Documentation of the Simulation of the

United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)*

Conference B

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United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

Committee Staff

Director	Pauline Bischoff
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Agenda

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

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
UNEA/1/1	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/2	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/3	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/4	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/5	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote

UNEA/1/6	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/7	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote
UNEA/1/8	Effective and Inclusive Water Policy Solutions in the Context of Triple Planetary Crisis	Adopted without a vote

United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

The United Nations Environment Assembly held its 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 Policy for a Pollution-Free Planet

The first session was attended by 104 Member States and one Observer.

The committee adopted the agenda in the order of topic 1, then topic 2. Debates were constructive and collaborative, focusing on international cooperation, governance, infrastructure, technology, data, biodiversity, finance, and regional approaches.

By Wednesday, the Dais had received nine working papers. This resulted in the approval of eight draft resolutions. Voting on Thursday was preceded by the committee's proposal of seven amendments. Ongoing internet issues required the committee to rely on placard voting rather than recorded voting, which was particularly challenging given the committee’s size. All eight draft resolutions were adopted without a vote.

The adopted resolutions reflected a comprehensive approach to water policy within the triple planetary crisis. Despite procedural challenges, the committee maintained a productive and cooperative atmosphere. Due to time constraints, Topic II was not discussed.

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

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recognizing the increasing pressure on global water resources due to climate change and population,

Bearing in mind the endangerment of water as a fundamental resource for sustainable development and public well-being in accordance with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 6, 13, 14, and 15,

Acknowledging that water security is central to combat the Triple Planetary Crisis, including climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss,

Alarmed that, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than one in four people lack access to clean and safe drinking water, leading to over one million deaths per year,

Noting with alarm that only 37 percent of countries are implementing integrated water resource management at an advanced level as of 2024, reflecting a significant and dangerous implementation gap,

Acknowledging the strain that climate change has on water availability for irrigation practices and soil,

Emphasizing the importance of sustainable water governance for economic stability, public health, and environmental protection,

Expressing concern that the Triple Planetary Crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution poses significant threats to global water systems and sustainable development,

Recalling that 40% of Member States lack Early Warning Systems, leaving one third of the world's population unprotected from floods and droughts,

Guided by the role of the United Nations Water (UN-Water) in improving coordination among Member States and international organizations on water-related issues,

Mindful of the escalating severity of water insecurity in the Triple Planetary Crisis and its disproportionate impacts on developing nations and environmentally vulnerable regions,

Affirming the necessity of accessible, affordable, and scalable water desalination and recycling technologies to meet global needs targets,

Recognizing the importance of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, particularly SDG 6, and the need for measurable targets, effective monitoring systems, and international cooperation to ensure its implementation,

Further supported by Early Warning Systems implemented in Member States like Nepal, which have improved warning time for residents, preventing deaths from floods and drought,

Noting the potential of sustainable resource management and environmentally responsible mineral extraction as a means of generating funding for water desalination and sanitation initiatives,

Bearing in mind the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), over 40% of waterways are

contaminated, affecting people's health and environmental growth,

Gravely concerned that flood-related deaths have increased by 134% in the last twenty years due to increased hazards, according to the United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Global Assessment Report (GAR) Hazards report (2025),

Fully aware that 70% of natural disaster-related deaths in the last 50 years can be attributed to water-related disasters and outdated floodwater management, according to the *At the Center of the Climate Crisis Report* (2025),

Expressing appreciation for the UN-Water Collaborative Implementation Plan (2025) and its operationalization of coordinated global action on water security and wastewater management through integrated water resources management,

Alarmed by the fact that 2.4 billion people currently live in water-stressed countries and over 700 million lack access to safe drinking water, underscoring the urgent need for immediate and coordinated international action,

Recognizing the role of international organizations such as the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the International Water Association (IWA) in strengthening water monitoring systems, data collection, and early warning capacities,

Fully recognizing the importance of non-government organizations (NGOs), which operate independently from government, in providing support and services widely throughout communication between NGOs,

Emphasizing the role of international cooperation in promoting technology sharing and removing barriers to sustainable development, affirming the importance of innovative financial structures to support equitable participation in water availability,

Recognizing the vital role of the World Meteorological Organization in providing global hydrological data, climate monitoring, and early warning systems that support effective and data-driven water resource management,

Considering that two-thirds of the world’s population is facing severe water scarcity due to climate change and natural disasters, especially due to droughts affecting more than 55 million people annually, which significantly stress the agricultural industry,

Keeping in mind that weak infrastructure and pollution have caused a lack of clean water in the African region and surrounding countries, a problem likely to worsen as climate change and population growth continue,

Aware that the Green Climate Fund (GCF) has mobilized over $50 billion in climate investments globally, demonstrating the transformative potential of multilateral blended finance mechanisms when adequately resourced and targeted,

Deeply concerned by the fact that vulnerable communities, such as developing countries, indigenous populations, women, and children, face disproportionate challenges in accessing clean water and adequate financing for water infrastructure, resulting in increased exposure to water scarcity, flooding, and environmental degradation,

Keeping in mind the formative evaluation of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) report on Gravity-Fed Water Supply Systems (GFS), finding it to be an effective and cost-efficient water supply solution capable of providing continuous 24-hour access over a 20-year

lifespan, at approximately $1.40 per person annually,

1. *Urges* Member States to support the expansion and long-term sustainability of GFS through capacity building, rehabilitation of existing infrastructure, and the development of sustainable initiatives, including but not limited to:

    a. Increase funding and technical assistance from international organizations, including UNICEF, UNEP, GCF, and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to scale implementation of GFS in underserved and rural regions;

    b. Partnerships between local governments, specifically health departments, NGOs, and community stakeholders, to ensure community ownership, training, and maintenance of GFS systems;

    c. UNEP to strengthen local resources for more effective GFS implementation through:

        i. The integration of GFS projects into national climate adaptation and rural development strategies to combat water scarcity and improve equal access;

2. *Encourages* the establishment of a co-funding mechanism, to be managed and mediated by the World Bank, which:

    a. Would assess contributions from Member States voluntarily, with a recommended minimum contribution benchmark based on the total monetary holdings of each participating Member State at the end of the fiscal year through:

        i. International financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and regional development banks;

        ii. United Nations bodies and specialized agencies**;**

        iii. Private sector stakeholders, including multinational corporations, philanthropic foundations, and impact investment funds;

        iv. Public-private partnerships and blended finance instruments;

    b. Would distribute funding through:

        i. Needs-based grants allocated to least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS);

        ii. Concessional, low-interest loans for developing and middle-income countries;

        iii. Performance-based financing tied to measurable outcomes in water desalination, sanitation infrastructure, and sustainable agricultural development;

        iv. Technical assistance packages to support project implementation and capacity-building;

    c. And maintains transparency, accountability, and equitable access in all funding allocations by:

        i. Publishing annual audited financial reports and project impact assessments;

ii. Establishing an independent oversight body composed of Member State representatives and third-party experts;

iii. Ensuring geographic balance and prioritization of high-need and climate-vulnerable regions;

iv. Implementing anti-corruption safeguards and requesting open-access data platforms for all funded projects;

3. *Recommends* the implementation of a “water passport” in the form of an app to track the environmental impacts and water use to support Early Warning Mechanisms and strategic priorities, such as investment decisions, and enhancing public accountability in water through ways such as, but not limited to:

    a. Including language that contains the official terminology of policies in more accessible resources for community members;

    b. Incorporating the continents, the countries, the regions, as well as localities, to understand the challenges in the specific area and to implement solutions for communities;

    c. Encouraging participation in these programs through self-assigned and voluntary so-called “Blue Guardians” with the mission to educate people in schools, workshops, seminars, and senior homes, making knowledge accessible;

4. *Suggests* the GCF to establish dedicated blended finance windows for water infrastructure in water-stressed developing countries through:

    a. Providing technical training and financial assistance to Member States that request assistance to improve water infrastructure and monitoring systems;

    b. Establishing regional workshops and digital platforms to share best practices in water governance, climate adaptation, and pollution control;

    c. Supporting community-based water management programs that ensure the active participation of local communities, Indigenous populations, and other vulnerable groups in water-related decision-making processes;

5. *Requests* the UNEP, UN-Water, and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to facilitate capacity-building programs and knowledge-sharing initiatives to support sustainable water management globally, by:

    a. The provision of concessional financing and risk-sharing mechanisms to attract private sector investment in water supply, irrigation, and sanitation systems;

    b. Prioritizing projects that enhance agricultural productivity and resilience, particularly in drought-prone and food-insecure regions;

    c. Supporting the development of sustainable and climate-resilient water management technologies and infrastructure;

    d. Promoting partnerships between governments, NGOs, and academic institutions to strengthen local expertise and long-term sustainability;

6. *Expresses its hope* for Member States to utilize further the UNDP Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) project, working together to protect water resources and properly manage soil in an ever-changing climate;

7. *Endorses* Member States to construct regional programs modeled after the GCF's Enhanced climate resilience through Integrated Flood Management project, which promotes nature-based flood management solutions and strengthened flood management infrastructure through establishing agroforestry systems and the rehabilitation of water towers;

8. *Draws the attention* of Member States to participate in the UNEP's CityAdapt project, using urban planning methods, roadmapping, and the implementation of Nature-Based Solutions to increase climate and water resilience:

    a. Leak detection sensors;

    b. Real-time monitoring sensors;

    c. Data-sharing platforms;

9. *Calls for* Member States to adopt a voluntary framework to maintain sovereignty, on the construction of boreholes, rainwater cisterns and the use of nature based solutions, such as using native plant species, to combat biodiversity loss, climate related disasters, and water pollution in tandem with working with local community members to generate income opportunities as well as promoting and fostering long term project sustainability by:

    a. Educating community members on how to maintain their communities encourages them to continue to maintain their communities, which fosters long-term project sustainability;

    b. Generating income opportunities for disadvantaged communities also helps encourage economic development, which later leads to higher standards of living;

    c. Cooperation with the World Bank Group (WBG) as well as financially capable individual Member States;

10. *Supports* strengthening collaboration between the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), regional organizations, and scientific institutions to promote science and evidence-based policymaking, by:

    a. Encouraging the creation of joint research initiatives and data-sharing networks to improve the accessibility of reliable environmental data;

    b. Expanding the role of scientific advisory bodies within UNEA to better integrate scientific findings into policy recommendations;

    c. Promoting cross-border cooperation through regional frameworks to address shared water challenges, such as transboundary pollution and resource management;

    d. Supporting the development of standardized methodologies for environmental monitoring and reporting to ensure consistency and transparency across Member States;

11. *Encourages* the expansion of technical and financial cooperation through Japan's International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to support capacity-building, infrastructure development, and sustainable water management in developing countries;

12. *Suggests* Member States to eliminate tariffs and taxes on agricultural products produced specifically for desalinated and sanitized water, emphasizing taxability and non-required tariffs based on resource restrictions, through:

    a. Suggest creating desalinated, purified, or otherwise sustainable water systems, which are essential environmental goods;

    b. Help facilitate the use of climate mitigation technologies to facilitate global accessibility;

    c. Strongly encourages collaboration during challenges that result in a lack of human resources;

13. *Requests* UNEP to encourage Member States, particularly developing countries, to implement, with support from developed countries through funding and technical assistance, smart water management technologies;

14. *Emphasizes* establishing a shared international patent pool under the governance of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for technologies dedicated to water desalination and sanitation mitigation, which:

    a. Promotes voluntary patent contributions from Member States, private sector actors, and research institutions;

    b. Ensures equitable access to green technologies, particularly for developing countries;

    c. Provides fair and structured compensation mechanisms for patent holders while prioritizing environmental sustainability;

15. *Affirms the need for* Member States by the next fiscal year *to* implement institutions that oversee a sustainable mineral extraction clause to support self-funding of the initiative, which:

    a. Encourages the responsible extraction with adherence to ecological regulations, and commercialization of minerals such as lithium, salt, and other environmentally significant resources;

    b. Directs a portion of generated revenues toward the co-funding mechanism; annual commercial reports regarding sustainability practices; In accordance with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);

    c. Establishes distinct environmental and ethical standards to prevent ecological harm and ensure the protection of local communities;

16. *Reaffirms* the need for a sustainable water management system coordinated regionally and internationally to combat water scarcity:

    a. Encourage the implementation of a rainwater harvesting and storage system (RWHSS) to address the water scarcity, especially in the agricultural industry, to maximize the sustainability of the water supply;

    b. Further requests for the rehabilitation of water storage tanks and dams in the areas where they face severe water scarcity;

    c. Creating transboundary water treaties, modeled after the Indus Water Treaty, in accordance with the water convention;

17. *Further recommends* other nations to implement solar and hydropowered infrastructure modeled after the GCF's *Source Pacific Drinking Water Project,* which uses hydro panels for green salinization projects to endorse SDG 6;

18. *Calls for* the establishment of a regional funding mechanism to support water infrastructure projects in developing countries, particularly in vulnerable and rural communities:

    a. Encourages the development of climate-resilient water education programs;

    b. Prioritize the impacts of droughts, floods, and changing climate patterns;

    c. Urges developed countries and relevant international financial institutions to provide financial assistance and technology transfer:

        i. Promotes public -private partnerships to mobilize additional funding and resources for water-related infrastructure;

19. *Calls upon* Member States to establish Early Warning Centers to monitor drought and flood conditions in their respective areas:

    a. Establish a standardized monitoring system that creates clear and understandable reflections of these systems;

    b. Focus on creating Regional Agreements to support Early Warning Systems;

    c. Creates opportunities for Member States to share knowledge on how to effectively establish and use these systems;

20. *Further invites* Member States to develop green infrastructures such as sponge cities, green infrastructures are not only affordable but also effective, such infrastructure captures around 21% to 90% contaminates towards waterways:

    a. It helps in absorbing, purifying, and storing rainwater, also reducing the percentage of flooding and droughts in cities;

    b. This program is based on a more natural infrastructure, where the use of the environment is fundamental;

    c. Projects that initiate a change in concrete spaces to green would increase water restoration and absorption:

        i. The implementation of this method can assist in reducing pollution, increasing drinkable clean water, and water restoration;

21. *Suggest* Member States align national water policies with Sustainable Development Goal 6 under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by:

    a. Developing and implementing national action plans with measurable targets to improve water quality, sanitation access, and efficient water use;

    b. Investing in sustainable and climate-resilient water infrastructure, particularly in underserved and rural areas;

c. Strengthening legal and regulatory frameworks to enforce water protection standards and reduce pollution from industrial and agricultural sources, including through enhanced data collection and reporting mechanisms to track progress toward SDG 6 targets and ensure accountability, as well as promoting international cooperation and funding mechanisms to support countries with limited financial and technical capacity;

22. *Endorses* regional dialogue forums bringing together local leaders, vulnerable groups, and technical experts to inform national water strategy development;

23. *Urges* Member States to increase the share of climate finance directed toward water infrastructure and nature-based solutions to a minimum of 5% of total climate finance by 2030.

