

National Model United Nations

Week A

March 17 – March 21, 2013



**United Nations Human Settlements
Programme – Governing Council**

Documentation

United Nations Human Settlements Programme – Governing Council

Committee Staff

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Agenda

1. Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums
2. Improving Sustainable Urban Mobility
3. Implementing Social Inclusion and Environmental Justice on the Agenda of Sustainable City Development

Resolutions adopted by the committee

Document Code	Topic	Vote (Y/ N/ Abstention/ Non-Voting)
HSP/RES/1/1	Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums	Roll Call (43/1/2/6)
HSP/RES/1/2	Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums	Placard (41/5/0/6)
HSP/RES/1/3	Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums	Acclamation

Summary Report

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme held its annual session between March 17 and March 20, 2013. The topics proposed were as follows:

- A. Improving Sustainable Urban Mobility
- B. Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums
- C. Implementing Social Inclusion and Environmental Justice on the Agenda of Sustainable City Development

The Committee is composed of 52 Member States and the first session was attended by representatives of 46 of them. Delegates thus began speeches on setting the agenda. Delegations also began to recess to try to come to a consensus on setting the agenda before the end of the evening. The body voted the order of agenda as the following: Topic B, Topic A, and Topic C. Delegates then started to debate on “Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums”. Speeches were heard with basic facts about this interesting and challenging topic. The delegates seemed eager to convey their ideas to the body. Delegates were engaged throughout this entire process. They worked respectfully and diplomatically to not only set the agenda, but begin speeches regarding the topic.

The second day was attended by representatives of 44 Member States of the United Nations. The session opened with several statements concerning the topic at hand and delegates proposed several motions to alternate between formal and informal sessions. In order to start negotiating and writing their working papers, delegates mainly entertained motions for caucuses of one hour. During formal sessions, the Commission focused on giving strong and dynamic speeches. Many speakers raised awareness by providing the statistics for their own drinking water availability. All speakers acknowledged the need for cooperation between Member States to build a comprehensive plan to address this issue. Initially the delegates separated into several smaller working groups which had a variety of ideas that differed in approach. Some focused on technical infrastructure while others focused on implementation of projects and financing issues. Six different working papers were eventually established, while delegates continued to learn about each others’ views during recess and were observed to be working diligently and diplomatically. One working paper was submitted during the evening session for editing. This was sponsored by 10 delegations and addressed creating a convention to only deal with the issue of water and stressed that each government sign on to make clean water a basic right for all humans. Three other working papers were submitted to the chair in the evening.

The third day was attended by representatives of 46 Member States of the United Nations. During these sessions, the delegates focused on improving their working papers. The dais pointed out to the delegates that many of these working papers tackled individual issues within the broader topic, however none of these papers addressed all of the issues necessary to create an effective draft resolution. Speeches continued to urge Member States to work together to accomplish these goals. The Dais made edits to working papers and returned them to delegates to continue the editing process. At this point, a new working paper was submitted to the dais. This was also encouraged to be merged with other working papers. Eventually delegates began merging and four working papers remained. Four working papers merged to become two. These papers thus were more comprehensive in their approaches. Delegates continued to work on these papers until the end of session. Overall it was a productive session with lots of speeches and substantive work on working papers.

On the fourth and final day, the committee worked with a sense of urgency. Many delegations worked before official meeting and during breaks. The working papers that emerged were the result of the level of cooperation that occurred during these sessions. Delegates continued to give speeches and make final edits to the working papers in hopes that they would become draft resolutions. The Dais encouraged further merging process, and eventually two more working papers merged.

Finally the three working papers recognized by the Dais became Draft resolutions 1/1, 1/2 and 1/3. Those three draft resolutions were finally voted on. Draft resolution 1/1 passed with 43 voting yes, 1 voting no, and 2 abstentions. Draft resolution 1/2 had an unfriendly amendment, which passed, and the draft resolution itself was adopted by placard vote, with 41 voting yes and 5 voting no. Draft resolution 1/3 had 2 friendly amendments and was passed by acclamation.

