



American Model United Nations

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

ESCAP/II/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Environment and Sustainable Development: Water Conservation

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

SUBMITTED BY: Japan, France, Malaysia, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States of America

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1 *Recognizing* that donor countries have and will continue to contribute to the UN
2 Water Programme,

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4 *Emphasizing* the critical importance of water, in particular freshwater, for all
5 aspects on sustainable development, including poverty and hunger eradication, water-
6 related disaster reduction, health, agricultural and rural development, hydropower, food
7 security, as well as the achievement of environmental sustainability and protection,

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9 *Recognizing* that Agenda 21 passed in 1997 with the goal of halving the
10 proportion of people without access to safe and clean drinking water and basic sanitation
11 by the year of 2015,

12 *Recognizing also* that improved access to safe and clean drinking water and basic
13 sanitation were placed as targets in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals,
14 reflecting that water is an extremely important element in achieving other MDGs such as
15 eradication of poverty, hunger, health, education, and environmental sustainability,

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17 *Recalling* resolution E/ESCAP/1205 which promotes the implementation of a
18 Regional Action Programme relating to environmental quality and human health in urban
19 areas of Asia and the Pacific,

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21 *Further recalling* resolution E/ESCAP/1207 with a main goal of integrating water
22 resources management as well as its intensive attention to the issues regarding water
23 conservation and relative technology enhancement,

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25 *Affirming* the endeavors of the Regional Action Programme for Environmentally
26 Sound and Sustainable Development, which was adopted by the Ministerial Conference
27 on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific in Kitakyushu, Japan in
28 September 2000,

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Recognizing water as a core human right, and expecting the consensus reached in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to foster cooperation at regional, national, and global levels as well as to build an environment where water management is a prominent factor,

Fully aware of the multi-faceted usage of water including agricultural water, industrial water, and water transport for regional development,

1. *Draws attention* to the fact that public and private organizations must both at the cooperate international, state, and local levels to protect the public interest and particularly the interests of vulnerable social groups;

2. *Reiterates* the importance of good environmental governance to review regional implementation of relevant international conventions;

(a) Promoting the integration of environmental considerations into economic and social planning;

(b) Developing and implementing strategic environmental plans and sustainable development indicators;

(c) Promoting the increased involvement of stakeholders in achieving sustainable development goals;

3. *Supports* a three-tiered approach to address the issues of water conservation;

(a) Education: the sharing of ideas, technologies, and techniques will create a database of sound practices and viable solutions for the problems brought forth by this issue;

(b) Implementation: the application of water conservation ideas, technologies, and techniques to combat the issue;

(c) Continuation: the continuing information sharing and application to sustain efforts to better water conservation in the region;

4. *Encourages* supporting the self-assisted efforts in developing countries on water sanitation tailored to each recipient country's development needs and technology level through cooperation of international organizations, donor countries, Non-Governmental Organizations(NGOs), education institutions, research institutions, and so forth;

5. *Notes* that the distribution of water resources can potentially cause domestic or international conflicts and therefore necessary to consider the question of equality;

6. *Supports* the formulation and implementation of a long-term water management plan as well as the establishment of a framework for promoting joint water management and conservation among countries in Asia and the Pacific regions;

7. *Urges* protection and empowerment of individuals and local communities based on the perspective of human health on the issue of water conservation;

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8. *Considers* that waterborne diseases and the protection of people from such should be placed as top priority and response to these disaster should be strengthened;

9. *Proclaims* two areas to improve water conservation as follows;

(a) In rural communities;

(i) Attach importance to the perspective of human health;

(ii) Support the improvement of sanitation;

(b) In urban areas;

(i) Suggests the utilization of private funds in addition to the Official Development Assistance(ODA) in order to respond to the large-scale financial needs required in the infrastructure development of water sewage;

(ii) Pay due attention to the poor and support capacity development;

10. *Affirms* efforts toward the self-sustained maintenance, management, and operation of the infrastructure by promoting local people's participation and facility management capacities;

11. *Supports* promotion of the use of renewable hydropower;

12. *Approves* exchange of expertise in identifying the source of pollution and establishing effective regulations and technologies for effective use of water and waste-water treatment;

13. *Recommends* the increase of multilateral funding through previously Asian-based organizations;

14. *Commends* humanitarian bilateral aid between countries of mutual consent.

Passed, Yes: 18 / No: 1 / Abstain: 8