Documentation of the Simulation of the

United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)*

Conference A

29 March - 2 April 2026

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United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

1. Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis
2. Promoting Science and Evidence-Based Policymaking for a Pollution-Free Planet

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (In favor - Against - Abstention)
UNEA/1/1	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/2	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	108 in favor, 18 against, 67 abstentions
UNEA/1/3	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/4	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	124 in favor, 19 against, 50 abstentions
UNEA/1/5	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	75 in favor, 49 against, 69 abstentions
UNEA/1/6	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/7	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote

UNEA/1/8	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/9	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/10	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	92 in favor, 15 against, 86 abstentions
UNEA/1/11	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	112 in favor, 15 against, 66 abstentions
UNEA/1/12	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/13	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis	115 in favor, 23 against, 55 abstentions

Summary Report for the United Nations Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

1. Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis
2. Promoting Science and Evidence-Based Policymaking for a Pollution-Free Planet

The session was attended by representatives of 159 Member States and 2 Observers.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda beginning with topic 1, followed by topic 2, discussing “Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis.” By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of 17 working papers covering a wide range of sub-topics, including: water infrastructure and financing; wastewater management; desalination; data and AI-driven water monitoring; sustainable agriculture; inclusive governance; Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) access; disaster preparedness; and capacity-building initiatives. The committee was eager to exchange ideas and willing to find common ground during formal and informal sessions; this was evident on Tuesday evening when multiple working papers were handed in, including three mergers.

On Wednesday, 14 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, 3 of which had amendments. The committee adopted 13 resolutions, 7 of which received unanimous support from the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including governance and financing mechanisms, community-based and Indigenous approaches, transboundary cooperation, and ecosystem restoration for long-term water resilience. The Committee's work was outstanding, characterized by respect, collaboration, transparency, and an eagerness to learn. The resolutions adopted are a reflection of the intense days of discussion and diplomatic work, and of the delegates’ ability to adapt to challenging situations, learn from their peers, and find common ground across diverse perspectives.

Code: UNEA/1/1
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly, SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 9 (industry, innovation, and infrastructure), SDG13 (climate action), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals), that highlight the importance of clean water, resilient infrastructure, climate adaptation, and international cooperation,

Considering that water insecurity is intensified by the “triple planetary crisis”, defined by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) as the links between the three global crisis that humanity currently faces: pollution, climate change and biodiversity loss,

Reaffirming the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation recognized in UN General Assembly Resolution 64/292, establishing equitable access to water as a fundamental component of sustainable development,

Concerned that over 70 percent of wastewater globally remains untreated in many regions, contributing to eutrophication, biodiversity loss, and human health risks, as well as increased concentration of nitrates, phosphates, and microplastics in freshwater systems, as outlined in UNEA resolution 3/10,

Acknowledging UNEP Resolution 5/14 on plastic pollution and the Global Wastewater Initiative (GWWI), which highlight the importance of addressing pollution at the source and strengthening wastewater management systems,

Guided by the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), which emphasize coordinated development of water, land, and environmental resources to maximize economic and social welfare without compromising ecosystem sustainability,

Reconfirming the polluter pays principle as established in Principle 16 of the Rio Declaration, encouraging internalization of environmental costs to support sustainable water management,

Endorsing integrated and nature-based approaches to water management as endorsed in the 1992 Dublin Conference on Water and the environment. Nature Based Solutions as conceptualized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, offer additional ways to address water-related challenges while also contributing to climate and biodiversity goals,

Appreciating the importance of gender-responsive water governance and inclusive participation of indigenous communities and local stakeholders in water decision-making processes such as water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) initiatives, for Member States that participate in such activities,

Affirming the Global Environmental Data Strategy (GEDS) and Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS/Water) as important mechanisms for improving interoperability, accessibility, and reliability of environmental data,

Noting that fragmented monitoring systems, such as the GEMS/Water Programme, limit the ability of Member States to develop evidence-based policy and to evaluate the effectiveness of pollution reduction measures,

Recognizing with concern the growing risk of Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) due to accelerated glacier melt, threatening communities and water security, and stressing the need for cooperation and preventive measures,

Taking into consideration the disproportionate burden placed on developing countries, as defined by UNEA Resolution 5/4, due to financial constraints, technological gaps, institutional limitations, and vulnerability to climate-related water stress,

Finding the need for international cooperation in sharing technology and expertise related to desalination,

Fully aware that desalination technologies, water reuse systems, and circular water economy models can improve water availability in water-stressed regions when implemented with environmental safeguards,

Welcoming cooperation with international financial institutions, including the World Bank, Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, and blended finance initiatives, which enable long-term financing for water infrastructure and wastewater treatment systems,

Emphasizing that resilient, inclusive, and sustainable water infrastructure is essential for public health, food security, poverty reduction, economic development, and environmental protection,

Acknowledges the Belt and Road initiative, a global infrastructure and economic development strategy to aid in the development of critical infrastructure across several continents including Europe and Africa, as a direct reflection of SDG 17,

Having examined that Belize's Blue Cities and Beyond Project has been contributing to the implementation of effective water policies by promoting internal sovereign sustainable fishing managed by the Ministry of the Blue Economy and Marine Conservation, reflecting the action oriented UNEP's Regional Seas Programme due to its local and inclusive nature,

Observing the importance of transboundary cooperation frameworks and shared data platforms in preventing water conflicts and promoting coordinated basin-level management,

Cognizant of the role of UN-Water, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), African Minister's Council on Water (AMCOW), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Animal Charity Evaluators and regional water cooperation platforms in facilitating technical assistance, knowledge-sharing, and institutional coordination,

Seeking cooperation with international financial institutions, such as Green Climate Fund, a fund dedicated to helping developing countries reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and Environment Fund. The UNEP Nature Fund, which is driven to strengthen the future of biodiversity, through sustainable and equitable economic models,

Acknowledging the UNEP Pollution Fund, which invests into pollution prevention and sustainable consumption, including though the mobilization of blended financial mechanisms, as well as the regional development banks UN-Water, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the UNs lead environmental programme and from voluntary funds from fellow Member States as well as funding from NGOs,

Alarmed by need for economic stability in promoting environmental sustainability and the successful implementation of the Belize Blue Economy Development Policy and Strategy (BEDPS) in incentivizing socially just, environmentally-friendly water policy,

Acknowledging the One Health Joint Plan of Action, led by the UNEA, World Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization, as a integrated wildlife, livestock and human disease surveillance system, that focus on strengthening early warning systems for emerging pathogens,

Underlining the success of Japan's Water and Sanitation Broad Partnership Initiative (WASABI) in promoting access to drinkable water in urban sectors and rural sectors with adapted policies and technologies based on a region's specific geographical conditions,

Viewing with appreciation the adoption of the Africa Water Vision 2063, which establishes a continental framework to ensure sustainable water availability and safe sanitation as key drivers of socio-economic development,

Aware that the Global South continue to face disproportionate burdens in water access, financing, institutional capacity, and climate vulnerability,

Acknowledging the particular needs of environmentally vulnerable states and communities exposed to droughts, floods, desertification, and glacier melt; reflecting UNEA Resolution 5/4 on sustainable lake management and further reflected on UNEA's work on climate related environmental vulnerabilities,

Taking into consideration the importance wildlife plays regarding water management, and focusing on reintroducing local extinct wildlife,

Acknowledging existing environmental legal reforms and enforcement mechanisms aimed at safeguarding wetlands from encroachment, pollution and unsustainable development,

Recalling the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (1971), which promotes the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands,

1. *Encourages* Member States, international financial institutions, relevant stakeholders to expand financial, technical, and institutional support for sustainable and climate-resilient water infrastructure in the Global South, including safe drinking water systems, sanitation networks, irrigation systems, wastewater treatment facilities, and community-based water treatment projects, and the Belt and Road Initiative;

2. *Enables* investment in community-level resilience programs, including rainwater harvesting systems, solar-powered wells and pumps, sustainable irrigation systems, training for farmers and local communities in climate-smart and water-efficient practices, and local water councils or similar participatory bodies to support accountability and maintenance;

3. *Discusses* the expansion of equitable water access through UNICEF's WASH initiatives by integrating nature-based solutions, investing in wetlands and forests, supporting the development of boreholes by filtering sediments to obtain potable water;

4. *Expresses support for* enhancing the transition to sustainable agriculture practices through UNEA Resolution 6 on biodiversity and health from industrial animal farming to plant-based systems to reduce pollution, antimicrobial resistance, and zoonotic disease risk;

5. *Welcomes* utilizing Animal Charity Evaluators and similar frameworks to advocate for policies that prioritize animal welfare in climate action and infrastructure, through the UNEA-6, based on biodiversity and health, such as using bird-safe glass and creating wildlife corridors;

6. *Invites* the development of voluntary interoperable reporting systems aligned with GEMS/Water and GEDS to strengthen monitoring of wastewater treatment, nutrient pollution, and water quality trends;

7. *Commends* policies improving equitable water access for vulnerable populations through community-based water infrastructure projects; empowering the local population to own and manage their

water resources by highlighting incentives for water harvesting and updating water systems in communities by:

    a. Empowering local population to own, manage, and maintain water resources;

    b. Highlighting incentives for water harvesting and repurposing;

    c. Implementing water system updates;

8. *Stresses* that support for water infrastructure and management be adapted to both regional geographic and economic needs following Japan's Water and Sanitation Broad Partnership Initiative (WASABI);

9. *Further invites* Member States to invest in public awareness and education initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable environmental practices through:

    a. The creation of educational programs to raise awareness about the environmental and health risks of illegal mining;

    b. Community-based training on responsible natural resource management and water conservation practices;

    c. The implementation of policies, guidance, and education with the aim to reduce unnecessary/wasteful water use, and to conserve such resources for other uses:

    d. Sustainable farming methods to prevent unnecessary water waste, such as intercropping, Olla irrigation, and agroforestry;

    e. Targeted solutions that focus on water policies in management of water usage;

    f. The usage of media and systems in similarity of Public Service Announcements (PSA) in order to advertise water usage through non profit organizations;

10. *Expresses upon* Member States to strengthen water infrastructure resilience through nationally determined adaptation strategies addressing droughts, floods, and climate-related water risks;

11. *Endorses* the use of nature-based solutions in water policy, including wetland and riparian buffers to regulate water flow, natural water filtration, reduce drought risk, and increase groundwater water recharge;

12. *Proposes* the initiative for Legal Environmental Protection (LEP), aiming to incentivize Member States to legally protect national wetlands, which provide freshwater supply, act as natural water filters and promote and preserve biodiversity, and:

    a. Asks Signing Parties of the Ramsar Convention to publish progress reports on wetland use and protection to be reviewed at an annual global summit of parties to the Programme, where improvements to the Programme and common issues of concern for Member States can be discussed;

    b. Suggests a 2-3 year phase of information and data collection, after which the benefits of wetland protection can be seen, and the ultimate full legal protection of wetlands in Member State's national legislation;

c. Remarks that LEP of wetlands provides a low-cost, Nature-based Solution to mitigate the efforts of the triple planetary crisis, therefore relying on both domestic funds and further funding by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF);

13. *Promotes* basin-level management committees or equivalent cooperative institutions, and negotiated frameworks for equitable allocation, ecosystem protection, and coordinated drought and flood preparedness by:

    a. Urging Member States to invest in community-level drought-resilience programs, including water-harvesting infrastructure, sustainable irrigation systems, and training for local farmers in climate-smart agricultural practices;

    b. Requesting UNEP to assist African regions in developing drought frameworks;

14. *Reminds* Member States to voluntarily improve groundwater governance through monitoring, environmental safeguards, contamination prevention, and sustainable abstraction practices, especially in water-stressed and rapidly urbanizing regions;

15. *Supports* efforts to improve water quality by addressing pollutants from urban, agricultural, and industrial sources, including actions that reduce runoff, untreated wastewater, and waste mismanagement;

16. *Draws attention* to improving water-use efficiency in agriculture through sustainable practices, small-scale irrigation perimeters (PPIV); reducing and managing water waste through promoting sustainable waste management and circular economic models to reduce pollution at the source, particularly regarding short-lived climate pollutants, and strengthening transboundary cooperation that:

    a. Strengthens the national water policies that align with the SDGs and support environmental integrity;

    b. Calls for improved water governance and coordination across climate, biodiversity, and pollution frameworks;

    c. Supports capacity-building and increased investment in water management, particularly in developing countries;

17. *Encouraged* that policy coordination between scientific institutions, governments, local communities, and international organizations strengthens implementation effectiveness and supports adaptive water governance systems;

18. *Encourages* Member States in water-scarce regions to explore desalination where appropriate and further advance it by:

    a. Proposing research into more efficient and cleaner desalination technologies, including processes to appropriately dispose of toxic residue;

    b. Recommending the utilization of renewable-energy-powered desalination where feasible, supplemented by conventional energy sources to guarantee inclusive access to fresh water;

    c. Urging Member States experienced in desalination technology, irrigation efficiency, and wastewater treatment to share knowledge and technology to aspiring Member States;

19. *Requests for* the development of early-warning systems and climate-risk monitoring mechanisms to improve preparedness for droughts, floods, glacial lake outburst floods, and other water-related hazards;

20. *Proclaims* protecting ecosystems and wildlife habitats, as reflected by the One Health Joint Plan of Action, to prevent the spillover of pathogens, safeguarding both biodiversity and human health while

implementing robust wildlife health monitoring enabling early detection of pathogens that could affect both animals and humans;

21. *Urges* Member States to voluntarily strengthen wastewater treatment capacity to reduce untreated discharge contributing to eutrophication, biodiversity loss, and public health risks as outlined by the UNEPs, such as Global Wastewater Initiative;

22. *Expresses* the need to reduce environmental and institutional fragmentation through cross-sectoral planning and supporting inclusive and participatory decision-making at national and local levels;

23. *Urges* Member States sharing transboundary water resources to strengthen cooperation through joint data-sharing platforms for rainfall, river flow, groundwater, and drought indicators;

24. *Takes note that* technology transfer and capacity-building initiatives improve smart water monitoring and leak detection, groundwater monitoring, contamination prevention, efficient irrigation, water reuse technologies, and technical training for local personnel responsible for operation and maintenance;

25. *Calls* Member States in a voice of collaboration with UNESCO to protect biodiversity, safe drinking water and create protected areas;

26. *Insists that* UNEP, in cooperation with UN-Water and relevant regional institutions, facilitate technical assistance for national and regional water planning, knowledge exchange on best practices in inclusive water governance, support for the design of integrated river-basin and drought-management frameworks, and dialogue between between devel sustainable water financing and implementation capacity;

27. *Draws attention* to the importance of community participation and traditional knowledge in the sustainable governance of water, observing with concern the increase in glacier melt and the risks of flooding from glacial lake outflows (GLOFs);

28. *Reiterates* gender-responsive water governance policies including improved participation and data collection addressing disparities in water access;

29. *Calls* for increased cooperation with UN-Water, UNEP, AMCOW, and regional water institutions to improve technical assistance and knowledge exchange;

30. *Endorses* public-private partnerships with safeguards ensuring affordability and accessibility of water services;

31. *Strongly encourages* international cooperation supporting Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in expanding climate-resilient water systems;

32. *Invites* continued dialogue within UNEA on strengthening global governance mechanisms addressing water pollution;

33. *Encourages* research cooperation on microplastic monitoring, filtration technologies, and data sharing to improve understanding of impacts on ecosystems and human health;

34. *Further requests* continued attention to the specific vulnerabilities of developing Member States facing systemic resource constraints, environmental degradation, and severe exposure to the impacts of the triple planetary crisis;

35. *Addresses* Middle Eastern and African States, through investment in water distribution systems, climate-resilient irrigation, wastewater treatment, basin-level governance mechanisms, water efficiency technologies, desalination, reuse systems, and drought mitigation programs;

36. *Urges* protection for Latin American and Caribbean States through watershed protection, rural water access, sanitation expansion, and resilience for small island and coastal communities;

37. *Also urges* protection for South and Southeast Asian States through flood management, groundwater sustainability, and water storage systems;

38. *Supports* the expansion of sustainable financing models for water policy implementation, including:

    a. Investment in developing Member States from industrialized Member States using blended finance mechanisms, mixing low or no interest loans with full financing, to be negotiated between Member States with the UNEP acting as an equitable mediator;

    b. Public-private partnerships with safeguards for affordability and equity;

    c. Targeted use of existing international funds, including the Green Climate Fund, and the Global Environment Facility, where appropriate;

    d. Measures that promote long-term operation, maintenance, and institutional sustainability rather than short-term construction alone;

39. *Suggests* implementing water connection projects for low-income households through public-private partnerships;

40. *Reemphasizes* the value of utilizing local stakeholders at the forefront of operations to adopt Belize's Blue Cities and Beyond Project, including local governments, non-governmental organizations, and youth-led or nonprofit business to promote blue economy management;

41. *Stresses* the adoption of the blue economy and expansion of the BEDPS to utilize the ocean for sustainable economic practice through promoting sustainable fishing managed by the Ministry of the Blue Economy and Marine Conservation which will improve the supply chain and economy alongside utilizing local stakeholders at the forefront of operations such as local governments, non-governmental organizations, and youth-led or nonprofit business to promote blue economy management;

42. *Suggests* coordination of financing strategies improving accessibility of sustainable water technologies;

43. *Recommends* the re-introduction of wildlife in locally extinct regions to strengthen endangered natural water sources by:

    a. Utilizing wildlife and plants to create natural structures, such as beaver dams, wetlands, and floodplains in order restore large bodies of water;

    b. Encouraging educational systems focusing on wildlife's contribution towards water management, alongside other environmental benefits.