Code: UNHABITAT/RES/1/1

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme Governing Council

Subject: Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums

1 *Recalling* The Habitat Agenda Goals and Principles, Commitments and the Global Plan of
2 Action charter (The Habitat Agenda), which mentions the basic principles, purposes, goals,
3 mandates of United Nations Human Settlements Program,
4
5 *Alarmed* by the inadequate achievement of the seventh Millennium Development Goal (MDG 7)
6 concerning safe drinking water and sanitation which can have negative socio-economic
7 implications in the urban context,
8
9 *Deeply concerned* by the lack of safe drinking water and sanitation infrastructure globally in
10 slums and the all-encompassing effects of this issue in all areas of daily life, including the
11 extreme effects on women, children and minority groups,
12
13 *Reiterating* the importance of the UN Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and
14 Drinking Water (GLAAS) as set out by the World Health Organization (WHO) which mandates
15 a threshold for acceptable water and resource management,
16
17 *Urging* Member States to approach safe drinking water and sanitation as separate but equal
18 issues, such that the amount of water wasted is minimized and the funding is more effectively
19 utilized in ways,
20
21 *Recognizing* that every country and region faces a unique situation with its own challenges,
22 assets and cultural particularities and, accordingly, can contribute and offer ideas, resources, and
23 finances that align with their current circumstances,
24
25 *Realizing* that all Member States can and will contribute to and benefit from the knowledge
26 shared, which will lead to great advances in the sustainability and sanitation of water all over the
27 world,
28
29 *Fully respecting* the sovereignty of all Member States in all forms of collaboration,
30
31 *Keeping in mind* the importance and necessity of global cooperation for the most efficient and
32 effective implementation of solutions suggested in this document—specifically North-South and
33 South-South collaboration,
34
35 *Guided by* United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/292 2010 that declared the access to
36 safe drinking water and sanitation as a fundamental human right,
37
38 *Acknowledging* the continued efforts and participation of organizations in the efforts to solve this
39 issue, such as UN-WATER, UNICEF, UNESCO, HRC, the Global Water Project, and the Slum
40 Upgrading Facility, to achieve the Millennium Development Goal 7, target 10 in a timely
41 manner,
42

43 *Drawing attention* to the UN Water programs, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project, and
44 the Water Sheds and Gender Project, which all focus on the linkages between gender equality,
45 women's empowerment and effective water access,
46

47 *Viewing with appreciation* the work, discussions and results of the Copenhagen Climate Change
48 Conference, Durban Climate Change Conference, Rio+20, Johannesburg Declaration on
49 Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable
50 Development among others,
51

52 *Further reminds* the international community of the necessity to halve the populations lacking
53 improved access to safe drinking water and sanitation by 2015 as stated in the Millennium
54 Development Goals,
55

56 *Fully aware* of the impending deadlines for the United Nations' Millennium Development Goal
57 7 section C, which states the need to decrease the populations lacking access to safe drinking
58 water and sanitation,
59

60 *Taking note* that the United Nations has declared 2005-2015 the 'International Decade of Action
61 for Water for Life' emphasizing the importance of this issue,
62

63 *Noting further* that UN Water has proclaimed 2013 the 'International Year for Water
64 Cooperation' and World Water Day on 22 March also declaring the significance of this problem,
65

66 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme Governing Council,*
67

