SDG targets,

Recognizing the value of local, community-based initiatives in addition to national research programs in strengthening infrastructure, empowering local populations, promoting sustainable water usage and sanitation management,

Taking into account that technical assistance and research is needed to improve water infrastructure at the national level,

Emphasizing the need to improve national policy to protect sanitation in regions populated by minority groups,

Noting with satisfaction the existence of advisory programs such as the Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking Water (GLAAS) coordinated by the World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF),

Noting with deep concern the abilities of Indigenous populations to financially provide for their families which are hindered by the water crisis, leading to additional burdens such as the need to treat illness caused by poor water conditions and incapacity to perform in the workforce,

Affirming the principles of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), including sustainability, international cooperation, and planning across borders, which are necessary for the sustainable management of water sources in a sovereign and equitable manner,

1. *Suggests* the formation of the Accessible Quality Water Association (AQWA), which will:
 - a. Be comprised of representatives from participating Member States, UN-Water, WHO, and researchers;

- b. Meet at biannual research exchange forums in which researchers and scientists can share research and answer questions regarding technology and programs related to water access and sanitation with participating Member States;
 - c. Additionally, be supported by collaboration with international donors, financial institutions, and private partnerships;
 - d. And welcomes all financial contributions from participating Member States, according to their capacity, who wish to do so;
- 2. *Recommends* the United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT) develop a digital database known as the AQWA Research Compendium (AQWARC), which will:
 - a. Serve as a digital database of all research presented at biannual AQWA forum meetings;
 - b. Be accessible to all registered researchers and government representatives participating in AQWA;
 - c. Include a tag-based search engine function that will benefit all Member States by matching their specific challenges and circumstances with existing research and solutions shared in AQWA forums;
 - d. Enable real-time information sharing on water availability and quality based on collected data, as well as from the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), specifically the Global Environment Monitoring System for Freshwater (GEMS);
 - e. Be managed by UN-Water in addition to their existing data coordination efforts;
- 3. *Requests* an increase in intra-regional cooperation between Member States to enhance the exchange of region-specific knowledge and solutions related to water access and sanitation by:
 - a. Encouraging Member States to collaborate with other members with whom share geographical characteristics and resulting similar issues, fostering tailored solutions based on shared experiences;
 - b. Utilizing existing frameworks, such as the IWMR, as a framework for peaceful cooperation and planning to ensure sustainable and effective sharing of cross-border basins;
 - c. Recommending that Member States apply the IWMR model at a regional level to more effectively analyze and address specific regional complications and ensure relevant and efficient problem solving;
- 4. *Encourages* the further domestic investment of Member States in the development of infrastructure and policy at the national level by:
 - a. Diverting a more significant proportion of national funding for water safety and sanitation to local communities;
 - b. Using this funding above to increase access to water in local communities by establishing more water filtration and sanitation plants within those communities;

- c. Utilizing existing trusts and funds to additionally support infrastructure projects, including the World Bank's Global Water Security and Sanitation Partnership (WBGWSSP), OPEC Fund for International Development (OPECFID), and other similar programs, as well as NGOs such as Water for People;
 - d. Prioritizing rural regions with high populations of minority groups and limited access to infrastructure, including the use of sustainable materials and technologies;
- 5. *Recommends* that Member States take the following steps to protect water access for indigenous and other disadvantaged groups by utilizing existing UN resources and programs, such as:
 - a. Inviting UNICEF to assist in the implementation of rural support systems specific to the needs of indigenous groups inspired by UNICEF's previously effective Healthy Villages campaign;
 - b. Requesting the expertise of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) to conduct evaluations of the resources available or lack thereof for indigenous populations within their territory;
 - c. Addressing unique disparities faced by other marginalized groups, including women, children, and indigenous communities through intra-regional collaboration as well as information-sharing with NGOs and local experts;
- 6. *Invites* Member States, in cooperation with GLAAS, to educate and provide training led by organizations such as the UNICEF and the WHO to local officials and citizens to ensure long-lasting, future-oriented, and efficient water management by:
 - a. Exchanging knowledge throughout Member States on sustainable water consumption practices;
 - b. Promoting wastewater recycling for industrial use and street cleaning;
 - c. Providing technical expertise in hydrogeological mapping, digital water solutions, and sustainable water extraction techniques;
 - d. Establishing awareness campaigns in schools and local communities that encourage responsible and sustainable water consumption, especially in water-stressed regions;
 - e. Integrating water conservation education into national school curricula and youth engagement programs;
 - f. Encouraging partnerships between local universities and technical institutions to enable collaborative research, student exchanges, and the co-development of water to ensure long-lasting, future-oriented, and efficient water management;
 - g. Establishing awareness campaigns in schools and local communities that encourage responsible and sustainable water consumption, especially in water-stressed regions, at the local level;
 - h. Integrating water conservation education into national school curricula and other community programs.



Code: GA3/1/5

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Reaffirming the commitment made in General Assembly resolution 78/206 (2023) on “The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation,” which highlights financial resource building, technology transfer, and affordable drinking water,

Recognizing General Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010) on “The Human Right to Water and Sanitation,” which highlights financial support for communities lacking necessities and sanitation services and stresses the fundamental right to health, dignity, and prosperity,

Supporting the work of the United Nations System-Wide Strategy for Water and Sanitation, the United Nations Children’s Fund Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene, and the World Health Organization (WHO),

Recalling the Practical Guide for the Development of Agreements or Other Arrangements for Transboundary Water Cooperation (2021) and the *Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes* (1992), which emphasize the importance of international and regional coordination, river basin organizations, and water diplomacy,

Acknowledging the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), particularly emphasizing SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals) regarding the importance of revitalizing global partnerships to achieve sustainable development and collaborative efforts among governments, the private sector, and civil society to ensure universal access to clean water and sanitation, as highlighted by the UN,

Highlighting the global importance of access to safe drinking water and sanitation in rural areas, in agricultural areas, and for marginalized communities,

Admiring the work of the *Ramsar Convention on Wetlands*, (1971) under the auspices of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which provides a framework for the conservation of wetlands and promotes sustainable water management through national action and international cooperation, including the designation of Ramsar Sites and the establishment of Ramsar Regional Initiatives,

Emphasizing the role of early warning systems, such as those promoted by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO), in reducing the human impact of natural disasters, including droughts, floods, and hurricanes,

Acknowledging the UN Water 2024 report, which reveals that the world is off track in achieving SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) due to ongoing issues like water scarcity, pollution, poor infrastructure, and insufficient investment,

Concerning issues regarding contaminated water sources due to inadequate filtration and poor environmental conditions, leading to the spread of preventable waterborne diseases,

Remembering that 80% of people who lack access to water are located outside of urban center areas that are often difficult to reach, according to the UN World Water Development Report,

Recognizing the *Pact for the Future* and the *Global Digital Compact* (2024), underlining the significance of science, technology, digital cooperation, and financing for development,

Acknowledging that the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reports that 2.3 billion people still lack access to clean drinking water and half the population cannot access safely managed sanitation,

Appreciating the strategic partnership in funding the installation and distribution of water infrastructure from other Member States by the Africa Growing Together Fund,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance and diversify the sources of international financial support available for water infrastructure projects in restriction-affected areas, with particular attention to:
 - a. Prioritizing contributions to non-conditional funding mechanisms that respect national ownership and do not impose economic or political reforms unrelated to the human right to water;
 - b. Increasing the availability of microgrants and direct community funding for locally-led water solutions, with simplified application procedures that account for limited institutional capacity due to external pressures;
 - c. Encouraging public and private donors to allocate resources through transparent, solidarity-based channels that ensure equitable distribution and minimize geopolitical influence for non-aligned and developing Member States;
2. *Suggests* the establishment of a "Rural Water Solidarity Initiative" by UN-Water, which aims to:
 - a. Support Member States with water stress discrepancy between rural and urban areas by addressing the low water supply, the poor distribution network, run-down sanitary facilities, and encourage Member States to enhance urban water infrastructure services by sharing information through the International Water Association (IWA), enabling transboundary collaboration on strategies and tools;
 - b. Train and mobilize domestic and international engineers and technicians to build, maintain, and monitor sustainable and cost-efficient water systems in underserved communities through the "Water Initiative" program by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
 - c. Encourage collaborative trade-offs, where Member States with abundant water resources contribute to regional solutions in exchange for mutual technical support and shared innovation with water-scarce Member States in rural water infrastructure;
3. *Recommends* that UN Water develops the Water and Sanitation Accountability Database to mitigate discrimination and inequalities in access to clean drinking water and sanitation through the process of spreading awareness by:
 - a. Tracking Member States commitments and violations in regards to SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation);

- b. Allowing UN bodies, NGOs, and individuals to report any discrimination concerning water access to UN Water and letting it review these reports and give recommendations to Member States to resolve water discrimination;
 - c. Having UN-Water implement the database in support of their dedication to the right to water and sanitation as a UN body;
 - d. Seeking funding from the Green Climate Fund due to their continuous support for equitable water access;
- 4. *Recommends* the creation of studies, mandated by the Food and Agriculture Organization, in collaboration with academic, scientific, and public institutions, to address the needs of different geological and agricultural regions experiencing water scarcity through joint research on innovations in water conservation, efficient irrigation, and climate-resilient hydrological planning;
- 5. *Supports* improving data collection and monitoring by expanding the WHO and UNICEF's Joint Monitoring Program to include real-time quality assessments, ensuring better tracking of progress and identifying areas in urgent need of interventions;
- 6. *Calls upon* the continued support from WHO and UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) as the custodian of global data on Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), primarily focusing on gender inequalities between and within Member States regarding the difficulty of fetching water, as women are primarily responsible for collecting water;
- 7. *Requests* that Member States incorporate comprehensive climate risk assessments into their national development plans to proactively address escalating drought risks, in alignment with the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030*, which emphasizes the integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development strategies to substantially decrease disaster-related losses;
- 8. *Encourages* the representation of rural community leaders in decisions made on water access and sanitation, allowing them to increase connectivity to already existing water infrastructure based on the advice of the research to be conducted, supporting the creation of regional water associations for the benefit of local communities that will be operated by those community members, supported by and connected to local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as the Aga Khan Development Network;
- 9. *Encourages* the implementation of cost-effective infrastructure that is built and/or supported by the surrounding community by:
 - a. Requesting funding from the Official Development Assistance to build the proper infrastructure for rural areas globally;
 - b. Incorporating a fusion of educational programs regarding sanitation with a focus on marginalized groups, seen from organizations and programs like UNICEF and WaterAid;
- 10. *Proposes* the implementation and expansion of multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS), especially in drought-prone regions, with support from UNDRR, WMO, and regional partners to limit the potential damage of natural disasters in areas that are highly affected by these crises to respond to them by:
 - a. Facilitating the funding of MHEWS for Member States through public-private

partnerships;

- b. Fostering the exchange of expertise in the implementation of MHEWS between different Member States that require them by sending climate experts from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to Member States that require them;
 - c. Enhancing capacity-building programs to train local communities and personnel in operating and maintaining MHEWS to ensure sustainability and effectiveness;
- 11. *Urges* Member States to support organizations such as WaterAid and the IWA, which work to strengthen access to safe water and highlight the importance of international cooperation in water management strategies; noting that WaterAid focuses on providing clean water and sanitation in underserved areas, while IWA promotes global collaboration and innovation in sustainable water management; emphasizing that supporting these initiatives is essential to addressing global water challenges and ensuring equitable access to water for all;
- 12. *Recommends* that Member States fund UNICEF WASH initiatives and help communities that often lack basic sanitation and water resources to:
 - a. Emphasize disease prevention, such as cholera and diarrhea, and aid those suffering from infections through health centers and educational tools;
 - b. Encourage regional organizations to ensure dignified access to sufficient and safe water services for people trapped in humanitarian crises.