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

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Emphasizing the *Charter of the United Nations* signed in 1945 and its principles of international cooperation and sustainable development, which serve as the foundation for international relations and promote the maintenance of peace, security, and human rights,

Reaffirming both United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/292 and Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 51/19 in recognizing the human right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation,

Taking into consideration the 2025-2030 Framework on strengthening the environment by means of integrating research, education, and policy at the forefront in support of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (quality education),

Deeply concerned by the 2.1 billion people that still lack adequate access to safe and clean drinking water, as identified by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in the *Progress on Household Drinking Water and Sanitation 2000–2024: Special Focus on Inequalities*,

Gravely alarmed that 70% of the world's major aquifers show long-term declining trends due to unsustainable extraction, negatively impacting drinking water security and food production, according to the United Nations University and Institute for Water and Environmental Health report *Global Water Bankruptcy* (2026),

Fully aware of the effects that modern farming practices have on greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, and that many regions of the world are classified in critical levels of water stress,

Guided by the adaptation to climate resilient infrastructure to mitigate water-related climate disasters in the context of the Triple Planetary Crisis,

Taking into account the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and its role in wetland conservation,

Desiring the shared responsibility of Member States to regulate pollution, water waste management, and promote biodiversity,

Acknowledging the danger of natural disasters as well as the importance of transboundary knowledge sharing in reducing the degree of damage that will be caused by future events,

Fully believing in the human right to safe and potable water, in accordance with Sustainable Development Goals 6 (clean water and sanitation), 13 (climate action), and 14 (life below water), the Paris Agreement, the United Nations Decade for Action: Water for Sustainable Development (Water Action Decade), the World Water Quality Alliance, and the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 3/10,

Noting with appreciation the progress made under UNEA resolution 5/14 (2022) in addressing plastic pollution across its full life cycle, and its implications for water quality and aquatic ecosystems,

Highlighting the value of existing circular economy models as a widely used standard for the development of international water governance that may place less stress on freshwater reserves,

Expressing interest in operationalizing the allocation of funds for climate projects through organizations similar to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), World Bank (WB), International Monetary Fund (IMF), European Investment Bank (EIB), and the Adaptation Fund (AF),

Viewing with appreciation the creation of laws mirroring Luxembourg's Drinking Water Law and Environmental Protection Policy that created a system that would regulate pollutants, such as pesticides, heavy metals, and harmful chemicals,

1. *Suggests* implementing a national observatory that aligns with the research done at the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology to access data in real-time;

2. *Invites* Member States to model regional initiatives after the International Fund for Agricultural Development's Adapting Irrigation to Climate Change, which manages water resources in western and central Africa through nature-based solutions (NbS), investment in irrigation systems, and other assistance to adapt to climate change;

3. *Recommends* creating agreements between Member States to reduce the climate change impacts of "modern" farming methods such as synthetic fertilizers, mechanized irrigation techniques, and intensive tilling, by using green, natural farming methods to combat greenhouse gas emissions and save our water by:

    a. Advising the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to provide evidence-based scientific resources and increased funding for further research on irrigation and drainage processes;

    b. Encouraging United Nations Member States to adopt cleaner irrigation and drainage technologies and use natural fertilizers;

4. *Emphasizing* its hope that Member States adopt the European Union's Water Reuse Regulation model, also known as a "circular economy model," which sets minimum quality and monitoring requirements to:

    a. Ensure treated urban wastewater is reused for agricultural and industrial irrigation, reducing freshwater stress, especially for states with poor water resources;

    b. Provide technical assistance to developing Member States who are seeking to establish water reuse facilities and frameworks through the UNEP;

    c. Adapt to the environmental, economic, and infrastructural conditions of each Member State;

5. *Proposes* that Member States fully implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, applying water management solutions at an individual basin-level approach, and working with the local community and indigenous groups;

6. *Encourages* to kindly request the United Nations Development Programme and the Global Environment Facility to introduce an app called "the Water Passport" which informs continents,

countries, and regions regarding their water policies, regulations, situations, and respective challenges that will:

    a. Include a subsection explaining terminology in simpler words to make the knowledge understandable for everyone;

    b. Monitor the current situation and allow emergency responders to be notified by the app;

7. *Calls for* the establishment of a Global Circular Water Initiative under UNEP aimed at transforming wastewater into resources through developing guidelines for wastewater reuse and energy recovery, facilitating technology transfer to developing countries, mobilizing funding through the Green Climate Fund, and encouraging Public-Private Partnerships;

8. *Advises* Member States to implement further education on water policy by:

    a. Coupling water preserving technological assistance with educational environmental curriculum within Member States' schools;

    b. Implementing subcommittees that help Member States with legal frameworks against the exploitation of water resources by large corporations;

    c. Encouraging the voluntary designation of bodies of water as culturally, spiritually, or historically significant in order to prioritize conservation under international environmental law and promote pollution awareness within education programs;

9. *Supports* the implementation of sustainable infrastructure by:

    a. Encouraging urban sponge city design planning, such as permeable and semi-permeable streets, rainwater harvesting systems, green-roof systems, conditional upon the needs of local communities;

    b. Facilitating restoration and effective safeguarding measures for wetlands, rain gardens, floodplains, and water collection sites to increase biodiversity, filter pollutants, and mitigate climate disasters;

    c. Encouraging the advice of these initiatives through the UNEA and the implementation through pre-existing Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and branches of the UN, such as the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS);

    d. Inviting Member States to collaborate and share successful urban development plans with global partners that utilize sustainable development infrastructure;

10. *Calls upon* Member States to acknowledge the vital importance of planning the restoration of damaged ecosystems by the Triple Planetary Crisis, with programs and technologies that have proven to be effective in order to avoid biodiversity loss;

11. *Further encourages* Member States, in accordance with their national priorities and sovereignty, to strengthen Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at national and transboundary levels to ensure sustainable and equitable water allocation, ensuring cooperation on shared water resources, aligning with SDG target 6.5, actively involving stakeholders from agriculture, energy, and industry to balance competing water needs and manage tradeoffs, implementing national water strategy, strengthening frameworks, and providing capacity building to improve water

efficiency and management, encouraging the risk-informed planning and inclusive coordination mechanisms aligned with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction;

12. *Further recommends* targeted appropriation of existing funds through entities similar to the GCF, WB, IMF, EIB, AF, which support climate initiatives by:

    a. Promoting the protection of water resources for developing countries to accomplish the goals for clean water;

    b. Furthering the advancement of water monitoring systems to ensure increasing access to clean, safe, sanitary, and secure water sources.

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,

Guided by General Assembly resolution 70/1, titled “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 6.1, Safe Drinking Water, and 6.3, Water Quality and Wastewater,

Committing Member States to strong attendance and participation in international conferences such as the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), the Group of Twenty (G20), and the Paris Climate Agreements,

Conscious of the efforts of various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank’s Development Impact Fund (DIF), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to provide financial funding through loans and grants for developing countries around the globe,

Underscoring the great importance of strengthening international cooperation and communication across oceans, seas, and bays, including by data monitoring, knowledge sharing, and multilateral technology transfer to address climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution,

Stressing the need for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Water (UN-Water) to align their agendas by formulating Ad Hoc committees and organizations to achieve the goals outlined,

Bearing in mind the existing disparities between urban and rural areas regarding water coverage, notably that 81% of urban areas have access to water, compared to just 62% of rural areas, according to the World Bank in 2025,

Recognizing that access to clean water is essential for life, economic stability, and public health, while emphasizing that the equitable participation of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, and youth is essential for sustainable water management,

Noting with concern the impact of pollution and human activity on the marine environment, to be addressed by UNEA resolution 5/14, which created an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on plastic pollution,

Acknowledging the vital importance of financing frameworks, and enhanced multilateral coordination as well as cooperation to prevent or efficiently prevent and respond to natural disasters arising from the Triple Planetary Crisis, in accordance with the objectives of the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* (2015),

Affirming the *UN Roadmap for Digital Cooperation* is a vital framework for enhancing water infrastructure resilience through technological innovation, such as digital twin technology and artificial intelligence,

Recognizing the importance of not interfering with any Member State’s economic development, especially

in developing countries' economic growth,

Stresses the unfavorable effect contaminated water has on a nation's livestock and farming industry, elements that are critical in sustaining developing nations,

1. *Urges* the international community to strengthen and renew global water cooperation under the International Decade for Water Actions: Water for Sustainable Development (2018-2028) by enhancing binding commitments and integrating scientific monitoring on pollution impacts using the Global Environment Monitoring System for Freshwater (Gems/Water) into the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) framework:

    a. Sharing scientific research and practical results involved in any topic within the issue stated, and how it affects our global status;

    b. Fostering the opportunity to share resources more efficiently between committed countries and globally enable the usage of technology in an inclusive, just, and equalitarian way, aligned with the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* to improve risk prevention and identification;

2. *Emphasizing* the usage of various monetary and developmental funds that Member States have access to in order to develop water infrastructure, to encourage the sharing of resources and research data, such as:

    a. Utilizing the World Bank's DIF to aid and develop projects on water infrastructure;

    b. Utilizing the IDA for large-scale loans and grants for water infrastructure projects;

    c. Utilizing UNDP for aid in fostering public-private partnerships and maximizing public investment funds;

3. *Strongly urges* UNEP and United Nations Water (UN-Water) to focus their respective agendas towards organizing and outlining the frameworks necessary to achieve the goals on the global preservation of biodiversity in oceans and the reduction of plastic pollution by accelerating the *Marine Plastic Pollution Treaty* (MPPT) by:

    a. Organizing regional frameworks to begin data-monitoring and knowledge-sharing by working alongside the *United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Water Convention* and the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*;

    b. Working towards a safe, quality, and cooperative future for the oceans by working alongside the MPPT;

    c. Collaborating with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) to provide regional pollution monitoring in all five major oceans, made available through shared digital databases to track global plastic pollution, especially microplastics in the oceans, and align these with global targets;

4. *Decides* UNEP will enhance its contributions to the Early Warnings for All Initiative through the creation of a fifth pillar that aligns with the *Sendai Framework* to address the impact on water quality in natural disaster aftermath by collating and collecting data to improve risk identification for diseases linked to unsafe water by:

a. Establishing an Ad Hoc Committee within the mandate of UNEA to complement and strengthen the Sendai Framework with the main objective of developing a voluntary global policy framework that integrates environmental governance into disaster risk reduction strategies;

b. Enhancing coordination between environmental and disaster risk institutions, including UNEP and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), to ensure greater policy coherence and implementation by providing a platform for the exchange of technological innovation, particularly in early warning systems, with the support of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA);

5. *Recommends* the expansion of standardized nationally protected areas and ecosystems across borders to protect remaining habitats and to preserve the biodiversity in ecosystems while adopting a science-based UNEA framework to evaluate human impacts on protected areas;

6. *Strongly supporting* the strengthening of water quality monitoring and reporting systems, through voluntary cooperations under UNEP initiatives such as the International Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste, and Pollution (ISP-CWP), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Basel Convention (1989), and other existing frameworks to:

    a. Enhance scientific infrastructure and equipment by;

        i. Supporting the expansion of cost-effective and locally appropriate water monitoring systems;

        ii. Promote access to standardized data collection methods;

    b. Reduce global data gaps by supporting additional participation and open access to shared data platforms to support evidence-based and inclusive water governance;

    c. Direct attention to the exchange of technical expertise regarding digital twin technology, as demonstrated by Sweden's Henriksdal Wastewater Treatment Plant, to improve operational efficiency and climate resilience in urban water systems worldwide;

    d. Strengthen national water quality standards and regularly monitor drinking water sources to protect public health;

7. *Directs* UNEP, in consultation with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), to establish a UNEA Working Group on Indigenous Water Co-Governance to:

    a. Develop guidelines for Member States on implementing rights-based water management frameworks aligned with UNDRIP;

    b. Facilitate best practices on Indigenous co-governance models;

    c. Provide technical assistance through workshops, expert support, and practical toolkits to help Member States integrate Indigenous knowledge into water management plans;

    d. Reform existing water initiatives to focus on inclusivity for underdeveloped nations, implementing established frameworks into local communities;

8. *Decides* UNEP will partner with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UN-Water

in conducting research and issuing annual reports on the best practices and providing technical assistance to Member States in implementing policies to combat plastic pollution in all water;

9. *Recommends* approaching the UNDP and the Global Environment Facility to introduce the app called “Water Passport” which encourages monitoring, offers assistance, and secures the safety of all people by sending out emergency alerts as well as notifying citizens regarding water shortages:

    a. Including a subsection explaining terminology in simpler words, making knowledge available to everyone;

    b. Promote the Blue Guardians with the mission to spread knowledge in schools, workshops, seminars, and among senior citizens;

10. *Promotes* the use of nature-based solutions to enhance water security and ecosystem resilience through:

    a. Restoring wetlands and floodplains along major river basins to naturally filter pollutants, recharge groundwater, and reduce flood risks, in collaboration with organizations such as UNEP;

    b. Implementing sustainable water management practices, including rainwater harvesting systems, watershed management plans, and the use of permeable surfaces in urban areas to reduce runoff and improve water retention, supported by technical guidance from UNDP;

    c. Developing sponge cities as a nature-based solution to improve urban water management, enhance resilience to climate change, and reduce flood risks.