- 68 1) *Urges* Member States to review and renew their commitments to Millennium
69 Development Goal 7 (MDG7), Target 10;
70
- 71 2) *Suggests* that all Member States develop pro-poor urban frameworks compatible with
72 current Non-Governmental Organization efforts and international law in the
73 implementation of national water and wastewater governmental policies;
74
- 75 3) *Calls for* the further implementation of water and wastewater management strategies
76 based on Agenda 21, UN Water Conference, and the Report of the World Commission on
77 Water;
78
- 79 4) *Calls upon* women and marginalized groups participation and involvement in water-
80 related development and management efforts through the full participation in water-
81 related decision making both in local legislative procedure, and the international level
82 through NGOs to increase sustainability and effectiveness;
83
- 84 5) *Recognizes* the importance of social inclusion initiatives and the empowerment of slum
85 community dwellers through:
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 - 87 a. The provision of effective educational programs in slums in which:
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- i. Educators specialized in sanitation and public health to teach slum dwellers proper hygienic practices,
 - ii. A nondiscriminatory policy shall be adapted and the access to education will be equal for all slum dwellers regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, or religions,
 - iii. Educators work specifically on a grassroots level with local and regional administration and leaders to account for cultural particulates,
 - iv. Existing non-governmental organizations will work in conjunction with local and national administration and legislation,
 - v. Water conservation and consumption practices are promoted in slums,
- b. Streamlined knowledge and technology transfer, with respect to capacity building for water resource management,
 - c. Occupation-specific training—such as plumbing, water quality management, and marginalized population outreach for those in urban areas with unsatisfactory sanitation quality—provided by the Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance;
- 6) *Calls for* all Member States to meet annually until the 2015 MDG deadline to discuss the progress and successes of water sanitation and accessibility programs implemented in their own respective countries which:
- a. Will be decided upon after evaluating the progress in the current MDG7 goals,
 - b. Evaluate the unique situation of countries to apply effective methods of sanitation and water availability;
- 7) *Encourages* Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations to consider greater participation in UN-HABITAT program H2.0 Monitoring Services to Inform and Empower, which focuses on the effectiveness of investment planning and the subsequent transparency of said decisions;
- 8) *Recommends* collaboration at local, national and international levels on municipality and community-based awareness programs and initiatives that account for local demand and circumstances, directly involve citizens at the local level, and aim at increasing awareness of the detrimental health effects of unhygienic practices, on knowledge transfer and expansion of capacity amongst different municipalities, and on the reinforcement of regional partnerships through annual discussion forums for greater flow of resources, knowledge, and technical expertise;
- 9) *Calls upon* Member States with successful water extraction programs to share their expertise with willing countries through training, technology-transfer, and information sharing;

- 135
136 10) *Insists on* the necessity for Member States to improve pre-existing water and sanitation
137 programs and projects through United Nations agencies and NGOs and invites developed
138 States and established bodies to diligently support initiatives such as:
139
140 a. Programs which arrange for increasing the number of standing wells in slums,
141
142 b. Programs which further utilize the effectiveness of filter water bottles in providing
143 clean drinking water,
144
145 c. Programs which raise funds and build temporary water sources such as pumps and
146 sanitation services such as toilets;
147
148 11) *Reiterates* the importance of the UN Water and Sanitation Trust Fund with regard to
149 finance and seeks to enhance its strength and participation by:
150
151 a. Encouraging more involvement and participation from Member States, UN bodies
152 (such as UNICEF and UNDP) and initiatives, NGOs, and private sector businesses,
153
154 b. Ensuring research findings with regards to water and sanitation are publicly
155 accessibly, thereby improving the efficiency of fund allocation, both of the funds and
156 other existing organizations;
157
158 12) *Recommends* Member States to consider including the individual right to accessibly,
159 sanitary water that meets the universal standards set out by the World Health
160 Organization (WHO) within their own comprehensive national legislation;
161
162 13) *Calls upon* all Member States to continue negotiations aimed at developing clear and
163 reasonable goals for post-2015 water and sanitation development in slums and suggests
164 that they:
165
166 a. Begin no later than October 2013,
167
168 b. Occur under the auspices of the United Nations as a pre-discussion forum for
169 including and emphasizing water sanitation in slums for the current post-2015 MDG
170 goal-setting conferences,
171
172 c. Integrate and coordinate effectively with UN Organs, nongovernmental organizations,
173 and intergovernmental organizations to achieve comprehensive and manageable
174 goals,
175
176 d. Successfully agree on a new framework for safe, clean drinking water and sanitation
177 development in slums before the 1st of January 2015,
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179 e. Be held at a suitable venue in a politically neutral Member State.

