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Shaping a new system of water governance: Promoting parliamentary action on water

Amendments to the draft resolution submitted within the statutory deadline by the delegations of Bahrain, Canada, China, Cuba, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Spain, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, Venezuela and Viet Nam

TITLE

Change the title to read as follows:

Shaping a new system of water governance: Promoting parliamentary action on water
and sanitation

(United Kingdom)

Change the title to read as follows:

**Defining stronger parliamentary action for enhanced and more complete fulfillment
of the human right to access to safe water and sanitation**

(Venezuela)

PREAMBLE

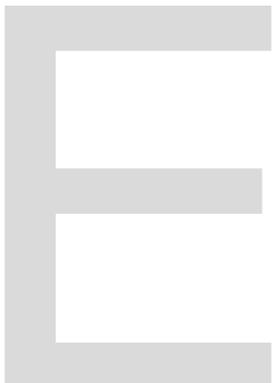
New preambular paragraphs 2bis and 2ter

Add two new paragraphs after preambular paragraph 2 to read as follows:

(2bis) *Recalling also* that the right to water is clearly essential to secure an adequate standard of living, particularly since it is one of the most fundamental conditions for survival, that it is inextricably related to the rights to the highest attainable standard of health and to adequate housing and food, and that it should be seen in conjunction with other rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights, foremost among them the right to life and human dignity,

(2ter) *Recalling further* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

(Bahrain)



Preambular paragraph 3

Amend to read as follows:

(3) *Having considered* United Nations General Assembly resolutions 64/292 of 28 July 2010 (in which the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation is recognized as a human right essential for the full enjoyment of life), and 68/157 of 18 December 2013, **68/118 of 16 December 2013 (on the law of transboundary aquifers) and 69/215 of 19 December 2014 (on the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources), General Comment No. 15 of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (on the right to water),** and Human Rights Council resolution 27/7 of September 2014,

(Bahrain)

Amend to read as follows:

(3) *Having considered* United Nations General Assembly resolutions 64/292 of 28 July 2010 (in which the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation is recognized as a human right essential for the full enjoyment of life **and all human rights**) and 68/157 of 18 December 2013, and Human Rights Council resolution 27/7 of September 2014,

(India)

Preambular paragraph 5

Amend to read as follows:

(5) *Deeply concerned* by the increased pressure being exerted on water resources by factors such as population growth, climate change, rapid urbanization, **the growing needs of modern agriculture,** growing energy demand and lack of effective governance,

(France)

Amend to read as follows:

(5) *Deeply concerned* by the increased pressure being exerted on water resources by factors such as population growth, climate change, rapid urbanization, **industrialization,** growing energy demand and lack of effective governance,

(Indonesia)

Amend to read as follows:

(5) *Deeply concerned* by the increased pressure being exerted on water resources by factors such as population growth, **natural disasters,** climate change, rapid urbanization, growing energy demand and lack of effective governance,

(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Amend to read as follows:

(5) *Deeply concerned* by the increased pressure being exerted on water resources by factors such as population growth, climate change, **desertification, water stress,** rapid urbanization, growing energy demand and lack of effective governance,

(Spain)

Amend to read as follows:

(5) *Deeply concerned* by the increased pressure being exerted on water resources by factors such as population growth, climate change, rapid urbanization, growing energy demand and ~~lack of effective governance~~ **industrial demand for water,**

(Venezuela)

Preambular paragraph 6

Amend to read as follows:

(6) *Equally concerned* by the fact that water scarcity is already affecting one in three people on every continent **(around 1.2 billion people, or almost one fifth of the world's population, live in areas of physical scarcity, and 500 million people are approaching this situation; another 1.6 billion people, or almost one quarter of the world's population, face economic water shortages, meaning their country lacks the infrastructure needed to take water from rivers and aquifers)** and that by 2025 two thirds of the world's population will be under water stress and 1.8 billion people ~~will~~ **could** face absolute water ~~scarcity~~ **scarcity conditions**,

(Bahrain)

Amend to read as follows:

(6) *Equally concerned* by the fact that water scarcity is already affecting one in three people on every continent and that by 2025 **approximately** two thirds of the world's population will be under water stress and 1.8 billion people will face absolute water scarcity,