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

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Fully aware that the Triple Planetary Crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution has intensified water insecurity and threatens sustainable development and global stability,

Deeply concerned that, according to the United Nations, 4 billion people face severe water scarcity, 21.5 million people are displaced due to climate-related disasters, and nearly 3.5 million deaths annually are directly attributed to a lack of safe infrastructure, housing, and clean drinking water across the world, further exacerbated by conflict, famine, and poverty,

Conscious that 40% of countries lack early warning systems to detect floods, droughts, and other climate events, according to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO),

Mindful of water scarcity, targeted at aiding those climate-vulnerable Member States with the building of infrastructure projects and climate-resilient water infrastructure, keeping in mind that the mass globalization and the global economy are dependent upon the health and well-being of our waters,

Finding the importance of voluntary cooperation between sovereign nation states regarding data sharing, communication, and research, to keep track of the ongoing state of shared water bodies, which, according to the United Nations, account for 60 percent of the world's freshwater, especially between vulnerable Global South Member States,

Guided by the urgent need for cooperation in addressing water security concerns across the world, especially in severely water-stressed regions such as the Eastern Mediterranean, the Middle East, North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, Pacific States, and Small Island Developing States, for agricultural, industrial, and civilian needs,

Having devoted attention to the difficulty faced by developing Member States to finance sustainable development and long-term solutions to water scarcity due to structural inequalities and disproportionate impacts of climate change on these Member States, highlighting the importance of clean water, sanitation, and desalination infrastructure,

Acknowledging the successful treatment and usage of wastewater in several countries, such as the 2015 Chinese Water Ten Plan, which nearly quadrupled water monitoring centers, allowing for greater transparency in water quality, and the 2023 Initiative for Climate Action Transparency, which assists developing states toward data standardization and the usage of wastewater as an energy source,

Cognizant of the importance of water infrastructure such as Gravity Fed Water Supply Systems (GFS), rainwater harvesting, and sustainable groundwater harvesting as methods for expanding access to clean drinking water to rural areas without access to secure energy and water recapture technology to improve the supply of safe drinking water,

Emphasizing the United Nations *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, particularly Sustainable Development Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation), Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Action), and Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Partnership for the Goals),

Approving the abiding sovereignty of states over their natural resources, in accordance with the General Assembly resolution 1803 (XVII) of 14 December 1962,

Reminding that water management should be insulated from diplomatic pressure, politicization, or other factors that could weaken transboundary cooperation,

Considering the importance of the *Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes* (Water Convention) and its *Amendment* in bringing together binding standards to promote equitable use of transboundary waters, which maintains peaceful diplomatic dialogues,

Commending the work of regional organizations such as the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) in establishing voluntary collaborative research efforts between members on water management, preservation, and early warning systems,

Acknowledging the critical work done by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) joint reporting on Designating Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for human health, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Environment Monitoring System for Water (GEMS/Water) monitoring systems,

Recognizing the combined work of UNEP and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) that combines the environmental knowledge of the UNEP and the network of OCHA to create and disseminate online training courses and certifications for community leaders,

1. *Strongly urges* Member States to address the triple planetary crisis by financially assisting through the Green Climate Fund (GCF), targeted towards conflict-affected Member States, to develop water desalination infrastructure and waste processing facilities:

    a. Prioritizing the most vulnerable countries to the triple planetary crisis that need financial attention to establish effective and sustainable infrastructure;

    b. Reforming eligibility and disbursement rules to allow for accredited United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to serve as conduits, since for many conflict-affected states, there is no other realistic option;

2. *Reforms* climate financing from organizations, such as the GCF and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to allow vulnerable and conflict-affected states to access crucial funding:

    a. Recognizing major obstacles to developing infrastructure and policies that meet international standards to make securing funding more accessible;

    b. Addressing the high risk of crisis that developing states face due to climate change, drought, poor irrigation systems, and weak infrastructure;

3. *Further reminds* Member States to invest time, money, and resources through the Bureau of Reclamation's Desalination and Water Purification Research Programme to create desalination plants that provide safe drinking water and multilateral action that assists conflict-affected states in rebuilding their water infrastructure and waste processing facilities;

4. *Petitions* the Executive Director of the UNEP to develop and provide the necessary technical guidance to aid conflict-affected states in their climate recovery efforts, including new and emerging practices, such as environmental DNA, and autonomous, low-cost, open-source monitoring systems;

5. *Moves* UNEP to improve the development of climate-resilient water infrastructure by:

    a. Utilizing irrigation systems, groundwater management, and water purification technologies;

    b. Insists Member States to strengthen Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) by increasing funding and research strategies through the GCF and/or World Bank to promote regional cooperation to enhance governance, conservation, and sustainable access to clean and safe water sources;

    c. Prioritizing rural populations and minorities by enhancing digital connectivity, improving infrastructure and access, increasing funding, and implementing minority beneficial policies;

    d. Encourages the introduction of Blue Guardians to explain terminology regarding water policies, regulations, and challenges in simpler language, making the knowledge accessible to everyone:

        i. The initiative to be part of the Blue Guardians is voluntary and self-assigned;

        ii. Knowledge can be spread through schools, seminars, workshops, and senior homes, as well as by making it public on social media;

6. *Supports* the implementation of immediate changes through a cross-sectional approach to water waste management within business practices to prevent water pollution, utilizing IWRM to transform wastewater into an unconventional water source;

7. *Urges* the prioritization of the UNEP to construct effective, science-based approaches towards combating water scarcity:

    a. Utilizes funds from the UNEP Pollution Fund to construct green-energy powered desalination plants in underdeveloped states;

    b. Creates a Science Policy Interface (SPI) framework that allows for public and private stakeholders and partnerships to help implement these solutions;

8. *Decides* UNEP will improve access to clean water infrastructure unique to Member State contexts by:

    a. Providing Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit online intensive training programmes for local community leaders, discussing the use cases for water recapture and the implementation process within the national context;

    b. Expanding pre-existing programmes such as the Community Action for Fresh Water and the World Water Quality Alliance for the purpose of taking community action towards cleaning up waterways;

9. *Welcoming* the application of Artificial Intelligence by all willing Member States through partnership with the WMO and execution through the UNEP:

    a. Determining the levels of local water sources, such as underground reservoirs, rivers, and glaciers, through remote sensing with the WMO Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System;

    b. Anticipating water-related natural disasters by analyzing the changing moisture levels in riverbed soil to protect the 20 million people worldwide who are at risk of flooding;

    c. Initiating geospatial land analysis of rural areas to map out gravity water flow to aid the implementation of GFS infrastructure by rural communities;

10. *Advocating* for UNEP to ensure equitable water access based on UNEP water policies, and asking for the immediate cessation of all unilateral coercive measures that restrict nations' access to these policy goals to promote a more sustainable future for all, uphold water as a human right, and support agricultural economies and the global economy;

11. *Calling* for increased funding for UNEP on climate and water rights advocacy, with a specific focus on educating those who stay at home, organizing short weekend seminars to expand local communities' knowledge on the importance of water conservation, proper wastewater treatment, and how to combat water scarcity;

12. *Recommends* the expansion of the Global Facility for Transboundary Water Cooperation platforms knowledge sharing hub, funded by the GEF, which aims to share transboundary data and monitoring with client governments, regional organizations, and development partners, making certain knowledge is open with increasing investment in data sharing efforts, ensuring up-to-date knowledge for policy makers and Member States;

13. *Implores* Member States to adopt the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East Region Science to Policy interface by establishing recurring international summits that integrate scientific research into national environmental legislation, focusing on improving water management and desalination technologies to promote long-term water and food security;

14. *Reiterates its call upon* all willing and able Member States to implement good practices and lessons learned in Data-Sharing in Transboundary Basins 2024 report collected through the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe to ensure the sustainable and equitable use of these water resources is maintained;

15. *Inspires* the collaboration and cooperation of regional blocs towards developing joint water retention and recycling measures, and encourages countries to collaborate on protecting waterways and restricting the overuse of scarce water resources;

16. *Continues* the work that organizations such as the GCC have accomplished, such as protecting marine ecosystems, combating marine pollution, and cooperating in marine research;

17. *Energizes* Member States to adopt a model similar to the Natural Riverbank Filtration Project, which aims to create low-cost, sustainable water treatment solutions by using the natural soil of riverbanks and technology to ensure available and filtered water;

18. *Requests* the UNEP to facilitate the equitable transfer of water technologies, specifically advanced desalination infrastructure, precision irrigation, and wastewater reuse, to developing

countries on concessional and preferential terms, free from political conditionalities, by leveraging the Climate Technology Centre and Network through:

a. Providing direct technical assistance and capacity-building frameworks for local water infrastructure operators;

b. A disseminating open-source blueprints and scientific research through the UN Technology Facilitation;

c. Expanding existing cooperation between states on joint desalination efforts and research;

d. Empowering organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and UN Water to collaborate with Member States to meet the goals of SDG 6 and meet water quality standards;

19. *Calls upon* the WMO, in coordination with the UN-Water, to expand the WMO Hydrological Observing System that:

    a. Integrates advanced monitoring tools, including nanotechnology-based sensors;

    b. Promotes the establishment of patent pools for climate adaptation technologies to ensure equitable access for developing nations;

20. *Decides* UNEP will conduct research through the GEMS/Water Programme that:

    a. Develops bacteriological parameters to provide an SPI;

    b. Tracks pollution in transboundary waters;

    c. Standardizes data collection to meet water, sanitation, and hygiene standards;

21. *Furthers* the deployment of technology in partnership with UNEP to introduce water harvesting systems, such as rainwater and groundwater, that:

    a. Creates “first flush” diverters to remove contaminants, advanced filtration utilizing vortex and sediment filters, UV/ozone disinfection, percolation pits, recharge wells, and monitoring systems that check tank levels;

    b. Establishes funding mechanisms through the GCF and/or World Bank;

22. *Supports* the implementation of NbS to restore injured bodies of water that:

    a. Supports reforestation, wetland restoration, coastal ecosystem restoration, and sustainable land management to prevent desertification;

    b. Collaborates with the UNEP, WHO, and IUCN to expand knowledge on NbS;

    c. Establishes funding mechanisms through the GCF and/or World Bank;

    d. Utilizes “Blue Guardians”;

23. *Emboldens* the development of early warning signs and systems, which:

a. Expands the UNDRR's Early Warning Signs for All Initiative, which includes mobile phone alerts to warn civilizations about natural disasters approaching, funded by voluntary contributions from United Nations Member States;

b. Expands Early Warning Systems involving radar through a combination of voluntary contributions by Member States and through the UNEP Pollution Fund to detect droughts, floods, and other such water-based disasters before they occur;

24. *Recommends* infrastructure development that includes safe bridges and evacuation roads for emergency help and aid through the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), funded by the World Bank, to ensure quick transportation to areas of safety for civilians;

25. *Further invites* Member States to establish regional investment incentives to promote water infrastructure development and support the Clean Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Programme to aid in planning and implementing wastewater cleansing and energy recovery.