Code: UNHABITAT/RES/1/2

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme Governing Council

Subject: Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums

1 *Recalling* the commitment of the international community to achieve Millennium Development
2 Goal 7.10, which calls for providing sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic
3 sanitation, and Millennium Development Goal 7.11, which targets improvement of the living
4 conditions in slums,

5
6 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution A/RES/64/292 and Human Rights Council resolution
7 A/HRC/RES/15/9, which stipulate the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a
8 human right,

9
10 *Concurring* with General Assembly resolutions A/RES/58/217 and A/RES/65/154, which
11 identify 2013 as the International Year of Water Cooperation, and emphasizes water as a critical
12 tool for sustainable development,

13
14 *Reaffirming* the continued efforts to improve water availability and sanitation infrastructure of
15 organizations and platforms such as UN-WATER, the Global Water Project, and the Slum
16 Upgrading Facility,

17
18 *Considering* the provisions held in Chapter 7 of Agenda 21 stating the management of water as
19 necessary for sustainable development, and facilitating the survival, cleanliness, and health of
20 people, agriculture, industries, and energy,

21
22 *Noting with deep concern* the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program 2011-2012 report,
23 which states that hundreds of millions still lack access to an improved drinking water source, and
24 the current indicators of drinking water access do not account for reliability, sustainability or
25 gendered issues,

26
27 *Deeply concerned* by the current situation where more than 100 million slum-dwellers across the
28 globe are denied access to safe drinking water and sanitation infrastructure, and the need for
29 increased emphasis on financial and technological support to developing countries to achieve
30 substantial improvement in water and sanitation infrastructure in slums,

31
32 *Acknowledging* that, on average, one person needs 50 liters of water per day for sanitation
33 bathing, drinking, and food preparation, as determined by the World Water Assessment
34 Programme (WWAP),

35
36 *Alarmed* by the persistent increase of water-borne illnesses as emphasized by the WHO, and the
37 subsequent long-term costs to social welfare in its totality,

38
39 *Desiring* global cooperation, including North-South, on these water availability and improved
40 sanitation infrastructure as a mean to best facilitate proper actions and increased success
41 worldwide,

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43 *Emphasizing* the need for financial and technological support to developing States to achieve
44 substantial improvement in water and sanitation in slums,

45
46 *Acknowledging* that most natural freshwater sources such as rainwater can provide sustainable
47 and potable water,

48
49 *Recalling* the results of rainwater harvesting programs in Member States such as Thailand and
50 Brazil, where local populations benefit from the existence of rainwater collection facilities,

51
52 *Referring* to the work accomplished by Integrated Planning for Sustainable Water Management
53 (IPSWAM) project in Bangladesh for water sanitation,

54
55 *Emphasizing* successful Water Stations projects such as the Water Kiosk projects implemented
56 by Germany and Japan regarding the distribution of safe drinking water to urban slum areas,

57
58 *Aware of* the UN-HABITAT Sustainable Cities Programme principle of common but
59 differentiated responsibilities as applicable between States' cities, as well as Member States,

60
61 *Noting* the upcoming culmination of the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals,
62 yet taking into consideration regional difficulties of eradicating poverty concurrently with global
63 population growth,

64
65 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme Governing Council,*

- 66
- 67 1) *Encourages* Member States to enact national action strategies in coordination with UN
68 Water, by implementing community and local based national sustainable capacity
69 building initiatives;
 - 70
 - 71 2) *Recommends* the international community to improve the transfer of knowledge,
72 technologies, technical assistance and best practice methods on water treatment and
73 sanitation infrastructures by inviting engineers, sanitation personal and hydrology
74 professional at the next World Earth Summit 2017, also known as Rio+25;
 - 75
 - 76 3) *Reaffirms* the United Nations Development Programme's Integrated Water and
77 Resources Management's emphasis of holistic and coordinated approaches in urban
78 planning and development;
 - 79
 - 80 4) *Encourages* the establishment of low-cost rainwater harvesting programs and methods
81 similar to those currently operating within Bangladesh, Thailand, India, and other States
82 utilizing jar rainwater harvesting, rooftop rainwater harvesting, and dirt mound canal
83 rainwater harvesting projects;
 - 84
 - 85 5) *Recommends* Member States to consider fresh rainwater collection as a viable source of
86 sanitary and potable water;
 - 87

