



Documentation of the Work of the **United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) NMUN Simulation***



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United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

Committee Staff

Director	Nicole Fett
Assistant Director	Cristina Sedano
Chair	Lorena Mazariegos Moraga

Agenda

1. Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries
2. Implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
UNEA/1/1	Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries	Adopted without a recorded vote
UNEA/1/2	Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries	Adopted without a recorded vote
UNEA/1/3	Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries	Adopted without a recorded vote
UNEA/1/4	Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries	Adopted without a recorded vote
UNEA/1/5	Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries	Adopted without a recorded vote
UNEA/1/6	Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries	Adopted without a recorded vote
UNEA/1/7	Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries	Adopted without a recorded vote
UNEA/1/8	Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries	Adopted without a recorded vote
UNEA/2/1	Implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework	69 in favor, 18 against, 30 abstentions

Summary Report

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

1. Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries
2. Implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The session was attended by representatives of 115 Member States and 2 Observers.

On Monday, the committee adopted its agenda and discussion on the topic of “Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries.” On Tuesday, delegates eagerly jumped into action, forming many working groups and working tirelessly to submit various proposals. The Dais received a total of 14 working papers covering a wide range of sub-topics including consumer awareness, resource management, social media, circular economy, infrastructure, among others. Collaboration remained strong through Wednesday as several groups decided to merge while continuing to refine their original proposals.

On Thursday, nine draft resolutions had been approved, three of which had amendments. The committee adopted eight resolutions representing a wide range of issues, including sustainable agricultural practices, consumer awareness, the need for partnerships among Member States and private organizations, and increasing research and innovation on infrastructure and transportation, among many others. Diplomacy, collaboration, and creativity were apparent as delegates worked towards solutions to make the textile and fashion industries more sustainable, always prioritizing the environment. After voting procedure the committee moved on to the second topic and adopted one resolution by a recorded vote. The resolution recommended that Member States adopt the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework. Throughout the week, a collaborative spirit permeated the body and was evident at all committee sessions.



Code: UNEA/1/1

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling the goals outlined in the United Nations 2030 Agenda, such as SDGs 6, 8, 9, and 15,

Recalling the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action with their combined goal of reducing and mitigating the effects of climate change on the fashion and textile industries,

Understanding the importance of bioremediation in the practice of growing crops for the production of natural textiles as it relates to the health and sanctity of our livestock, food chains, and ourselves, as well as how bioremediation helps create more environmentally and human-friendly garments and textiles,

Alarmed by the widespread use of chromium and fluoropolymers in the textile manufacturing industry and the risks they pose to the health of regional ecosystems and communities,

Alarmed by the harm done to natural water sources from dyeing processes in the later stages of garment production,

Desiring the creation of a multilateral fund to aid developing states in transitioning toward more sustainable practices,

Deeply concerned by the harmful effects of growing non-native plants for fiber production, such as cotton, in a given region on the local water sources and soil,

Recognizing the harms caused by various chemicals used in the dyeing process, such as heavy metals and Azo dyes, to both people's health and the environment, specifically their harmful effects on potable water and agricultural soil,

Recognizing the 2023 World Health Organization report on toxic pesticides that pose health risks to workers and consumers of the global agricultural industry,

Understanding concern that endocrine-disrupting chemicals are prevalent in standard fabric agricultural and manufacturing practices, according to the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety,

Aware that the use of outdated machinery and synthetic chemicals are correlated with poor health of agricultural and textile workers, consumers, and the environment,

Understanding endocrine disrupting chemicals, common in the agricultural and textile industries, inhibit gestation of humans and biodiversity, necessitating action to limit the use of such chemicals,

Calling upon the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (safe and secure agriculture) and World Health Organization (protect health and well-being) to aid in risk assessment of textile agriculture,

Acknowledging the Convention of the Rights of the Child has recommended that Member States prohibit the importation and use of any pesticides or chemicals whose use has been banned or restricted in exporting countries as they impact the biological endocrine system,

Taking note of the lack of education on sustainable, non-toxic practices such as the use of natural resources and mediums, including wood, leaves, flowers, plant roots, bacteria, and natural minerals within the textile industry,

Devoting attention to the need for the revitalization of native crops used for the production of textiles made from natural fibers beyond cotton, such as hemp, bamboo, and linen,

Suggests the multilateral work of Member States and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to assist with promoting more sustainable practices within the agricultural sector of the textile and fashion industries,

Encouraging research into regional compatibility with natural fibers that may not be native to the region but are environmentally sustainable agricultural options,

Also welcoming Member States to implement incentives for fashion and textile manufacturers that use natural and non-harmful dyeing materials and methods,

Bringing attention to the dyeing and manufacturing practices that exist within certain Member States currently focusing on the use of natural resources and practices within production and dyeing processes which support UN Sustainability Goals 6 and 8,

Calling attention to Sustainable Textiles for Sustainable Development (SusTex), its goals of aiding micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) reduce their various pollution emissions and the total cost of production of textiles through MSMEs,

Appreciating deeply the various international research efforts that work to reduce or mitigate the effects of climate change that result from the operations of the fashion and textile industries, such as eco-efficient adsorbents for the selective removal of anionic pollutants from aqueous solutions,

Cognizant of organizations such as the Better Cotton Initiative and Cotton Made in Africa (CmiA), which advocates for transitioning away from unsustainable growing methods for cotton, as well as providing training platforms for farmers to educate them on sustainable farming methods, including reducing the use of pesticides and moving towards organic cotton,

Calling attention to the sustainability potential within the raising of various livestock with traditional methods to create textiles,

1. *Utilizes* the UNEP to establish a textile sustainability fund to aid developing states' transition toward sustainable agricultural practices specific to the textile industry, whose main objective is to assist developing state parties whose annual level of natural fiber pesticides and fabric treatment chemicals is less than 30 µg / 1 cubic meter, which is the below the internationally recognized safe limit of chemically polluted water, within freshwater bodies pertinent to the ecosystem and communal health;
2. *Urges* the de-proliferation of chemicals and agricultural machinery deemed hazardous in textile natural fiber agriculture and proposes alternatives to toxic synthetic agricultural chemicals that find their way into global textiles, reducing toxicological threats to human and environmental health in the fashion industry by:

- a. Encouraging textile natural fiber agrochemical risk reviews to be conducted by the World Health Organization and classified as Persistent Organic Pollutants, persistent accumulative-toxic, Very Persistent-Very Bioaccumulative, Carcinogenic-Mutagenic-Repro-toxic, Endocrine disruptors;
 - b. Recommending that chemicals deemed hazardous by risk reviews are not to be used in the agricultural production of natural fiber for textile manufacturing;
3. *Strongly Encourages* UNEP to conduct risk assessment on pesticide exposure with pregnant workers and children by:
 - a. Utilizing the existing risk assessment framework of the WHO and FAO and growing environmental toxicology research efforts to bridge the conspicuous gaps in arid and tropical environments—not just temperate climates—under the guidance of these organizations' mandate;
 - b. Ensuring agricultural work environments are free from hazardous chemicals in any amount deemed dangerous, even at sub-lethal quantities, through semiannual assessment of all natural fiber industries producing more than 10,000 pounds of any natural fiber used in textile manufacturing;
4. *Encourages* research into regional compatibility with natural fibers that may not be native to the region but are an environmentally sustainable agricultural option, such as bamboo, hemp, and flax;
5. *Strongly recommends* that research should be facilitated into more sustainable and durable options, such as hemp, which offers a better alternative to consumers that will utilize far less water than other natural fiber crops;
6. *Calls upon* the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture within the FAO to strengthen and further facilitate efforts for bioremediation utilizing traditional and modern biotechnology methodologies through:
 - a. Microorganisms being utilized in willing and needing Member States to speed up processes to increase bioavailability and assist with the dire necessity for bioremediation;
 - b. Member States moving towards a reduction in the use of textile dyes, especially azo dyes, that are toxic and carcinogenic and can lead to less environmental degradation within many facets of the agricultural sector of the textile and fashion industries;
7. *Strongly recommends* the expansion of the Sustainable Textiles for Sustainable Development (SusTex) to work outside of India for Member States to engage in research and training sessions in the usage of natural and non-harmful dyeing materials and methods;
8. *Proposes* an advisory committee made up of sustainable artisans to scale sustainable fashion solutions, which will:
 - a. Appoint artisans to the reserve by the member-state of the artisan's origin, would meet and present annually to the UNEP;
 - b. Require artisans from each continent of the world to make up this committee, whereas it will be broken up into regions defined by:

- i. Member States where the production of textiles and any materials regarding the fashion industry makes up preferably less than 2% of the country's total exports, as these smaller-scale artisans rely on sustainable practices;
 - ii. Continents Asia, Africa, and South America will each have three artisans;
 - iii. Remaining continents will have one to two artisan per major region, such as Europe will have two and one for each Western and Eastern Europe; Oceania will have one artisan; North America will have two artisans;
 - c. Advise on regulations and educate on sustainable textile manufacturing practices in all other Member States within the United Nations and collaborate with textile hegemony and great powers to scale these small solutions globally;
9. *Expresses appreciation* for further research within countries that currently support a sustainable fashion and textile industry, further adopting and implementing less harmful methods of production across the world by:
 - a. Recommending that support originates from FAO and WHO to ensure green chemistry (sustainable development) and environmental chemistry (restoration practices) measures in the manufacturing of pesticides;
 - b. Designing measures that prevent undue influence of chemical manufacturing in risk assessment protocols, such as mandating conflict of interest disclosures in the sale of potentially harmful pesticides;
10. *Further requests* the Committee of Permanent Representatives to assist with the implementation of national laws and other incentives, such as the potential for land credits from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to encourage the adoption of sustainable agriculture practices within the textile and fashion industries;
11. *Recommends* Member States to collaborate with groups such as the Better Cotton Initiative or CmiA, which provides guidance and training for farmers and farm owners, which:
 - a. Will allow for a transition towards using natural forms of rainwater to reduce wastewater production;
 - b. Will allow for greater quality training for farm employees and farm owners to be better educated on how to farm sustainably and what materials should be avoided in crop production;
 - c. Must be achieved without continued active support by the private sector, while governments need to enable environments and establish boundaries with respect to practices that will be considered undesirable in the future;
12. *Declares its full support* of sustainably raising livestock such as sheep and goats for fiber and textile production through returning to traditional sustainable rearing practices such as animal lead grazing and migratory pattern protections, repurposing of animal waste as both a fertilizer and pesticide, and the utilization of natural shedding habits.



Code: UNEA/1/2

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Concerned by the state of the fashion and textile industries as two of the most environmentally destructive industries, contributing up to 10% of global greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and comprising 17-20% of global industrial water pollution, and the scarcity of regulations currently guiding the these industries,

Expressing its deep concern with the consistent overproduction of clothing articles in connection with the declining quality and decreasing lifespan of fast fashion garments,

Defining greenwashing as unfounded claims and spurious marketing by companies in regards to their products and values, which leads to consumers making misinformed decisions,

Deeply disturbed by the growing instances of greenwashing used by established international brands to mark themselves in a misleading manner as sustainable, with deceitful changes to their traditional business model and supply chain structure,

Emphasizing the importance of promoting greenwashing awareness initiatives through non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to increase youth awareness and education on pressing environmental topics,

Distressed by the frequency of independent sustainable label certifications creating the phenomenon of label fatigue and a consumer indifference towards such labels,

Alarmed by the 60% increase in global consumption patterns over the past 15 years and the fast rise in fast fashion,

Highlighting the importance of awareness and education to combat global overconsumption,

Cognizant that the textile and fashion industries are essential to the global economy, employing over 75 million people worldwide and contributing \$2 trillion annually, being especially active in the economies of Member States of the Global South,

Reaffirming its commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 (responsible consumption and production), SDG 13 (climate action), and SDG 9 (industry, innovation, and infrastructure),

Acknowledging The Fashion Pact's initiative to address the challenge of transparency by requiring member CEOs to report annually on progress towards The Fashion Pact's net-zero goal and encouraging data sharing,

Further acknowledging the National Action Plan (NAP) set in place by every Member State in which individual Member States highlight their strategies for addressing environmental sustainability practices,

Guided by the Global Fashion Communication Playbook, the Global Strategy on Sustainable Consumption and Production, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's

(UNFCCC) Fashion Industry Charter For Climate Action, all of whom have epitomized the goals of environmental sustainability within the textile and fashion industries,

Appreciating the work of the (NGO) Remake in their publication of the Fashion Accountability Report 2024 providing a universal benchmark to map 52 of the largest fashion companies and scoring them based on factors such as traceability, social and environmental equity, and sustainable usage,

Further Highlighting the work of Fashion Takes Action, and their program My Clothes My World (MCMW), which aims to develop workshops and lesson plans which discuss three primary topics: highlighting the social, environmental, and economic impacts of the fashion industry,

Acknowledging the working papers by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development about Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as well as their numerous case studies,

Further recognizing the Climate+ strategy, developed by the international NGO Textile Exchange, which outlines goals in line with the Paris Agreement with an attempt to reduce GHG emissions by 45% by 2030,

Considering the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report on sustainability and circularity in the Textile Value Chain: Global Stocktaking providing three principles for stakeholders to reduce the wastefulness of the textile value chain: consumption patterns, improving practices, and proper allocation of funding,

Recalling the UNEP resolution 4/1 (2019) on innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production through including local communities and other relevant stakeholders,