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,

Deeply alarmed that two million tons of wastewater enter freshwater systems every day, according to the World Bank's Water for Planet report (2025),

Gravely concerned that 1.1 billion people do not have access to healthcare facilities with safe water and sanitation systems, per the World Health Organization-United Nations Children's Fund (WHO-UNICEF) *Essential Services for Quality Care* report (2025),

Acknowledging that women are disproportionately impacted as a result of the Triple Planetary Crisis and still economically left behind, and lack the use of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation's (FAO) Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) Framework,

Emphasizing that sovereign ownership of national environmental data and domestically owned monitoring infrastructures is fundamental and essential to ensuring long-term resilience against climate-induced disasters and infrastructure failures,

Deeply disturbed that, according to the World Bank 2023 report, the rise in agricultural runoff is threatening population centers, as subsidies to fix runoff cost 635 billion dollars in repairs, given the lack of effective implementation of climate-smart agriculture technologies, especially among rural and developing regions,

Observing that small-scale data centers utilizing water evaporation to dissipate heat can consume around 25.5 million liters of water per year, exploiting freshwater systems according to the 2021 study by David Mytton published in the Clean Water report,

Concerned that international copyright law hinders the creation and development of climate change mitigation technology, as strong Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) do not encourage innovation and can undermine the evolution of nascent domestic industries, according to the Harnessing Intellectual Property Rights for Innovation, Development and Economic Transformation in Least Developed Countries, UNCTAD 2024 report,

Taking into account the disjointed nature of data collection systems, which are highly variable measures of progress established by each organization, and the great disparities in the capacity of each Member State to implement solutions and monitor local conditions,

Considering the unique role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in sustainable water management, including the importance of traditional ecological knowledge and inclusive governance, as recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2017),

Concerned that 3.7 billion people are affected by water-related disasters, as stated in the 2021 United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR),

Taking notice of the lack of climate resilient infrastructure in regions around the world, such as 70% of southern and eastern Africa that lack basic sanitation, according to the UNICEF 2023 report,

Fully aware of the risks posed by mining practices without proper management around vital water sources, the risk of water scarcity creates a global challenge. The process of mining for critical minerals uses huge amounts of water and deprives communities dependent on local supplies. As mentioned by the World Resources Institute, in water-scarce regions, this further reduces water available for farming, households, and accessibility to Indigenous communities,

Alerted by the lack of long-term sustainable practices comprised in water, sanitation, management, and irrigation systems within Least developed countries (LDCs), as well as ineffective policies due to the absence of active monitoring systems,

Alarmed that over 3 billion people are affected by floods and other natural disasters, specifically within urban areas, according to UNESCO's *Best Practices on Flood and Drought Risk Management Report (2023),*

Noting with concern that only 9% of all plastic ever produced has been recycled, 100 million marine animals are killed annually due to plastic pollution, the individual and community impacts of pollution remain relatively unknown, and that pollution and water safety are intimately connected according to the From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution" and the 2021 report,

Noting the Global Environment Monitoring System for Water and the value it brings to water-inclusive policies, and early warning systems implemented by UNICEF,

Recognizing the lack of financial incentive for the production and commercial usage of desalinated water,

Further recognizing the essential nature of each Member State's economy and that climate goals are often influenced by profitability or financial feasibility,

Recalling the initiatives taken by the *Nairobi Convention* (1985) in coordinating regional environmental protection,

Having further considered developing a collaboration of information to monitor the international water crisis to create a preemptive system for water management, like the disaster risk reduction (DRR), which disproportionately affects the Southern Hemisphere and is a threat to public health,

Highlighting the tracking of early warning systems by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to combat and monitor that 2.2 billion global citizens go without safely managed drinking water services, according to the 2019 WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene report,

Deeply conscious that nearly 800 million individuals live in states with high and critical water stress levels as of 2021, according to the *UN Water report Progress on the Level of Water Stress* (2024),

Noting with concern the voluntary nature of UNEP funding and the increasingly tight budget of the United Nations due to the necessity of funding for these programmes,

Recommends the further exchange of existing mechanisms, such as the warning systems and the Federal Act on Protection of the Waters (WPA-1991),

Emphasizing the importance of all Member States partnership in an international fund, primarily concentrating on long-term infrastructure oversight. As demonstrated by the 2023 UN Water Conference, which was able to generate 800 funding pledges from Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs),

Keeping in mind the increased difficulties of landlocked nations in preventing pollution of their natural water sources,

Strongly emphasizes supporting Member States that are transitioning towards renewable energy to divert crude oil away from our water streams, which will directly improve global water quality,

Believing that access to clean water is essential to ensuring a country's success economically and health-wise, as clean water is a human right that, when withheld, directly impacts people's ability to contribute to society, as noted by the human right to clean water and sanitation as recognized by the General Assembly in 2010,

Acknowledges with deep gratitude UNEA for bringing awareness to the issue of water pollution through SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and SDG 13 (climate action), and highlighting its intersectionality with climate change, clean water, and sanitation,

Recognizing the historical and structural inequalities that continue to disproportionately affect marginalized groups, including women and vulnerable communities, particularly in developing Member States,

Deeply concerned that environmental degradation exacerbates existing socio-economic disparities and limits access to essential resources for marginalized populations,

Recalling the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), *Paris Agreement*, and General Assembly resolution 70/1*,* while recognizing ongoing efforts to strengthen water resilience and protect ecosystems,

1. *Endorses* the expansion of already existing programs that provide clean water and sanitation for global and local communities through:

    a. Member States modeling regional programs after the Inter-American Development Bank's *The Bahamas Water Supply and Sanitation Upgrades Program*, which helps to improve the water and sanitation sector by enhancing access to safe piped water sources;

    b. Promotion and expansion of UN-DESA's AWARe Initiative (Action on Water Adaptation and Resilience), an initiative aiming to increase the world water supply by encouraging inclusive water policies and providing operational tools to developing regions, with the hopes of improving global water data sharing, strengthening international cooperation on water adaptation, and linking water adaptation to climate finance and developmental policies;

2. *Affirms* the commitment to address the largest polluters and most vulnerable industries by developing a voluntary initiative to guide farmers towards more sustainable farming through partnerships, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to ensure all farmers have the means to remain economically sustainable, specifically by:

    a. Facilitating the exchange of micro-irrigation, efficient water management, and climate-smart agricultural (CSA) technologies to assist vulnerable farming communities in effectively implementing these technologies through collaboration with international, state, and non-governmental organizations to hold mobile workshops that educate local farmers on CSA practices;

    b. Consolidating ongoing development projects by other United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with those of the UNEP to implement effective and inclusive water measures in ongoing projects in rural and developing regions while integrating United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) goals and framework to maximize project outcome;

    c. Encouraging an expansion of the United Nations Digital Cooperation Portal and the United Nations Global Platform to dedicate part of the portal/platform for:

        i. Increasing translation and accessibility of research findings on resilient water management, disaster preparedness, and irrigation systems;

        ii. The sharing of technical expertise for CSA technologies, with tutorial materials available in multiple languages and mediums;

        iii. Providing virtual training for locals to collect and organize data on water monitoring to improve water catchment and management systems;

3. C*alls for* the international recognition and implementation of community-based monitoring programs in Member States' national policy frameworks by:

    a. Expanding state-recognized indigenous knowledge on water monitoring initiatives within domestic data gathering, sharing, and regulatory systems;

    b. Promoting the integration of traditional ecological knowledge with scientific water testing methods to enhance environmental data collection, especially in more underrepresented areas, with the most common scientific water testing parameters, including:

        i. Chemical testing methods;

        ii. Physical testing methods;

        iii. Microbiological testing methods;

    c. Supporting the development of low-cost, community-driven monitoring systems to improve early detection of pollution and strengthen water transparency in water governance;

4. *Urges for the creation* of a voluntary database, similar to the World Resource Institute Aqueduct program, the EPA's Water Quality Portal (WQP) and Assessment and the Total Maximum Daily Load Tracking and Implementation System (ATTAINS) under the UNEP as the primary authority with quality assurance from the UN Statistical Division for monitoring and managing the exchange of technologies and information between countries that:

    a. Establishes a sovereign data-sharing protocol to ensure technical cooperation with international agencies while maintaining full national control over raw data;

    b. Expands from the WRI Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas by including more solutions instead of just monitoring crises;

    c. Allows nations to share techniques and strategies used to solve various types of water crises to expand the reach of efficient water management by:

        i. Finding what works to solve one region's crisis and implementing it across other similar regions;

        ii. Using watershed data to find areas of urgent attention to address phosphorus, nitrogen, and oxygen levels in our waterways;

        iii. Allowing nations to share information about where water crises are starting or spreading to for a more preemptive approach;

        iv. Provide technical training to domestic engineers to ensure long-term independent maintenance;

    d. Encouraging transparency and coordination in international technological development through the establishment of a shared patent pool under which patent holders of technology dedicated to the mitigation or elimination of climate change effects would be encouraged to submit:

        i. Licensing and production agreements for environmental programmes fiscally supported by one or more Member States are to be managed and distributed by the UNEP;

        ii. Under which any applicable licensing fees delegated to relevant patent holders are to be determined by the patent's value;

5. *Recommends* greater cross-training for all levels of government policymakers to be better informed before making decisions on water policies, specifically through:

    a. Semi-annual workshops hosted by UNEP that train local government officials and leaders on how to understand and apply research findings and data collected from water monitoring systems to inform water management policies;

    b. Member States' utilization of the High-Level and Leaders panel on Water and Disasters (HELP) for expansion of more developing country experts to collaborate with UN

agencies and develop global policy guidelines for water disasters, and expand the program to private sector experts that can also help collaborate with agencies;

c. More technical assistance to government officials for pre-analysis efforts to help inform and ensure inclusive policymaking, specifically through:

i. Gathering detailed information on sources of water pollution and contamination of water sources;

ii. Determining existing mitigation efforts of frequent water-related disasters and areas for improvement;

iii. Identifying gaps in flooding protection or barriers and water infrastructure;

iv. Identifying areas of water loss and how to best minimize water loss in regions with water scarcity;

6. *Advises* the limitation of Artificial Intelligence use as to support the unnecessary overexploitation and contamination of fresh water by:

a. Discouraging general public access to all open Artificial Intelligence networks;

b. Developing programs to implement Artificial Intelligence on educational platforms as environmentally efficient as possible;

c. Reforming water usage policies regarding data centers and technological sites;

d. Hosting campaigns to raise awareness of the harmful consequences of water overexploitation and educate about water efficiency and care;

7. *Further proposes for* UNEP to support and fund the establishment of a task force of experts that will follow the holistic guidelines outlined in UN Water's Blueprint for Acceleration to assess best practices, identify shortcomings, and strengthen existing Science-Policy Interfaces, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, that emphasizes local knowledge and participation on various water policies and technologies on an international level with specific deliverables such as:

a. Encouraging participation in the UNDP’s Zero Waste Community Development Project, which uses data gathered by the panel to determine the ideal locations to place waste receptacles to minimize littering;

b. Implementing a novel approach to waste management advertisement and education that would:

i. Propagate public knowledge about the benefits and drawbacks of plastic use and production reduction through traditional channels such as radio and print advertisement, and contemporary channels, such as social media campaigns;

ii. Create recommendations to revitalize educational curricula surrounding recycling and proper waste management practice, which would begin in primary school,

where children would learn in-depth, yet easily digestible information on the tangible and noticeable effects of personal pollution;

iii. Establish worldwide campaigns with local representatives working alongside existing WASH committees that would gather around existing community spaces to ensure the message of personal sustainability is spread far and wide, especially in LDCs, which would ensure those with less access to education understand the impacts of recycling and pollution;

c. Expanding on work done by the UNECE Task Force on Water and Climate;

d. Recommending the task force to meet on an annual basis to share policies and technical knowledge to maximize effectiveness by expanding their knowledge base and refining their information dissemination techniques, as well as recommending experts will:

i. Go to different nations (either government or private organizations), upon request, to assist with the implementation of relevant technologies and policies;

ii. Assist primarily in an advisory capacity, sharing specific frameworks as well as technologies;

e. Urging private and public institutions within Member States to voluntarily contribute individuals with experience in water technologies and policies to the task force;

f. Suggesting Member States to incentivize private organizations to participate at their own discretion or through policies such as tax incentives and subsidies;

8. *Advises the* UNEP for an enhanced and enforced Early Warning Systems (EWS) implementation to mitigate the consequences of floods in vulnerable areas, especially those in remote and climate risk zones:

a. Installing over 300 improved automated weather stations near waterbodies and rehabilitating the old ones to improve data accuracy;

b. Deploying within 12 months multi-channel alert systems: integrated SMS-based notifications (requiring no internet access), radio broadcasting network (fundamental in rural areas), and sirens and alarm systems ensuring an effective communication alert to reach people in danger on time;

c. Partnering with telecommunication providers and local radio stations to help establish early warning protocols;

d. Training local authorities within the first 12 months to operate and maintain these systems and conduct regular emergency drills known as “Anticipatory Drill” to ensure an appropriate response to warnings;

9. *Encourages* Member States to adopt the Global Environment Monitoring System for Water (GEMS/Water) to strengthen technical monitoring and data systems by:

a. Developing national water quality standards to ensure safe and consistent water access;

b. Building data collection measures and increasing the reporting capacity for SDG 6 implementation;

c. Using data to support evidence-based policymaking, such as data from the National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Commission's (NWASHC) Teams, in order to map water points across various Member States and establish a comprehensive baseline for infrastructure planning and maintenance tracking;

d. Imposing a higher cost for residents in Member States to help reduce water wastage during periods of drought;

e. Requiring licensing from farmers to have access to water, as well as having safeguards instituted, such as water commissioners who monitor the various water systems on farms instead of flood irrigation and drip irrigation;

10. *Further recommends* sustainability practices through the expansion of frameworks in LDC's, such as the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and the Flagship water science and cooperation programme, to create greater movement towards sustainable water management using:

    a. Annual reports of the utilization and pollution of shared bodies of water to ensure transparency;

    b. Resources such as solar-powered irrigation pumps and increased green infrastructure for water maintenance to strengthen data monitoring systems and make them long-term;

    c. Community-led water governance to ensure inclusive participation and equitable distribution of water resources;

11. *Encourages* Member States to support the collaboration with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), which promotes transparency and sustainability within the mining sector, utilizing multi-stakeholder coalitions of government, private companies, and civil organizations with transparent frameworks that help inform the public on mining techniques and operations;

12. *Recommends* an improved version of the UNDP's regional Urban Climate Resilience project in Egypt, which focuses on improving urban climate disaster preparedness while promoting sustainable infrastructure and housing through:

    a. Increasing climate resiliency engagement in vulnerable areas;

    b. Lowering carbon emissions with an improved, safe biking and walking infrastructure;

13. *Endorses* the global adoption of Egypt's National UN-Habitats, an initiative for smart and Green projects, which identifies, scales, and supports local smart green solutions that combine environmental sustainability with technology and innovation to strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems, while connecting local projects to global climate goals;

14. *Encourages* Member States to expand The World Bank's Global Program on Nature-Based Solutions, which invests in Nature-Based Solutions on the global level to:

    a. Combat floods and erosion;

    b. Implement watershed reforestation to protect water sources;

    c. Expand rainwater harvesting systems in rural areas to reduce the dependence statements and and provide a free source for non-potable uses;

    d. Provide adaptable guidelines so that Member States can tailor their solutions to local contexts;

15. *Moves* for UNEP to consolidate the creation of financial incentives, such as GCF financing for infrastructure modernization or Debt-for-nature swaps, to ensure widespread adoption of Preliminary Environmental Impact Environmental rehabilitation guarantees;