- 88 6) *Supports* UN-HABITAT’s Water and Sanitation Program in promoting slum
89 development initiatives aimed at creating or improving infrastructure for water provision,
90 storage, transportation, treatment;
91
- 92 7) *Calls for* the establishment of international and regional platforms or networks under UN-
93 HABITAT for local and national governments, international institutions, private actors
94 and non-governmental organizations to contribute and share technological and
95 experiential knowledge in terms of best practices in water provision, sanitation and
96 hygiene;
97
- 98 8) *Encourages* national governments to create bilateral and multilateral frameworks focused
99 on information-sharing with universities and research institutions in order to analyze and
100 develop sustainable urban planning, sanitation programs, water engineering and
101 management programs;
102
- 103 9) *Encourages* the implementation of the UN-HABITAT City Consultant Methodology in
104 planning or improvement of slum infrastructures, to create campaigns involving
105 stakeholders from local authorities and governments in order to improve local urban
106 strategies and share best practices;
107
- 108 10) *Suggests* that Member States implement water detection technologies, analogous to the
109 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) use of Isotope Hydrology, in determining
110 new locations and sanitation quality of global water sources;
111
- 112 11) *Encourages* water purifying technologies processes detailed in IPSWAM for the optional
113 implementation of water purification in local communities and slums without clean and
114 adequate water supplies;
115
- 116 12) *Calls upon* Member States to financially support the aforementioned programs through:
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- 118 a. The use of Public-Private-Partnerships (PPPs) to finance the previous programs and
119 initiatives:
120
- 121 i. Enhancing the use of private companies to provide financial aid to certain areas in
122 which persons of interest are aware of such financial contract and transparency,
123 ii. Enhancing the implementation of transparency measures in creating PPPs,
124
- 125 b. To utilize systems of micro-finance in impoverished areas that are willing and aware
126 of the process in order to lend funds to those in poverty in assistance of water and
127 sanitation related supplies;
128
- 129 13) *Invites* the WHO/UNICEF Joint-Monitoring Program for Water Supply and Sanitation to
130 develop indicators to measure drinking water reliability and sustainability;
131
- 132 14) *Calls upon* Member States to engage in multilateral frameworks, with non-governmental
133 organization akin to the Global Water Partnership’s Water Supply and Sanitation

134 Collaborative Council (WSSCC), in implementing capacity building projects with local
135 and national actors aimed at improving sustainable development, and shared use of
136 natural resources;

137

138 15) *Recommends* that Member States adopt local and national urban water management
139 strategies aimed at protecting water resources through:

140

141 a. Enacting regional capacity for urban water management strategies, similar to UN-
142 HABITAT's Water for African Cities program,

143

144 b. Promoting pro-poor, socially inclusive investments in water and sanitation services,
145 as stipulated in UN-HABITAT's Water for Asian Cities program;

146

147 16) *Further recommends* Member States to consider the usage of Water Desalinization Plants
148 when no other options are successful, within the participation of the private sector
149 investment, in order to use this natural resource to provide safe water for drinking and
150 sanitation, thus creating employment opportunities for community populations and
151 continuing to acknowledge the direct relation between environmental protection and safe
152 drinking water;

153

154 17) *Encourages* water purifying technologies processes detailed in IPSWAM for the optional
155 implementation of water purification in local communities and slums without clean and
156 adequate water supplies;

157

158 18) *Suggests* that Member States engage in pre-existing funding operations that are available
159 to them, in order to strengthen community-based and local initiatives for slum water
160 infrastructure development such as:

161

162 a. Existing governmental initiatives which include bilateral and multilateral
163 frameworks,

164

165 b. Community-based resources including, but not limited to, local labor to contribute to
166 local economies and promote further reduction in extreme poverty,

