Code: HRC/1/1

Committee: UN Human Rights Council

Subject: Human Rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

1 The Human Rights Council (HRC),

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution S-17/1 outlining the grave humanitarian situation in
 the Syrian Arab Republic,

*Recognizing* General Assembly A/RES/58/150 in regards to the abuse of unaccompanied refugee women and children, who are more susceptible to the instability of this region,

*Endorsing* the UN Security Council resolution S/RES/1960 in 2010 regarding active commitment to dealing with sexual violence within this region,

Deeply concerned over all violations made against human rights by both parties involved within the Syrian conflict,

*Expressing* its appreciation for Member States neighbouring Syria harbouring the exponentially increasing amounts of refugees caused by the conflict and commends these Member States for providing support to refugees despite having economic constraints,

Acknowledging that these refugee camps are not long-term solutions, but rather a means to address the immediate humanitarian concerns within this region,

*Noting* the importance of addressing long-term goals and programmes to assist these refugees for the duration of the conflict,

1. *Encourages* Member States hosting refugees outside of the region of conflict, with the assistance of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGOs), to support programs that include:

a. Enabling the safest and most efficient transition possible for incoming refugees, including expedient resettlement within three days of arrival and prolonged access to resources and support facilities including educational support and community engagement;

 b. Access to language education in the host country's official language, ensuring that refugees can integrate into their host societies without forced assimilation, with the ultimate goal of facilitation a smooth transition and opening up education and occupational opportunities;

c. Equal access to employment during resettlement so that refugees are able to sustain themselves and their families in host countries;

d. Access to other resources, including childcare, mental and physical health resources;

- e. The reinforcement of comprehensive, humane, and fair guidelines as outlined by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in their Framework for Repatriation and Resettlement Programme, created at the discretion of the Member States hosting refugees, ensuring: Pathways for those who plan to resettle in their host country permanently; ii. Strategies and frameworks for the return and reintegration of those who plan to return to Syria post-conflict;
  - 2. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuing assistance within the refugee camps by NGOs, UN bodies, and other international institutions and actors including, but not limited to organizations, which:

- a. Provide accessible health care, specifically access to medication, timely treatment, and mental health services, to all refugees in response to urgent needs, as well as pre-existing conditions;
- b. Ensure that environmental sustainability remains a priority in refugee camps in relation to waste management;
- c. Secure the accessibility of clean water and address sanitation needs;
- d. Facilitate the construction of suitable, safe, and humane housing structures within the camps;
- e. Maintain the education of adults, specifically focusing on technical skills as well as basic household and personal skills for marginalized people, so that they are able to assist in the rebuilding and development of Syria and host nations post-conflict;
- 3. *Urges* the protection and prevention from exploitation of marginalized groups, such as minorities and their cultural, ethnic, linguistic, and religious identities, through the assistance of organizations that promote the same goals;
- 4. *Calls upon* NGOs and UN bodies to address the crucial task of supporting both men and women within the refugee camps and eliminating sexual violence by providing protective resources, especially:
  - a. Developing preventative measures, including the education for men and women of all ages on the issues of equality with respect to cultural values;
  - b. Educating all refugees about the important values of female empowerment;
- 5. *Reminds* the Member States of the necessity in duty to protect children in vulnerable situations through the mobilization of youth networks to ensure that child refugees will be provided the education they need to rebuild their community in the post-conflict world;

- 6. *Endorses* the establishment of community centres in the refugee camps, recognizing that inter-faith based and other organizations can be viable resources, with the aid of NGOs to facilitate education, encourage peaceful communities and community building, and a central location for vocational training programmes;
- 7. *Recommends* the appropriation of funds from the UN Emergency Fund to finance sustainable refugee assistance programmes;

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- 8. *Requests* all able and willing Member States to provide both monetary and non-financial forms of support to both NGOs and IGOs in order to address this pressing issue with the most expediency possible;
- 9. *Strongly encourages* Member States to provide diplomatic support, if they are unable to directly assist in the aiding of the displaced refugees from the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, by publicly voicing their concern over those affected.