(Germany)

Amend to read as follows:

(6) *Equally concerned* by the fact that water scarcity is already affecting one in three people on every continent and **by the prediction** that by 2025 two thirds of the world's population will be under water stress and 1.8 billion people will face absolute water scarcity,

(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Amend to read as follows:

(6) *Equally concerned* by the fact that water scarcity is already affecting one in three people on every continent, ~~and~~ that by 2025 two thirds of the world's population will be under water stress and 1.8 billion people will face absolute water scarcity, **and that, as a result of climate change, regions inhabited by more than 2 billion people around the world are threatened with drought,**

(United Arab Emirates)

Amend to read as follows:

(6) *Equally concerned* by the fact that water scarcity is already affecting one in three people on every continent and that, **in the absence of effective management**, by 2025 two thirds of the world's population will be under water stress and 1.8 billion people will face absolute water scarcity,

(United Kingdom)

Preambular paragraph 7

Amend to read as follows:

(7) *Also deeply concerned* at the fact that ~~748~~ **around 700** million people lack access to an improved drinking water source, that, **according to the 2014 report of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation, more than one third of the global population (2.5 billion people)** still lacks access to improved sanitation, ~~and~~ that 1 billion people still practice open defecation, **and that the world is not on track to meet the sanitation component of Millennium Development Goal 7, which calls for halving the proportion of the population without sustainable access to an improved sanitation facility,**

(Bahrain)

Amend to read as follows:

(7) *Also deeply concerned* at the fact that 748 million people lack access to an improved drinking water source **of supply**, that 2.5 billion people still lack access to improved sanitation and that 1 billion people still practice open defecation,

(Venezuela)

Preambular paragraph 8

Replace the existing text of preambular paragraph 8 by the following:

(8) **Concerned that the official figures do not capture all the dimensions of drinking water safety, affordability of services and safe management of excreta and waste water, and therefore underestimate the numbers of those without access to safe and affordable drinking water and safely managed and affordable sanitation; highlighting in this context the need to adequately monitor drinking water safety and sanitation management in order to obtain data that capture those dimensions as a critical step towards securing access to safe drinking water and the safe management of sanitation,**

(Bahrain)

New preambular paragraph 8bis

Add a new paragraph after preambular paragraph 8 to read as follows:

(8bis) Reaffirming that non-discrimination and equality are fundamental human rights principles, and that inequalities in the realization of the right to safe drinking water and sanitation persist, inter alia between urban and rural areas and with respect to groups such as refugees and asylum-seekers, and insisting that targeted measures must be adopted to progressively eliminate such inequalities, with a specific focus on gender, persons with disabilities and children,

(Bahrain)

Preambular paragraph 9

Amend to read as follows:

(9) *Mindful* that water pollution, water overuse, lack of cooperation in respect of national and international river basins and aquifers, and the realization of the human right to **safe drinking** water are interconnected issues,

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

(9) *Mindful* that water pollution, water overuse, lack of **adequate mechanisms for international assistance and** ~~cooperation in respect of national and international river basins and aquifers,~~ and the realization of the human right to water are interconnected issues,

(India)

Amend to read as follows:

(9) *Mindful* that water pollution, water overuse, lack of cooperation in respect of national and international river basins and aquifers, and the realization of the human right to water **and sanitation** are interconnected issues,

(United Kingdom)

Preambular paragraph 10

Replace the existing text of preambular paragraph 10 by the following:

(10) **Affirming the importance of regional and international technical cooperation, where appropriate, as a means of promoting the progressive realization of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, without prejudice to questions of international water law, including international watercourse law,¹**

(India)

¹ Preambular paragraph 20 of Human Rights Council resolution 27/7 of October 2014.