1. *Strongly recommends* the creation of an ad-hoc committee, assessing the already existing independent and isolated fashion sustainability labels and initiatives that oversaturate the market, then establishing a standardized international sustainability clothing label. This label shall draw inspiration from previous fashion sustainability labels and initiatives and is guided by the example set by the internationally recognized Fairtrade Mark, establishing a baseline standard for a sustainable textile life cycle, and is an identifiable symbol that consumers can distinguish as a reputable emblem of sustainable and ethical practices through eradication of the existence of greenwashing by:
 - a. Directing strict verification processes based on environmental sustainability, humanitarian impacts and traceability standards, as well as to showcase statistics on carbon footprint, water usage, and fuel consumption related to transportation;
 - b. Encouraging Member States to endorse the universal sustainability clothing label implemented by UNEP in order to standardize labeling of products spread within their across borders;
2. *Proposes* the expansion of the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion and the UNEP's Sustainable Fashion Communication Playbook to further develop a comprehensive education program that recognizes and incorporates the power of social media and influencers in the fashion industry to educate the public on the benefits of sustainable fashion;
3. *Encourages* Member States to develop local workshops, modeled after the Canadian educational program MCMW that engage the community through the promotion of the recycling of unwanted clothing and textiles by offering hands on experiences;

4. *Suggests* Member States to proactively collaborate with NGOs such as The Nature Conservancy, focused on promoting sustainable awareness to all, to increase youth knowledge on sustainability practices by integrating Local initiatives such as the Sustainable Textile and Apparel Parks Programme;
5. *Recommends* that Member States advocate for stronger legislation for sustainable textiles labeling and encourage a high standard for this practice to reduce the lack of regulation on independent sustainability certification labeling;
6. *Invites* Member States to contribute regional data to the ongoing research efforts conducted in the Sustainability and Circularity in the Textile Value Chain Global Stocktaking 2020 report in order to share local practices for Sustainable Consumption and Production, which can be used to mitigate socio-economic impacts and change in consumption habits;
7. *Recommends* Member States implement EPR to ensure a long life span for textiles by enabling producers to implement innovative product design that ensures sustainability during manufacturing as well as the post-consumer stage;
8. *Encourages* Member States to focus on the reduction of harmful consumer practices regarding textile production by implementing concepts similar to Climate+ which include material substitution, slowing growth of production, and closing the innovation gap into their NAPs;
9. *Invites* the members of the Fashion Pact and other similar organizations to join the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, an association of international corporate CEOs that endorse the values of the United Nation Charter and work to advance environmental sustainability practices in global business;
10. *Instructs* UNEP to analyze the impact of sustainable economic practices in the textile and fashion industries across Member States, with a particular focus on the Global South, to produce this analysis in UNEP's annual report during the seventh session of UNEA from 8-12 December, 2025;
11. *Requests* the financial assistance of the Environment Fund and earmarked contributions to aid the Global South Member States in the establishment of the UNEP Sustainable Label Initiative, particularly in the development of microfinance institutions through trainings in sustainable usage of resources within the local level of the textile and fashion industries in order to meet the standard of the universal sustainability clothing label;
12. *Suggests* that UNEP engage in public-private partnerships within Member States to source expertise, technology, resources, and funding by implementing small taxes upon fast fashion brands who have demonstrated a lack of environmental responsibility, which would be then used to raise funds for Member State budgets to carry out the upcoming UNEP Sustainable Label Initiative.



Code: UNEA/1/3

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Noting with gratitude the significant progress already made by the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to enhance the sustainability of the textile and fashion industries,

Recognizing the existing works of the UNEP's Textile Initiative, which could benefit from the open dialogue between different stakeholders,

Fully aware of the Kyoto Protocol's need for improvements to sustainability in production methods on a broad spectrum,

Expresses concerns with the lack of transparency regarding textile information collected,

Affirming that sustainability solutions in regards to the textile industry are yet to be fully developed within the frameworks of the UNEP, areas of consumer awareness are similarly underdeveloped, and the majority of waste is due to overconsumption,

Emphasizing the dire need for port authority reform to improve shipping efficiencies, especially in the on- and off-loading process for nations proportionally invested in the textile industry,

Stressing the importance of collaboration between the public sector and private stakeholders,

Realizing the crucial need for partnerships between government entities and private corporations to promote best practices and knowledge sharing,

Observing a lack of cooperation between governmental bodies and industry stakeholders within the supply chain such as manufacturers and subcontractors,

Taking into account the importance of the textile and fashion industries for the economies of less developed Member States, especially those most involved in the production of textiles,

Noting with concern the role of corporations within the textile and fashion industries in 85% of textile waste being dumped in landfills annually,

Concerned that the chemicals used in the manufacturing of clothing are toxic or carcinogenic for humans, affecting both those producing the garments without proper protection as well as for the consumer,

Bearing in mind that the textile sector is responsible for 10% of global carbon emissions, totaling the equivalent of 8.1 million tons of CO₂ annually, and accelerating global climate change to detrimental levels,

Conscious of the lack of specialization in any current funding frameworks regarding the topic of sustainability in implementing changes to textile industries, especially those in developing and small island developing states,

Convinced of the role of Member States' governments in monitoring and mitigating the practice of planned obsolescence and deliberately short-lived products by companies in the textile and fashion industries,

Acknowledging the contribution of NGOs that perform work similar to those such as Green Tree and Planet Aid which focus on engaging community-based efforts to encourage a healthier clothing life cycle through the recycling fabrics and clothes,

Seeking proactive action from textile companies in using chemicals to neutralize potential negative effects in their manufacturing processes,

Emphasizing the importance of engaging consumers in environmental awareness campaigns through partnerships with media corporations and textile stakeholders to optimize audience reach and effectively influence purchasing behavior,

Expresses hope for Member State collaboration to establish eco-labeling and certification systems that identify and promote sustainable clothing and textiles,

Further recognizing textile recycling's potential as an effective financial measure to support sustainable initiatives,

1. *Instructs* the creation and implementation, beginning in 2025, of a Textile and Fashion Oversight and Advisory Board (TFOAB) within the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) which is structurally modeled after the Human Rights Commission that will:
 - a. Have a rotating board of new and existing UNEP individual experts that will be nominated and voted on by the United Nations General Assembly and its membership based on equitable geographical distribution that will include:
 - i. 13 seats for African States;
 - ii. 13 seats for Asia-Pacific States;
 - iii. 8 seats for Latin American and Caribbean States;
 - iv. 7 seats Western European and other States;
 - v. 6 seats for Eastern European States;
 - b. Be limited to a three-year term and can only be re-elected once;
 - c. Receive its funding through the UNEP's The Environment Fund;
 - d. Obtain technologies and supplies for various sustainability projects and research from the UNEP;
 - e. Be overseen by the UNEP;
 - f. Research, compile, and share data on each Member States' status and progress regarding their textile and fashion industry sustainability;
 - g. Display all projects and collected data on Member States' progress regarding emission and waste reduction on the UNEP's Open Data Platform and UNData;

- h. Review new and existing textile and fashion industry policies and standards to ensure that they are not detrimental to the environment and are sustainable;
 - i. Advise Member States and stakeholders on how they can increase their sustainability by recommending different policy changes and NGOs to work with;
 - j. Have the primary goal of mitigating the majority of the fashion and textile industry's global emissions and waste by 2050;
 - k. Consist of three pillars of ideals that includes: Mitigating textile and fashion waste, "green" policy standards, and international cooperation;
 - l. Congregate biannually to discuss Member States' progress in a forum setting;
2. *Establishes* a voted-in committee by the UNEA to oversee the Better Quad Textile Initiative under the UNEP to empower provincial and municipal governments to respond to environmental problems caused by the textile and garment industry by:
- a. Being under the supervision and funding of the UNEP;
 - b. Stressing the importance of closer cooperation and communication between legislators at the municipal level of developing Member States and those transitioning to a greener and more sustainable economy;
 - c. Conducting research on innovating the production process of textile products by:
 - i. Encouraging the sharing of data and knowledge on practices regarding sustainable production through the UNEP's Open Data Platform and UNData;
 - ii. Enabling proper quantity production, purchasing and recycling;
 - iii. Creating a comprehensive approach regarding product life cycles from product inception to its eventual disposal;
 - iv. Gathering data on the use of the use of biodegradable materials, and the use of chemicals to minimizes negative effects;
 - v. Recommending implementation of innovative waste management processes, which reduce pollutants to surrounding environments;
 - d. Reporting their annual progress to the UNEP;
 - e. Complementing the UNEP's Textile Initiative by adding the researching functions and responsibilities into the committee;
3. *Mandates* policies and practices to the UNEP based on research executed by the Better Quad Textile committee by:
- a. Providing guidelines for private sector to transition to more environmentally conscious materials based on the collected data from the research of the Better Quad Textile Committee;

- b. An annual conference to present findings from aforementioned research and to consult with stakeholders in private sectors to develop new strategies on designing sustainable methods in the production process of textiles, from the start of the production until the management of waste, hosted by the Better Quad Textile committee that:
 - i. Includes but is not limited to brands, producers, consumers;
 - ii. Opens the dialogue between all different stakeholders;
 - iii. Promotes the practices to local municipalities via posters, flyers, and other means deemed appropriate by local authorities;
 - iv. Involves the collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have local missions;
 - v. Ensures the accessibility between differences with local languages and dialects;
 - vi. Implements awareness campaigns focusing on the urge of informing people about the affecting aspect of wasting within the fashion industries targeting different age groups, people from different cultural backgrounds and locations;
 - vii. Takes action in order to reduce the wasting impact by encouraging the use of second hand fashion to lower the high demand of consumers regarding fashion products;
- 4. *Calls for* the creation of the Adaptation of Sustainable Consumption and Production Working Group (ASCPWG) organized and supervised by the UNEP, a bi-annually working group which is in concert with civil society, policy makers, the scientific community, and major brands to compare best practices and research data to find innovative and inclusive solutions;
- 5. *Endorses* expansion on the scope of the Green Climate Fund under the UNFCCC to include sustainably implementing changes to textile industries of developing Member States by:
 - a. Providing developing and small island developing states a specialized funding mechanism to implement their goals relating to a sustainable textile industry;
 - b. Establishing a section of the fund targeted toward the sustainable means of implementing changes to textile industries;
 - c. Funding future and present endeavors in alterations to any Member States textile industry; ie, new materials and new equipment to create these materials;
- 6. *Recommends* Member States, civil society organizations, and NGOs to incentivize the private sector to transition to more sustainable materials through a system that overviews specific standards from the UNEA and after that provides a symbol that represents sustainably made textiles and clothing licensed to companies who comply with these practices which:
 - a. Sees a 50% reduction in harmful chemical usage or the use of other chemicals to deactivate their toxic effects;
 - b. Uses recycled materials in 20% their clothing manufacturing;

- c. Publishes an annual report explaining the process of implementing these actions and their effect on the environment, their production costs, and their annual revenue;
7. *Suggests* Member States to implement regulations for companies in their national territories to implement in their supply chain sustainable practices that are environmentally friendly and provide a safe working space for the workers, not only in the Member States where their headquarters are located, but all Member States where their supply chain lays;
8. *Proposes* to the Member States a framework on reforming national port authority systems to create efficient on- and off-boarding measures, primarily to improve the shipping aspect of the textile and fashion industry through:
 - a. Technical support from the UNEP and UNDP to provide technological development to:
 - i. Improve outdated systems used by the port authorities of the Member States;
 - ii. Create interoperable systems to increase transparency and information sharing processes;
 - iii. Reduce costs created from paper-related wastes caused by outdated port authority processing systems;
 - iv. Reduce the total time ships spend remaining idle with active engines in the ports;
 - v. Reduce pollution in coastal and other water channels with shipping activity through faster port processing;
 - b. Educating workers on new technological advancements to increase processing efficiency;
 - c. Acknowledging the role of exporting and importing textiles in regards to the proportion of total annual exports and imports of Member States, to provide the necessary support in reforming national port authority systems;
9. *Appeals* Member States to strive to achieve carbon neutrality within textile production by 2050 by:
 - a. Promoting the use of clean and renewable energy during the manufacturing process by:
 - i. Highlighting the use of solar energy in fiber drying and water heating;
 - ii. Transitioning away from traditional fans in favor of turbo ventilators operating through the use of natural wind power;
 - iii. Acknowledging the use of hydropower in the production of textiles as opposed to fossil fuel based power plants to reduce carbon dioxide emissions;
 - b. Making improvements in energy efficiency by:
 - i. Designing and implementing strategic energy management programs to set efficiency standards, track progress, and transparently report results to the UNEP;

- ii. Conducting regular maintenance checks on equipment for the purpose of ensuring minimal equipment degradation such as identifying air leaks;
 - iii. Increasing the installation of energy recycling technology including heat recovery ventilation units and systems that can recover up to 90% of otherwise wasted heat energy;
 - c. Reducing the use of fossil fuels in the transportation and distribution of goods by:
 - i. Encouraging the use of electrification, such as third rail and overhead catenary wire, for railroad networks to decrease transportation time and cost of bulk agricultural and textile goods;
 - ii. Recommending the transfer efficiency of goods at major logistic centers, such as warehouses, railyards, ports, and airports, to reduce fossil fuels used in the supply chain, specifically for the textile and garment industry;
 - d. Counteracting unavoidable emissions through the employment of carbon offsets as measurable and verifiable emission reductions from programs that reduce, avoid, or remove greenhouse gas emissions, allowing stakeholders to emit a specified amount of CO₂ or other greenhouse gasses;
- 10. *Recommends* to Member States to incentivize manufacturers to employ the use of neutralizing agents and processes to mitigate environmental impact of the textile and fashion industries by:
 - a. Suggesting practices such as, but not limited to, ozone fading, e-flow, enzyme-based bleaching, lazer fading, within the production process;
 - b. Directing incentives from the the Climate Stability Fund of the UNEP can increase motivation for the use of chemicals that reduce negative effects, such as providing subsidized rations for these workers' families;
 - c. Appealing to national governments to encourage the application of chemicals that are environmentally and productively advantageous in their manufacturing process;
- 11. *Suggests* the implementation of regulations on which chemicals are used, and how this is best done to cause minimal damage through:
 - a. The reduction of chemicals known to be used in textile manufacturing correlated with noncommunicable diseases like cancer, or altered nominal body functions including benzenes, Azo dyes, and flame retardants;
 - b. Recommendations on regulating the use of chemicals that are volatile or have the potential to cause acute harm like formaldehyde or acetone through:
 - i. Standardization of chemical use through safety data sheets provided by the companies who are manufacturing the chemicals;
 - ii. The Utilization of chemicals that will have the same effect as those that are volatile, but are known to be safer for the human body, environment, and manufacturing buildings such as, polycarboxylic acids, fatty alcohol ethoxylates, or cellulase enzymes;

