

CityUMUN 2013- United Nations Environment Programme

Position Paper

Topic: Securing Water

Country: Russian Federation

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I. General Statement

Water security implies that people have access to sufficient water of the right quality and at the right time to meet the domestic, agricultural and industrial needs. The access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation was declared by the United Nations General Assembly as a human right essential to the full enjoyment of life and all other human rights (GA/10967 adopted on 28 July 2010). The UN estimated that 768 million people live without access to safe drinking water. Water-sharing agreements become complicated by changes to the larger political structure. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, management and sharing of the Amu Darya and Syr Darya Rivers became contentious.

Civil Russia 2013 (C20) has launched its *Action Plan for Improving Coordination on Food and Water Security*, which part of it aims to leverage the collective strengths of the MDBs to work with the governments in developing member countries and the private sector in framing robust responses to emerging challenges related to water security. This Action Plan focuses on productivity and efficiency of agricultural water throughout the value chain.

Russian Federation has ratified two UNECE conventions: firstly, the Convention on the impact assessment in the Trans boundary Context and secondly, the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision –making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. Russia values a higher standard and performance of environmental management through dialogue and cooperation with neighboring countries on important infrastructure projects.

II. Particulars

Russia advocates the importance of international and Federation members' cooperation in tackling the issue. Russia believes that improvement on water management and investment is the key investigating area for better usage of water. Russia seeks for consensus and mutual efforts, especially the sharing of research and technology, by which continue the discussion and go for better improvements on water management development in the region.

Reference

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Topic: Precaution and Response to Oil Spills

Country: Russian Federation

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II. General Statement

Oil spills has become one of the greatest concerns with regard to global efforts in the resolution of marine pollution. For countries located by coast, they suffered the most damage of marine ecosystem by oil spill, leading irreversible effects on the environment. Different form of international cooperation has long been developed to reduce the possibility to any accidents of oil spills, and set up contingency action plans for any accident occurrence.

Russia is by far the worst oil polluter in the world with the fact that it possesses the large coastal area. The Russian Economic Development Ministry in a report estimated spills at up to 20 million tons per year. Its oil industry spills more than 30 million barrels on land each year, it causes often under a veil of secrecy and corruption.

Russia Federation is in cooperation with IOC, WHO, UNEP, ICSU and other international organizations, actively taking part in planning and preparing to implement the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) and other further investigation in ocean conservation. Russia has its special-purpose federal programme, "World Ocean" which envisages coordination of regional programmes for monitoring phenomena occurring in coastal areas.

Russia Federation has ratified the UNECE convention for international and regional cooperation. Russia is actively strengthening international cooperation for the protection and rational use of seas and oceans by a series of systematic approaches. It values the exchange of data and information in the creation of archives through world and regional data centres.

III. Particulars

Russia advocates closer regional cooperation and comprehensive supervision system.

Regional partners are believed to get better environmental return by agreement on continuous development on data collection, analysis, evaluation and application with a view to rational resource use and the environmental impact. Key parameters of research for the rational use of marine should be adjusted by time and international relations conditions.

Reference

1. National Implementation of Agenda 21. AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 17: PROTECTION OF THE OCEANS, ALL KINDS OF SEAS, INCLUDING ENCLOSED AND SEMI-ENCLOSED SEAS, AND COASTAL AREAS AND THE PROTECTION, RATIONAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR LIVING RESOURCES:
<http://www.un.org/esa/earthsummit/rusia-cp.htm#chap17>
2. Olga Lavrova & Tatiana Bocharova. (2005). Satellite radar imagery of the coastal zone: Slicks and oil spills.
<http://www.earsel.org/symposia/2005-symposium-Porto/pdf/091.pdf>
3. PeetGerard. (1994). International Co-operation to Prevent Oil Spills at Sea: Not Quite the Success It Should Be.
http://www.fni.no/ybiced/94_03_peat.pdf
4. Russian Federation – Support to the National Programme of Action for Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment. Improvement on the emergency oil spill response system under the arctic condition:
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