16. *Promoting* the sustainable harvesting of natural materials produced during the desalination process, such as calcium, magnesium, and lithium;

17. *Encouraging* the implementation of local programs within Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that are similar to The Elemental Water Makers' Project: *Bahamas Eco-Island Resort*, which provides a new desalination technology that uses significantly less electricity, chemicals, and requires less maintenance;

18. *Asks for* the development of waste recycling technology exchange between Member States, specifically by:

    a. Suggesting the implementation of waste management facilities for nations that do not have the needed technology or resources available:

        i. Encourages the use of septic tank management transportation to give accessibility to nations that lack the infrastructure to more efficiently dispose of waste, to then, in turn, create energy;

        ii. Facilitating the deployment of scalable sanitation solutions (Resource Recovery Factories) to safely process, recycle wastewater, and generate energy;

    b. Recommending the inclusion of Public-Private Partnerships to better invest and develop technology to address the triple planetary crisis, particularly through:

        i. Promoting groups such as INMACOM to finance technology for recycling wastewater back into reusable energy production for the private sector to invest into;

        ii. Seeking funding for programs such as the above with organizations, such as th Green Climate Fund;

19. *Further requests* international financial institutions and international collaboration to increase funding to provide sustainable solutions:

    a. Promoting collaboration with the World Bank, the Global Environment Facility, global charities, and the Green Climate Fund to build *RWCZs* to facilitate large-scale cross-border water solutions;

    b. Adopting Integrated Water Resources Management principles to aid local stakeholders;

    c. Advising financial transparency by using the use of digital tools and Artificial Intelligence to ensure efficient use of resources and funds;

20. *Reiterates* the Global Environment Facility's proposal for the creation of voluntary Regional Water Cooperation Zones (RWCZs) to manage transboundary fresh water and shared coastal ecosystems:

    a. Promoting cooperation between riparian states, such as rivers, basins, and aquifers;

    b. Modeling it after the Nairobi Convention to identify regions where multiple Member States depend on the same water systems;

    c. Each zone would create a regional working group of government water agencies, scientific experts, and shared environmental monitoring;

21. *Expresses its hope* for Member States to invest in hydropower to harness water resources for electricity generation while minimizing air and water pollution and improving renewable energy efficiency through:

    a. Welcoming collaboration among Member States in sharing hydropower to less developed or landlocked nations;

    b. Inviting landlocked Member States to communicate about the pollution status of their major natural water sources in a biannual virtual summit moderated on a rotating basis by affected Member States, such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Nepal, Mongolia, South Sudan, and Zimbabwe;

22. *Strongly recommends* that Member States establish national platforms for minority and native populations to propose water policy solutions, including:

    a. Inviting native populations to request available international funds such as earmarked UNECE grants and Norway Grants, which provide bilateral funding from several Member States to reduce economic disparities within the European Economic Area;

    b. Encouraging Member States to implement country-specific environmental funding, such as loans, grants, or subsidies, for water policy improvement solutions at the local level;

23. *Welcomes* all Member States to engage with their respective international financial institutions to secure funding to sustain infrastructure operational management:

a. Requesting the allocation of funds for infrastructure management in conflict-ridden nations, which contributes to climate-driven flooding and pollution, which affects water supply;

b. Advocating for an international fund to implement infrastructure development in local and central governments to maximize oversight;

24. *Urges* Member States to increase funding through private sector engagement through organizations such as The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development (DCED) to:

    a. Increase drip irrigation systems, precision agriculture, and solar-powered water pump systems to allow for funding and/or sending in experts in drip irrigation maintenance, precision agriculture, and solar-powered water pump systems in any regions experiencing water scarcity and to;

    b. Encourage long-term engagement through co-dependency with these private sector organizations through a 5-year plan of action;

25. *Expresses its hope* for Member States to investigate hydropower alternatives to harness water as a renewable source of electrical energy:

    a. Welcoming collaboration among Member States in sharing knowledge about the benefits of hydropower to less developed or landlocked nations;

    b. Inviting landlocked Member States to communicate about pollution levels within their natural water sources in a biannual virtual summit moderated on a rotating basis by affected Member States, such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Nepal, Mongolia, South Sudan, and Zimbabwe;

26. *Recommends* Member States studying past early warning and regulatory systems to ensure a multilateral approach and:

    a. Consider the European Union (EU) Drinking Water Directive 2020/2184 for water quality standards for safe drinking water;

    b. Consider the World Health Organization's water safety plans (WSPs) to ensure the safety and acceptability of drinking-water supply;

27. *Resolves* to further intensify efforts to increase access to clean and safe drinking water, since water is an undeniable human right, by:

    a. Advocating for the global adaptation of the Funding Learning Advancing and Nurturing (FLAN) plan to ensure that we tackle the triple planetary crisis from multiple angles;

    b. Utilizing funds from the Green Climate Fund to implement water treatment facilities in countries whose waters are being negatively affected by the oil industry;

    c. Educating our global citizens on the detrimental consequences the oil industry has on our waters;

d. Adopting innovative technologies to ensure accurate data can be collected regarding water pollution levels to avoid the consumption of contaminated water;

e. Nurturing our natural resources through restoration processes such as reforestation and water clean-ups;

28. *Urges for* the implementation of last-mile communication systems to effectively reach vulnerable populations, especially those in remote and climate-risk areas:

    a. Enhancing and deploying, within 12 months, multi-channel alert systems that integrate SMS-based notifications (requiring no internet access), radio broadcasting networks (perfect for rural areas), and sirens and alarm systems, ensuring an effective communication alert;

    b. Partnering with telecommunications providers and local radio stations to establish early warning protocols;

    c. Installing solar-powered communication infrastructure in climate risk areas, including automated weather stations connected to alert systems, to ensure functionality during power outages and extreme weather events;

    d. Training local authorities, within the first 12 months, to operate and maintain these systems, conduct regular emergency drills, and ensure appropriate response to warnings;

    e. Allocating financial resources through international cooperation mechanisms, including UNEP and relevant UN agencies, to support developing countries in the deployment and maintenance of such systems;

    f. Establishing monitoring and annual reporting to assess system coverage, response times, and effectiveness in reducing disaster-related risks;

    g. Developing an Anticipatory Action Protocol (AAP) to improve these actionable alerts that would trigger water security actions before a humanitarian crisis occurs, such as in the Ethiopian region in 2016 with the “El Niño” drought;

29. *Supports* the implementation of integrated and targeted national programs among Member States to improve access to clean water, sanitation, and basic infrastructure for marginalized groups, such as women and rural communities, drawing on inclusive water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) approaches that emphasize participation, accessibility, and long-term sustainability, and to this end:

    a. Further encourages the establishment of institutionalized community-based participation mechanisms, including small-scale political advisory committees and participatory action groups, to support the meaningful involvement of marginalized communities in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of environmental and water-related policies;

b. Invites international organizations, including UNEP, to provide predictable and accessible fiscal support to relevant Member States with particular attention to historically underserved and remote areas;

c. Recommends the development of targeted capacity-building programs, including education, training, and local employment initiatives, aimed at empowering vulnerable communities to adapt to environmental and water-related challenges.

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,

Keeping in mind the United Nations *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and its commitment to achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 (clean water and sanitation), which seeks to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030,

Aware that the most difficult aspect of establishing effective water protections is ensuring that laws are made in consultation with a well-informed party, including stakeholders that possess both technical expertise and contextual knowledge derived from lived experience, like marginalized communities,

Profoundly concerned that agricultural runoff, sewage, single-use plastics, non-degradable materials, and more damage and pollute local environments, even as they are linked to the provision of essential goods and services to populations,

Acknowledges the World Water Council's commitment to convening decision-makers to prioritize water for sustainable development through triannual forums that share water policy solutions,

Guided by the goals of the Early Warnings for All Initiative, which aims to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by multi-hazard early warning systems by 2027,

Reconfirming the United Nations Environment Program's (UNEP) Global Environment Monitoring System for Freshwater (GEMS/Water) as integral to achieving SDG 6 by providing data for assessments of inland water quality and assisting Member States in improving monitoring capacity,

Reiterates that the top sources of water pollution afflicting the world are industrial waste, agricultural runoff, inadequate sewage treatment, and plastic debris, as stated by The Institute for Environmental Research and Education,

Understanding the importance of national sovereignty when establishing worldwide legal frameworks, as affirmed in the United Nations Charter and consistent with Principle 2 of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, which recognizes the sovereign right of States to manage their own resources pursuant to their environmental and developmental policies,

Encourages Member states to bear in mind the importance of not only consulting, but respecting the desires, values, and goals of local communities, as is outlined in the Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge via communication with their representatives,

Recalling further the Integrated Water Resource Management Data Portal in tracking global progress on integrated water resource management (IWRM) implementation, focusing on SDG indicator 6.5.1,

Appreciating the efforts of the UNEP National Action Plan in guiding Member States in implementing environmental and human rights commitments, including through the development

of state-specific strategies on water quality improvement, improving access to funding via the Global Environment Facility, and providing scientific analysis to over 45 States,

Fully aware that increasing water stress is affecting both the environmental stability and economic activity in multiple regions, as stated by the United States Geological Survey,

Acknowledges the efforts of the Economic Commissions for Europe (UNECE) and the Economic Commissions for Africa (ECA) in promoting pan-European and African economic integration, cooperation, and sustainable development,

Highlighting that the betterment of our global future depends on the success of achieving the holistic, integrated, and participatory implementation of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development with the primary aim of eradicating poverty in the world, further establishing inclusive, sustainable, and resilient societies based on solidarity, leaving no one behind and providing solid grounds for prosperity and peace everywhere,

Emphasizing the goals outlined by SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), specifically target 16.7 concerning the inclusion and effective participation of traditionally underserved communities in all levels of policy creation and decision-making,

Acknowledging that, according to UN Women, women, girls, and other marginalized communities are disproportionately impacted by pollution and climate change, with 80% of displaced people being women,

Bearing in mind the intentions of the *Kunming-Montreal Global Framework*, along with the influence of the *1986 United Nations Declaration on the Right to Development*, to promote sustainable socioeconomic development that is capable of contributing to the protection of biodiversity,

Recalling UNEP resolution 6/13, which links water scarcity and quality to food systems, energy, and ecosystems, and highlights IWRM as crucially necessary to address pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss,

Recognizes the goals of the Global Environment Data Strategy (2025) to ensure equity in data reporting and storage, as outlined by the Executive Office of the United Nations Secretary-General, considering that the absence of interoperable data and standardized reporting has led to the inability to globally measure progress towards achieving the 92 environmental Sustainable Development Goal indicators,

Noting with approval that the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) regional commissions are actively involved in addressing water-related vulnerabilities and strengthening the quality of water resources,

Recognizing the effort of the European Green Deal to cut emissions by 50% by 2030 in the European region while legally binding the 2050 Neutrality Goal through the European Climate Law and their Zero Pollution Action Plan, which specifies achieving zero pollution for soil, air, and water,

1. *Suggests* the establishment of a subsidiary body, the Consulting Body for Water Conservation Proliferation, which:

    a. Provides tailored, state-specific guidance and feedback to Member States on the effective implementation and adaptation of water conservation laws in alignment with their unique contexts and capacities, maintaining sovereignty to support the goal of water-policy focused solutions;

b. Allows countries to seek free legal counsel when creating their policies;

c. Makes past decisions readily available and accessible to countries and their people;

d. Will be hosted in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, and other willing Member States who desire to be the host location of this attendance-optional summit each year, the location of which will also serve as the first base of operation for the body where to meet, discuss, and collaborate with countries seeking the body's aid;

e. Uploads its findings, decisions, and helpful information to the United Nations Digital Library;

2. *Encourages* prioritizing solutions with a focus on:

    a. Natural solutions rather than AI-monitoring systems;

    b. Legislation aimed at reducing pollutants, including single-use plastics and non-degradable materials;

    c. Systems which help further practices such as rainwater harvesting and Managed Aquifer Recharge;

3. *Calls upon* GEMS/Water to contribute independent scientific monitoring data to the IWRM Portal, focusing on the impacts of air and plastic pollution on water quality in transboundary river basins in order to provide standardized and scientifically verified datasets for Member States to use for the development of water policy solutions;

4. *Decides* UNEP will enhance its contributions to the Early Warnings for All Initiative through the creation of a fifth pillar to address the impact on water quality in the aftermath by collating and collecting data to improve risk identification for diseases linked to unsafe water;

5. *Recommends* that the UNEP/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) National Action Plans Report expand its guidelines for integrating ecosystem-based adaptation to include how nature-based solutions (NbS) can eradicate water pollution in order to identify technical needs for integration;

6. *Calls for* the expansion of international frameworks like the Water Keeper Alliance that facilitate the creation of regional entities that are adapted to the needs of the local communities;

7. *Supports* Member States in strengthening early detection of water stress by:

    a. Including monitoring of groundwater levels and river flow to identify declining supply in the datasets provided to the consulting body;

    b. Using collected data to support timely decision-making before shortages disrupt communities;

8. *Invites* Member States to integrate rainwater harvesting systems into national water infrastructure strategies, particularly in water-scarce and climate-vulnerable regions through the development of decentralized collection, storage, and reuse mechanisms to enhance water availability and reduce dependency on overexploited sources;

9. *Encourages* Member States to work alongside one another and formally recognize the suggestions and information provided by marginalized communities by:

    a. Recognizing marginalized voices in data collection efforts to inform Member States of sustainable best practices for data collection;

    b. Adapting the Global Environment Data Strategy (2025), a reporting system where the data generated by the marginalized and local communities can be accessed and stored for any future needs;

