Initiated, conceptualized, and developed by Olonbayar Rentsendash

PREAMBLE OF THE CONVENTION ON PLANETARY HYDROLOGICAL SECURITY AND CRYOSPHERE STABILITY

Introduction

Water is the foundation of life and one of the essential systems sustaining the stability of the Earth, the integrity of ecosystems, the well-being of human societies, and the continuity of civilization. Its movement through the atmosphere, cryosphere, surface waters, groundwater systems, wetlands, rivers, lakes, and oceans constitutes an interconnected planetary hydrological system whose functioning transcends national borders and political jurisdictions. Within this system, the cryosphere—including glaciers, ice sheets, snow, sea ice, and permafrost—plays a fundamental role in storing freshwater, regulating seasonal water flows, influencing climate processes, maintaining mountain and polar environments, and supporting ecosystems and communities far beyond the regions where ice and snow are found.

Accelerating changes in the cryosphere are increasingly affecting the quantity, timing, distribution, and reliability of freshwater resources. Glacier retreat, declining snow cover, permafrost degradation, and changes in ice-sheet mass contribute to interconnected risks involving water scarcity, floods, droughts, ecosystem degradation, infrastructure damage, food and energy insecurity, displacement, and sea-level rise. These impacts vary across geographical regions and depend on local climate, geology, ecosystems, water-management practices, and socioeconomic conditions. Nevertheless, their cumulative and cascading consequences demonstrate that cryosphere change cannot be addressed solely as a matter of glacial conservation or regional environmental management. It must also be considered in the broader context of planetary hydrological security and the resilience of the natural and human systems that depend upon it.

Existing international frameworks have established important foundations for climate action, biodiversity conservation, combating desertification, disaster risk reduction, freshwater cooperation, sustainable development, and scientific collaboration. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement address climate change; the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification addresses desertification, land degradation, and drought; the Convention on Biological Diversity supports biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration; and international water agreements provide principles and mechanisms for cooperation concerning shared water resources. Together with relevant scientific programmes, declarations, and international initiatives, these frameworks provide essential foundations for collective action. However, the interdependence of cryospheric change, hydrological continuity, upstream and downstream water systems, ecosystem integrity, and cascading transboundary risks raises questions about how existing mandates and implementation mechanisms can be connected more coherently. The proposed Convention seeks to explore this complementary role without replacing, diminishing, or duplicating the mandates and obligations of existing international instruments.

The Convention on Planetary Hydrological Security and Cryosphere Stability is proposed as a framework for strengthening international cooperation at the intersection of cryosphere science, hydrological security, ecosystem resilience, water governance, and human well-being. Its central premise is that the protection of the cryosphere and the security of planetary water systems are inseparable, and that effective responses require sustained scientific observation, transparent information exchange, early-warning systems, risk assessment, capacity-building, equitable access to technology and finance, and coordinated action across relevant sectors and jurisdictions. It also recognizes that the integrity of the planetary hydrological system depends

not only on the preservation of glaciers and snow, but also on the protection of headwaters, springs, groundwater, rivers, wetlands, rangelands, forests, and other ecosystems that store, regulate, filter, and sustain water.

The proposed framework places science-based decision-making, prevention, precaution, international cooperation, equity, and intergenerational responsibility at the centre of its approach. It recognizes the different circumstances and capacities of States, the particular vulnerabilities of developing countries and climate-exposed regions, and the knowledge and contributions of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. It also emphasizes the importance of meaningful public participation, environmental and social safeguards, and monitoring arrangements capable of evaluating the effectiveness and consequences of measures undertaken. Scientific uncertainty is not treated as a reason for inaction; rather, it reinforces the need for credible evidence, adaptive decision-making, and continued assessment of risks and responses.

The Convention further provides a proposed international context for examining practical approaches that can strengthen water retention, landscape resilience, ecosystem restoration, and drought preparedness. Initiatives such as Distributed Pond Systems and the Green Web may be considered, where appropriate and supported by scientific assessment, as locally adaptable approaches to retaining rainfall and runoff, supporting groundwater recharge, restoring degraded landscapes, and improving resilience in water-stressed regions. Such measures are not substitutes for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, protecting existing cryospheric systems, or addressing the underlying causes of climate change. Nor should local restoration activities be assumed to stabilize distant glaciers or ice sheets without credible evidence. Their potential contribution must instead be assessed through measurable outcomes, sound hydrological design, environmental and social safeguards, and monitoring appropriate to each landscape.

