

## Resolution XX-1

### SUBMISSION OF THE APPEAL TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

- Recalling its role** as a subsidiary body of the General Conference of UNESCO, mandated to guide and supervise the implementation of IHP;
- Noting** that freshwater is a key resource for human health and ecosystem, prosperity and security, and consequently identified as a priority by UNESCO;
- Expressing appreciation** for the efforts and leadership of the Director-General and the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences in securing financial resources for IHP and for maintaining its staff in the current difficult budgetary situation;
- Considering** the commitment and efforts of the National Governments of UNESCO's Member States on behalf of, and for, their people to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally agreed goals, including water-related goals;
- Highlighting** the long term commitment of UNESCO's Member States to make IHP a key player in addressing the looming water crisis;
- Recognizing** that IHP is the only intergovernmental programme of the UN system devoted to water research, water resources management, and education and capacity building which is tailored to Member States' needs;
- Expressing its deep concern** that the significant cash-flow shortfall currently being experienced by the Organization and the very limited human and financial resources allocated to IHP is restricting UNESCO's capacity to effectively address freshwater issues and water-related hazards at a time when their critical relevance for development and human security is necessary and strongly highlighted at the international level, particularly in the case of developing countries;
- Recognizing** however, that under the current dire circumstances adjustments to programmes in all areas are inevitable;
- Determined** to make optimal use of scarce resources by reviewing and, where appropriate, terminating existing programmes;
- Recommends** to the Executive Board to ensure, to the extent possible, that requirements in terms of staff, regular programme funds and extrabudgetary mechanisms be fulfilled;
- Requests** the General Conference to make maximum efforts to provide under the next C5 sufficient budget to IHP to allow for the implementation of activities that are considered the highest priorities.

## Resolution XX-2

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GLOBAL GROUNDWATER INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

**Noting** that the depletion and quality deterioration of groundwater resources has an international impact (there are more than 300 transboundary aquifers) and a global impact (also due to global flow of goods produced by using groundwater);

**Noting** that sustainable groundwater management requires scientifically based data collection on a global scale whereas data and information currently available are not sufficient for a reliable assessment of groundwater resources on regional and global scales;

**Noting** that there is no global information system available to assist in the monitoring, analysis, interpretation and prediction of the state of groundwater resources;

**Recalling** that the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) is a UNESCO category 2 centre founded to facilitate and promote the development, standardization and sharing of information and knowledge required for sustainable groundwater resources development and management;

**Noting** that IGRAC also provides support to the assessment of transboundary aquifers (ISARM programme, UNECE assessments, GEF projects, etc.) and groundwater monitoring (through the Global Groundwater Monitoring Network) and is responsible for the groundwater component of the WMO Global Terrestrial Network for Hydrology (GTN-H);

**Welcoming** IGRAC's participative Global Groundwater Information System as an effective tool to improve international monitoring and assessment of groundwater resources, and its services provided to Member States such as regional and global analysis and a portal where Member States can access information provided by other Member States with their explicit approval while retaining full control over their own data;

**Invites** Member States to actively contribute to the Global Groundwater Information System and to encourage the use of the system by the national agencies in monitoring and assessing groundwater resources;

**Encourages** UN agencies to provide their support in advancing the use of the Global Groundwater Information System in international projects and in harmonizing connections among their various programmes.

### Resolution XX-3

#### INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE ON TRANSBOUNDARY AQUIFERS MANAGEMENT (IHP-ISARM Project)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

- Recalling** Resolution XIV-12 adopted at the 14th session of the IHP Council, Paris, 5-10 June 2000, and Resolution XIX-9 adopted at the 19th session of the IHP Council, Paris, 5-9 July 2010, which are the basis of the IHP International Initiative on Internationally Shared Aquifers Management (ISARM);
- Also recalling** the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/63/124, (11 December 2008), which appreciated the valuable scientific assistance on the topic of the management of transboundary aquifers rendered by IHP to the United Nations International Law Commission;
- Noting** the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/66/104 (9 December 2011), which encourages IHP, to offer further scientific and technical assistance to Member States;
- Recognizing** the important contribution provided by IHP in conducting the world wide inventory of transboundary aquifers of the world and in improving the scientific knowledge in support of their management;
- Encourages** Member States to cooperate on the study of their transboundary aquifers;
- Requests** the IHP Secretariat to:
- a) support Member States in promoting studies in regard to transboundary aquifers in the framework of the existing IHP ISARM initiative; and
  - b) continue studies on transboundary aquifers and assist interested Member States in their studies of transboundary aquifers resources management including by promoting capacity building and awareness raising activities on existing instruments and discussions.