12. *Suggests* Member States to design potential policy making solutions to incentivize private sector reform such as:

- a. Recommending the implementation of tax and fine incentives to corporations to encourage proper disposal and processing of chemical waste from textile production through:
 - i. A Landfill Tax, or LFT, to fine corporations for dumping chemicals, pollutants, and other toxic waste into the environment such as rivers, embankments, and forests;
 - ii. A Garment Levy to tax private sector producers a small fee on each garment produced that does not use recyclable or reusable materials, but shall be exempted through the allowance of a label if compliant to the UNEA sustainable goals in accordance to the UNEP renewable standards;
- b. Implementation of tax break incentives to corporations to be rewarded for remaining compliant to the environmental policy of Member States;
- c. Proposing additional tax rebate to corporations for adopting sustainable practices and achieving waste reduction targets in accordance to the Sustainable Development Goals;
- d. Establishing a customized global framework to encourage the creation of records on pollution and waste to be tracked and submitted to the UNEP for greater transparency;

13. *Urges* for Member States to take a proactive role in textile recycling in order to increase employment opportunities, lower production costs for companies, and advance the growth of second hand markets by:

- a. Educating and raising public awareness about textile recycling in order to empower people and create a new professional sector in the sustainability field that will lead to job growth and economic prospects through:
 - i. Public education on textile recycling conducted by international NGOs through the governmental social media pages, physical posters and conversations with locals;
 - ii. Which encourages the expansion of a new textile recycling industry, through the previously stated education campaign;
- b. Maximizing cost savings for companies by capitalizing on textile recycling, which reduces the need for purchasing new materials, promotes recycling techniques to transform used materials into new textiles, thus fostering resource conservation and ethical producing methods;
- c. Promoting the inclusion of recycled textiles in thrift and second-hand markets, ensuring affordability for consumers, reducing waste, and promoting the adoption of a circular economy model;

14. *Calls upon* the creation of a database named Big Environmental Data (BigED) that incorporates total transparency from Member States and companies, to ensure consumer awareness by:

- a. Working in conjunction with the ASCPWG as well as other organizations that aid in information collection and capacity building;
- b. Incorporating a Board of Advisors to act as fact checkers for the information being implemented;
- c. Advisors being selected from various organizations like International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC);
- d. Rotating their seats every 2 years with a 1 year rest period before reintroduction to the board;
- e. Alongside the data submitted, entities are required to additionally submit to the BigED:
 - i. Either a news article, video, or social media post by the original authors with the purpose of;
 - ii. Expanding accessibility to a general audience.



Code: UNEA/1/4

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Alarmed by the life-threatening consequences caused by the pollutants of fashion and textile industries, as well as the possible collapse of the foundation of economies,

Aware of the parameters of the United Nations Environment Assembly's jurisdiction over the establishment of broad environmental international policies and clarifying a pathway for the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP),

Guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 8, decent work and economic growth, 9, industry innovation and infrastructure, 12, responsible consumption and production, 13, climate change, and 17, partnership for the goals,

Recognizes the work of the monitoring mechanism established by the Executive Director per UNEA. 4 Res. 22 to identify challenges, such as limited capacity, lack of governmental support, and high costs hindering the implementation of SDGs in the Member States,

Having considered the implications that the textile and fashion industry has on all sectors of society and within all Member States, including agriculture, manufacturing, service, and shipping,

Noting the need to implement sustainable materials and practices in the manufacturing sector of the textile and fashion industry,

Further, believing in the importance of the service industry and its potential impact on sustainable production and consumption, as well as the importance of furthering the development of nations that function in all sectors of society,

Concerned with the high levels of pollution found within the shipping sector of the textile and fashion industry, primarily maritime shipping,

Appreciating the efforts of the United Nations and its stakeholders in maintaining knowledge-sharing and information dissemination platforms regarding sustainable efforts in the environmental movement,

Reiterating its conviction to maintaining nondiscriminatory trade policies between all Member States engaging in international trade and production,

Observing the need for the implementation of sustainable business models in the fashion and textile industries to achieve a circular economic model,

Concerned with the lack of knowledge within local communities, hindering the transition to a circular economy,

Emphasizing the need for open transparency about statistical data from Member States internationally and private sectors within the state,

Having studied innovative sustainable strategies to decrease the detrimental impacts of the textile and fashion industries,

Having devoted attention to the success of sustainable tax incentives in other Member States,

Stressing the usage and regulation of biodegradable raw materials in production that aligns with the transition towards sustainable reuse and reduction of hazardous materials within the textiles and fabric industry,

Bearing in mind, the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development emphasizes the urgent need for action, and it recognizes that planet-scale changes now place pressing constraints on development and drive rising risks to future prosperity,

1. *Encourages* fellow Member States to promote a three-step circular economy that ensures elasticity in the fashion market through:
 - a. Redesigning the utilization of textile materials in the production process through Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as Solvay, which recycles microfibers and microplastics found in water, and The Ellen MacArthur Foundation, which focuses on recycling wasted scraps of denim;
 - b. Considering that economic policies such as the subsidization of textile and fashion raw materials can enable the existence of a balanced market, cementing price elasticity on production material and, in turn, promoting a decrease in unsustainable production practices;
 - c. Directing production levels toward a decrease of raw material waste by expanding on the UN War on Waste Framework to include the manufacturing sector of the textile industry, specifically requesting collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) section of the program;
2. *Requires* the UNEP's leadership in empowering, operating, managing, and acting upon the establishment of local, regional, and national clean international textile trade processes through the UNEP Environment and Trade HUB, which encourages Member States to join a green trade initiative;
3. *Further recommends* that Member States follow the SDGs mentioned in the 2030 agenda through:
 - a. Promoting innovation of new circular activities, outlined in operative 1, in contribution to SDG 8 (promoting sustained and inclusive economic growth) and 9 (building resilient infrastructure and promoting inclusive industrialization) leading to:
 - i. The stimulation of job creation in various sectors of the textile and fashion industry leads to better working conditions in manufacturing;
 - ii. Textile and fashion sectors expanding sustainable enterprise through the encouragement of innovation and entrepreneurship;
 - iii. The development of technology fostering the development of sustainable manufacturing machinery and tracking of sustainable progress in the textile and fashion industries;

- b. A systematic approach (detailed throughout the previous clauses on circular economy and following clauses on municipal action) to economic development designed to benefit the environment and the successful accomplishment of SDG 12 (ensuring Sustainable Consumption and Production [SCP]) and 13 (taking urgent action to combat climate change) through:
 - i. The elimination of waste and pollution by utilizing already existing environmental programs or subsidiaries that focus on this specific mission, such as the UNEPs International Environmental Technology Center for Integrated Solid Waste Management towards Zero Waste;
 - ii. The circulation of products and materials by taking inspiration from the line of work of the fellow committee of the Conference Trade and Development through resource circularity in international value chains;
 - c. The promotion of international cooperation as specified by SDG 17 (strengthening implementation to revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development), through the continued and expanded partnership of International Organizations, NGOs, stakeholders, and Member-States;
4. *Encourages* Member States to adopt the following framework to devolve some power to local municipalities to implement tailored environmental solutions by:
- a. Inviting municipalities to implement legislation surrounding infrastructure, finance initiatives, and tax incentives to corporations, all towards the achievement of SCP;
 - b. Supporting the creation of independent Environmental Boards and Inspectorates to act as the intermediary between local municipal governments, their regional supervisors, and their departments of state:
 - i. Further recommends Member State municipalities apply weight-based pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) programs and landfill taxes (LFT) to corporations within the textile and fashion industry to raise revenues for further sustainable development within the municipality, as well as discourage corporations in excessive waste generation;
 - ii. Supports the creation of water management plans and tax incentives, funded by the PAYT programs and LFTs, on corporations for not exceeding their allotted water usage;
 - c. Allowing municipalities to provide corporations within their jurisdiction the e-training to increase employee qualification for sustainable practices within the textile industry and e-training on the best-practice collaboration between governments and corporations in circular implementation;
 - d. Instructing the UNEP and the Executive Director of the UNEA to establish physical and e-learning ad hoc training programs that will focus on capacity building for environmental action in developing and transitioning Member States;

- e. Advising Member States to create and implement tax-based incentives for sustainable and environmentally progressive companies through cash grants funded by PAYT programs and LFTs by:
 - i. Creating a structure of tax incentives that encourage companies to practice sustainable waste development;
 - ii. Rewarding those who are already practicing SPC;
5. *Calls upon* the Executive Director of the UNEA to present at the next scheduling meeting of the UNEA a report on the capacity of Member States to adopt the aforementioned framework for municipal environmental development and the progress towards adopting this framework made thus far in collaboration between Member States and the UNEP;
6. *Encourages* Member States to continue to outline their biggest upcoming challenges in implementing sustainable legislation into the textile and fashion industries to the monitoring mechanism established in EA.4/Res.22;
7. *Declares* that the UNEP Science Policy Panel (SPP) extend its research to the level of impact that ozone-depleting pesticides and unsustainable farming practices in the agricultural sector, pertaining to the farming of products used in the textile industry, are having on the hindrance of textile and fashion sustainability, further emphasizing:
 - a. SDGs 6 (ensuring availability of sustainable management of water and sanitation), 10 (reducing inequalities among countries), and 15 (protecting and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems);
 - b. The need for increased transparency to encourage equity in agro-international trade of pre-processed textile material among developed and developing nations, and;
 - c. Implementing successful sustainable practices outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals for Textiles and Fashion;
8. *Requesting* that the intergovernmental multi-stakeholder advisory group established in EA.5/Res.3 promote the adoption of sustainable practices and materials in the Manufacturing sector of the textile and fashion industry by:
 - a. Strengthening equality in relationships among trading partners through transparency and knowledge sharing;
 - b. Emphasizing SDGs 6 (sustainable management of water), 10 (reducing inequalities), and 15 (sustainable use of ecosystems), and;
 - c. Referring to the UNEA SPP to further research on textile sustainability specifically within the manufacturing sector, specifically in regard to the introduction of sustainable manufacturing per the circular economic model requirements;
 - d. Additionally asking that the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), under the supervision of ECOSOC, investigate the impact of sustainable initiatives on the costs of manufacturing textiles and clothing materials;

9. *Calls for* collaboration in assisting economies that are reliant on the service sector, particularly within the textile and fashion industries, and transition them into sustainable practices by:
 - a. Emphasizing the importance of care and repair for materials and directing ad hoc training groups created by the UNEP in clause three of this resolution to facilitate, at the request of Member States, the return of services such as cobbling, sewing repairs, jewelry repair, and so on;
 - b. Providing guidance towards resources for effective best practices established by the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion;
10. *Informing* the Executive Director of the UNEA to collaborate with the SPP to prepare a report to be presented at the next regular UNEA meeting on the impacts that technological advancement in port authorities could have on water pollution, regarding sustainable practices in manufacturing and shipping and, further, encourage discussion on:
 - a. Development of more sustainable maritime shipping practices;
 - b. The adoption of tax incentives for maritime shipping that has adopted or accordingly adopts sustainable practices;
11. *Urges* that Governments take the necessary steps to ensure environmental concerns are not invoked as a pretext for discriminatory trade policies in accordance with Recommendation 103 of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment;
12. *Asks* Member States to have statistical transparency and data availability through:
 - a. Annually issuing sustainability reports that discuss their recently highlighted achievements in sustainable development and SPC and detail the measures through which they were achieved;
 - b. Requests that Member States regularly update their official state-run websites, either listed with the UN E-Government knowledgebase or using appropriate state-run alternative, with a current data-based overview of the damages caused by pollution;
 - c. Encouraging Member States to continue to outline their biggest upcoming challenges to the monitoring mechanism outlined in Ea.4/Res.22;
 - d. Encouraging textile and fashion companies in the private sector to collaborate nationally and participate in discussions aimed at adopting sustainable production methods;
13. *Declares that* the UNEP creates a report to be presented to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) under the supervision of ECOSOC to direct further discussion, research, insight, and suggestions surrounding the adoption of sustainable business models (ASBM) in the textile and fashion industry:
 - a. Encourages the establishment of a sub-committee within the HLPF, which would be called the Committee for the Adoption of Sustainable Business Models (ASBM);
 - b. The ASBM would also allow government officials, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, and other experts to discuss concerns and best practices to help implement sustainable business models for these industries;

- c. The ASBM should be overseen by the HLPF and should coordinate its progress with the UNEP, which is responsible for coordinating responses to environmental issues within the United Nations system;
 - d. The ASBM should require an annual attendance, and any findings and solutions should be reported directly to UNEP;
14. *Recommends* that Member States provide guidance to consumers enabling the adoption of sustainable, circular consumption patterns through the following:
- a. Encourage Member States to support local communities in improving accessibility to recycling stations and centers for clothing donation and repurposing, with assisted funding provided from the UNEP Environmental Fund, where requested by Member States;
 - b. Urge Member States to increase consumer awareness of the inherent risks associated with poor manufacturing practices, such as 96-hour work weeks, outdated equipment, and disregard for environmental conditions leading to little adherence to manufacturing guidelines by overworked and underpaid employees, leading to excessive CO2 emissions, synthetic textile pollution in waterways, and other forms of pollutions;
 - c. Recommend Member States collaborate with the One UNEP Textile Initiative and UnBound Fashion to increase consumer awareness of greenwashing via education programs and with UN influencer campaigns to encourage slow fashion and recycled garments;
 - d. Encourage members to have state-run media campaigns promoting circular practices by providing instructions on the formatting of text blasters, training videos, dos and don'ts about circular practices, along with other formatting deemed essential to transition;
15. *Urges* Member States to implement and regulate the usage and extraction of biodegradable raw materials by companies by encouraging the creation of sub-committees within relevant local governing bodies of Member States to regulate and oversee the management of the extraction of raw materials via the textile and fashion industries.



