



# **Security Council**

## **Water Conservation and Management: Aid in Water Crises**

Chairs:

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Dear Delegates,

We, Ouwais Rkaina ([ouwais.rkaina@ast.ma](mailto:ouwais.rkaina@ast.ma)) and Anissa T. Ly ([Anissa.ly@asm.ma](mailto:Anissa.ly@asm.ma)) are very pleased to welcome you to Tangier MUN 2022 and to the Security Council Committee. In the upcoming conference, we will be entertaining the topic of Water Conservation and Management: Aid in water crisis.

## **Committee introduction**

The United Nations Security Council was founded by the United Nations following the end of the Second World War on October 24th 1945. It is composed of 15 members. 5 permanent members, the winners of the war: France, United States, United Kingdom, The People's Republic of China, and the Russian Federation. The remaining 10 members hold temporary seats on the council and are elected on two-year terms by the General Assembly.

The Security Council was created with the intended purpose of preventing another war after WWII, to maintain international peace and security. Parties involved commit themselves to political settlements intended to reach peace. The primary responsibility of the council is to take the lead in the accession and resolve of threats to peace or acts of aggression. The Security Council has the right to, on certain occasions, to impose sanctions and authorize military action to maintain or restore international peace and security.

## **Topic introduction**

The conservation of water and its management is our topic for this year's MUN. We will be determining different methods and strategies to aid in this water crisis as a whole. Water scarcity will be the downfall of humanity if we do not band together and overcome this challenge as one. Though it hasn't become fatal to the point of human extinction, 3-4 million people are still dying from the decrease of freshwater availability every year, leaving them to drink contaminated water.

In 2020, Billions of people still lacked access to safe drinking water and hygiene. 2.3 billion people live in water-stressed countries. 2 billion people lack safely managed drinking water. 3.6 billion lack safely managed sanitation. Between 1970 and 2015 natural wetlands shrank by 35%. This is 3x the rate of forest

loss.

Water aid is offered to countries and communities who lack it as it is one of the main resources for survival and sanitation. Water conservation and management can be affected by the level of development of a country, and their access to water related technologies. Usually, more developed countries have better access to the former. However, water conservation and management is not limited to technologies, it also extends to policies, strategies and activities. These can be placed and initiated by the government or even international and local NGOs.

Water and sanitation undermines health, education and lifestyles. In developing countries about 80% of illnesses are linked to poor water and sanitation conditions. 1 out of every 5 deaths under the age of 5 worldwide are due to water-related diseases. Water is also used to grow food and helps prepare and preserve it. It also affects education, as many students could lose momentum as they deal with stomach pain and diarrhea from disease and hunger.

### **Background:**

- 2.3 billion live in water-stressed countries (UN Water)
- 1.42 billion people including 450 million children live in areas with high to extremely high water vulnerability (UNICEF)
- 785 million people lack access to basic water services
- Droughts have been increasing due to the current level of climate change
- 700 million people could be displaced by intense water scarcity by 2023
- 3.2 billion people live in agricultural areas with high water shortages or scarcity
- Asia holds 73% of people affected by water shortages
- Women and girls spend an estimated 200 million hours hauling water every day
- 1 in 10 people don't have access to clean water in proximity to their homes
- 1 in 3 people don't have a reliable toilet in their home
- Half of the world's population could be living in areas facing water scarcity by as early as 2025
- Four billion people — almost two thirds of the world's population — experience severe water scarcity for at least one month each year.

- By 2040, roughly 1 in 4 children worldwide will be living in areas of extremely high water stress.
- With the current water scarcity situation, scientists are determining if there's enough food to feed the entire population in 2050.
- Water scarcity was first discovered in 1854 by Dr. John Snow stating the link between water and the spread of cholera.
- Since the 1900s, 11 billion people have died from drought, and drought has affected more than one billion people.
- Unsafe water is responsible for 1.2 million deaths each year.
- 6% of deaths in low-income countries are the result of unsafe water sources.

### **Major Parties Involved(Examples):**

- NGOs and nonprofit water organizations: Water Aid, UN Water
- Countries with water stress and water scarcity
  - Lebanon: 71% of Lebanon's population was facing critical water shortages according to UNICEF. Many factors leading to this issue include an ongoing drought in the Middle East and the economic crisis in Lebanon and poorly managed water systems. The prices of water are increasing, making water a harder commodity to access.
  - South Africans left without water due to failing infrastructure and climate change: Infrastructure in South Africa has serious issues and is failing, problems such as leaky pipes and treatment facilities are in despair. Many poor rural and peri-urban communities struggle to access basic infrastructure. Some households are too poor to pay for the costs of service. Most of the infrastructure needs replacement since the assets that were created in the 1970s and 1980s are nearing the end of their lives. There is a need for 5.7 million new water connections to primarily low income households. Unfortunately a lot of shoddy work is done by third parties in new housing developments and compromises prospects for effective and affordable water infrastructure and services. The result is cheap, poorly fitted plumbing which tends to break and leak, leaving households with high consumption bills and no service at all, sloppy pipe-laying and poor joints in reticulation networks resulting in leaks, spills and bursts. Over a third of South Africa's water supply is being lost before it can be

used due to aging and leaking water infrastructure. Approximately 1.25 million households live in informal settlements.

- USA: People in the US are battling the remnants of millions of gallons of toxic sludge. There is uranium contamination in some ex water reservoirs. People do not have access to clean water, because this water is contaminated, sometimes. Lead contamination has been reported in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Hawaii, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota and Tennessee.

