



American Model United Nations

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

ESCAP/II/2

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Environment and Sustainable Development: Water Conservation

SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

SUBMITTED BY: Singapore, China, Malaysia, Myanmar, Macau, Hong Kong, Russia, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Philippines

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1 *Recognizing* that access to safe drinking water is a fundamental human right,

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3 *Noting* that additional efforts for water conservation will need to be undertaken to
4 successfully meet the Millennium Development Goals,

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6 *Acknowledging* the sovereignty of Asian and Pacific countries in the context of
7 long-term water conservation,

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9 *Reaffirming* A/RES/59/228 and its findings,

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11 *Taking note* the importance of education in water conservation initiatives,

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13 *Desiring* the need for sub-regional, regional, and international cooperation to
14 further enhance research and implementation of water conservation programs,

15

16 *Understanding* the importance of proper irrigation techniques to agricultural yield,

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18 *Welcoming* the presence of United Nations Organizations such as UN Water, the
19 World Food Programme, the United Nations Development Programme,

20

21 1. *Strongly encourages* subregional, regional, and international cooperation in
22 technology and water sustainability initiatives to be funneled and organized under the
23 auspices of the United Nations Water Programme (UN Water) including, but not limited
24 to:

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(a) desalination technologies;

26

(b) specific filtration processes;

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(c) innovative technologies;

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(d) successful technologies implemented in regional neighbors, which may

- 29 include but would not necessarily be limited to;
30 (i) strategies that entail synergy between traditional and more
31 technologically advanced plans;
32

33 2. *Urges* fellow Member States to engage in water conservation initiatives
34 through;

- 35 (a) localized education implemented through school systems, public
36 awareness systems, and experiential community action systems;
37 (b) information for citizens concerning sustainable living through the
38 utilization of filtration processes, conservation technology and specific
39 community conservation strategies;
40 (c) regional cooperation on value-based water education through Non
41 Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as South East Asian
42 Ministries of Education Organization;
43

44 3. *Recommends* fellow Member States to engage in water sanitation initiatives
45 through:

- 46 (a) the use of water desalination, filtration, and detoxification methods
47 recommended and provided by the UN Water programme;
48 (b) the encouragement of NGOs to address areas in particularly critical
49 need of clean and sustainable water resources;
50

51 4. *Advises* fellow Member States to engage in water security activities in order to
52 ensure long term water sustainability through the following, which would include but not
53 necessarily be limited to:

- 54 (a) reduction of the cost of water through subsidies funded by
55 organizations which would include, but not necessarily be limited to;
56 (i) the United Nations Development Programme;
57 (ii) Asian Development Bank;
58 (b) gradual implementation of both traditional and modern water
59 conservation technologies;
60 (c) localization of conservation efforts within states to further increase
61 efficiency and self-sustainability;
62 (d) utilization of technology supplied by UN Water;
63

64 5. *Strongly urges* Member States to encourage environment governance in their
65 nations to be proactive, bearing in mind the ramifications of any decision making on the
66 environment;
67

68 6. *Proposes* a clear means by which Asian and Pacific countries can demonstrate
69 initiative and commitment to long-term sustainability of water resources through a
70 process of implementing the annual World Water Assessment Programs, which would
71 necessarily entail cooperation through the following steps:

- 72 (a) assessment of the state of water resources;
73 (b) identification of emerging critical water issues;
74 (c) monitoring the progress in achievement for water sustainability, which

75 would include;

76 (i) full transparency relative to water conservation on behalf of
77 ESCAP members;

78 (ii) thorough analysis of programs implemented within ESCAP
79 member states;

80 (d) the annual publication of a report documenting such assessments,
81 jointly supervised by UN Water, UNDP, and ESCAP;

82
83 7. *Calls upon* ESCAP Member States to further their agricultural yield through the
84 channeling of irrigation systems pursuant to the standards set forth by the following
85 organizations, which include but are not necessarily limited to;

86 (a) International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);

87 (b) Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO);

88
89 8. *Encourages* all Member States to provide funding to organizations and
90 initiatives committed to providing aid to the Asia / Pacific region within the context of
91 water conservation, which include:

92 (a) the Asian Development Bank (ADB);

93 (b) UN Water;

94 (c) UN-Habitat's Water for Asian Cities Programme (WAC).

Passed, Yes: 17 / No: 8 / Abstain: 8