Amend to read as follows:

(10) *Bearing in mind* that ~~water can be a key element in the balance of power between States and that~~ good governance can promote cooperation and avoid water-related conflicts,

(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Amend to read as follows:

(10) *Bearing in mind* that water **constitutes part of the natural heritage and sovereignty of peoples** ~~can be a key element in the balance of power between States and is an instrument of peace between nations,~~ and that good governance **integrated water management** can promote cooperation and avoid water-related conflicts **between States,**

(Venezuela)

Preambular paragraph 11

Amend to read as follows:

(11) *Aware* that international law and **some** national legal systems relating to the management of water ~~resources tend to be fragmented~~ **lag behind regional law and regulations at all levels,**

(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Amend to read as follows:

(11) *Aware* that international law and national legal systems relating to the management of water resources tend to be fragmented **and poorly implemented in practice,**

(United Kingdom)

Preambular paragraph 12

Amend to read as follows:

(12) *Convinced* that States should increasingly pursue integrated water resources management by taking into account **the national context,** the water-energy-ecosystem-food security nexus, improving wastewater treatment and preventing and reducing surface and groundwater pollution,

(United Kingdom)

New preambular paragraph 12bis

Add a new paragraph after preambular paragraph 12 to read as follows:

(12bis) *Recalling* that integrated water resources management strategies are based on the principles set out in the Dublin Statement on Water and Sustainable Development and incorporated into Agenda 21 at the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992,

(Canada)

Preambular paragraph 14

Amend to read as follows:

(14) *Also stressing* that effective management and multilevel good governance of water resources are indispensable preconditions for achieving the human right to **safe drinking** water and sanitation,

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

(14) *Also stressing that ~~effective management and multilevel good governance~~ **integrated management** of water resources **at all levels is an** indispensable precondition for achieving the human right to **access to safe** water and sanitation,*

(Venezuela)

New preambular paragraph 14bis

Add a new paragraph after preambular paragraph 14 to read as follows:

(14bis) *Noting that good governance models at the national and local levels must include the participation of all stakeholders, including women, if water resources are to be managed effectively,*

(Canada)

Add a new paragraph after preambular paragraph 14 to read as follows:

(14bis) *Reaffirming the responsibility of States to promote and protect all human rights, including the right to development, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and which must be dealt with holistically, in a fair and equal manner, with all rights placed on an equal footing and given the same emphasis,*

(India)

Preambular paragraph 15

Amend to read as follows:

(15) *Recalling the key role parliamentarians play in establishing good water governance systems that are conducive to the realization of the human right to **safe drinking** water and sanitation,*

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

(15) *Recalling the key role parliamentarians play in establishing good water governance systems, ~~which that~~ **inter alia** conducive to the realization of the human right to water and sanitation,*

(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Amend to read as follows:

(15) *Recalling the key role parliamentarians play in establishing ~~good water governance~~ **integrated water management** systems that are conducive to the realization of the human right to **access to safe** water and sanitation,*

(Venezuela)

New preambular paragraph 15bis

Add a new paragraph after preambular paragraph 15 to read as follows:

(15bis) *Further stressing the importance of approaching water management from the point of view of water-demand rather than water-supply management, so as to focus on updating basic irrigation infrastructure, integrating irrigation into environmental protection concepts, and linking water management to the social and economic sustainability of rural regions,*

(United Arab Emirates)

Preambular paragraph 16

Amend to read as follows:

(16) *Recognizing that parliamentarians have a weighty responsibility to develop national legal frameworks in order to ~~implement~~ **realize** a water-secure world for all ~~and for~~ present and future generations,*

(India)

OPERATIVE PART

Operative paragraph 1

Amend to read as follows:

1. *Calls on* national parliaments to advocate a dedicated comprehensive water and sanitation goal in the post-2015 development agenda, so as to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, ~~said goal to include concrete actions and in particular the development of an efficient monitoring system with global indicators;~~

(China)

Amend to read as follows:

1. *Calls on* national parliaments to advocate a dedicated comprehensive water and sanitation goal in **the preparation of** the post-2015 development agenda, so as to ~~ensure the availability~~ **achieve universal and equitable access to** and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, said goal to include concrete actions ~~and in particular the development of an efficient monitoring system with global indicators,~~ **targets and indicators that are universally applicable and take into account differing national realities, capacities and levels of development and respect national policies and priorities;**

(India)

Amend to read as follows:

1. *Calls on* national parliaments to advocate a dedicated comprehensive water and sanitation goal in the post-2015 development agenda, so as to ensure the availability, **in sufficient quantity and adequate quality**, and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, **promoting a system of water governance based on planning and on technological development and innovation**, said goal to include concrete actions and in particular the development of an efficient monitoring system with global indicators;