10. *Decides* UNEP, in partnership with ECOSOC regional commissions, including the UNECE ECA and more, design and facilitate regional Green Deals modeled after the European Green Deals, particularly its Zero Pollution Action Plan, where regions adopt measurable targets for air quality, waste reduction, and marine pollution, supported by science-based monitoring and policy coordination;

11. *Affirms* the UNDP's continued investment in circular economy models for scaling wastewater reuse and climate-resilient tank cascade systems to effectively conserve all available water resources as a nature-based, cost-effective solution for communities with smaller capacities for engineered irrigation infrastructure;

12. *Emphasizes* the necessity for cohesive, coherent responses to water-related challenges, such as establishing IWRM bodies and strategies within industrial sectors that consume large supplies of water;

13. *Endorses* the widespread development of biofactories which derive biofuel supplies from necessary water treatment practices, effectively maximizing the sustainability of existing wastewater recycling networks and further preventing the contamination of transboundary water sources by:

    a. Incorporating build-operate-transfer agreements between United Nations functioning bodies and interregional and international contractors to design, commission, supply, and operate biofuel factories responsible for deriving biogas from water treatment waste materials;

    b. Exploring and introducing biogas supplies to residential and commercial sectors through the commission of another memorandum between willing Member States and gas-distribution corporations;

    c. Any necessary collaboration between participant United Nations bodies and relevant stakeholders in renewable energy production, such as the collection of UNEP's Finance Initiative, or other global sponsors such as the Adaptation Fund, to target renewable resource production in developing countries;

    d. Providing developing Member States with sustainable alternatives to intensive-engineering energy projects while promoting socioeconomic development;

14. *Recommends* programs for Member States to adopt that will have a long-lasting effect on biodiversity by launching a project focusing on the protection of species, forests, and water with an aim of preserving the ecosystem, as was adopted at the Budapest Climate Summit by:

a. Designating safe and protected areas for the protection of the ecosystem so as to ensure the fostering of circular bio-economics for inclusive growth and sustainability for all Member States;

b. Promoting synergies to enhance science policy dialogue and policy making through knowledge exchange with other projects and initiatives;

c. Driving the Strategic Research and Innovation Agendas and facilitators of science-policy dialogues.

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,

Welcoming United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) resolution 3/10 (2018), addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems, which calls for water-related ecosystems to be restored,

Taking into consideration that empowering water management systems provides marginalized communities with agency in water management decisions, in the context of implementing biofactories and water basins through the guidance of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the importance of the UNEP and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),

Reiterating the findings of the International Disaster Database (EM-DAT), managed by the Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), that climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss displace 21.5 million people annually, with water disasters leading the charge, which is also highlighted by UNEP,

Observing the various and expansive regions which rely on one or more central bodies of water, with the understanding that any boundary violated through pollutive damage inflicted by one Member State will harshly affect all other connected Member States,

Underlining that Member States face different water-related challenges depending on whether coastal, island, arid, rainfall-intensive, flood-prone, groundwater-dependent, mountainous, or part of water for its independent water research in Member States, which aids with accurate water policy solutions,

Reaffirming the adoption of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, especially Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 (clean water and sanitation), while considering the importance of inclusive water governance and sustainable water management to protect ecosystems and ensure equitable access to water, involving vulnerable communities, and is fully aware that environmental degradation and climate change are reducing water availability and quality worldwide,

Understanding the United Nations General Assembly resolution 76/300 (2022) that recognized the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment as a human right and the United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, which created an actionable solution to plastic pollution,

Recalling the General Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010) and General Assembly resolution 70/169 (2015), which are key documents related to the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,* and encourage the right to safe drinking water,

Emphasizing the importance of a four-pronged approach to water governance, including funding, learning, advancing, and nurturing ecosystems to increase climate resilience to climate change and environmental stress, especially for marginalized communities,

Stressing that access to safe, clean, and affordable water is a fundamental human right and a pillar of sustainable development, emphasizing that water is not only affected by climate change but also represents a vital solution within the global climate agenda,

Considering the importance of transboundary water policy cooperation among Member States as demonstrated in past regional group initiatives and agreements targeted at promoting shared resource governance and sustainable development,

Recognizing that the National Biodiversity Strategy (NBSAP) under the *UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)* (1992) aligns with the *CBD's Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)* (2022), as GBF targets to affirm the development of biofactories,

Aware of the high financial and resource cost of large-scale engineered water infrastructure projects, and that nature-based solutions such as wetland restoration and riparian protection offer Member States sustainable, cost-effective alternatives that enhance ecosystem resilience and long-term water security,

Bearing in mind that marginalized and rural communities are affected by inadequate water infrastructure and limited access to safe and reliable water sources,

Alarmed that biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, specifically the loss of wetlands and freshwater systems, reduce natural water regulation, storage, and filtration capacity, while increasing the frequency and severity of droughts, flooding, and water-related disasters,

Highlighting the unique vulnerabilities and structural challenges faced by landlocked developing countries in achieving equitable access to water resources, including limited physical access to transboundary water systems, increased dependency on neighboring states, and heightened reliance on groundwater sources,

Affirming the need to provide data validation assistance to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) specializing in organizing self-reported, community-based projects about sustainable water practices, such as Rotary International,

Commends the UNEP Global Environment Monitoring System for Freshwater (GEMS Water) for its independent water research in Member States, which aids in accurate water policy solutions,

Reminds Member States to strengthen cooperation on transboundary water management in line with the *United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Water Convention* (1992),

Praises the efforts of the Guidelines for Integrating Ecosystem-based Adaptation into National Action Plans in promoting sustainable environmental practices, while noting that they only indirectly address nature-based initiatives, limiting their overall effectiveness,

Noting with appreciation the work of the UN Women's Women as Agents of Change initiative, which empowers women to become leaders of local environmental campaigns, to progress the 2030 Agenda,

Acknowledging the Early Warnings for All Initiative, which uses pillars to tackle natural disasters, including by facilitating task forces to address the impacts of these events,

Recognizing efforts made in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to aid policymakers on scientific assessments related to climate change, and encourage the implementation of a sister panel specific to sustainable water management,

Taking note of the current situation affecting the water security of originating cultural groups subject to recognition by Member States and rural communities around the world,

Mindful that the 2019 Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway called for investment in ocean-based economies to build water resilience and that the UNEP Flagship Initiatives are meant to accelerate restoration at a significant scale as part of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030 (UN Decade),

Cognizant that the UNEP Financial Institute (UNEP FI) works with over 550 banks and insurers accounting for over 170 trillion dollars to implement the UNEP FI *Principles for Responsible Banking and Principles for Sustainable Insurance*, including helping financial institutions minimize their impact on marine biodiversity,

Inviting Member States to General Assembly resolution 57/13 (2015), which calls upon Member States to protect human rights while bringing attention to women and girls' rights as human rights, where a disproportionate number of women and girls are restricted from receiving clean water and sanitation,

Reiterating the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), which highlights how the violation of the right to clean water and proper sanitation also interferes with the guarantee of other rights, and also brings light to the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation (HRWS), which was recognized through General Assembly resolution 64/262 (2010),

1. *Strongly suggests* that GEMS Water partners with the UNEP Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Data Portal to conduct independent, accurate, and uniform research of the potential for transboundary water management policies between regions, enhancing water policy recommendations for Member States;

2. *Encourages* the UNDP and UNEP to expand their guidelines report to focus on how nature-based solutions can eradicate water pollution, and how women can be involved in leadership positions, using the United Nations Women's *Women as Agents of Change* initiative as a guide, contributing to the uptake of these solutions, and by extension, the 2030 Agenda;

3. *Invites* GEMS Water to partner with Rotary International to implement its consistent, reliable evaluations of local community water sources, to improve Rotary International's community program accuracy;

4. *Endorses* the widespread development of biofactories which derive biofuel supplies from necessary water treatment practices, effectively maximizing the sustainability of existing wastewater recycling networks and further preventing the contamination of transboundary water sources by:

    a. Incorporating build-operate-transfer (BOT) agreements between UN functioning bodies and interregional and international contractors to design, commission, supply, and operate biofuel factories responsible for deriving biogas from water treatment waste materials;

b. Encouraging the commission of another memorandum between willing Member States and gas-distribution corporations to explore and introduce biogas supplies to residential and commercial sectors;

c. Collaborating with participant United Nations bodies and relevant stakeholders in renewable energy production, such as the collection of UNEP's Finance Initiative, or other global sponsors, such as the Adaptation Fund, to target renewable resource production in developing countries;

d. Providing developing Member States with a sustainable alternative to intensive-engineering energy projects while promoting socioeconomic development;

5. *Further affirms* collaboration between United Nations bodies and NGOs such as the Infrastructural Desalination and Reuse Association to incentivize and expand strong, efficient desalination systems in global regions connected by one or more central bodies of water, which may supply resources for drinking, sanitation, and agriculture;

6. *Advises* Member States, in association with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNDP, UNEP, and other regional bodies, to establish a Pollutant Free Waters Initiative aimed at protecting rivers, wetlands, streams, and groundwater sources for marginalized and rural communities affected by illegal business activities resulting in pollution, including:

    a. Introducing traditional knowledge with sustainable enhanced water quality monitoring to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate pollutant use in business operations that contaminate local water sources;

    b. Support for emergency and long-term clean water access in affected marginalized and rural communities, including filtration systems, mobile purification units, rainwater collection systems, and protected community wells where appropriate, funded through voluntary contributions from willing Member States;

    c. Sustainable livelihood alternatives, such as emphasizing water as a living, sacred entity in adherence with local traditions, that reduce economic dependence on environmentally destructive harvesting in or near marginalized and rural territories, by adopting restorative and regenerative water agriculture farming techniques that protect water quality through permaculture and watershed restoration;

7. *Strongly encourages* the creation of rural and marginalized individual-led water monitoring and river biomonitoring systems in affected areas to protect originating cultural groups subject to recognition by Member States' public health, preserve aquatic ecosystems, and strengthen early warning systems through:

    a. Training and equipping rural and marginalized health, water, and environmental agents to test water, sediment, and fish for mercury contamination, through the approved Pollutant Free Waters Initiative that will train local leaders in specific water monitoring techniques;

    b. Developing culturally and linguistically appropriate community alerts, through the engagement of rural and local youth leaders or tribe leaders by directly relaying the

concerns of individuals within specific communities regarding unsafe drinking water, contaminated fishing areas, and year-round contamination risks;

c. Supporting and developing future community-controlled monitoring apps where feasible, that report contamination trends while respecting and protecting sensitive territorial information in adherence with cultural codes and rules for rural and marginalized communities;

8. *Recommends* Member States partner with rural leaders, marginalized leaders, and other culturally significant organizations that advocate for marginalized and rural individual rights, such as Cultural Survival, Survival International, and the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative, in the planning, implementation, and review of water protection policies affecting marginalized land and waterways by:

    a. Supporting community-based river stewardship programs and utilizing local ecological knowledge and scientific monitoring methods;

    b. Promoting responsible water governance, including marginalized groups and approaches respectful of cultural, spiritual, and livelihood relationships between marginalized groups and geographically central aquatic ecosystems;

9. *Further encourages* the expansion of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to lead to the development of the Intergovernmental Panel on Sustainable Water Management (IPSWM) to provide policy-related scientific assessments to international governments that will allow for the:

    a. Encouragement to invest in groundwater monitoring systems, water infrastructure, and scientific data collection centers tailored to landlocked environments;

    b. Support of the integration of landlocked states into global water governance through capacity-building, technical assistance, and knowledge-sharing platforms;

    c. Adaptation of established frameworks to address the expansive drivers, impacts, and risks that come with the lack of sustainable water management;

    d. Implementation of this program is to be financed by allocated funding provided to the UNEP by the UNEA, as well as the Innovative Climate and Nature Financing;

10. *Suggests* Member States, in collaboration with UNEP, develop and implement inclusive water policy frameworks for landlocked developing countries, by:

    a. Expanding existing international initiatives, including the *VAI O LE OLA (Water of Life) Framework*, which highlights the importance of incorporating landlocked-specific conditions, such as groundwater dependency, water scarcity, and limited access to transboundary water routes, through the adaptation of:

        i. Legislation PDS KPA15, which encourages substantial financing for climate resilience strengthening programs;

ii. Legislation SOS Solution 3, which calls for increased scientific research, data, and monitoring;

b. Promoting regional cooperation agreements to ensure equitable and sustainable access to shared water resources, including provisions addressing transit and cross-border water management;

c. Potentially funding through the Green Climate Fund and NGOs, such as WaterAid and the Waterkeeper Alliance, that focus on water conservation;

11. *Strongly recommends* further collaboration between UNEP and IAEA in the areas of the Isotope Hydrology Programme to allow Member States to better track the pollutants through Earth's water systems;

12. *Recommends* the creation of an International Wetlands and Riverbank Framework under the UNEA to specifically promote an ecosystem-based approach to water security, with key components of this framework including:

    a. The establishment of voluntary national targets for wetland restoration and riverbank protection for the purpose of improving ecosystem resilience and overall water quality;

    b. The encouragement of Member States to implement nature-based solutions, particularly wetland rehabilitation projects and vegetation buffers, as a cost-effective alternative to costly large-scale engineered projects;

    c. Provisions for technical assistance and capacity-building support, particularly to developing countries, through relevant United Nations agencies and international partners;

    d. The support of incentive programs for agricultural stakeholders and farmers, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, to reduce nutrient runoff and adopt sustainable land and water management practices;

13. *Welcomes* the implementation of smallholder farmer education initiatives in rural areas of Member States, such as the Mount Airy Project, which implements hands-on curricula for smallholder farmers in sustainable water practices such as solar-driven irrigation systems and rainwater collection systems;