Code: UNEA/1/2
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recognizing the mandate of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) to act as the primary space for multilateral dialogue, to determine the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) agenda, and to guide Member States in developing related nature-based solutions,

Acknowledging the role of the UNEP and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in supporting environmental governance, capacity-building, and project implementation in vulnerable Member States,

Re-emphasising Article 25 of *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948), which establishes right to basic adequate health and well-being, including water, the right to an adequate standard of living, including access to sanitary water,

Reaffirming the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in particular SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 13 (climate action), and SDG 14 (life below water),

Recognizing the severe data gaps on water quality impeding the development of SDG 6, as 26 of 39 Small Island Developing States (SIDS) lack adequate drinking water and sanitation data,

Acknowledging the lack of possibilities and awareness of people living near shores and coastal regions who suffer from both floods and droughts,

Recalling the United Nations conference for water in 2023 focuses at an international meeting of all Member States to address the many issues related to water and make advancements,

Recalling the Second Committee General Assembly Resolution 79/197 (2024), stressing the need to continue to assist fellow Member States and uphold the spirit of collaboration through implementing climate resilience measures and adopting and promoting financial solvency through Debt-for-Climate-Swaps (DFCS) and other financial mechanisms,

Appreciating United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/292 (2010), the first United Nations (UN) document to establish safe and clean water and sanitation as a fundamental human right,

Bearing in mind General Assembly Resolution 64/292 (2010) on “The human right to water and sanitation”, which highlights the importance of individual’s rights to sanitary conditions regarding water, has potential to improve sufficient water supply for personal and domestic use,

Reiterating UNEA Resolution 5/14 (2022) on ending plastic pollution which encourages Member States to work with the World Bank for funding,

Acknowledging UNEA Resolution 6/10 (2009) to promote regional cooperation on air pollution to improve air quality globally,

Bearing in mind that brain drain typically results from a lack of educational and career opportunities, reducing technological capacity for developing Member States to address water crises,

Understanding the importance of strengthening international cooperation to address the fundamental causes of water insecurity in the context of the Triple Planetary Crisis (TPC), which disproportionately affects developing countries and excluded indigenous populations,

Recognizing the unique financial and educational limitations of developing Member States when striving to implement effective and inclusive water policy and the lack of material resources available when seeking to improve water security and sanitation,

Recalling the necessity of international tourism for many less developed countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), which are reliant on the tourism industry as an essential source of income for their national economies,

Expressing concern over rising ocean temperatures due to climate change affecting coral reefs, ultimately causing a loss of ecosystems and increasing biodiversity loss, aligned with SIDS and the Alliance of Small Island States ambitions,

Emphasizing that education is an essential tool to reduce the divide between rural and urban areas, share knowledge on how to implement sustainable resource management practices, and increase Member State engagement,

Recalling that early warning systems and inclusive water management demonstrate strong returns by protecting vulnerable communities against climate shocks and guaranteeing a steady supply of basic water, as documented by the World Meteorological Organization,

Stressing the critical urgency of addressing plastic pollution, and the to-date failure to implement a United Nations Plastics treaty or agreement, despite the creation of a mandate to do so,

Recalling the United Nations Water Action Decade (2018–2028) and its objective to advance sustainable water management and cooperation at all levels,

Recognizing that despite the availability of international climate financing mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility and relevant UN bodies, significant disparities persist in access for developing countries and SIDS due to structural limitations in technical capacity, project development, and coordination which are crucial in supporting sustainable development initiatives,

Emphasizing that equitable funding must extend beyond financial allocation to include the capacity to access, design, implement, and sustain projects effectively over time,

Noting with appreciation initiatives such as those of the European Union and Water Europe aimed at supporting the development of Water-SMART societies to improve efficiency, resilience, and circulation in water use,

Acknowledging the research and collaboration achieved through the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH),

Recognizing that ecological sustainability is impossible without social equity, emphasizing that water insecurity disproportionately impacts underrepresented groups who often bear the primary responsibility for water collection within the “care economy”,

Highlighting the importance of understanding community-based educational approaches that include Indigenous groups in multilateral discussions and knowledge sharing,

Reaffirming the importance of protecting environmental human rights defenders, particularly women, who play a critical role in the preservation of water resources and ecosystems,

Further highlighting the success of the Decentralised Wastewater Treatment Systems (DEWATS), a program in Tanzania that provides local policy help with pollution,

Aware of water scarcity in arid and semi-arid regions, particularly in Central Asia, poses a serious challenge to regional stability and development,the critical role of transboundary water resources, including the Amu Darya and Syr Darya river basins, in supporting livelihoods and ecosystems,

Recognizing the importance of incorporating scientific findings into political decision-making to combat social injustice, including social tensions, unequal resource allocation, corruption, and the marginalization of vulnerable groups,

Emphasizing the need for inclusive governance structures that ensure transparency, accountability, and equitable participation in resource management,

Deeply concerned by global disparities in access to scientific knowledge, real-time data, and capacity-building opportunities, particularly in vulnerable regions,

Recognizing the potential of emerging technologies such as bio-digital hydrology and real-time ecological data systems to address climate-related challenges,

Noting with interest the growing relevance of advanced materials, including metal-organic frameworks, in addressing environmental challenges such as carbon capture and water scarcity,

Deeply concerned by the increasing risk of cross-border water conflicts due to inadequate monitoring systems and a lack of coordinated management,

Alarmed by the ongoing impacts of freshwater pollution, including chemical contamination and plastic waste, and its effects on ecosystems and human health,

Noting with approval Guatemala's national successes in integrated river basin management and water monitoring systems as scalable models,

Encouraging Member States to incorporate scientific research and data-driven approaches into national policies aimed at reducing social injustice, inequality, and corruption,

Affirms that effective solutions to global environmental and social challenges must recognize the interconnected feedback systems between nature, science, and society,

1. *Calls* upon Member States to implement voluntary polycentric governance systems, align with international legal and technical standards, by:

    a. Enhancing transparency through blockchain-based digital land and water-rights registries with initial seed funding from UNDP's Digital X Programme and World Bank innovation grants;

    b. Support by United Nations technical assistance, leveraging resources from the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and GEF (Global Environment Facility) for capacity building and scalable pilots;

2. *Proposes* the development and adoption of bio-digital hydrology systems to promote bioclimatic cooling, support strategic reforestation efforts and stabilize latent heat flux through integrated ecological monitoring;

3. *Calls for* the opening of the Each One Teach One (EOTO) initiative, which is tasked with the formation of expert groups from both a theoretical, higher education standpoint and a directly involved crisis management standpoint, to both share knowledge and awareness in an efficient manner and create professional knowledge in every Member State concerning need and capability by way of:

    a. Enabling and strengthening discourse in working groups, especially the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health, by:

i. Promoting dialogue between scientific research and policy-making by sponsoring water preservation workshops through the Pontifical Academy of Sciences;

ii. Ensuring that Member States have the option to withdraw from cooperation between the affected countries in a state of conflict of interest as a last result;

iii. Supporting the establishment of a global real-time data-sharing and interconnecting platform by processing collected data via a central program;

b. Fostering bidirectional knowledge exchange that produces a global community rather than putting emphasis on disadvantaged states and philanthropic states through:

i. Enabling first-world nations to efficiently share academic knowledge with states traditionally disadvantaged, including sustainable technologies such as desalination and solar energy;

ii. Fostering knowledge-exchange programs of historically disadvantaged Member states to allow for economic crisis management of unexpected natural disasters in developed Member-States;

iii. Connecting researchers who have worked under UNU-INWEH with other researchers and scientists worldwide;

c. *Encourages* the establishment, aimed at providing specialized education and training for government officials, local policymakers, and public utility managers to strengthen institutional capacity through:

i. Educating public administrators on designing independent regulatory frameworks, stable water tariffs, and efficient utility restructuring;

ii. Training urban planners and municipal leaders, with a focus on wastewater reuse and rainwater management;

iii. Fostering a cross-border network among policymakers to share successful administrative blueprints and governance mechanisms;

d. *Urges* all Member States to integrate comprehensive water governance, climate resilience, and the circular economy into the training curricula of their national public administration academies, ensuring that future local authorities possess the scientific and legal capabilities to address water crises;

4. *Recommends* the integration of advanced materials, including metal-organic frameworks, into environmental strategies for capturing atmospheric carbon dioxide and affordable, clean, longlasting, non-toxic, infrastructure-independent, and decentralized water extraction in arid or polluted regions by financing through the Global Climate Fund and building knowledge-sharing and peer training with scientists and local multiplicators;

5. *Supports* the expansion of water monitoring systems, including scalable well-based models, to reduce cross-border water conflicts and improve shared resource management, by scaling up monitoring models using the example of Guatemala, calling on the Green Climate Fund to ensure these technologies remain affordable for developing countries and accessible to rural women and girls, maintaining affordability for developing countries and accessibility to rural women and girls;

6. *Urges* Member States to transition toward a circular water economy by preventing chemical and plastic pollution at the source and promoting wastewater reuse and sustainable treatment systems;

7. *Encourages* the international adaptation of integrated river basin management frameworks, accompanied by national action plans tailored to local contexts;

8. *Calls* for increased financial coordination through international mechanisms to ensure accessibility of sustainable technologies for developing countries, inclusion of rural populations, particularly women and girls, and the development of resilient and sustainable infrastructure;

9. *Suggest that* the UNEP to establish an ad-hoc committee that uses community-focused water policy programs to integrate local indigenous populations, aiming to share knowledge and promote community-based education in traditional water resource management practices, such as:

    a. Implementing Wastewater Treatment Systems (DEWATS), an initiative that equips minorities and policymakers with tools to address pollution through community-based water management programs;

    b. Advocating for administrative decentralization that establishes local management structures to ensure vertical communication between regional authorities and local communities;

    c. Establishing gender-responsive educational modules and targeted programming designed to empower those who are disproportionately affected by the water crisis, ensuring their active participation in the design, implementation, and governance of water policy programs while preserving traditional knowledge systems within local communities;

    d. Facilitating the formation of a high-level body which allows sectors such as the Hydraulics, the Agriculture, and the Energy to have better communication and to have national policies that align by strengthening existing coordinating mechanisms;

    e. Promoting a transition toward resilience-based frameworks that prioritize systemic stability over purely efficiency-based goals, ensuring water systems can anticipate natural disasters, secure public health, and ultimately, help local communities;

10. *Further suggests* the establishment of an Ad-Hoc Expert Group under UNEA for Community-Based Water Governance (CBWG) through:

    a. Making policy recommendations to Member States on implementing CBWG into their national policies, inter alia, on:

        i. Implementing inclusive policy design and decision making, ensuring equitable participation for indigenous populations and rural communities;

        ii. Institutionalizing community contributions in water governance;

        iii. Adopting local capacity building mechanisms, ensuring CBWG can be stemmed through community resources;

        iv. Facilitating knowledge exchange between local actors, research makers, and the national policy makers;

    b. Consisting of 10 independent experts and 10 members of regional groups to be nominated by the United Nations regional groups;

    c. Building synergies with other relevant UN entities, such as the proposed UNEP ad-hoc committee on community water-focused programmes;

    d. Drawing its funding from voluntary contributions of Member States;

    e. Requesting the Expert Group to report back at UNEA's eighth session on their progress;

11. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen international cooperation in water resource management through expanding cross-border data-sharing platforms supported by United Nations entities, including UN-Water and the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health, sharing best practices, and developing joint monitoring systems for transboundary water resources;

12. *Calls on* all Member States to voluntarily contribute to UNEA Water Advocacy funds, prioritizing high-risk regions such as the Middle East, South Asia, and Central Asia, recognizing their vulnerability to water scarcity, industrial pollution, and transboundary water conflicts, and strengthen sustainable water governance by:

    a. Enhancing coordination between governmental sectors, particularly in Central Asia and South Asia, to address transboundary water management and agricultural overuse;

    b. Increasing regulation on industrial wastes in rapidly industrializing regions such as South Asia, while promoting sustainable desalination and water reuse technologies in the water-scarce Middle East;

    c. Empowering local communities across these regions through education, capacity-building, access to affordable technologies to enable decentralized and community-led water management;

    d. Establishing water resilience as a core pillar of environmental governance by endorsing integrated circular economy frameworks tailored to regional challenges, aligning climate adaptation, sustainable water management, and biodiversity protection;

13. *Supports* the creation of innovative financing mechanisms for water sustainability, including*:*

    a. Advertising green bonds for water infrastructure;

    b. Encouraging public and private investors to allocate funds toward sustainable water management projects, particularly in regions affected by water scarcity, while establishing clear monitoring frameworks to ensure that these funds are used effectively and have a measurable environmental impact;

    c. International funding schemes for least developed countries that facilitate access to grants and low-interest loans for water infrastructure and sanitation projects, and strengthen partnerships between international financial institutions and local governments to ensure efficient implementation;

    d. Monetary incentives for sustainable water usage in agriculture and industry at the local level;

14. Recommends the creation of the Global Water Management Training Academy (GWMTA), guided by Bangladesh's local success with training centres, which have strengthened local capacity and promoted sustainable resource use, notably through:

    a. Community-led flood preparation training, farmer-led irrigation efficiency programmes, and early warning system education;

    b. Building a model while complementing existing initiatives such as UNESCO's World Water Assessment Programme, which already supports a shared system for water policy professional;

    c. Integrating Bangladesh's training methods and multi-level collaboration approach, allowing for the GWMTA to equip Member States with practical expertise to address global water challenges efficiently;

    d. Encouraging to strengthen Member States' institutional capacity by equipping professionals with practical skills, technical expertise, and sustainable management strategies;

    e. Urging people from all territories to participate in training programs actively and encourages third parties to support and engage in these initiatives;

15. *Calls upon* all Member States to invest in the Climate Relief Fund, which is based on the Montreal Protocol, which is going to work with the UN directly, and for Member States that are already struggling with the triple planetary crisis, so that no Member States feel left out;

16. *Promotes* the further development of novel financing mechanisms with a focus on DFCS and inclusive financing that are specifically designated to encourage and support rural, isolated, and Indigenous climate resilience efforts and water security infrastructure;

17. *Encourages* Member States to adopt water tourism and education Capacity Assessments to define the capabilities of Member States including financial resources, manpower, and institutional fitness, ensuring the efficacy of these Capacity Assessments through efforts to share Capacity Assessment results with Member States with similar geographic and climatic conditions and through the establishment of working groups to analyze data and applications of Capacity Assessments;

18. *Requests* the UNEP to develop an internationally accessible technical framework outlining minimum standards for water-related early warning systems grounded in nature-based solutions that will:

    a. Incorporate the four essential components of risk knowledge, monitoring and forecasting, warning dissemination, and response capability;

    b. guide Member States in building functional and operable systems through the sharing of data and coordination of joint research and development;

    c. Monitor available freshwater quantities in reserves such as glaciers;

    d. Regularly share data with local communities so that they are better prepared to regulate water use;

    e. Adapting integrated river basin management frameworks accompanied by national action plans tailored to local contexts;

19. *Urges* Member States to ensure that early warning systems are connected to concrete response protocols and institutional capacity, recognizing that a warning without the capacity to act on it provides no meaningful protection to vulnerable communities;

20. *Implores* Member States to collaborate with relevant environmentally focused non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to:

    a. Conduct scientific research related to water health and management;

    b. Work with local individuals to learn the culture of the nation they are entering and to act in a way appropriate for that culture;

    c. Identify and propose context-specific solutions to local water-related challenges, with consideration to Member States' individual capacities to implement them;

    d. Suggest forms of implementation of solutions that are culturally sensitive, as determined by local community members in the region where the change is occurring;

21. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in the mutual exchange of evidence-based environmental preservation practices from the local populations to promote deeper international collaboration;

22. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate through international financial suppor*t,* reaching out to endowment management organizations such as Peter's Pence, to support the lack of resources in rural areas and promote the construction of water sanitation systems to promote access to safely managed water;

23. *Recommends* regional bodies such as The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Treaty of Penlindaba to institute regulations against the introduction of plastic pollution from tourist vessels to sovereign marine environments, following the values outlined by the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative;

24. *Ensures* that increased communication and collaboration between Member States facing similar water challenges, specifically relating to water policy education, logistical water management, and water policy financing, is better facilitated via the prioritization of:

    a. The decentralization of water management, ensuring that all Member States equitably and fairly create water policy;

    b. Reinforcing UN avenues and forums for water discussion at all levels;

    c. Educational resource sharing and cooperation for all Member States;

25. *Proposes* a system allowing the transfer of water technology experts between developing and developed Member States in order to exchange efficient research in order to counteract the effects of the brain drain on clean water access, with an emphasis on agricultural practices and desalination;

26. *Calls on* the UNEP to facilitate collaboration between developing Member States on sharing educational practices regarding water efficiency practices, by:

    a. Encouraging exchange of educators between institutions across developing and developed Member States in order to exchange practices and knowledge, and;

    b. Providing collaborative grants to bilateral research and education initiatives between Member States regarding water efficiency;

27. *Further invites* Member States, particularly SIDs and coastal Member States, to establish local initiatives to investigate into and draft monthly reports on ocean statistics, including but not limited to ocean acidity, microplastic presence, ocean temperature, biodiversity, and coral reef bleaching;

28. *Recommends* the creation of the Coastal Resilience and Water Security Program (CRAWSP) led by the Water and Sewerage Corporation (WSC), aligning with UNDP's goals, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC);

29. *Strongly encourages* Member States to reignite conversations on an international plastic pollution treaty through the establishment of a revised Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee utilizing the content and experience of previous plastic treaty negotiation attempts in future negotiations to increase efficiency and further seeking to mitigate gridlock and hesitation by establishing smaller committees focused on issues including, but not limited to, microplastic pollution, plastic origin issues, and marine plastic pollution;

30. *Calls to* set up regional air quality targets that are measured under the provisions of the World Health Organization, utilizing its data in addressing the rising threats of ocean acidification by allocating air quality data to rural, coastal, and vulnerable communities, and subsidizing monitoring programs to track rising temperatures;

31. *Calls upon* the potential discussion of the systematic review of joint initiatives of protecting transboundary water resources to ensure their functioning in accordance with the Free, Prior and Informed Consent principles and with respect to Nature-based traditional practices provided by local populations;

32. *Encourages* the establishment of structured partnerships between developed and developing countries, in line with the principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to support the design, preparation, and implementation of water governance and resilience projects, particularly in Small Island Developing States and other vulnerable regions, by:

a. Facilitating targeted technical assistance and institutional support to strengthen project design, feasibility assessments, and alignment with funding criteria of mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund;

b. Promoting the exchange of expertise, technology, and best practices through cooperation frameworks supported by UNEP and other relevant bodies;

c. Supporting the development of national and regional capacities in data collection, monitoring systems, and environmental assessment, including through initiatives such as the Global Environment Monitoring System;

33. *Calls upon* Member States, in collaboration with UNEP and relevant financial institutions, to enhance equitable access to climate and water-related financing by prioritizing support for project preparation, application processes, and long-term implementation frameworks;

34. *Proposes* the strengthening of coordination mechanisms between governments, international organizations, and funding entities, building upon existing United Nations frameworks, to ensure that financial resources are effectively allocated, aligned with national priorities, and translated into measurable and sustainable outcomes;

35. *Recommends* holding a meeting of all Member States, with the rotating chairmanship among the sponsoring states each year, to respect equity, to discuss various developments, projects, or challenges encountered by any Member States in the field of water;

36. *Requests* the strengthening of coordination mechanisms between governments, international organizations, and funding entities, building upon existing United Nations frameworks, to ensure that financial resources are effectively allocated, aligned with national priorities, and translated into measurable and sustainable outcomes.

Code: UNEA/1/3
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Considering that water constitutes 70 percent of Earth's surface and its scarcity affects more than 40 percent of Earth's population,

Acknowledging that approximately 70 percent of global freshwater withdrawals are used for agriculture, as highlighted in the *Global Water Bankruptcy* report by the United Nations University's Institute for Water, Environment and Health,

Deeply concerned by rising water scarcity and agricultural demands for its use, and mindful of the environmental and public health risks of improper waste management, while recognizing the importance of safe practices and international cooperation,

Worried by the global excessive use of functionally non-renewable water reserves such as aquifers, glaciers, and soils, which has notably contributed to the subsidence of more than 6 million square kilometers,

Alarmed by the increasing levels of water pollution caused by industrial, agricultural, and urban activities,

Recognizing General Assembly (GA) resolution 70/1 (2015), Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 13 (climate action), and SDG 15 (life on land), which call for resilient agricultural practices, improved water-use efficiency, and the restoration of degraded land,

Bearing in mind that GA resolution 78/165, (2023) emphasized the disproportionate rate at which water scarcity increases the need for rationing in rural agricultural communities and hurts efficient farming practices,

Keeping in mind the objectives of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and its *2018–2030 Strategic Framework (2017)*, as well as United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 5/5 (2022) on Nature-based Solutions and the *Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework* (2022), which emphasize sustainable land management, ecosystem restoration, and the use of biodiversity-based approaches to strengthen drought resilience and combat land degradation,

Recognizing the significance of climate action on capacity building in agriculture, energy, forestry and other key sectors,

Reinforcing the rainwater harvesting strategy, particularly regarding storage capacity that ensures all countries are better prepared for prolonged periods of drought, a major consequence of the Triple Planetary Crisis,

Bearing in mind the limited resource capacity of less developed states to implement or upgrade large-scale irrigation systems and that the irrigation development costs in most regions are overwhelmingly high, reducing incentives to implement sustainable technology,

Acknowledging the role of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (1992) in addressing climate impacts on agriculture and food security through adaptation and mitigation,

Recognizing that water efficient foods whose production requires relatively low freshwater withdrawals per unit of food, protein, or calorie are critical to reducing runoff and increasing irrigation efficiency,

Noting that the most water efficient foods, such as maize, tofu, and legumes can use twenty-five times less water than the least water efficient foods, such as cheese, nuts, and beef,

Calling attention to the fact that out-of-date irrigation technology reduces the efficiency of water usage for agricultural purposes through excessive water loss,

Recognizing the contribution of *Green Climate Fund* (GCF) (2010) in strengthening environmental resilient-building alongside mitigation, with strong focus on least developed countries and sustainable stakeholders,

Emphasizing the importance of effective and sustainable water storage strategies such as reservoirs and dams, as well as nature-based storage solutions to reduce environmental impact, as well as nature-based storage solutions to reduce environmental impact,

Acknowledging the contribution of Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP) run by United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in improving water management, technology sharing and further promoting the efficiency of using water,

Acknowledging the role of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in preventing natural disasters through data-sharing between Member States and the importance of monitoring capacity,

Recognizing the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* (2015) and its focus on on risk-informed policymaking, resilience building and early warning systems, particularly for developing countries vulnerable to climate related disasters,

Recognizing that the One Country One Priority Product (OCOP) program is an initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which encourages each country to identify and cultivate a priority agricultural product that offers natural and strategic advantages,

1. *Invites* Member States to incentivize the production of as many appropriate water efficient foods as possible, taking into account current food production, climate and terrain, using methods such as, but not limited to, tax incentive and grants, in order to reduce freshwater withdrawals for the sector;

2. *Encourages* Member States to educate their population on the water efficiency of various foods by using media platforms, local outreach programs, and school curriculum;