Code: HRC/DR/1/2

Committee: Human Rights Council

Subject: Human Rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

1 The Human Rights Council,

2

- 3 Recognizing the 1945 Charter of the United Nations, which states that all Member States have the right to state sovereignty; the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR), which 4
- 5 defines and promotes the universal rights granted to all people; and the 1951 Convention and 6
  - Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, which defines refugee status and right,

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8 Guided by the General Assembly (GA) resolution 66/176 (A/RES/66/176), which encourages 9 Syrian cooperation with Human Rights Council (HRC),

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11 Emphasizing the importance of partnering with other United Nations (UN) bodies including the 12 UNHCR and UN Habitat,

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14 Encouraging continued cooperation between the HRC and Security Council (SC), including the 15 SC's integral role in mediating the human rights issue in Syria,

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17 Bearing in mind the role of investigations in the International Criminal Court (ICC) to gather 18 intelligence of human rights violations,

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20 Acknowledging the need for a recovery zone for Syrian refugees within pre-existing refugee 21 camps,

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23 *Recognizing* the efforts of individual countries in alleviating the human rights issue in Syria,

24

25 Keeping in mind the Syrian government's relationship with non-governmental organizations 26 (NGOs),

27

28 Noting the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees which encourages 29 Member States to provide the same treatment to refugees as nationals of the receiving state.

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31 Fully aware of the diverse nature of cultures, religions, and religious practices within Syria as 32 well as throughout United Nations (UN) Member States, while also keeping in mind Article 2 of 33 the UDHR,

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35 Observing the potential and existing violence within refugee camps and acknowledging the need 36 to establish a safe community through an enforcing body of the UN,

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- 38 Acknowledging in particular the rights of women as expressed in the Convention on the 39 Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which is recognized as
- 40 the international bill of rights for women,

42 Reaffirming the protection of children stated in the 1959 Declaration of the Rights of the Child 43 and the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees' (UNHCR) Policy on Refugee Children 44 as specified within Refugee Children: Guidelines on Protection and Care,

Commending existing efforts within regional and international bodies to address the human
 rights situation in Syria including UN collaboration with the International Organization for
 Migration (IOM),

50 Stressing the importance of monetary and humanitarian aid directly to refugees rather than the Syrian government, following the estimations stated in GA resolution 24/46 (A/RES/24/46),

Fully aware of the need for standardized aid within refugee camps including water and sanitation which are deemed necessities to everyday human life as seen in GA resolution 64/292 (A/RES/64/292),

Reiterating the efforts of creating Emergency Transit Centers through collaboration between the
 UNHCR, IOM, and the Host Countries,

Recalling HRC S-17/1 (A/HRC/RES/S-17/1), which created the Independent International
 Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic,

*Noting* the UN-Arab League Special Envoy's efforts in facilitating diplomacy between the Syrian government and the Opposition Forces,

1. *Encourages* the UN Arab League Special Envoy to continue its mission in promoting talks between Russia, the United States and Syria, and would like to also see the following alterations to the envoy's current mandate:

a. The reduction of armed violence in all forms, as opposed to the complete cessation of violence;

b. On Point 1 of the Six Point Plan, the inclusion of NGOs in dialogue with the Syrian people;

2. *Invites* the assistance of NGOs to address the immediate medical concerns of refugees affected by the Syrian Crisis and improve the living conditions within pre-existing refugee camps;

3. *Recommends* that refugee host countries gather data to send bi-annual reports to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, concerning:

a. The rate of migration of Syrian refugees to and from the host countries;

b. Financial capabilities of Syrian refugees;