The proposed Convention is therefore intended to advance a coherent, cooperative, and evidence-based approach to planetary hydrological security and cryosphere stability. Its development should proceed through scientific review, consultation with States and relevant stakeholders, analysis of existing international law and institutional arrangements, and careful consideration of its added value, feasibility, implementation requirements, and relationship with existing commitments. It is presented as a proposed international legal instrument for consideration and further development, not as an adopted or ratified convention. Its ultimate purpose is to help strengthen collective capacity to anticipate and address interconnected hydrological and cryospheric risks, protect the systems upon which life depends, and safeguard water security, ecological integrity, and human well-being for present and future generations.

Preamble

The States Parties to this Convention (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

Deeply concerned that, over the past decades, climate change has led to widespread shrinking of the cryosphere, with mass loss from ice sheets and glaciers, reductions in snow cover and permafrost thaw, which have decreased the stability of high mountain areas, increased damage from glacial lake outburst floods, and changed the amount and seasonality of runoff and water resource availability from snow-dominated and glacier-fed river basins;

Emphasizing that glacier and snow melt significantly affects communities near and far from glaciers, disrupting the availability of freshwater resources that billions of people depend on for drinking water supplies, irrigation, livelihoods, and energy production, and resulting in loss of cultural and natural heritage, including the biodiversity and ecosystems that depend on cryosphere-fed water systems- such as glacier-fed streams and rivers, permafrost-dependent tundra, alpine meadows dependent on snowpack, and ice-associated marine ecosystems- disproportionately affecting local populations, Indigenous Peoples, and species that rely on frozen freshwater systems for their survival;

Recognizing that glaciers supply freshwater to over half of humanity and that their rapid retreat threatens long-term water security for billions of people, with desertification advancing as the cryosphere retreats, and the balance of water and temperature being broken;

Recognizing also that the protection of headwaters, springs, groundwater, and the sources of rivers is inseparable from the protection of the cryosphere, and that the conservation of these systems is essential for maintaining hydrological continuity, sustaining ecosystems, and securing freshwater supplies for communities;

Acknowledging that the cryosphere- Earth's coupled system of glaciers, ice sheets, sea ice, snow, and permafrost- is fundamentally linked to the security, infrastructure, and economic stability of societies worldwide, and that decisions and actions taken this decade will influence the fate of the cryosphere for centuries and beyond;

Realizing the interconnections between glaciers' preservation and the protection, conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of ecosystems, as well as their linkage with climate action, biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, and combating desertification;

Recalling United Nations General Assembly Resolution 77/158 of 14 December 2022, which declared 2025 the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation and proclaimed 21 March of each year as the World Day for Glaciers;

Recalling also United Nations General Assembly resolution 78/321 of 13 August 2024, which proclaimed the period from 2025 to 2034 as the Decade of Action for Cryospheric Sciences, and recognizing its importance as an international framework for advancing cryospheric observation, scientific research, monitoring, data exchange, capacity building, international scientific cooperation, and knowledge-based action, including their connection to early warning, preparedness, national planning, financing, and implementation;

Recognizing the work undertaken during the International Hydrological Decade (1965–1974), declared under the auspices of UNESCO, which contributed to the development of international hydrological observation and scientific cooperation;

Noting the Dushanbe Water Process, including the series of High-Level International Conferences on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development" convened by the Government of Tajikistan, which have advanced international water cooperation and contributed to the preparatory process for the 2026 United Nations Water Conference, and further noting the Dushanbe Glaciers Declaration of May 2025, adopted within the framework of this process, which affirmed the importance of glaciers and the broader cryosphere for global sustainable development, environment, and climate agendas, and recognized the need for reliable and sustained glacier, snowpack, and permafrost monitoring to inform future projections and preparedness;

