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Draft Resolution on Water and Sanitation in Asia for All

**SC-Economic/Draft Res/2019/06**

**19 April 2019**

*We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,*

***Recognizing***the outcome document of the United Nations Summit for the adoption of Post- 2015 Development Agenda entitled *“Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for* *Sustainable Development,”* adopted in September 2015;

***Recalling***United Nations’ General Assembly resolution (A/RES/72/178) adopted on December 2017, which formally recognized safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as human rights and UN Human Rights Council resolution (A/HRC/RES/18/1) adopted on the 28 September 2011, recognizing that the right to safe drinking water and sanitation are part of the right to an adequate standard of living;

***Welcoming***the SDG goal 6 on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, including universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water, for all, adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene ,sustainable water resources management and wastewater treatment;

***Noting******with******interest***relevant commitments and initiatives promoting the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, including the Abuja Declaration, adopted at the first Africa- South America Summit, in 2006, the Delhi Declaration, adopted at the third South Asian Conference on Sanitation, in 2008, the Sharm el-Sheikh Final Document, adopted at the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non- Aligned Countries, in 2009, and the Colombo Declaration, adopted at the fourth South Asian Conference on Sanitation, in 2011;

***Deeply******concerned***that approximately one billion people across Asia could face severe water shortage by 2050;

***Stress******upon***the need for APA member parliaments to advise their Governments to focus in national policies on water and sanitation issues and contribute towards international efforts in resolving these issues;

1. **Welcome**the inclusion of water and sanitation in Post-2015 Development Agenda and the acceptance of human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation by the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council;
2. **Consider**the role of Parliamentarian critical in the implementation of human rights approach to safe water and sanitation in Asia, including particularly the adoption of legislative measures in the implementation of their human rights obligations;
3. **Reaffirm**that APA Member States have the primary responsibility to ensure the full realization of SDGs including Goal 6, and must take steps, nationally and through international assistance and cooperation, especially fund mobilization and technical, to the sanitation by all appropriate means;
4. **Request**Member Parliaments to urge their respective governments to cooperate with their regions where applicable to discuss the water scarcity challenge all over Asian countries and to study in depth the causes of the water scarcity and to provide appropriate solutions and strategies to overcome this challenge; comply with international rules and agreements of countries that have common resources and common shore line ;
5. **Request**the APA Member States to ensure financing according to the available resources for the provision of safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation, and to develop indicators and data collection mechanisms to monitor progress and to identify shortcomings;
6. **Encourage**tointegrate sustainable water resource use plan to national development programs and management for reducing widespread scarcity and pollution of freshwater resources in many regions and give priority to the fulfillment of basic needs and safeguarding of ecosystems in developing and using water resources;
7. **Urge**APA Parliamentarians to vigorously engage with their governments’ executives on building inclusive frameworks between States for reduction of climate change impacts. These climate change impacts have severe consequences in the shape of water scarcity and flooding;
8. **Ask**APA Members to support advance technology transfers from developed countries to the developing countries of Asia and sharing of good practices for efficient allocation of water;
9. **Underline**the important role of the international cooperation provided by the United Nations, international development partners, as well as by donor agencies, in the achievement of the SDGs, and urges development partners to harmonize their strategies with the national initiatives and plans of APA Members related to safe drinking water and sanitation;
10. **Adopt** awareness programs by Member States parliaments to inform their citizens about the problem of water scarcity in order to reduce their wastefulness, prevent pollution or waste, and limit their use to the necessary human needs
11. **Propose to establish** an open ended group in the context of this Resolution to discuss continuously the different dimensions of Water Crisis in Asia and use the Parliamentary Diplomacy among APA States in this region to properly address the disastrous life of the peoples of this region and protect the safety of the environment;
12. **Request**the Secretary-General to report, the achievement of APA Member Parliaments on this resolution, to the next Standing Committee on Sustainable Development.