87 88		c.	Refugee recovery zones;
89 90	4.	Calls upon the UNHCR and collaborating bodies, including the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), to prevent acts of	
91 92		violenc	e on all refugee camp residents, heavily emphasizing the protection against:
93 94		a.	Domestic violence for women and children;
95 96		b.	Sexual assault;
97 98		c.	Human trafficking;
99 100 101	5.	<i>Endorses</i> the promotion of safe drinking water and wastewater treatment for Syrian refugees and requests the support and assistance of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) and UN Water in:	
102 103 104 105			Providing accessible clean water pumps and sanitation services to refugees with a goal of 200 meters away per capita as specified within UNHCR's <i>Strategic Plan for Water and Sanitation</i> ;
106 107 108 109			Implementing gender-specific latrines, as done by UNICEF, and reinforce proper waste disposal practices within the refugee camps;
110 111 112			Offering maintenance training to refugees for water and sanitation technology through WASH;
112 113 114		d.	Responding quickly and effectively to water contamination disasters;
115 116 117	6.	<i>Welcomes</i> the utilization of the collaboration between the UN, with emphasis on the UNHCR IOM, and Host Countries to implement Emergency Transit Mechanisms for 2 years before moving refugees to the third host country:	
118 119 120 121			UN and IOM could provide the funding, with a host country immediately and voluntarily accepting refugees in time for a temporary solution to a critical issue;
121 122 123		b.	Recommends Member States to assist as intermediate or third-party host countries;
124 125	7.	Express	ses its hope that Member States will provide monetary assistance to aid refugees:
126		a.	Aid host countries with the influx of refugees;
127 128		b.	Help refugees integrate into societies;
129 130 131		c.	Fund regional standard programs;

8. *Recommends* the Human Rights Watch's protective surveying agencies, along with the aid of other NGOs, to assess immediate reported human rights violations within refugee camps while also providing an appropriate response as supported by international humanitarian law and investigations by the ICC;

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9. *Encourages* the UN bodies to provide basic adequate housing in refugee camps for refugees as outlined in Articles 11 and 17 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights;

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141 10. *Calls upon* the need for religious and cultural neutrality within refugee communities, including the promotion of free practice of those beliefs;

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11. *Utilizes* the principles enshrined within the UDHR to protect the rights of minorities through the UNHCR's Independent Expert on Minority Issues;

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12. Calls upon the Syrian Arab Republic to continue its cooperation with the UNHCR.

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150 Annex:

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13. *Encourages* cooperation between HRC, UNHCR, SC, related NGOs, and Member States hosting Syrian refugees to facilitate diplomatic discussions on ensuring refugee rights:

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a. Occurring voluntarily in Geneva, Switzerland within the next 6 months;

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b. Centered around basic standards current with international human rights conventions and laws.

Code: HRC/1/3

Committee: Human Rights Council (HRC)

Subject: Human Rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

The Human Rights Council,

Acknowledging Chapter 1, Article 2 (7) of the Charter of the United Nations (UN) which upholds national state sovereignty, rendering foreign military intervention an unacceptable option to resolving the crisis in Syria at the moment,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the

Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the Convention

on the Rights of the Child,

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolution S-16/1 of 29 April 2011, on the human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic in the context of recent events,

*Reaffirming* A/RES/66/176 23 February 2012, calling an end to human rights violations in the Syrian Arab Republic to preserve the human dignity and freedom for the Syrian citizens,

Expressing its deep concern regarding the 6.5 million internally displaced persons as reported by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC),

Welcoming the humanitarian aid and commitment from all Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) given the deteriorating humanitarian situation and the importance to ensure the safe and efficient provision of humanitarian assistance to all areas affected by the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic,

Recalling the November 2011 Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic's conclusion of the occurrence of excessive use of force and extrajudicial executions, arbitrary detentions, enforced disappearance, torture and other forms of ill treatment, sexual violence, violation of children's' rights, violation of freedom of movement, violation of economic and social rights,

1. *Strongly condemns* the continued widespread violations of human rights perpetrated by parties within the Syrian Arab Republic;

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the resulting increase numbers of internally displaced persons who are deprived of basic humanitarian needs as a result of the ongoing violence;

3. *Calls upon* the Syrian Arab Republic to work with the League of Arab States to create safe zones within which the safety of internally displaced persons, the personnel of NGOs and international humanitarian organizations is secured and guaranteed for the purpose of supporting humanitarian aid;

4. Recommends that the General Assembly consider appropriate measures aimed at ensuring the safety of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and those providing aid within the safe zones; 5. *Urges* the Syrian Arab Republic to hold negotiations with the United Nations and Arab League Envoy to Syria concerning access of the safe zones to international humanitarian organizations and NGOs approved by the Syrian Government focusing on: a. the supply of necessary amounts of food and nutrition; b. the access to clean water and sanitation; c. the equal protection of marginalized groups; d. the availability of medical services; 6. Encourages the international community to provide urgent financial support to NGOs

enabling them to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of internally displaced persons in

the Syrian Arab Republic.