(Spain)

Amend to read as follows:

1. *Calls on* national parliaments to advocate a dedicated comprehensive water and sanitation goal in the post-2015 development agenda, so as to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, said goal to include concrete actions and in particular the development of an efficient monitoring system with global indicators, **and further to advocate an influential role for parliamentarians in the international climate change instrument to be adopted at the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;**

(United Arab Emirates)

Amend to read as follows:

1. *Calls on* national parliaments to advocate ~~a dedicated comprehensive water and sanitation goal~~ **stronger water management and sanitation goals** in the post-2015 development agenda, so as to ensure the availability and sustainable management of **safe** water and sanitation for all, said goal to include concrete actions and in particular the development of an efficient monitoring system with global indicators;

(Venezuela)

Operative paragraph 2

Amend to read as follows:

2. *Also calls on* national parliaments to enact legislation for the appropriate implementation of international treaties, customary law and resolutions related to water management and to the human right to **safe drinking** water and sanitation, and to organize appropriate human resources training and further education so as to enhance understanding of these instruments;

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

2. *Also calls on national parliaments to enact legislation, **where needed**, for the appropriate implementation of **each State's obligations under** international treaties, customary law and resolutions related to water management and to the human right to water and sanitation, and to organize appropriate human resources training and further education so as to enhance understanding of these instruments;*

(India)

Amend to read as follows:

2. *Also calls on national parliaments to enact legislation for the appropriate implementation of international treaties, customary law and resolutions related to water management and to the human right to water and sanitation, ~~and~~ to organize appropriate human resources training and further education so as to enhance understanding of these instruments, **and to encourage awareness-raising campaigns for citizens with a view to promoting responsible use of water;***

(Spain)

Operative paragraph 3

Amend to read as follows:

3. *Urges national parliaments to set aside adequate budget allocations for multilevel and efficient governance, and to establish legislative and regulatory frameworks encouraging public and private investment in the water sector, **with a view to establishing a water-secure world for all present and future generations and to securing water affordability, accessibility and safety for all;***

(Indonesia)

Amend to read as follows:

3. *Urges national parliaments to set aside adequate budget allocations for multilevel and efficient governance, and to establish legislative and regulatory frameworks encouraging **dialogue and partnerships between the public and private investment sectors in order to stimulate investment** in the water sector;*

(Switzerland)

Amend to read as follows:

3. *Urges national parliaments to set aside adequate budget allocations for multilevel and efficient ~~governance~~ **integrated water management**, and to establish legislative and regulatory frameworks encouraging public ~~and private~~ investment in the water sector;*

(Venezuela)

New operative paragraph 3bis

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 3 to read as follows:

- 3bis. Urges national parliaments to approve comprehensive and integrated laws so as to encourage conservation, spur innovation and ensure sustainable use of water and energy in their respective countries;**

(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Operative paragraph 4

Amend to read as follows:

4. *Also urges national parliaments to promote water security by developing and implementing, **within their jurisdiction**, integrated water resources management plans (involving interministerial cooperation) **and stakeholder participation**, in order to balance competing human needs while giving priority to water for personal and domestic use for all, without discrimination and with a special focus on gender equity;*

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

4. *Also urges* national parliaments to promote water security by developing and implementing Integrated Water Resources Management plans (involving interministerial cooperation) in order to balance competing human needs while giving priority to water for personal and domestic use for all, without discrimination and with a special focus on gender equity, **and the most vulnerable social sectors**;

(Spain)

Operative paragraph 5

Amend to read as follows:

First proposal:

5. *Encourages* States sharing water resources to cooperate on matters relating to international watercourses and ~~seriously to consider joining international legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation~~;

Second proposal:

5. *Encourages* States sharing water resources to cooperate on matters relating to international watercourses, and ~~seriously to consider joining international legal frameworks for~~ **deal with transboundary water cooperation** **affairs on an equitable and reasonable basis**;

(China)

Amend to read as follows:

5. *Encourages* States sharing water resources to cooperate on matters relating to international watercourses and ~~seriously to consider joining international legal frameworks for~~ transboundary water cooperation;

(India)

