

Forum: Economic and Social Council

Question of: Ensuring Safe Drinking Water for All

Submitted by: Côte d'Ivoire



Co-submitted by: Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mexico, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Republic of Kazakhstan, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Tunisia, United Kingdom, Zimbabwe

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

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3 *Recognizing* that access to safe drinking water is a fundamental human right, which is essential for
4 the realization of other human rights and vital for sustainable development,

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6 *Acknowledging* the role of United Nations member states, NGOs, and other relevant
7 stakeholders in promoting access to safe drinking water,

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9 *Taking into account* the impact of climate change on water resources and need for
10 sustainable water management practices and the specific needs and circumstances of
11 developing countries in water management and sanitation efforts,

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13 *Alarmed by* the water scarcity and poor water quality countries are facing, which have resulted in
14 inadequate access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities, particularly in rural areas,

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16 *Acknowledging* the significance of Sustainable Development Goal 6, which aims to ensure
17 availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, including access to safe and
18 affordable drinking water,

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20 *Affirming* the urgent need to address the challenges of water scarcity, inadequate sanitation, and
21 poor water quality,

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23 *Deeply concerned* about the 2,2 billion of people in 2023 without access to safe drinking water
24 within the area of less than 30 minutes of walking,

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26 **1. Calls upon** all member states, particularly those facing challenges related to water
27 scarcity, inadequate sanitation, and poor water quality, to prioritize the provision of safe
28 drinking water for all parts of society, especially vulnerable populations;

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2. **Encourages** member states to develop and to implement extensive national policies and strategies that aim to ensure universal access to safe drinking water, with a focus on sustainable and equitable management of water resources;
 3. **Urges** member states especially developed countries and high-income countries to:
 - a. invest in the development, upgrading and maintenance of water infrastructure systems, such as but not limited to:
 - i. treatment plants,
 - ii. distribution networks,
 - iii. sanitation facilities,
 - b. to ensure the delivery of safe drinking water to all communities, research and innovation to develop sustainable and cost-effective technologies for water treatment, purification, and distribution, particularly in areas facing water scarcity;
 4. **Calls for** the establishment and the enforcement of stringent water quality standards; regulations to safeguard drinking water sources to prevent contamination and mitigate the risk of waterborne diseases;
 5. **Emphasizes** the importance of:
 - a. promoting community engagement,
 - b. participation in decision-making processes related to water resource management, ensuring that local perspectives and traditional knowledge are taken into account;
 6. **Encourages** member states to enhance:
 - a. cooperation and knowledge-sharing among countries,
 - b. collaboration with relevant international organizations and communities, to address common challenges in ensuring safe drinking water for all such as but not limited to:
 - i. Viva con Agua;
 7. **Urges** the United Nations and its specialized agencies to provide technical assistance, capacity building support to member states in their efforts to ensure access to safe drinking water for all;
 8. **Encourages** member states to:
 - a. integrate the provision of safe drinking water for all as a cross-cutting issue in their national development plans,
 - b. align their efforts with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 6 on clean water and sanitation;
 9. **Calls upon** European states and other developed countries to:

- 74 a. increase their financial and technological support to developing countries to
75 implement comprehensive water management systems, such as, but not limited
76 to:
- 77 i. water treatment facilities
 - 78 ii. sanitation infrastructure particularly in vulnerable communities,
- 79 b. provide assistance in the adoption of sustainable and cost-effective water
80 treatment and purification technologies, considering the specific needs and
81 challenges of each developing country,
- 82 c. collaborate with international organizations and regional bodies such as, but not
83 limited to:
- 84 i. coordinate efforts,
 - 85 ii. share best practices,
 - 86 iii. promote efficient use of water resources,
 - 87 iv. facilitate mutual learning and progress towards achieving safe drinking
88 water for all,
- 89 d. Consider the relation of water-related issues with other sectors, such as but not
90 limited to
- 91 i. health,
 - 92 ii. education and
 - 93 iii. gender equality
- 94 e. integrate a multi-sectoral approach into development assistance programs to
95 address interconnected challenges and maximize the impact of interventions,
- 96 f. promote sustainable water management practices within their own territories, to
97 set an example;
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99 **10. Supports** all nations in implementing educational programs to teach their inhabitants, how
100 to:

- 101 a. use water sustainable and proper,
 - 102 b. protect their water resources from pollution,
 - 103 c. perform hygiene practices;
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105 **11. Requests** all member states to regularly report to ECOSOC on the progress made in
106 implementing this resolution including on:

- 107 a. achievements,
 - 108 b. challenges,
 - 109 c. lessons learned;
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111 **12. Suggests** a fund to be raised, with every country contributing a certain percentage of their
112 GDP based on their classification as MEDC or NIC or LEDC, the money raised in this
113 fund will be used to finance a nongovernmental organization (IDWRA, International
114 Drinking Water Regulatory Agency), which:

- 115 a. ensures that measures are taken to fight the inaccessibility of safe drinking water,
- 116 b. prevents the misuse of the fundings provided by the UN,

117 c. determines that resources directed by the fund cannot be frozen or ceased because
118 of violations of international laws as this would directly affect those in need;

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120 **13. Suggests** measures which ensure that the ground water collected is drinkable with
121 minimum efforts, such as but not limited to providing solar ovens which don't need any
122 electricity to boil the water;

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124 **14. Recommends** all nations with access to sea water to:
125 a. utilize reverse osmosis,
126 b. increase plants that do such treatments,
127 c. recommends the simultaneous installation of large-scale solar collection
128 facilities.

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131 **Voting Results**

132 In favour: 26

133 Against: 24

134 Abstentions: 2