3. *Encourages* Member States, consistent with GA resolution 70/1, the UNCCD *Strategic Framework 2018–2030*, UNEA resolution 5/5 on Nature-based Solutions, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, to integrate agroforestry into national agricultural and climate adaptation strategies, particularly in drought-prone regions, by:

    a. Partnering with the FAO, in collaboration with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to expand capacity-building initiatives for smallholder farmers and rural communities through training in sustainable agroforestry practices, including intercropping and soil conservation techniques;

b. Promoting the use of indigenous and native tree species suited to local ecosystems, in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in order to preserve biodiversity while enhancing agricultural productivity;

4. *Invites* Member States to support the implementation of efficient irrigation systems and update outdated irrigation technology, by developing climate-smart agricultural practices, such as utilizing water management data to most efficiently irrigate crops, and strategically applying soil nutrients to reduce deficiencies that degrade soil quality;

5. *Calls* for assistance for least developed countries in building climate-smart agriculture through:

    a. Strengthening technology transfer and capacity building under the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism, especially on irrigation and water quality monitoring;

    b. Encouraging coordination with GCF programmes for grant-based financing targeted at small-scale farmers for water infrastructure that increases productivity and reduces waste;

6. *Suggests* that Member States perform environmental impact assessments to build sustainable water retention structures such as reservoirs and preventative structures such as dams in order to reduce water loss, as well as assessing and improving the safety of dams and structures currently in place;

7. *Calls* on Member States to increase cross-border data-sharing to combat the spread of floods, droughts, saltwater intrusions and other water catastrophes by:

    a. Establishing international digital data-sharing platforms to exchange real-time meteorological, hydrological and satellite-derived data among states and relevant stakeholders;

    b. Ensuring interoperability between national data-sharing platforms;

8. *Recommends* that Member States allocate appropriate funding, proportional to their capacity, to allow for the efficient function of different intergovernmental bodies by maintaining current funding levels for IHP and and increasing funding towards the WMO which will allow for effective collaborative efforts;

9. *Encourages* the development and implementation of early warning systems which can allow both regional and national level actors to strengthen their monitoring capacities against the consequences of droughts and floods to ensure vulnerable populations truly receive timely warning;

10. *Emphasizes* the need for healthy agricultural practices to reduce chemical runoff entering delicate freshwater, riparian, and marine zones that are critical to Member State wellbeing and development, and impacting the quality which can include healthy livestock management, nutrient management planning, and integrated pest management:

    a. Allows for creation and maintenance of water processing infrastructure to facilitate reusability and increase water quality which will ensure the continued reinforcement of GA resolution 78/165 and other formal agreements that reaffirm shared commitments;

    b. Shared goals reaffirmed within the GA resolution 78/165, such as the urgent need to accelerate the pace of rural poverty eradication, expansion of access to mutually agreed terms by developing countries to provide access to beneficial technologies, and the increase of investment based on international cooperation in the quality and reliability of rural infrastructure;

11. *Promotes* the adoption of initiatives similar to the OCOP program through:

    a. Identification of strategic agricultural products adapted to local climatic conditions, using public agencies to keep their data updated for more accurate forecasts;

    b. Strengthening sustainable, high value-added production chains of natural products suited to each region, with socio-economic and cultural importance, while preserving small producers and their way of life, thus promoting more sustainable production and ensuring greater value for the land, and promoting of the export of sustainable products from developing countries;

12. *Encourages* Member States to implement wastewater recycling systems for agricultural irrigation through:

    a. Developing and upgrading wastewater treatment facilities to ensure the water meets safety and agricultural standards;

    b. Initiatives catered to training farmers on safe practices using treated wastewater;

    c. Facilitating international cooperation to assist developing countries in using recycled wastewater for agriculture;

    d. Monitoring systems to prevent soil degradation and contamination from improper usage;

13. *Emphasizes* the integration between human well-being, economic growth, and environmental policies through the development of indicators that consider water sustainability, quality of life, and economic opportunities, the inclusion of local communities in decision-making processes and alignment with alternative sustainable development models;

14. *Endorses* an incentive-based initiative modeled on the UNESCO Water Resilience Challenge, rewarding Member States for measurable improvements in water security, ecosystem restoration, and climate-resilient agricultural infrastructure;

15. *Promotes* fair access to climate finance and technology for a resilient water management, including: support for climate-resilient freshwater systems, protection of coral reefs and coastal ecosystems that safeguard water resources.

Code: UNEA/1/4
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Considering that the primary limitation of current global water governance efforts lies not in the absence of normative frameworks, but in fragmented implementation and limited operational capacity,

Acknowledging that fragmented institutional frameworks hinder effective water governance across sectors and administrative boundaries,

Recognizing that effective water governance requires accurate, accessible, and harmonized data systems to support evidence-based policymaking,

Acknowledging the need for increased financial resources to support sustainable water management, particularly in vulnerable and developing Member States,

Mindful of the role of ecosystems in enhancing water resilience, in line with the *Convention on Biological Diversity* (1992) (CBD) and UNEA resolutions on nature-based solutions,

Acknowledging that persistent droughts and climate variability are contributing to agricultural decline and threatening food security,

Fully believing that community-based water policies remain essential in developing sustainable water policy solutions,

Recognizing that water insecurity is increasingly exacerbated by climate change, environmental degradation, extreme weather events, droughts, and food insecurity, in line with Article 7 of the Paris Agreement and Article 4 of the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (1992) (UNFCCC),

Taking note that Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), as promoted under SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), remains insufficiently implemented globally due to capacity gaps and fragmented coordination,

Recognizing the critical importance of transboundary water resources and recalling the 1992 *United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Water Convention* as a framework for international cooperation,

Noting that many existing transboundary water agreements rely on outdated hydrological data that does not reflect current or projected climate conditions, particularly in regions where shared water systems cross multiple national borders,

Cognizant of the need for greater funding for sustainable water policies to be provided to Member States through international financing systems like the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF),

Aware of the potential of innovative financing mechanisms, including Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), to support sustainable water resource management,

Recognizing the importance of inclusive governance and recalling Principle 10 of the *Rio Declaration on*

Environment and Development (1992), as well as the rights of Indigenous peoples in environmental decision-making,

Mindful of the critical importance of transboundary water resources, particularly in shared river basins such as the Mekong, for sustaining livelihoods, food security, and public health,

Recalling the need for more collaborative solutions between Member States that share bodies of water, and the work done by the *United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Water Convention* (UNECE) (2018) to facilitate agreements on jurisdiction,

Appreciating the work of existing regional organizations like the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) and the Mekong River Commission at promoting sustainable water policy cooperation between Member States,

Taking into account the role of ecosystems in strengthening water resilience in line with the *Convention on Biological Diversity* (1992) and UNEA resolutions on nature-based solutions,

Recognizing the critical importance of transboundary water resources, particularly in shared river basins such as the Mekong, for sustaining livelihoods, food security, and public health, and the successful cooperative governance demonstrate the effectiveness of coordinated basin level management further allowed by financing from UNEP,

Alarmed by the lack of adaptive frameworks within existing transboundary water agreements to address climate-induced variability in water flow and availability,

Acknowledging the United Nations General Assembly's declaration of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030), which promotes large scale restoration of degraded ecosystems as a key strategy for addressing climate change and biodiversity loss,

Recognizing the vital role of nature-based solutions, including wetland conservation and ecosystem restoration, in addressing climate change, enhancing biodiversity, and supporting sustainable livelihoods, particularly in vulnerable regions,

Recalling that early warning systems and inclusive water management demonstrate strong returns by protecting vulnerable communities against climate shocks and guaranteeing a steady supply of basic water, as documented by the World Meteorological Organization,

Concerned by the limited access to effective early warning systems in vulnerable and developing regions, which increases risk of climate-induced disasters,

Recognizing that early warning systems remain ineffective in many regions due to weak last-mile communication and lack of institutional response capacity,

Stressing the critical failure to meet the United Nations Water Action Decade (2018-2028), managing the preservation of marine ecosystems in transboundary regions,

Noting with satisfaction the success of the Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA) at promoting international transparency between countries, companies, and other organisations on climate action,

Emphasizing the Project Finance for Permanence model, which unites a diverse array of stakeholders under a single binding agreement to facilitate shared environmental goals,

Acknowledging the importance of restoring degraded ecosystems to enhance resilience against climate-related disasters such as drought and floods,

Recognizing that complex application procedures and administrative barriers significantly limit access to international funding mechanisms for capacity-constrained Member States,

Recognizing the disproportionate impact of water insecurity and climate change on Small Island Developing States and other vulnerable regions,

Acknowledging the growing role of innovative financing approaches, including blended finance, in mobilizing additional resources for sustainable water infrastructure and resilience projects,

1. *Calls upon* Member States, in cooperation with international organizations, local officials, and indigenous knowledge, to strengthen and expand early warning systems for climate-related disasters, biodiversity loss, and community protections, including but not limited to droughts, floods and cyclones, by:

    a. Enhancing climate monitoring and climate data systems through partnerships with UN-affiliated space and meteorological agencies, including collaboration with existing global observation systems, to provide real-time forecasting of extreme weather events, with data updates issued at a minimum of every 12 hours;

    b. Encouraging the implementation of ecosystem restoration initiatives aligned with global environmental restoration efforts and supported through international climate financing mechanisms, integrated Indigenous and local knowledge with scientific data through reforestation, wetland restoration, and sustainable land-use practices to protect freshwater biodiversity and restore critical watersheds;

2. *Invites* the establishment of a regional transboundary water management system among Mekong River Basin States, in collaboration with International Commission for the Protection of Danube River (ICPDR), within an existing United Nations Programme framework and in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 2997 (1972) which:

    a. Encourages funding through voluntary contributions and establishment of UN trust fund mechanisms;

    b. Requests support from United Nations bodies, including UNDP and UNEP, for technical assistance and programme coordination;

    c. Calls for the exchange of best practices and institutional expertise between participating regions;

3. *Suggests* Member States to voluntarily align their national water monitoring systems with GEMS/water reporting standards within their respective regional frameworks, recognizing that regional data harmonization is the essential technical foundation for functional transboundary water cooperation and that regional coherence must precede broader standardization, by:

    a. Designating a national focal point responsible for coordinating alignment with GEMS/Water standards and reporting progress to relevant regional bodies;

    b. Conducting national baseline assessments of existing monitoring infrastructure to identify gaps against GEMS/Water reporting standards;

c. Supporting UNEP in expanding GEMS/Water implementation networks by contributing national data and expertise to regional harmonization efforts;

d. Engaging with existing regional bodies and intergovernmental organizations, in cooperation with UNEP, to ensure that regional harmonization precedes broader standardization, with priority given to regions where transboundary water stress is most acute;

4. *Promotes* real-time data sharing on droughts and water levels through collaboration with organizations similar to the Mekong River Commission, including flood planning, the use of new technologies, and early warning systems;

    a. Supports the collection and dissemination of hydrological data, including water levels, rainfall patterns, and drought indicators, to improve transparency among Member States;

    b. Encourages the development of real-time monitoring systems and the integration of innovative technologies, including digital platforms and predictive tools to strengthen early warning systems;

    c. Calls for coordinated information exchange and regional response strategies as flood planning and disaster measures, to mitigate the impact of water-related issues;

5. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant international financial institutions to prioritize financing for the modernization of aging water infrastructure in climate-vulnerable and water-stressed regions, by:

    a. Encouraging Member States to direct voluntary earmarked contributions to UNEP specifically toward the rehabilitation of aging water infrastructure in climate-vulnerable and water-stressed regions, prioritizing improvements to storage efficiency and flood management capacity;

    b. Urging Member States to increase their voluntary contributions to the GEF to strengthen UNEP's core capacity to coordinate, monitor, and provide technical guidance on water infrastructure modernization across regions;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to integrate water governance into national climate adaptation strategies by incorporating water risk assessments into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), aligning national water policies with SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) targets and indicators, establishing inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms across water, agriculture, and climate sectors;

7. *Urges* Member States to operationalize Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) through national implementation plans by defining measurable targets and completing goals by 2030 in accordance with SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), conducting periodic national evaluations of implementation progress in order to ensure efficiency, and strengthening coordination between national and subnational water authorities in order to promote global prosperity;

8. *Encourages* Member States sharing transboundary water resources to strengthen cooperation frameworks by establishing or reinforcing joint river basin organizations, renewing agreements to reflect climate-induced variability in water availability while promoting data-sharing and dispute prevention mechanisms;

9. *Further invites* Member States, in cooperation with regional water management organisations and the GEF to integrate nature-based solutions into water policy by enhancing water storage and flood mitigation efforts through reforestation and wetland restoration initiatives while executing environmental analyses in local communities to determine targeted agricultural conservation measures and identifying local agricultural management practices that can be used as models in conservation efforts;

10. *Welcomes* the expansion of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) programs by engaging private sector stakeholders to support pilot projects in order to demonstrate effectiveness leading to directing financing to wetland restoration, groundwater recharge, and watershed protection while considering the most vulnerable Member States;

11. *Also urges* Member States to integrate Indigenous and local knowledge into water governance by ensuring participation in important decision-making processes, supporting community-led water management initiatives and protecting traditional ecological knowledge systems;

12. *Also encourages* Member States to modernize irrigation systems by providing grants and technical assistance to farmers, and promoting water-efficient technologies such as drip irrigation which will lead to the reduction of water loss in agricultural systems;

13. *Requests* that regional organizations and river basin initiatives strengthen cooperation through coordination and data-sharing among Member States, including the hosting of regional workshops, especially in rural communities, to address local water challenges and promote related initiatives, and promoting the exchange of best practices in sustainable water management, including integrated water resource management (IWRM) techniques;

14. *Calls upon* international financial institutions, regional development banks such as the Inter-American Development Bank, and the European Commission to provide financial and technical support to developing Member States for sustainable water infrastructure and ecosystem restoration;

15. *Strongly encourages* Member States to adopt more cooperative frameworks such as combining inclusive governance or the incorporation of nationally marginalized voices with transboundary water agreements specifically at the basin level, in conjunction with their immediate neighbors, following precedents set by recent and existing Memorandums of Understanding between Member States;

16. *Expresses its hope* for the use of Project Finance for Permanence models, which combine public funding, private investment, and philanthropic contributions to provide long-term, sustainable financing for large-scale watersheds;

17. *Advises* Member States to decentralise governance of water distribution systems by establishing and funding local governance structures, similar to Venezuela's Community Water Management Offices, to manage and repair water infrastructure and collect fees;

18. *Commends* initiatives such as NAZCA as a standardized way to track and encourage viable progress, and encourages Member States to align themselves with similar programs;

19. *Supports* the establishment of regionally coordinated Climate Information Centers and a digital data-sharing platform funded through voluntary Member State contributions and international environmental funds, to collect and standardize climate risk data, promote voluntary quarterly reporting, and issue monthly risk assessments and emergency alerts to national governments and local authorities;

20. *Calls for* Member States to promote the development of community-based early warning mechanisms through the deployment of mobile alert systems, radio broadcasts, and locally managed communication networks, supported by public-private partnerships with telecommunications providers, to ensure the delivery of warnings to rural and marginalized populations;

21. *Recommends* the implementation of regional capacity-building programs, funded through international climate finance, conducted biannually to train local officials, emergency responders, and community leaders in interpreting early warning data and executing disaster response protocols;

22. *Calls upon* Member States to establish national emergency action frameworks that define risk thresholds tied to early warning levels and incorporate pre-identified response measures, such as evacuations, water conservation strategies, and emergency resource deployment, integrated within national disaster risk management systems and aligned with international disaster risk reduction framework;

23. *Requests* UNEP to develop a technical framework outlining minimum standards for water-related early warning systems, incorporating the four essential components of risk knowledge, monitoring and forecasting, warning dissemination, and response capability, to guide Member States in building coordinated and compatible systems, including the promotion of interoperability across Member States, and the establishment of integrated data classification and exchange protocols to ensure consistency between national systems;

24. *Further requests* Member States to ensure that early warning systems are connected to concrete response protocols and institutional capacity, recognizing that a warning without the capacity to act on it provides no meaningful protection to vulnerable communities, including the designation of nationally coordinating authorities responsible for activating response measures and overseeing periodic evaluations of system effectiveness;

25. *Further encourages* Member States, international financial institutions, and relevant United Nations bodies to mobilize increased financial resources specifically directed toward the construction and maintenance of early warning systems, with priority given to small states, landlocked developing countries, and ecologically vulnerable regions, including the creation of targeted financed windows and rapid-access disbursement channels for early warning infrastructure in high-risk and low-capacity regions;

26. Calls upon international financial institutions and funding mechanisms to simplify and streamline funding access processes by reducing administrative and technical requirements for project applications and providing standardized guidance and templates to support Member States in preparing funding proposals;

27. Also recommends the establishment or expansion of targeted funding windows within existing financing mechanisms to support vulnerable Member States by prioritizing projects addressing water scarcity, climate adaptation, and ecosystem resilience and ensuring accelerated approval processes for high-risk and urgent contexts;

28. Further recommends Member States and international financial institutions to expand the use of blended financing mechanisms to support water-related projects by combining public, private, and multilateral funding sources to increase investment capacity and reducing financial risks for private sector engagement through guarantees and co-financing structures;

29. *Advises* Member States, as part of regional organisations, to promote regional integration of early warning systems to maximize Member States' preparation for adverse water-related disasters;

30. *Welcomes* Member States to adopt basin-level governance approaches based on hydrological boundaries to improve coordination and resource management;

31. *Also calls for* Member States to prioritize wetland restoration, groundwater recharge, and watershed protection inclusive of Least Developed Countries (LCD's);

32. *Proposes* the initiative for Legal Environmental Protection (LEP), focused on wetland restoration and legal protection, which provide freshwater supply, act as natural water filters and promote and preserve biodiversity, and:

    a. Suggests Signing Parties of the Ramsar Convention to publish voluntary progress reports on wetland use and protection to be reviewed at an annual global summit of parties to the Programme, where improvements to the Programme and common issues of concern for Member States can be discussed;

    b. Remarks that wetlands provide a low-cost, Nature-based Solution to mitigate the efforts of the triple planetary crisis, therefore relying on both domestic funds and further funding by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

Code: UNEA/1/5
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Reaffirming the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP/EA.6/Res.13) of the implementation of water resource management through transboundary cooperation and the enhancement of monitorization of data of water policies in the interest of Sustainable Development Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation),

Recognizing general comment no.15 (2002) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and General Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010), which affirmed the Human Right to Water, that is vital for the complete enjoyment of life,

Re-emphasizing the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP/EA.6/Res.13), attributed to the triple planetary crisis, overarching climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution,

Emphasizing the importance of Sustainable Development Goal 9 iIndustry, innovation and infrastructure) of the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development (2015) to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation in the spirit of improving water infrastructure among Member States,

Deeply concerned that various Member States and their indigenous communities are threatened by the rising sea level,

Reaffirming the commitments under SDG 14 (life below water) to protect coastal and marine areas,

Reiterating the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly resolution 1803 that all States possess rights over their natural resources,

Prioritizing the themes of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development which communicate that environmental policies must be implemented in accordance with national priorities, development strategies and domestic legislation,

Acknowledging the importance of the free market in the development of infrastructure and new technologies for the betterment of the water systems, such as private-public partnerships for the management of wastewater treatment plants, piping systems, dams, water management laboratories and more,

Recognizing the need for non-coercive negotiations and peaceful cooperation between Member States in discussing possible action toward the current water crisis,

Reaffirming General Assembly Resolution 3016 (1972) recognizing the need for developing countries to share technically and scientifically trained local personnel,

Reaffirming General Assembly Resolution 77/334 (2023) and the importance for multilateral cooperation,

Seeking collaboration from Member States who historically have had previous involvement within current developing Member States,

Concerned with growing global water crisis and increasing pressure on freshwater sources,

Aware of the increasing effects of climate change on water systems including flood, droughts, and unpredictable precipitation,

Recognizing the importance of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in achieving SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), where the Water Resource Protection Tariff (WRPT) has been introduced as an innovative mechanism allowing water users to contribute financially to the Nature-based Solutions (NbS),

Being aware of issues across sectors, institutions, and among vulnerable communities dependent on crucial regional water basins, and convinced of the significance of ecosystem-based adaptation supporting the Guidelines for Ecosystem-based Approaches (EbA) to Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR),

Having adopted the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) to address the key drivers of biodiversity loss and lift the nature agenda,

Recognizing the United Nations Environmental Programme in supporting developing nations to develop a national waste management strategy to reduce heavily polluted dumpsites,

Recognizing principles of the United Nations Charter contained in Article 55, encouraging solutions to international economic, social and health-related problems, focusing on universal respect for fundamental freedoms without distinction to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as enshrined in UNFCCC in 1992 and the Paris Agreement from 2015, and recognizing that the main polluters bear the main responsibility,