14. *Invites* Member States to partner with NGOs such as the Digital Public Good Impact Alliance (DPCIA) to develop Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in rural areas that facilitates the dissemination of best practices, environmentally sustainable farming practices, and agritech research through the FAO International System for Agricultural Science and Technology (AGRIS);

15. *Strongly urges* that UNITAR expands its Foundations of SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) *Foundations of Clean Water and Sanitation* training course, to include a ninth module focused on Member State tailored water education for marginalized communities, including advocacy for infrastructure projects that ensure environmental health and water security, illegal mining oil spills

and harmful substances in water that prevent drinkability, such as arsenics, nitrates, and Escherichia coli;

16. *Requests* all willing and able Member States to work closely with their regional economic centers (RECs), as well as larger regional organizations, such as the African Union (AU), to improve data sharing by creating an interconnected monitoring system to allow for further tracking of pollutants through all water systems;

17. *Calls upon* the UNEP to create an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop a legally binding international instrument on the implementation of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) to encourage voluntary frameworks designed to resolve landowner disputes surrounding external resource extraction;

18. *Further invites* cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the UNEA through efforts to monitor transparency amongst Member States regarding pollution and water usage, expedite data sharing among Member States, and ensure accountability through regulation and oversight by strengthening the already standing framework;

19. *Suggests* Member States support Member States in need of technical support and expertise by:

    a. Improving access to resources such as funding, technology, and climate indicators;

    b. Implementing a transparent monitoring network where Member States voluntarily share information such as risk assessments, water quality reports, disaster indicators, water access, and environmental impacts through:

        i. Sharing technology for climate resilient infrastructures, Nature-based Solutions (NbS), and water management workshops;

        ii. Expanding the Global Water Partnership (GWP), building a global framework, and improving local implementation;

20. *Urges* regional partnerships to manage shared freshwater and coastal ecosystems using SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) as a foundation to:

    a. Promote regional inter-governmental cooperation using the *Nairobi Convention Climate Frameworks*, which address water issues for shared rivers, aquifers, and coastal basins based on regional needs;

    b. Allow for flexible implementation of this program's frameworks to fit both local and regional governing systems to protect biodiversity and curb water pollution effectively;

21. *Promotes* under the UNEP IWRM framework of "implementation pathways" chosen by both the Member State's own assessment and its ecology as to whether they are capable of being implemented at the desired scale, including:

    a. Pathways for Coastal and Island Community Water Resiliency, the Member States will be able to test low emissions, brine-minimizing desalination technologies, marine safe discharge systems, and train local operators using local salt and minerals, if possible,

and additional unconventional methods of supplying water for coastal and island communities with limited access to clean drinking water, and also highlight;

b. Pathways for arid and aquifer-dependent communities' water resilience, the Member States may create maps of contaminated groundwater, help track plumes, install aquifer protective measures, recharge when necessary, provide centralized treatment systems, and reuse treated wastewater in arid cities and aquifer-dependent communities;

c. Pathways for rain-intensive and flood-prone communities to develop water resilience systems, the Member States may develop a single system to manage both rainfall and stormwater through integration of rainwater collection from rooftops where applicable, first flush diversion to storage tanks in institutions and communes, drainage repair/rehabilitation, stormwater capture systems, floodwater detention systems, and filter storm runoff;

d. Pathways for Mountainous and Glacier-Fed Communities to improve water resiliency systems, the Member States may assist in the development of seasonal ice reservoirs and artificial glaciers, upstream water storage and control of flow into downstream communities, erosion/slope/watershed stabilization, and monitor glacier-fed systems to maintain the winter run-off seasonally and increase available water during periods of droughts;

22. *Recommends* that UNEP expand its co-led early warnings for all initiative to include a fifth pillar focused on water shortage management in the aftermath of natural disasters to promote equitable access to vulnerable communities;

23. *Stresses* the need for Member States to expand advanced warning measures for climate-driven floods, droughts, and storms that disproportionately impact highly vulnerable regions and groups such as Least Developed Countries (LDCs), SIDS, and marginalized groups, subject to recognition by Member States through:

    a. Multilateral collaboration between Member States and the UNEP, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNODRR), and NGOs such as Help.NGO that specializes in implementing disaster reduction infrastructure to establish Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) with multichannel communication systems and geographic information system (GIS) technologies, thereby expanding access to weather data and forecasting of climate impacts to inform measures addressing climate-driven disasters to reduce disaster-related mortalities;

    b. Voluntarily implementing national policies rooted in community-based natural resource management mechanisms (CBNRM), particularly with respect to preserving water basins through sustainable water consumption and usage, that empower local actors in water conservation with meaningful representation in decision-making processes and reduce vulnerability to water-related disasters in water-scarce and flood-prone areas;

24. *Appeals* to the UNEP to expand existing data collection and reporting mechanisms in place to measure progress made under the UNEP Small Island Developing State (SIDS) Restoration Flagship on a local, national, regional, and global level to strengthen marine and coastal ecosystem restoration in SIDS through:

a. Establishing a UNEP online database encompassing SIDS participating in the UNEP SIDS Restoration Flagship, which aggregates voluntarily reported measures of coastal and marine environment health within SIDS, including species diversity, ecosystem resilience, and other environmental data;

b. Monitoring the implementation of the Sustainable Blue Economy Principles guiding investment in the ocean economy, particularly Principle 7 (Transparent) and Principle 14 (Science-led), to bolster voluntary disclosure of information by the private sector and Member States with respect to banking, investment, and insurance projects impacting marine and coastal biodiversity in SIDS, within the bounds of confidentiality, by:

    i. Requesting that the UNEP Financial Institute (UNEP FI) host a regular summit entitled *Sustainable Blue Economy Principles Financial Transparency Summit,* inviting key stakeholders such as financial institutions and Member States; to voluntarily discuss the most effective methodologies for reporting financial transactions impacting marine and coastal ecosystems, and conducting risk assessment regarding existing banking, investment, and insurance projects, culminating in;

    ii. A compilation of the summit's findings in a report to be digitally published by the UNEP FI for reference by the public, through an announcement of a summit meeting date and location, subject to determination by the UNEP FI;

c. Facilitating SIDS-SIDS peer learning and cooperation on best coastal system restoration practices through evidence-driven voluntary reporting by Member States to be collected in an online research database hosted by UNEP, thereby helping SIDS protect coastal biodiversity.

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

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The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Bearing in mind the United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 6/13 (2024), which calls for states to adopt stronger water policies to manage water resources efficiently and calls for a shift towards, inter alia, integrated sustainable and climate-resilient tank cascade systems and management, and the implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management,

Highlighting the *1997 Water Convention Framework* defining a uniform consensus on what a transboundary watercourse is among Member States, thereby promoting cooperation among those sharing water resources and preventing potential conflict,

Deeply concerned that renewable water availability per person has declined by 7% in the last decade, and that the world is losing over 300 billion cubic meters of freshwater annually, according to the 2025 AQUASTAT Water Data Snapshot and the Global Water Monitoring Report by the World Bank,

Recognizing statistics around access to water sources which include, the United Nations and World Wildlife Fund's findings that over 2 billion people still lack access to safe drinking water and that 2.7 billion experience water shortages at least one month per year, and a 2023 report by the World Health Organization's (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEFs) Joint Monitoring Programme showing that 3.5 billion people lack access to sanitation, further noting that these undermine SDGs 6.1 (safe and affordable drinking water) and 6.2 provide access to sanitation and hygiene,

Recalling the World Resources Institute's finding that approximately a quarter of the world's crops are grown in areas facing high water stress,

Observing that the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, under Article 25, outlines the right to a standard of living adequate for health and well-being, which encompasses access to safe drinking water,

Fully believing in the importance of transboundary river governance frameworks in ensuring equitable and sustainable water distribution among Member States, as demonstrated by the *Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin* within the European Union,

Stressing the importance of respecting every Member State's sovereignty in the context of transboundary water cooperation,

Deeply concerned about the findings of the Emissions Gap Report 2025 (EGR) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) that climate protection measures are still far from being sufficient for protecting our environment and instead place the world on a Paris Agreement-aligned global warming path,

Recognizing that water insecurity is increasingly worsened by the disruption of the hydrological cycle through climate change, pollution, ecosystem degradation, and weak implementation capacity, as stated by the UNU Institute for Water, Environment and Health,

Deeply disturbed by the United Nations declaring the current moment the “Era of Global Bankruptcy,” as 3.6 billion people live in areas highly vulnerable to extreme heat, flooding, drought, and sea-level rise,

Aware of the commitments outlined in the 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference, which seeks to address sustainable water management in the world’s oceans by protecting marine biodiversity in international waters and financing the restoration of coral reef ecosystems,

Recalling UNEA resolution 5/5 (2022), which highlights the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development, the 2015 *Paris Agreement*, and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030,

Further recalling the International Atomic Energy Agency’s Flagship Initiative in introducing technologies to improve plastic recycling,

Encouraging Member States to develop and implement innovative, technology-based solutions under the Smart Water Framework to monitor, reduce, and manage water pollution from agricultural runoff, mining activities, and plastic waste,

Addressing that plastic and biodegradable technology are not accessible or equitable for all countries, as developed countries make up 58% of global exports in non-plastic alternatives, while underdeveloped countries make up only 42%, creating a higher-import barrier, as stated by the United Nations Trade and Development,

Emphasizing the need for educational programs to promote technology transfer within rural and developing areas and encourage a just transition to clean energy, as stated by General Assembly resolution 80/142 (2025),

Recalling General Assembly resolution 78/130 (2015), which encourages implementing the use of WASHFIT (water and sanitation for health facility improvement tool), to set global standards, secure budgets, and train any workers in their support of the implementation of water, electricity, and renewable resources,

Noting General Assembly resolution 71/222 (2017) that established 2018-2028 as the International Decade for Action on Water for Sustainable Development and General Assembly resolution 77/334 (2023), and the *Midterm Review of the International Decade for Action,* which calls for efficient, cooperative, concrete progress and commitments toward the goals of sustainable development and water quality,

Recalling UNEA resolution 5/14 (2022) and UNEA resolution 5/2 (2022), which partner to underscore the importance of having the global plastic treaty through to create a legally binding international instrument to end plastic pollution, addressing the entire lifecycle of plastics from production to disposal,

Concerned by the UNEP statement that 19-23 million tonnes of plastic waste are leaked into marine environments each year and the prediction that plastic pollution will nearly triple by 2060 if nations continue normal operations,

Taking into account that over 2.6 billion people live in water-stressed countries as a result of climate change, as reported by the WHO,

Noting UNEA resolution 4/21 (2019), on the implementation plan “Towards a Pollution-Free Planet,” which calls for strengthened science-policy linkages to prevent and reduce pollution in water and marine environments,

Alarmed by the oxygen depletion of natural water sources due to excess nitrogen and phosphorus from industrial runoff, per the findings of the UNEP,

Reminding Member States of UNEA Resolution 3/10 (2017) on Addressing Water Pollution to Protect and Restore Water-Related Ecosystems, as it recognizes the efforts made by the Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme, to highlight concern for water pollution from industrial farms, factories, and cities,

Fully aware of the WHO and UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme 2023 reporting that 43% of the global population, or 3.5 billion people, lack access to safely managed sanitation, undermining SDG 6.2 on sanitation,

Emphasizes the importance of including marginalized communities in decisions concerning water management strategies that best suit the land they live on, and through implementing traditional ecological knowledge to inform place-based land management practices,

Further recognizing that rural areas affected by water scarcity, pollution, water-borne diseases, contamination, and poor sanitation rose from 50 percent to 60 percent between 2015 and 2024, according to the WHO,

Acknowledging that rural and other underrepresented communities in developing nations face disproportionate challenges in accessing sanitary, reliable, and sustainable water resources,

Taking note of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations’ (FAO) statement that unconventional freshwater resource capturing, filtering, and sourcing techniques have the capacity to help 1 in 4 people in water-scarce, rural, dry, and arid areas who lack access to freshwater,

1. *Welcomes* Member States, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations to implement and expand nature-based solutions to address environmental degradation and water contamination through:

    a. Protecting existing freshwater sources and their related ecosystems through expanded land conservation efforts by prohibiting industry construction and emissions within 100km of freshwater sources;

    b. Establishing Community-Led Restoration (CLaRity) programs to conduct restorative efforts for coastal ecosystems and wetlands that are highly vulnerable, naturally improve water quality, or improve water retention through the funding support of the World Bank and various NGOs to:

        i. Reforest watershed areas impacted by deforestation with native plant species within the region to improve water retention, prevent soil erosion, and support

biodiversity to prevent further water retreat and support natural restoration stages for sustainable growth;

ii. Encourage wetlands restoration through planting native pioneer species to encourage ecosystem recovery and increase the resilience of coastal communities, build natural protections against natural disasters, and strengthen regional biodiversity;

c. Ensuring funding for these projects through partnerships with international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), including organizations like the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and The Nature Conservancy, as well as regional watershed initiatives, to promote collaboration within transboundary waterways;

2. *Encourages* the implementation of climate-resilient land practices and agricultural strategies within rural areas to encourage the sequestering of carbon to combat climate change, reduce water loss, and encourage natural ecosystem recovery by:

    a. Acting based on adaptive and climate-resilient land management practices such as seasonal water conservation planning, drought-resistant vegetation planting, and floodplain restoration;

    b. Constructing cost-effective methods of sustainable land restoration, such as assisted natural regeneration, agroforestry, coral gardening, and low-impact bioengineering, to encourage the restoration of crucial carbon sinks, such as wetlands, forests, and coral reefs;

    c. Implementing more sustainable agricultural practices by diversifying crops away from monocultures, instead moving towards implementing soil-enriching farming techniques such as the indigenous Three Sisters crop, a companion planting system consisting of corn, beans, and squash, which work together to create a sustainable, self-sufficient ecosystem, that reduces water loss and improves nutrient availability;

    d. Encouraging the implementation of evidence-based limits on agricultural fertilizer usage to reduce excess nutrient runoff and therefore the creation of dead zones;

    e. Recommending the deployment of a community-centered farmer education program focusing on preparing them to deploy the 4R method of applying nutrients at the right time, in the right amount, with the right method, and avoiding application before heavy rainfall;

