Draft resolution on enhancing the work of the United Nations Environment Programme to promote the development and strengthening of water quality monitoring programmes and to encourage data sharing

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling the Fifth Global Environment Outlook, which highlights the gaps in our knowledge of the state of water quality resulting from a lack of data and regular monitoring,

Noting the challenges facing water quality data collection efforts globally and the increasing need for innovative approaches to addressing water quality monitoring,

Welcoming the efforts of the World Bank’s Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services programme, the United Nations Statistical Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme and others to support regional and national efforts to develop Water Accounts under the framework of the United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting,

Recognizing the contributions of the Global Environmental Monitoring System Water Programme and the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities,

1. Invites Member States to collaborate and share best practices with one another on data collection and monitoring that will be useful for reporting on water quality, as well as for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, the Global Wastewater Initiative and the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management;

2. Also invites Member States to enhance public access to information on water quality requirements for different water uses to promote safe and efficient water use;

3. Invites the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to compile and share information on the analytical and technical requirements for water quality testing for contaminants that may have an impact on human and environmental health;

4. Encourages collaboration among stakeholders, including government labs, the private sector, academia and civil society to improve the capacity of Member States and stakeholders to collect, share and analyse drinking water, wastewater and marine water quality data and best management practices.