Code: GA3/1/6

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Guided by article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), which acknowledges the right to an adequate standard of living, including access to clean water and sanitation as essential components of human dignity and well-being,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 51/19 (2022) and General Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010) on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation as essential to the full enjoyment of life and all human rights,

Keeping in mind the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* prioritizes issues under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 (clean water and sanitation), essential for achieving SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 5 (gender equality), and SDG 13 (climate action),

Recognizing that Small Island States dependence on desalination makes marine ecosystem preservation an inevitable part of an efficient water preservation strategy,

Profoundly concerned with the ongoing military crisis further complicating the access to clean drinking water and sanitation by putting relevant infrastructure and billions of lives in danger,

Taking into consideration how climate change poses a significant obstacle to guaranteeing everyone access to clean water and sanitation,

Bearing in mind the unsustainability of most of the desalination practices taking place today,

Bearing in mind the *Pact for the Future* (2024) action 6 and action 10, addressing and promoting the availability and sustainable management of clean and safe water and sanitation and addressing the impact of climate change on water resources, respectively,

Alarmed by the lack of technology sharing regarding critical water work systems and technologies,

Recalling the importance of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF's) WASH system and its efforts to provide access to clean water and reliable sanitation, promote basic hygiene practices, work on governmental and community levels to construct WASH facilities, and its contribution to supporting women and children,

Deeply concerned that approximately 2.3 billion people, principally women and children, lack access to clean drinking, and nearly half of the global population does not have access to safely managed sanitation,

Having considered the General Assembly resolution 78/206 (2023) on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, which highlights the challenges women and girls face in accessing drinking water and sanitation, particularly during crises, and calls for measures on menstrual hygiene, protection from violence, and women's involvement in decision-making, while also emphasizing the need to accelerate

universal access to drinking water and sanitation in the context of climate change and sustainable development,

Recognizing that, per UNICEF, the inclusion of women and girls in the design, management, and monitoring of the WASH ecosystem is crucial in improving the importance of water, sanitation, and hygiene outcomes,

Affirming General Assembly resolution 76/153 (2021) on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, providing clean drinking water and proper sanitation is dependent on the capacities of their water treatment and sanitation services,

Encourages the implementation of regional educational programs and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) efforts so far regarding human rights to water, in accordance to SDG 4 (quality education),

Acknowledging that the World Health Organization (WHO) established the fundamental role of water and sanitation in the prevention of diseases and the protection of public health, especially for vulnerable populations, such as children, women, and marginalized communities,

Recalling the importance of multilateral cooperation between governments, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector in addressing the global water and sanitation crisis,

Understanding the grave consequences of unequal distribution of water along socio-economic, racial, and geographic lines and its negative implications on public health, education, and overall well-being,

Recalling the *Paris Agreement* (2015), as a foundational international accord on climate action, emphasizes the importance of adaptation and resilience, particularly in safeguarding essential resources, and acknowledges climate change as a significant obstacle to the accessibility of clean water and sanitation for all,

Having considered the General Assembly resolution 78/206 (2023) on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, which highlights the challenges women and girls face in accessing drinking water and sanitation, particularly during crises, and calls for measures on menstrual hygiene, protection from violence, and women's involvement in decision-making, while also emphasizing the need to accelerate universal access to drinking water and sanitation in the context of climate change and sustainable development,

Recognizing the *Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women* (1979), which emphasizes the problems rural women face and their significant roles in the economic survival of their families,

Keeping in mind that, per UNICEF, the inclusion of women and girls in the design, management, and monitoring of the WASH ecosystem is crucial in improving the importance of water, sanitation, and hygiene outcomes,

Taking into account the 2025 Impact Report of UNICEF, which outlines the lifesaving importance of clean water access in emergency and nonemergency contexts,

Understanding the grave consequences of unequal distribution of water along socio-economic, racial, and geographic lines, and its negative implications on public health, education, and overall well-being, using innovative and efficient infrastructure,

Concerned regarding the lack of technology sharing regarding critical water work systems and technologies,

Referring to the *Glasgow Declaration for Fair Water Footprints* for SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) (2021) and its 26 founding signatories, representing 185 million people and \$5 trillion USD GDP and their commitment to ensuring zero pollution, sustainable withdrawal, universal WASH, protection of nature, and resilience to climate shocks in their supply chains by 2030,

Keeping in mind the Green Resilient Agricultural Productive Ecosystem (GRAPE) in its mission to support and build upon the infrastructure among Member States with lower access to clean and safe water, by creating economically viable and climate-resilient value chains,

Recalling the European Union (EU) Framework Directive (2000) establishes a framework for the protection of surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters, and groundwater, aiming to prevent and reduce pollution, promote sustainable water use, protect and improve the aquatic environment, and mitigate the effects of flood and droughts,

Reminding General Assembly resolution 27/7 (2014) on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation which reaffirms the right to affordable water for personal and domestic use and to have physical and affordable access to sanitation, in all spheres of life,

Noting with deep concern that only 0.5% of the water on earth is freshwater, according to the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Report, it is essential that as a scarce resource, water is distributed accessible using innovative and efficient infrastructure, which is crucial to addressing water scarcity and disparities in water access,

Recognizing that efficient urban and rural water infrastructure planning must begin with a comprehensive assessment of the needs of targeted populations, particularly marginalized communities,

Stressing the important need for replacing compromised and old water work infrastructure with sustainable and hygienic water transportation systems,

Further recognizing that Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) is a vital strategy for achieving SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) by 2030,

Alarmed by projections from the United Nations that 2.4 billion people will face water stress by 2050, especially in parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, Central Asia, and the Middle East,

Profoundly concerned with the ongoing military crisis further complicating the access to clean drinking water and sanitation by putting relevant infrastructure and billions of lives in danger,

Collaborating with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), UNESCO, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Non-governmental organizations (NGO), and private sector partners to improve knowledge exchange and implementation,

Acknowledging that small island states relying on desalination makes marine ecosystem preservation an inevitable part of an efficient water preservation strategy,

Recognizing the importance of innovative infrastructure solutions like manual pumps, rainwater harvesting, and smart monitoring to ensure universal access to safe water and sanitation,

Realizing that efficient urban and rural water infrastructure planning must begin with a comprehensive assessment of the needs of targeted populations, particularly marginalized communities,

Keeping in mind the important need for replacing compromised water work infrastructure with sustainable and hygienic water transportation systems, including desalination processes,

1. *Encourages* Member States to recognize water as a public good by ensuring universal, equitable, and free access while taking measures to prevent its privatization by:
 - a. Recognizing the importance of equitable access to water as the commitment to ensuring its availability, accessibility, and fair distribution to all individuals, without discrimination based on socioeconomic status, geographic location, or demographic characteristics;
 - b. Directing attention towards water being a public good, meaning it should be managed in the public interest, with access governed by principles of equity, sustainability, and non-exclusion, ensuring that no individual or community is denied access due to privatization, profit motives or systemic inequalities;
 - c. Recommending the decentralized overview of fair and free water distribution by Non-Governmental Organizations;
2. *Calls upon* legal recognition of root causes of water scarcity worldwide, which are human-made and thus preventable by:
 - a. Urging Member States to incorporate recognition of armed conflicts as drivers of water scarcity in their national laws, thus recognizing water scarcity as a security-related issue on the national level;
 - b. Suggesting that the Security Council recognizes armed conflicts as drivers of water scarcity, thus putting the right to access water on its agenda and recognizing it as a security-related issue within the framework of the United Nations;
 - c. Calling upon Member States to incorporate recognition of human-induced climate change as a driver of water scarcity so that it is addressed accordingly;
 - d. Requesting the United Nations Environment Assembly to recognize human-induced climate change as a driver of water scarcity, thus recognizing it as an issue related to climate change and environment protection within the framework of the United Nations;
 - e. Emphasizing the importance of protection of water-related ecosystems, especially the ones shared by multiple Member States, as a part of the path towards universal access to water;
 - f. Stressing the protection of marine ecosystems as a part of the path towards universal access to water;
 - g. Acknowledging the importance of SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and SDG 13 (climate action) as a vital part of a comprehensive framework to tackle water scarcity;
 - h. Acknowledging the importance of SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) to tackle the issue of access to clean water and sanitation, ensuring any development is building upon a sustainably peaceful environment;

- i. Collaborating with the ECOSOC to implement universal standards regarding water sanitation and investments in infrastructure, making them legally binding;
- 3. *Encourages* Member States with existing WASH programs to enhance existing programs through a gender-equitable lens in ways such as but not limited to:
 - a. Developing and expanding a gender-sensitive water infrastructure within, but not limited to, educational institutions, workplaces, and public spaces;
 - b. Integrating menstrual sanitation management into Member States' national strategies;
 - c. Proposing the creation of committees committed to supporting gender-equitable WASH programs to:
 - i. Encouraging committees to include a diverse range of members, including but not limited to women and girls, health professionals, national and local government officials, and community members;
 - ii. Calling upon Member States international organizations, including but not limited to the United Nations and EU, to provide financial resources for WASH programs similar to those such as the Kwajalein Atoll Water Project, ensuring safe access to clean water for women and children with disabilities;
- 4. *Suggests* a distribution of funding for sanitation efforts towards the healthcare protection and assistance of refugees, returnees, and displaced people by:
 - a. Stressing the importance of assistance towards women and girls in border areas to make drinking water accessible and ensure adequate menstrual hygiene and sanitation;
 - b. Drawing attention to the protection of vulnerable groups, including but not limited to women and girls from all the countries involved in border area crisis;
- 5. *Proposes* a higher distribution of women-related sanitation products for women and girls by:
 - a. Working with local NGOs to ensure a strong link between local and external NGOs;
 - b. Contributing to UN Women in order to make sure every country reaches an amount of political and social awareness in programs geared toward gender equality;
- 6. *Endorses* the implementation of national drinking water and sanitation task forces, composed of government officials, civil society representatives, and women's rights organizations that are:
 - a. Required to submit reports every three years to relevant UN bodies, the General Assembly and Human Rights Council, including UNICEF and UN Women, on the status of gender equality in drinking water and sanitation;
 - b. Focused on capacity building, integrating gender mainstreaming into all drinking water and sanitation projects;
- 7. *Encourages* to further establish capacity-building measures for healthcare personnel and WASH facility officials by:
 - a. Recommending that WHO and connected UN bodies support this by:

- i. Supporting local institutions in establishing annual workshops on how to practice safe WASH procedures to ensure water quality education, providing individual solutions for diverse geographical and economic backgrounds, contextualizing them to an international degree;
 - ii. Offering free materials in order to make them proficient in diagnosing waterborne diseases and cures in order to allow them to respond more efficiently and accurately to problems caused by unsafe drinking water and sanitation;
 - iii. Training them on how to teach patients about the importance of WASH and their human right to safe drinking water and sanitation so they become more knowledgeable in the danger posed by unsafe WASH practices and how to avoid health issues related to this;
 - b. Encouraging UN-Water to support the development of local technical capacity by:
 - i. Training community-based technicians in the installation and long-term functionality of WASH infrastructure;
 - ii. Establishing ongoing maintenance programs for water and sanitation systems;
 - iii. Implementing emergency preparedness training for responses to drought, natural disasters, or infrastructure failure;
- 8. *Facilitates* partnerships between governments, academic institutions, NGOs, and private sector stakeholders to:
 - a. Provide technical expertise and mentoring to trainees and emerging professionals;
 - b. Secure funding and material resources necessary for effective program implementation;
 - c. Promote equitable access to training resources for marginalized populations;
- 9. *Urges* for more awareness of using educational courses and curriculum for children and adults on the importance of water conservation and safe WASH practices by:
 - a. Working with NGOs and private sectors such as WHO, UN Women, and UNICEF to provide materials and assistance like:
 - i. Making materials more accessible, such as coursework, materials, videos, games, and books;
 - ii. Providing teachers' handbooks with valuable pedagogical methods and assured information;
 - b. Teaching the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling the process of water treatment like:
 - i. Coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, and disinfection;
 - ii. Offering workshops on how to purify water and also teaching simple and replicable practices;

- c. Promoting the use of safe practices such as hand washing and menstruation hygiene by:
 - i. Creating Workshops to teach the public how to make their menstruation supplies;
 - ii. Using an absorbent material such as cotton or bamboo and adding a waterproof layer like polyurethane laminate to prevent leaks;
 - iii. Raising awareness by using public advertisements and media campaigns near highly traveled areas and rural areas and local outreach events to draw attention to the lack of access to sanitation and safe drinking water in some populations;

10. *Urges* Member States to scale up innovative WASH infrastructure by:

- a. Launching, but not limiting to, pilot projects using water pumps powered by renewable energy, rainforest collection systems, smart monitoring, digital sensors, and remote tracking tools to efficiently manage water usage, detect leakages, and ensure water quality compliance;
- b. Mobilizing funding through donors and public and private partnerships;
- c. Recommending UNEP and UN-Water to strengthen the water monitoring system, which monitors the key water trends and management issues throughout the water cycle by:
 - i. Encouraging Member States to collect the data annually;
 - ii. Calling upon Member States to publish the report for the water management system so that International society can share the real situation of water management;

11. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen capacity building by promoting the accessible exchange of data on sustainable development and technological innovations, particularly with Member States facing limited water infrastructure and resources, by:

- a. Advising Member States to align with SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals) under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's (UNECE) Advisory Group on Advanced Technologies (AGeneral AssemblyT);
- b. Recognizing the importance of sustainable advancements being placed under open-access platforms by:
 - i. Encouraging the use of the UNESCO Water Security, the World Bank Water Knowledge Exchange platforms, and established regional innovation hubs;
 - ii. Inviting Member States to share knowledge with the creation and utilization of a new open-access platform designed to increase global technological advancement education titled the World Handbook on Water and Sanitation Advancements (WSA), and to guide strategies, budgets, and legislation by giving suggestions in general water-related infrastructure;
 - iii. Using a platform such as the River Basin Organization (RBO) Digital Platform supported by the UN platform that tracks live data on water quality, droughts,

flood risks, and alignment of all participating Member States to foster public transparency and accountability for use in formulating future solution;

- iv. Engaging in regional conferences and forums at given intervals to share technological advancements, including water harvesting and wastewater recycling, in order to allow for the ability of deeper collaboration;
- v. Encouraging Member States to bolster and streamline existing technology transfer programs for sustainable groundwater management through collaboration with the UNIDO, WIPO, NGOs, and private sector partners to improve knowledge exchange and implementation;

12. *Encourages* Member States to implement an integrated framework that promotes sustainable agriculture and water resource management through:

- a. Monitoring water productivity in agriculture and landscaping to assess distribution and demand better;
- b. Stressing adaptability through climate-resilient approaches and nature-based solutions to water resource management;
- c. Establishing water pollution vulnerability maps to guide conservation efforts;

13. *Urges* all Member States to accelerate and build upon existing internationally cooperative and global knowledge-sharing based on successful models, frameworks, and programs with a focus on innovating and promoting green infrastructure for water management by:

- a. Expanding the framework of the EU Water Framework Directive beyond EU Member States to establish regulations to protect and restore clean water for all;
- b. Expanding upon the GRAPE to strengthen sustainable agricultural ecosystems by practicing organic farming, agroforestry, and water resource management along with integrating climate change-relevant investments and projects into water management planning;
- c. Receiving support from other Member States for The Fair Water Footprints program for SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) to advocate for ambition, accountability, and action among supporting Member States and use all available levers to harness the power of enterprise, investment, and communities to deliver sustainable water and sanitation for all;
- d. Forming multilateral and bilateral cooperative agreements and integrating water diplomacy within foreign policy frameworks;

14. *Invites* all Member States to support further and contribute resources toward the expansion of capacity-building programs facilitated by UN-Water and WHO by:

- a. Focusing efforts and allocating funding towards assisting vulnerable and climate-vulnerable Member States;

- b. Developing national water governance frameworks and regulations with a focus on infrastructure resilience by implementing integrated water management strategies, including early-warning systems and monitoring systems;
- 15. *Recommends* the prioritization of nature-based solutions as sustainable and cost-effective complements to traditional water infrastructure and encourages their integration into climate adaptation strategies and national water policies to improve water quality, reduce pollution, and strengthen resilience to floods, droughts, and the impacts of climate change, including through:
 - a. Amplifying rainwater harvesting systems in both rural and urban areas, with a focus on sustainable and climate-aware buildings and equitable access;
 - b. Supporting the improvement of manual pump technologies to ensure sustainable and equitable access to groundwater in vulnerable and remote Member States, thereby enhancing the availability of safe drinking water in these regions;
 - c. Incorporating protection and conservation of water-related habitats, marine habitats among them, into their water conservation strategies by expanding filtration systems, mainly in biofiltration, and constructed wetlands to treat wastewater and improve access to safe drinking water;
- 16. *Emphasize* the importance of strengthening regional partnerships and transboundary water governance by:
 - a. Enhancing collaboration with UN and EU-supported river basin organizations such as the ICPDR and the EU-Water Framework Directive;
 - b. Promoting joint resource management and transparent data-sharing across Member States;
 - c. Ensuring equitable distribution of water resources and addressing potential conflict prevention mechanisms that align with SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and the UNECE Water Convention;
- 17. *Incentivizes* Member States to develop the implementation of sanitation practices in public spaces such as schools, hospitals, offices, and commercial developments by instituting local policies for new growth and working with private landowners to negotiate improved land use and meet standards for sanitation and water access;
- 18. *Urges* Member States to implement policies ensuring that innovative WASH infrastructures are built in vulnerable and underserved socioeconomic communities and persons to improve climate resilience, public health outcomes, and sustainable development;
- 19. *Recommends* the adoption of rainwater collection systems in rainforest and high-precipitation areas to supplement water supply and reduce reliance on overexploited water sources;
- 20. *Encourages* cooperation between UN-Habitat, UNESCO-IHP, WHO, and national ministries to support technical assessments of aging water and sanitation infrastructure in urban and semi-urban areas, using standardized methods such as structural health monitoring (SHM) and non-destructive testing (NDT) to identify risk and prioritize upgrades;

21. *Supports* the integration of water and sanitation topics into national curricula through cooperation with UNESCO's Education for Sustainable Development (WESD) initiative, which promotes water literacy and integrated water resources management;
22. *Recommends* the establishment of a subcommittee under the UN-Water dedicated to investigating the inefficient and unhygienic water supply systems and replacing critical water supply logistics with efficient, sustainable, and standardized hygienic systems to maximize efficiency and reduce the cost part per unit by drafting an annual report within local regions highlighting the nuanced consequences of water misallocation and proposing guiding solutions for women, Indigenous peoples, and vulnerable socioeconomic classes;
23. *Encourages* Member States to increase action towards advancing climate-resistant and sustainable infrastructure to facilitate sustainable solutions towards accessibility by:
 - a. Recommending the advancement of international water treatment through directives to improve the recycling of water while monitoring the use of water as a preventive measure through the Global Water Infrastructure Fund (GWIF);
 - b. Increasing investments in rain collecting systems on residential and commercial buildings in order to recycle water for consumption and sanitation purposes or be used for agricultural and irrigation purposes in partnership with GWIF;
 - c. Recommending the creation of clean energy desalination projects such as decentralized water systems which include solar and wind-powered pumps through collaboration with the International Hydrological Programme (IHP);
24. *Encourages* the establishment of an international financial fund, whereas an annual contribution of 0.1% of each sponsoring nation's GDP is strongly suggested, with a fair distribution mechanism depending on the resources needed for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the WHO, the UNICEF, UN-Water, and UN-Habitat, by recommending UNDP for their values by:
 - a. Emphasizing their willingness to educate countries while providing them with resources to help the more vulnerable build a better life;
 - b. Suggesting WHO for their inclination to promote well-being, prevent disease, and coordinate the Member States' response to health emergencies;
 - c. Forming a collaborative workshop with UNICEF and utilizing the water safety plans in order to identify threats to water quality;
 - d. Supporting governments in various ways to develop their water data and surveillance systems and drawing attention to UN-Water's *Blueprint for Acceleration: Sustainable Development Goal Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation 2023*, whose goal is to accelerate progress on water and sanitation, including the implementation of Water Action Agenda commitments;
25. *Proposes* administrating funding for sanitation efforts towards the healthcare protection and assistance of refugees, returnees, and displaced people by:

- a. Supporting permanent collaborative funds between different nationalities, working as a committee to provide the economic help to the border country that faces the ordeal of assisting displaced people;
- b. Encouraging Member States and private corporations to increase financial commitments to close the \$1.4 trillion USD funding gap before 2030;
- c. Encouraging EU members to collaborate within the 2030 Agenda and linking it with the 2025 European Agenda.



Code: GA3/1/7

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Deeply disturbed that the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reports that 2.3 billion people globally lack access to clean water, and nearly half of the global population lack sanitation access,

Recognizing the importance of education in achieving the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, particularly SDG 13 (climate action) and SDG 4 (quality education),

Fully alarmed by UNICEF's declaration that by 2040, roughly 1 in 4 children worldwide will be living in areas of extremely high water stress,

Concerned that climate change is a significant contributor to the water and sanitation crisis, especially in water stressed regions,

Acknowledging the need for the use of experts to help educate and advise rural communities on the importance of safely managed water systems,

Affirms the importance of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Environment Monitoring System in spreading water quality awareness among Member States,

Emphasizing that microbial contamination presents the greatest threat to drinking-water safety,

Deeply concerned by the negative impact of armed conflict, according to the World Health Organization and UNICEF, over 2.2 billion people globally lack safely managed drinking water services, and that in conflict-affected areas, more than 60% of water and sanitation systems are partially or completely non-functional, in violation of their inherent dignity and fundamental human rights,

Contemplating the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Portuguese Environment Agency (APA) partake in oversees water resource management and guidance on the installation of infrastructures,

1. *Strongly suggests* the formation of the Regional Expert Groups on Water and Sanitation under the Human Rights Council (HRC) to develop policies and research-driven solutions, through:
 - a. Collaboration between sanitation engineers and hydrologists to focus on research-driven solutions, with health specialists and policy makers to develop best practices;
 - b. Possible funding from the World Bank due to past support of larger international initiatives;
 - c. Possible joint-implementation from UNICEF and WASH to promote hygiene, the World Health Organization (WHO) to facilitate disease prevention, and the UN Development Programme (UNDP);
2. *Encourages* Member States to integrate educational programs on clean water access, sanitation,

and climate resilience into national school curricula, through:

- a. Developing age-appropriate curriculums and activities in collaboration with Ministries of Health and Education that educate the youth on water conservation and sustainable sanitation;
 - b. Training teachers to deliver the World Health Organization's (WHO) safe drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) program and other climate related content using localized and practical material;
3. *Strongly encourages* action in protecting disadvantaged groups such as but not limited to refugees, displaced persons, and children and for a continued focus on safeguarding future generations with access to clean water and sanitation, by:
 - a. Endorsing immediate humanitarian aid to address disadvantaged groups' access to clean water and sanitation through a trilateral approach with UN agencies UNICEF, UNDP, and the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees;
 - b. Establishing emergency water and sanitation projects through UNDP to stabilize the most vulnerable Member States by repairing inadequate piping, waste management, storage, and distribution systems through endeavors like Second Greater Beirut Water Supply Project (SGBWSP);
 - c. Re-educating populaces and governments on water resource management, healthy sanitation habits, and responsible hygiene practices;
4. *Recommends* the strengthening of institutional frameworks such as SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and General Assembly resolution 64/292 recognizes the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right, helping ensuring healthy schools and villages according to the standards of UNICEF, through:
 - a. Developing relevant government actors such as Régie de Distribution d'Eau (REGIDESO), a reliable player and example of excellence in the water and sanitation sector in urban and peri-urban areas;
 - b. Endorsing regional alignment of legislation related to water security, sustainability, and sanitation;
 - c. Encourage the adoption of water resource law that prevent water privatization and ensure access to water and sanitation for all;
5. *Suggests* providing a professional training programme fund to train local community members (provided by regional UNICEF and WHO volunteers/technical faculty teachers) for the purpose of:
 - a. Aiming to make the WASH infrastructures work and operational by graduate students from the professional training programme in case international aid becomes scarce;
 - b. Creating awareness campaigns on WASH practices in public areas via television and radio campaigns;
 - c. Continuing the work of the Water Action Plan 2024 initiative which cleaned various bodies of water (river, lakes, underground water gaps) by converting the body of water from an

unsatisfactory quality situation to a satisfactory status;

- d. Sharing technologies or cleansing agents (ops 5.c.) that will be used by student graduates of the training programs across cities and villages near endangered water basins;
6. *Recommends* strengthening the GEMS/Water monitoring system to further align with current Water Convention models, to promote transparency, regional cooperation and information-sharing amongst governments and citizens, through:
- a. Utilizing weather and satellite data to predict areas susceptible to flood and drought risks, to enable emergency preparedness in vulnerable areas using United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) recommended warning systems, such as:
 - i. Famine Early Warning Systems (FEWS NET-USGS);
 - ii. Agriculture Stress Index System (ASIS, FAO);
 - iii. Global Drought Information System (NIDIS);
 - b. Sharing live water quality data, including chemical or bacterial contamination in freshwater sources to rural communities;
 - c. Monitoring Member States in agreement with the Water Convention, through the UNEP or willing NGO's to ensure credibility;
7. *Encourages* the use aquatic ecologist provided by agencies such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), and the International Oceanographic Commission (IOC) to study the relationship between aquatic organisms and the environment as well as educating the rural areas of Member States on the proper steps to take in addressing the quality of water, through:
- a. Implementation of hydroecology centers in rural areas in Member States;
 - b. Utilizing ecologists to give suggestions and assistance on Member States bodies of water;
8. *Encourages* Member States to integrate environmental education, specifically on sustainable water use and sanitation practices, on all levels of schooling, in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 6, to increase water conservation awareness and long-term public health;
9. *Suggesting* that the Portuguese Environment Agency (APA) and the United Nation Development Program (UNDP) provides guidance on the installation of infrastructures with the aim of facilitating self-sufficient communities on the subject of water and sanitation, such as:
- a. Reducing flood risk by absorbing rainwater where it falls, rain gardens reduce the volume of stormwater that overwhelmed drainage systems;
 - b. Utilizing Bioswales to slow down water flow, reducing erosion and downstream flooding. They act as natural filtration systems, capturing sediments and breaking down pollutants;

