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## Draft Resolution on Water and Sanitation in Asia for All

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*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/64/292) adopted on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010, which formally recognized **safe and clean drinking (TURKEY)** 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 (TURKEY)** 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 (TURKEY)** drinking water, sustainable water resources management and wastewater treatment, providing a further anchor for sustainability in the **water-governance(TURKEY)** field **of water (TURKEY)**,

*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,

*Acknowledging* the negative impact of the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic on the achievement of all sustainable development goals, including the sixth goal on ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation services for all, given the global economic recession caused by the pandemic, and the precautionary measures, economic decisions, and restoration it imposed, and re allocation of resources affected by this recession, which had the greatest impact on the programs dedicated to implementing all sustainable development goals, the sixth goal in particular, (Bahrain)

*Stressing upon* the need for Asian Governments to focus in national policies on water and sanitation issues and contribute towards international efforts in resolving these issues,

*Affirming* that water management will lead to a high level of human health and reduce many diseases, especially since there are many local, urban and rural communities that depend on wastewater for agricultural production purposes, which can lead to the spread of infectious diseases, (UAE)

*We encourage* parliaments in the APA to support the conduct of comprehensive studies, in regional and global coordination, to state the causes of water scarcity and the challenges of water scarcity in the world, and to develop solutions to ensure the availability of water to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030, (UAE)

*Emphasizing* the role of parliaments in setting a strategic development vision in cooperation with their governments regarding water management provided that developed vision shall contain plans with measurable and assessable indicators, (UAE)

*Referring to* the association of rational water management with the need to address the problem of climate change that threatens drought in many regions of the world; and the need for parliaments to invite their governments to agree to all international resolutions established to protect the environment, and to confront thermal emissions and climate changes, according to confirmed international agreements and decisions issued by the United Nations and other international conferences, (UAE)

*Calling* for a parliamentary conference with the participation of experts specialized in water management and representatives of international and regional organizations to prepare an (International Parliamentary Guide) on the optimal use of water resources and their management, (UAE)

*We therefore,*

1. *Welcome* the inclusion of water and sanitation in Post-2015 Development Agenda and the ~~acceptance~~ **recognition (TURKEY)** of human right 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 **drinking (TURKEY)** 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, **where appropriate, (TURKEY)** especially economic and technical, to the sanitation by all appropriate means;

4. *Request* Member Parliaments to urge their respective governments to cooperate with their regions 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;
5. *Request* the APA Member States to ensure financing according to the available resources for the provision of affordable **and safe drinking (TURKEY)** water and sanitation, and to develop indicators and data collection mechanisms to monitor progress and to identify shortcomings;
6. *Encourage* integrated water resource planning and management<sup>4+</sup>**(TURKEY)** 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 without any other uses;
11. *Urge* parliaments and members of the APA to ensure that the policies and programs for responding to the Covid-19 pandemic and its sustainable recovery place the implementation of the sustainable development goals at the top of governments' work priorities, especially the sixth goal among these goals, after the outbreak of the pandemic revealed how the availability of water and sanitation services was a

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~~<sup>4</sup>Integrated water resources management (IWRM) has been defined by the Global Water Partnership (GWP) as "a process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems".(TURKEY)~~

major component of the elements of response to it and combating the outbreak of the virus, and therefore the implementation of the sixth goal must be at the heart of response and recovery programs; (Bahrain)

12. *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;
13. *Request* the Secretary-General to report, the achievement of APA Member Parliaments on this resolution, to the next **meeting of the (TURKEY) Standing Committee on Sustainable Development. (TURKEY)**