SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

SUBMITTED TO: The Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Council,

Reaffirming the recommendations outlined in the Report of the United Nations Water Conference and the importance of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG),

Highlighting the importance of SDG 6 which outlines an effort to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all,

Desiring to uphold Resolution 64/292, adopted in 2010 by the United Nations General Assembly, to ensure the human right to clean water and sanitation be reified,

Alarmed by the widespread difficulty in accessing clean water and sanitation around the world,

Calling upon the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) to acknowledge the dire issue of water scarcity and to recognize the ways in which member states can utilize their sovereignty to effectively address this issue,

Acknowledging the positive Impact that sister nations have had between countries,

Hoping to build upon this success and increase collaboration, empathy, trust and self-sufficiency across the world,

1. Draws the attention to the need of countries for sister nations and encouragement in developing national infrastructure regarding safe drinking water and sanitation;

2. Proposes the implementation of a sister nations between countries with developed systems and countries with less developed systems to improve the access of clean water and sanitation;

3. Suggests that willing Member States engage in sister nation relationships which entail a cooperative approach for the benefit of the global community;

4. Suggest that willing Member States engage in sister nation relationships which entail a cooperative approach for the benefit of the global community;

5. Endorses a system of respect and transparency between sister nations to ensure the maintenance of state sovereignty while also acting as collaborators in facilitating the growth of infrastructures sister nation as to catalyze self-sufficiency on the part of the sister nations;

6. Encourages the prioritization of the work forces in nations that are hosting the infrastructure that are being worked on:

(a) The majority of the workforce on the water infrastructure development projects are made up of workers from the mentee state;

7. Calls upon mentor states to consider the differences between themselves sister nation including political, regional, cultural and social dissimilarities which should not influence whether or not states receive foreign aid for water infrastructure development projects;

8. Reaffirms SDG 6, Clean Water and Sanitation, to ensure nations are in compliance with lasting United Nations goals while expanding upon current legislation;

9. Calls for the need to ensure that the water infrastructure development programs are environmentally sustainable in sister nations and do not increase the environmental vulnerability of that nation according to standards:
(a) Keeping in mind the importance of sustainable management of resources for future generations as outlined in Resolution 70/1 The Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals;

10. **Emphasizes** the goals of the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) programs by maximizing the economic and social benefits of coordinated development and management of water sanitation techniques, land and related resources, without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems, or the sovereignty of recipient nations;

11. **Reminds** the committee of United Nations Resolution 15/9, and wishes to expand upon Operative Clause 8 by giving beneficiary nations the freedom to outline a written contract with sister nations in order to enact long lasting and impactful change to their water and sanitation systems;

12. **Recommends** the use of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and United Nations legal technical assistance in arbitrating the contract-based agreement between participating countries:

   (a) Member states maintain the right to withdraw from contracts if any issues arise and the right for states to renegotiate at any point throughout the contract without repercussion;

13. **Proposes** an oversight committee made up by local governmental officials related to the sanitation industry and clean water initiatives and officials of the participating countries, and members of the United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs reviews contractual obligations, benchmark achievements, and amendments and renewals of the contracts every two years;

14. **Further recommends** mentee nations explicitly outline program goals while mentor nations monitor progress toward measurable benchmarks in order to ensure compliance with the contract outline;

15. **Recommends** sister nations are assessed for the percentage of their populations without access to clean water, while ensuring the aid provided is equitable across all beneficiary states at two year benchmark periods by all stakeholders within the agreements before the renewal period for all contracts;

16. **Supports** the ability of a mutual termination of these contracts at the two year period mark, financial, institutional, material, and industrial resources cannot be withheld within the two year time periods for any reason due to the danger of withholding a vital resource of clean water to vulnerable populations;

17. **Takes note of** the potential misuse of contracts to undermine the spirit of diplomacy, further imperialism, and violate state sovereignty;

18. **Suggests** avoiding the use of United Nations peacekeeping forces within sister nation states for the enforcement of said contracts;

19. **Reminds** states that these contracts should exclusively pertain to the industrial servicing, transportation, cleansing, and advisement on the preservation, development and protection of water resources in said Member State(s);

20. **Strongly encourages** the use of NGOs such as the Accountability Counsel to ensure accountability in the water infrastructure development programs being created so they are in response to the needs or possible impacts of such projects on locals especially indigenous groups;

21. **Further recommends** that NGOs dedicated to accountability serve as a de facto mediator between the sister nations as they have resources to guarantee continued support to the communities and their traditional leadership to prepare for, understand, and navigate through each stage of the water infrastructure development projects;

22. **Recognizes** that the use of a sub-committee in the Human Rights Council that serves to observe and document all water development projects with the aim of monitoring potential human rights abuses surrounding the water development projects:

   (a) Encourages NGOs such as the Accountability Counsel to amplify the voices of concerned communities around the world to protect their human rights by ensuring that policies surrounding the water infrastructure development programs operate with the goal of clean drinking water in mind;

23. **Further recognizes** the ability of commissions such as the World Bank Inspection Panel to collaborate with state representatives;
24. *Further encourages* local leadership and UNDESA to provide an impartial authority to administer review investigations regarding the sister nation;

25. *Prohibits* any form of retaliation by either sister nations both contractual violations or non-contractually related issues, specifically sanctions, attacks, intimidation, and the harassment of any state;

26. *Suggests* that any violations can be reported and investigated by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Passed, Yes: 13 / No: 1 / Abstain: 5