- c. Utilizing permeable pavements, which can reduce water entering sewer systems, decreasing overflow events and flood risks;
 - d. Utilizing stormwater runoff strategies that integrate local water cycles by properly managed runoff that can be captured and reused for irrigation or greywater systems;
- 10. *Recommends* a collaborative project with the UNDP where specialists would find way via research to make desalination a more affordable and feasible process, through:
 - a. Solar-powered desalination could be used to provide clean drinking water sustainably, combining reverse osmosis desalination units with solar PV or wind energy;
 - b. Supporting research on brine dilution and disposal to prevent marine ecosystem damage such as efforts made by the government of Chile;
- 11. *Calls for* upgrading the sewer systems can improve the treatment of waste that can affect soil and water quality, like reuse treated wastewater for irrigation or toilet flushing, waterless composting toilets or urine-diverting toilets, ideal for drought-prone, water-scarce islands;
- 12. *Encourages* monitoring in real-time water quality, leak detection, and service reporting, with remote sensors and a mobile app, which can be developed with willing technology companies;
- 13. *Recommends* Member States to collaborate on a global level to combat climate change, through sustainable use of resources and strengthened water infrastructure, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 9, through:
 - a. Implementing integrated water resources management (IWRM) systems, including water treatment solutions to purify contaminated sources to convert them into safe, usable water for drinking and sanitation;
 - b. Sustainably using groundwater resources through promoting the use of environmentally friendly extraction technologies, and using basic filtration and purification systems to make polluted groundwater safe for use;
- 14. *Advocates* for the expansion of incentivized education, training and scholarship programs such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) water education initiative discussing water management and public health, by:
 - a. Collaborating with the Ministry of Health, educators can help identify skill gaps and create targeted academic pathways and priorities based on the countries needs in relation to water access and sanitation;
 - b. Securing funding from willing Member States, governmental grants, and private sector partnerships to finance scholarships;
 - c. Incentivizing student participation through guaranteed internships, mentorship opportunities and integration into national water and sanitation initiatives upon graduation;
 - d. Implementing a transparent selection process based on academic merit, financial need, and commitment to addressing water and sanitation challenges, ensuring inclusivity and equal opportunity;

15. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to strengthen the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation by incorporating a specific focus on the consequences of armed conflict, unilateral coercive measures, and forced displacement on access to these rights, with particular attention to affected populations in the crisis-affected regions, by:
- a. Suggesting in-depth investigations into the impact of armed conflicts on water and sanitation infrastructure, including deliberate destruction, targeting, or neglect of such infrastructures, through:
 - i. Defining of acts affecting infrastructure with the analyses of situations where these infrastructures were intentionally targeted during military operations and the analysis of situations where military equipment is stored in these infrastructures;
 - ii. Humanitarian assessment of the impact on civilian access to drinking water with analysis of the spread of diseases due to poor sanitation and long-term effects on local ecosystems and the sustainability of water resources;
 - b. Suggesting legal framework and responsibilities with determination of violations of international humanitarian law, including the *Geneva Conventions*. Attribution of responsibility to the armed groups or states concerned and recommendations for legal proceedings or reparation;
 - c. Assessing the repercussions of unilateral coercive measures on the ability of states and humanitarian actors to provide adequate water and sanitation services, particularly in embargoed or economically restricted regions;
 - d. Collaborating with humanitarian agencies and local civil society organizations to gather accurate data and amplify the voices of affected communities, through:
 - i. Collaboration with humanitarian agencies with the establishment of data-sharing protocols between states, NGOs, and international agencies (e.g., UN, ICRC);
 - ii. Integration of agencies' technical expertise (water, sanitation, public health, etc.) into needs assessments;
 - e. Providing targeted policy recommendations to states and international actors aimed at ensuring non-discriminatory, sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation, even in emergency or conflict settings.



Code: GA3/1/8

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 64/292 on “The human right to water and sanitation” (2010), which explicitly recognizes the human right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights,

Bearing in mind the interconnectivity of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015) (2030 Agenda) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including but not limited to SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), and SDG 13 (climate action) as the regulation of the climate is integral to the availability of water to humanity and lack of safe water aggravates poverty by diminishing agriculture, food security, and economic stability, thereby trapping vulnerable populations in a cycle of hardship and deprivation,

Reconfirming General Assembly Resolution 49/214 (1994), “International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,” with the intention to further improve cooperation, partnership and capacity development in response to the 2030 Agenda (2015) and goals set by the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations,

Deeply concerned that more than two billion people still lack access to safely managed drinking water and more than 3.5 billion lack access to safe sanitation services, disproportionately affecting marginalized communities, such as Indigenous peoples, according to the “Sustainable Developments Goal Reports” (2023),

Drawing upon General Assembly Resolution 71/222 (2016), “International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028,” in the establishment of The Water Action Decade from 2018 to 2028,

Fully aware that achieving SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) requires stronger public and private sector engagement and at least \$1.4 trillion USD in investment,

Reminding the second article of *the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), expressing the importance of protecting people from discrimination based on origin, skin color and place of birth,

Considering the varying needs of Indigenous peoples regarding water and sanitation, as stated in the “Special Rapporteur report on the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation” 51/24 (2022) to the Human Rights Council, specifically that indigenous communities often face significant barriers to access and inclusion in national water policies,

Understanding that the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has expressed that full Indigenous representation in international dialogue is critical to ensuring that all Member States, with intent to uplift developing Member States, and especially Indigenous communities can advocate for and protect their access to clean, safe, and culturally significant water sources as part of their right to self-determination,

Concerned with the widespread contamination of water sources due to industrial waste and less-regulated corporate activity, which has rendered many communities' drinking water unsafe for consumption, especially Indigenous communities dispersed across several Member States,

Taking into consideration the Secretary-General's Report, "Promoting Water Resource Management for the 2030 Agenda" (2023), which reports that it is necessary for increased data sharing and improved interoperability, including traditional and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, to be included in all SDGs global databases,

Highlighting United Nations Water (UN-Water) "Climate Change and Water" report (2019) and "External Review" (2018) which states the benefits of continual research for linkage of climate disparity to the availability of safe water, and urges Member States to update and strengthen its coordination role within the United Nations system as there are significant structural and institutional limitations in UN-Water's current mandate,

Recognizing the essential role of United Nations-sponsored agencies and organizations, particularly the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), in addressing the exceptional deficiencies of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, and infrastructure in Indigenous communities, particularly in conflict areas,

Expressing great concern at the inherent and lasting harm of withholding the unconditional rights to self-determination, unsuppressed political autonomy, and inalienable territorial rights, as highlighted by General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) (1960), "Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples," especially among the 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including but not limited to Guam, Bermuda and Gibraltar, and within the State of Palestine as recognized by General Assembly resolution 181 (II) (1947), "United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine,"

Recalling the *Convention 169* of the International Labour Organization (ILO) (1989), which defines indigenous peoples as "peoples in independent Member States who are regarded as indigenous on account of their descent from the populations inhabited the Member State, or a geographical region to which the Member State belongs, at the time of conquest or colonisation or the establishment of present state boundaries and who, irrespective of their legal status, retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions," and stipulates that Indigenous people should be consulted in decisions affecting their lands and resources, including access to water,

Affirming the principles enshrined in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP), particularly articles 25 and 32 (2007), which affirm the rights of Indigenous peoples to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters, and coastal seas,

Having studied the *Paris Agreement* (2016), defined as a legally binding international treaty on climate change, which proclaims a universal commitment to reaching full sustainability of the global water spheres, an imagination that represents the interconnectivity of the different sources of water, including the conservation of fresh water sources,

Commending the exponential progress of UN bodies and other relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as the "United Nations Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking Water" and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, which have increased access to solutions by providing comprehensive data and capacity-building measures,

1. *Proclaims* the year 2027 as International Indigenous Peoples Year in honor of the 20th anniversary of UNDRIP;
2. *Decides* for the United Nations, including the Secretary-General, Security Council, UN-Water, Economic Social Council, and other relevant UN bodies and Member States to devote this year to intensified action to:
 - a. Promote the protection of the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation to Indigenous communities, especially in cases of conflict in international discussions, whether they concern economic, political, or cultural subjects, by deploying different educational programs such as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples;
 - b. Recommend the full integration and representation of Indigenous peoples in the United Nations, especially by emphasizing Indigenous peoples' responsibility in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals as highlighted by the Secretary-General's Report, "Promoting Water Resource Management for the 2030 Agenda" (2023);
 - c. Recognize and celebrate the historical, cultural, and political contributions made by Indigenous peoples to the international community through increased collaboration with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and other relevant UN bodies;
 - d. Invite all Member States and all interested organizations to take steps, including ratifying UNDRIP, to ensure the full realization of the rights of Indigenous people and their advancements towards achieving the SDGs, particularly SDG 6;
3. *Recommends* the furthering of Article 3 of The Water Action Decade to encourage cultural involvement and locally-led involvement in the promotion of Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation by founding endorsed partnerships with religious groups, such as the Islamic Ummah Relief and Catholic Charities, and NGOS, like WaterAid, Pure Water For The World, Water for Good;
4. *Proposes that* to effectively mobilize global capital, the UN should incentivize private sector actors to champion and implement the Water Decade Plan by granting Water Recognition Seals to their nation's industries and companies that meet specified requirements and gifting UN Water Award annually to corporations that demonstrate innovation to provide Clean Drinking Water and Sanitation;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an agenda for the International Indigenous Peoples Year, including regional conventions and awareness events, focused on Indigenous communities, environmental scientists, and regional governments to promote respect for Indigenous autonomy and consent, per the Inter-Agency Support Group (IASG) forum on Indigenous Issues;
6. *Encourages* Member States and UN bodies to implement inclusive and culturally appropriate water and sanitation programs and infrastructures by engaging Indigenous communities in decision-making processes regarding water resource management and the implementation of sanitation technologies through voluntary discussion;
7. *Condemns* Member States and non-state actors that actively impede and restrict United Nations sponsored humanitarian organizations, such as UNRWA, from addressing urgent WASH needs in

vulnerable communities, as such obstruction directly undermines the human right to safe and clean drinking water, particularly for populations who are disproportionately affected by water insecurity in conflicts areas; while nonetheless recognizing and respecting the sovereignty of all Member States;

8. *Calls upon* the development of harmonized regional and international frameworks aimed at fostering sustainable industry practices to tackle environmental violations by encouraging:
 - a. Cross-border and international cooperation to develop and implement regional and international policies that address the water pollution habits of industries, improper disposal of waste, and contamination of water resources;
 - b. The creation of frameworks by national states that introduce incentives for industries that adopt sustainable water practices that respect Indigenous and local cultures;
9. *Suggests* United Nations Water, UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund, Food Agriculture Organization, and the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant UN bodies and NGOs to promote the protection and revitalization of natural water sources in Indigenous territories through community-led environmental stewardship programs that:
 - a. Recognize and uphold Indigenous peoples' ancestral knowledge and spiritual relationship with rivers, springs, and aquifers as obligated by the right to self determination under the *Charter of the United Nations*, Article 1 (1945);
 - b. Support locally designed conservation practices through information sharing and financial aid to help prevent contamination and over-extraction following the *Operationalization of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Wetland* framework;
 - c. Provide voluntary capacity-building workshops for Indigenous youth on sustainable water preservation, led in Indigenous languages where possible;
10. *Recommends* that the United Nations Development Programme focus on optimizing the advancement of Member States, especially those which are continuously developing and those host Indigenous communities, which suffer from the brunt of the water scarcity in their region by implementing a promotional initiative known as "PRESSUR", which stands for "Promoting Regional Evaluation, Sanitation, Sustainable Usage, and Restoration" of water with the consideration of each Member States' sovereignty;
11. *Advocates for* Member States to recognize ecocide as a grave threat to biodiversity, human health, and the global water system by:
 - a. Exploring legal and institutional pathways for defining and addressing ecocide, with a specific focus on water-related ecosystem destruction;
 - b. Supporting and protecting Indigenous and local communities who are often the first victims of ecocidal practices by:
 - i. Supporting forums such as the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues of the Economic and Social Council;