Code: UNEA/1/5

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Calling attention to the benefits of an economy based on circularity and repurposing textile programs that create opportunities for jobs as well as the environment,

Aware of the disproportionate negative impacts that unsustainable business practices within the textile industry have on economically vulnerable populations, and the need to work collaboratively with producers of all sizes within the textile industry,

Drawing attention to the textile and fashion industries playing a central role in the economic prosperity of many developing countries,

Considering that the fashion industry is estimated to be responsible for 10% of global carbon emissions especially the long transportation routes, which have a higher impact than international flights and maritime shipping combined,

Reaffirming the principles of the Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action, which aims for net-zero emissions by 2050,

Condemns the textile and fashion companies who do not follow international regulations and warnings addressed to them regarding their methods of production,

Cognizant that the textile industry is the third highest contributor to water and land use and is the fifth highest user of raw materials, and producer of greenhouse gas emissions,

Noting that vast amounts of produced textiles end up as waste before being used, thus improving the efficient usage of produced products can be a huge leverage for short-term success,

Bearing in mind the UN Water Convention and the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes provided by the United Nations Treaty Collection (UNTC), and the vast negative effects on the environment by the fabric and textile industries, particularly water waste and greenhouse gas emissions, which negatively affects Member States' ability to reach the 2030 environmental sustainability goals,

Concerned that according to Royal Waste, there are over 97 million tons of waste created from the fashion and textile industry annually contributing to climate change and other environmental issues,

Acknowledging the acute effects of trends shifting the focus away from responsible consumption emerging within the textile and fast fashion industry and the importance of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) initiatives in ensuring their reduction,

Fully aware of the lack of consumer education related to responsible production of textiles,

Recognizing the stigma surrounding those wearing secondhand clothing, particularly in first world nations that keep citizens from thrifting and encourages them from buying new clothing as 80 million new garments are bought every year across the globe,

Highlighting the crucial importance of Member States' collaboration and partnership regarding Sustainable Development Goal 17,

Reflecting on the lack of adequate educational programs surrounding the topic of sustainable fashion practices is the reason for 25% of the general public being uneducated in the field,

Taking into account that not all Member States have access to information through means of collaborating due to the lack of communication methods or the lack of internet access,

Mindful of the need for established and formal platforms to exchange best practices in environmental policy addressing the textile and fashion industry,

Remembering the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion launched at the fourth meeting of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) that was improving collaboration within UN agencies by analyzing their efforts in making fashion sustainable, identifying solutions and gaps in their actions, and presenting these findings to governments to trigger policy,

Believing in the benefits of incentivizing over punishing, and encouraging multilateral cooperation,

Demonstrating support of the principles of the Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action,

1. *Invites* Member States to utilize regional forums such as the African Union, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, European Union, Organization of American States, Gulf Cooperation Council, Arab League and others to coordinate and facilitate at a regional level the implementation of Textile Harmonised Research Environmental Analysis Division (THREAD) platform to further share the best practices within the environmental policy areas if their need for such a platform is present, aiming at promoting discussions between scientific experts and policy-makers at international, national, and regional levels by:
 - a. Supporting and establishing priorities at the international level with moderators from the board of UNEP while ensuring that all Member States will maintain the full informational capacity to proceed with their implementation;
 - b. Committing to exchanging information between national governments on effective policies addressing the impact of the textile industries on the environment;
 - c. Organizing seminars within local governments educating policymakers on issues relevant to their regions, to ensure that even smaller-scale impacts of the fashion and textile industries are addressed;
 - d. Maintaining this platform organized within its capacity at the corresponding level of government to ensure responses are made within an effective time frame pertaining to issues related to the textile and fashion industry arising within the region, Member State, or groups of Member States;
2. *Recommends* Member States incentivize businesses who adopt the Circular Textile Program (CTP) and initiatives through a public-private partnership in collaboration with the Laudes

Foundation and partners such as Gap, Oxfam, the Amsterdam Fashion Institute, VF Corporation, and Fashion for Good;

3. *Further recommends* national initiatives aimed at implementing the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) frameworks to encourage manufacturers to take responsibility for end-of-life disposal of garments in the forms of recycling initiatives such as composting, thermal treatment, and other waste diversions by:
 - a. Developing recycling programmes internalized within the businesses while maintaining cradle-to-cradle principles;
 - b. Outsourcing recycling activities, providing investment into companies dedicated to circular economy initiatives;
4. *Approves* of the efforts of the members of the civil society that deal with the textile and fashion industries and local governments to promote, in their way, thrifting and upcycling of various types of articles of clothing, therefore promoting the implementation of these techniques and habits into their lives;
5. *Requests* an update of the findings of the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion to be compiled and shared at the seventh UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) so that the benchmarks can be assessed and evaluated so updates can be deliberated on if they are found to be necessary;
6. *Advises* the UNEP at their next meeting to encourage Member States at the next UNEP meeting to foster local and sustainable production through:
 - a. Encouraging import tax incentives on fabric that is sustainably produced or sourced with adequate sustainability standards;
 - b. Including the consideration of the length of transportation routes;
7. *Suggests* the greater implementation of global certification labels that guarantee the garment is sustainably produced, such as GOTS, Cradle-to-Cradle certification, and Oeko Tex Standard 100 by:
 - a. Fostering sustainable production and increasing transparency through labels during import and export while setting benchmarks;
 - b. Providing reports on social and environmental sustainability to help customers make informed decisions;
8. *Encourages* the addition of a discussion in the next meeting of the United Nations Environment Programme to discuss how to emulate the structure and approach of the already existing EU Strategy for Circular Economy on the international level by:
 - a. Providing a forum for Member States and allowing them to connect with experts to pinpoint states that need financial and logistical support to implement;
 - b. Collaborating with the UN Environmental Fund to provide financial support to Member States in need of it to implement these policies;

- c. Working in conjunction with Member States to implement the pre-existing policies set up by the EU Strategy for Circular Economy, such as:
 - i. Ensuring that microplastics are not shedding off of our clothing into water sources;
 - ii. Ending the disposal of fashion and textile waste into developing countries;
9. *Expands* on the One UNEP Textile Initiative which facilitates the collection and delegation of funds to support Member States as they transition into more sustainable industry practices as well as welcoming voluntary economic support from Member States to aid less financially secure Member States that are willing to transform their textile and fashion industries towards more sustainable practices;
10. *Proposes* that Member States and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) expand the EU-funded program Switch2CE among developing Member States, which incentivizes textile producers by providing economic stability and employment opportunities;
11. *Urges* Member States to form strategic partnerships to find collaboration opportunities as per the Sustainable Development Goal 17;
12. *Enhances* transparency regarding textile and fashion companies by encouraging states to independently improve traceability mechanisms by:
 - a. Enabling company owners and buyers to track the environmental footprint of products;
 - b. Helping them make informed decisions about the products they buy or sell;
13. *Bolsters* these national capabilities in calling upon the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion for the creation of a legal international framework by:
 - a. Suggesting to hold international corporations accountable without disadvantaging the producing countries;
 - b. Recommending that Member States - depending on their national capabilities - hold corporations accountable for their impact regarding their environmental footprint and their unsustainable practices;
14. *Expresses its hope* that Member States implement measuring systems to determine the amount of produced textiles that end up as waste before being used and increase transparency in unnecessary fashion waste;
15. *Looks* to promote connections between stakeholders of the fashion industry, governments, and NGOs by:
 - a. Focusing especially raw material producers, textile producers, apparel manufacturers, and brands;
 - b. Encouraging all of these stakeholders to identify new areas for action and scale up existing initiatives that connect the value chain;
16. *Expresses support* for the ambitions of the Paris Agreement, and looks to:

- a. Set Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) aligned emissions targets (within scopes 1, 2 and 3) in line with the latest criteria and recommendations of the SBTi to commit to net-zero emissions by 2050;
 - b. Strive for companies to quantify, track, and publicly report GHG emissions on an annual basis while using the best practices of measurement and transparency;
 - c. Secure 100% of electricity from renewable sources with minimal environmental or social impacts, while acknowledging individual Member States' capabilities to meet this goal;
17. *Supports* the development of nationwide campaigns such as recycling workshops, as demonstrated by the 3 Rs initiative established by the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) that advocates for reducing, reusing, and recycling materials and advertisements to educate the public on how to recycle unwanted garments and extend the lifespan of garments and to ensure sustainable practices through:
- a. Recommending Member States and companies pursue oriented education campaigns;
 - b. Linking with the phenomenon of fashion trends that are prominent on social media, to combine the wants of adolescents and sustainable practices;
 - c. Taking into account the habits and preferences of consumers, whether they prefer luxury or second-hand clothes and everything in between;
 - d. Creating a social media campaign to promote eco-friendly living with tips, infographics, or success stories about people who have made sustainable changes in their lives;
18. *Promotes* international and regional collaboration and partnership between Member States to:
- a. Facilitate the sharing of knowledge and technologies;
 - b. Promote exchanges between nations to strive for alternative, less polluting, means of production;
 - c. Use the technological knowledge of developed countries to combine with the polluting means of the developing ones;
 - d. Follow UNEP guidance for UN-led projects on low-carbon, sustainable production patents;
19. *Advocates for* the founding of new educational programs like the Fashion Revolution Greece to create transparency on the topic of sustainable fashion on different topics ranging from the production of cotton to the manufacturing of clothes to:
- a. Create study programs at universities all over the world where:
 - i. Education takes place on how the different resources like cotton are grown about the manufacturing of the textiles and the possibility of reusing them for something different later on and to learn about the huge toll the industry has on our environment;
 - ii. Funding is done by the Environment Fund established by the UN General Assembly in 1973;

- b. Make space for school curriculum to raise awareness from a young age;
 - c. Create training programs for producers to learn about more sustainable practices;
20. *Recommends* Member States collaboratively formulate a database for the textile and fashion industries by:
- a. Requesting this to be managed by a body of the United Nations Alliance for Sustainable Fashion;
 - b. Collecting and sharing data on the production of cotton and other energy and water-intensive textiles on a six-month basis;
 - c. Suggesting to be used in the fashion industry companies to share the best practices among Member States;
 - d. Being available in all UN Official Languages;
 - e. Collaborating with fashion media companies, such as Vogue, to communicate and promote the innovations of the database to the fashion community.



Code: UNEA/1/6

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Affirming environmental sustainability efforts passed through the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change (1997) including the mitigation of greenhouse gasses emissions and introduction of flexibility mechanisms via the Clean Development Mechanism, Emissions Trading, and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) creating pathways to an increased climate sensitivity as part of the Paris Agreements (2015),

Noting Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) expertise with a wider scope to ensure sustainable lifestyles, wishing to work with government to create practical measure, and scaling existing programs for further reach in an economical manner,

Reminding Member States of the innovative potential and adaptability of upcycled fast fashion textiles and their products within public, private, and corporate sectors,

Strongly advising the implementation of solar and wind power technologies to better help the fossil fuels to provide for a cleaner output within the warehouses for the textile and fashion industry,

Recalling that according to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the textile and fashion industries generate 20% of global water waste,

Reaffirming the importance of implementing a circular economy through a reallocation of materials within the textile industry through the use of recycling and rental services,

Alarmed by current global overconsumption habits and production imbalances in the textile and fashion industries, thus convinced by the necessary instrumentalization of elasticity into the aforementioned sectors' circular economy,

Deeply concerned by the life threatening repercussions generated by the misallocation of resources, lack of accessibility to biodegradable clothing, and market disequilibrium we support the inclusion of Non Governmental Organizations like Mirova National Capital to financially support solutions to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

Also bearing in mind that 87% of the total fiber input used for clothing are incinerated or disposed of in a landfill,

Fully aware of the critical importance of information transparency, committed to collective international efforts aimed at establishing transparent supply chains within the textile industry,

Taking into consideration the role of Member States in fostering a global shift towards sustainable practices by replicating successful tax incentive models by reinvesting into transparent supply chain frameworks such as the successful "*Netherlandic Tex Tax Initiative*," which offers tax rebates to major fashion companies that use recycled clothing within their own production cycle,

Acknowledging the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) data that consumers are now purchasing 60% more products and keeping purchased items for half the time, as well that the number of clothes worn has decreased by about 36% in the last 15 years,

Reiterating its call for empowering young individuals such as The UN Youth Environmental Conference hosted by the World Federation of United Nations Association (WFUNA), which makes initiatives to drive positive change on a global scale through use of educational and training programs,

Recognizing the urgent need to implement innovative weaving processes for clothing longevity and adopt cleaner machinery to safeguard biodiversity and promote sustainable industrial practices,

Encouraging in alignment with the principles of sustainable consumption and production as outlined in SDG 12 Sustainable Development and the resolutions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to protect the planet from degradation,

1. *Suggests* building upon the United Nations Fashion and Lifestyle Network by creating an initiative to bring together fashion companies, manufacturers, and community members to discuss ways to improve recycling at fashion and textile factories by creating the International Committee on Fashion and Textile Recycling which will be:
 - a. Implemented by the UNEP and United Nations Industrial Development Organization to generate creative solutions from industry stakeholders for the adoption of industry recycling;
 - b. Supported by non-profit corporations such as Mirova Natural Capital for its allocation of monetary resources toward the environment;
2. *Recommends* Member States to support the utilization of recycled textiles within various facets of their public, private, and corporate sector by:
 - a. Fueling textile recycling plants through renewable resources unique to regions and their relative Member States;
 - b. Understanding that different types of fast fashion products, like wool, denim, shoe soles, and others, produce different end-products to be utilized within the requirements of communities, corporations, and institutions residing in Member States;
 - c. Encourage participation from communities, corporations, and organizations to favor products made from recycled textiles, and adopt them for utilitarian purposes, examples include but are not limited to floor and ceiling tiles, building insulation, carpet padding, and pavement;
3. *Invites* Member States to regulate product management for textile industries to promote sustainability in clothing production by implementing strategic frameworks in line with high faceted training with strict regulations to create clean production such as United and Mobilizing for Justice and Access (UMOJA) which is known for managing a multitude of issues concerning transport, financial as well as resources;
4. *Further recommends* the implementation of a three-step circular economy into the textile and fashion industries in order to foster biodiversity renewal as well as market flexibility and emanate waste through:

- a. Redesigning the utilization of materials in the production process by shifting towards reusable and sustainable resources to limit pollution generated by fashion industries;
 - b. Ensuring an elasticity and flexibility by allowing a natural market balance with the UNEP for a gradual local and national transition into a progressive sustainable future;
5. *Decides to create an* ad-hoc committee led by UNEP that will call for more sustainable practices in fashion production by:
 - a. Beginning operations in 2026 allowing the committee sufficient start-up time, by requesting 13 million euros from the World Bank as they are looking towards meeting their digital development environment and water concerns and the committee will be requesting said amount based on the estimated cost within their sustainability fund;
 - b. Recruiting global environmental scientists and experts to collaborate on fashion innovation;
 - c. Working towards a goal of reducing the levels of textile waste by 20% and meeting quarterly per year with committee members to review advances made towards the goal;
 - d. Imploring textile industries to reduce the use of detrimental fabrics in fashion production that reduce the longevity of clothing;
6. *Calls upon* Member States to implement the Netherlands “Tex Tax Initiative” by inviting major corporations to recycle in large quantities in return of a tax break:
 - a. Recommending the establishment of a pilot program that uses tax refunds mandated by UNEP and circulated within the EU by establishing pop up collection centers which are in collaboration with the NGO Fashion Revolution where citizens get small refunds for their clothes based on weight and condition of clothing items;
 - b. While enabling metrics to track the progress of the pilot programs will include at least 50% of their textiles redirected from landfills to a pop up center and Member States who were able to reuse a majority percentage of the textiles they attained, and adapted programs will include the same metrics but percentages will vary depending on the Member States’ reach;
 - c. Creating more traceability for the largest manufacturing nations in relation to fashion and textile to ensure transparent traceability throughout the supply chain;
7. *Emphasizes* building on the UN Youth Environmental Conference hosted by WFUNA, to engage the youth, create initiatives to empower young advocates, and push corporations to create environmental sustainability and biodiversity conservation by:
 - a. Directly promoting a generational change highlighting the importance of education, recycling, and the process of clothing longevity by encouraging practices using sustainably sourced materials, eco-friendly manufacturing, upcycling, clothing swaps, and second-hand shopping;
 - b. Advertising the conference through social media platforms, involving influential public entities, educational programs, and community centers in order to promote, educate, and

incentivize these upcoming practices and attract young advocates interested in these topics;

- c. Fostering awareness on corporations' responsibilities within the life cycle of their products by encouraging implicated corporations to disclose social repercussions of their chains of manufacturing and clothing process;
8. *Further invites* Member States to incentivize organizations to set up QR codes on the labels of clothing products under the vision of improving transparency within the production process of the textile industry by:
- a. Considering consumers to get the access to the proportion of recyclable materials used in the acquired clothing products by scanning the QR code;
 - b. Calling for Member States to provide additional resources for manufacturers to receive additional subsidy when benchmark goals for purchasing Green Clothing Badge (GCB) is met by the communication of the life cycle information about products, including the origin of raw materials, proportion of recyclable components of clothing fabrics and, carbon footprint;
 - c. Encouraging Member States to establish evaluating standards of companies' GCB eligibility by assessing an energy saving ratio including the rates of used recyclable raw materials, greenhouse gas emission, energy consumption, and transparency engagement;
 - d. Taking note of the challenges for accessing facilities like mobile phones or the Internet in certain regions, UNEA calls upon Member States to incentivize manufacturers to provide recyclable paper-based materials detailing the product lifecycle to consumers upon purchase. This ensures that all consumers can access transparent and sustainable production information;
9. *Supports* the use of eco-friendly options such as rental services and up-thriftling through the adoption of increasing recycling services of textiles by retail companies to promote the economy as well as limiting fashion pollution and:
- a. Supporting the use of recycling services positively assists the economy through circulating textiles which promotes a balance between economic progress and ecological stewardship which limits the linear production with the aid of the UNEP by stimulating Sustainable Development Goal 12;
 - b. In addition the use of rental and recycling outlets this minimizes the production of harmful fashion pollution such as micro-plastic and land waste through the use of pre-existing materials;
 - c. Aiming for a circular economy as well as renewable fashion will ensure a sustainable fashion consumption of which limits the pollution and excessive economic strain thus leading to a balance between a rising economy and limiting negative impacts on the environment;

10. *Considers* the Member states for implementation of solar and hydroelectric power to minimize carbon emissions produced by fossil fuels to aid for a cleaner output for warehouses in the garment industry; which will:
 - a. Allow those who are working in the warehouses to be in good working conditions; by implementing better materials in ensuring proactiveness to the issues at hand and;
 - b. Educate the youth with respective assemblies to emulate the importance of adaptive energy changes for a better output by 2030;
11. *Calls upon* Member States to endorse the Sustainable Fashion Communication Playbook as a guide to direct transparency efforts and lessen overconsumption encouragement for the realization of SDG 12.



Code: UNEA/1/7

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Environmental Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industries

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recognizing the Ten Year Framework Programme on Sustainability in Production and Consumption (2012) as a vital step towards progress in environmental sustainability for numerous industries and acknowledging that sustainability in the fashion and textiles industries requires specific focus,

Highlighting the disproportionate consumption of 'fast-fashion' among Gen-Z and Millennial populations, of whom roughly 1/3 consume 'fast-fashion', concentrated in hubs of 'fast-fashion' retail purchasing,

Deeply concerned by the lack of knowledge and widespread information for environmental regulators and legislators and recognizing that the textile and fashion industries produce up to 10% of global carbon emissions,

Acknowledging the employment and economic dependence on the textile and fashion industry with the UN Environment Programme reporting that the fashion and textile industry is valued at around \$2.4 trillion worldwide and currently employs over 75 million people,

Acknowledging the goals of the Paris Agreement by using the available science in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and achieving this through means of reducing emissions by the sources and through enhancement of carbon sinks and reservoirs,

Further recognizing the existing One UNEP Textile Initiative and collaborations with separate institutions such as UnButton Fashion,

Acknowledging the success of sustainable social media campaigns, such as those led by African influencers for development that resulted in 86% of surveyed consumers reporting a higher likelihood to adopt sustainable practices as a result of engagement with influencers promoting environmentally sustainable content,

Emphasizing the existence of the Sustainable Fashion Communication Playbook which aims to provide a shared vision, principles, and guidance for aligning consumer-facing communication with sustainability targets,

Noting the importance GA Resolution 74/4 (2019), essential in preventing further damage and continuing sustainable development,

Deeply conscious of the effect of greenhouse gases resulting in environmental damages and the need for changes to be made to reduce and conserve resources,

Considering that the cultivation of natural fibers can potentially have negative environmental impacts through the use of fertilizer and pesticides,

Taking into consideration the importance of national and regional traditions within the sector, such as hand-loomed with recycled and/or organic textiles, and their resource-saving production methods,

Concerned by the lack of a method of specialized advisory oversight regarding sustainably implementing changes to specifically textile industries of developing Member States,

Acknowledges the existence and efforts of the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion and their aim to promote projects and policies that ensure that the fashion value chain contributes to the achievement of international goals,

Acknowledging the misuse of labels such as “green” or “eco-friendly” with 53% of green claims within the European Union (EU) found to be “misleading, vague, or unfounded” according to the European Commission,

Highlighting the importance of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol (2010) to ensure global awareness of biodiversity and sustainability through updated frameworks for all Member States,

Realizing the lack of understanding across all international public and private sectors on the harmful environmental impacts of textile and fashion industry production and consumption,

Deeply concerned by the 60 percent increase in consumer purchasing patterns of textile products but only keeping them for half the time, as well as its effect of 92 million tons of waste on our landfills according to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),

Recognizing the importance of sharing information between Member States as a key tool to support equality of opportunities for Member States with fewer capabilities, enabling governments and companies to take steps for positive change regarding the sustainability of the fashion industry,

Noting with concern high percentages of cotton waste per year generated by manufacturers, which often results in toxic waste sites that pollute the environment, ultimately putting certain individuals, such as waste pickers, and local biodiversity at immediate risk,

Stressing persistent inequity between developing and developed nations regarding the production and consumption of textile products and the resulting divergence,

Praising successful models such as the African Influencers for Development (AID), which uses social media to inform consumer decisions and has shown to have positive results in affecting customer behavior,

Affirming the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs’s (UNDESA) UnButton Fashion program, which aims to advise businesses on how to reduce CO₂ emissions by consulting with businesses and organizations on how to implement and introduce the concept of clothes swapping,

Affirming Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 9 (Industry Innovation and Infrastructure), 13 (Climate Action), 14 (Life Below Water), and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) in the pursuit of more cohesive sustainable farming practices which seek to effectively represent all stakeholders and promote improved standards within agricultural practices,

Acknowledging the importance of water treatment and carbon capture technologies as a means of reducing scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions that result from industrial textile manufacturing such as fabric dyeing and leather treatment within Member States,

Reaffirming strategies for a circular textile economy, as proposed by organizations like the UNEP and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, with a focus on reducing material and chemical consumption, optimizing production and consumption patterns, and improving end-of-life processes,

Acknowledging the Member States that set annual goals in gradual change towards less harmful chemicals in textile production to bring the health of citizens to a higher level, providing fresh water safe to use,

Calling importance to the involvement of indigenous textile practices regarding safeguarding natural materials and land stewardship practices,

Alarmed by a study from the Ellen MacArthur Foundation showing that the fashion industry faces a USD 700 billion annual loss due to premature disposal of clothes, high rates of unworn garments, and meager recycling rates (around 3 percent for businesses and 1 percent globally),

Deeply aware of existing projects, such as TEXTRE, JEPLAN, RE.UNIQLO and RENU serve as a guide to Member States in following initiatives in the recycling use of clothes,

Acknowledging recycling facilities are capital, resource, and energy-intensive and require sustainable approaches to develop and manage effectively, such as the Recyclability Framework,

Recognizing textile waste is a public health crisis due to clogged drains, flooding, and therefore increases the risk of malaria and cholera, as well as reducing the prevalence of clean drinking water and reusable water,

Noting the importance of developing new innovative manufacturing for developing nations and the important role developing nations play in promoting sustainable fashion through developing sustainable manufacturing alternatives that utilize or otherwise promote the sale of second-hand clothes,

Acknowledging the rich traditional manufacturing and consumption practices of indigenous communities and centuries-old civilizations, this assembly emphasizes the importance of incorporating indigenous knowledge into sustainable fashion solutions,

1. *Recommends* Member States to expand the UNDESA's *UnButton Fashion* program, which aims to advise businesses on how to reduce CO₂ emissions by:
 - a. Establishing 'recycling hubs' dedicated to processing post-consumer garments headed for waste in developing Member States, dedicated to identifying second-hand clothing made from textiles that are capable of being repurposed in the manufacturing process of new clothes;
 - b. Identifying innovative technologies and practices in the re-use of textiles from second-hand clothes headed to waste;
 - c. Promoting partnerships between governments, industry stakeholders, and non-governmental organizations to support the establishment of 'recycling hubs' in developing Member States;
 - d. Calling upon fashion brands and retailers to utilize textiles that are capable of being repurposed at the end-of-life phase of clothing in the manufacturing process;
2. *Encourages* technological innovation pursuant to the current express goals within chapter 10 of the FAO 2023-2032 report to help increase yields, improve sustainability, and reduce agricultural waste through the:

- a. Usage of water valves which use low flow and new targeting equipment to use only water needed outside of traditional irrigation to;
 - b. Usage of fewer pesticides in favor of technologies that use selected destruction through laser application or targeted pesticide use;
 - c. Reduction of the use of petroleum-derived fertilizers so that eutrophication may be reduced under SDG 14 and other water-based contamination reduced;
3. *Emphasizes* the need to reach international agreement on the use of chemicals and waste in the fashion and textile industry similar to EU's REACH (Reach, Evaluation, Authorisation, and Restriction of Chemicals), but with a more specific focus on the creation of certification programs through:
 - a. Increasing demand for recycled textiles, investing in closed-loop recycling technologies, and developing better collection and sorting systems;
 - b. Designing for circularity, prolonging garment lifespans, and reducing overall clothing production;
 - c. Implementing recycling initiatives like take-back programs and using recycled materials;
4. *Acknowledges* the importance of finding solutions to chemical leakage from the textile industry into water systems, moving towards protection of both surface water and underground aquifers by:
 - a. Advancing waste management techniques in the textile industry;
 - b. Using new technologies to uphold the proper refinery of fashion products in the textile industry without excessive use of water in the processes;
5. *Suggests* Member States to work to reduce their carbon and GHG emissions by 10 percent, relating to the average 10 percent of greenhouse gas emissions of the global textile and fashion industry, by 2050 by:
 - a. Giving carbon credits to corporations that are implementing sustainable technologies in the textile industry;
 - b. Strongly recommends the creation of a government partnership with UNEP to develop renewable energy to reduce greenhouse emissions during textile production, enhancing SDG 13;
6. *Encourages* fashion and textiles industry stakeholders to acknowledge their significant role in the proliferation of plastic fibers in oceans and to take immediate and comprehensive action to mitigate this detrimental effect, including but not limited to:
 - a. Implementing stricter regulations and standards for the production and disposal of synthetic fibers to minimize plastic pollution;
 - b. Investing in research and development of alternative biodegradable materials and sustainable manufacturing processes that reduce reliance on synthetic fibers;
 - c. Repurposing existing microplastics found in the ocean into synthetic fibers for denim and

other clothing production;