Affirming the goals of the UN Water Action Decade, such as integrated water management and stronger cooperation and partnerships to accelerate global progress on sustainable water management,

Bearing in mind that Indigenous people have been subjected to colonization and have been displaced from their territories to areas that are often difficult to access, where States do not, or are unwilling to provide public services, particularly drinking water and sanitation,

Taking into account that the number of indigenous people is estimated at 476 million individuals, which represents 6.2 percent of the world population, but disproportionately represents 18.7 percent of the extremely poor and around 33 percent of those living in extreme poverty in rural areas,

Referring to the aspects developed during the *International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples* including Human Rights of Indigenous peoples, incorporation of Local Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) within environmental talks in the United Nations as well as national governments, strong institutional capacity of Indigenous groups, national water policy reports pertaining to Indigenous peoples, and training programs ensuring indigenous ability to independently combat environmental crises,

Supporting the goals of the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program, such as protecting biodiversity, reducing deforestation and restoring native vegetation in order to protect the Amazon Basin,

Noting the efforts of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), created by the eight nations sharing the Amazon Basin in protecting the rights of the people living in the Amazon region,

Bearing in mind that only 20 percent of the countries with river basin organizations have included provisions to protect indigenous and traditional rights,

Recalling Article 31 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which affirms indigenous peoples' right to maintain, control, protect and develop their traditional knowledge and cultural heritage,

Recognizing the important role of the Global Environment Facility in funding projects aimed at realizing various NbS solutions,

Recognizing the success of the Fund for Protection of Water (FONAG) in co-financing water-related projects,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure that indigenous communities are actively included in every named aspect of this resolution, at all stages and across all regions, through Linking Indigenous and non-Indigenous knowledge (LINK) approach, in order to promote inclusive, culturally informed, and effective environmental decision-making;

2. *Supports* the idea of financial equity for countries suffering from climate injustice and lack of resources stemming from water insecurity in the context of the triple planetary crisis;

3. *Recommends* the reformation of the United Nations Environmental Program's Annual Reporting system by:

    a. Implementing two more reports of specific water access and quality in indigenous communities, similarly to the state in its entirety by:

        i. Implementing measures utilizing biometric systems, prioritizing sustainability to decrease pollution and stabilize the environment;

        ii. Showcasing consistent involvement and guidance in indigenous communities;

    b. Requesting that states identify their position on the predominance of pollution to population percentage found, to work with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) to address the context of improving the state's pollution matter;

4. *Recommends* the expansion of the UNEP Planetary Funds – the UNEP Nature Fund, which would also allocate resources and funding to lower-income Member States to implement water infrastructure in their respective Member States;

5. *Suggests* cooperation between Member States and regional organizations to further expand water treatment plants and ensure potable water for indigenous communities, as already practiced within the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) within the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre;

6. *Promotes* the implementation of the Fair Local Ownership of Water Systems (FLOWS) framework bridging global water policies and local implementation through:

    a. Including the establishment of local water councils by:

        i. Highly encouraging the involvement of indigenous knowledge on the topic of water and ensuring the inclusion of vulnerable groups, since they are affected most by water issues;

ii. Strongly advising listening to the input of the scientific community and water management experts focusing on NbS;

iii. Recommending collaboration of these councils on an international scale to find common issues and solutions;

b. Recommending the usage of local monitoring systems by:

i. Encouraging the involvement of indigenous and vulnerable groups in monitoring processes;

ii. Further recommending the monitoring and data sharing on water quality, pollution and the protection of ecosystems;

c. Urging Member States to provide technical support on an international scale through:

i. Utilizing existing integrated water resource management frameworks to foster international cooperation;

ii. Emphasizing the importance of infrastructure knowledge and the allocation of resources for water systems;

d. Encouraging international organizations to provide funding by:

i. Referring to the Green Climate Fund and Global Environment Facility;

ii. Emphasizing the support of the Holy See in the first year of the implementation of FLOWS through providing funds by Papal foundation;

iii. Recommending the introduction of a results-based funding system based on the success of national efforts;

7. *Requests* Member States to create water infrastructure that would benefit economic growth on the basis of Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by having the help of the private sector in projects related to water, facilitating lower-income Member States to hold equal footing with other Member States and:

a. Invites Member States to encourage their citizens to have personal or household water tanks, which aid regions with water shortages and helps build water resilience and stability within households, particularly in the face of water crises;

b. Draws attention to water saving practices and techniques, which raises awareness on the need of conservation in respective Member States and mitigates impacts of climate change;

8. *Reiterates* the importance for Member States, relevant UN Bodies, and stakeholders to protect and restore freshwater ecosystems and strengthen global attention to ecosystem restoration in the context of water security, which will draw attention to restoration by targeting 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

9. *Welcomes* climate resilient water management strategies to address floods, droughts, and altered precipitation patterns through financial investments from the UNEP Environmental Fund for research, the development of desalination plants, flood protection and warning systems;

10. *Recognizing* the effectiveness of reverse osmosis techniques in respective Member States, further recommending the utilization of existing technologies and capacity building by implementing and

exploring options for anaerobic wastewater treatment technology to promote sustainable and ethical cost-effective water management methods;

11. *Recommends* that Member States implement a National Water Resource Protection Tariff (WRPT) to generate sufficient funds for environmental projects related to NbS by:

    a. Requiring water utilities to allocate a fixed percentage of their profits being paid to national and local governments, which direct these funds toward investments into local NbS projects;

    b. Allocating funds in order of priority depending on such factors as infrastructure failure risk, challenges with preventing natural instability, regulatory compliance;

    c. Making national and local governments responsible for maintaining a price ceiling on water for end consumers to ensure inclusivity and equal access for communities across all income levels;

12. *Suggests* the allocation of funds within the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to NbS projects, such as ecosystem restoration and watershed protection, implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which:

    a. Proposes to be modeled after the Fund for Protection of Water (FONAG);

    b. Directs generated funds to an established regulatory board representative of the region;

    c. Encourages the equity of allocation of funding to local communities;

    d. Ensures the monitoring and reporting of measurable impact;

13. *Emphasizes* the need to enhance the implementation of the Capacity, Knowledge, and Learning Action Plan, including but not limited to technology and database sharing, in order to support local communities via expanding technical expertise sharing and strengthening support from States advanced in environmental monitoring systems, data-sharing platforms, and sustainable resource management tools;

14. *Stresses* the importance of sustainable forest management and eco-friendly agriculture practices, including the usage of vegetative riparian buffer areas near streams, thereby preventing excess nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollution from reaching waterways and oceans, increasing biodiversity, and reducing flood risks;

15. *Encourages* the involvement of local Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) partners and collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to enhance immediate responsiveness and leverage experience in handling local water-related catastrophes;

16. *Invites* the creation of a voluntary database of water management data to promote collaboration between Member States and to counter withholding information for fellow Member States;

17. *Suggests* that the UNDP provide guidance to indigenous communities to empower these communities to manage and maintain their own water systems to contribute to their everlasting access to safe water;

18. *Urges* Member States to observe, document and protect indigenous water management practices by:

    a. Establishing community-led documentation programs in which indigenous knowledge holders maintain control over the recording and application of their practices;

b. Developing national registries of indigenous water management building on Free, Prior and Informed Consent, ensuring this knowledge supports NbS frameworks while remaining under the cultural ownership of the communities that developed it.

Code: UNEA/1/6
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Acknowledging the discrepancy in equitable access within international law and the economic requirements that restrict access to technological advancement for many nations such as debt restrictive access to further development,

Gravely concerned with the effects of the Triple Planetary Crisis on freshwater systems on the international scale,

Emphasizing that international cooperation and financing mechanisms must respect national ownership and remain free from coercive political restrictions,

Recognizing the inequitable capacities of Member States in addressing climate-related impacts on freshwater access,

Further recognizing the critical importance of developing and maintaining water storage, treatment and distribution systems to ensure long-term water security,

Recalling that water has been recognized as a human right by both the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly, as it is essential for the enjoyment of a dignified living,

Affirming the importance of long-term national water security planning aimed at ensuring sustainable water management, reliable water supply, as well as the proper integration of water policies to mitigate environmental damages,

Deeply conscious of the disproportionate effects faced by developing Member States due to a lack of funding and/or infrastructure,

Denounces international sanctions imposed on Member States that limit their capacity to create infrastructure to improve climate resilience,

Reaffirming UNEA Resolution 6/13 (2024) on "Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies", which emphasizes promoting dialogue and collaboration on water-related traditional, local, and Indigenous knowledge, including, inter alia, integrated sustainable and climate-resilient tank cascade systems and management,

Viewing with appreciation the United Nation Development Programme *Community Water Initiative – Delivering Water and Sanitation to poor countries* (CWI) (2016) for their progress towards to SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) especially highlighting the benefits of community-based water governance and its challenges regarding financing and capacity building,

Welcoming the United Environmental Environmental Programme's International Waters ongoing work for promoting community involvement in water management,

Underlining the world population of indigenous peoples representing approximately 476 million of individuals spread in all regions, to which, their territories includes approximately 40 percent of all protected land areas and

ecologically intact landscapes on their territories, representing 80 percent of the remaining terrestrial biodiversity preserved through indigenous communities (2022),

Recognizing the disparities of data transfer between the Global North and Global South while acknowledging the checks and balances of trans-boundary cooperation,

1. *Encourages* Member States to consider the meeting of an Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee (INC) to develop the Negotiation Initiative for Legal Equity (NILE) framework to strengthen multilateral legal frameworks aimed at improving coordination across borders by:

    a. Promoting equitable environmental trade discussions to prevent restrictive climate policies on developing nations in collaboration with the World Trade Organization (WTO);

    b. Strengthening facilitation of global trade systems, specifically when it comes to science-based technology sharing through the Paris Agreement (2015);

    c. Advancing environmental justice and protections of critically important ecosystems and bodies of water across borders, such as the protections under the Convention on Biological Diversity;

    d. Discussing the shortcomings of international law governing the use of shared ecosystems and their enforcement mechanisms, such as but not limited to:

        i. The implementation of international law with a focus on the privatization or harm on vulnerable populations;

        ii. Inequitable taxation on Developing Nations in carbon markets who utilize carbon output for development and further technological advancement;

2. *Call upon* Member States that have had an active part in contributions to the water crisis to invest in the construction, modernization, and maintenance of water infrastructure, including storage, desalination treatment, and distribution systems, ensuring accountability;

3. *Calls for* the implementation of community-centered water governance and sharing through coordinated cooperation by the UNEP, UNEA, and Member States, as well as local, indigenous, and regional communities by:

    a. Promoting and applying indigenous initiatives like, but not limited to, Indigenous Water Wisdom Organization for climate resilient water systems, watershed restoration, pollution monitoring, and the protection of biodiverse ecosystems supported by science-based data;

    b. Recommending the integration of Bottom-Up governance by allocating partial responsibility to local communities, hence encouraging a participatory process with a redevance mechanism towards local levels, which can allow the immediate reinvestment towards long-term sustainability;

    c. Prioritizing rural and vulnerable populations most at risk of climate, pollution, and biodiversity loss in consultation during the policy-making process towards water systems;

    d. Supporting the development of community leadership education by reinforcing the promotion of local lead initiatives in school programs to secure a long-term sharing mechanism of traditional knowledge;

4. *Suggests* the establishment of an Ad-Hoc Expert Group for Community-Based Water Governance (CBWG) through;

    a. Making policy recommendations to Member States on implementing CBWG into their national policies, inter alia, on:

        i. Implementing inclusive policy design and decision making, ensuring equitable participation for indigenous populations and rural communities;

        ii. Institutionalizing community contributions in water governance by integrating traditional practices in policy guidelines;

        iii. Adopting local capacity building mechanisms, ensuring CBWG can be stemmed through community resources;

        iv. Facilitating knowledge exchange between local actors, research makers, and the national policy makers;

    b. Consisting of 10 independent experts and 10 members of regional groups to be nominated by the United Nations regional groups;

    c. Drawing its funding from voluntary contributions of Member States and open to contributions by Non-Governmental Organizations;

    d. Requesting the Expert Group to report back at UNEA-8 on their progress;

5. *Encourages* the creation of an *Open-Ended Working Group on Transboundary Water Preservation* (OWG-TWP) as an effective way to ensure cooperation by;

    a. Supporting open dialogue on managing shared water basins between Member States;

    b. Allowing for developing Member States to have an outlet to voice their concerns with current regional water policies;

6. *Encourages* Member States to pursue Locally Led Adaptation projects (LLA) for resilient water management services in policy making regarding the protection of freshwater sources in order to sustain clean water access for population consumption, to do so, Member States are welcome to take in consideration the following eight principles from LLA:

    a. Devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level;

    b. Addressing structural inequalities faced by women, youth, children, people with disabilities, people who are displaced, Indigenous Peoples and marginalized ethnic groups;

    c. Providing patient and predictable funding that can be accessed more easily;

    d. Investing in local capabilities to leave an institutional legacy;

    e. Building a robust understanding of climate risk and uncertainty;

    f. Flexible programming and learning;

    g. Ensuring transparency and accountability;

h. Collaborative action and investment;

7. *Urges* participating Member States to utilise coordinated data systems in cooperation with organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund and Water Aid, that contain proven methods towards water sanitation and safety by;

    a. Encouraging the use of Inter-connected hardware (LOT) devices for participating Member States to collect, transmit, and act on data;

    b. Providing blueprints and materials for solar-powered wells, latrines, and decentralised filtration systems;

    c. Promoting cost-effective solutions for vulnerable communities through the use of rainwater collection and bio-sand filters, as well as other alternatives.

8. *Draws attention* to the Sovereign Water Development Initiative (SWDI) aimed at facilitating grant-based financing for water infrastructure while safeguarding national ownership of implementation mechanisms by;

    a. Collaborating with organizations such as UNEP, Peter's Pence endowment management budget, the Green Climate Fund, and the World Bank to allocate grant-based financing to developing nations in the pursuit of water sanitation and security;

    b. Encouraging considerations on debt-based loan financing that burdens developing nations surrounding water sanitization and security in favor of grant-based financing;

    c. Recommending dialogue and cooperation through Intergovernmental Negotiating Committees and the International Monetary Fund with the purpose of drafting policies towards financial equity guidelines on water security surrounding need-based loans that are protectionist on internal institutions.

Code: UNEA/1/7
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Affirming the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015), especially Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 (clean water and sanitation),

Affirming UN-Water, which monitors the progress on SDG target 6.3 on improving water quality, reducing untreated wastewater,

Alarmed by the permeation and proliferation of microplastics in the atmosphere and in waterways, and the fact that there are no places on Earth devoid of microplastics, that they have been found in humans and in the foods that humans eat, that microplastics do not break down, that the health effects of microplastics have not been adequately diagnosed yet, that microplastics are known to have high carrying capacity and can latch other chemicals onto them,

Acknowledging that unsafe access to water, sanitation, and handwashing facilities undermines girls' and women's well being, limits their potential, and reinforces cycles of poverty, which is why integrating the specific needs of girls into the design and implementation of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programs is essential to achieving universal access to water and sanitation, as well as advancing gender equality and empowerment,

Recognizing the Blue Economy Strategies from the Joint SDG Fund, which supports Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in transforming economic structures and building resilience, which also sanctions SDG frameworks,

Acknowledging the potential of blue and green carbon technologies on capturing and storing carbon dioxide (CO2) by forestry, coastal, and marine ecosystems, as an effective response to the triple planetary crisis in terms of loss of biodiversity and nature-based solutions for air and water purification,

Noting the *Global Framework on Chemicals* (GFC), adopted in 2023, addressing environmental and social aspects of chemicals and waste management,

Taking into account the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach, promoting the coordinated development and management of water, land, and related resources to maximize economic and social welfare equitably, without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems,

Recognizing the *Global Wastewater Initiative* (GWWI) (2013), which aims to reduce untreated wastewater and improve water quality,

Recalling the 1977 UN Water Conference and its *Mar del Plata Action Plan,*

Recalling the 1972 The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Recommendations promoting the internalization of environmental costs, in which, in Principle 16, it is ensured that the polluter bears the cost of the pollution,

Acknowledging the successful implementation of international standards and networks in many UN-Regions, such as the European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET), Global Monitoring for Environment and Safety (GMES), and Shared Environmental Information Systems (SEIS),

Reaffirming the importance of an Integrated Water Resources Management approach as endorsed at the Dublin Conference on Water and the Environment (1992), as it is essential for achieving water-related Sustainable Development Goals,

Fully aware of the global duty of developed nations to help the most vulnerable under Article 7 of the *Paris Agreement* (2015), given that water insecurity disproportionately affects low-income, Indigenous, and rural communities,

Keeping in mind the *Stockholm Declaration* (1972) on a set of principles and recommendations aiming at protecting and conserving the environment, more specifically Article 21, which declares the right to a clean environment as a fundamental right,

Reaffirming the importance of an Integrated Water Resources Management approach as endorsed at the Dublin Conference on Water and the Environment (1992), as it is essential for achieving water-related *Sustainable Development Goals*,

Considering the significant role of policy institutes such as the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) in international cooperation over shared water resources,

Encouraging the use of the water-related Belém Adaptation Indicators, adopted by the 7th Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the *Paris Agreement* (2015),

Having examined the success of the *Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and Lakes* (Water Convention) (1992) and its *Protocol on Water and Health* in promoting sanitation and water cleanliness in the European area,

Highlighting renewable energy sources as an instrument to reduce carbon production in the creation of energy, as a source of blue-green infrastructure,

Acknowledging the Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS) in the context of expanding data research for the Developing States,

Noting with concern the rise of eutrophication from excessive agricultural use of nitrates and phosphates for fertilizers, which contribute to algal blooms, depleting aquatic ecosystems of oxygen, killing wildlife, and accelerating biodiversity loss,

Acknowledging alternative sources of freshwater that could be acquired with the advancement of desalination technologies,

Highlighting the impending end of the International *Decade for Action on Water and Sustainable Development,* which advocates for lasting solutions for clean water and sanitation,

Aware that droughts are longer and more frequent due to the triple planetary crisis,

Acknowledging the abundance of natural water that is unusable due to various pollutants,

Bearing in mind the interconnectedness between climate change and the prevalence of contaminated water, with over 70 percent of wastewater remaining untreated in 22 countries,

Taking into account the growing importance of innovative financing models for water and sanitation to support wastewater treatment and reuse projects, including through blended finance mechanisms that combine public resources, private investment, and development bank contributions to accelerate sustainable and inclusive water infrastructure,

Concerned with the consequences of water scarcity on global biodiversity,

Stressing the need for a global standard in research and data sharing, as stated in UNEA resolution 4/23 called GEDS,

Recalling UNEP resolution 1/9 from June 2014 on the Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme (GEMS), created to collect reliable data on water quality worldwide and strengthen national capacity in this regard,

Pursuing nature-based solutions as defined in UNEP Resolution 5/5 (2022) to promote water retention within ecosystems,

Emphasizing General Assembly resolution 71/222 (2017), which advocates for a multilateral approach to the water crisis and its pertinence to the need for a global exchange of knowledge between all countries, specifically between developed and developing nations, on water policy solutions,

Recognizing also the mandate to develop and enforce an instrument of international law to regulate water pollution, especially plastic pollution, established by UNEA Resolution 5/14 (2022),

Believing in General Assembly resolution 76/153 (2022), which stresses the importance of increased cooperation between States, particularly when it comes to the sharing of technology to aid other countries,

Reiterating the dedication of the committee under General Assembly resolutions 70/169 (2016) and 78/206 (2023), establishing the need for the global system to finance sustainable water solutions,

Recognizing the Ministerial Declaration of UNEA resolution 5.2 (2022), calling for an increase in access to clean drinking water,

Bearing in mind Decision 27/3 (2013) of the UNEP on International water quality guidelines for ecosystems, which establishes voluntary guidelines to assist countries in creating their individual frameworks, and encourages nations worldwide to participate,

Aware of General Assembly resolution 75/212 (2020), which assessed progress on global water policy goals and committed to accelerated implementation and improved impact towards achieving SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and other water-related goals and targets,

Recognizing General Assembly resolution 76/300 (2022), to continue the efforts of promoting the basic human rights of a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment,

Recognizing United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) resolution 5/14 (2022) on strengthening global governance to address plastic pollution, which recognizes its severe impacts on freshwater and marine ecosystems and on human rights,

Deeply concerned by the increasing intensity and frequency of drought events globally and their threat, especially to vulnerable ecosystems and economies,