167

168 c. Local private corporate investments such as Local Finance Facilities which can
169 contribute to the sustainability of future wastewater management and sanitation
170 infrastructure;

171

172 19) *Calls upon* Members States to utilize international funds and grants in implementing
173 water sustainability and sanitation initiatives by:

174

175 a. Urging Member States to uphold their Official Development Assistance
176 commitments,

177

- 178 b. Promoting cooperation with the Global Environmental Facility in securing financial
179 resources directed at enhancing capacity development activities with local and
180 national leaders,
181
- 182 c. Endorsing UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation Trust Fund as a viable method in
183 allocating targeted financial assistance to achieve water and sanitation enhancement
184 objectives in slums,
185
- 186 d. Promoting Slum Upgrading Facility (SUF) activities as a technical cooperation and
187 seed capital facility which tests and develops new financial instruments and
188 emphasizing incentives for involvement from all sectors, including technical
189 assistance in non-financial areas, such as those of land access, building design,
190 permissions, and community organization;
191
- 192 20) *Encourages* developed States to commit further financial support to the UN-HABITAT
193 Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, which is currently the most appropriate and targeted
194 fund to support water supply and sanitation projects in slums;
195
- 196 21) *Urges* Member States to further support and cooperate with the aforementioned UN-
197 HABITAT Slum-Upgrading Facilities;
198
- 199 22) *Recommends* that domestic lending institutions work closely with local authorities, local-
200 level finance facilities and infrastructure construction firms to promote domestic
201 investment in infrastructure for water transportation, sanitation, treatment and storage;
202
- 203 23) *Supports* the efforts by local communities in urban areas to raise funds in their pursuit of
204 constructing sustainable water and sanitation infrastructure;
205
- 206 24) *Emphasizes* the need to focus on initiatives that will empower populations living in slums
207 through education and awareness campaigns on the importance of water quality and basic
208 sanitation;
209
- 210 25) *Proposes* to implement specialized programs for each slum in order to educate its
211 population by:
212
- 213 a. Using schools when available to reach children as young as possible in conjunction
214 with United Nations Children's Fund,
215
- 216 b. Fostering community centers to reach populations in general with the help of the
217 United Nations Development Programme,
218
- 219 c. Focusing on women whose role in family education is essential with assistance from
220 the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women;
221

- 222 26) *Encourages* Member States to work in conjunction with UN-HABITAT and other
223 international agencies and organizations currently seeking to improve water and
224 sanitation awareness through educational institutions by:
225
- 226 a. Working with UN-HABITAT Human Value Water Sanitation and Hygiene Education
227 Programme, focused on training teachers in promoting Human Value-based water
228 usage,
229
 - 230 b. Supporting UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme's six-year initiative
231 addressing water-related issues in a prompt and effective manner;
232
 - 233 c. Coordinating with UNESCO-IHE's Institution for Water Education, for research,
234 education, and capacity development activities relating to water, especially in formal
235 education vehicles with UN authorized postgraduate diploma courses in water
236 education,
237
 - 238 d. Upholding the Commission on the Status of Women and the Beijing Platform,
239 focusing on gender equality and mainstreaming, and including the context of threats
240 to sexual autonomy and health accompanying limits on drinking water and sanitation
241 access,
242
 - 243 e. Reaffirming the principles of the World Health Organization, in promoting access to
244 safe drinking water and hygienic sanitation for the improvement of global health,
245
- 246 27) *Further recommends* that developing States, with the assistance of developed States and
247 other non-governmental entities, adopt proactive strategies to expand pipeline and
248 aqueduct systems in order to enhance access to clean drinking water in areas where water
249 is scarce, notably rural districts and urban slums;
250
- 251 28) *Encourages* the local promotion of water sanitation awareness in slums by:
252
- 253 a. Providing basic knowledge about water quality and the effects of contaminated water
254 on health,
255
 - 256 b. Divulging knowledge of proper water usage and sanitation practices in order to
257 maintain and sustain the integrity of current and future infrastructure,
258
 - 259 c. Teaching skills to monitor water quality and use of technology to empower people
260 with the responsibility of maintaining their own healthy, and safe water,
261
 - 262 d. Compiling billboards to spread awareness on basic knowledge on water quality and
263 the prevention the outbreak of water-borne illnesses;
264
- 265 29) *Calls* for the expansion of UN-HABITAT's H2.0 database as a mechanism for
266 information sharing;
267

