



General Assembly

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Agenda item 20 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/67/437/Add.1)]

67/204. Implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/193 of 22 December 1992 on the observance of World Day for Water, 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed the International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”, 2005–2015, to commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2005, 59/228 of 22 December 2004, 61/192 of 20 December 2006, by which it proclaimed 2008 the International Year of Sanitation, 64/198 of 21 December 2009 on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the Decade and 65/154 of 20 December 2010, by which it proclaimed 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation,

Recalling also its resolution 64/292 of 28 July 2010 on the human right to water and sanitation,

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolutions 15/9 of 30 September 2010¹ and 21/2 of 27 September 2012,²

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, the annex to which includes agreed guidelines and criteria for the proclamation of international years, and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development³ and all its principles, Agenda 21,⁴ the Programme for the Further Implementation of

¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/65/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

² *Ibid.*, *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/67/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

³ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

⁴ *Ibid.*, annex II.



Agenda 21,⁵ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,⁶ the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),⁷ the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals⁸ and the commitments made therein and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,⁹

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and that it is indispensable for human health and well-being and central to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and other relevant internationally agreed goals in the economic, social and environmental fields,

Acknowledging the importance of cooperation at all levels for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹⁰ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Noting the holding of the sixth World Water Forum in Marseille, France, from 12 to 17 March 2012,

Noting also that the twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of World Water Day will take place during the International Year of Water Cooperation,

1. *Encourages* activities related to the implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, undertaken by Member States, the Secretariat and the organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, and emphasizes the importance of country-level implementation of the Year;

2. *Encourages* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year and to continue to promote actions at all levels, including through international cooperation, as appropriate, aimed at the achievement of the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21,⁴ the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,⁵ the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹⁰ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation⁷ and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”;⁹

3. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Tajikistan to host, in August 2013, in Dushanbe, a high-level international conference on water cooperation;

4. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level interactive dialogue during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly in New York on 22 March 2013, World Water Day, to mark the International Year of Water Cooperation and the twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of World Water Day;

⁵ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁶ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁷ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁸ Resolution 65/1.

⁹ Resolution 66/288, annex.

¹⁰ Resolution 55/2.

5. *Welcomes* the convening of the official World Water Day event on 22 March 2013 in The Hague, which will be dedicated to water cooperation, the theme of the Year;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, in the implementation of the Year at all levels;

7. *Invites* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system to contribute to the preparations for the high-level international conference in Dushanbe, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare a background paper on water cooperation for that conference;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with UN-Water and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to take appropriate actions to support the implementation of the Year worldwide;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution and of resolution 65/154 on the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013, including on the assessment of the Year according to the guidelines as contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67.

*61st plenary meeting
21 December 2012*