

**Code:** HRC/2/5

**Committee:** Human Rights Council

**Topic:** Promotion and protection of all human, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the Right to Development.

1 *The Human Rights Council,*

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3 *Recalling* that the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation entitles everyone, without  
4 discrimination, to have access to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable  
5 water for personal and domestic use and to have physical and affordable access to sanitation, in  
6 all spheres of life, that is safe, hygienic, secure and acceptable, and that provides privacy and  
7 ensures dignity,

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9 *Guided by* Article 25, Paragraph 1 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, which  
10 establishes that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-  
11 being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, house and medical care and necessary  
12 social services,

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14 *Remembering* General Assembly (GA) resolution 15/14 (1960) on the independent development  
15 of Member States and the fact that International Financial Institutions (IFIs) threaten many  
16 developing nations' autonomy by monopolizing said states' natural resources and limiting their  
17 Right to Develop,

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19 *Emphasizes* Article 1.1 in the Declaration on the Right to Development, which states the right to  
20 development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all  
21 peoples are entitled to participate in and further stated in Human Rights Council (HRC)  
22 resolution 16.2 (2011) that access to clean water is necessary for development and life,

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24 *Deeply conscious* that in order to execute General Assembly (GA) resolution 24/18 (2013) both  
25 public and private clean water initiatives, such as Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative  
26 Council and Charity Water, not only provide access to clean water but also sanitation facilities  
27 and infrastructure crucial for the sustainable progression of developing nations,

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29 *Noting* that the implementation of clean water programs such as Living Water International  
30 opens the doors for increased employment opportunities that directly correlate with that  
31 infrastructure that leads to clean water access as supported by the Economic and Social Council  
32 (ECOSOC) resolution 12/2010/1 (2010),

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34 *Deeply concerned* by the human rights violations inherent in the aftermath of the usage of dams,  
35 such as that 1975 conflict between Turkey, Syria, and Iraq, in which the construction of a dam  
36 over the Euphrates River nearly brought Syria and Iraq to war over water shortages,

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38 *Noting with satisfaction* the work within Algeria in providing clean and potable water to over  
39 350,000 families on a budget of \$200,000,000, which is well within the grasp of developing  
40 nations due to the assistance of Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC),

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42 *Recognizing* that water is a right in which over 780 million people are being denied this right as  
43 stated by United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) mission  
44 statement,

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46 *Taking into consideration* the approaching deadline of the Millennium Development Goals  
47 (MDGs) thus shifting focus onto the Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 24/1.31 (2013) that  
48 focus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the post 2015 development agenda in  
49 which the essential objective are to achieve universal access to sustainable sanitation and to  
50 drinking water that is really safe, increase wastewater management and pollution prevention, and  
51 improve integrated water resources management and water-use efficiency,

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- 53 1. *Strongly reaffirms* all Member States to commit to the Sustainable Development Goals,  
54 specifically goal 6 to achieve sustainable management of water by the year 2030 by halting  
55 forest and wetland conversion to agriculture, protecting soil resources, and ensuring that  
56 farming systems are resilient to climate change and disasters;  
57
  - 58 2. *Calls Upon* developing nations to use the non-governmental organizations, such as Charity  
59 Water to implement the construction of wells to provide access to clean water in developing  
60 nations by using:
    - 61 a. Hand dug wells in which skilled laborers dig up to 15 meters by hand to reach aquifers  
62 below the grounds surface;
    - 63 b. Drilled wells which a drilling team drills deep into the earth to reach fresh aquifers;
    - 64 c. Rainwater catchments that are placed on rooftops to direct the flow of rainfall into a  
65 sanitary holding tank;
    - 66 d. Piped Systems that network pipes together to supply water to different community tap  
67 stands;
    - 68 e. Spring Protections that captures and safely stores pure water from a natural spring;  
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  - 70 3. *Further Recommends* the implementation of sanitation facilities funded and backed by the  
71 Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, which are supported by the UN in  
72 developing states such as Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Togo, Uganda, and Pakistan to improve  
73 health standards including:
    - 74 a. Water purification systems that are installed treatment systems to remove contaminants  
75 from existing systems;
    - 76 b. Bio-Sand filters that layers of sand and micro bacterial film to filter out contaminates;
    - 77 c. Latrines that provide covered shelters for bathroom users to prevent cross  
78 contamination;
  - 79
  - 80 4. *Recognizes* the Right to Development can derive from increased water sector related jobs  
81 by utilizing:
    - 82 a. Rainfall collection in the rainforests that allows both fresh and clean water and also by  
83 creating jobs for the indigenous populations backed by Charity Water;
    - 84 b. Clean water access organizations such as Living Water International create jobs by  
85 training the local population to operate water pumping equipment thus providing the right  
86 to development;

87 c. NGOs such as the Friends of the Earth Europe which has both created jobs and  
88 encouraged the protection of natural resources at a “grassroots, national and international  
89 level”;

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91 5. *Expresses with full support* the efforts of Member States in desalination efforts via  
92 renewable forms of energy such as solar and wind as demonstrated by looking to regional  
93 Member States, such as the United States, Ecuador, and Finland, that have dedicated  
94 themselves to utilizing renewable desalinization plants, which produce potable water in a  
95 sustainable fashion as an alternative to dams, endanger the basic human right to water;

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97 6. *Endorses* the member state of Algeria as a model for other developing states with similar  
98 topographies of scarce water supplies by utilizing government subsidies in partnership with  
99 the OPIC Small Business Assistance fund in the operation of offshore desalination plants;

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101 7. *Urges* Member States to increase funding to aid developing nations who lack the means  
102 necessary for resource sovereignty by transferring tax generated revenues within developing  
103 states into the water sector at the state level alongside the additional financial aid from  
104 international monetary institutions such as donor states.