## Resolution XX-4

### ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL (KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH AND POLICY) INITIATIVE ON WATER QUALITY

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

- Recognizing** the urgent need to respond to continuing degradation of the quality of the world's freshwater resources at an alarming rate and the crucial importance of providing clean drinking water and adequate sanitation in pursuing sustainable development, especially in Africa and Asia, where impacts of water pollution are jeopardizing the sustainability of water resources;
- Noting** the recommendation of the UNESCO Workshop on "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Africa", held in Nairobi, Kenya, in March 2011, to establish a knowledge, research and policy network on water quality within the International Hydrological Programme, supported by the IHP National Committees of the African region during the 4th African Regional Meeting of IHP National Committees, held in Dar-el-Salaam, Tanzania, in April 2012;
- Noting with satisfaction** the contributions of the successful IHP workshops on water quality in Africa, Asia and Arab regions, namely: UNESCO Workshop on "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Africa" (Nairobi, Kenya, March 2011); International Symposium on "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Asia-Pacific" (Daejeon, Republic of Korea, December 2011); and International Workshop on Water Pollution Prevention and Control Strategies towards Sustainable Water Resources Management" (Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, December 2011), in mobilizing scientific and policy-relevant expertise and knowledge sharing to address water quality challenges;
- Considering** the recommendation and endorsement by the 46<sup>th</sup> session of the Bureau of the IHP Intergovernmental Council to establish knowledge, research and policy network on water quality;
- Considering as well** the fact that this topic is already embedded in the strategic plan of the Eighth Phase of IHP;
- Requests** the IHP Secretariat to work with concerned members to develop a proposal for the International (knowledge, research and policy) Initiative on Water Quality, building on on-going IHP activities on water quality at the global and regional levels;
- Further requests** the IHP Secretariat to strengthen IHP activities on water quality to meet the greater needs to assist Member States in protecting and sustainably managing water resources and in making progress towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development goals, which will be discussed and adopted at the Rio+20 Summit;
- Calls upon** Member States to actively support and contribute to the International (knowledge, research and policy) Initiative on Water Quality.

## Resolution XX-5

### DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE EIGHTH PHASE OF IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

- Cognizant** of the lead role played by the International Hydrological Programme for almost four decades in the development of hydrology as a science and integrated water resources management tools at the global level;
- Emphasizing** that the International Hydrological Programme should continue to exert such leadership in the future, and in particular in its Eighth Phase (IHP–VIII, 2014-2021);
- Acknowledging** that the decision by Member States to make water one of the priorities of UNESCO has enabled the International Hydrological Programme to flourish substantially, and established other UNESCO initiatives in freshwater, including the integration into UNESCO of the UNESCO-IHE Institute of Water Education, the establishment of numerous water-related centers operating under the auspices of UNESCO, and the lead role of UNESCO in the UN World Water Assessment Programme;
- Encouraging** cooperation among all stakeholders especially South-South-North;
- Endorses** the planned transition from phase VII into phase VIII of the International Hydrological Programme;
- Approves** the Strategic Plan for Phase VIII of the IHP, on “**Water Security: Responses to Local, Regional, and Global Challenges**”, as drafted by the Task Force established to develop this Plan in consultation with Member States, and taking into account the relevant discussion held at the 20th session of the IHP Council;
- Recommends** that the General Conference of UNESCO, at its 37th session, integrates the main elements of the Strategic Plan for the Eighth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme into the 37 C/4 and 37 C/5;
- Requests** the Secretariat of IHP, including Regional Offices, to prepare an implementation plan for IHP-VIII in consultation with the open-ended Working Group established by the Council for this purpose, the IHP Bureau, Member States, IHP National Committees, category 1 and 2 centres, UNESCO chairs and relevant partners;
- Further requests** that the Terms of References for the working group, to be prepared expeditiously by the Bureau in consultation with the members of the Council, with the support of the Secretariat.