- ii. Supporting their representation within the United Nations bodies;
 - iii. Prioritizing their needs in the establishment of water supply infrastructures;
 - c. Supporting the integration of ecocide prevention mechanisms into national legislation and international legal frameworks, including cooperation with NGOs such as the Stop Ecocide Foundation;
12. *Encourages* the United Nations Chief Executives Board (CEB) for Coordination to initiate, no later than the first quarter of 2026, a comprehensive review of the mandate and operational scope of UN-Water, with the objective of identifying existing structural and functional limitations in inter-agency coordination on water and sanitation issues;
13. *Recommends* the UN CEB for Coordination to evaluate the feasibility of upgrading UN-Water to a programmatic body with an operational budget and Member State-level presence;
14. *Also urges* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, in collaboration with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Health Organization, and the Joint Monitoring Programme, a detailed analytical report by the first quarter of 2026, which shall include:
- a. Institutional models for strengthening the UN-Water mandate, including options for partial autonomy or transformation into a specialized entity;
 - b. Recommendations on integrating rights-based approach into water governance;
 - c. Frameworks for interagency alignment that ensure accountability to the most vulnerable populations, including Indigenous peoples, rural communities, and displaced persons;
15. *Further recommends* Member States to implement measures to integrate water infrastructure metrics into the UN System-Wide Strategy for Water and Sanitation with annual reports and progress examinations at the UN Water Conference, by:
- a. Developing indicators and data collection methods in collaboration with UN-Water and regional bodies;
 - b. Establishing national level monitoring frameworks to track infrastructure maintenance.



Code: GA3/1/9

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Noting that 8 out of 10 women and children are responsible for water collection and sanitation, infringing on their educational opportunities and creating gaps in gender equality within Member States with water scarcity that do not have adequate infrastructure to minimize the burden of water collection and sanitation,

Emphasizing that water is a human right that every individual is entitled to, not just a commodity that is bought and sold,

Aware of the significant number of women and children who spend the majority of their time collecting water from distant sources, thereby missing out on educational opportunities,

Expecting that water resources remain under public control alongside government-run utilities,

Affirming the criticality of proper water infrastructure and sanitation systems for every citizen within all Member States, regardless of income, ability, or mobility,

Having considered further HRC resolution 57/13 (2024) regarding the implementation of water management programs like UN Water, Sanitation and Hygiene initiative (WASH), as well as the Global Rain Harvesting Collective (GRWHC) that empower local women and children by reducing the time burden of water collection,

Guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outlined in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, particularly SDG 6, to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all,

Concerned by the growing frequency and severity of natural disasters such as hurricanes and floods that have caused damages equivalent to 17% of Caribbean nations' GDP,

Distressed by the complete absence of sanitation for 653 million people worldwide,

Acknowledging that access to clean water is a right for all citizens and not just a privilege,

1. *Endorses* Member States who adopt Mexico's proposed program, such as the Gender Equality in Access and Management of Water and Sanitation program (GEAMWS) that consists of a rain-catching system for public and private facilities such as schools and hospitals to reuse rainwater, creating the opportunity for women and children to no longer bear the burden of water sanitation and collection, as this system shortens the distance and creates educational opportunities to gap gender inequality;
2. *Recommends* the implementation of regulations on water distribution, such as:
 - a. Regulatory measures regarding the maximum percentage of a Member State's water infrastructure, including distribution facilities and other infrastructure, that may be

privately owned, in accordance with and informed by Member State legislation and population needs;

- b. Public acquisition of already existing water infrastructure, such that more of this distribution is managed through the public sector, to reduce profit incentives surrounding water distribution and management;
 - c. Thorough monitoring practices to prevent water waste and unethical distribution, including measurement technology at distribution centers and documentation procedures with reports made available to the public;
3. *Calls upon* this body to consider a proposal by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for the creation of a new sub-office of the United Nations Water, which will be the new sub-Office called the United Nations Water Information Database (UNWID) which will:
- a. Officially become a sub-office of United Nations Water;
 - b. Be tasked with locating and mapping down accessible water resources in member nations that request UNWID assistance;
 - c. Chart down these water resources and create a public “map” that will translate into the most spoken or requested languages of the member nation that requests the services of UNWID;
 - d. Give this information back to the member nation and will make recommendations on how to distribute the information among its citizens and how it can better develop these water resources;
 - e. Not enter a Member Nation without the express permission of the member nation, and the member nation can prohibit UNWID from accessing parts of their sovereign nation in order to not infringe upon their sovereignty;
 - f. Be administratively modeled and structured based on the UN office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR);
4. *Expresses its support* for the United Nations for Training and Research’s Water Academy Initiative, which aims to offer an educational platform aimed to provide knowledge-sharing solutions for water management;
5. *Further requests* investment into the Sanitation and Hygiene Fund as it seeks to contribute sanitation, menstrual sanitation, and hygiene resources to public facilities such as schools and hospitals;
6. *Expresses its hope for* the incorporation of water and hygiene education into primary and secondary school curricula, particularly in rural areas;
7. *Further calls upon* this body to vote during the next General Assembly on the establishment of a Global Solidarity Fund for Clean Water and Sanitation (GSFCWS), in collaboration with UN-Water and the African Development Bank, aimed at mobilizing primarily public investment but open to private investment for sustainable infrastructure in water-scarce regions with priority given to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) by:

- a. Allocating resources to projects that prioritize innovative and climate-resilient technologies, such as solar-based desalination plants and wastewater reuse systems;
 - b. Providing financial subsidies and technical assistance to Member States to ensure that water tariffs remain affordable for low-income households;
 - c. Facilitating partnerships between governments, private sector actors, and non-governmental organizations to enhance the efficiency and scalability of water-related projects;
- 8. *Recommends* the integration of climate-resilient technologies and nature-based solutions, such as solar-powered water systems, rainwater harvesting, and eco-sanitation, particularly in arid and semi-arid zones of Sub-Saharan Africa by:
 - a. Praising the sharing of expensive climate-resilient technologies such as desalination plants between Member States, as access to drinking water is fundamental to SDG 6 (ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all);
 - b. Supporting the establishment of regional training centers, in collaboration with UN Water and the African Development Bank, to build technical capacity for climate resilience;
- 9. *Encourages* donor Member States, international financial institutions, and philanthropic foundations to scale up financial commitments to water and sanitation projects by contributing to the GSFCWS, offering concessional loans, and providing grants linked to progress metrics aligned with SDG 6 indicators by:
 - a. Defining clear guidelines for the allocation of funds to ensure that investments prioritize Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and regions most affected by water scarcity;
 - b. Establishing partnerships between donor Member States, private sector, actors, and international organizations to maximize the impact of financial contributions;
 - c. Using concessional loans with low interest rates to support infrastructure projects that integrate climate-resilient technologies and nature-based solutions;
- 10. *Invites* Member States to work towards implementing programs to achieve wider access to clean water by strengthening agriculture practices such as water-saving farming methods, particularly in rural areas;
- 11. *Reaffirms* the need to improve the accuracy of data provided on the effectiveness of sanitation services and advocates to cooperate with UNESCO to create legislation that provides updated quotas on test subjects being brought in from various backgrounds by health organizations, allowing them to update their healthcare system appropriately;
- 12. *Suggests* discouraging privatization of national/local water utilities as all people deserve to have the right to access clean water at any given moment by:
 - a. Encouraging governments to create national water protection acts for water as a non-commodified public trust by complying with new UN legislation;
 - b. Urging the UN to work with the World Bank to ensure that water is excluded from specific trade deals that promote privatization.



Code: GA3/1/10

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Deeply concerned by the unattainability of safe drinking water that adversely impacts 2 billion people and the ongoing consequences of the limited availability of sanitation for 4 billion people globally,

Acknowledging the significant climate vulnerabilities that incapacitate abilities to enhance water sanitation and availability,

Taking into consideration the focus of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and their efforts to advance climate action progress in developing countries,

Alarmed that climate change is projected to cause a 50% reduction in water availability in some Pacific Island countries by 2100,

Aware of the United Nations Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF) commitment to funding sustainable development priorities and the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* at the country level,

Affirming The United Nations commitment to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 (clean water and sanitation), which aims to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030,

Noting SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy) and its importance in the development and production of clean energy as a foundational piece for providing clean water and sanitation,

Guided by the principles of international human rights law, including the adoption of the 1966 *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*, which obliges states to take steps to achieve the full realization of the rights recognized,

Recognizing the proactive response initiatives and effective coordination efforts by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) during natural disaster emergencies,

Reaffirming the objectives of the 1994 *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) and its acknowledgment of climate change as a shared concern for the international community,

Fully aware that sanitation systems impacted by climate change create major health and contamination risks,

Further expressing the interdependence of sanitation systems and health concerns, with note that open defecation affects water quality, soil health, air quality, and ecosystem degradation,

Bearing in mind that unsustainable desalination practices put a great additional burden on small island states already suffering from the impacts of climate change,

Noticing the current over-extraction of resources that often exacerbate poor ecological conditions,

Highlighting the importance of UNICEF 2016–2030 Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Strategy, which seeks to enhance quality of life by providing access to clean water and sanitation facilities to increase resilience within communities,

Concerned with the financial effect that mass contamination and salination of water can have on already impoverished populations,

1. *Recommends* the international community to recognize the salination of freshwater resources caused by climate change as a violation of the human right to safe drinking water, and encourages Member States and UN bodies to address this within relevant human rights and environmental law frameworks;
2. *States* that access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) should be legally recognized as a climate-related issue, and urges WASH infrastructure to be prioritized within climate financing mechanisms;
3. *Calls* Member States to develop the international framework of cross-border and regional contingency plans for water security during humanitarian and climate emergencies;
4. *Reminds* Member States of our commitment to SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and SDG 13 (climate action), in our battle to reduce the effects of climate change, especially regarding safe drink water and sanitation;
5. *Encourages* the usage of frameworks that allow Member States to create a financial plan for development of climate-related infrastructure and technology through measurable indicators, such as:
 - a. Assessment and Diagnostics, which establish a framework to assist countries in analyzing their own financing needs, available resources, and the risks and constraints related to financing sustainable development;
 - b. The implementation of Green Bonds, which are fixed-income financial initiatives used to finance long term sustainable renewable energy initiatives;
 - c. Monitoring and review, that focus on tracking the implementation of the *United Nations Integrated National Financing Framework* (INFF), evaluating its effectiveness, and making necessary adjustments;
 - d. Governance and coordination, which establish institutional structures for coordinating the different stakeholders involved in INFF, ensuring an effective implementation of INFF and accountability;
6. *Considers* the usage of the Water Action Agenda and voluntary contribution programs, which allow for self-imposed obligation by Member States and stakeholders to achieve the SDGs and mitigate the effects of climate change both regionally and internationally;
7. *Calls* for the implementation of PATH (Protection and Aide through Humanitarian-Tech) under Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in order to enhance the delivery of aid during natural disasters such as:

- a. The development of an aid tracking report in order to improve logistics and ensure hygiene supplies are being properly distributed to vulnerable populations within affected regions;
 - b. Accounting for the regional differences through the collaboration with regional non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in order to respect state sovereignty and cultural specificities in regard to the distribution of aid post natural disaster;
8. *Recommends* that Member States work to protect the structural integrity of liquid transportation infrastructure, both saving potable water and keeping contaminants from spilling into sources of drinking water;
9. *Stresses* that technologies selected for water sanitation initiatives should prioritize sustainability and make use of clean energy sources in order to support both drinking and environmental goals by:
 - a. Emphasizing sustainable water purification practices according to the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* by:
 - i. Expanding desalination plants in geographically isolated countries to ensure equity;
 - ii. Investing in solar-powered desalination systems;
 - b. Underlining the importance of usage of solar-powered water filtration and Automatic Variable Filtration (AVF) method does not require machinery or power, and draws attention to the need to share these cost-effective tech to the countries in danger;
 - c. Encouraging the building of structures such as climate-resilient dams in order to regulate already existing supplies of water and to collect the water for sanitization and deplores all to act in the respect of the environment in the construction process;
10. *Supports* the development and adoption of national strategies aimed at integrating water resource management that would effectively reduce excessive drinking water usage by the corporate sector in order to safeguard long-term water availability;
11. *Recommends* Member States to establish mandates and/or regulations for international corporation to adhere to the recommended sustainable practices, such as:
 - a. Preventing the extraction of freshwater resources, particularly in water-scarce or crisis-prone regions, in alignment with international environmental and human rights obligations;
 - b. Programs to promote water conservation and sanitation awareness, increasing the amount of informed individuals Members States have;
12. *Urges* Member States to prioritize investments in renewable energy infrastructure in reference to water purification and sanitation systems to combat the increasing greenhouse gas emissions caused by fossil fuel energy sources;

13. *Endorses* the efforts of UNHCR's existing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) program and urges Member States, private actors, and international donors to provide continued and increased financial and logistical support to ensure climate-resilient access to safe drinking water;
14. *Calls for* legislation and programs aimed at mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, the primary drivers of global warming and climate change, resulting in extreme weather events and water scarcity, are urgently needed and:
 - a. Requests a move towards cutting greenhouse gases from main sources such as power plants, factories, cars, and farms and moving towards sustainable alternatives for each such as renewable energy and sustainable farming;
 - b. Proposes greater enforcement of already existing policy demanding proper waste disposal in order to mitigate the carbon dioxide emission caused by soil degradation;
15. *Encourages* the allocation of funds Addressing Climate Vulnerability in the Water Sector (ACWA) Project in order to strengthen and modernize rain water harvesting systems that will provide more sustainable water sources, particularly for drought-prone islands;
16. *Asks* Member States among stakeholders at all levels to invest and engage in research and innovation towards more climate-friendly desalination practices to aid small island states.