- 268 30) *Recommends* that Member States evaluate completed initiatives in the implementation of
269 national water management strategies, and submit a description of procedural methods
270 and their results to the UN-HABITAT's H2.0 database to include:
271
- 272 a. A comprehensive analysis of technologies and strategies employed by Member States
273 in an effort to improve information sharing,
274
 - 275 b. Special emphasis on Member States submission of diverse case studies as an all-
276 encompassing report in addressing different regions and climates, within individual
277 States;
278
- 279 31) *Urges* Member States with highly-developed water treatment capabilities – including, but
280 not limited to, purification, arsenic filtration, and desalinization methods – to share
281 knowledge and technology with countries without such capabilities, notably within the
282 framework of the bilateral and multilateral agreements mentioned herein;
283
- 284 32) *Reaffirms* its continuing commitment to seek the most effective ways to improve access
285 to water and sanitation across the world while maintaining respect for national
286 sovereignty.

Code: UNHABITAT/RES/1/3

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Programme Governing Council

Subject: Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums

1 *Taking note* of Millennium Development Goal 7, Target C and D, regarding providing universal
2 access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation,

3

4 *Deeply concerned* that over 700 million people in the world lack clean water and sanitation
5 accessibility,

6

7 *Guided by* past resolutions on the necessity of promoting education and independent experts on
8 safe water and sanitation Human Rights Council Resolution 7/22,

9

10 *Considering* legal frameworks, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and
11 Cultural Rights (ICESC), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination
12 against Women (CEDAW), and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) regarding
13 water sanitation and accessibility,

14

15 *Recalling also* paragraphs 119 to 124 of the Rio +20 Declaration and General Assembly
16 resolution A/RES/65/154 addressing the importance of water availability,

17

18 *Noting with approval* the Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted in
19 September 2002, particularly Chapter 18 that consists in the protection of water resources
20 management,

21

22 *Recognizing*, the need to implement measures that specify frameworks to provide access to water
23 for marginalized groups in urban areas,

24

25 *Regretting* that slum areas have been neglected in access to information and basic rights on safe
26 water,

27

28 *Emphasizing* the need for local governments to address the water and sanitation needs of urban
29 slum dwellers,

30

31 *Concerned* that there is not a current existing international water convention that deals with
32 water sanitation and accessibility problems in slums,

33

34 *Acknowledging* the success of funding initiatives such as the Water Sanitation Trust Fund and the
35 Local Finance Facilities working in slums in developing countries,

36

37 *Further recalling* Clause 21, on the role of public private partnership, of the Monterrey
38 Consensus on Financing for Development on strategies of investment of development,

39

40 *Deeply concerned* by the fact that there are high disparities and discrimination in the access to
41 safe drinking water in particular rural region, the Sub Saharan region of Africa, as well as in
42 some of the poorest parts of certain countries lacking proper infrastructure,

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Noting the need for accountability and transparency in the implementation of measures and related organizations regarding water availability and sanitation in slums,

Recalling Article 2, Section 1 of the Charter of the United Nations, acknowledging the sovereignty of every Member State,

Affirming the necessity of full and active engagement of Member States on the agenda,

