**FORUM:** Environment Commission

**QUESTION OF:** Ensuring global co-operation to allow universal access to clean water

**SUBMITTED BY:** Thailand

THE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION,

*Declaring* the definition of clean water to be water, which is safe to drink, to cook with and to use for basic sanitation, thus meaning that there are no dangerous bacteria in it,

*Deeply disturbed* by the fact that around 750 million people in the world, in other words approximately 1 in 9 people do not have access to clean water,

*Emphasizing* that clean water is essential for life in general, making the access to clean water a human right,

*Having considered* that although around 70% of the Earth is water, many water sources are being wasted and made non-potable due to poor treatment and contamination,

*Noting with deep concern* that waterborne diseases are the number one killer of children under the age of five and that unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene cause approximately 3.1% of the deaths worldwide,

*Observing* that LEDCs and poor countries with access to clean water and sanitation services experienced a faster economic growth with the annual economic growth rate being 3.7% whereas countries without this access had an annual growth of just 0.1%,

1. Calls upon all member states and NGOs in the field of this issue to assist LEDCs to provide accessible and affordable potable water for LEDC populations by providing things such as, but not limited to:

a) Resources and technology which are needed to construct:

1. Wells
2. Sanitation facilities
3. Water purifying systems;

b) Funding to be able to afford projects such as:

1. Drilling wells
2. Building pipelines
3. Pump construction
4. Water filtration;

2. Urgesall member states to reduce pollution, by eliminating dumping and minimizing the release of hazardous chemicals and materials in water by:

a) Hiring a company through, for example, the UN

b) Fining companies that still dump and release hazardous chemicals and materials in water;

3. Suggests that wells and dams be built in rural areas where they are widely accessible, such as, but not limited to:

a) In (between) villages, so the people can access them easily and frequently

b) In public areas such as community centers, schools etc.;

4. Hopes to use expertise and external skills to improve sewage and water treatment facilities in LEDCs to decrease wasteful substances in water such as, but not limited to:

a) Certain chemicals discharged from factories:

b) Industrial waste

c) Detergents

d) Plastic and oil;

5. Calls for measures to ensure good water quality to prevent health effects of water contamination through:

a) Monitoring of the water quality, in order to ensure it is potable

b) Frequent water test made by working closely with:

i. Local authorities

ii. Governments

iii. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

c) Expert employed to control the quality of the water;

6. Encourages the international community of MEDCs to make bigger efforts to increase access to clean water and sanitation on a global scale by raising awareness of the severity of the issue through:

a) Media

b) Campaigns

c) Local outreach

d) Education;

7. Recommends providing communities with an education on topics such as, but not limited to:

a) The importance of sanitation and clean water

b) How filtration systems work, addressing:

i. Their function

ii. Building methods

iii. Maintenance

iv. Repairs;

8. Decides to remain actively seized on the matter.