According to eth EPA 41 many of these states have reported higher than acceptable levels of lead in drinking water. the US pledged more than 5 billion \$ to improve water accessibility and quality across the nation. The EPA actually reported that out of 7000 schools subjected to the EPA lead and Copper rule, 431 of them reported heightened levels of lead between 2021 and 2015. This is a developed nation. In 2015 21 million people were affected by US water systems which violated health standards. Clearly not much progress has been made since in 2019 people were still collecting rainwater..., some people even sell their plasma.

- Pakistan: Ranked by the International Monetary Fund as the thirds most water stressed country in the world, Pakistan has been at risk of absolute water scarcity by 2025. Rapid population growth and urbanization are linked to have a bg contribution to the issue according to experts. Climate Change is understood to be a very major factor. Pakistan has largely focussed on drought response, climate resilience and disaster risk reduction.

- Many other countries going through significant water stress which are worth looking out for include but are not limited to: Afghanistan, Syria(low water levels in Euphrates River, historical and current conflicts, aid through ECHO, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations), Burkina Faso(extended dry season), Niger...

## Timeline of Key Events

Event/Law	Date	Location	Impact
UN Water Summit on Ground water	2022	UNESCO HQ, Paris	It reminded the world that we are damaging our earth and not thinking about how these actions are affecting us moving forward.
Major Droughts: these types of droughts have been occurring more frequently throughout the years.	2001-2009	Southeastern Australia	It caused a lot of damage to the agricultural aspect of Australia leaving many people and animals without a food source.
The National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), formed by US president Nixon	1970-1980: this was known as the environmental decade	U.S.A	This brought forth the idea that the industrialization of America and other countries was causing just as much harm as benefit to the earth.

## Possible Solutions

- Non traditional Water Supplies
- New Irrigation systems
- Rainwater harvesters
- Sewage infrastructure programs
- Improving the efficiency of water resources
- Identifying new water resources
- Planning for urban scarcity
- Expanding technologies to ensure climate resilience

## Questions to Consider

- Do government powers want to exploit the fact that water is a necessity for life?
- How can a more developed nation help a developing one?
- How much water aid can be offered by certain countries?
- What type of water aid is available?
- Why is it the ones that need water most have the least access to it?
- Should water scarcity be treated as a more serious problem?
- Why aren't countries very considered with water scarcity?
- Should we pay more for water so we don't waste it?
- Should farmers reduce the amount of water they use?
- Should companies stop producing bottled water?
- Should water be free for everyone?

## Definition of Key Terms

1. **Water scarcity**: the physical or economic lack of fresh water resources to suffice the necessary demand.
2. **Water stress**: a situation in which the water resources in a region or country are insufficient for its needs
3. **Average water year**: The average annual hydrologic condition based on an extended or existing period of record. Typically used to project future scenarios based on hydrologic conditions that include average wet and drought years.
4. **Average year water demand**: The demand for water under average hydrologic condition for a defined level of development.
5. **Waste Water**: Water that has been used (as in a manufacturing process) : sewage.
6. **Water Allocation**: The process of measuring a specific amount of water devoted to a given purpose or use

7. **Water Conservation:** Water conservation refers to the preservation, control and development of water resources, both surface and groundwater, and prevention of pollution

## **Requirements**

A position paper in relation to the topic.

- **Due undetermined. Please email it, including both of our emails in the “to:” section and with the subject “Position Paper - [your country & your name]”.**

- *(our emails are on the cover [1st] page of this document)*

A resolution paper in relation to the topic, whilst being mindful of other country’s stances.

- **Due undetermined. Please email it, including both of our emails in the “to:” section and with the subject “Resolution Paper - [your country & your name]”.**

- *(our emails are on the cover [1st] page of this document)*

Substantial research done on the committee’s topic.

Proposed solutions to resolve the issue at hand.

To know all your points and motions.

## **Bibliography and Useful Links**

- [http://www.cawater-info.net/bk/glossary/water\\_management/en/w.htm](http://www.cawater-info.net/bk/glossary/water_management/en/w.htm)
- <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/>
- <https://www.concernusa.org/story/countries-with-water-stress-and-scarcity/>
- <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/drinking-water#:~:text=Some%20829%20000%20people%20are,water%2C%20sanitation%20and%20hand%20hygiene.>
- <https://www.wateraid.org/us/>

- <https://www.unwater.org/water-facts/water-scarcity>
- <https://www.concernusa.org/story/countries-with-water-stress-and-scarcity/>
- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/08/fact-sheet-the-bipartisan-infrastructure-deal-boosts-clean-energy-jobs-strengthens-resilience-and-advances-environmental-justice/>
- <https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/americas-clean-water-crisis-goes-far-beyond-flint>
- <https://www.raconteur.net/global-business/africa/africa-lack-infrastructure-leaves-millions-poverty-despite-potential/>

**MUN Procedure/Protocol:**

- <https://teimun.org/mun-101-the-rules-of-procedure/>
- [https://www.tangiermun.org/uploads/3/9/9/5/39954039/points\\_and\\_motions\\_tmun\\_.pdf](https://www.tangiermun.org/uploads/3/9/9/5/39954039/points_and_motions_tmun_.pdf)

**Writing a position paper:**

- <https://www.wisemee.com/how-to-write-a-mun-position-paper/>

**Writing a resolution paper:**

- <https://bestdelegate.com/model-un-made-easy-how-to-write-a-resolution/>