Code: GA3/1/11

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Recalling the importance of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 to ensure clean water and sanitation established in General Assembly resolution A/RES/78/206 (2023) and the international community's obligation to reach these goals by 2030,

Disturbed that according to the *SDG 6 Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation*, 27% of the global population lacks safely managed drinking water, 43% lacks safely managed sanitation, and over 80% of global wastewater is left untreated, harming water management processes,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 68/157 on the "Human Right to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation" (2013) that encourages states to monitor and analyze the progress made towards SDG 6, motivates Member States to find specific solutions to provide sustainable access to water, and empathizing global partnerships to provide access to water,

Noting with appreciation the 2020 UN-Water *Analytical Brief on Unconventional Water Resources*, which suggests the diversification of water resources through techniques such as fog water harvesting, microcatchments, cloud seeding, and desalination to bridge the scarcity gap that existing water sources can not accommodate for,

Alarmed that, only 57% of Member States incorporate Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) into their domestic policies as reported by the *IWRM Data Portal* in 2023, reflecting a lack of coordination in managing all aspects of the water management,

Bearing in mind that effective IWRM requires bilateral agreements, while respecting the sovereignty of Member States as a top concern,

Deeply concerned that the leaks and inefficient use of water causes an estimated 30% of water - equivalent to 9.5 trillion litres - is wasted, as referenced in the 2024 UN World Water *Development Report: Water for Prosperity and Peace*,

Seriously concerned as the World Development Indicators reported how 70% of the world's freshwater is consumed by agriculture and 40% of this is wasted because of inadequate irrigation systems, evaporation, and poor water management,

Recognizing the role of climate change in the water and sanitation crisis, considering that approximately a quarter of the world faces extreme water stress,

1. *Recommends* a collection of existing potential solutions to increase international IWRM incorporation, including:
 - a. Gravity-fed water supply systems (GFS), as those implemented in the DPRK, which use gravity to relocate water from higher elevations to lower elevations;
 - b. Modernizing wastewater collection, disposal, and distillation treatment plants and rain-catching systems with a particular focus on rural areas;

- c. Recommending a per nation framework for monitoring water pollution and transboundary water cooperation, modeled after the Tijuana river pollution levels under Minute 328 of the Binational Agreements under the *Water Treaty for Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande* (1944), *Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes* (Water Convention 2016) under United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Water Convention, and other similar agreements and committees;
 - d. Industrial sector conservation via recycling of waste water through sedimentation, biological treatment, and reverse osmosis aimed at large corporations;
 - e. Initiatives such as Russia's *Clean Water Program* to improve water supply systems through advanced filtration technology;
- 2. *Proposes* a recommended series of data resources - both online and in-person - to aid water management practices with funds like the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation and the Climate Technology Centre and Network by:
 - a. Establishing an Online Water Management Data Sharing Hub to centralize efforts in water management practices facilitated with UN Water's High-level Committee on Management and the High-level Committee on Programmes by:
 - i. Sharing strategies of water management with Member-States, NGOs, and relevant private industries;
 - ii. Providing technical toolkits in multiple languages;
 - iii. Creating case studies from successful mutual programs;
 - b. Curating in-person educational campaigns in areas without access to technology to overlay the same information to bring about awareness on the subject matter of water and sanitation by:
 - i. Organizing regional teacher training on water regulation, paying specific attention to youth and female-oriented education;
 - ii. Creating conferences and workshops for local communities;
 - iii. Sending international and regional experts and volunteers to provide advice at the local level for water-scarce communities;
 - iv. Incentivizing cooperation between the educational and water sectors by encouraging the participation of regional graduate students within infrastructure development through internships and future inclusion in the job sector;
- 3. *Encourages* Member States to implement existing environmental programs to seek greater implementation of new technologies for water management, monitoring, and deployment of said programs such as:
 - a. Technologies that help gather water and are highlighted in the *UN Water - Water Analytical Brief* (2013) such as:

- i. Fog Harvesting using polypropylene mesh nets that collect water droplets, which runs towards a drain, and has successfully been implemented in the *Foggy Nile Program*, as well as functioning as a low-cost accessible solution, given the right environmental conditions, that can be initiated by local organizations;
 - ii. Incentivizing rainwater harvesting programs and the development of storage facilities at government buildings, such as Guatemala has done with its schools and educational institutional in its rural areas with the assistance of non-governmental cooperation;
 - iii. Developing desalination plants that convert salt water into safe, drinkable water by using processes such as evaporation and condensation, given that desalination plants have been successfully implemented in Saudi Arabia and Spain to target dry areas without reliable natural sources of water;
 - b. Further utilizing UN aid and regional volunteers modeling the *World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal* for the analysis of climate data unique to a specific type of environment and weather for determining in advance the precipitations to use rainfall water collection initiatives;
4. *Draws attention* to the funding gap between Member States and the implementation of new technologies and existing environmental programs to recommend various comprehensive funding options such as:
- a. The United Nations Environment Programme's *Environment Fund*, which relies on Member States' voluntary financial contribution based on the *Voluntary Indicative Scale of Contributions*;
 - b. Advocating for subsidized low-interest loans by the International Monetary Fund after government-submitted blueprints and regional consultants where the UN would further be given agency to oversee progress based on the *Accelerated Sanitation and Water For All*;
 - c. UN-Water technical experts to assist Member States with the development of non-traditional water sources by conducting cost-analysis assessments to identify the most water and cost effective technology;
5. *Welcomes* Member States' recognition of the synergy between SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation and SDG 13 (climate action), understanding the necessity of earmarking, prioritizing, and increasing climatic investment in established funds such as *The Green Climate Fund* and through UN-Water, by directing resources towards:
- a. Enhancing water conservation, sustainable groundwater recharge, and safe water recycling practices;
 - b. Strengthening IWRM, paying particular attention to balancing ecological concerns with economic development while encouraging support to:
 - i. Incentivize the creation of national water policies and plans that promote decentralized decision-making and water management by aligning with the SDGs;

- ii. Establish local management councils that encourage the inclusion of the whole society;
 - iii. Support Member States forming internal connections between their respective departments of health and education to inform the youth on water conservation and sustainable sanitation;
- 6. *Emphasizes* the importance of improving water management in agriculture to reduce waste in evaporation leaks and contamination with the help of funds like the *International Fund for Agricultural Development* by:
 - a. Developing modern irrigation systems to decrease water leaks, using international patents that have shown an efficient implementation on reusing and recycling water;
 - b. Including drainage methods to ensure water retention in the soils;
 - c. Integrating water collecting systems to recycle and reuse water;
 - d. Eliminating toxicities from fertilizers through the previously mentioned methods;
 - e. Implementing water-saving farming methods focused on rural farmers, such as vertical farming, as encouraged by the United Nations Development Programme;
- 7. *Recommends* Member States to focus on the impact of climate change by improving water quality and managing pollution levels, through measures such as:
 - a. Implementing programs similar to *The Catchment Sensitive Farming Program* in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which aims to increase funding for farmers, and supports the building of environmentally sustainable methods to reduce water pollution in agricultural activities;
 - b. Integrating drainage and wastewater management plans, by assessing risks, opportunities, and options to manage sewage and rainfall, ultimately building a resilient wastewater and sewage infrastructure.



Code: GA3/1/12

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Understanding that there needs to be a specialized focus on marginalized communities such as women, children, the elderly, and the disabled,

Affirming that the United Nations (UN) General Assembly (GA) officially recognized the human right to safe drinking water for the first time in General Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010),

Recognizing UN Women and women's right to water sanitation as mentioned in the *Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women* (1979),

Noting the horrifying statistics finding that of the 2.2 billion individuals without access to safe drinking water and 4.2 billion individuals without adequate sanitation, 7 out of 10 individuals live in rural populations, with 1 out of 3 of these individuals a part of the elderly population,

Re-emphasizing the importance of the *Declaration of the Rights of Disabled Persons* (1975) in maintaining the rights of those with disabilities,

Keeping in mind the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) mission to provide sanitation rights to all persons,

Acknowledging the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 regarding gender equality, SDG 10 regarding reduced inequalities, and SDG 11 regarding sustainable cities and communities,

Contemplating the 884 million people who lack clean water and the 2.6 billion people who lack basic sanitation,

Acknowledging that 663 million individuals with disabilities lack access to safe drinking water,

Emphasizing that 1 in 3 adults in rural communities live with disabilities, a majority face significant barriers in accessing safe drinking water and clean, safe facilitations,

Considering that women are responsible for 72% of household water collection without piped water, prohibiting them from attending school, working or participating in other daily activities,

Recognizing the incorporation of new technologies, such as photocatalysis and nanofiltration, in rural areas to improve systems for cleaning water and providing sanitation by focusing on local sources of water,

Guided by the In Their Shoes workshop series in collaboration with the UN that works to break down negative stigmas against minority groups,

Appreciating SDG 6.a, where the reuse of water technologies will substantially increase the efficiency of the use and distribution of the water supply,

Deeply appreciative of the efforts of international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as *WaterAid* in their efforts towards gender equality and low-income families in regard to water sanitation,

1. *Advocates* for the reinforcement and expansion of WASH-in-school services to further educate kids by creating the *Sanitation and Health Information for Effective Life Saving Decisions* (SHIELD) app initiative targeting with the goal of reducing the number of disease-related absences and improving school attendance, by:
 - a. Providing procedural guides to common medical scenarios (sanitization of hands and tools, disposal of biowaste, care for newborns, etc.);
 - b. Making the information downloadable and accessible online or via printed pamphlets distributed in communities to ensure everyone can access the information;
 - c. Creating visuals of accessible replacements for tools and materials to ensure proper sanitation;
2. *Endorses* collaboration between UN Water, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), SHIELD, and Member States to work within their collective needs and provide the necessary support to maintain water sanitation and distribution systems long term; reviewed by a SHIELD forum every two years tasked with discussing best practices and utilizing funding from the Green Initiative, with the ultimate goal of:
 - a. Implementing training and educational programs for residents of developing Member States, particularly women, to provide maintenance to existing water, sanitation, and/or distribution systems;
 - b. Creating women-inclusive national task forces utilizing shared expertise to tackle climate crises threatening access to water and sanitation;
3. *Invites* the collection and repurpose of rainwater for landscape irrigation, flushing toilets, and cleaning purposes which do not require sanitation, in order to best conserve sanitized water for essential purposes such as consumption or bodily hygiene;
4. *Encourages* NGOs, such as Kora in Okrane, WaterAid, Splash, and 33 Buckets, to provide essential knowledge and skills for maintaining and managing rainwater harvesting systems in underprivileged areas, specifically focusing on drought-prone islands, by:
 - a. Requesting that the Global Rain Water Harvesting Collective donate financial aid for the enhancement of NGOs in order to support gender equality and underprivileged families;
 - b. Implementing training programs for marginalized communities and offering technical support for water system maintenance;
 - c. Focusing efforts on drought prone islands where the lack of water sanitation disproportionately affects marginalized groups;
5. *Suggests* Member States to break away from negative stigmas that relate to cleanliness and minority groups, by:

