



American Model United Nations
United Nations Environment Assembly

UNEA/II/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Poverty-environment nexus

SUBMITTED TO: The United Nations Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

1 *Recognizing* the role of colonization, especially Western colonization, in creating today's environmental and
2 poverty issues,

3 1. *Affirming* the importance of sovereignty of developing Member States, especially with regards to their
4 history of colonization by developed nations;

5 2. *Maintaining awareness* of the fact that clean water is essential for the lives of citizens and economies
6 around the world;

7 3. *Expressing alarm* at both the contamination of water by human activity and the lack of access to clean
8 water in large portions of the world;

9 4. *Recognizing* the important contributions of the agricultural sector to the welfare of the citizens of many
10 developing nations;

11 5. *Recognizes* that prior to a productive discussion of the poverty-environment nexus, it is vital to deal with
12 colonialism's harmful history across the globe:

13 (a) Considering the subjugation and systemic violence against peoples in many African, Latin Amer-
14 ican, and Asian Member States and other Member States in the Global South;

15 (b) Facilitating a discussion of the following colonial practices in developing Member States;

16 (i) Establishment of power plants that cause pollution and disproportionately affect the poor;

17 (ii) Exploitation of labor;

18 (iii) Exploitation of land and material resources;

19 (iv) Western corporations' market domination which limits small business' potential for success;

20 (c) Bearing in mind the intersection of poverty, colonialism, and gender issues that impact intersec-
21 tional groups;

22 (d) Seeking equitable solutions and lasting partnerships between nations, especially developing na-
23 tions to solve the issues in the intersection of poverty and the environment;

24 (e) Encouraging Member States to facilitate an environmental sustainability framework that uplifts
25 and aids the poor;

26 6. *Commits* to creating solutions that ensure water access and sustainable agriculture practices for all:

27 (a) Providing resources for systems that effectively turn wastewater into potable water that can be
28 used either for agriculture or for drinking;

29 (b) Noting that research into more sustainable use of water as well as cleaning water is essential in
30 providing access to clean water for all;

31 (c) Recognizing the importance of providing clean water to all people, especially;

32 7. *Commits* to creating global sustainable agriculture practices:

33 (a) Awareness of the importance of modern industrial and agricultural practices to the economies
34 of many nations;

35 (b) Noting further that industrial and agricultural activities must be environmentally sustainable as
36 well as provide a means for the poorest citizens to escape poverty;

37 (c) Offering relevant training and expertise to countries in order to help them best understand how
38 their agricultural practices can be switched to a more sustainable option based on their land makeup and agricultural
39 exports;

40 (d) Connecting producers and buyers allowing for continued economic support and development;

41 (e) Acknowledging the massive role of agricultural economies in many African countries and other
42 countries that are affected by poverty and colonialism;

43 (f) Uplifting agricultural economies in developing nations through innovation;

44 8. *Suggests* the creation of a Guild for Resources and Environmental in Emergent Nations (GREEN) between
45 developing Member States to create solutions for the intersection of agriculture and poverty:

46 (a) The association could serve the following purposes;

47 (i) To be a home base for collaboration and cooperation, centralizing the voices of developing coun-
48 tries;

49 (ii) To serve as a knowledge base with a committee of experts on environmental development;

50 (iii) To create small business innovation loans to help companies effectively and sustainably use
51 water and agriculture practices;

52 (iv) To encourage agricultural innovation in the Member States;

53 (v) To fund those loans as described below, decentralizing western powers in the transition to
54 autonomy for emergent Member States;

55 (vi) To create a partnership with local businesses to allow for consumers and producers to connect,
56 promoting social and economic local growth;

57 (vii) To share ideas about sustainability, each developing country using their individual strengths to
58 support others;

59 (viii) To support water purification and distribution strategies as outlined below;

60 (b) Further considering the establishment of an office location in every Member State, staffed by
61 employees who are trained both in knowledge of their country's economy and resources, as well as proficient in
62 maintaining positive relationships with the business owners of their country;

63 9. *Further recommends* the allocation of funding to GREEN, to collect, assess, and distribute technology,
64 knowledge and infrastructure to enable sustainable agriculture by local business owners:

65 (a) Emphasizing the transition to different types and products of agriculture;

66 (b) Promoting assisting livestock farmers to renovate their businesses to accommodate less land-
67 intensive and high-emission animals such as poultry;

68 (c) Encouraging agricultural business owners to adopt land-strengthening technologies, such as crop
69 rotation;

70 (d) Encouraging small business owners to adopt methods such as vertical farming, hydroponic green-
71 houses, and solar farming;

72 (e) Directing new investments into research methods that cleans water and air of toxic elements like
73 heavy metals, waist, industrial chemicals and plastics;

74 10. *Further recommends* the commitment of funds to GREEN to sponsor a program for planting trees in
75 Member States:

76 (a) Suggesting the assignment of the task of researching and selecting appropriate plots of land to
77 plant forests to specialists employed at GREEN;

78 (b) Emphasizing that these forests be planted in locations where they strongly contribute to disaster
79 prevention;

80 (c) Considering offering financial incentives to landowners to designate and convert part of their
81 land to forest;

82 11. *Further emphasizes* that providing for clean water requires investment in the purification of water and
83 the creation of infrastructure and programs to provide clean water:

84 (a) Suggesting the designation of the funding and creation of infrastructure that filters water in
85 countries and regions where there is a lack of clean water;

86 (b) Emphasizing the need to bring clean water to people and regions where clean water is scarce
87 through the creation of infrastructure that cheaply brings clean water and utilities to people;

88 (i) Expresses its hopes that all households will eventually have reliable access to clean water in their
89 homes;

90 (ii) Recommends the construction of water desalination plants that filter water and transport water
91 to regions where clean water is scarce;

92 (iii) Supports the expansion and continued transportation of clean water to communities that lack
93 clean water and end the need for people to travel to get their water;

94 12. *Further aims* to bring the international community together on finding solutions on the emergence of
95 water management:

96 (a) Researching the treatment of oil spills in water bodies;

97 (b) Encouraging sustainable agriculture that will help achieve the goal of producing enough for each
98 citizen;

99 (i) GREEN would help in ensuring the accountability of transfer of resources to those in need;

100 (c) Underscores the importance of working with local communities to get access to clean water and
101 learn about the negative effects of poor water quality on the health of local people and communities;

102 (i) Take note of programs that work with local governments to help provide basic utilities and clean
103 water to the members of the community;

104 (ii) Suggest public-private cooperation between local businesses and their communities to ensure
105 water is used in environmentally friendly ways that promote the growth of local communities;

106 A. Further invites larger companies to work with communities and government in water sustainability
107 and human development programs;

108 (d) Recommending the collection and filtration of rainwater for public use and development into
109 methods that improve the collection and use of rainwater;

110 (e) The same provisions set forth for municipal water would be observed.

Passed, Yes: 36 / No: 3 / Abstain: 4