7. *Recommends* all Member States to expand current sustainable fashion UN Global Partnership initiatives and NGOs, such as TEXTRE, JEPLAN, RE.UNIQLO, and RENU, as a guide to increase international activity through information sharing, facilitated by the UNEP;
8. *Encourages* the merger of national secondary marketplaces that promote second-hand and recycled materials, businesses ranging from regional to multinational, to make up a form of an international secondary marketplace;
9. *Urges* Member States to make a significant effort to adopt sustainable materials into textile production by:
 - a. Reducing the use and production of synthetic fibers by emphasizing the need to use biomaterials and by-products as an innovative and sustainable material source for the fashion industry by identifying innovative practices to utilize natural materials while supporting coastal ecosystems and economies through the development of marine ecosystems;
 - b. Encouraging the local production of new materials that are both economically circular and biodegradable, such as natural fibers like bamboo and hemp, faux-leather alternatives derived from cactus and kombucha SCOBY's, and recycled, biodegradable materials like Circulose;
 - c. Learning more sustainable agricultural practices, such as those established by the Global Textile Academy like the use of cover cropping, multi-cropping, and the use of livestock;
 - d. Reallocating existing fertilizer and pesticide subsidies that Member States may have to support sustainable agricultural practices;
 - e. Encouraging the allocation of funds to Member States that would need additional support in implementing suggested sustainable textile and fashion production practices;
 - f. Encouraging Member States to fund research into sustainable and biodegradable fibers, such as hemp and bamboo;
10. *Requests* Member States use sustainable energy resources in every stage of the value chain of textile and fashion products, including design, production, transportation, and sale;
11. *Stresses* to ensure sustainable development of labor and technological advancement in the textile and fashion industry by:
 - a. Encouraging that Member States, who have not yet done so, ought to invest in technologies to reduce GHG emissions, similar to those developed under *The Scandinavian Textile Initiative for Climate Action* (STICA) by the Sustainable Fashion Academy or the BioSafety Laws of Türkiye;
 - b. Emphasizing the importance of Member States voluntarily exchanging research results regarding technological advancements of sustainable production processes via existing programs and bodies such as the UN Statistics Division;

12. *Recommends* the expansion of the One UNEP Textile Initiative to include a digital educational campaign for consumers to raise awareness of the environmental implications of the textile and fashion industries, and expanding educational efforts, further building on the existing framework by the Global Education Program for government officials, responsible for regulating environmental policy to provide critical information and education on the effects of the 'fast-fashion' industry;
13. *Requests* for the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion to update the Sustainable Fashion Communication playbook, which should be approved by UNEP by:
 - a. Addressing the technological advancements in the fashion sector, giving new recommendations based on what's become the most sustainable;
 - b. Including new consumer behavior reports that offer insights into how brands could appropriately communicate with consumers;
 - c. Reporting the most up-to-date legal requirements across the globe to ensure Member States, NGOs, and the private sector are all staying compliant in their practices;
 - d. Adding the latest case studies on how fashion brands are successfully addressing the barriers in communication and sustainable production to provide examples;
 - e. Ensuring the playbook has the latest climate data science from the World Climate Research Programme and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to enable the timeliest recommendations possible;
14. *Strongly encourages* Member States to research and use biofilm filtration and absorption technology to capture micro- and nano plastics currently in ecosystems and appropriately remove them from the non-built environment, at appropriate disposal or recycling sites by:
 - a. Establishing a registry of appropriate disposal sites that satisfy the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's definition of landfill: "A scientifically designed and constructed site where waste is disposed of systematically where all emissions of gases, liquids, and solid materials are controlled and not allowed to contaminate the surrounding environment";
 - b. Recommending new research into scientific recycling options for microplastics in stride with the growing global markets for microplastic recycling, such as the Asia-Pacific Plastic Recycling Market, Global Recycled Plastic Market, and others;
 - c. Encouraging further research and innovation sharing regarding solutions to marine plastic waste pollution based on China's UNEP Champions of the Earth 2023 award-winning Blue Circle environmental initiative, utilizing blockchain and Internet-of-Things technology to monitor the lifespan and best disposal methods of plastic waste;
15. *Recommends* working with regional organizations such as The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, Arab League, European Union, African Union, Organization of American States, and others to develop a system of incentives that will promote industries that are achieving more sustainable practices by offering subsidies based on the certification systems in place and those to be created;
16. *Establishes* a board presided by a chair appointed by UNEP's executive director, reconvening biannually, under and through the commission of The One UNEP Textile Initiative, consisting of

specialized advisors and administrators working within the area of implementing sustainable practices in the textile industry, coming from an elected:

- a. Providing specialized advice on a Member State-basis in the sustainable implementation of green-textile practices;
 - b. Advising and educating clothing manufacturers on how to better sustain the world's environment;
 - c. Bringing awareness to Member States, consumers, and companies on the potential fiscal limitations of implementing outright changes to Member States' textile industries;
 - d. Building on existing relationships between the private and public sectors of our respective Member States in the sustainable implementation of textile industry changes;
 - e. Promoting ethical labor practices and equitable employment opportunities throughout the supply chain;
17. *Recommends* Member States, specifically OECD Member States, domesticate global regulations on the import and export of waste, such as the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal subject to definitions provided by the Basel Convention, to require the exporter to obtain prior informed consent from the importing Member State when exporting textile waste and to require the importing Member State to demonstrate the capacity to manage the textile waste in an environmentally sound manner by:
- a. Collaborating with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and other regional trade departments to establish these policies and assist in receiving consent from Member States to send waste, specifically targeting the transfer of hazardous waste and materials to developing countries;
 - b. Urging the UNEP to develop legislation supporting the sanctioning of waste zones in developing countries, mandating their regulation;
 - c. Supporting the enforcement of waste management regulations in all Free Trade Zones (FTZ) in the Member States affected by textile waste;
 - d. Requesting UNEP to assist Member States in internalizing recycling initiatives and waste management;
18. *Recommends* the expansion of the One UNEP Textile Initiative to include a digital educational campaign for consumers to raise awareness of the environmental implications of the textile and fashion industries, and expanding educational efforts, further building on the existing framework by the Global Education Program for government officials responsible for regulating environmental policy to provide critical information and education on the effects of the 'fast-fashion' industries;
19. *Recognizing* the definition of Sustainable Consumption and Production being "the use of services and related products, which respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimizing the use of natural resources and toxic materials as well as the emissions of waste and

pollutants over the life cycle of the service or product so as not to jeopardize the needs of future generations;

20. *Suggests* reassessing how consumer fashion habits impact pollution levels and waste, building on pre-existing frameworks such as the Kuala-Lumpur Supplementary Protocol through:
 - a. Integrating the domestic average lifetime of all textile products;
 - b. Noting the amount of yearly waste produced through textiles in all participating Member States;
 - c. Providing clear, detailed, and accurate reports of information from Member States, including material sourcing to ensure ethical practices throughout the value chain;
21. *Endorses* the further strengthening of global fashion initiative projects that educate consumers to reduce and reuse textile products like the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion by:
 - a. Establishing new partnerships of local textile producers with the UN Alliance for Sustainable Development and *IN Sustainable Textile and Apparel Parks (INSTEP)* Programme to increase awareness and education of sustainable fashion practices;
 - b. Using social media platforms to increase awareness towards sustainable production and consumption via recycling and upcycling of used garments;
22. *Urges* Member States to comprehensively expand on the information hub within the UN Fashion and Lifestyle Network to make technical research results available to improve sustainable fashion production and consumption;
23. *Calls upon* other regions to follow the example of AID and help produce social media campaigns that promote sustainable fashion through setting a priority for a united post campaign from the UNEP, using statistical/anecdotal information with an increased focus on increased transparency and accountability, operational involvement, and engagement, and improved organizational image;
24. *Urges* the integration of environmental awareness campaigns via social media platforms through *Earth Justice*, an NGO proactively building environmental movements alongside global communities, to ensure the global community has an understanding of sustainability;
25. *Reassess* current farming criteria located in Chapter 10 of the *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) 2023-32 Report* in the World Farmers Organization and FAO, respectively, to ensure a globally cohesive set of acceptable practices and expectations within cotton farming to:
 - a. Ensure generalized practices do not impede developing nations through lack of resource or technological access by assigning oversight of the implementation of sustainability programs to the Committee of Permanent Representatives;
 - b. Establish a partnership within NGOs, notably partners and stakeholder organizations like the WFO, to reduce the impact had on farmers' operations, yields, and profits through inclusion in new criteria discussion;
 - c. Ensure that SDG 13 "Climate Action" is represented in the water waste, emissions from

farming equipment, material waste in production, and workers' rights are represented in core value statements;

26. *Encourages* the One UNEP Textile Initiative to create set definitions and standards for the usage of eco-labeling, especially terms such as “green” and “eco-friendly” while updating, collaborating, and expanding with Member States upon certification systems that identify and promote sustainable clothing and textiles that will be required for industries to obtain certification by 2028 enabling consumers to make informed decisions to meet the net zero industry goals in advance of the upcoming 2030 Sustainable Development Goals deadline;
27. *Requests* the UNEP under the One UNEP Textile Initiative, to create a database entailing all the information collected to develop certification systems, that will be open to the public including, the different fabrics used in production and their origin, the amount of water, energy and waste used in production and the costs related to those;
28. *Invites* public entities such as Member States' governments, NGOs like Solidaridad, and private corporations including producers in the fashion industry, to collaborate and promote transparency on the existing guidelines on sustainable manufacturing practices to equip consumers with the necessary information to make environmentally conscious choices when engaging with the fashion industry;
29. *Recommends* the coordination of regional social media campaigns promoting aspects of the “life cycle” proposal, following the influencer campaign model of the African Influencers for Development which has been proven to increase acceptance and implementation of sustainable practices, including curbing the demand for new clothing and to promoting the recycling of clothing that is no longer desired;
30. *Endorses* the creation of a board presided by a chair appointed by UNEP's executive director, reconvening biannually, under and through the commission of The One UNEP Textile Initiative, consisting of specialized advisors and administrators working within the area of implementing sustainable practices in the textile industry, coming from 6 developed and 6 developing Member States that are randomly drawn for a four-year term:
 - a. Providing specialized advice on a Member State-basis in the sustainable implementation of green-textile practices;
 - b. Advising and educating clothing manufacturers on how to better sustain the world's environment;
 - c. Bringing awareness to Member States, consumers, and companies on the potential fiscal limitations of implementing outright changes to Member States' textile industries;
 - d. Building on existing relationships between the private and public sectors of our respective Member States in the sustainable implementation of textile industry changes;
 - e. Promoting ethical labor practices and equitable employment opportunities throughout the supply chain;
31. *Calls* upon the Global Environmental Facility, the Green Climate Fund, and the European Commission to designate earmarked funds for the initiatives relating to sustainable textiles, including research and development initiatives, social media awareness campaigns, support of

developing countries in sustainable assessment and development programs;

32. *Encourages* the Global Environment Facilities Small Grants Programme to provide financial and technical assistance to Member States' brands that establish international online shops for recycled products;
33. *Recommends* that the UNEP, as the secretariat of the One Planet Network, address the reduction of waste in the textile and fashion industry, by expanding the existing scope of the One Planet Network, by creating a seventh thematic program area titled 'Sustainability in the Textile and Fashion Industry' and:
 - a. Executing the thematic program area by cooperating and initiating projects with relevant stakeholders, with a specific focus on investments in new startups that develop sustainable clothing products and rewarding entrepreneurs who create innovative sustainable clothing manufacturing processes;
 - b. Allocating funds from the One Planet Network's voluntary contribution pool and earmarked funds towards projects and initiatives directed towards sustainability in the fashion and textile industry in executing the seventh thematic programme area;
 - c. Focusing on promoting a dignified, respectable, and safe workforce in the fashion and textile industry and sustainable clothing;
 - d. Supporting incubator programs on a regional level to give entrepreneurs a chance to scale their ideas regarding sustainable production practices and close the gap between sustainable and unsustainable fashion items;
 - e. Offering clothing recycling through the establishment of an eco-recycling tax for clothing manufacturers;
 - f. Encouraging administrative transparency regarding access to subsidies for entrepreneurs and companies who produce clothing sustainably;
34. *Encourages* Member States to adopt fiscal incentives such as grants, low-interest loans, favorable tax treatment, and procurement mandates for:
 - a. Developing countries focusing on circular structures especially encouraging comprehensive waste management systems and educational purposes;
 - b. Companies engaging in the production of equipment relevant to the initiative for greater material access;
 - c. Developed countries focusing on supporting green efforts;
35. *Invites* Member States and UNEP partners including the scientific community, private sector, and civil society to contribute to sustainable business practices and private sphere initiatives including the UnButton campaign and regionally focused incubator programs by allocating capital flows through:
 - a. Working with the International Finance Corporation World Bank, to kickstart the fund by asking for grants to aid in the development of developing country's sustainable practices;

- b. Allocating cash flows towards small and medium-sized enterprises in Member States to foster the green transformation of the textile Industry through public green investments;
 - c. Inviting Member States, particularly developed nations, to provide financial support for promoting climate-conscious practices within the textile and fashion industry with the primary aim of reducing total GHG emissions, pooling funds from the Environment Fund and as a subsidiary fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;
 - d. Requesting Member States collaborate with the Traceability for Sustainable Garment and Footwear Programme by the United Nations Economic Commissions for Europe (UNECE) to allocate monetary and tangible resources dedicated to fair labor practices and enforcement of ethical practices within the textile and fashion industry to increase transparency;
 - e. Recommending Member States to allocate funds and resources to helping develop natural farming practices such as crop rotation and soil cultivation methods and providing farmers with the tools necessary to incorporate sustainable execution of farming to make the cultivation of natural fibers more sustainable;
36. *Suggests* the inclusion of ethnic minority representatives in international decision-making processes and frameworks related to climate policies and SDGs such as the integration of minority indigenous perspectives and practices, such as made-to-order clothing, into relevant international initiatives to mitigate consumerism and overproduction;
37. *Encourages* the provision of financial and technical support to indigenous-led initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable fashion entrepreneurship and capacity building;
38. *Encourages* member states to support research and documentation efforts aimed at preserving and promoting indigenous clothing traditions.



