

# The United Nations Human Development Programme



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## Ensuring Global Access to Clean Water Resources

Clean drinking water is a scarce commodity, even in our modern-day, twenty first century world. Today, nearly 1 billion people in the developing world lack clean water access. The **tremendous and unprecedented rise in our global population** — especially in lesser developed countries — has put significant pressure on our finite supplies of freshwater. At the same time, vast amounts of clean water are taken for granted, wasted, and the little plastic bottles so many of us drink are astoundingly overpriced.

It is important to grasp that water is the foundation of life. And still today, all around the world, far too many people spend their entire day searching for the essential resource. In places like sub-Saharan Africa, time lost gathering water and suffering from water-borne diseases are limiting people's true potential, especially *women and girls*. A vicious cycle is created, one where people miss out on receiving an education due to sickness, and economic prosperity is lost while people simply attempt to survive.

We know that there are many solutions out there and that this kind of needless suffering is far from necessary. There are many projects and developments in the works to combat the clean water crisis, but the reality is that, without international awareness, collaboration, and legislation, few of these efforts will bring about substantial and long-lasting change.

Clean water access, contrary to popular belief, is not exclusively a third-world issue. We've recently seen the effects of a lack of clean water in Flint, Michigan, and a general lack of water in California. The challenge of supplying clean, safe drinking water to an expanding world population comes down to money, so it would make sense that when asked what our greatest global crisis is, many scientists and professionals will give the straightforward answer of water. Whether it be through our contamination of the water supply, our relentless urbanization, or our aggressive extraction of reservoirs for agricultural irrigation, the need for water is as great as ever.

Consider the various ways that your nation, as well as others, can combat the *international* clean water crisis, whether it be through the use of different technologies, the formation of NGO's, and so on. It is up to you, representatives of the United Nations

Development Programme, to put your innovative ideas towards finding long-term and effective solutions to this issue.

# The United Nations Development Programme

**Committee: United Nations Development  
Program**

**Principal Authors: Danielle Kurzweil**

**Co-Authors: Annick Howland-Kruse**

**Resolution No: 1**

**Title of Resolution: Ensuring Global Access to Clean Water Resources**

## **Resolution of The People of the United Nations Development Program**

1 Expressing the sense of the people of the United Nations Development Programme  
2 regarding the conservation and distribution of freshwater resources.

3

4 Whereas in July of 2010, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution that  
5 declared access to clean drinking water a fundamental human right;

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7 Whereas 783 million people lack access to clean water (UNESCO);

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9 Whereas water is arguably our most valuable resource;

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11 Whereas NGOs, such as Engineers Without Borders, are contributing to the clean water  
12 effort;

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14 Whereas the current systems and procedures in place regarding water use are not  
15 efficient;

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17 Whereas desalination plants may aid in the production of fresh water, but can be costly;

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19 Whereas water is a resource vital to our existence;

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21 Whereas dirty water is responsible for the death of 5,000 children per day (The  
22 Guardian);

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24 Whereas water is not equally distributed on a global scale and new solutions to aid in  
25 the sharing of this resource are necessary;

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27 **Resolved** by the People of the gathered nations,

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29 Supports the education of the public on the topics of water management and  
30 sustainability;

31 Condemns environmentally damaging processes, such as oil drilling and the  
32 creation of landfills, in close proximity to fresh and saltwater resources;

33 Calls for neighboring countries to aid in the distribution of freshwater resources  
34 across borders through canals, shipping, pipelines, and so on;

35 Urges the development of sustainable desalination technologies;

36 Recommends the development of a fund to support countries in obtaining water  
37 filters, like Bio San;

38 Encourages member states to empower and educate their people on how to  
39 access their own fresh water, specifically through the digging of wells;

40 Affirming that achieving Millennium Development Goal #7 is crucial to  
41 achieving all of the Millennium Development Goals.

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**Strengthening UN Coordination of In Complex Emergencies**

# The United Nations Development Programme

Committee: United Nations Development  
Program

Principal Authors: Annick Howland-Kruse

Co-Authors: Danielle Kurzweil

Resolution No: 2

Title of Resolution: Strengthening UN Coordination of Assistance in Complex Emergencies

## Resolution of The People of the United Nations Development Program

- 1 Expressing the sense of the people of the United Nations Development Programme
- 2 regarding the conservation and distribution of freshwater resources.
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- 4 Whereas Humanitarian aid is something all countries should contribute to;
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- 6 Whereas Governments of nations have been working against the helping forces, making
- 7 it more difficult to get work done;
- 8
- 9 Whereas Resolution 33 (July 25 1996) encourages Governments to work with the UN
- 10 bodies aimed at improving the coordination and effectiveness of humanitarian
- 11 assistance;
- 12
- 13 Whereas The nations united need to come up with a ‘smoother’ way to plan and process
- 14 aid sent;
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- 16 Whereas the current systems and procedures in place regarding water use are not
- 17 efficient;
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- 19 Whereas in hope for a better system, the UN has used time and utilities to make sure
- 20 those who need aid receive it;
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- 22 Whereas many issues from the past could have been avoided with better planning.
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- 24 **Resolved** by the People of the gathered nations,

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Encourages all relevant agencies of the United Nations to collaborate more closely with countries at the grassroots level to enhance the carrying out of relief efforts;

Urges member states to comply with the goals of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs to streamline efforts of humanitarian aid;

Calls for the development of a United Nations Trust Fund that encourages voluntary donations from the private transnational sector to aid in funding the implementation of rapid deployment forces;

Stresses the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

Requests the expansion of preventive actions and assurance of post-conflict assistance through reconstruction and development;

Recommends the development of a committee with strategists from multiple countries in order to better plan ahead;

Calls for neighboring countries to lend a hand in disasters that affect countries that are hard to reach;

Reminds the gathered nations to look back on past mistakes in order to solve future issues.



# Works Cited

## Topic 1:

- <http://www.unwater.org/water-cooperation-2013/water-cooperation/facts-and-figures/en/>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2006/nov/10/water.environment>

## Topic 2:

- [https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/legacy\\_files/WG14\\_1.pdf](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/legacy_files/WG14_1.pdf)
- <http://reliefweb.int/report/world/strengthening-coordination-emergency-humanitarian-assistance-united-nations-resolutio-2>

Send us an email if you have any questions, or if you find anything unclear! Good luck delegates, we cannot wait for the fun to begin, and remember- come prepared!

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