Aware of the lack of substantial action by this body regarding the environmental impact of artificial intelligence infrastructure,

Reaffirming the utilization of data sharing as well as creating funding programs to support natural infrastructures,

Underscoring the importance of secure, reliable, and high-quality water sources for social, economic, and regional stability,

Addressing the critical consequences of global water bankruptcy,

Addressing the disparity in technological capacity between developing and developed Member States, and the necessity of water-efficient technologies, including desalination and agriculture, to increase clean water access,

Cognizant that the use of loans directly harms lower-income Member States, as they are more susceptible to becoming indebted due to loans, directly impacting their ability to build infrastructure dedicated to fighting climate change,

Aware that nearly 80 per cent of low-income individuals live in regions that are exposed to extreme heat, flooding, and other climate hazards,

Stressing the importance of utilizing local and regional entities to administer funds, as they are better equipped to distribute resources to specific community-level projects and are free from international bias favoring developed Member States,

Noting the Common Seas actions that strengthen island economies to aid economic shocks and climate change via ocean management,

Recognizing the disproportionate impacts on Small Island Developing States, coral reefs, which protect islands from erosion, support fisheries, and sustain local livelihoods, are severely threatened by ocean warming, acidification, and pollution, as equal measures are insufficient here, and equitable support is needed to restore and protect coral ecosystems through climate-resilient technologies,

1. *Urges* the Member States to work with indigenous communities to mitigate water pollution and continue the cultural practices that emphasize the balance between humans and the natural world, and inclusivity during the decision-making process;

2. *Encourages* the creation of the Water Waste Database (WWD), overseen by the Office for Information and Communication Technology (OICT), shared between all willing Member States and mobilized through the UNEP in collaboration with academic institutions that register statistics through the WWD by:

    a. Publishing annual data through shared reporting platforms;

    b. Searching for innovative solutions on resilience for droughts, water sanitation, and effluent illegal dumping, especially to record progress toward pollution mitigation in indigenous communities;

    c. Inciting willing Member States through capacity-building, gain and technology transfers, including access to monitoring equipment, wastewater treatment systems, shared data platforms, and preferential treatment for certified “watershed-friendly” or produced under low-pollution standard goods;

3. *Further recommends* academic institutions of willing Member States involved with the WWD to invite interns from all corners of the world interested in learning more about regional environmental issues and sharing the knowledge they acquire with their home State to build community-based initiatives, such as wetland construction with native species;

4. *Proposes* the establishment of a High-Level Global Summit on Water Pollution within the UN Water Conferences by:

    a. Promoting the direct engagement and the spread of awareness of local communities through the creation of programs and educational incentives to willing Member States in community centers;

    b. Including a discussion on accessible daily actions that can help conservation efforts through the creation of school clubs and collaborative local community centers to highlight the importance of land preservation, building a stronger sense of community and leadership amongst Indigenous though the establishment of a culture-sharing space to foster relationships between younger and older generations, and organizing monthly events such as planting trees and storytelling with respect to indigenous cultures;

    c. Aiming for the adoption of measurable pollution reduction targets for industrial discharge, agricultural runoff, and plastic leakage into freshwater systems, accompanied by clear accountability mechanisms;

    d. Requiring willing Member States to implement wetland restoration, enforce stricter discharge monitoring, apply nutrient management standards in agriculture, and publish transparent annual data through shared reporting platforms;

    e. Focusing on establishing binding ecosystem-based watershed compacts aimed at reducing water pollution at the basin level;

5. *Urges* strengthening global governance to address plastic pollution through watershed compacts by:

    a. Suggesting stricter discharge monitoring, applying nutrient management standards in agriculture, and publishing transparent annual data through shared reporting platforms;

    b. Focusing on the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) for an equitable approach, without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems;

    c. Reaffirming the efforts of Member States to develop an international framework to ensure the elimination of marine plastic pollution;

6. *Strongly recommends* Member States to implement programs and initiatives similar to the International Decade for Action to bring awareness and continued action on the global stage, including through:

    a. Offering research exchange to countries with minimal wastewater treatment facilities to construct more effective centers for cleaning water;

    b. Sharing technology and expertise regarding hydrology and sanitation processes;

7. *Recommends* the implementation of science-based, sustainable, and environmentally conscious policies to adapt and defend against climate-related disasters, considering:

    a. Integrating Nature-Based Solutions such as wetland restoration, reforestation, and green urban infrastructure to enhance flood resilience and water retention capacity;

    b. Implementing data-driven decision-making by improving monitoring systems, early warning mechanisms, and platforms for evidence-based policy design;

c. Investing in climate-resilient infrastructure that anticipates increasing disaster intensity and variability, which includes drainage systems and adaptive urban planning;

d. Strengthening environmental legislation, promoting the adoption of anaerobic wastewater treatment technologies as an environmentally sustainable and cost-effective method to promote wastewater treatment;

8. *Urges* the adoption of innovative and sustainable wastewater treatment technologies at local, national, and regional levels to improve water quality and minimize environmental and public health risk;

9. *Encourages* Member States to begin measuring and responding to excessive nitrate and phosphate levels in their waterways by constructing local water quality stations on rivers, thereby bolstering wastewater treatment capabilities to remove these harmful materials;

10. *Calls upon* governments and relevant stakeholders to strengthen infrastructure and management systems for wastewater treatment, ensuring the reduction of untreated wastewater and the protection of water resources;

11. *Recommends* Member States to take the following actions regarding the field of microplastics:

    a. Start a monitoring system to understand and diagnose the severity of the concentration of microplastics in local freshwater systems, including transboundary cooperation mechanisms;

    b. Invest in technologies to research how to filter microplastics out of wastewater;

    c. Manage runoff via stormwater systems to reduce the transport of road and suburban debris into waterways;

    d. Encourage Member States to avoid single-use plastics when possible;

    e. Further research on what health effects microplastics may have on humans, whether in the bloodstream or in vital organs, to better help potential pharmaceuticals to combat them before they become endemic and irreversible;

12. *Encourages* sharing a multilateral database tracking the concentration of microplastics across the world to make better data-driven decisions by:

    a. Promotion of a database led by the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (UN-CEBD);

    b. Incentivizing Member States through the UNEP Pollution Fund to report research findings to the UN-CEBD;

    c. Encouraging transboundary cooperation among states linked by rivers;

    d. Appropriately diagnosing which rivers or outlets are among the worst microplastic polluters, and focusing attention and funding to those worst offenders;

    e. Supporting the consideration of microplastics when addressing the progress of SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) in the future, especially noting that microplastics are notorious for easily crossing boundaries;

13. *Call upon* Member States to expand the safe and regulated reuse of treated wastewater, in line with international health and environmental standards, by:

    a. Promoting its use for agricultural irrigation, including the cultivation of crops and vineyards, to reduce pressure on freshwater sources;

    b. Supporting its application in livestock watering systems, where appropriate and compliant with sanitary requirements;

    c. Enhancing national regulatory frameworks and monitoring systems to ensure the health, environmental, and safety standards of treated wastewater reuse;

    d. Recognizing the contribution of wastewater reuse to strengthening water security, mitigating climate impacts, and improving resilience within the broader context of the triple planetary crisis;

14. *Encourages* Member States to facilitate desalination practices in areas affected by a lack of natural freshwater sources, and to adopt inclusive, environmentally responsible methods of desalinating water, such as powering desalination facilities by renewable energy sources and energy-efficient technologies when feasible and pertinent and promoting best-practice and expert knowledge sharing between stakeholders on all levels of governance, coordinated by UN-Water and the UN System-Wide Strategy for Water and Sanitation;

15. *Further encourages* research of desalination to make this technology accessible and environmentally and financially sustainable;

16. *Advocates* willing Member States to cooperate with local communities to include them in the water policy-making procedures by consulting local groups on their needs in relation to water, and utilizing the knowledge of local communities to bring water to the priority sectors efficiently;

17. *Calls for* the expansion of dedicated financial instruments for wastewater management by:

    a. Encouraging the adoption of blended finance models that combine public funding, private-sector investment, and development bank contributions to increase total available resources;

    b. Mobilizing larger and more sustainable flows of capital toward wastewater infrastructure, with a focus on long-term financial viability and equitable access;

    c. Prioritizing investments in vulnerable and low-income regions, where climate impacts, limited infrastructure, and resource constraints exacerbate wastewater challenges;

18. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and strengthen the implementation of the “polluter pays” principle, as the 1972 *OECD Recommendations* stipulate, ensuring that environmental costs are proportionally internalized by those responsible for pollution, particularly in the water sector, to promote sustainable water management, reduce waste, and support equitable and effective policy solutions in the context of the triple planetary crisis;

19. *Supports* increased international collaboration over global water accessibility and security between individual Member States, as well as cooperation with the existing water policy programs and platforms, including, but not limited to, the Stockholm International Water Institute, Global Environmental Data Strategy programs, and Bilateral WASH initiatives to enhance water security;

20. *Urges* Member States seeking to develop infrastructure for artificial intelligence to consider with utmost caution the effects on the local, wider regional, and international water supply that such developments may have;

21. *Suggests* the creation and cooperation with existing platforms in the water sector to achieve tangible and sustainable cooperation between Member States, by:

    a. Encouraging the creation of regional organizations similar to the Indo-Pacific Four or the AWC, which represents the voices of over 20 Asian nations;

    b. Encouraging the wider implementation of and cooperation with global organizations, like the UN-Water, which coordinates the efforts of United Nations entities;

22. *Suggests* using the UNEP's Global Environmental Data Strategy (GEDS) to implement a global standard for data- and technology exchange following the current international precedents (i.e., that of the European Environment Agencies Data Hub) to exchange data and technology globally with higher efficiency to ensure they are findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable;

23. *Encourages* Member States to replicate regional green climate funding programs, for example Horizon Europe and other international financial institutions, for restoration projects, knowledge sharing, and equitably supportive Nature-Based solutions within Member States and supporting natural infrastructure projects, by increasing contributions to the UNEP Pollution Fund to ensure adequate international financial capacity to produce water pollution solutions, with a target amount of 50 million USD to have been contributed to the Fund by 2030;

24. *Calls* for the implementation of an international framework which follows the example of the strong recent precedents set by regional frameworks, such as the European Environment Agency, by:

    a. Suggesting such frameworks as a guide for national and regional policies, in accordance with local specifications;

    b. Recommending nations to improve annually until a to be determined threshold in categories such as water accessibility, water purification, and water waste management;

25. *Encourages* all Member States to implement their own nature-based solutions which can be integrated into agricultural regions, ensuring that these regions are well equipped to deal with flooding, desertification, and maintain crop yields;

26. *Recommends* the creation of a collaborative framework for South-South technology sharing between developing Member States to exchange and collaboratively develop more efficient water technology through, by:

    a. Providing a space for developing countries to meet biannually to share and exchange new information on agricultural technologies in upcoming years to focus on water-conscious irrigation systems and efficient desalination research;

    b. Establishing a Water Innovation Hub, led by UNEP, to coordinate research, develop sustainable water management tools, and scale Nature-based solutions (NbS) globally, prioritizing Least Developed Countries (LDCs);

    c. Establishing additional space for efforts upon multilateral collaboration every 5 years to promote communication between the Developed and Developing States;

27. *Encourages* the expansion of education, community-led projects, public-private partnerships, and stewardship and maintenance to support blue-green infrastructure in all Member States party to the UNEA and Minimize urban and rural impacts on the environment through greater climate awareness and business practices;

28. *Calls* for the increased use of non-competitive grants that will eliminate barriers Member States face when fighting the climate crisis, notably in vulnerable communities, dedicated to frontline, low-income communities and developing countries with funds being sourced from the Green Climate Fund, ensuring all Member States have an equal capacity to fight the climate crisis;

29. *Calls upon* Member States to integrate Community Benefits Agreements to ensure that local projects provide direct benefits to local communities and economies, ensuring that local populations are positively impacted by such projects;

30. *Recommends* the integration of regional frameworks, such as the Common Seas, to be implemented globally, which focus on:

    a. Government partnerships that identify and accelerate policies, especially within pollution reduction;

    b. Allowing for the increased awareness of biodiversity protections, such as marine protected zones;

    c. Suggesting new research be led on regions, creating approaches that help tackle pollution;

31. *Calls* for the expansion of the Global Environment Monitoring Systems (GEMS) to cover a water-based information management system overseen by the United Nations Environment Assembly to conduct voluntary research, including:

    a. Sharing agricultural technologies, including water-conscious irrigation systems;

    b. Creating a separate budget will be allocated to the Least Developed Countries, with the top 15 most biodiverse ecosystems recognized by the World Conservation Monitoring system;

32. *Urges* Member States to design and implement policies that specifically target women's and girls' needs, perspectives, contributions, and rights in water, sanitation, and hygiene services, by:

    a. Enhancing capacities in collecting more comprehensive, sex-disaggregated data to better monitor gender disparities in water access and usage, and use this data in policy design;

    b. Developing mechanisms for women's participation in the water sector and its policy making in all contexts based on relevant research and data;

    c. Prioritizing gender-responsive financing in water infrastructure to address the needs of women and girls;

33. *Supports* willing Member States, particularly SIDS, participating in the Joint SDG Fund by expanding accelerated solutions for SDGs and aiding developing states to transform economies and create environmental resiliency;

34. *Encourages* Member States with large areas of natural resources, such as forests, swamps, and mangroves, to discuss a roadmap to strengthen the preservation of these territories and the expansion of blue and green carbon initiatives as part of regional climate change mitigation policy.

Code: UNEA/1/8
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Guided by the principles established in the Charter of the United Nations, the UN empowers the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) to collaborate and increase water security globally for a cleaner planet,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 6 (ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all), and its target 6.5 (implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at all levels),

Recognizing the *Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures* (TNFD) (2023) as an emerging instrument enabling financial institutions and private investors to assess and act on nature-related risks, including water scarcity,

Recalling the *Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses* (1997), especially the principle of equitable and reasonable utilization of international watercourses,

Having considered the critical importance of transboundary water resources and recalling the *Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes* (1992) as a framework for international cooperation,

Reminding that transboundary cooperation in line with SDG indicator 6.5.2 on the proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation is critical, but underutilized, and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) plays a significant role in international water management policy,

Acknowledging Principle 2 of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (1992), which affirms the sovereign right of Member States to utilize their own resources pursuant to their environmental policies,

Emphasizing that the implementation of IWRM remains uneven across regions, as reflected in global assessments by UN-Water under SDG indicator 6.5.1 on the degree of IWRM, which indicates only moderate levels of implementation and persistent challenges in coordination, funding, and institutional capacity,

Recalling UNEA resolution 6/13 (2024) on effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution,

Recognizing that water connects climate instability, biodiversity collapse, and pollution, yet current management systems are inadequate,

Noting with concern that waterborne diseases are recognized by the World Health Organization as one of the leading causes of mortality in vulnerable regions, mainly in contexts of humanitarian crisis,

Considering the UNEA resolution 5/5 on nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development (2022), which highlights the critical role of nature-based solutions as an essential and sustainable approach to address water availability and food security,

Fully alarmed by the fact that approximately 21.5 million people are displaced annually due to climate-related disasters, with nearly 90% of major natural disasters linked to water, and highlighting the urgent need for strengthened water governance,

Deeply conscious that climate change is intensifying both flooding and water scarcity, particularly in vulnerable regions such as Africa and the Middle East, where water is widely regarded as an existential issue,

Emphasizing the urgent need to integrate water governance into broader climate adaptation and biodiversity protection strategies to ensure long-term environmental sustainability,

Highlighting the importance of addressing natural disasters, particularly those water-related, following the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* (2015),

Noting with concern the historical challenges related to the triple planetary crisis through water policy, aid initiatives, and misallocation of development funds in underdeveloped regions,

Guided by the General Assembly resolution 64/292 on the human right to water and sanitation (2010),

Emphasizing the need for humanitarian aid in response to global refugee crises and the water scarcity that emerges,

Considering the UNEA resolution 6/3 on enhancing the role and viability of regional forums of ministers of the environment and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) regional offices in achieving multilateral cooperation in tackling environmental challenges (2024), and *appreciating* the benefits provided by wastewater treatment and reuse as an alternative water source, mainly in the context of a growing population,

Stressing the need to transition from a linear “take-make-consume-waste” economic model toward a circular and resilient economy that decouples economic growth from environmental degradation and resource scarcity,

Taking into account several successful irrigation infrastructure initiatives such as the JAARs and the Governance Project led by the indigenous peoples of Central America,

Acknowledging the impact of water scarcity on landlocked states and the need for investment from water-rich states,

Deeply concerned by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) projections that 75% of the global population could face severe drought conditions by 2050,

Recognizing that conflict-affected Member States are particularly vulnerable to the triple planetary crisis, and that armed conflict harms water sources and infrastructure,

Recalling UNEA resolution 6/12 (2024) on the environmental assistance and recovery in areas affected by armed conflict, and General Assembly resolution 77/104 (2022) on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts, particularly the principles on the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflict,

Welcoming the efforts of neighbouring Member States and regions working together to make water infrastructure not only sustainable but also inclusive to those disproportionately affected,

Profoundly concerned that water insecurity is increasingly exacerbated by climate change, environmental degradation, extreme weather events, droughts, and food insecurity, in line with Article 7 of the *Paris Agreement* (2015) and Article 4 of the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) (1992),

Guided by the *Convention on Biological Diversity* (1992), a treaty which aims at conserving biodiversity,

Keeping in mind that the primary limitation of current global water governance efforts lies not in the absence of normative frameworks, but in fragmented implementation and limited operational capacity,

Alarmed by the fact that fragmented institutional frameworks hinder effective water governance across sectors and administrative boundaries,

Deeply conscious that effective water governance, such as UN-Water, requires accurate, accessible, and harmonized data systems to support evidence-based policymaking,

Highlighting the importance of utilizing existing international evaluation indicators to improve data-driven policymaking, such as the water-related Belém Adaptation Indicators, adopted by the 7th Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, as in draft decision 2025/L.25,

Noting that many existing transboundary water agreements rely on outdated hydrological data that does not reflect current or projected climate conditions, particularly in regions where shared water systems cross multiple national borders,

Having examined the role of ecosystems in enhancing water resilience, in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity and UNEA resolutions on nature-based solutions,

Acknowledging the need for increased financial resources to support sustainable water management, particularly in vulnerable and developing Member States,

Underlining the potential of innovative financing mechanisms, including Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), to support sustainable water resource management,

Recognizing the importance of inclusive governance and recalling Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992), as well as the rights of indigenous people in environmental decision-making,

Acknowledging that persistent droughts and climate variability are contributing to agricultural decline and threatening food security,

Observing the positive effects that the reintroduction of coastal native plants, such as mangroves, has had on coastal restoration,

Recognizing the role of the World Water Forum in facilitating international cooperation, scientific data-sharing, and policy development for sustainable and equitable water management,

Noting that of the 310 cross-boundary water sources, only one third of these are protected under trans-boundary water cooperation agreements and emphasizing the impact that these treaties can have in increasing water access, environmental protection, and conflict de-escalation, as seen with the Wadi Araba Treaty (1994),

Understanding the profound positive impact nationally and internationally protected areas has one the triple-planetary crisis and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the *Kunming-Monteal Biodiversity Framework* (2022),

Considering the pressure and burden placed upon water and sanitation facilities in internally displaced people's (IDP) host communities,

Cognizant of Burkina Faso's five year collaborative plan with the non governmental organization Water Aid,

Noting with satisfaction that under the Office National de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement (ONEA) access to an improved water source in urban areas has increased from 73% to 95% over a period of 18 years,

Deeply concerned over the lack of investments by private companies to poor, unconnected households in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and especially the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind that in most privatization contracts, actual investment in connecting poor households requires public finance or guarantees from publicly owned banks,

Taking into consideration the fragilities of water access and the effects of privatization of water and sanitation facilities, such as reduced transparency, loss of accountability, and input from the public,

Recognizing the critical role of international financial mechanisms, including the Green Climate Fund, as well as multilateral development institutions such as the World Bank, in addressing financial and capacity gaps for climate-resilient water infrastructure and sustainable water governance in developing countries,

Recognizing the findings of the World Bank report on water security in Senegal, which emphasize the growing impacts of climate variability, urban flooding, and infrastructure gaps on sustainable water management and equitable access,

Drawing from Jordan's National Water Strategy and National Conveyance Project (NCP) for for inclusive and water resources such as desalination, in line with accomplishing SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all,

Acknowledging drawbacks from unconventional water resources that require further research as suggested by the Cyprus National Strategy on Addressing Climate Change,

1. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) in collaboration with relevant shareholders to extend the TNFD framework to include systematic water asset disclosure requirements for Member States, which shall:

    a. Track natural water assets, including aquifers, wetlands, glaciers, and surface water reserves, as long-term strategic resources whose depletion signals emerging ecological insolvency;

    b. Monitor renewable water flows as annual income against consumption across agricultural, industrial and domestic sectors as expenditure, enabling a systematic assessment of whether a country or region is operating within or beyond its sustainable hydrological limits;

    c. Provide private investors with transparent, standardized, and scientifically validated water risk data by region, reducing information asymmetry validated water risk data by region;

2. *Recommends* the development of climate-resilient water infrastructure while using nature-based solutions such as wetland restoration, floodplain management and sustainable urban drainage systems in cooperation as well as implementing early warning systems for floods and droughts to reduce environmental risk, by:

    a. Endorsing the addition and incorporation of innovation from a technological standpoint equivalent to PreAqua that allows for water infrastructure to become stable, as well as management systems for wetland restoration, floodplain management, and sustainable urban drainage systems;

    b. Supporting the development of cost-effective systems that lower expenses for operational costs while maintaining efficiency and accessibility for all regions, such as PRONSAR (National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme);

3. *Encourages* riparian Member States to engage in dialogue and adopt agreements regarding the management of shared watercourses, and requests the Executive Director, in close collaboration with other members of UN-Water, to provide opportunities for dialogue in line with United Nations Water Conferences;

4. *Encourages* the creation of an ad hoc Committee titled Safe Water for All Council (SWAC), which will focus on regions with poor water quality and allow delegates from those regions to discuss member nations specific methods in developing and implementing tools to measure water quality as the IWRM would allow Member States to feel less apprehensive regarding the collection of monitoring data, especially in relation to the completion of SDG 6.2.1 (Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water), functioning as a platform that could coordinate collaboration with international Non-governmental Organizations (NGO) and designate the order of the policy implementation, considering urgency and emergency:

    a. Cooperation with the already established water quality database such as the UN Water & IWRM to ensure equitable data sharing, utilizing and making actionable via developing curated tools for better quality;

    b. Recommends the prioritization of Member States with significant water scarcity to ensure that current gaps are being addressed accordingly as the funding would be public and private;

5. *Further recommends* a sub-group of SWAC which would be the implementation of information aids mobilized by the UNEP to high-risk regions will ensure small communities are receiving information regarding water treatment techniques and research that would benefit the regions specific water issues;

6. *Recommends* the investment in Leak in Detection and Repair (LDAR) technology, including:

    a. Modern tools such as acoustic monitoring and satellite technology to decrease non-revenue water from pipeline networks and ensure sanitary revenue;

    b. Upgrade initiatives for existing infrastructure in rural and refugee communities and reevaluating old pipeline effectiveness to prevent disproportionate investment, using:

        i. Non-corrosive unplasticized Polyvinyl Chloride (uPVC) or high-density polyethylene (HDPE) to ensure long-term efficiency;

        ii. Pressure-reducing valves (PRVs) to prevent pipeline leaks caused by excessive pressure;

7. *Proposes* the increase of water supply capacity through desalination investment, which:

    a. Incentivizes private-public collaboration for successful water delivery and plant construction, through:

        i. Blended finance mechanisms to reduce risk for private partners;

        ii. Performance-based management contracts to increase operational efficiency;

    b. Encourages desalination being powered by renewable energy such as solar power to prevent contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions, while acknowledging conventional energy sources as supplementary means to guarantee inclusive access to fresh water;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director of the UNEP to set up a partnership between the UNEP and the United Nations Development Programme through which Member States can request technical assistance and funding to open wastewater treatment plants, in which UNEP provides:

    a. Technical assistance, collaborating with Member States to determine optimum parameters for the plant, such as location and capacity;

b. Better articulation through its regional offices, as well as capacity building for those employed for the construction and maintenance of the plant;

9. *Requests* UNEP to direct its attention to global forums like the World Water Forum, highlighting the importance of global exchange of knowledge pertinent to water policy solution and scientific data sharing through collaboration with policy institutes such as the Stockholm International Water Institute, and the promotion of nature-based and secure water infrastructure;

10. *Encourages* Member States to exchange their implemented practices through the establishment of a Global Nature-based Solution Exchange (GNX) platform, hosted by UNEP in a manner that:

    a. Promotes standardized methodologies across Member States, building upon existing national systems while allowing for adaptable innovations;

    b. Encourages the use of reliable and secure data systems to ensure accuracy, accessibility, and sovereignty over national data;

    c. Requests annual review and reporting mechanisms to assess the effectiveness and progress of implemented data-sharing practices;

    d. Recognizes the need for education in regards to promoting sustainable water practices within both developed and developing Member States;

    e. Promotes knowledge transfer initiative offering education offerings at leading universities to individuals from countries most affected by the triple planetary crisis in order to enable them to help themselves in the long term;

    f. Advocates for the integration of nature-based solutions with engineered systems, also known as hybrid infrastructure, to maximize cost-effectiveness and sustainability and strengthen resilience against climate-induced water stress in coastal and island Member States;

11. *Notes* the need for infrastructure funding in low-to-middle-income Member States through:

    a. Working with the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF) and the African Development Bank (ADB) to work with middle-income Member States grappling with refugee crises that impact water security;

    b. Collaborating with the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) to fund local infrastructure projects and encourage economic development;

    c. Endorsing PES programs internationally to finance wetland restoration, technology transfer, groundwater recharge, and watershed protection, inclusive of the most vulnerable Member States;

12. *Encourages* the strengthening of capacity building initiatives at the regional level to support the implementation of effective water policies through:

    a. The establishment of regional workshops in partnership with the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)'s Intergovernmental Hydrological Program;

    b. The expansion and consistent recurrence of existing workshops, such as the Advancing a Regional Approach Towards the Green Hydrogen Economy in Latin America and the Caribbean forum;

13. *Encourages* Member States to approach water management as a collective responsibility by the adoption of a circular economy, which minimizes waste and regenerates natural systems by treating wastewater, plastics, and nutrients as managed resources through:

    a. Developing cross-border waste-to-resource infrastructure that facilitates the recovery of secondary raw materials;

    b. Working closely with the World Bank for funding, as recommended by the UNEP 5/14 resolution on ending plastic pollution;

    c. Encouraging the use of technology to turn wastewater into reusable water:

        i. Providing Member States in need of wastewater with technology, such as the Johkasou technology, or utilizing flood-resistant infrastructure;

        ii. Providing Member States with innovative desalination technologies that not only bring freshwater to homes in need but also produce electricity;

14. *Further recommend*s the promotion of best practice sharing efforts between Member States and the international community by promoting the guidelines of the UNFCCC and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and expanding regional frameworks such as the Sustainable Blue Economies Technical Assistance Platform;

15. *Recommends* the expansion of Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) initiatives in refugee camps in response to the influx of displaced people during times of conflict, through:

    a. Solar-powered water systems that produce low-cost electricity from water extraction;

    b. Rainwater harvesting that relieves the burden on groundwater systems;

    c. Deep water wells that can be equitably distributed in UN-sponsored refugee encampments;

16. *Proposes* the urgent calling of a regional summit with Member States to form a consensus on how to practically distribute water in active war zones, expanding on Geneva Convention Protocols about the protection of water;

17. *Recommends* Member States to implement a subsidiarity approach to the planning and implementation of water management projects:

    a. To allow all those within a State who will or may be affected by a project in that State to participate properly in the planning and implementation process;

    b. To ensure that the project and any related agreement are consistent with the overall framework;

18. *Encourages* the wider implementation of supporting projects for IWRM via regional cooperation, such as EU Water Resilience Forum and African Ministers Council on Water, minimizing the gaps of previous international agreements and institutions to ensure water accessibility for all Member States, such as methods, but not limited to:

    a. Inviting the UNEP and relevant partners to support Member States, upon request, through technical assistance and capacity-building in developing environmentally sound water supply systems in vulnerable regions, including:

i. enhancing the water quality of local groundwater sources, including wells, through purification systems;

ii. making guidelines for regional governments to voluntarily adopt regulations about mining contamination to prevent public health issues;

b. Recommending domestic and international demand for water through inter-governmental cooperation to ensure safe water across the upstream and downstream;

c. Encouraging international dialogues regarding the Official development assistance (ODA) projects and development policies in climate-resilient water infrastructure, such as source-to-sea approach and the use of renewable energy in sustainable desalination technologies;

19. *Calls* for monitoring systems to be effective in the long term and to be supported by full and sustainable funding such as:

    a. Establishing dedicated long-term financing mechanisms by incorporating monitoring system funding into existing environmental funds, ensuring stable, predictable, and sustained financial support;

    b. Encouraging international financial assistance and capacity-building support for developing countries to sustain monitoring infrastructure;

20. *Calls upon* Member States to adopt water policy resolutions centred on real, accountable, and results-oriented investment, including appropriate oversight procedures and obtainable performance benchmarks;

21. *Requests* all Member States to establish a Tier-based Classification System through which Member States are categorized according to their water accessibility, monitoring capacity, and institutional readiness in such ways but not limited to:

    a. Enhancing data clarity and credibility of shared water's statistical blind spot through building basic measurement infrastructure;

    b. Utilizing existing international evaluation frameworks such as the UN-water and the Global Economic Monitors (GEMs) in order to improve data consistency and support evidence-based policymaking, to classify Member States with advanced Monitoring, Recording, and Verification (MRV) systems;

22. *Requests* the Executive Director of UNEA develop a guideline that provides Member States recovering from armed conflict with sustainable alternatives of water management, facilitating the integration of an environmental perspective into their national recovery plans;

23. *Urges* the formation of a summit between Member States to discuss the distribution and transportation of water during active war-zones, which:

    a. Discuss water-monitoring measures for chemical waste exposure from weaponry at designated checkpoints throughout transport, using tools such as gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) as well as field deployable sensors that monitor for toxic compounds, heavy metals, and explosive residues in water;

    b. Outline the creation of safe zones and pathways that are exempt from military action, in which water can be safely collected and prepared for civilian use, overseen by UN Military Observers, if

agreed upon involved Member States for the purposes of ensuring safe water transfer along with the Geneva Water Hub and the Global Alliance to Spare Water for Armed Conflicts for water monitoring:

24. *Recommends* the IWRM and related international agencies to devise minimum requirements to conduct the EIA by:

    a. Ensuring basic and appropriate infrastructure for vulnerable nations with less data and policymaking capacity to conduct EIA;

    b. Making guidelines to involve government officials, scientists, and indigenous representatives from all relevant nations to understand the impact of the projects;

25. *Promotes* the large-scale planting and restoration of mangroves and other filtering coastal vegetation to enhance natural carbon sequestration and improve groundwater quality;

26. *Urges* all Member States to pass water cooperation agreements both domestically and internationally to preserve water access in case of the outbreak of conflict and grant water access to states currently in conflict as well as protect the water ecosystems within these Member States through:

    a. Modeling these future treaties after successful water cooperation agreements such as the Wadi Araba Treaty of 1994, as these trans-boundary treaties not only protect precious water resources, but also lead to de-escalation of conflict between nations and further lead to the preservation of water ecosystem from many aspects of the triple-planetary crisis;

    b. Using partial mediator Member States, or UN bodies such as UN Peacekeeping, UN Water, and the Secretariat to guide and streamline the treaty and peace processes;

    c. Focusing these efforts in states currently in conflict, and framing these treaties in accordance with the principles described within the International Humanitarian Law and Sustainable Development Goals 13 (climate action), 14 (life below water), 15 (life on land), and 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions);

    d. Implementation of transboundary agreements based upon the Practical Guide for the Development of Agreements or Other Arrangements for Transboundary Water Cooperation as outlined by UNECE;

    e. Identification of high-risk areas that may be especially suffering from water crises and report them to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs;

27. *Further recommends* Member States to establish protected marine and freshwater areas that will promote sustainable consumption and reduce over-exploitation of the water and the life within as well as pollution, allowing the environment to recuperate its health, biodiversity, and sanitation by:

    a. Focusing on the establishment of marine and freshwater protected areas in Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) such as Tainui Area in French Polynesia to conserve and safeguard these vital ecosystems from the triple-planetary crisis for both the health of the Earth and the humans who rely on these areas;

    b. Implementing evidence-based policy domestically to reduce overfishing and other forms of over-exploitation in protected and non-protected waters, which have been successful in Member States, such as Individual Transferable Quotas in Iceland;

c. Increasing state to state cooperation for freshwater protected environments and global cooperation for marine environments in international waters;

28. *Recommends* the implementation of community-based water governance approaches, such as the UNEP Joint Programme on Women, Natural Resources and Peace, to ensure inclusive and effective decision-making, including:

    a. The active inclusion of local communities, women, and marginalized groups in national and local water governance frameworks, consistent with principles highlighted by UN Women on inclusive water governance;

    b. The development of targeted education and awareness programs focused on water conservation, sanitation practices, and climate resilience, in collaboration with initiatives such as United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) programs and UNESCO water education frameworks;

    c. The support and funding of community-led projects aimed at improving water access, sanitation systems, and ecosystem restoration;

    d. The integration of indigenous knowledge and local expertise into water management strategies to improve sustainability and long-term effectiveness, which is emphasized by UNESCO frameworks on traditional ecological knowledge;

29. *Calls* for the strengthening and utilization of existing international financing mechanisms, including the Green Climate Fund and other relevant multilateral development institutions, to support climate-resilient water management initiatives in developing countries, particularly through:

    a. The expansion of Payment for Ecosystem Services programs, such as those implemented in Namibia, to support watershed protection and groundwater recharge;

    b. The development of climate-resilient water infrastructure, including drainage systems, sanitation facilities, and flood management projects, as demonstrated by World Bank-supported urban water resilience initiatives;

    c. The implementation of early warning systems for floods and droughts, building on frameworks such as the *Sendai framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*;

    d. The support and funding of community-led water access and sanitation initiatives in vulnerable and underserved regions, consistent with programs supported by UN Water and UNICEF;

30. *Encourages* the establishment of regionally representative, interdisciplinary Groups of Experts on Water Policy Solutions under the auspices of UNEP, mandated to:

    a. Conduct region-specific assessments of water pollution drivers, for example, climate change and biodiversity loss etc.;

    b. Develop standardized and adaptable policy toolkits tailored to regional socio-economic and ecological conditions;

    c. Facilitate knowledge transfer and technical assistance between Member States;

    d. Support the harmonization of water quality standards and monitoring frameworks at the regional level;

e. Provide early-warning analysis and policy recommendations on transboundary water risks;

f. Ensure inclusion of local scientists, Indigenous knowledge holders and civil society actors in advisory processes;

g. Submit periodic reports and policy briefs to UNEA to inform global environmental governance and implementation tracking;

31. *Encourages* promoting collaboration with NGOs experienced in addressing water crises induced by the influx of IDPs and using Burkina Faso's 5 year collaborative plan with WaterAid as a blueprint to address that problem;

32. *Further recommends* using the Office National de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement as a blueprint for Member States to model their public water facilities around implementing specific private sector reforms in the public water utility.

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the implementation of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015), especially Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 (clean water and sanitation), specifically the disruption of natural water purification processes that would aid in eliminating water pollution, as well as SDG 11 (sustainable and communities), SDG 13 (climate action), SDG 14 (life below water) and SDG 15 (life on land),

Concerned by the knowledge that, according to the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH), 4 billion people around the world experience severe water scarcity annually, and roughly 75 percent of the world's population faces water insecurity,

Keeping in mind Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) as a crucial tool for the implementation of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by which IWRM also serves as Nature-based Solutions (NbS),

Deeply alarmed that many Member States lack access to clean water, lack infrastructure, adequate technology and financial resources to effectively manage and monitor water quality,

Emphasizing that water should not only be protected as a resource but as a shared critical system for the current and future generations,

Taking into account that only eight nations globally have signed on to the Global Water Organization (GWO) which focuses on sustainability specifically as well as cooperation on water related issues,

Fully aware of the need for central governments to implement sustainable natural resource based policies by expanding water infrastructure such as water treatment facilities, dams, and groundwater extraction utilities,

Recalling Article 9 of *The Paris Agreement* (2015) on the obligation for developed countries of providing financial resources to assist developing countries to mitigate and adapt to climate change,

Recognizing that many developing, agriculturally entrenched Member States are heavily reliant on transboundary water access to sustain farms in the midst of global rising temperatures and acute drought,

Taking into account the lack of agricultural water and techniques including but not limited to drip irrigation, soil moisture monitoring, and rainwater harvesting in many developing nations and acknowledges the impact of previous work under South-South cooperations, and addressing rural water access challenges through comprehensive and renewable long term solutions,

Bearing in mind the established of the *International Global Framework on Chemicals* (GFC) (2013) that is supported by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) to allow Member States to control the lifecycle of chemicals to reduce harmful effects of chemicals and waste that pollute bodies of water,

Deploring the actions of Member States who are party to regional water treaties that have not upheld their commitments and allocate water resources fairly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010), which recognizes the human right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation,

Taking note of Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948) which affirms the right to an adequate standard of living for health and well-being thereby underscoring the essential role of access to safe and sufficient water especially for Indigenous people and demonstrating the respect to local populations, as well as women and children,

Taking into consideration Uganda's *National Environment (Declaration of Wetlands) Notice* (2023), to enhance legal protection of it from encroachment and degradation,

Emphasizing the significance of science-based approaches usage in water management, including the implementation of modern, advanced visual risk-management technologies, such as but not limited to Bowtie analysis,

Affirming that the Member States with the achieved progress in Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS), and usage of advanced technologies for water-risk management are invited to commit to the knowledge-sharing and providing expertise for the states with the lack of educational and financial resources,

Guided by the Quadruple Helix Model countries, governance and their innovation should integrate industries, scientists, civil society and indigenous communities to work with the government to address this issue as a bottom-up policymaking,

Recognizing the severe and interconnected impacts of the Triple Planetary Crisis, comprising climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, which continue to exacerbate global water scarcity and threaten the stability of ecosystems and communities,

Gravely concerned that projections of global water demand could exceed supply by 40 percent by 2030, posing a threat to economic development and sustainability,

Recognizing the disproportionate impacts of climate change on Small Island Developing States: coral reefs, which protect islands from erosion, support fisheries, and sustain local livelihoods are severely threatened by ocean warming, acidification, and pollution. Equal measures are insufficient and equitable support is needed to restore and protect coral ecosystems through climate-resilient technologies, and redefining eco-tourism to preserve islands from mass tourism and ecosystem destruction,

Noting with alarm the data from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and UN-Water which affirms that approximately 44 percent of global domestic wastewater remains untreated, and deeply concerned by the persistent disparity in treatment capacities between high-income and low-income regions,

Addressing the extensive availability of saltwater in most countries and the high cost of desalinization facilities to make the saltwater usable for agriculture, consumption and industrial production,

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) climate funding enabling initiatives and programmes towards the achievement of the SDGs,

1. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and promote innovative water management technologies to reduce water waste and enhance efficiency, while providing targeted support for Small Island Developing States (SIDs) and African Member States through equitable and voluntary knowledge transfer mechanisms, including:

a. Real time water monitoring systems and digital water management tools such as SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) Digital Water Management Initiative to optimize usage and responsiveness;

b. Solar-integrated desalination systems, converting seawater to drinking water with technologies such as solar pumping water technologies powered by renewable energy and transitioning from fossil-fuel-based thermal desalination toward Reverse Osmosis (RO) and incorporating energy recovery technologies to enhance cost-efficiency particularly the coastal and island regions;

c. Water recycling and greywater reuse systems for both residential and industrial applications, aimed at reducing freshwater demand such the Global Wastewater Initiative (GWWI);

d. The facilitation of shared knowledge platform such as the World Water Quality Assessment (WWQA) backed by the UNEP to support the transfer of desalination, wastewater treatment, and water efficiency technologies;

2. *Recommends* the implementation of Nature based infrastructures (NbS) by supporting individuals and communities that face disproportionate burdens due to the effects of the Triple Planetary Crisis, including but not limited to Indigenous communities as key stakeholders in local water management systems and their water rights, while also promoting partnerships with governments, scientific institutions and the private sector through dialogue and the integration of coordinated management systems, funded by the UNDP and Green Climate Fund (GCF);

3. *Acting* on the strategic and international implementation of the Global framework on Chemicals (GFC) by switching to non-toxic alternatives, reducing hazardous pesticides to ensure Member States have clean shared water sources coordinated by UNEP;