- a. Teaching citizens through workshops and volunteering the importance of fighting against negative stigmas by highlighting both the negative and positive effects;
 - b. Allowing for policies that would protect these vulnerable groups from being harmed in societal and cultural settings;
 - c. Using the digital space to conduct live recording sessions or video recordings in order to expand mass outreach;
6. *Advises* Member States to improve access to WASH for women through gender specific water programs such as the *Gender Equality in Access and Management of Water and Sanitation* implementing nationwide access to water via rain catching systems on public facilities and providing initiatives funded by UN Women and available on SHIELD that are adapted to women's particular needs and priorities depending on their geographic region, cultural differences, and available resources regarding:
- a. Basic feminine care and hygiene;
 - b. Education on menstrual and sexual health;
 - c. Maternity, reproduction, and postnatal care;
 - d. Contraception and sexually transmitted infections (STIs);
7. *Welcomes* Member States to provide access to hygienic facilities for those with physical or mental disabilities, by:
- a. Encouraging Member States to establish all public and private sanitation facilities that can accommodate persons with disabilities;
 - b. Requesting Member States to maintain WASH accessible showers, sinks, toilets, and water-based sanitation facilities that are up to standard code and monitored by voluntary check-ins, allowing for those with disabilities to use these services;
 - c. Promoting the technological promotion of these WASH facilities through digital spaces, including digital UN-supported apps such as SHIELD and other UN-backed websites;
 - d. Supporting Member States to maintain consistent training of WASH facility staff to be able to assist those with disabilities;
8. *Recommends* the formation of a sub-committee within the General Assembly focusing on providing access to safe water and clean sanitation to elderly and disabled populations in rural areas, who are often most disproportionately affected, through:
- a. Providing a representation of a diverse range of experts in water cleanliness, health, elderly and disabled individuals, rural development, and other related topics within this sub-committee, by:

- i. Choosing these experts through an application process and an election through the General Assembly in order to ensure the credibility and necessity of these individuals;
 - ii. Allowing this committee to oversee the process of providing access to safe water and clean sanitation in specifically rural areas, focusing on outreach and equal access to marginalized communities;
 - b. Implementing specific policies that outline the methods for providing safe water and clean sanitation, focusing on ensuring that these methods are culturally and environmentally appropriate to respect the heritage and lands of elderly individuals in rural populations;
 - c. Having discussions with the individuals who are impacted, specifically elderly and disabled populations in rural areas, to understand their needs to provide essential technologies for clean water and sanitation;
 - d. Encouraging the use of new innovative technologies, such as solar-powered pumps, nanotechnology water treatment, and smart sanitation systems, that can be easily and cheaply manufactured, maintained, and replaced by individuals in rural populations that help facilitate easier access to clean, safe water and sanitation;
 - e. Providing information on resources available to the elderly and disabled on SHIELD and other UN databases;
9. *Requests* for increased research and development of new technologies, such as photocatalysis, nanofiltration, solar-powered sanitation, and smart water management that help facilitate easier access to clean water and sanitation within rural areas, specifically for the elderly and disabled populations, through:
- a. The continued research of such modern technologies for clean water to expand upon the capabilities and limitations of these technologies;
 - b. The implementation of these modern technologies in rural areas on local bodies of water to develop cheaper and more feasible ways for individuals in rural populations to implement, maintain, and replace over long periods of time with limited external intervention;
 - c. Discussions with these specific individuals in rural areas in order to ensure that these new technologies have a beneficial impact on their access to clean and safe water.



Code: GA3/1/13

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Reaffirming access to clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right, aligning with Sustainable Development Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation),

Recognizing that Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) plays an important role in achieving SDG 6,

Underlining General Assembly resolution 57/13, which the Human Rights Council (HCR) adopted on the 10th of October 2024, where the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation and the need of their protection were reaffirmed,

Noting General Assembly resolution 71/222, adopted on the 1st of December 2016, in which the Water Action Decade 2018-2028 was launched to raise awareness and put focus on averting the water crisis,

Viewing General Assembly resolution 64/292, which was adopted on 28 June 2010 and recognized safe drinking water and sanitation as human rights,

Alarmed by the fact that 2.2 billion people lack access to safely managed drinking water services and 3.5 billion lacking access to safely managed sanitation services,

Emphasizing the rising need to meet the ongoing issues brought about by climate change like increasing storms, drastic temperature changes, and disruptions to ecosystems, with greater international cooperation towards climate resistant infrastructure and capacity building,

Bearing in mind the need to improve global waste management systems to prevent water pollution and waterborne diseases,

Believing in the importance of local community involvement in the maintenance and strengthening of water and sanitation infrastructure,

Noting also the importance of education as a fundamental tool in addressing the root causes of water and sanitation insecurity, empowering communities with knowledge to implement sustainable solutions to prevent the spread of infectious diseases,

Conscious of the structural challenges faced by vulnerable and low-income and middle-income regions in achieving equitable access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation services,

Acknowledging the need to prioritize the need to support for economic development while also ensuring quality water services,

Seeking support in the scope of resource management, through demand-side approaches such as the inclusion of resources,

Supporting fully the work of organizations that are working with developing countries to fund climate resistant infrastructure, capacity building and local solution finding through microcredits,

Recognizing the potential for regional cooperation and innovation to improve access to clean water and sanitation, especially through smart infrastructure and knowledge sharing,

Noting that under article 27.1 of the *Trade Related Aspects of Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreements* allow patent flexibilization for technological innovations,

Acknowledging the report “Global status of multi-hazard early warning systems” from the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), published in 2022, which declares, that Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) decrease the mortality rate when countries experience hazards, like droughts,

Recognizing the *Ramsar Convention* (1975), passed by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which provides the framework for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands of international importance, as well as transboundary wetlands and provides vital documents, such as a management toolkit for sustainable management,

Concerned by the *Ramsar Briefing Note 5* from 2021, according to which 50 million hectares Peatlands, a specific kind of wetland, are currently drained, whilst healthy Peatlands have the ability to purify water, regulate water cycles and store carbon more effectively than any other ecosystem of our planet,

1. *Supports* the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) increase utilization by using:
 - a. Innovative financing solutions such as blended finance and Green Bonds - including those facilitated by institutions like the IMF - to address high levels of debt in the water sector and support sustainable water and sanitation projects;
 - b. The potential of non-state actors, especially private enterprises or non-governmental organizations (NGO) in financing water infrastructure initiatives around the world;
 - c. The Climate Policy Assessment Tool (CPAT) under the IMF helps policy makers assess and design climate mitigation policies for nearly all Member States, and supports the continuation of this tool;
 - d. The World Trade Organization (WTO) to consider patent waiver for technological innovation to further expand cost effective measures;
 - e. Providing financial assistance to those who need access to clean water curriculum and community outreach programs, particularly in regions most affected by water scarcity and poor sanitation;
2. *Calls upon* greater international support, particularly from developed countries, to work to fund climate resistant infrastructure in developing countries by:
 - a. Suggesting the establishment of specific research studies to address regional natural disasters to efficiently build infrastructure;
 - b. Proclaiming the need for technology sharing between Member States to more efficiently create climate resistant and carbon neutral infrastructure;

- c. Encouraging the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank (WB) to increase funding for capacity building initiatives and water and sanitation plants in areas most affected by climate-related water scarcity such as South East Asia and Small Island Developing States (SIDS);
 - d. Requesting the cost of infrastructure maintenance incurred for implementing water-related mechanisms or systems under United Nations monitor to be supported by a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UN-Water, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)'s annual budget;
- 3. *Encourages* the promotion and development of initiatives through the means of NGOs such as the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross Red Crescent (ICRC) in conflict zones or trusts such as the Green Climate Fund and by:
 - a. Supporting the Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool (WASH-FIT) initiative by the World Health Organization, assuring its development in needed areas;
 - b. Underlining the work done by the IFRC in building WASH infrastructure and teaching hygiene practices;
 - c. Promoting the Green Climate Fund which has worked to improve climate infrastructure and capacity building initiatives;
- 4. *Suggests* Member States to prioritize and implement innovative waste management systems to prevent waterborne illnesses, which kills about 450,000 children every year, is the third leading cause of death in children, and is the leading cause of malnutrition in children under 5 years old by:
 - a. Encouraging companies like Wetlands Work! to increase the scale of its projects, such as the HandyPod, which uses an anaerobic process to break down waste and reduce pathogen levels;
 - b. Initiating a study on the most effective waste and pollution management systems in developing countries, thus enhancing the quality management of drinking water;
 - c. Inviting Member States to create programs, similar to the Volga Rehabilitation Program, which focuses on the ecological rehabilitation and conservation of the Volga river, a vital waterway and drinking source;
- 5. *Invites* Member States to undertake more locally-based initiatives through means such as but not limited to:
 - a. The organization of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) consultations between local experts and communities in order for locals to identify contaminated water sources as well as possible toxic leaks;
 - b. Delegating different responsibilities in regard to the maintenance of water, drainage and sewage systems to appropriate levels of government, in multi-step initiatives allowing a more inclusive, multi-faceted approach, suited to every communities' unique needs;

6. *Encourages* the assistance of rural communities in resource restoration efforts when identifying and integrating components of water resources for sustainable management by:
 - a. Motivating agriculturally based Member States to research water recycling and desalination initiatives for local villages and towns;
 - b. Supporting the installation of water filtration systems, such as reverse osmosis systems, in rural areas and low income neighborhoods that are affected by water pollution;
 - c. Recommending Member States to enact stricter pesticides and fertilization regulations to prevent toxic runoff from entering waterways and drinking wells;
 - d. Advocating for the Member States to efficiently manage water usage and increase water storage, which supports the recommended solutions from the Malaysian National Committee for Irrigation and Drainage (MANCID) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Green Envoy Program;
7. *Approves* the establishment of the H2O Optimization Initiative under the auspices of the United Nations, in coordination with UN-Water and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which shall:
 - a. Support Member States, and those facing difficulties in the formulation and implementation of sustainable water and sanitation policies by providing technical assistance through dedicated UN task forces and regional hubs under UN-Water;
 - b. Offer policy advisory services and implementation support based on region-specific data and climate resilience priorities;
 - c. Promote international cooperation among Member States, international organizations, research institutions by establishing a Global Water Innovation Forum, hosted annually under the H2O Optimization Initiative, to foster dialogue, partnerships, and transfer of knowledge and emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT) in water management;
 - d. Encourage public-private partnerships, with strong UN and/or governmental oversight, with innovation-driven companies to scale up affordable, smart water infrastructure for vulnerable or critical regions;
8. *Recommends* the implementation of a financial requirement and efficiency monitoring system into the UN-Water Integrated Monitoring Initiative for SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) (IMI-SDG6) to improve the information exchange regarding regional solutions to water-related issues;
9. *Welcomes* the integration of climate change adaptation strategies into water management policies and the development of regional water cooperation mechanisms, such as the Bukit Barun Water Treatment Plant, an infrastructure designed to increase portable water supply by up to 60 million liters daily by managing shared water resources;
10. *Further invites* international support in educational initiatives to raise awareness for efficient water management by:
 - a. Encouraging Member States to form a nationwide educational campaign effort, conducted through the use of digital media and schools;

- b. Inviting grassroots approaches, partnerships with local communities to achieve SDG 6, and ensuring equitable access and the responsibility for clean water;
 - c. Integrating water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) education into the local communities to prioritize the health benefits that clean water brings;
- 11. *Proposes* to improve the data situation on droughts, like it was done by the Iranian Space Agency, which can offer guidance alongside the China National Space Administration (CNSA) on:
 - a. Implementing early warning systems, which use space technology, by implementing Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometers (MODIS) for optical satellite imagery, in order to monitor, model, predict and assess the influence and development of meteorological droughts to decrease the mortality rate of droughts;
 - b. Cooperating with United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER);
 - c. Building regional and international data sharing platforms with the guidance of the CNSA, on which the gained information can be shared and viewed by national Space Agencies;
- 12. *Stresses* the importance of the *Ramsar Convention's* guidance through toolkits provided, as well as the partnering NGOs, like the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), to get support on financial questions, as well as implementation assistance, and further stresses the need for implementation and sustainable management of:
 - a. Ramsar Sites, by determining wetlands of international importance by an appropriate national authority;
 - b. Transboundary wetlands, by working with neighboring States;
 - c. *Ramsar Regional Initiatives* (RRIs), which are centers for training and capacity building and networks for cooperation between governments, international NGOs, local communities and private companies.



