



General Assembly

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Seventy-ninth session

Agenda item 13

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 12 December 2024

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/79/L.39](#))]

79/142. World Lake Day

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution [66/288](#) of 27 July 2012, which endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,

Reaffirming also its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, by which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Reaffirming further its resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#) of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Reiterating that lakes are one of the water-related ecosystems that should be protected and restored, in line with target 6.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Taking note of resolution 5/4 of the United Nations Environment Assembly, entitled “Sustainable lake management”, adopted on 2 March 2022, and reaffirming the importance of integrated, intersectoral, collaborative and coordinated approaches, at all levels, in the management and protection of lakes,

Recognizing the important contribution of sustainable lake management in tackling environmental challenges,



Emphasizing that water ecosystems, including lakes, energy, food security and nutrition are linked and that water is indispensable for health, well-being and human development, and a vital element of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant goals in the social, environmental and economic fields,

Recognizing that the state of lake environments, notably in terms of water quality and quantity, is severely deteriorating around the world and that this needs to be urgently addressed in a sustainable manner,

Stressing the urgent need to address the unprecedented global decline in biodiversity, including through the preservation and restoring and safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential functions and services, including services related to water, health, livelihoods and well-being,

Emphasizing the need for raising awareness and promoting education of the value of lakes and their essential role in supporting human livelihood, biodiversity and ecosystems resilience through sustainable lake management, in line with SDG 6,

Trusting that the observance of an international day will create a comprehensive platform to promote sustainable lake management,

1. *Decides* to designate 27 August as World Lake Day, to be observed annually;

2. *Invites* all States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and observers of the General Assembly, as well as the organizations of the United Nations system, other international, regional and subregional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and academia, to observe World Lake Day in an appropriate manner through activities aimed at education and awareness-raising of the importance of lakes and preserving, conserving, restoring and sustainably managing lake and related ecosystems;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme to facilitate the observance of World Lake Day, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67;

4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met through voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and observers of the General Assembly, as well as the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, for appropriate observance of World Lake Day.

52nd plenary meeting
12 December 2024