4. *Reiterates its request* for Member States to join the GWO by 2030 which:

    a. Encourages cooperation and collaborative initiatives between Member States to manage and improve freshwater supplies globally;

    b. Implements NbS since the GWO focuses on sustainability, going further in depth on promoting sustainability than UN Water currently does;

5. *Promotes* the collaboration between Member States in the sharing of agricultural practices with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UNFAO) and United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) on regional and community initiatives in the conservation of water due to the focus on sustainability;

6. *Suggests* the further development of water and sanitation monitoring infrastructure by utilizing already existing monitoring systems within Member States, Forecast-based Financing (FbF-Tuvalu) mechanisms, bilateral state sanctioned and financed monitoring, already established regional agreements, in-state institutional and NGO coordination, while maintaining consideration to pollution levels and ecosystem health;

7. *Further invites* the establishment of transparent open source Regional Water Data Hubs, to serve as centralized, digitalized and science-based mechanisms for the collection, harmonization, and exchange of data the following, with the aim of providing data for evidence-based policymaking, enhancing the involvement of SIDS and supporting timely responses to water-related risks, made possible by AI technologies and satellite monitoring systems for climate risk assessment to reduce the digital divide between countries in this domain:

a. Hydrology, including river flows, groundwater levels, rainfall patterns and catchment dynamics;

b. Drought conditions, including early-warning indicators, seasonal forecasting and vulnerability assessments;

c. Water quality, including contamination levels, salinity, nutrient loading and other parameters relevant to public health and ecosystem integrity;

d. Ocean health, coral reefs bleaching;

8. *Further recommends* the formation of bilateral cooperation among Member states to ensure the continued existence of high-risk nations, and prepare for extreme climate disasters in the context of the Triple Planetary Crisis, while addressing potential bilateral systems in reference to displaced individuals must be curated between nations and with a well maintained grasp on the importance of national sovereignty:

    a. Suggesting frameworks similar to the Falepili Union which has ensured;

        i. Monetary and physical assistance to ensure equitable climate change solutions;

        ii. Enhanced communications on shared bodies of water and resources;

        iii. Extending the mobility of included citizens, opening pathways for development, careers, and economic growth;

9. *Recommend*s that Member States develop and implement evidence-based water governance strategies by:

    a. Ensuring policies remain adaptable, efficient, and inclusive, in accordance with national priorities, to protect public health, economic productivity, and social resilience;

    b. Strengthening national capacity through the use of reliable data systems, while enhancing cooperation through existing regional frameworks and knowledge-sharing platforms like ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources Management;

    c. Promoting voluntary and nationally determined reporting systems like the National Water Balance System (NAWABS) of Malaysia, supported by harmonized indicators and data-sharing mechanisms within existing international initiatives, as well as technical assistance upon request, including the use of tools such as water footprint and virtual water inventories to support informed, science-based policymaking and effective resource management;

10. *Deplores* Member States to adopt inclusive and participatory water governance frameworks by integrating the four actors of the Quadruple Helix Model, promoting bottom-up policymaking that actively involves local and indigenous communities such as those dependent on ecosystems, with the aim of:

    a. Empowering water stewards;

    b. Enhancing the effective implementation of policies to ensure water security and social responsibility;

11. *Calls* upon the United Nations Environment Programme, in cooperation with UN-Water and relevant UN bodies, to establish an expert working group on nature-based solutions for arid and landlocked regions, addressing the current gap in internationally recognized frameworks for water-scarce environment, with a two-year mandate, reporting its findings to UNEA upon completion, in order to develop standardized guidelines and best practices by:

    a. Facilitating the exchange of knowledge and best practices among Member States;

    b. Assessing effective approaches to sustainable water resource management;

12. *Proclaims* Member States to explore the implementation of Bowtie analysis on the national and regional levels as a risk assessment instrument and an efficient stage of a response design in order to identify connections between disasters' reasons and consequences and use gained data to modify early-warning systems solutions and strengthen their efficiency;

13. *Invites* the Member States experienced in the usage of Bowtie analysis to provide assistance in its implementation to the developing states who are vulnerable to water-caused natural disasters, including but not limited to:

    a. Technical support with the software and all necessary advance digital instruments;

    b. Educational cooperation in the format of engaging experts from experienced Member States;

    c. Modification the implementation road-map including the scale, complexity and vulnerabilities of interested member States;

    d. Constant monitoring and evaluating the progress of implementation, providing updates and recommendations for further stages;

14. *Recommends* the implementation of the Legal Environmental Protection (LEP) initiative as a means for Member States to legally protect wetlands, a NbS in order to combat water scarcity, restore ecosystems, and promote biodiversity in a way that:

    a. Proposes the Signing Parties of the Ramsar Convention to publish progress reports on the development of wetland protection;

    b. Has a pilot phase of 2-3 years of international information and data collection on their national wetlands such as the quality development of wetland protection and areas surrounding it, and further protect their own wetland areas to enjoy the environmental benefits such as water supply, climate resilience, biodiversity conservation that will be sustained for the long run;

    c. Proposes the initiative to be achieved through a low-cost, NbS, relying with funds from domestic funds and further funding by the GCF and the Green Environment Facility (GEF);

15. *Strongly urges* Member States to ratify, by 2030, and propose new points for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's (UNECE) *Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes* which will help in:

    a. Mandating the protection of watersheds, wetlands and forests that naturally regulate water cycles;

b. Expanding early warning systems based on existing mechanisms would help alert authorities and implement preventive measures before severe shortages arise;

c. Providing legally binding structures supporting sustainable and cooperative water governance;

16. *Advises* the centralized governments of developing nations to implement and/or expand inclusive and sustainable water infrastructure initiatives, such as Global Acceleration Frameworks, referenced in SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) that are:

    a. Prioritizing but not limiting Member States to decentralized renewable energy water systems and IWRM strategies;

    b. Prioritizing rural and disproportionally effected communities through renewable and equitable practices such as:

        i. Advancement of regional water preservation initiatives to sustain diverse farming practices in developing Member States;

        ii. Solar powered wells, rainwater harvesting systems, low impact irrigation, and community water treatment facilities;

        iii. Empowering local communities through promoting efficient irrigation techniques, public awareness campaigns, and/or local water councils;

17. *Suggests* to Member States the use of thermal management techniques of AI's engines such as:

    a. "Immersion cooling" technique which prevents water waste in the cooling process of AI's engines in collaboration with:

        i. International Telecommunication Union (UTI) to identify the best practices for green data centers;

        ii. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to cooperate internationally with developed and developing countries for the implementation of innovative mechanisms;

    b. Enhancing the involvement of information systems, and globally, with the help of water footprint tracking tools like Water Footprint Network methodologies to include SIDS and supporting timely responses to water-related risks, made possible by AI technologies for climate risk assessment to reduce the digital divide between countries in this domain, using AI technologies for climate risk assessment to reduce the digital divide between developed and developing countries in this domain such as the Google FloodHub to forecast floods and the IBM Environmental Intelligence Suite to receive real-time alerts about floods, wildfire and storms;

18. *Pushes* for an increase of technological research for desalinization systems and desalinization plants coordinated by the UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme in order to make them more efficient, providing higher production of freshwater in cubic meters/day and more environmentally friendly, allowing for less carbon emissions per cubic meter of freshwater produced.

Code: UNEA/1/10
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Convinced that the access to safe water is a fundamental right for all including an effective and inclusive water policy in the context of the triple planetary crisis, defined by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as the three interconnected and mutually reinforcing crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution,

Acknowledging that climate change, including shifting precipitation patterns and the broader triple planetary crisis, is exacerbating pressure on overall water security in climate-vulnerable regions,

Bearing in mind that the uncoordinated management of transboundary basins undermines regional stability and jeopardizes the collective food security of all riparian states,

Concerned by the limited technical capacity and aging infrastructure that cause significant resource depletion within the regional agricultural sectors,

Recognizing that water bankruptcy refers to a situation in which water consumption exceeds the natural rate of replenishment,

Addressing the risks associated with global water bankruptcy, including resource depletion and the potential irreversibility of its impacts,

Recognizing that up to 60% of the world's freshwater originates in mountains and glaciers with around 2 billion people directly depending on mountains, supporting two-thirds of irrigated agriculture globally, and providing water for major cities and hydropower systems,

Expressing serious concern about the rising sea levels, which is a growing threat for global security, agriculture, and ecosystems with the risk of flooding and coastal erosion in most affected regions such as Small Island Developing States (SIDS),

Recognizing that water scarcity, declining water quality, and inadequate water governance affect vulnerable populations, including SIDS and developing countries,

Recognizing that floods account for over 40 percent of natural disasters worldwide and tend to disproportionately affect vulnerable communities, as they are often located in high-risk areas such as floodplains, while also facing inadequate infrastructure, limited access to early warning systems, and fewer financial and technical means to effectively prepare for and respond to such disasters,

Recalling the *Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes* (Water Convention) (1992) as a key framework for international cooperation and sustainable transboundary water management,

Acknowledging that Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), established at the Rio+10 Conference (2002), provides a recognized framework for improving water governance through cross-sectoral coordination, by

promoting the integrated management of water, land, and related resources, while balancing social, economic, and environmental needs and ensuring equitable use of water resources,

Recalling that early warning systems and inclusive water management demonstrate strong returns by protecting vulnerable communities against climate shocks and guaranteeing a steady supply of basic water, as documented by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO),

Recognizing the role of the Global Environment Monitoring System for Water (GEMS/Water), a programme that supports the collection, analysis, and sharing of water quality data at the global level,

Acknowledging that the protection and restoration of mangroves and other coastal ecosystems serve as effective nature-based solutions for climate adaptation, biodiversity conservation, and water protection,

Alarmed at the lack of current coordinated international systems specifically focused on mountain water systems, with existing frameworks such as Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 (clean water and sanitation) not fully addressing glacier-fed systems or upstream risks despite the fact that mountains and glaciers are one of the most climate-sensitive systems on Earth and contain high-levels of endemic species,

Recalling that over one thousand glaciers in Central Asia have already completely disappeared, and that current projections indicate a loss of up to two-thirds of Himalayan and Pamir glacial ice by 2100,

Recognizing also that growing water scarcity, especially in transboundary river basins, exacerbates competition over limited freshwater resources, thereby increasing the risk of future geopolitical tension,

Being deeply aware that arid regions depend on transboundary rivers for a significant part of water resources, which also influences the geopolitical scenario putting Member States in a vulnerable position,

Emphasizing that the protection of mountain ecosystems and water security in the context of the triple planetary crisis depends on cooperative governance of glacier-fed transboundary rivers,

*Gravely concerne*d about the inefficiency of agricultural irrigation, characterized by systems that are often outdated and inadequate, with consequences on food and social security and losses in hydric canals reaching 40 percent,

Deeply concerned by the unsustainable expansion of water-intensive crops, which has led to the severe depletion of transboundary water basins, the accelerated desertification of fertile lands, and ecological catastrophe,

Recognizing that climate change and environmental degradation are intensifying global water-related challenges,

Alarmed by the impact of pollution and inadequate waste management on water quality and public health,

Deeply concerned that mercury contamination caused by artisanal and small-scale gold mining continues to poison aquatic ecosystems and severely endanger the health of Indigenous and rural communities dependent on natural water sources, particularly in resource-dependent economies*,*

Recognizing that sea-level rise poses a critical threat to low-lying coastal regions, leading to saltwater intrusion into freshwater systems and consequently undermining agricultural productivity and infrastructure resilience, especially in coastal developing states,

Acknowledging that inconsistent access to safe water and sanitation remains a primary threat to public health and human dignity across regional borders,

Reinforcing the rainwater harvesting strategy, particularly regarding storage capacity that ensures all Member States are better prepared for prolonged periods of drought, a major consequence of the triple planetary crisis,

Highlighting the importance of solar or wave-powered desalination plants that optimize the desalination process while making the technology significantly less energy-intensive as a primary source of drinking water for many Member States, especially coastal economies,

Recalling SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), in particular SDG target 6.5 on integrated water resources management,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 71/222 on the International Decade for Action, Water for Sustainable Development (2016), for increased cooperation and accelerated implementation of SDG 6,

Reiterating General Assembly resolution 1803 (XVII) (1962) on the Permanent Sovereignty Over Natural Resources,

Recognizing the role of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in supporting climate-resilient water governance and infrastructure, including through water security and adaptation projects in developing and water-stressed regions,

Acknowledging the Green Climate Fund for financing climate adaptation initiatives, including projects that enhance water security, strengthen drought resilience, and support sustainable water management systems in vulnerable Member States,

Recalling the contributions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), particularly through the *Water Convention*, in strengthening transboundary water cooperation and shared basin governance,

Applauding the work of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) as the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region and its Multi-Hazard Trust Fund that builds early warning systems for glacial lake bursts and tsunami and flood warnings in high-risk zones by providing geospatial data and technical training to bridge the gap between high-tech climate science and local disaster preparedness across the region,

Recognizing the role of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in advancing sustainable water resource management and addressing the environmental dimensions of the global water crisis, including ecosystem degradation and pollution,

Acknowledging the importance of nature-based solutions for disaster risk reduction and climate resilience across Member States,

Appreciating the work of UN-Water, the inter-agency mechanism dedicated exclusively to water issues, for their continued effort to coordinate the United Nations' work on water and sanitation through informing policy processes, supporting monitoring and reporting, and building knowledge to inspire people to take action,

1. *Promotes* the establishment and strengthening of communication infrastructure to ensure the rapid dissemination of critical information in affected regions, particularly underserved and high-risk areas, by:

    a. Expanding telephone networks, radio systems, mobile alert services, and official early warning platforms through public-private partnerships with telecommunications providers and technology companies;

    b. Providing financial and technical support for infrastructure deployment in rural, remote, mountain, and water-stressed communities with limited connectivity;

c. Integrating these systems with national disaster management agencies, meteorological institutions, and local authorities to enable real-time transmission of flood, drought, and glacier-related risk alerts;

2. *Proposes* harmonizing cross-border data collection and sharing by strengthening the GEMS/Water Programme, through voluntary participation and nationally controlled data contributions, encouraging implementation via coordinated frameworks led by UN agencies in partnership with national governments;

3. *Calls for* the rapid and effective dissemination of early warning alerts by communicating forecasts to the public and relevant institutions through:

    a. Multilingual public alert systems using SMS notifications, mobile applications, and radio broadcasts, particularly in rural and high-risk areas;

    b. Direct communication channels with schools, hospitals, municipal authorities, emergency services, and water-management agencies to ensure immediate institutional preparedness;

    c. Partnerships with telecommunications providers and digital platforms to guarantee fast and wide-reaching transmission of flood, storm surge, drought, and glacier-lake outburst flood warnings;

    d. Regular simulation exercises and public awareness campaigns to improve readiness and response capacity once alerts are issued;

4. *Advocates* Member States to strengthen transboundary water cooperation by promoting joint governance mechanisms and shared platforms for the sustainability of shared freshwater and marine resources, improving regional cooperation by managing joint basins and creating stronger agreements on shared rivers;

5. *Encourages* enhanced international cooperation on glacier and cryosphere monitoring through:

    a. Developing shared data-sharing platforms to improve transparency and accessibility of scientific information;

    b. Supporting joint scientific research initiatives among Member States, regional organizations, and relevant UN bodies;

    c. Establishing regional monitoring systems in mountain areas, particularly glacier-fed basins, to strengthen early warning and long-term forecasting capacities;

6. *Urges* Member States sharing transboundary glacier-fed river basins to develop or strengthen cooperative water governance frameworks grounded in IWMR, consistent with the SDGs;

7. *Proposes* a coordinated Mountain Water Resilience Program (MWRP) under UNEP in coordination with UN-Water, UNECE, UNDP, and the Green Climate Fund to develop a technical support track for mountainous and landlocked developing Member States and strengthen climate resilience, monitoring, and sustainable management of water systems originating in mountain regions, especially glacier-fed basins with four key components:

a. Hydrological and climate monitoring that focuses on expanding real-time data collection on glacier mass, snowpack, river flow, and precipitation including strengthening national hydrometeorological services and integrating data into regional and global platforms;

b. Ecosystem-based water management to promote nature-based solutions such as watershed restoration, reforestation, and soil conservation to stabilize water cycles and reduce runoff variability;

c. Sustainable water allocation and planning to support IWRM approaches that balance energy, agriculture, and ecosystem needs, particularly in glacier-fed systems;

d. Capacity-building and technical support with training for national institutions in data-analysis, climate modeling, and water governance;

8. *Recommends* a Voluntary Transboundary Water Data Compact guided by UNEP and UNECE, in collaboration with ESCAP to strengthen regional multi-hazard early warning systems, to monitor shared glacier, river, and reservoir data, enhance early warning systems for floods and droughts, establish standardized reporting aligned with SDG 6, increase funding for early warning systems in small and ecologically vulnerable states in coordination with relevant international financial institutions in order to strengthen their capacity to prepare for and respond to natural disasters and climate-related risks, improve regional stability, and prevent water-related conflicts between Member States;

9. *Promotes* fair access to climate finance and technology for a resilient water management, including support for climate-resilient freshwater systems, protection of coral reefs, and coastal ecosystems that safeguard water resources, through the improvement and establishment of accessible and transparent climate finance mechanisms under existing funds such as the Green Climate Fund to support Member States in addressing water-related challenges intensified by climate change, particularly in vulnerable regions;

10. *Highly recommends* strengthening the capacity for institutional response to alerts by developing effective evacuation plans, implementing water rationing protocols, emergency reservoir management systems, and optimizing protective infrastructure such as flood barriers, while particularly supporting developing countries to fill gaps in institutional capacity to respond effectively to warnings;

11. *Further encourages* the adoption of inclusive and sustainable water management solutions that integrate environmental protection, social equity, and economic resilience, with particular attention to vulnerable communities and water-stressed regions, by:

    a. Strengthening water governance through the creation or reinforcement of interministerial coordination bodies linking water, agriculture, urban planning, disaster risk reduction, and public health sectors;

    b. Promoting participatory decision-making frameworks that include local authorities, Indigenous communities, women, youth, farmers, and civil society organizations in water policy design and implementation;

12. *Supports* the use of technical adaptation measures to enhance climate resilience on water systems, particularly in developing and climate-vulnerable countries and in regions with special vulnerabilities such as rising sea-levels, extreme conditions of SIDS by sharing of best practices and technical knowledge through regional and global cooperation, enabling dissemination of successful policies, technologies, and governance models;

13. *Encourages* agricultural differentiation to reduce the high hydric level cultures, introducing new drought-resistant cultures;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to implement national strategies for crop diversification, incentivizing the transition from water-intensive monocultures to drought-resistant and salt-tolerant varieties, such as fodder crops, oilseeds, and pulses, which are better suited to arid and semi-arid climates;

15. *Urges* the adoption of modern irrigation technologies, specifically drip irrigation and automated sprinkler systems, to replace inefficient flood irrigation methods, aiming for a reduction in agricultural water wastage by at least 30 percent within the next decade;

16. *Calls upon* Member States to take urgent action to reduce water contamination caused by artisanal and small-scale mining, by promoting the gradual reduction and elimination of mercury use, supporting the adoption of safer and environmentally sustainable mining practices, and providing targeted assistance to Indigenous and rural communities affected by water pollution;

17. *Urges* Member States, particularly low-lying coastal and developing states, to implement adaptation strategies that mitigate the impacts of sea-level rise and barriers, saltwater intrusion, including the restoration and protection of natural coastal ecosystems such as mangroves, the development of salt-resistant agricultural systems, and the strengthening of infrastructure resilience in vulnerable coastal areas;

18. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen climate-resilient water management systems in response to changing precipitation patterns, through the adoption of IWRM, the improvement of water storage, distribution, and conservation systems, and the integration of climate data into national water planning strategies;

19. *Further invites* the establishment of international financial mechanisms and technology transfer programs aimed at modernizing irrigation systems to enhance climate resilience and reduce resource waste by:

    a. Expanding Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) programs internationally in the use of nature-based solutions, including ecosystem restoration and watershed protection, to strengthen water security and environmental resilience;

    b. Mobilizing voluntary contributions from Member States, multilateral development banks, and existing climate finance instruments, including the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility;

20. *Encourages* the development of climate-resilient water systems and infrastructure in SIDS, including through technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives;

21. *Recommends* the integration of climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies into national water governance frameworks to mitigate the impact of extreme weather events;

22. *Supports* the implementation of sustainable wastewater treatment systems and improved waste management practices to reduce water pollution and protect public health;

23. *Calls for* the creation of new modern irrigation systems, collaborating between neighboring countries, to manage irrigation and reduce losses by investing in new infrastructure to repair and modernize canals and improve water storage and distribution;

24. *Emphasizes* the transition to the energy-water nexus by prioritizing the deployment of decentralized renewable technologies, specifically solar-powered irrigation, to ensure a sustainable and low-cost water supply;

25. *Further calls for* enhanced international cooperation through data sharing, knowledge exchange, and joint monitoring systems to improve global water governance;

26. *Suggests* the creation of a multilateral governance framework for transparent data sharing and real-time monitoring of water levels to prevent conflict and foster diplomatic cooperation;

27. *Recommends* the creation of a multilateral Global Urban Water Resilience Platform under UNEP to integrate nature-based solutions, including wetland restoration, into national water, climate, and urban planning strategies, compile best nature-based solutions and practices on permeable infrastructure, green roofs, retention basins, and stormwater separation systems, offer voluntary technical guidelines and provide adaptable planning models for different national and municipal contexts, support technical exchanges between developed and developing countries, and collaborate with UN-Water to provide data on flood risks, urban drainage vulnerabilities, and water stress patterns in rapidly growing cities;

28. *Requests* UNEP to develop a technical support and capacity-building initiative for transboundary water governance by 2030, with the aim of assisting Member States, particularly those in drought-prone and transboundary river basin regions, to restart or formally update bilateral and multilateral water agreements;

29. *Calls upon* Member States to facilitate legally binding multilateral agreements for transboundary rivers, to develop joint monitoring mechanisms to oversee water flows and quality, and to promote the safe reuse of treated wastewater in accordance with international health and environmental standards, in order to alleviate pressure on primary water sources;

30. *Encourages* Member States to upgrade irrigation systems through technologies such as drip irrigation, micro-sprinklers, and soil moisture sensors, to support the cultivation of drought-tolerant crops and resilient farming practices, and to provide farmers with technical guidance and training on sustainable water management;

31. *Urges* Member States to prioritize the maintenance and modernization of pipelines and irrigation channels, to construct strategic water storage facilities to enhance drought preparedness, and to introduce consumption-based water management and levies to promote responsible water use.

