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**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia**  
Special Session**Proposal of Recommendations for ECOSOC Plan of Action for  
implementing the Human Right to a Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable  
Environment****Submitted by The Arab Republic of Egypt**  
**Presented in Kingston, Canada on November 11, 2022***The country of The Arab Republic of Egypt,**Affirming* the Paris Agreement and its constituent assemblage of agencies and mechanisms as the framework by which successful global climate action is facilitated,*Recognizing* the continued stagnancy of climate negotiations, including the failures of COP26 to develop robust mechanisms for climate financing or punitive measures for failing to meet targets,*Emphasizing* the necessity of the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibility and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC) and the role of historical and emerging GHG emitters in producing climate crises,*Advocating* the importance of education across all citizens to minimise knowledge-gaps, create employment opportunities, and bridge subnational or national divides*Affirming* intra-state cooperation between local, regional, and national governments to value and uphold personal bodily autonomy, freedom of speech, state sovereignty, and equal access to the rule of law,

*Supporting* and maintaining inter-state cooperation and respect with the interest of land and access to natural resources in consideration during all formal and non-formal state interventions,

*Highlights* the importance of UNDRIP and the Global Compact on Migrants & Refugees in centering the protection of Indigenous peoples, migrants, and other vulnerable populations in discussions of climate crisis,

*Affirming* the country's commitment towards achieving the Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030, with a focus on principles 8 and 16, which pertain to the protection and expansion of human rights in the context of environmental issues,

1. *Commits* states to access to clean water and sanitation, protecting vulnerable communities from short-term and long-term climate stresses, including shortages, droughts, and
  - a. Encourage state's investment and regulation of water supply in collaboration with UN-Water and other NGOs to end acute and severe water scarcity and develop:
    - i. Resilient infrastructure
    - ii. Water monitoring systems
    - iii. Public regulator(s)
    - iv. Community outreach programs;
  - b. Suggests states address the growing scale of privatisation which threatens water security in developing and developed states;
  - c. Encourages countries to develop drought management programs which specifically address:
    - i. Vulnerable and rural populations
    - ii. Support from neighbouring states
    - iii. Emergency crisis training and education
    - iv. Pre-distinguished natural disaster response efforts
    - v. Providing clean water and sanitation mechanisms
    - vi. Funding for emergency services;
  - d. Seek to address overstress and overexploitation of wells, rivers, and other bodies or sources of water through the establishment of:
    - i. Community outreach programs
    - ii. Intra- and inter-state river commissions
    - iii. Sustainable water treatment plants;
2. *Calls upon* states to support and prioritise the principle of CBDR-RC and burden-sharing of climate crisis to:
  - a. Update and clarify NDCs to include specific targets, measures, and policy approaches to redouble efforts to reduce emissions, shift towards low-carbon or green technologies, and divest from high-emitting sectors like:
    - i. Fossil-fuel production

- ii. Power generation
      - iii. Agriculture
      - iv. Construction
      - v. Manufacturing & heavy industry;
    - b. Meet pledged global financing targets for the GCF and Adaptation Fund and escalating both the availability of funds and the development of new sustainable (mega) projects intended to stimulate sustainable growth;
    - c. Establish a global database for sourcing contributions towards funds by respective parties and tracking failure to meet pledged targets;
    - d. Support partnerships between and across states through the Technology Mechanism & Climate Technology Centre and Network in order to facilitate
      - i. Technical expertise;
      - ii. Access to knowledge;
      - iii. Reductions in patent protection;
      - iv. Interstate collaboration;
    - e. Ensure developing states have the resources and opportunities to lead models of sustainable development for both other developing states and the OECD populations in the context of sustainability;
3. *Urges* states to expand upon existing human rights and maintain support for vulnerable populations in the context of sustainability;
- a. In accordance with principle 8 of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, avoid undertaking or authorising actions with environmental impacts that interfere with the full enjoyment of human rights. States should implement assessment of the possible environmental impacts of proposed projects and policies, including their potential effects on the enjoyment of human rights;
  - b. States should establish and maintain substantive environmental standards that are non-discriminatory, non-retrogressive and otherwise respect, protect and fulfill human rights;
  - c. States should mainstream human rights concerns into discussions about the environment and sustainability in all levels and sectors of government;
  - d. States should take special consideration of the position of their Indigenous populations when implementing said environmental standards;
4. *Recommends* the implementation of a punitive legal mechanism to address states' failure to meet target pledges of NDCs;
- a. Seeks to integrate such a legal mechanism into the pre-existing Measure, Review, Verification Framework to attempt to incentivize ambitious climate action;
  - b. Calls upon states to voluntarily submit themselves to this process in order to ensure global cooperation across states;
  - c. Acknowledges the challenge to sovereignty this poses, and suggests looking to previous UN mechanisms for guidance as to its implementation including

- i. The Rome Statute
- ii. The Global Compact on Migration

5. *Endorses* inter- and intra-regional cooperation to protect vulnerable populations, focusing on climate adaptation and mitigation, especially in the context of developing states;

- a. States should cooperate with each other to establish, maintain and enforce effective international legal frameworks in order to prevent, reduce and remedy global environmental harm that diminishes individual access to human rights;
- b. Encourage mainstreaming of climate discussions outside the environmental sector to broaden the scope of discussions involving climate change, including but not limited to the military, finance, and foreign policy;
- c. Promote cooperation within and across regional and multilateral bodies such as the African Union, European Union, or the Organisation of American States to foster sustainability and achieve successful climate adaptation and mitigation through
  - i. Annual agenda-setting initiatives
  - ii. Harmonisation of norms and standards
  - iii. Regular regional conferences
  - iv. Continued knowledge-dissemination;
- d. Suggests the replacement of Annex/non-Annex dichotomies in favour of a state status dependent upon state-determined climate change-related development trajectories and policies;

6. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.