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SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM

DRAFT RESOLUTION

ON

WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE OSCE AREA

Principal Sponsor
Senator Jerahmiel Grafstein
Canada

ASTANA, 29 JUNE to 3 JULY 2008

WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE OSCE AREA

By Senator Jerahmiel Grafstein (Canada)

1. Reiterating the fundamental importance of the environmental aspects of the OSCE concept of security,
2. Recognising the link between natural resource problems and disputes or conflicts within and between states,
3. Noting the opportunities presented by resource management initiatives that address common environmental problems, including local ownership and sub-regional programmes and co-operation amongst governments, and which promote peace-building processes,
4. Recalling the OSCE's role in encouraging sustainable environmental policies that promote peace and stability, specifically the *1975 Helsinki Final Act*, the 1990 Concluding Document of the CSCE Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe (Bonn Document), the 1999 Charter for European Security adopted at the Istanbul Summit, the 2003 OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension (Maastricht Strategy), other OSCE relevant documents and decisions regarding environmental issues, and the outcome of all previous Economic and Environmental Fora, which have established a basis for the OSCE's work in the area of environment and security,
5. Recognising the vital importance of water to human life and as such is not only an element of the human right to life and dignity, but is also a recognised human right as laid out by the United Nations,
6. Noting the severity of water management issues and scarcity of water resources faced by many states in the OSCE region, affected in particular by unregulated social and economic activities, including urban development, industry, and agriculture,
7. Concerned with the impact of poor water management systems on human health, the environment, the sustainability of biodiversity and aquatic and land-based ecosystems, affecting political and socio-economic development,
8. Concerned with the more than 100 million people in the pan-European region who continue to lack access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation,

9. Concerned with those areas and people in the North American region of the OSCE space without access to safe drinking water and sanitation,
10. Concerned by the potential for water management issues to escalate if options to address and reverse the problem are not duly considered and implemented,
11. Recognising the importance of good environmental governance and responsible water management for the governments of participating states
12. Applauding the work of the Preparatory Seminar for the Tenth OSCE Economic Forum which took place in 2001 in Belgrade and which focused on water resource management and the promotion of regional environmental co-operation in South-Eastern Europe,
13. Applauding the work of the 15th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum and its preparatory meetings, “Key challenges to ensure environmental security and sustainable development in the OSCE area: Water Management,” held in Zaragoza, Spain,
14. Applauding the OSCE’s Madrid Declaration on Environment and Security adopted at the 2007 Ministerial Council which draws attention to water management as an environmental risk which may have a substantial impact on security in the OSCE region and which might be more effectively addressed within the framework of multilateral cooperation,
15. Expressing support for the efforts made to date by several participating states of the OSCE to deal with the problem, including the workshop on water management organised by the OSCE Centre in Almaty in May 2007 for experts from Central Asia and the Caucasus.

THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE OSCE

16. Calls on the OSCE participating states to undertake sound water management to support sustainable environmental policies;
17. Recommends that the OSCE participating states pursue and apply the measures necessary to implement the 2007 Madrid Declaration on Environment and Security;
18. Recommends that such water management and oversight activities include national, regional and local cooperative initiatives that share best practices and provide support and assistance amongst each other;
19. Recommends that the OSCE participating states adopt the multiple barrier approach to drinking water protection in their national, regional and local regulations to ensure that people living throughout the OSCE space have access to safe drinking water;
20. Recommends that the OSCE participating states consider developing more effective national, sub-national and local results-based, action-oriented and differentiated approaches to sound water management policies;
21. Encourages the OSCE participating states to continue their work with other regional and international institutions and organizations with respect to water management solutions.

AMENDMENT TO SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM

on

WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE OSCE AREA

[Set out text of Amendment here:]

Principal Sponsor:

Mr/Mrs	Family Name in Capital Letters	Country	Signature

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