Code: HRC/2/1

Committee: The Human Rights Council

Subject: Ensuring the Right to Clean Water and Sanitation for All

1 The Human Rights Council,

2 3

Recalling the 1945 Charter of the United Nations (UN),

4 5

Referring to Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR), which states that all people have the right to an adequate standard of living,

6 7 8

*Recognizing* that equitable access to potable water and proper sanitation is an integral component to the realization of all human rights,

9 10 11

*Reaffirming* Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7.C, which aims to provide access to clean water and adequate sanitation for all,

12 13

14 Realizing General Assembly (GA) Resolution 64/292 (A/Res/64/292) and General Comment No.
 15, which state that water is a basic human right that "should be enjoyed by all, and is instrumental to the enjoyment of all other human rights,

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Bearing in mind the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights and its language on Member States' responsibility to provide safe water and sanitation to all of their citizens, including minorities and other marginalized groups,

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Acknowledging the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the related GA Resolution 54/175 (A/Res/524/175) on the Right to Development,

2324

Taking into consideration past Human Rights Council (HRC) Resolutions 7/22
 (A/HRC/Res/7/22), 12/8 (A/HRC/Res/12/8), 6/8 (A/HRC/Res/6/8), 2/104 (A/HRC/Res/2/104)
 on human rights and access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

28 29

*Recognizing* HRC Resolution 18/1 (A/HRC/RES/18/1) calling upon Member States to finance water and sanitation infrastructure,

30 31 32

Commending UN Water, UN Human Settlements program (UN-Habitat), and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) for their work on providing safe drinking water in underdeveloped regions,

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Affirming the work of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation,

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Fully aware of the UN-Water Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC),which aims to provide Member States with range of information regarding water and sanitation,

40

Cognizing the first meeting in September 2013 of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable
 Development,

Noting the progressive work done by the World Health Organization (WHO) in partnership with
 UNICEF on the Joint Monitoring Program for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), and the JMP
 Report 2013,

Expressing its appreciation of existing inter-agency bodies, including the Water Integrity Forum,
 which promotes open discussion between state officials, non-governmental organizations
 (NGOs), the private sector, and water professionals,

Fully aware of Water in a Changing World's definition of water contamination, which analyzes the chemical, environmental, and social aspects of pollution,

*Encouraging* water maintenance training within members of the community in rural areas to ensure sustainability and sanitation of clean water sources,

Recognizing the privatization of water by transnational corporations as an area for concern,

1. *Encourages* amelioration of marginalized groups and minority rights through:

a. Revision of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), particularly Article 14 on the rights of rural women;

b. Expansion on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by ensuring the provision of clean drinking water and sanitation facilities to all minority groups;

2. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur on the Human Right to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation to continue working within the HRC's 2006 Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights' Guidelines, to protect the right to safe drinking water and sanitation in vulnerable regions and to report updates the HRC periodically every 5 years;

3. *Recommends* that the GA discuss the implementation of strategies that would address the immediate issue of water pollution within urban and rural regions, including:

a. The need for a detection system through the World Water Assessment Program (WWAP) and JMP,

b. The augmentation of regulations on sewage infrastructure to implement more wastewater treatment plants in conjunction with UN Water regulations;

c. The increased regulation and prevention of industrial pollutant runoff that affects irrigation and drinking water supplies, as well as surrounding bodies of water;

4. *Emphasizes* the utilization of pre-existing local initiatives to partner with regional and international bodies, as has been done by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

and the Water Integrity Forum, to increase the efficacy of local infrastructure technology transfers between:

a. Developed and developing countries;

b. UN Water, WASH, and their partners;

5. *Refers* the implementation of water maintenance training within rural communities facilitated by UN Water to simplify and ensure drinking water sanitation, with the education process structured to fully protect the rights of the individual;

6. *Encourages* the continued consideration of water as a separate topic for the *Working Group on the Global Partnership for Development Beyond 2015* at the second meeting of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development on 30 June 2014;

7. *Invites* Member States to provide data to the UNW-DPAC, which will allow any Member State to access information and new development ideas in order to increase the implementation of human rights regarding to clean water and sanitation;

8. *Affirms* the work of the HRC in protecting the rights of individuals concerning water and sanitation.