Code: UNEA/1/11
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Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Deeply concerned that, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), 2.1 billion people still lack access to clean drinking water globally, and 3.4 billion are without access to safely managed sanitation,

Recalling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and SDG 13 (climate action) as well as the proclaimed action on International Decade for Action in General Assembly resolution 71/222 on Water for Sustainable Development,

Taking into account SDG 14 (life below water), on conservation and sustainable use of the ocean, given its importance for marine-based economies and Small Islands Developing States (SIDS),

Recalling the efforts made in the 2014-2024 decade in the framework of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway (SAMOA Pathway), the program of action for supporting SIDS in achieving sustainable development,

Reaffirming UNEA-6 resolution 13 on Strengthening Water Policies for Sustainability, regarding effective and inclusive solutions that highlight the need to address financing gaps, water scarcity issues, and increased implementation of Integrated Water Resource Management (IRWM) as well as collecting data on water,

Recognizing the uneven access to financial resources remains a primary barrier for many Member States, particularly SIDS, in implementing effective water quality protection, ecosystem restoration, and climate-resilient water infrastructure,

Reaffirming Articles 9 and 11 of the *Paris Agreement* (2015), which call for Member States to finance and support capacity-building to foster technological development and access to climate finance to address climate change for developing countries,

Recognizing that inclusive water governance requires the meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, whose knowledge systems, a body of observations, oral and written knowledge, innovations, practises, and beliefs developed by Tribes and Indigenous Peoples, contribute significantly to the protection and restoration of freshwater and coastal ecosystems,

Acknowledging the rapidly approaching 2030 deadline for the worldwide completion of the SDGs, especially in the context of the slow progress towards the global completion of SDG 6, and subsequently the global completion of all the SDGs, it would be imperative to extend the agenda of worldwide completion of all SDGs,

Taking into account that the issue of water scarcity is multifaceted, it is important to have responsible and timely leadership during water-related disasters that utilizes specialized skills for managing extreme situations appropriately,

Emphasizing that without addressing the discrepancies in climate conditions between Member States, inclusive water policies cannot arise,

Viewing with appreciation Member States that have implemented Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and created programs which utilize NbS within local communities, such as Indonesia employing the Program Penyediaan Air Minum dan Sanitasi Berbasis Masyarakat (PAMSIMAS), Solomon Islands being part of the Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change Plus Project (PEBACC+) to strengthen the resilience of ecological, economic, and social systems in the face of climate change in the Pacific and New Zealand's efforts on Advancing Blue carbon in Coastal Wetlands which mitigate effects from disasters related to water, and also allow for economic productivity and agricultural self-sufficiency,

Reaffirming its commitment to the multilateral implementation of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015), especially SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), and SDG 15 (life on land), within the international framework as well as in national policies and strategies to ensure that all Member States are striving towards sustainability,

Reaffirming the principle of sovereignty in Article 2 of the United Nations Charter, to inform, promote, and guide practical cooperation that respects national sovereignty, enables burden sharing, and rejects the discrimination of any country,

Expressing grave concern over the severe saltwater intrusion into agricultural land due to poor water security management and over the negative effects of climate change and pollution on blue economies, which impact the national water security and economic systems of Member States,

1. *Encourages* Member States to integrate Indigenous knowledge systems, co-governance mechanisms, and community-driven monitoring approaches into national and regional water policy frameworks; supported by UNEP-led knowledge sharing platforms and technical assistance initiatives, in cooperation with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII):

    a. Facilitating the systematic inclusion of traditional ecological knowledge alongside scientific data in water quality monitoring, ecosystem assessment, and early-warning systems through national guidelines;

    b. Developing ethical and legal guidelines for the recognition, protection, and appropriate use of Indigenous ecological knowledge in environmental governance;

    c. Encouraging UNEP, in cooperation with UNPFII, to compile best practices and case studies of Indigenous-led oversight and co-governance models;

2. *Recommends* Member States facing water-related challenges to work in closer multilateral collaboration at a regional and international level, both within and outside the UN body, to promote collective problem-solving functional to the implementation of effective national policies:

    a. Promote the exchange of best practices, technologies, and implementation experiences through regularly scheduled leaders' forums in order to advance national planning policies;

    b. Emphasizes scalable and adaptable solutions for sustainable water governance through transboundary community meetings, in order to support the emergence of bottom-up nature-based and locally tailored solutions;

    c. Enhance collaborative learning through the promotion of international scientific conferences, fostering the participation of scientists and experts from developed countries through appropriate funding;

3. *Fosters* the formation of an UN-Water supported open-ended working group on Effective and Inclusive Policy Solutions mobilized by the UNEP to complement existing mechanisms by providing a focused, time-bound 2035 assessment of implementing solutions for financial gaps:

    a. Notes that consolidating operational lessons across regions is necessary;

    b. Instructs this working group to be operational no later than 2028;

    c. Considers this an opportunity to closely cooperate with the ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources management (AWGWRM);

4. *Invites* Member States and private investors to participate in a voluntary fresh water trust fund hosted by the Green Climate Fund to invest in water projects, including integrated resource water management (IRWM):

    a. Endorses the mobilization of multilateral and regional development banks such as the Sovereign Wealth Fund and the Asian Development Bank (ADB);

    b. Incentivising private companies to utilize, if possible, respective Export Credit Agencies (ECAs) as export credit guarantee in favor of credit fallout of financially weaker Member States at mega water management projects;

5. *Encourages* the implementation of bioremediation as an accessible and low-cost method for Nature-based solutions (NbS):

    a. Bearing in mind that bioremediation is the use of microorganisms (i.e., algae, bacteria, fungi, etc.) in order to remove or neutralize contaminants in groundwater, soil, and other organic matter by neutralizing them into less harmful byproducts, by using locally available material and indigenous knowledge rather than cost-intensive industrial and chemical methods;

    b. Encourages the incentivization of NbS techniques research performed by Member States' specific NGO, such as the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), as well as by Observer States with available financial and institutional resources to support such initiatives;

    c. Establishes natural solutions to the water crisis through community and governmental communication;

    d. Expresses hope that the prioritization of bioremediation as an NbS will aid in increasing biodiversity and improving freshwater quality and access;

6. *Proposes* the expansion of the successful ASEAN Hydroinformatics Data Centre (AHC**)** into a global scope as a data platform to systematically synthesize real-time meteorological, hydrological, and geospatial datasets into actionable predictive models to fortify regional climate disaster resilience and optimize collaborative water resource management with the added functionality of water accountancy by:

    a. Supporting standardization of data metrics for water extraction, reservoir levels, and basin of origin;

    b. Constructing a transparent and standardized auditing process of water usage:

        i. Leveraging regional hubs to organize and develop audit processes in a democratic and effective matter;

ii. Advocating for water consumption transparency via a "No Meter, No Pump" rule for private organizations, forcing organizations to collect and open access to their water consumption by;

c. Encouraging licensing abstraction by tying the legal right to extract water directly to the installation and maintenance of standardized telemetry meters;

d. Promoting the classification of large-scale water consumption as public-interest data and requiring it to be published in corporate sustainability reports;

e. Suggesting implementing heavy fines, mandatory third-party audits, and immediate permit revocation for meter tampering or data withholding;

7. *Expresses the need* for expanding the utilization of the "Hub-and-Spoke" System from the AHC from a solely Data Collection and Technology sharing functionality into further expanding to supporting the developing countries, education, and involvement of minorities in water management, as well as supporting the local and global development of fisheries policies by:

a. Advocating for full participation of all regional nations in the decision-making architecture of the regional hubs;

b. Helping with the implementation of regionally based policies by expanding locally developed best practices, for the displacement and replacement of communities affected by severe water-related climate events;

c. Encouraging the open-sourcing of technologies for the telemetry data collection of water to all nations;

8. *Further recommends* Member States to integrate data-based early warning systems for floods, droughts, and coastal erosion-related problems to improve resilience and limit the socio-economic impact on the population:

a. Consider the program that would be integrated into small islands or Member States in high risk of floods and coastal erosion, a monitoring data system that collects water data from each monitoring area with sensors or a weather data collector, accessible to the population, similar to the Water Data For the Nation (WDFN), an initiative by the United States of America;

b. The establishment of a Water Innovation Hub (WIH), led by UNEP, to coordinate research, develop sustainable water management tools, and scale NbS globally, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs), to reach the purpose on a larger scale;

9. *Strongly encourages* Member States to implement international data collection on ocean health and ocean pollution, marine biodiversity, and coral reef bleaching, integrating with data on freshwater, rain patterns, and droughts through the initiative of The United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, concluding in 2030:

a. Encourages Member States that have achieved success to support and finance developing Member States in the implementation and participation in these hubs through financial, technological, and educational support;

b. Calls for the conscientious involvement and refined education of local communities in data detection;

c. Fosters the strategic use of collected data to inform the adoption of financially sound and sustainable fisheries policies and practices at both local and international levels;

10. *Discusses* the potential creation of “WaterDi-Manage” initiative for SIDS and coastal States vulnerable to water disasters in cooperation with UN-Water and the IASC Emergency Team Leadership Program, in order to provide expertise and educational assistance for local leaders of the states in need of developing disaster and risk-management systems:

    a. Recommends facilitating research sharing and collaboration of local experts and leaders between SIDS and coastal Member States through the “WaterDi-Manage” initiative in order to exchange water efficient technologies, promoting clean water access;

    b. Invites Member States with achieved successes in efficient water management and the high level of water access among the population to commit to the development of “WaterDi-Manage” Initiative, creating a collaborative effort in:

        i. Assisting the states in need with educational support, such as but not limited to training, seminars, and work exchange programs for local leaders and responsible specialists;

        ii. Development of disaster management roadmaps tailored to the state's needs and vulnerabilities.

Code: UNEA/1/12
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Guided by the principles established in the *Charter of the United Nations* (UDHR) (1945), the United Nations empowers the committee to collaborate and increase water security globally for a cleaner planet,

Determined to fulfill United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 5/14 on “ending plastic pollution” (2022) and its goal of ending plastic pollution,

Confident in this resolution’s ability to continue the progress made by UNEA 3/10 on “restoring water related ecosystems” (2017),

Recognizing the effect that polluted waterway systems can have on global bodies of water as outlined in multiple United Nations Environment Programme reports, including the Ganges, Citarum, Niger, Yangtze, and Pasig,

Recognizing also that river pollution disproportionately impacts developing nations with limited infrastructure, technical, and monetary capacity,

Acknowledging that effective water management requires economic development, capacity building, and international cooperation,

Emphasizing the need for practical, science-based solutions tailored to national capabilities,

Noting the success of the European Union’s River Basin Management framework and the standard it sets for waterway management,

Commending regional initiatives to legislate on the use of transboundary watercourses, such as the Niger Basin Authority’s Niger Basin Water Charter and China’s Ecological Conservation Redline system,

Aware of the existence of individual groups that study the health of regional rivers. However, these groups lack a unifying international governing body to collect data and implement policy based on the collected data,

Believing that this resolution will set a precedent for future policy aimed at reducing pollution in waterways,

1. *Calls fo*r the General Assembly to establish an International River Restoration Agency (IRRA) targeting the most polluted river systems globally, prioritizing regions with high population dependency;

2. *Establishes* a Priority River Action Framework (PRAF), which outlines a set of key performance indicators (KPIs) that will be used as an index to measure the sustainability of rivers;

3. *Further recommends* that the KPI’s used to judge the health of these rivers will be used to judge the future health of all global rivers. The establishment of these KPI’s as globally accepted standards for water quality will allow for governance bodies to see early warning signs and act before it is too late. The KPI’s would help measure:

a. The amount of solid waste present in rivers;

b. The amount of toxic waste present in a rivers;

4. *Observing* the establishment of the IRRA, a governing body within the agency should be established, made up of Member States to represent the waterways identified as undergoing high levels of pollution, membership of this governing body would rotate to represent the countries facing river pollution at a given time, ensuring relevant stakeholders are represented, this governing body would establish;

5. *Recommends* that the UNEA leverages the contributions from existing river basin frameworks, such as, but not limited to, the Niger Basin Authority, to create a unified global standard, as this resolution does not seek to replace states' existing frameworks but give these frameworks a global standard to achieve;

6. *Reaffirming* the legitimacy of this project by advocating for the establishment of an advising group within the governing body made up of regional Member States that have successfully reversed waterway pollution, these states will remain a part of this group unless:

    a. States fail to uphold the restoration of their rivers measured by the outlined Key Performance Indicators;

    b. In this case the respective state will be removed and replaced by a state that has demonstrated a commitment to restoration;

7. *Invites* the application of artificial intelligence overseen by the IRRA to produce a publicly available global database to help monitor and share data directly relating to the KPIs, ensuring that Member States can recognize early warning signs of extreme pollution in waterways:

    a. The use of Artificial Intelligence as a continuous, critical analysis tool to monitor levels of pollutants within bodies of water;

    b. The sharing of information, specifically to further develop AI monitoring and to prevent AI hallucinations;

8. *Calls for* the use of underwater acoustic monitoring systems to monitor illegal dumping or discharge activities, and to enhance the enforcement of regulations in these unmonitored areas is also encouraged, as well as the mobilization of financial resources through instruments such as the Green Climate Fund, highlighting the potential for such systems to be used for adaption to climate change and for water resilience, especially in vulnerable and developing Member States;

9. *Considering* the funding required for many of these projects often exceeds the monetary capabilities of developing nations, and the United Nations, increased opportunities for funding will be required to ensure these projects achieve their goals;

10. *Encourages* the deployment of targeted infrastructure projects along priority rivers, with the goal of significantly reducing plastic, solid, and toxic waste, such as:

    a. Construction of wastewater treatment facilities in high-density urban areas;

    b. Establishment of solid waste interception systems, river barriers, and skimmers;

    c. Rehabilitation of informal waste disposal sites near riverbanks;

d. Public-private partnerships;

e. Development banks and United Nations agencies;

f. Voluntary contributions from developed nations;

11. *Recommends* that Member States adopt River Protection Zones to achieve the global standards determined through this body, these zones would be located along critical sections of these rivers to restrict direct industrial discharge, regulate high-risk activities near waterways, and support ecosystem restoration efforts;

12. *Suggests* international funding mechanisms specifically earmarked for rivers recognized as significant contributors to global waterway pollution, including;

    a. Grants for low-income states dependent on these waterways;

    b. Public-private partnerships for infrastructure development;

    c. Incentive-based initiative models, such as the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization water resilience challenge, which rewards states for improvements in water security and ecosystem restoration;

    d. Incentives for clean technology adoption by local industries;

13. *Recommends* phased implementation of waste management projects that allow developing nations to prioritize infrastructure development before stricter regulatory enforcement;

14. *Affirms* that this implementation must follow a phased, development-first approach, ensuring that developing nations are not burdened by premature regulatory requirements and are supported through capacity-building and technology transfer.

Code: UNEA/1/13
Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic: Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of the Triple Planetary Crisis

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Conscious of the need for regionalized environmental hubs to help advise and guide development, and developed Member States to achieve efficient, cheap, and sustainable water sourcing,

Appreciating the benefit of cooperation and knowledge-sharing in regard to Nature-based Solutions (NbS) among Member States of comparable ecological conditions, climates, and biomes,

Affirming existing transboundary cooperation and as suggested by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 (clean water and sanitation), target 6.5 on implementing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at all levels,

Acknowledging that different geographical regions and biomes face unique vulnerabilities to climate change,

Recalling the United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/5 on “Nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development” and its call to incorporate actions to protect, conserve, restore, and manage natural or modified ecosystems to address environmental, social, and economic challenges,

Recognizing the unique vulnerabilities possessed by all Member States, posed by the triple planetary crisis, especially Member States within the global south,

Taking inspiration from the successful Nature-based Solutions Asian Hub launched by China to accelerate the adoption of nature-based strategies across Asia, as well as the Sagamartha Sambaad 2025 conference to increase dialogue on climate change and NbS within vulnerable ecosystems,

1. *Advises* the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to form the United Nations Nature-based Solutions Advising Committee (UNNSAC) tasked with the systematization of voluntary regional and global dialogue on NbS, especially on matters of data-, knowledge-, and policy-sharing;

2. *Requests* UNNSAC advise and support a willing Member State within each region in establishing a permanent, administrative hub charged with the organization and dissemination of conference information and the implementation of NbS in Member States, and in collaboration with the UN Environmental Program (UNEP);

3. *Suggests* that the regional hubs established by willing Member States act as collaborative and multilateral platforms to promote sustainable development through NbS research, improve strong partnerships across different regions, coordinate research on NbS, accelerate NbS adoption through research, training, and policy making, and help advise Member States on sustainable and effective water policies, by:

    a. Encouraging Member States willing to participate in those hubs to encourage their experts to support their own regional hub by sharing new scientific advancements on NbS;

b. Organizing non-binding annual regional conferences dedicated to knowledge sharing regarding NbS and the unique vulnerabilities posed by Member States within said regions, as described by the United Nations Geoscheme's geographical subregions;

c. Respecting the right of every Member State to choose to what extent they are willing to share new scientific advancements and knowledge in the NbS field;

d. Suggesting the non-competitive use of NbS knowledge;

e. Recognizing the sovereignty of Member States to choose what to implement in their own states without imposing the use of specific NbS;

4. *Requests* the formation of additional thematic advising environmental conferences, through the UNNSAC, analogous to the regional advising environmental hubs, dealing with water policy issues based on biomes shared by Member States, as defined by the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology, including the 7 Terrestrial biomes, 4 Freshwater biomes, and 3 transitional Marine-Terrestrial biomes, in order to facilitate the sharing of strategic water policy knowledge and solutions among the Member States to whom it is most relevant;

5. *Calls* for the UNNSAC to also establish a multilateral Annual Global Summit on NbS to be held annually, after each regional hub has had its own annual conference, to share the progress that has been made on NbS and to share ideas on future areas of research for NbS, by:

    a. Reuniting every subregional and thematic hub;

    b. Encouraging the Annual Global Summit on NbS to be hosted by a different voluntary Member-States from a rotating subregion of the world, leading in NbS, every year:

        i. Suggesting that any willing Member State may become a permanent funder of the Annual Global Summit on NbS and would be considered a co-host of the Summit, alongside the Member State hosting it;

        ii. Recommending that co-hosts aid in funding, planning, and organizing the Summit, including content and programming, logistics, operations, and execution;

    c. Including presentations on diverse NbS areas and progress, given by presenters and experts from Member States from each subregional and thematic hubs;

    d. Presenting projects and ideas that align with the goals of the hubs from every Member State willing to participate.