Code: UNEA/1/8

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Environmental Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Industries

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, specifically SDGs 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), 13 (Climate Action) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) to ensure environmental sustainability in the textile and fashion industries,

Recognizing the dynamic nature of challenges and opportunities in developing nations, and maintaining flexibility and adaptability in the implementation of the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) to respond to evolving needs and circumstances in nations, while still using global SDG indicators,

Collaborating with the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UNDAF to understand sustainable farming and labor practices relating to textile production,

Deeply conscious of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action,

Considering Article 9 of the 2015 Paris Agreement, which stipulates that developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties concerning mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention,

Noting the importance of entrepreneurship in sustainable development, specifically the role of technology and innovation in addressing environmental degradation from the textiles and fashion industries,

Acknowledging the substantial ramifications of water wastage and pollution resulting from manufacturing processes and their adverse effects on the accessibility of natural resources for communities,

Recognizing the importance of equitable treatment in the workforce and exploitative conditions within the fashion and textile industries,

Taking into account the communities that develop agricultural technology models that demonstrate sustainable practices in the textile and fashion industry, such as the drip irrigation system reflected by the Kibbutz communal populations in Israel,

Welcoming the Circular Economy Leadership of Canada (CELC) aiming to invigorate natural systems and agricultural sectors that optimize materials and resources for the fashion and textile industry,

Stressing the importance of investment in recycling infrastructure in low-income countries (LICs), which remains extremely limited or nonexistent in most areas, creating barriers to repurposing fiber materials at a local level,

Acknowledging the lack of transparency among LICs concerning resources allocated for the reduction of the environmental impact of the textile industry,

Noting that in 2019, more than 65 million tons of second-hand clothing shipped to Africa, and about 40% could not be sold and dumped in landfills,

Recognizing that cotton and dyes used in textile fabrics contribute to water degradation and pollution of clean water supplies, which have catastrophic effects on marine life and can damage LICs who rely on Blue Economies,

Noting that nearly 35% of microplastics dispersed in the ocean each year come from textiles,

Concerned that the fashion industry is responsible for 20% of global wastewater, with it taking 20,000 liters of water to produce one kilogram of cotton,

Acknowledging the lack of technology to reduce water consumption and increase sustainability in textile production,

Noting that economic sustainability, as well as circularity, begins with textile and fashion manufacturers monitoring their products throughout the garments' lifecycles,

Deeply disturbed by the 3.3 billion tonnes of annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that produced as a result of unsustainable fashion practices,

Bearing in mind the sovereignty of individual Member States in regard to technological development and implementation in collaboration with non-governmental entities in the fashion and textile industry,

Alarmed that the average lifespan of a piece of clothing is approximately 30 wears, according to the National Institute of Standards and Technology, with only 15% of those clothes being recycled,

Cognizant of social media initiatives such as the Conscious Fashion Campaign, which utilizes social media and retail to provide information on the harms of fast fashion,

Concerned that according to UN private partner, Recovo, 25% of fabric that enters into the supply chain becomes waste,

Aware of fashion and textile corporations evading repercussions through legal loopholes and nonenforcement,

Observing the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) goal to promote the restoration and maintenance of biologically diverse ecosystems as textile industries have damaged it therefore is a way of improving access to clean drinking water and as a means to eradicate poverty,

Highlighting the importance of education, innovation, integration of indigenous traditions and water preservations efforts especially in vulnerable regions to safeguard clean bodies of water and achieve environmental sustainability in the fashion industry as well as successfully making efforts towards achieving other SDGs,

Bearing in mind the fashion industry's sector is predicated on overconsumption and developing Member States which has shifted production and waste disposal to developing economies with low-cost labor, plentiful resources and less stringent environmental oversight, perpetuating colonial legacies,

Conscious of General Assembly Resolution 71/22 saying the importance of prioritizing the enhancement of developing nations' ability to evaluate their water resources by gathering, analyzing, and sharing hydrological and hydrogeological data,

Emphasizing the importance of protecting and cleaning the coasts of the world from microplastics and textile waste for the sake of preserving the coasts for the future,

Recognizing that over 14 million tonnes of microplastics accumulate in the world's oceans, alarmed by the degree of water consumption used in the manufacturing of textiles,

Taking note that 35% of the ocean ecosystem is polluted due to the release of hazardous chemicals as a result of poor, unsustainable fashion and textile industries,

Concerned with the fact that 20% of wastewater originates from the fashion and textile industries and 80-90% of wastewater returns to the environment untreated,

Conscious of GA Resolution 64/292, the human right to water and sanitation, and acknowledging that clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realization of all human rights,

Recognizing that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Change encourages manufacturers of clothing to adhere to expectations set by the Paris Agreement,

Emphasizing the work done by Textile Exchange as a nongovernmental organization (NGO) focused on acquiring natural materials through ecologically conscious means of reducing climate change by 2030,

Bearing in mind the use of the Textile Ecosystem Transition Pathway that offers specific actions for the transition towards a more eco-friendly development of textiles,

Encouraging Member States to follow the Global Organic Textile Standards (GOTS), which aims to make sure there are more set standards in the production of different textiles by setting international standards,

Recognizing the importance of the textile industry as a primary source of livelihood for a number of high-manufacturing Member States,

Acknowledging the culpability of fashion and textile corporations who have exploited countries for their labor and recognizing that people working in these industries do so not out of malice for the environment but to make a living for themselves and their families,

1. *Promotes* voluntary contributions from Member States and NGOs such as Natural Resource Defense Council and Earth-Justice for funding the participation of global youth in the Sustainable Fashion Forum to:
 - a. Supply youth with adequate tools to continue their learning process on sustainable alternatives in the industry;
 - b. Encourage local eco-friendly garment management of Member States;
2. *Approves* the UNDP's mission focused on sustainable development and climate resilience to assist countries in developing policies and institutional capabilities to build resilience to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;
3. *Recognizes* the execution of the Fashion Pact and its focus on reversing and addressing the destructive effects of unsustainable sourcing and production practices;
4. *Advocates for* the progress of Global Strategy on Sustainable Production and Consumption with an emphasis on textile sourcing in the circular economy;

5. *Supports* the principles of UNDAF to contribute to the results-based development of nations on globally agreed-upon SDG indicators to provide quality support to Member States in their aspiration to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
6. *Suggests* the implementation of transparency of the allocation of sustainable industry management funds through an annual report documented and submitted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), audited by independent third parties, which may result in a reduction or termination of said funds in case of failure to provide a report or not being fully transparent;
7. *Recommends* Member States invest in domestic textiles recycling plants and assume primary responsibility of processing used fashion and textiles items within their respective territories, with the primary purpose of ensuring the responsibility of sustainably processing textiles and second-hand clothing items is not unequally placed upon LICs, with:
 - a. This collaboration seeks prominently to hold educational events at institutions that nurture the demographic of learners who will become leaders in sustainability;
 - b. The first aspect of the event aims to inspire future generations and therefore invites innovative and influential environmental activist speakers in the fashion industry that are also underrepresented, such as slow fashion designers, indigenous designers, as well as climate activist designers;
 - c. The second aspect of the event seeks to present a visual representation, such as an exhibition of how the fashion and textile industry is deteriorating water quality standards, as well as a showcase of sustainable articles on garments;
8. *Recommends* Member States individually implement standards to reduce the burden of second-hand clothing exports to LICs, with a suggested target of 20% fewer second-hand clothes shipped to LICs;
9. *Advocates for* the shift towards utilizing more sustainable innovative technology involved in manufacturing, consuming, and circular lifecycle movement of textiles and fashion products through:
 - a. Increased support for international and domestic companies highlighted beneath the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion amongst other UN bodies, and domestic corporations found within individual Member States that implement sustainable technological practices;
 - b. Promoting collaborations between Member States to integrate more sustainable clothing production innovations by:
 - i. Sharing and exchanging technologies that:
 1. Synthesize garments from recycled cotton, plastic, seaweed-based fiber, and kombucha leather;
 2. Use zero-waste fabric cutting patterns;

3. Utilize fabric scraps and convert them into alternative products such as scrunchies, small pouches, bags, or pet wear modeling after the Qatari company Clo Sunlight Apparel;
 4. And adhere to the standards promoting Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and allow for equitable access to technology;
 - ii. Reducing costs for producers and consumers by using agricultural waste and textile byproducts;
 - iii. Utilizing by-products and spinning yarn out of shredded recycled fabrics to use as standalone fibers or fabric;
 - iv. Allocating a portion of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Environment Fund to allow Member States to ensure these innovations are affordable to developing Member States;
 - c. Integrating efforts towards the utilization of 3D printing technology to innovate customizable fashion textile products to allow rapid quality and biodegradable production that minimizes energy consumption and material waste by:
 - i. Encouraging partnership between UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to pursue greater research into the potential for implementing said technology into the textile industry;
 - ii. Expanding the use of such technology for sustainable textile production through increased exchange of the technology among Member States and greater investment on developing this technology;
 - iii. Utilizing the funding opportunities such as the Great Climate Fund and Global Environmental Facility Funds to execute the above-mentioned actions;
10. *Urges for* the involvement of regional cultural practices that use sustainable and long-lasting fiber sourcing, increasing production of natural dyes, and reusability that results in durable textiles for water to be clean and safe without pollutants and microplastics;
11. *Recommends* Member States address practices that heavily contribute to land, water, and air pollution, including the excessive use of incinerators, landfills, or ocean dumping;
12. *Recognizes* the importance of finding sustainable energy sources to fulfill the capacity to provide output to allies and trade;
13. *Implements* greener energy sources in the transportation and production of textiles and fashion with:
 - a. Solar power as a primary source;
 - b. More resilient and longer-lasting energy sources;
14. *Suggests* the establishment of textile recycling centers supported by the Green Tree Textile Group within the Member States's territories to promote the:
 - a. Collection and recycling of textile clothing;

- b. Active participation in civic society;
15. *Encourages* Member States to incentivize the use of more environmentally sustainable materials for textile production by:
- a. Promoting sustainable farming in the textile industry and:
 - i. Increasing the use of recyclable materials to reduce CO2 emissions through sustainable materials, including Organic Linen and Hemp, Bamboo, and Recycled Nylon and Polyester;
 - ii. Promoting the establishment of tax incentives to companies that recycle, use sustainable materials, and provide all employees with fair working hours and conditions;
 - b. Reinforcing the domestic economy through the outsourcing of materials and manufacturing of more sustainable resources like cheaper and more durable fabrics and textiles;
16. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to promote the development of sustainable technology within the textile and fast fashion industries by instructing UNEP to:
- a. Allocate funds from the Environment Fund towards initiatives related to the development of sustainable technology within the textile and apparel industries;
 - b. Work closely to help nations exchange information on research and development in regards to enhancing the sustainability of current textile manufacturing technologies and innovations;
 - c. Push for greater use of closed-loop water systems that allows for the treatment of water used within production, in addition to utilizing plant materials such as bacteria and moss to facilitate treatment in a cost-efficient manner;
 - d. Research waterless dyeing techniques through the use of carbon dioxide or printing machines to dye textile fibers alongside using laser technology in denim fading to reduce the consumption of water;
 - e. Further advance nanotechnology by researching, testing, and analyzing current challenges and opportunities in the textile industry to enhance properties such as stain resistance, UV protection, and water repellency to increase the durability and performance of textile products, aiding in product reusability;
 - f. Pursue more in-depth case studies and research supply chain integration methods to develop ways for textile companies to effectively and efficiently implement such technologies, specifically to address the limitations of previous studies such as the lack of focus on assessing the implementation of sustainable innovations in Asia and other understudied regions, which are the centers for textile production;
 - g. Utilize funding opportunities like H&M foundation, Global Environment Facility (GEF) and World Bank and International Finance Corporation (IFC) to successfully implement these initiatives;

17. *Encourages* Member States to develop digital tracing systems for the tracking of greenhouse gas emissions and tangible products produced by the fashion industry through the:
 - a. Utilization of A.I. and digital sampling technology regarding the production and consumption process of textile samples in addition to generic fashion production;
 - b. Implementation of digital management systems for the monitoring of carbon fluxes attributed to the fashion industries affecting the aquatic environment;
 - c. Usage of funding from international organizations such as United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), The Green Climate Fund (GCF), World Bank's Climate Smart Technology Solutions, and other regional development institutions;
18. *Affirms* that the promotion and implementation of A.I. will help in preventing overproduction and overconsumption and will not impair the economies that depend on textile/fashion production to ensure that Member States can retain sovereignty over individual governments' policies by:
 - a. Suggesting the replication of the business models established by the UN partners within the private sector, such as Recovo, which utilizes A.I. technology to promote sustainable and cyclical business models through:
 - i. Communicative strategies from textile waste collectors and textile consumers to promote circular practices via technology;
 - ii. Minimal monetary contributions from Member States excluding implementing infrastructural technology-based frameworks as other non-governmental organizations are dedicated to making A.I. technology accessible to all Member States;
 - b. Recommending Member States to utilize A.I. based technologies and policy models at governments' own discretion to maximize A.I. effectiveness within each Member State;
 - c. Utilizing sustainability funds provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other regional funds;
19. *Recognizes* the need for Member States to implement funding frameworks that are most beneficial for the current domestic economic state by:
 - a. Shifting away from imposing sanctions on textile and fashion companies that contribute significantly to Member States' economies;
 - b. Moving toward incentivized funding for producers participating in the digital tracing system of greenhouse gas emissions;
 - c. Utilizing monetary assistance via organizations such as UNEP, Global Greengrants Fund, Global Environmental Facility, Green Climate Fund, and Hewlett Foundation, among others;
20. *Proposes* the collaboration among Member States to exchange renewable energy resources to power the textile manufacturing facilities by:

- a. Allocating additional resources, which allows for the collective tackling of the environmental challenges posed by this sector where these funds will facilitate research, innovation, and sustainable practices within the textile industry, promoting circularity, reducing pollution, and minimizing resource extraction;
 - b. Diversifying energy sources to renewables such as solar, wind, and hydropower through cross-border exchanges to allow Member States to enhance their energy security and reduce dependence on fossil fuels through;
 - c. Working closely to exchange information on research and development in regards to enhancing the sustainability of current textile manufacturing technologies and innovations;
 - d. Asking for additional funding for sustainable energy projects from the Environmental Bank, GEF, and other regional development groups;
21. *Encourages* the expansion of the Conscious Fashion Campaign of the United Nations Office for Partnerships (UNOP), which works with young people and those interacting most with social media to educate them on fast fashion as well as the benefits of sustainable fashion habits through the:
 - a. Launch of an advertising campaign demonstrating the cost of fast fashion on the environment and the workers behind these industries to move consumers away from typical unsustainable fashion brands through UN bodies and affiliated NGOs;
 - b. Further reliance upon popular social media apps such as TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, and Facebook and posting content from the UN accounts in collaboration with influencers in order to highlight the benefits of clothing rental programs, emphasizing social benefits for a wider and younger audience;
 - c. Use of funding mechanisms such as the the Green Climate Fund and Environmental Bank;
22. *Encourages* developing countries who are reliant on Blue Economies to work with local or international NGOs, such as the UNEP's Global Partnership on Plastic Pollution and Marine Litter or the Clean Seas campaign, for water cleanups to reduce the amount of waste going into clean water supplies and oceanic waters;
23. *Suggests* Member States model regional programs after the Recovo project of United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), which serves as a platform where producers and consumers can buy and sell textile waste that would otherwise be sent to landfills;
24. *Further suggests* that Member States implement partnerships with the Ethical Fashion Initiative to promote fair trade supply chains in order to encourage companies to make shifts to more sustainable business practices;
25. *Recommends* Member States implement plans to move towards more sustainable production and consumption techniques in the fashion and textile sectors within their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement;
26. *Urges* Member States to shift to a Blue Economy approach where management of plastic pollutant runoff and implementation of waste management systems are in place for the production

of more sustainable clothing in the fashion and textile industries that affect the coastal and marine environment;

27. *Encourages* developing countries who are reliant on Blue Economies to work with local or international NGOs, such as the UNEP's Global Partnership on Plastic Pollution and Marine Litter or the Clean Seas campaign, for water cleanups to reduce the amount of waste going into clean water supplies and oceanic waters;
28. *Supports* greater use of plastic digital tracking systems such as that of the Plastic Pollution Coalition for the reduction of plastic waste infiltrating the marine ecosystems as a result of unsustainable practices within the fashion and textile industries;
29. *Endorses* Member States to emulate a proactive approach in addressing water scarcity in part as a result of textile pollution and waste by:
 - a. Investing in advanced reverse osmosis technologies and enhanced process engineering for efficient desalination plants;
 - b. Increasing efforts in wastewater collection, treatment, and reuse for diverse sectors, including fashion and agriculture;
 - c. Utilizing funding mechanisms such as regional development banks as well as the Global Environment Facility;
 - d. Striving to achieve significant milestones such as utilization of recycled treated effluents and desalinated seawater for urban water supply that aim to alleviate pressure on natural water sources;
 - e. Introducing mechanisms to reduce long-term water costs and expenses related to sludge disposal, and utilizing this cost-saving data to advocate for water treatment technologies in the plastics recycling sector;
30. *Calls upon* Member States to galvanize against the build up of plastic and textile waste on the coasts where 40% of the global population live by encouraging active clean ups on government, corporate, and civilian levels by:
 - a. Encouraging governments to actively monitor and promote the clean up efforts of civilian and corporate entities while simultaneously overseeing their own clean up initiatives;
 - b. Requesting that Member States encourage corporations operating within their borders to not only reduce their own waste output, but to actively clean up waste which they contribute to;
 - c. Inviting civilian collaboration with organizations such as the Ocean Conservancy via their International Coastal Cleanup initiative;
31. *Recommends* offering incentives for companies that agree to adopt measures and practices centered around the reduction of water pollution in the production and manufacturing process of textiles by:
 - a. Endorsing The Fashion Pact Members in their efforts to eliminate harmful and unnecessary plastic in B2C and B2B packaging by 2025 and 2030 respectively, and

ensuring at least half of the aforementioned plastic packaging is 100% recycled by 2025 and 2030;

- b. Utilizing the efforts of affiliate NGOs such as Water.Org, World Water Council, and the Pacific Institute to compile information about corporate contributions to water pollution with the purpose of increasing transparency and accountability;
32. *Calls on* Member States to protect water rights for indigenous and rural communities by leveraging partnerships with organizations such as The Equator Initiative to raise awareness of the disparities indigenous peoples incur due to the damaging practices committed by MNCs;
33. *Endorses* collaboration with higher education institutions, precisely international fashion and business institutions, to educate upcoming generations specializing in the field of study about sustainable water use and limiting water waste;
34. *Urges* for the involvement of regional cultural practices that use sustainable and long-lasting fiber sourcing, increasing production of natural dyes, and reusability that results in durable textiles for water to be clean and safe without pollutants and microplastics;
35. *Further invites* Member States to financially support the development of water treatment facilities to lessen the environmental impact caused by the wet treatment process by:
 - a. Allocating UNEP earmarks specifically to aid the establishment of water treatment facilities in areas where the wet treatment process is prevalent, particularly in low-income countries;
 - b. Encouraging foreign cooperation while ensuring that such cooperation does not lead to undue influence over the benefitting Member States, thereby safeguarding their sovereignty and decision-making autonomy;
 - c. Calling for Member States to revise existing policy and encourage domestication of global standards such as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants to remove harmful chemicals, dyes, acids, and starches during the textile wet treatment process, reducing their release into water sources and water pollution;
36. *Supports* the enhancement of the UN Water Conference and its recognition of water pollutants, industrial wastewater, and the impacts of textile waste on water and ecosystems by:
 - a. Incorporating dedicated sessions on industrial wastewater management, including the textile industry's impact on water and ecosystems;
 - b. Encouraging stakeholder participation to share best practices and innovative solutions, leveraging existing platforms such as the UNEP-led conferences to facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration;
 - c. Emphasizing evidence-based policymaking and cross-sectoral collaboration, aligning with the principles of integrated water resources management;
 - d. Promoting capacity building in wastewater treatment and sustainable textile practices, especially in developing countries, in line with the objectives of SDG 6 and the international community's commitment to closing the investment gap in water and sanitation;

- e. Integrating indigenous perspectives for holistic water stewardship and integrating indigenous perspectives for holistic water stewardship, recognizing the value of traditional knowledge systems and aligning with the objectives of preserving cultural heritage and promoting sustainable development;
 - f. Ensuring regular evaluation to improve conference outcomes' relevance and effectiveness, using mechanisms for monitoring progress and fostering continuous improvement in water management efforts;
37. *Encourages* existing and new Member States to make commitments towards achieving a more green economy as expressed by the Batumi-Initiative on Green Economy in tandem with SDG 9 regarding Industry, innovation and infrastructure;
38. *Advises* Member States to model after organizations such as the Sustainable Brand Platform, which promotes sustainable and inclusive development plans for emerging economies by increasing trade and employment in the creative and cultural industries, fashion, and textiles;
39. *Further invites* Member States to start initiatives to educate the youth on ways to enhance the sustainability of the fashion industry, specifically emulating the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) Designing Dreams fashion parade, an initiative that uses fashion to empower adolescent girls in conflict with the law by providing life-skills, education, vocational training, and psycho-social support;
40. *Recommends* Member States prioritize the utilization of sustainable materials like the production of natural fibers for the textile and fashion industries by confirming 70% of fibers are certified organic and produced without synthetic pesticides;
41. *Highly encourages* Member States to increase their contribution to the Environment Fund, in particular by:
- a. Inviting nations with greater access to resources to work in collaboration to increase funding;
 - b. Advocating for more Member States in general to contribute on a voluntary basis;
42. *Suggests* the implementation of measures to increase the transparency of the allocation of funds through an annual report documented and submitted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), audited by independent third parties, which may result in a reduction or termination of said funds in case of failure to provide a report or not being fully transparent;
43. *Advises* that the United Nations Environment Programme expand the work of the Global Strategy on Sustainable Production and Consumption plan to specifically focus on sustainability in the fashion and textiles industries, maintaining a particular focus on areas such as water pollution and technological innovation in agribusiness and textiles production;
44. *Directs* the United Nations Environmental Programme to specifically budget a portion of funds from the Environment Fund to promote and support sustainable development in the fashion and textile industry by:
- a. Expanding the work of the Global Strategy on Sustainable Production and Consumption plan as one of the initial measures;

- b. Mirroring national funding initiatives that are specifically targeted towards sustainability efforts in fashion and textile industries, such as the Russian Federation's regional initiative "Development of the Fashion Manufacturing Sector";
 - c. Continuing the building and expansion of current plans and bodies under the UNEA;
- 45. *Supports* the collaboration and mentorship between countries in the sharing of knowledge with the help of the UNEP and further promotes a proportional contribution of funds and resources on a voluntary basis based on the Member States' economic capacity in order to promote equitability;
- 46. *Further encourages* Member States with significant textile-producing industries to join current regional initiatives in their coalition against chemical pollution and expand these initiative, which aims to prevent further exploitation by corporations and uneven sustainable development across nations, by:
 - a. Having Member States who commit to preventing chemical pollution to receive industry subsidies from the GEF, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and Bank of Central African States;
 - b. Inviting other future international or regional entities that wish to promote and subsidize these initiatives at various levels;
- 47. *Expands upon* the work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to:
 - a. Fund and manage implied resource allocation;
 - b. Provide semestral reports on the implementation of the proposed initiatives;
 - c. Take the steps to integrate marginalized populations into all the proposed initiatives;
- 48. *Invites* Member States, in particular those with developed economies, to increase financial contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme Green Climate Fund to implement sustainable practices in line with maintaining economic growth, acknowledging that such funds would be most appropriately distributed to developing Member States considering their respective environmental risk factors, to financially support projects and initiatives which improve outcomes regarding wastewater, landfill challenges, and greenhouse gas emissions;
- 49. *Encourages* other Member States in the creation of organizations akin to the CELC, which provides 13 sustainability guidelines for future governance by all policymakers, the private sector, and the finance community involved in fashion and textile companies;
- 50. *Recommends* the integration of sustainable practices used in NGOs like the Better Cotton Initiative, which focuses on developing sustainable cotton-producing practices, and FAO's Blue Fashion, which aims to make new clothing items with waste from commercial fishing;
- 51. *Encourages* Member States to promote sustainable practices and innovative development strategies, particularly focusing on clean technology, advancing sustainable agriculture of fibers, and mitigating water pollution, to ensure the long-term viability and environmental responsibility of the industry by:

- a. Incentivizing multinational corporations that are the most sustainable within and between Member States to set the trend towards sustainability for corporations;
 - b. Collaborating with Non-Profit Organizations and regional organizations to help generate an annual sustainability analysis report that will provide member states with information required for incentivizing;
 - c. Offering incentives, such as tax breaks or subsidies, to corporations that demonstrate commitment to ethical labor practices and supply chain transparency;
 - d. Supporting of consumer awareness campaigns that highlight the importance of ethical labor practices, encouraging the public to make informed purchasing decisions;
 - e. promoting technological developments that are easily accessible to their populations that eases out:
 - i. The adoption of the circular economy action plan;
 - ii. Incentivizing the ones that are using these developments for using them to recycle their clothing;
 - f. Urging Member States to adopt and implement comprehensive sustainable practices across both production and consumption stages through:
 - i. The adoption of alternative materials that are biodegradable and eco-friendly to tackle the concern of environmental pollution;
 - ii. Implementing transparency laws and guidelines on the platforms used by the corporations in a way that every consumer is acknowledged about the materials used in their products;
52. *Encourages* the creation of an international panel for Member States to participate in under the guidance of agro-tech specialized Kibbutz professionals focused on the implementation of sustainable agro-tech alternatives to facilitate:
- a. Mutual and reciprocate aid among Member States to achieve sustainability in the manufacturing and distribution of garments;
 - b. Conducting personalized, sustainable agro-tech initiatives for Member States that incorporate control of the amounts of fertilizers through advanced drip-irrigation systems based on soil conditions, water, and nutrient levels for textile crops;
 - c. Comprehensive training of Member States' local working populations on agro-tech tools who volunteer to participate in the panel;
53. *Requests* Member States, in collaboration with the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion, to integrate sustainable measures into the textile and fashion industries such as:
- a. Prioritizing clothing production using natural, biodegradable fibers over synthetic fibers;
 - b. Encouraging production companies to design clothing with durability and longevity in mind;

- c. Reducing water consumption and water pollution in the production process;
 - d. Using renewable energy practices within the production and transportation of clothing;
54. Further, it clarifies that all the implicated activities of the panel require pedagogical assessment held by academics who volunteer from the Kibbutz communities. The process of the following criteria will manage a merit-based contest on the subject of concern.



Code: UNEA/2/1

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recognizing the critical environmental achievement made at the 2022 Conference of the Parties (COP-15) of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,

1. *Recommends* all Member States adopt and affirm the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.