Code: HRC/DR/2/2

Committee: UN Human Rights Council

Subject: Ensuring the Right to Clean Water and Sanitation for All

- 1 The Human Rights Council (HRC),
- 2 Acknowledging the completion of the Millennium Development Goal 7.C, to halve by 2015, the
- 3 proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic
- 4 sanitation,

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- Recognizing HRC resolution A/HRC/RES/181, outlining practical solutions including the insurance of adequate financing for sustainable delivery of water and sanitation services, and emphasizing a need for more action to ensure the human right to safe drinking water and
- 9 sanitation,

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Reaffirming the importance of General Assembly (GA) resolution 64/292 passed in 2010, explicitly recognizing the human right to water and sanitation and acknowledging that clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realization of all human right,

14

Appreciating the education services provided by the Joint Programme for Water Supply and
 Sanitation led by The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health
 Organization (WHO),

18

Noting with concern the 884 million people lack the access to safe drinking water as found by
 the 2010 report of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP),

21

22 Deeply concerned with waterborne illnesses that result from unsanitary practices,

2324

Administering training on water sanitation and hygiene practices in the framework outlined by Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH),

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28

Noting that Article 28 of the 2008 Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) guarantees persons with disabilities the right to equal and affordable access to clean water without discrimination regarding the disability,

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Recalling the GA's Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities of Persons with
 Disabilities 1993 A/RES/48/96 Rule 5 that addresses accessibility for the disabled,

33

*Keeping in mind* the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination
 Against Women (CEDAW) highlights the importance of consideration of rural women,

3637

Deeply conscious of the data presented by UNICEF's State of the World's Children 2005 that quote "21 percent of children in developing countries are severely water deprived living without a safe source within a 15 minute walk of their home",

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Calling attention to the statistic that 15 percent of the world's population has disabilities,

- 1. Designates the Special Rapporteur on the Disability of the Commission for Social Development explicitly consider water rights when monitoring Rule 5 of the Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities of Persons with Disabilities with regards to: a. The effects of water and sanitation on people with disabilities; b. Existing governmental policies and infrastructure that considers people with disabilities, in regards to: i. Location of accessible drinking water; ii. Means of transportation to accessible drinking water for the disabled, or deliverance of drinking water to the immobile;
  - 2. *Supports* the implementation and education on solar disinfection technologies, such as SODIS and AQUAtap, by UN Water as this would guarantee the right to clean water for peoples living rural and arid areas;
  - 3. Advocates the UN HABITAT's Human Value Water Sanitation and Hygiene Education programme to be expanded to all Member States in need, addressing:
    - a. Basic hygiene;

- b. The maintenance of basic infrastructures;
- c. Public awareness campaigns surrounding the necessity of water sanitation;
- d. Menstrual management for women and girls;
- 4. *Recommends* Member States empower communities to become self-sufficient and maintain the education of their respective sanitation programmes within their regions, using the framework outlined by the Joint Program for Water Supply and Sanitation led by UNICEF and WHO, proposing:
  - a. Intentionally including community members in the building of infrastructures;
  - b. Encouraging local collaborations whenever possible to foster economic growth and improve community buy-in;
  - c. Ensuring community members are part of both the learning and teaching processes;
- 5. *Supports* the implementation and education on solar disinfection technologies, such as SODIS and AQUAtap;
- 6. Acknowledges the need to establish an efficient strategy for collecting, sharing, and utilizing aggregate data by Member States for the use of UN Water, to better address:

a. The allocation of water resources to populations of top priority to ensure their right to clean water is managed;

- b. The immediate need to ensure sanitation for all based on expansive and accurate data;
- c. The maintenance of infrastructures through the promotion of bi-annual reports;
- 7. *Stresses* the importance of educating citizens of affected communities by UN Water and similar organizations on how waterborne diseases stem from poor sanitation and a lack of access to clean water, their symptoms, and the most effective treatments;
- 8. Calls upon Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Inter-Governmental Organizations
  (IGOs), and UN bodies to raise awareness for the importance of hygiene and basic sanitation
  in both urban and rural communities in need.