## Resolution XX-6

### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER-RELATED CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO (CATEGORY 2)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

- Noting** the critical importance of freshwater issues at the global and regional levels for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the sustainability of water resources in face of mounting global changes;
- Considering** UNESCO's fundamental role in enhancing international cooperation in the sciences and expanding the knowledge base in the field of freshwater through IHP and through the growing network of category 1 and category 2 water-related centres that provides UNESCO with an increasing capability in this area;
- Noting with appreciation** the willingness of the Governments of the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Uruguay to undertake the establishment of category 2 water-related centres, significantly enhancing thematically and geographically the existing network of centres;
- Recognizing** the valuable services that the centres will render to Member States and stakeholders throughout the globe and the valuable contribution that they will provide to the implementation of IHP;
- After due consideration of the individual proposals, endorses** the proposals for the establishment of:
- "International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management", at the K-water Institute, Daejeon, Republic of Korea;
  - "International Centre for Water Cooperation" in Sweden;
  - "Regional Centre on Groundwater Management" in Uruguay;
- Requests** the assistance of the Secretariat to prepare the necessary documentation to be submitted to the governing bodies of UNESCO toward the creation of the centres in conformity with IHP strategy for UNESCO category 1 and 2 water-related centres and the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (document 35 C/22), as approved by the 35th session of the General Conference;
- Invites** the IHP National Committees to support the establishment and functioning of the centres;
- Invites** Member States, the IHP National Committees and in particular the existing UNESCO network of water-related centres and institutes, at the regional and international levels, to actively support the proposed centres and ensure co-operation and collaboration in the common endeavors for the benefit of all.

## Resolution XX-7

### PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRE ON WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN SERBIA UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO (CATEGORY 2)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

- Noting** the decision of the 36th session of General Conference through 36 C/Resolution 29 to authorize the Executive Board, at its 190th session, to decide, on its behalf, on the designation of the Centre for Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Jaroslav Cerni Institute for the Development of Water Resources in Serbia as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, in accordance with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines for the establishment of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) annexed to document 35 C/22 and Corr. and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103, and as recommended by the Executive Board at its 187th session (187 EX/Decision 14 (IX));
- Considering** UNESCO's fundamental role in enhancing international cooperation in water for sustainable development and adaptation to climate change through IHP and through the growing network of category 1 and category 2 water-related centres that provides UNESCO with an increasing capability in this area;
- Noting with appreciation** the willingness of the Government of Serbia, to undertake the establishment of this centre;
- Recognizing** the valuable services that the centre may render to Member States and stakeholders throughout the globe and the valuable contribution that it could provide to the implementation of IHP;
- Endorses** the proposal for the establishment of: "Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change", at the Jaroslav Cerni Institute for the Development of Water Resources in Serbia;
- Considering** the special circumstances explained by the Serbian delegation during the meeting;
- And noting** that the IHP Intergovernmental Council was not able to carry out the envisaged comprehensive review since the proposal for the establishment of the Centre was not part of the official documents of the current session of the IHP Council;
- Requests** the assistance of the Secretariat to prepare the necessary documentation to be submitted to the 190th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO toward the creation of the centre in conformity with IHP strategy for UNESCO category 1 and 2 water-related centres and the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (document 35 C/22), as approved by the 35th session of the General Conference;

- Requests** that a review of the activities and results of the Centre, be presented to the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the IHP Council to allow it to assess the states of affairs and reconfirm its decision;
- Invites** Member States, the IHP National Committees and in particular the existing UNESCO network of water-related centres and institutes, at the regional and international levels, to actively support the proposed centre and ensure co-operation and collaboration in the common endeavors for the benefit of all;
- Requests** that except for compelling reasons, Members States and the Secretariat of IHP adhere to standard procedures for the establishment of water related category 2 centres.

## Resolution XX-8

### EVALUATION AND RENEWAL OF EXISTING CATEGORY 2 WATER CENTRES

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

**Recalling its role as** a subsidiary body of the General Conference of UNESCO, mandated to guide and supervise the implementation of IHP;

**Highlighting** the significant role being played by the water-related category 2 centres in the sustainable development and management of freshwater resources for human health, prosperity and security;

**Noting** that the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for category 2 institutes and centres approved by the 35<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference requires a formal review and evaluation before the Director-General can renew their agreements;

**Recognizing** that this may require revision of the existing agreement in order to comply with the model agreements for category 2 centres contained in document 35 C/22;

**Appreciates** the significant progress that has been made by the Secretariat in the evaluation of the centres whose agreements need to be renewed;

**Expressing its deep concern** that if the agreements are allowed to expire before the evaluations can be completed and revised to conform with 35C/22, these centres will not be able to continue to legally function as UNESCO category 2 centres;

**Requests** the Executive Board and General Conference to approve a transition period and extend these agreements not to exceed December 31, 2014 to allow time to complete the evaluations and to revise the agreements to conform with 35 C/22.