



United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**Draft Resolution for Committee Consideration and Recommendation
Submitted for Revision by the Delegations to the Model United Nations
College of Charleston, 2016**

Access to Clean Water and Sanitation

Sponsors:
Signatories:
Topic: Access to Clean Water and Sanitation

The General Assembly,

Noting with deep concern that 663 million people lack access to safe water and 2.4 billion lack access to a toilet,

Further noting that over forty percent of the global community without access to clean water is concentrated in sub-Saharan African countries,

Taking into consideration that China, the United States of America, India, Japan, Indonesia, Brazil, and the United Kingdom are among the top water-polluting countries in the world,

Deeply concerned that over fifty percent of the population in Somalia, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Niger, and Madagascar are living without access to clean water and sanitation,

Concerned that countries such as India, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Pakistan, Bolivia, and Papua New Guinea also have large amounts of the population lacking access to clean water

Alarmed by the prediction that eventually one-half of the world's population will not have access to clean water due to climate change and population growth,

Realizing that only about three percent of the world's water is freshwater, and only one percent of the fresh water is accessible,

Noting that education about proper sanitation techniques, the risks of using unsanitized water, and the safest ways to store water are not provided to all people in the world

Keeping in mind that poverty and lack of access to clean water are highly correlated,

Disturbed by the fact that across the world approximately 1.4 million children die each year due to not having access to clean water,

Recalling that the Millennium Development Goal on sanitation was to increase access to clean water from fifty percent of the global population to seventy percent of the population, but that goal was missed by nearly 700 million people,

Observing that as the global community continues to develop a more meat and dairy based diet, the demand for clean water will only continue to increase,

Reaffirming that access to clean water and sanitation should be a guaranteed basic human right for people in all countries

Concerned that women and children are less likely to have access to clean water than men,

Noting that between twenty and forty percent of all projects aimed at increasing access to water fail,

Recalling that goal six of the 2016 Sustainable Development Goals is to ensure access to water and sanitation for all,

Alarmed that nearly one billion people lack access to a toilet, and practice open defecation,

Convinced that increased sanitation would increase public health and livelihood for all people,

Concerned that eighty percent of all diseases in developing countries are caused by poor sanitation, inadequate sanitation facilities, and contaminated water

Deeply Concerned that climate change and changing dietary habits of many people will increase water scarcity, posing a great threat to global security as countries will be forced to compete for water,

Therefore, this committee:

1. Calls for the creation of an advisory committee, overseen by the UN Human Rights Council, that will be responsible for monitoring funding and distribution of resources important for providing countries with access to clean water, ensuring that all funding goes to:
 - a. Development of infrastructure necessary for providing clean water such as;
 - i. Wells
 - ii. Water and sewage pipes
 - iii. Septic tanks
 - iv. Composting toilets
 - v. Pit latrines
 - vi. Sanitation facilities
 - b. Educational campaigns within countries, consisting of
 - i. Radio campaigns
 - ii. Government-funded courses provided to all citizens
 - iii. Public television ads
 - c. Sharing of technology and techniques between all countries;

2. Recommends that until the number of people with access to clean water and sanitation in Sub-Saharan Africa increases by fifty percent
 - a. Fifty percent of all UN funding for access to water be allocated to the region
 - b. Top water-polluting countries, including China, the United States of America, India, Japan, Indonesia, Brazil, and the United Kingdom allocate ten percent of their GDP each year to increasing water accessibility in the region;
3. Requires that each state develop, and implement water sustainability measures within their borders;
4. Further recommends that India, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Pakistan, Bolivia, and Papua New Guinea, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Niger, and Madagascar increase the number of people with access to water by seventy-five percent within five years,
5. Recommends to reduce the funding from the United Nations by fifty percent to India, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Pakistan, Bolivia, and Papua New Guinea, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Niger, and Madagascar if these member states fail to increase access to water and sanitation to their population by at least fifty percent;
6. Encourages that Western member states organize and fund a Task Force consisting of western scholars and practitioners responsible for:
 - a. Using educational campaigns to inform developing countries on:
 - i. Risks associated with waterborne diseases
 - ii. Proper methods of sanitizing water
 - iii. Risks associated with diseases caused by lack of sanitation
 - iv. Safe methods of storing clean water
 - b. Ensuring that women and children in developing countries receive increased education about water sanitation;
7. Encourages the United States of America, Canada, New Zealand, Germany, the Netherlands, China, Japan, France, Australia, the United Kingdom, and Russia to provide aid to underdeveloped countries by
 - a. Providing funds
 - b. Sending human aid
 - c. Sharing sanitation technology;
8. Requests the creation of an international database through which all states are required to report
 - a. The amount of funding they receive for increasing access to clean water and sanitation
 - b. The percent of their GDP they use towards sanitation efforts
 - c. How funds are being used
 - d. Results of their sanitation efforts;
9. Calls for a mandatory annual international conference to be held with the goal of assessing conditions and establishing internal policies that each member state will adopt related to
 - a. regulating water usage
 - b. effective sanitation practices
 - c. Safe storage of water;

10. Endorses that all states impose strict sanctions restricting any forms of trade or travel against any member state that does not provide its citizens with access to clean water and sanitation;
11. Requires that all states pass legislation upholding the declaration that access to water is a basic human right setting legal guidelines that will
 - a. Allow all citizens to legally access clean water and sanitation
 - b. Hold any individual or group hindering the ability to access water accountable for violating human rights;
12. Further proclaims that UN member states may invoke human rights “Responsibility to Protect” to intervene in states not providing adequate access to water to its citizens in order to protect the citizens of that state;
13. Declares that the top water-polluting states, China, the United States of America, India, Japan, Indonesia, Brazil, and the United Kingdom, will be required to pay a fine of twenty million USD each year that they do not decrease their pollutant output by at least fifteen percent;
14. Recommends restricting international travel for public officials and state leaders of any country that does not improve water conditions;
15. Requests that all funding be distributed to states based on their level of development so that the most developed nations receive very little funding from the UN and NGOs; and the least developed nations receive the largest portion of funding;
16. Requires all states in which a quarter or more of the population lack access to clean water bring monthly reports detailing their water quality back to the advisory committee;
17. Encourages all states adopt the goal of ensuring that seventy percent of their population has access to proper sanitation by the year 2030;
18. Proclaims nations that are found polluting major water sources belonging to other nations be held responsible for cleaning up the water source within three years or pay reparations of ten million USD to the affected country each year the source is not cleaned;
19. Recommends the creation of a public sanitation units in every country, funded by the UN, responsible for:
 - a. monitoring sanitation efforts in urban and rural areas
 - b. ensuring water is not being contaminated by open defecation
 - c. ensuring actions are being taken to provide all citizens with access to public toilets
 - d. holding officials accountable for maintaining proper sanitation levels;
20. Urges member states to create preventative action plans for water pollution and contamination within their own nations;
21. Encourages member states to provide aid to other member states that suffer from disasters, which jeopardize sanitation and clean water.
22. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.