

## The State of Qatar

### Positions for the General Assembly Plenary

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#### **I: Population Policies: Advancing Access to Sanitation**

Recalling the previous commitments of Agenda 21 from the 1992 Earth Summit, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Millennium Declaration Plan, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to increasing access to clean water, suggesting sanitation procedures, and striving towards a greener economy, the State of Qatar recognizes the urgent need to implement educational resources, and establish financial opportunities for the purpose of securing and implementing sanitation. Also, fully recognizing the right to water and sanitation adopted in resolution A/64/L.63 after voting in favour. Qatar further enforces Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; unclean water and sanitation issues present concerns of overall human health including the prevalence of diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, Typhoid fever, and Hepatitis. Insofar, Qatar gives its full support to the Eight Millennium Development Goal recognizing the need of improvement of public health infrastructure and sanitation access. The State of Qatar urges Member Nations to follow the actions and plans of the 2005 World Summit Outcome and Resolution 61/192 of 20 December 2006 on the International Year of Sanitation, as well as the outcome of the Climate Summit of September 2014 in regards to sanitation. Qatar was also a signatory in resolution A/67/L.75 of July 2013, following the principles of Sanitation for All, remaining engaged in the sanitation procedures of UN Water and establishing November 19th as World Toilet Day.

The State of Qatar is particularly involved in ensuring sanitation at a national level. Qatar's Public Works Authority, Ashgal, has developed a \$474 million dollar sanitation project for the northern area of Doha, the capital of the country. The objectives for this project include creating a wastewater pumping station, a pipeline network and a lifting station. Additional sanitation projects have been completed for the southern region of Doha, in which the Wastewater Treatment Plant has increased its capacity to 106,000 cubic meters and upgrades for the sanitation infrastructure, including wastewater collection mechanisms and interconnectivity of facilities, have been achieved. According to the Ministry of Municipality and Urban Planning, in accordance to the Qatar National Vision 2030, the Qatari government has allocated \$1 billion dollars for sanitation infrastructure and urges fellow Member States to create a financial network for the same purpose. Qatar endorses the efforts of the UN Water and therefore prompts Member States to participate in creating wastewater treatment facilities, as well as providing access to clean water through the creation of pipeline networks at both national and international levels. Particularly, the State of Qatar is interested in establishing transnational sanitation cooperation initiatives based on the establishment of infrastructure and pipe systems to facilitate water transportation and accessibility.

The delegation of Qatar will attempt to set up conjoined efforts with the WHO in order to decide on standards to be met to augment the sanitation standards in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia by funding toilet packages. These toilet packages will contain materials to construct and maintain a set of sanitary pit latrines for each community. Qatar would begin the international trend for adopting gray water system trends in industrialized countries.

Finally, the Qatar Red Crescent Society has previously partnered with Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) in order to support Somalian hospitals following MSF's withdrawal from Somalia in August 2013. Perhaps this precedent of cooperation between Qatar and MSF could result in a collaboration effort in order to construct and maintain drainage systems in rural villages of sub-Saharan Africa to prevent the proliferation of diseases due to insufficient sanitary measures.

#### **II: Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration into Civil Society of Ex-Combatants**

Aware of the threat of terrorist violence, the State of Qatar has been active in establishing both disarmament and peace-building missions both nationally and through the United Nations. Not only is

Qatar a member of the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1989), but has also been a participant and signatory in the Chemical Weapons Convention of 1993, the Biological Weapons Convention of 1972, the 1925 Geneva Protocol, the Mine Ban Convention of 1998, the Outer Space Treaty of 2012, and the Sea-Bed Treaty of 1974, and fully acknowledges disarmament and demobilization procedures through the Qatari Penal Code. Particularly, the State of Qatar is bound to the protocols of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons of 2009 with regards towards blinding laser weapons, explosive remnants of war, and conventional weapons in general.

Furthermore, the State of Qatar has taken multiple measures to combat terrorism with continuous engagement with the Security Council, even after they served as non-permanent members during 2006 and 2007. Through resolutions S/2002/26, S/2002/1211, and S/2004/179, the State has examined the national impact on terrorism and criminalized terrorist acts, further punishing by death the sale and trafficking of narcotic drugs to finance forms of terrorism in the Penal Code, No. 14 of 1971. The Qatari delegation realizes that international funds are limited, and that is the area in which we can make the most meaningful contribution. Given the delegation of Qatar's present financial state, we are willing to offer funds to aid the seizure and disposal of small arms from ex-combatants. Qatar recognizes that members of the civilian population may possess explosives, handguns, and other lethal weapons and would suggest creating a task force run by a subsidiary General Assembly committee that would manage the control and seizure of arms from the civilian population.

It is important to recognize the humanitarian efforts set forward by the State of Qatar, one of which included urging the Security Council to adopt a resolution calling on Israel to stop its attacks in the Gaza Strip and allow the delivery of humanitarian aid to affected civilians. In order to address the issue of reintegration into civil society of ex-combatants, the State of Qatar endorses the development of a twin-judicial hybrid tribunal, under governmental and international jurisdiction, composed of impartial nationals appointed by the government and international actors in the transitional justice process. The objective of the hybrid mechanism is to promote national unity and reconciliation in a spirit of understanding by establishing a complete picture of the causes, nature and extent of the human rights violations instigated by the ex-combatants, recommending reparation measures through the acknowledgement of information, and securing peace and establishing justice based on the compiled information. Once the ex-combatant is tried, amnesty may be granted.

One of the areas that are not currently addressed under DDR is the fact that these ex-combatants do not have access to their own local financial sectors. For this reason, Qatar will pursue the establishment of private, small loan banks so these combatants can begin to build a foundation upon which they can mold their long-term reintegration. The delegation of Qatar is willing to lend small monetary funds to community loan banks and offer administrative assistance in the construction and management of said banks. However, members of individual communities should be primarily responsible for lending monetary sums. The pressure of other community members will likely ensure the loan is paid back promptly. This helps establish community bonding in post-conflict scenarios as well as providing opportunities for ex-combatants to reintegrate themselves financially into their communities.