3. *Recommends* Member States expand upon the framework of the African Union's Great Green Wall Initiative to restore hectares of land with region-informed vegetation recovery by implementing rock walls, effectively slowing flooding, improving soil fertility and hydration, and generating green jobs throughout regional communities by:

    a. Promoting extension services of existing sustainable land management practices by encouraging wider adoption of successful initiatives, such as the World Atlas of Desertification, through more supportive funding from NGOs like the World Bank;

b. Recommending the implementation of nitrogen-fixing plants to regenerate soil quality, improve resilience to increasingly strong droughts, and limit the need for excess soil amendments;

c. Encouraging community participation through the creation of green jobs in any sector, which contribute substantially to preserving, restoring, or enhancing environmental quality, such as in sustainable agriculture, and waste reduction;

4. *Implementing* strategies for urban industrial development that focus on sustainable growth and building techniques and architecture that encourage water retention, groundwater replenishment, and municipal independence through decentralized water systems by:

    a. Modeling China's Sponge City design, which includes incorporating permeable surfaces such as streets and sidewalks, which allow the water to pass through to the earth, replenishing natural aquifers, which;

    b. Increases aid for sites for rainwater harvesting systems using natural, cost-effective materials such as palm leaves or bamboo to facilitate natural prefiltration and UV disinfection of bacteria to encourage the decentralization of reliance upon expensive water transportation and improve access within water-scarce regions;

    c. Constructing bioswales that capture rainwater and naturally filter pollutants and debris to facilitate groundwater recharge;

    d. Encourages the integration of community-led maintenance programs and local training initiatives to ensure the long-term sustainability, proper operation, and cultural adaptability of these systems;

    e. Recommends partnerships with local NGOs and research institutions to improve efficiency, monitor water quality, and adapt techniques to different climatic and geographic conditions;

5. *Invites* Member States sharing river basins to establish bilateral or multilateral water-sharing agreements, drawing upon the model of the Albufeira Convention between Portugal and Spain (1998), which successfully regulates minimum water flows across five shared rivers, by setting legally binding flow thresholds measured at agreed monitoring stations, through:

    a. Establishing joint monitoring committees between neighboring countries, composed of technical experts and government representatives from each Member State, responsible for collecting and sharing real-time hydrological data to oversee water flow levels and ensure compliance with agreed minimum thresholds;

    b. Setting legally binding minimum water flow guarantees across shared rivers, defined as a percentage of the annual average flow measured at agreed-upon monitoring stations to prevent upstream Member States from depleting resources at the expense of downstream communities;

    c. Establishing independent third-party arbitration mechanisms, under UNEP supervision, to resolve disputes between Member States regarding water flow compliance, following a structured mediation process before escalating to political or legal proceedings;

6. *Recommends* that UNEP expand upon frameworks on restoration efforts for ecological "dead zones," areas that have experienced biodiversity loss, shown minimal signs of environmental resilience, and are lacking natural buffers that filter pollutants, in collaboration with the Nature Conservancy and modeling restoration efforts on Azerbaijan's 2024 Naturally Determined Contributions 3.0 as a scalable, ecosystem-adaptable framework for:

    a. Planting riparian forests to enhance groundwater recharge, reduce flood velocities, and support biodiversity, which is crucial for long-term water quality;

    b. Implementing a weed control program utilizing cover crops and controlled burns to reduce competition with native species, thereby preventing eutrophication and supporting healthy levels of biodiversity on all ecosystem levels;

    c. Improving waste water treatment within waterways that have experienced industrial runoff by creating more strict and effective monitoring systems to combat eutrophication and pollution runoff;

7. *Decides* UNEP to model NGO International's Wastewater Monitoring Initiative to implement data collection mechanisms, data sharing, and address infrastructure gaps in at-risk countries, and to financially and technologically collaborate with EU4Water's Eastern Partnership to improve water-risk assessment and encourage inclusive, cross-sectoral water management practices;

8. *Recommends* that UNEP forms an ad-hoc committee based on the World Wildlife Fund's (WWF) transboundary river management programs, providing training, technology transfer, and implementation support for pollution reduction, focusing on:

    a. Providing an open access data source of monitoring technologies to promote informed decision making, focusing on accessibility to policymakers and scientific bodies and;

    b. Addressing up-to-date marine plastics, hazardous fossil fuel emissions, and public health threats on which the well-being of millions depends;

    c. Monitoring and regulating existing wetland restorative programs of highly vulnerable areas through increased satellite monitoring to analyze wetland growth, areas of concern, and possible practices to improve wetland health, such as restoring natural hydrology;

9. *Encourages* Member States to construct a framework to elevate marginalized communities within the water management decision-making process (CHAMPION: Community-Headed Aquatic Agency Program) by:

    a. Creating national funding opportunities for water management of indigenous communities in support of indigenous-led nature-based solutions for inclusive, ground-up biodiversity solutions;

b. Build regional committees to elevate marginalized voices within the water management process, highlighting women and minority groups in regional land decisions on sanitation and health standards;

c. Advises partnering with the International Funders for Indigenous Peoples to guide increased drinking water infrastructure development for indigenous communities in underserved regions;

10. *Encourages* Member States to model future pursuits after IUCN's BRIDGE Project, collaborating on transboundary governance on river basins using nature-based solutions, data-sharing, and diplomatic frameworks to ensure the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR);

11. *Strongly encourages* Member States to proactively implement effective, community-based water management systems and policies that prioritize the inclusion of rural/underrepresented populations in decision-making processes, through actions such as:

    a. Expanding rural water infrastructure through policies that include improved filtration systems, increased proper irrigation access, and modern sanitation facilities;

    b. Further developing regional monitoring mechanisms to identify disparities in proper water access and contamination in underrepresented regions, and mainly smaller rural communities throughout developing nations;

    c. Establishing local water advisory boards with more active representation from affected communities, to ensure proper sanitation and safety regulations for health and environmental standards;

12. *Reminds* the international community to align water contamination and pollution legislation with IPCC's and UNEP's recommendations from the EGR 2025 to reach 1.5 degrees of global warming to safeguard water quality and access in the context of climate-related stressors;

13. *Calls upon* all Member States to evaluate market-driven upstream governance approaches to tackle water pollution driven by climate change consequences on a global scale by:

    a. Recommending setting a net 100% pollution neutrality for all products and services that are used or sold within the Member State;

    b. Inviting the creation of a new Pollution Accounting Scope, which measures the direct, indirect, and contractual polluting output;

    c. Appealing for a reversal of the burden of proof by encouraging Member States to have corporations demonstrate their adherence along the supply chain to improve water and pollution management;

    d. Supporting the implementation of a digital accounting and data mining platform that tracks pollution automatically and creates reports to analyze and optimize methods to decrease the harmful impact on water safety;

14. *Encourages* the implementation of a Water Passport, a digital transparency tool tracking water use, protection, and pollution across regions, in cooperation with scientific institutions and universities to improve the global water quality, access to safe drinking water, and enhance public accountability in water governance by:

    a. Collecting data about environmental impacts and water use;

    b. Improving early warning mechanisms, strategic priorities, and investment decisions through real-time collected data;

    c. Encouraging public and group participation by implementing regional scoreboards of the collected data, e.g., water quality;

15. *Encourages* the creation of an international Machine Learning Water Quality Monitoring system in line with WHO guidelines to combat global water scarcity, to increase water quality and availability while reducing water loss and preventing pollution through:

    a. Ensuring that accurate water data guarantees all communities benefit from stronger water security;

    b. Emphasizing that practical, scalable transnational digital technologies are critical to eradicating water shortages and pursuing sustainable development;

    c. Strongly advise automating every Member State's water systems to enhance international water management and improve water treatment through UNEP's Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme;

    d. Urging the implementation of the hydroSHEDS database to share real-time water quality information and aid hydro-ecological research;

    e. Supporting the formation of an international training program, targeting hydrologists, on integrating digital water technologies and data transfer to promote sustainable developments and combat the triple planetary crisis;

    f. Underscores respect and the protection of state data sovereignty and voluntary data sharing;

16. *Advises* that the UNEP State of Finance for Nature 2023 report be utilized by Member States to identify the best and most compatible climate funds and blended finance mechanisms necessary for:

    a. Implementing highlighted best-practice cases with the funding of the Green Climate and;

    b. Creating science and evidence-based climate resilient circular economies;

17. *Supports* the creation of a youth program that targets college-age students between 18 and 25 years of age to educate them in the use and construction of biogas digesters by:

    a. Focusing on educating youth in rural areas to ensure more people have access to biogas digesters and, in turn, clean water and energy;

b. Implementation in areas with higher amounts of sludge in water sources created by pollution to ensure water is treated for safe use and prevent sewage contamination of groundwater;

c. Funding coming from voluntary contributions from willing Member States that wish to enlist in the program;

18. *Moves* for UNEP to develop and distribute paper fliers and background materials with visual aids and more accessible terminology for teachers and trainers to raise awareness about critical contaminants in water sources, water policy, and water regulations in their region;

19. *Decides* UNEP will establish a National Science Integration Review Mechanism, a standardized periodic framework to integrate:

    a. Access to peer-reviewed pollution data;

    b. Facilitate chemical risk profiles;

    c. Expose thresholds into national action plans through inventories and monitoring systems;

20. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to partner with organizations such as The Ocean Cleanup and Plastic Fischer to help Member States implement the use of river barriers, which assist in stopping up to 80% of marine pollution before it reaches the ocean;

21. *Recalls* the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s El Niño/Southern Oscillation climate monitoring system to be expanded internationally to provide an international database and data-tracking system among states affected by El Niño-La Niña weather patterns within the context of the 2025 UN Ocean Conference commitments of reducing marine pollution and protecting marine biodiversity by:

    a. Creating an international communication network among states bordering the Pacific Ocean to:

        i. Notify Member States of oncoming weather patterns and associated changes in water temperatures, nutrient levels, and the presence of marine pollution;

        ii. Facilitate international research and development of strategies to address the effects of El Niño-La Niña weather patterns on marine pollution and marine biodiversity;

        iii. Deploy smart water management systems and sensors to track pollution levels in real-time to identify marine pollution hotspots and enable rapid response cleanup measures before pollution is carried to vulnerable regions;

        iv. Tracking the health of coral reef ecosystems affected by El Niño-La Niña weather patterns to mitigate their associated negative effects and restore ecosystems already damaged by those patterns;

    b. Promoting a trust in data flows between Member States that safeguards information by:

        i. Implementing adequacy decisions, cross-border privacy regulation, and

privacy-enhancing technologies;

ii. Promoting the universal use of the Global Environment Monitoring System for Freshwater (GEMS/Water) by all Member States;

22. *Reiterates* technical innovations that reuse and recycle polymeric waste, by:

    a. Recommending the usage of Scientific Innovations to identify and monitor plastics;

    b. Equip advanced regional hubs with over 50 labs worldwide that demonstrate capacities in analyzing microplastics to form a network of Plastic Monitoring laboratories to support analysis protocols, best practices, and data on pollution;

    c. Endorsing the call for a policy brief on pollution Management through the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, led by the UNEA;

    d. Welcome Small Island Developing States to collaborate with the Research Network of Marine-Coastal Stressors in Latin America and the Caribbean (REMARCO) to harmonize sampling and protocols;

23. *Emphasizes* international cooperation that promotes transboundary water management, which is rooted in voluntary collaborations by:

    a. Updating international frameworks such as International Water Law and The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) that respect national legislation and developed priorities;

    b. Following the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) to promote voluntary data sharing along with science and evidence-based effective water policies that ensure ecosystem protection and pollution control;

24. *Endorses* the development of unconventional water sources that will supplement existing water supplies through:

    a. Progressing processes about desalination, treatment, and reuse of wastewater, and fog water harvesting;

    b. Sharing of technological developments through the Sustainable Development Goal SDG-6 Data Portal;

25. *Further recommends* Member States in developing equitable access to biodegradable and plastic alternatives through:

    a. Funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) or Global Environment Facility (GEF) in supporting developing nations in their technology projects;

    b. Implementing knowledge dissemination through UNEP by Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change, Open access science, technological reports, and data platforms such as Environment Live;

c. Encouraging international cooperation, public awareness campaigns, and the promotion of biodegradable alternatives, such as Polyt(PLA), to decrease plastic debris entering the ocean;

26. *Further proclaims* that multilateral talks involving these issues need to be expanded to encompass projects such as China's Sponge Cities and India's Nanami Gange Programme, as technologies allow Member States to collect wastewater in urban areas and effectively recycle it;

27. *Promotes* early warning signs regarding safe and clean water needs to ensure the safekeeping of the people by strengthening communication, as well as technological assistance;

28. *Encourages* Member States to utilize innovative and accessible technologies to address the Triple Planetary Crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss through:

    a. Promoting technology transfer to developing countries;

    b. Strengthening data collection and environmental monitoring systems;

    c. Supporting capacity building and technical training programs for effective implementation;

29. *Calls for* increased funding and capacity building initiatives to enable developing countries to adopt smart water technology and implement effective pollution control measures through:

    a. Innovative smart water technology that consists of using U-shaped floating barriers with a skirt hanging beneath it, this system is towed by two vessels that periodically remove the collected plastic;

    b. Using the bubble curtain to create bubbles to block plastic, include a fully automated solar-powered system design to capture plastic.