Code: GA3/1/14

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: The Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Recognizing the importance of protecting all persons in the international community, as outlined in the Preamble of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) and Article 55, which calls on Member States to create conditions of stability and well-being, promoting higher standards of living, international cooperation solutions, and universal respect for all persons,

Viewing with appreciation the work completed under article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948),

Emphasizing the *Geneva Conventions* (1949), which are a set of international treaties outlining the protections and rights of non-combatants and civilians to humanitarian aid,

Recalling the importance of safe drinking water and sanitation for the realization of human rights as enshrined in the *International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights* (1966), *International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination* (1965), *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (1966), *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (1979), *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (1989), and *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (2006),

Commending the strides being made by Member States towards the critical *2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development* (2015), specifically Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals), which emphasize global obligation to secure safe and clean drinking water and sanitation for all,

Acknowledging the United Nations SDG 6 Capacity Development Initiative (CDI) (2021), which is an inter-agency coordination platform on freshwater sanitation and hygiene-related capacity development group,

Noting with alarm that according to the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), displaced populations are up to 8 times more likely to lack access to basic sanitation, violating their inherent dignity and fundamental human rights,

Appalled by the statistic that 2.2 billion people not having safely managed drinking water services, 4.2 billion individuals who do not have access to safely managed services, and the 3 billion people who lack access to handwashing facilities according to the WHO,

Cognizant of the fact that transboundary water sources account for approximately 60% of the world's fresh water flows and the importance of regional collaboration in the upholding of peaceful allocation of water and safe sanitation,

Encouraged by the equity benefits of the creation and maintenance of water user associations (WUAs) at a local level as well as the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) effort to rehabilitate water

infrastructure in rural areas to improve the situation of local farmers and other community members in promoting water resilient agriculture,

Recalling the intrinsic link between water and food security and the benefits of investing in tools promoting access to safe drinking water as well as supporting agricultural activities by supplying water for irrigation,

Further highlighting the importance of the development and widespread implementation of innovative renewable energy-powered solutions, including desalination, water purification, irrigation technologies, and hydropower initiatives for alleviating water-scarce regions,

Recognizing water as an essential aspect of humanitarian aid and realizing that short-term aid during periods of crisis cannot substitute for the structural changes needed to ensure long-term sustainability,

Acknowledging with concern the existing gap in comprehensive technical studies in regions particularly affected by water scarcity and shortage regarding the present state of water resources and the viability of infrastructural development,

Deeply disturbed by the negative impact of armed conflict, displacement, and unilateral coercive measures on the realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, particularly in regions facing protracted crises and external pressures, contributing to 60% of water and sanitation systems becoming partially or completely non-functional,

Deeply conscious of the lack of gender diversity among employees at water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, which can cause women and girls to feel more hesitant or less at ease in utilizing these spaces,

Keeping in mind the prioritization of peace-driven dialogue to preserve a rules-based order while following the UN mandate to create proper and comprehensive legal frameworks,

1. *Recommends* that the United Nations Environment Assembly oversee the creation and implementation of a flexible United Nations-wide initiative referred to as the Coordinated Operations for Multilateral Prosperity to Advance Sustainable Security (COMPASS) to advance innovative water treatment solutions for universal access to safe drinking water, and:
 - a. Maintains that COMPASS is a two-pronged approach that will help create dialogue centered around peace through:
 - i. Regional confidence-building measures;
 - ii. Regional conferences initially consisting of information sharing, discussion, and debate regarding existing and potential technologies that enhance water access amongst Member States within geographic regions, regulation usage of international bodies of freshwater, additional research efforts within Member States, United Nations bodies, NGOs, and reports United Nations World Water Development Report;
 - b. Welcomes open dialogue through the COMPASS Initiative to ensure Member States can find productive and adequate solutions for region-specific needs;
 - c. Encourages the preservation of the principles of state sovereignty, economic prosperity, and transparency in the COMPASS Initiative;

2. *Further recommends* the integration of technologies that enhance safe and sustainable water management practices by:
 - a. Supporting pilot programs and technical assessments of advanced, portable water filtration systems in diverse environmental settings, with input from agencies such as the WHO;
 - b. Strengthening existing United Nations mechanisms such as the UN-Water Interagency Coordination Mechanism and the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme to update guidelines and best practices for integrating these filtration technologies into current water management infrastructures;
 - c. Calling for coordinated regional and international efforts, with the support of United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, to secure the necessary financial and technical resources for the sustainable long-term deployment of these innovations;
3. *Encourages* applicable United Nations agencies, including the UNDP and the WHO, to facilitate the sharing of existing technologies to share knowledge, best practices, and technical documentation among countries, particularly within programs funded by international institutions, which:
 - a. Creates a single “sanitary” organization that supervises the needed requirements every Member State must follow to guarantee an advanced and safe “drinking water” system;
 - b. Reports to UNICEF with monthly descriptions being provided related to analysis of improvement trends within every Member States’ system;
 - c. Collaborates with a broad collective of NGOs, including “Generosity.org” as well as “Water For People,” to provide the needed resources;
 - d. Maintains guidelines to monitor the effectiveness of the newly developed healthcare system;
4. *Further advocates* the need to maintain water and sanitary services within areas of conflict through:
 - a. Emergency services, which would be deployed to safeguarded water infrastructure, in which they would have specific expertise;
 - b. Potential new subsidiary framework of the United Nations coordinated system through collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies, including UNICEF and Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), prioritizing children, schools, displaced people, and existing healthcare facilities;
 - c. Voluntary funding with the goal of reaching \$500 million per year, with a proposed \$200 million contributed from willing Member States;
 - d. Suggesting collaboration with organizations such as World Bank, its crisis fund, and WaterAid, or others to accumulate the remaining funds;

5. *Promotes* a voluntary and mutually agreed transfer of hydropower technology between Member States to reinforce water resilience worldwide by mobilising hydropower reservoirs to store water before they are strategically released during periods of drought, therefore securing human consumption as well as generating renewable energy;
6. *Supports* domestic collaborations with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to utilize data mapping to uncover and aid marginalized communities that are affected by inadequate water access by:
 - a. Facilitating the engagement of civil service organizations that conduct on-the-ground surveying to gather data on potential disparities related to water accessibility among populations in rural areas;
 - b. Creating an OHCHR-managed database where verified data can be uploaded to provide daily updates that can be shared with partners that contribute to gathering information or provide emergency assistance and illuminate analyses that present a basis for the need of increased funding efforts;
 - c. Establishing response mechanisms that can swiftly respond to the detected disparities to provide relief and access to temporary water and protective measures while more sustainable solutions can be generated;
7. *Further recommends* that the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UNDP, and UN-Water, along with other applicable United Nations agencies, conduct additional voluntary inter-agency technical studies alongside local and national governments and local water and sanitation corporations (LWSCs) into Member States' water sectors with emphasis on:
 - a. The presence and extent of water waste and/or excessive water usage in Member States' water sectors, with particular regard to areas identified as experiencing water scarcity;
 - b. The viability of the implementation of public education and public engagement projects to curb inefficient water usage at the local community level;
 - c. The viability of the further development of water collection, distribution, management, and recycling infrastructure on both a local and national level;
8. *Suggests* that Member States, United Nations agencies, and other humanitarian organizations implement policies that:
 - a. Expand equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation, especially in rural communities, through infrastructure development and inclusive resource allocation;
 - b. Promote education and awareness on hygiene practices and water conservation to empower local populations, reduce waterborne illnesses, and support long-term community resilience;
 - c. Prevent the blockade of humanitarian aid to crisis-affected regions by safeguarding humanitarian passageways;
9. *Encourages* the creation of regional treaties that contribute to collaboration and facilitate joint management of shared water sources through:

- a. Establishing regional committees that accelerate and promote opportunities for effective oversight measures that contribute to sustainable water management and support access to water and sanitation in regions experiencing water scarcity;
 - b. Encouraging the alignment of national legal frameworks within regions, protecting the public access and equitable allocation of transboundary water sources;
 - c. Promoting the prevention of harmful water practices and the collaborative monitoring of shared water bodies between Member States;
 - d. Emphasizing regional approaches as issues of water scarcity and sanitation transcend borders and demand coordinated strategies;
10. *Further encourages* developed states to engage in Capacity Building and Technology Transfer efforts by organizing educational programs and technical workshops alongside LWSCs through:
- a. The establishment of a targeted financing window within the Green Climate Fund, to be known as the Global Climate Water Facility (GCWF), dedicated to supporting renewable energy-powered desalination, water purification, and irrigation projects in water-scarce regions;
 - b. Supporting the expansion and usage of technology like desalination, energy efficiency, and wastewater treatment;
11. *Recommends* that the Secretariat strengthen the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation by incorporating a specific focus on the consequences of armed conflict, unilateral coercive measures, and forced displacement on access to these rights, with particular attention to affected populations in the crisis-affected regions by:
- a. Mandating in-depth investigations into the impact of armed conflicts on water and sanitation infrastructure, including deliberate destruction, targeting, or neglect of such infrastructures;
 - b. Assessing the repercussions of unilateral coercive measures on the ability of states and humanitarian actors to provide adequate water and sanitation services, particularly in embargoed or economically restricted regions;
 - c. Evaluating the situation of displaced populations, including internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees, regarding their access to water and sanitation in camps, urban settings, and informal settlements;
 - d. Prioritizing case studies and field missions in regions affected by protracted crises;
 - e. Collaborating with humanitarian agencies and local civil society organizations to gather accurate data and amplify the voices of affected communities;
 - f. Providing targeted policy recommendations to states and international actors aimed at ensuring non-discriminatory, sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation, even in emergency or conflict settings;

12. *Proposes* the promotion of transparency through the appointment of Special Rapporteurs under WHO to report annually on water discrimination within United Nations Member States to:
 - a. Create multiple Member State-specific and regional rapporteurs focused on targeted issues of water access;
 - b. Ensure equitable access to all persons, specifically women, children, and all marginalized persons;
 - c. Provide an accessible database, administered by applicable United Nations agencies, including the WHO, UNDP, and UNICEF, alongside voluntary private partnerships;
 - d. Integrate findings from the database to programs such as the Joint Monitoring Programme (JPM) and from the Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality to provide tailored policy recommendations, ensuring that local and regional challenges are addressed effectively;
13. *Further supports* the identification of the most critical regions regarding scarcity of clean water resources to be monitored and protected by United Nations-led water programs organizations, such as UNICEF's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Program, UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme, as well as Global Water Partnership's Integrated Water Resources Management, with a mandate to:
 - a. Ensure the safety and sustainability of key water sources;
 - b. Prevent exploitation or control of water access by criminal entities;
 - c. Provide effective protection to persons most in need, such as children;
14. *Further recommends* that Member States encourage the development of WUAs at the local level within national and regional water sectors to ensure the equitable distribution of water resources;
15. *Further advocates* for the establishment of durable infrastructure, including water and sanitation and public health education facilities through Water and Sanitation Safety Planning programs to minimize risks and raise awareness;
16. *Advocates* for a coordinated entry point for Member States who are requesting UN-Water support to identify capacity gaps with the help of better intelligence between Member States;
17. *Strongly recommends* the sharing of information and the creation of a place of discussion on the usage of shared bodies of freshwater between Member States in collaboration with the United Nations Statistics Division;
18. *Requests* the implementation of sustainable water management strategies through the adoption of wastewater treatment, efficient irrigation, and rainwater harvesting by:
 - a. Encouraging the integration of climate-adaptive water strategies;
 - b. Supporting the development and deployment of new technologies to enhance water efficiency and resilience;

19. *Further suggests* that the International Court of Justice (ICJ) give an advisory legal opinion should Member State actors actively impede and restrict United Nations-sponsored humanitarian organizations from addressing humanitarian aid in vulnerable communities and Member States;
20. *Further encourages* Member States to come together in combating the barriers that vulnerable groups of people experience when accessing WASH stations by investing more funds into hiring gender inclusive staff, specifically women and women-led teams, by:
 - a. Requesting the incorporation of a comprehensive training program in remaining mindful of cultural customs and addressing language barriers in order to prevent potential problems such as miscommunication and cultural insensitivity;
 - b. Recommending funding to come from a joint collaboration effort between the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UN-Water;
 - c. Expressing its hope that by having more women in WASH facilities, women, and girls in certain cultures and communities can feel more comfortable in accessing these spaces.