

## **Environmental Committee**

Sponsors: *Norway, Canada*

Signatories: *Norway, Canada, Jamaica, France, Italy, Bolivia, United States, Somalia, Switzerland, Equatorial Guinea, Costa Rica*

Topic: *Water security in the Nile River basin*

### **Resolution A.1**

The General Assembly,

*Understanding* the critical, environmental, economic, and political value of the Nile River to the inhabitants occupying its region,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the Nile River basin in terms of irrigation, transportation, and other resources that are vital to the indigenous people of those regions,

*Upholds* the universal value that access to safe water is a basic human right and essential to human life since it is a vital public health need,

*Further emphasizing* the need for 11 countries to reach an agreement for the sake of continuing agricultural growth and lack of poverty as 300 million people are dependant on the Nile which has a flow of 84 billion cubic meters of water with 10 billion cubic metre excluded to account for evaporation,

*Affirming* that water is not a common commodity to be bought and sold as merchandise in the marketplace but that water supply is a natural resource and a fundamental human right,

*Recognizing* that water is an increasingly scarce natural resource, and as a result is crucial to the security of all societies and sovereignty of nations around the world,

*Recalling* its ownership, control, management and distribution belong in the public domain,

1. Accepts the continuation and development of the goals depicted in the World Summit for Children in 1990, in which the concept of the universal access to water and sanitation by 2000 would be revisited for further discussion and emphasis;
  - a. Promote the improvement of survival and health of those surrounding the basin,
  - b. Emphasize the amount of lives who have been lost or suffered to unsanitary and infected water,
  - c. In partnership with the SDG's to be reached by 2030, wholly emphasizing accessibility to clean and sanitary water,
  
2. Advocates for an annual conference called the Nile Basin Annual Convention (NBAC) consisting of diplomatic peace talks amongst the Nile River's region leaders, nation's leaders, and/or tribal leaders to discuss the boundaries and areas of influence that each group is going to have access to of the river;
  - a. Forum of surrounding nations that utilize the Nile River for its resources and opportunities: including Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Egypt, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Kenya and Burundi,
  - b. Facilitated by the United Nations member states to encourage diplomatic debate and decisions,
    - a. Including developed nations that assist with the supervision of the peace talks,
  - c. Water of Nile River basin will be allocated to each country depending on population density and agricultural needs/industry no longer following/recognizing the monopolization of the river by Egypt seeing that the other countries who use this river for resources and survival do not have just access to it,
    - i. This will also be determined by geographical locations of the river within each country and how dependent each nation is on the Nile River Basin and if they have other means of water resources,
    - ii. For example, the Nile River barely touches Rwanda but has large access to Lake Victoria while the Nile River is the only major river that goes through Sudan,
  - d. The utilization of the Nile River and its resources will be discussed and how much of the river will be allocated to each country,
  - e. Finds a basis for a long term solution to the management of the Nile River that works in coalition with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and hopefully for further development in years to come therefore promoting sustainable and conservation efforts in nations that surround the Nile River,

- f. In this discussion, talks would be facilitated about the boundaries, accessibility, trade, use, and sanitation of the Nile River,
          - a. Also promotes the different efforts to maintain its sanitary condition and well-being by practicing sustainable methods of using the Nile River basin,
- 3. Encourages the partnership with NGOs for the purpose of facilitating these peace talks, as well as enabling the functioning of the Nile River basin's inhabitants and ways for these people to sustainably and efficiently utilize its resources and opportunities;
  - a. NGOs would include We are Water, Bloodwater, Care, H2O for Life, Lifewater International, etc.,
  - b. Universal NGOs that are committed to preserve water (safe drinking water),
  - c. Supports the organization, financial, and technical efforts within African communities that heavily rely on the Nile River, as well as targeting the cleanliness of this water to avoid any contact with the epidemics of HIV/AIDS,
  - d. Supports the Food and Agricultural Organization's continued aid in the search for cooperation between all riparian states as to ensure prosperity for all nations involved,
- 4. Endorses the promoted awareness and education of the necessity for water accessibility, with increased media coverage and attention to those within the Nile River basin;
  - a. Through the partnership with NGOs,
  - b. Media campaigns on platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, interactive Snapchat geofilters, advertisements,
  - c. Involves this education to motivate new behaviors and increased emphasis seeing that it will involve consumption,
- 5. Emphasizes the need to create and invent new water conservation technologies that are feasible for the inhabitants surrounding the Nile River basin, especially technologies that that will benefit sustainable means of farming;
  - a. For example, water saving toilets, water saving faucets, low flow showers, and most importantly water-saving irrigation systems (farming),

- b. Negotiate with these manufactures and promote advertisement of these efficient methods of water conservation to invent such technologies that are feasible for these people in the developing African nations to afford that surround the Nile River basin,
  - c. The emphasis of academic collaboration, research, and the collection of data conducted by Norway's University of Bergen, as well as developed nations who are invested financially and academically into this issue is important to addressing the water scarcity issue,
    - i. Increased data collection and analysis are more effective efforts to conserve water,
  - d. Producing sciences and research is the way to a peaceful and diplomatic approach
    - i. Researchers in collaboration with the NBI and the Water Resource Management Organization,
6. Proclaims the gradual switch to a more green and sustainable future by switching to sustainable forms of energy;
- a. Renewable forms include hydraulic energy, water power, wind power, solar power, solar energy, tidal power, bioenergy, etc.,
  - b. Will inevitably contribute to the mitigation of climate change and cleaner air and environment for the world,
  - c. With the use of the World Bank as well as funding from other developed nations, this is a feasible idea in collaboration with the SDGs to promote a more sustainable future for the global community,
7. Deplores that better regulation and policies are enacted and created in order to combat this issue of water scarcity and disputes along the Nile River basin;
- a. Noting the correlation between water scarcity and food scarcity,
  - b. Developing African nations governments need to create policies and laws that advocate for the security, accessibility, maintenance, and trade of this water,
  - c. Encourages the international community to develop an international law somewhat modeled after the USA's Clean Water Act,
  - d. Calls for the distribution of water to the most disadvantaged people, modeled after the French Bill no. 2715,

8. Urges these nations to realize the consequences that a lack of agreement will cause and the effect that continued poverty will have on each nation as well as the effect a lack of agriculture will have on each economy;
  
9. Advocates for the improvement of the distribution of not only the water resources, but also the infrastructure and technologies involved with the conservation and accessibility to the Nile River's clean water;
  - a. Discussed in the bi-annual conference for the further and gradual improvement of these conditions,
  - b. Noting that poor technologies and infrastructure devastates the health and economy,
  - c. With accordance to the peace talks as established and the revisitation of the World Summit, make it feasible and effective for these surrounding African nations,
  - d. Water distribution would be dependent on each country's population density and needs for agricultural industry,
  
10. Calls upon the creation of a United Nations agency called United Nations Nile Water for All (UNNWA) to,
  - a. Program with UN provided specialists who detect an undiscovered water basins in the Nile River basin region, and if basins are found the water will be extracted and certified as clean and safe for drinking by the UNWAA
  - b. Have another program which collects, cleans and stores rainwater to make it usable for irrigation or filtered for drinking from
    - i. Rooftops with drainage systems
    - ii. Rainwater harvesting on land with slopes lower than 5 percent
    - iii. Fog collection in areas with minimal average storms per year to avoid destruction