The United Nations Human Settlement Programme Governing Council,

1. *Calls for* Member States to collaborate on the creation of an international water convention focusing on freshwater and sanitation in slums that would:
 - a. Protect various constituents of freshwater which include, *inter alia*, springs, groundwater, rivers, and lakes as a public good belonging to mankind,
 - b. Recommend Member States to guarantee the right to water, and be responsible for the respect, protection, and fulfillment of the right to water,
 - c. Ensure that the people have full recognition and participation in determining and deciding national and local water strategies,
 - d. Raise awareness among Member States in regards to the facilitation of water access, distribution, and services,
 - e. Call for a platform for Member States to exchange information and technical assistance focusing on sustainability thereby securing water and sanitation quality in slums,
 - f. Encourage Member States with privatized water supplies to advise private corporations to adopt the Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB) and CEO Water Mandate;
2. *Further encourages* the incorporation of laws and regulations into national legislature that focus specifically on:
 - a. Making reports and periodic reviews public, and accessible to the community leaders and citizens,
 - b. Allowing water treatment facilities to be provided to the maximum number of people in urban slums,
 - c. Creating a national legal framework in each Member State in order to establish standard levels of chemical components in water that qualify it as safe and sanitary for drinking;

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3. *Calls upon* Member States to collaborate upon an international minimum standard for sanitary water in slums based on:
 - a. Data and statistics regarding sanitation qualities in slums from local public and research institutes of Member States,
 - b. The water isotope hydrology system adopted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);
 4. *Urges* Member States to abide by the action plans relating to slums enumerated in the General Comment No. 15 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council;
 5. *Recommends* the creation of local water-related governmental institutions working jointly with regional UN-HABITAT offices and agencies such as the Water and Sanitation Programme and the Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative (LVWATSAN) highlighting:
 - a. The need for gathering data on local slums from regional governments regarding water and infrastructure quality,
 - b. Planning and researching means to create efficient freshwater and sanitation infrastructural systems such as pipes, pumps, canals, and water trucks, that link slums to the main water supplies,
 - c. Encouraging financing through national development banks, and UN water funding mechanisms through existing financial resources similar to the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund,
 - d. Inviting specialists to share their expertise for designing local sustainable infrastructure systems to deliver clean water to slums;
 6. *Emphasizes* the need to promote education and awareness through teachers and community leaders under the direction of UNICEF and WHO on the benefits of hygienic practices;
 7. *Encourages* stakeholder-participation for improving water availability in slums by focusing on:
 - a. Considering economic, social, and environmental values, and transparent and valid assessments regarding water valuation by applying the following steps of public hearing, citizen advisory committees and task forces, public dialogues, surveys, focus groups, and community council and forum,
 - b. Educating citizens on the benefits of participation within their local communities,

- 135 c. Adaptive steps for developing countries by matching existing institutional setup of
136 data, resources, expertise, and knowledge to local water management,
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- 138 d. Participatory processes with adequate human and financial resources from municipal
139 councils and planning agencies to initiate Slum Upgrading Programs;
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- 141 8. *Urges* the creation of monitoring methods for the right to water at regional, national and
142 international levels, encompassing a variety of actors, such as the Member State, civil
143 society, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and new judicial and administrative
144 mechanisms;
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- 146 9. *Calls for* the development of a national water and sanitation policy or strategy, linked to
147 work plans and participatory budgets;
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- 149 10. *Ensuring* the sovereign right of Member States in implementing and utilizing water and
150 sanitation systems in meeting domestic sanitation and accessibility needs;
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- 152 11. *Encourages* an international cooperative relationship facilitating the sharing of
153 technological advances focusing on water filtration systems and sanitation techniques
154 through:
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- 156 a. Further promoting partnership between local and international governments in
157 associations such as: The Water is Life Mission, Hydro-Photon's SteriPEN, and
158 Portable Sanitation Association International's Mission (PSAI),
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- 160 b. Encouraging the use of water filtration systems that are low cost and high efficiency,
161 including the use of: UV water purification treatments, Iodine tincture treatments,
162 ceramics water filters, and Compact portable water filtration systems purifiers,
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- 164 c. Recommending the use of sanitation techniques including the use of: dry compost
165 sanitation, portable sanitation facilities, and techniques for the recyclable use of
166 human waste;
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- 168 12. Investigating slum areas that are in the most need of water supply by setting a specific
169 criteria to define slums in need, annual reports in the progress of such areas, use of
170 experts in the field required, and effective allocation of donated money received by
171 donors.