



UNITED NATIONS  
**ESCAP**  
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific



### Youth Resolution on

### Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements

**adopted at the UN ESCAP Youth Forum on the Implementation of Rio+20**

**for East and North-East Asia (ENEA) and North and Central Asia (NCA),**

**Vladivostok, Russian Federation, 21 August 2013**

Twenty-nine representatives of youth organizations from 11 countries of East and North-East Asia (ENEA) and North and Central Asia (NCA), namely Armenia, China, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, met for three days on 19-21 August 2013 at Far Eastern Federal University (FEFU) in Vladivostok, Russian Federation, and discussed youth actions to support the implementation of Rio+20. The youths chose three thematic topics prior to the Forum, and during the Forum they created and unanimously adopted three resolutions as the outcome documents of the discussions.

The three thematic topics are: 1) Water and Sanitation; 2) Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements; and 3) Education for Sustainable Development.

Below is the youth resolution on the thematic topic 2) Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements.

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*The UN ESCAP Youth Forum,*

*Reaffirming* the importance of developing sustainable cities and human settlements in achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

*Noting* the growing disparities between the rich and the poor civilians around the world, which plague the development of sustainable cities and human settlements,

*Profoundly concerned with* informal economy as an invisible challenge in sustainable cities development,

*Bearing in mind* the necessity to cooperate with NGOs and youth in developing projects on sustainability,

*Underlining* the importance of raising awareness about overconsumption, sustainable city development for economic, political, environmental and social prosperity among youth through mass media as well as social networks,

*Determined* that the cooperation among member States is a key measure in the global enhancement of sustainability of cities and human settlements,

*Taking into account* the fact that one of the crucial elements towards sustainability of cities is the availability of high quality and timely medical services and universal access to primary and secondary education,

*Deeply concerned* about the prevailing overconsumption of non-renewable sources of energy,

*Recognizing* the importance of freshwater supply as the basis of sustainable development, economic growth, political and social stability, and human and ecosystem health,

*Remaining deeply concerned* with the increasing problem of environmental pollution,

*Affirming* the youth efforts to promote 3R (Reuse, Recycle, Reduce) system in water supply,

1. *Calls upon* the member States:

- a) to consider the environment as the vital aspect that cannot be sacrificed,
- b) to perceive youth as an equal partner in considering the governmental issues,
- c) to support NGOs, youth initiatives, business sphere, mass media and social networks in solving the problems of sustainable cities and human settlements,
- d) to cooperate with other member States in launching mutually sustainable projects for improving economic, environmental and social spheres,
- e) to keep improving the legislation system in the environmental sector as new sustainable challenges occur in the world,
- f) to consider the city planning policy including limiting highway and railway expansion in developed area and building more transport infrastructures in economically backward area,
- g) to adopt supportive policies for developing renewable energy such as tidal, solar, geothermal energy, etc, noting in particular that energy efficiency should be improved,
- h) to consider the waste classification and waste recycling as an integral mechanism of sustainable city development;

2. *Calls upon the UN ESCAP* to further expand the already existing supporting activities for youth on sustainable development in cities and human settlements,

3. *Approves* the expansion of vocational education programs for citizens living in backward areas, to equip them with basic business and employment skills;
4. *Underscores* the need for an information sharing platform for technology transfer for water purification.

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