Amend to read as follows:

5. *Encourages* States sharing water resources to cooperate on matters relating to international watercourses, **including temporary groundwater "valleys"**, and seriously to consider joining international legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation **that would preserve the rights of all neighbouring countries**;

(United Arab Emirates)

Amend to read as follows:

5. *Encourages* States sharing water resources to cooperate, **as appropriate**, on matters relating to ~~international watercourses~~ **transboundary river basins** and seriously to consider joining international legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation **on integrated water management**;

(Venezuela)

Amend to read as follows:

5. *Encourages* States sharing water resources to cooperate on matters relating to international watercourses and seriously to consider joining international legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation, **including the 1997 Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses**;

(Viet Nam)

New operative paragraph 5bis

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 5 to read as follows:

5bis. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to provide financial resources, capacity-building and technology transfer, through international assistance and cooperation, in particular to developing countries, in order to scale up efforts to provide safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all;²

(India)

Operative paragraph 6

Amend to read as follows:

6. *Encourages* national parliaments to urge their governments to honour the commitments their countries have made in regard to the protection of freshwater sources, **to adopt legislative measures for the implementation of the right to safe drinking water and sanitation, and to ensure that effective remedies for violations of their obligations regarding that right, including judicial, quasi-judicial and other appropriate remedies, are accessible to everyone, without discrimination;**

(Bahrain)

Amend to read as follows:

6. *Encourages* national parliaments to urge their governments to honour the commitments their countries have made in regard to the protection of freshwater sources **and under regional and international conventions and agreements on appropriate and fair use of water and on sustainable protection and management of water and other natural resources for the purpose of sustainable development;**

(Viet Nam)

New operative paragraph 6bis

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 6 to read as follows:

6bis. *Invites* parliamentarians to support and promote policies and measures to increase cooperation at regional and international level, with a view to supporting developing country efforts to improve water efficiency in agriculture, the promotion of water management and adequate allocation of capacities, adaptation to climate change and easing of related vulnerabilities, and the development and sharing of innovative water efficiency technologies;

(Cuba)

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 6 to read as follows:

6bis. *Calls on* parliamentarians to support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management;

(India)

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 6 to read as follows:

6bis. *Calls on* parliamentarians to attach importance to fostering dialogue and effective cooperation between parliaments, civil society organizations, the private sector and the representatives of residential areas on water resource planning and the establishment of executive mechanisms of action to implement the principles of integrated water resource management;

(United Arab Emirates)

² Operational paragraph 2 of United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/292 of August 2010.

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 6 to read as follows:

6bis. Calls on States, especially developed countries, to promote cooperation and support developing country water management efforts, including in respect of water planning and effective and sustainable water protection and use for the purpose of sustainable development;

(Viet Nam)

Operative paragraph 7

Amend to read as follows:

7. *Requests* the IPU to draft a compilation of best legal and policy practices related to human rights-based water management, **including the UNDP Water Governance Facility at the Stockholm International Water Institute and UN-Water programmes such as the Water for Life Decade**, in order to support the work of parliamentarians involved in water-related issues;

(Bahrain)

Amend to read as follows:

7. *Requests* the IPU to draft a compilation of best legal and policy practices related to ~~human rights-based~~ **integrated water resource** management, in order to support the work of parliamentarians involved in water-related issues;

(India)

New operative paragraph 8bis

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 8 to read as follows:

8bis. Urges all States, in particular those able to do so, and international financial institutions to allocate adequate financial resources and technical assistance to the implementation of national laws and regulations and bilateral and multilateral agreements between States, in order to promote local, national and regional water-related cooperation.

(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 8 to read as follows:

8bis. Calls for an international workshop to be convened at which water management experts, along with parliamentarians and representatives of international and regional entities, would prepare an international parliamentary guide on the optimal use and management of water resources in accordance with the new concepts, said guide to include a simplified explanation of the fundamental legislation parliaments must take into account in terms of water and food and environmental security policies, to propose a model of action on parliamentary policies to maximize agreement on programmes related to good management of water, the environment, and food security during the discussion of government plans and programmes, budgets and oversight measures, and to incorporate the global good practices and experiences recommended in this regard.

(United Arab Emirates)