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14th Session

Agenda Item: C

**Realizing the Rights of all Children and Adolescents
Ensuring Access to Healthcare for all Children and Adolescents
Improving Water, Sanitation and Hygiene**

The United Nations Children's Fund Executive Board,

Reaffirming that access to clean water and sanitation is essential for the lives of all people,

Ensuring people's access to safe drinking water and sanitation services,

Deeply concerned about the lack of skills and knowledge to develop and maintain clean and safe water supplies and sewage systems in developing Member States,

Recognizing that sufficient amount of clean water is essential for agricultural production which is necessary for all children and adolescents to be healthy,

Recognizing the need to improve and sustain access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for both current and future generations,

Recognizing that Member States should support programmes and activities which will raise people's awareness on WASH all over the world,

Recognizing the needs to identify how best basic hygiene and sanitation related information and knowledge could be delivered by teachers at schools, and to set the time-bound goals considering its urgency,

Deeply concerned that there are 785 million people do not have access to safe drinking water, and 1.7 billion do not have access to improved sanitation facilities,

Emphasizing the importance of fulfilling Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 which aims to make sure that water and sanitation is available and sustainable for all,

Deeply concerned that water-related disasters have increased in frequency for the past 20 years, especially since 2000, flood-related disasters have increased by 134%, and the number and duration of droughts increased by 29%,

Recognizing that poor WASH facilities in rural areas can be a source of dangerous water borne diseases such as but not limited to cholera, diarrhea, and dysentery,

Reaffirming the positions of Member States who have signed the Core Commitments for Children (CCCs) which ensures signatories to meet the benchmarks such as a basic level of drinking water supply services and appropriate sanitation facilities defined by World Health Organization (WHO)/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP),

Recognizing the importance of maintaining and updating the databases and reports within the JMP, so that ongoing projects and completed projects are separated and the gaps between future goals and current reality are identified,

Recognizing the importance of education about basic hygiene for children, as being supported by UNICEF's education project,

Recognizing the Action Plan from the United Nations Water Conference March 1977, which approved the action plan which was the first internationally coordinated and agreed to Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM),

1. *Recommends* all Member States to financially assist ongoing global projects in order to ensure access to improved sanitation and hygiene for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees through collaborations with regional partners in order to protect those vulnerable population from infectious diseases such as cholera before 2030;
2. *Recommends* all Member States, especially developing Member States to maintain or improve water quality for agriculture with UNICEF and WHO in accordance with the international standards by making use of local skills or knowledge;
3. *Requests* UNICEF to create comprehensive hygiene teaching guidelines by 2026 with features such as:
 - a. Specifying the concrete information and the suggestion of the way of lecture about the importance of basic hygiene and sanitation which should be taught to children and adolescents;
 - b. Implementing training programs targeting teachers, who will then teach with these guidelines to their students;
 - c. Allowing these guidelines to be improved every three years to adapt to new changes;
4. *Recommends* Member States to give students in early education environmental related activities that they can learn and experience knowledge of safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, so that they can understand the importance of those as the basic human rights;
5. *Recommends* developed Member States to provide technological skills and knowledge that gives adequate water access for all people, including children and adolescents by

referring to data, information and innovation given by Global Acceleration Framework launched by UN-Water;

6. *Suggests* that UNICEF and other international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) create a sustainable and consistent action plan that can help developing Member States achieve the goals that were set by the Strategy for WASH 2016-2030 program by:
 - a. Separating all of the steps each Member State needs to finish from now until the end goal in 2030, and helping each Member State to take the most reasonable actions to complete each step;
 - b. Helping Member States implement sustainable practices to continue the action plan further after the 2030 deadline;
 - c. Forming a first conference in 2025 between Member States who are providing funds and Member States who are receiving the funds, to allow them to discuss funding strategies for each step of the action plan mentioned above;
7. *Recommends* the formation a mentoring program led by WASH officials that will teach the basics of WASH education within communities in rural areas, with the audience of these mentoring programmes including but not limited to:
 - a. Schools and other public education facilities, with an emphasis towards:
 - i. Teaching the importance of regularly washing hands with soap, with posters and flyers showing the step-by-step explanation on how to do it, and how long to do each step for;
 - ii. Reminding children of the dangers of water borne diseases and how to mitigate the risks of each disease;
 - b. Families and other household communities, with an emphasis towards:
 - i. Teaching the adoption of daily hygiene habits such as proper bathing practices, clean cooking methods, and careful sanitization of food, cleaning, and preparation with a clear demonstration of hygiene practices involved in each step;
 - ii. Spreading awareness of basic hygiene behaviors such as hand washing, bathing, and food cleaning, through visual mediums such as demonstrations, skits, or informative videos;
8. *Suggests* Member States facing acute clean water shortage the establishment of underground pump systems that distribute large amounts of clean water to households, which will be implemented with the following methods:

- a. Requesting financial support and human resources from Official Development Assistance (ODA) programs with ODA donor Member States providing the funds to complete the operation;
 - b. Increasing the available sources of water by building seawater impulsion systems to collect large amounts of seawater, bringing the seawater to large water treatment plants, and using a reverse osmosis desalination process to convert the seawater into water, at a rate of a thousand liters per second;
 - c. Building a system that can transport water to residential areas, pumping stations, pipelines, and water storage facilities, across long distances and at considerable heights;
9. *Suggests* that Member States meet the benchmarks set by the CCCs by:
- a. Promoting the provision of quality water and separated latrines;
 - b. Establishing international/regional/national strategies to meet the benchmarks mentioned in the CCCs;
 - c. Regularly checking the JMP so that each Member State can recognize their progress towards meeting the benchmarks;
10. *Recommends* that all Member States fully participate in the JMP by handing in the complete details of their unpublished Member States' profiles into the data system, so that the JMP can make sure each Member State is progressing towards a more equitable and universal access to WASH facilities;
11. *Suggests* Member States and charity groups providing natural disaster relief focus on working to improve global hygiene through water and sanitation initiatives during natural disasters such as providing more water purification systems during earthquakes as well as droughts and flooding caused by climate change;
12. *Recommends* all Member States to hold different workshops as soon as possible according to the guidance of UNICEF on basic hygiene by education levels for:
- a. Kindergarten children on a monthly basis, as childhood habits can evolve into lifelong habits as repeating them is helpful for long-term hygiene, such as:
 - i. Demonstrating how to wash hands;
 - ii. Showing how to use toilets;
 - iii. Teaching how to keep a clean sanitation environment;
 - b. Elementary school students and junior high school students, twice a year, as they will be taught the importance of water sanitation and hygiene since kindergarten, the need for frequent workshops will decrease and the burden of teachers will be lightened, with discussions on topics such as:

- i. Repetition of basic hand washing and toilet cleanliness practices;
 - ii. The dangerous effects of minor diseases such as flus and colds;
 - iii. How to treat their bodies when they get sick or injured;
 - iv. How to perform first-aid on themselves or someone else;
- c. High school or higher level education, yearly, as they will become adults soon, they will be taught about more mature topics, such as:
 - i. The dangerous effects of major diseases like cholera and typhoid;
 - ii. Prevention against these diseases as mentioned above, such as vaccines and medicines.