Noting the 2026 United Nations Water Conference to Accelerate the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 6, to be co-hosted by the United Arab Emirates and the Republic of Senegal from 8 to 10 December 2026 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and the 2028 United Nations Conference on the Final Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development," as established by United Nations General Assembly resolution 78/327 of 6 September 2024, and recognizing these processes as opportunities to strengthen international cooperation concerning water security, freshwater resilience, climate adaptation, and the relationship between cryospheric change and downstream water systems;

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 6 on clean water and sanitation, Sustainable Development Goal 13 on climate action, Sustainable Development Goal 15 on life on land, and Sustainable Development Goal 17 on partnerships for the Goals, and recognizing the interdependence of water security, climate resilience, land restoration, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem integrity, and international cooperation;

Reaffirming commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, including the outcomes of the first Global Stocktake at COP28, and noting that decreases in global greenhouse gas emissions are essential to limit glacier and mountain cryosphere losses and ice sheet melt;

Recognizing that the Paris Agreement calls for strengthening the global response to climate change by increasing the ability to adapt to adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, and that the protection of cryospheric systems and the maintenance of hydrological stability are integral to strengthening climate resilience, water security, ecosystem resilience, and the capacity of communities and countries to adapt to changing climatic conditions;

Recognizing the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances, as reflected in the international environmental framework, and recognizing the importance of equitable access to scientific knowledge, technology, capacity-building, and financial resources for developing countries and climate-vulnerable regions;

Noting the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Reports on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC), which documented the accelerating loss of glaciers and ice sheets and highlighted the cascading risks to water security, ecosystems, and human societies;

Recalling the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, which emphasizes understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance, investing in disaster reduction and resilience, and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and recognizing the importance of integrating cryosphere-related hazards, including glacial lake outburst floods, glacier instability, landslides, permafrost-related hazards, and changing hydrological conditions, into disaster risk reduction and early-warning systems;

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 6 on clean water and sanitation, Sustainable Development Goal 13 on climate action, Sustainable Development Goal 15 on life on land, and Sustainable Development Goal 17 on partnerships for the Goals, and recognizing the interdependence of water security, climate resilience, land restoration, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem integrity, and international cooperation;

Recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including its global goals and targets concerning the conservation, restoration, sustainable management, connectivity, and resilience of terrestrial, inland water, freshwater, and other ecosystems, and recognizing the importance of protecting and restoring cryosphere-dependent ecosystems, mountain ecosystems, wetlands, rivers, lakes, and associated ecological corridors as essential components of planetary hydrological and biodiversity security;

Recognizing the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat and its framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, and recognizing the critical role of wetlands, lakes, floodplains, peatlands, and other water-dependent ecosystems in storing, regulating, filtering, and sustaining freshwater and in providing ecological, social, cultural, and climate-resilience functions;

Recalling Agenda 21, in particular Chapter 13 concerning the management of fragile ecosystems and sustainable mountain development, and recognizing mountains as critical sources, stores, regulators, and providers of freshwater and as ecosystems whose environmental stability is fundamental to downstream water security, biodiversity, livelihoods, and human well-being;

Recognizing the United Nations International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026, and the importance of sustainable rangeland governance, pastoralist livelihoods, traditional and local knowledge, and resilient land and water management systems, particularly in drylands and mountain–steppe landscapes where seasonal snowmelt, glacier-fed waters, groundwater, and rainfall contribute to the ecological and economic foundations of pastoral communities;

Recognizing the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, including its objective of combating desertification and land degradation and mitigating the effects of drought, and recognizing the interdependence of land, water, climate, biodiversity, and cryospheric systems and the importance of strengthening coherence and cooperation among the three Rio Conventions and other relevant international environmental agreements;

Acknowledging the importance of the Steppe Action Agenda and its associated initiatives, including the Rangelands Flagship Initiative, the Water-Land Nexus Initiative, and the Nature-Based Solutions for Sustainable Infrastructure Initiative, advanced through the 17th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP17), held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from 17 to 28 August 2026,

and recognizing their contribution to strengthening rangeland restoration, sustainable pastoralism, land–water resilience, ecosystem restoration, climate adaptation, and sustainable infrastructure;

Noting the Belém Joint Statement on the Rio Conventions, adopted on 18 November 2025 at the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Belém, Brazil, by the Presidencies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, including the incoming Presidencies of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention on Combat Desertification, which called for strengthened synergies, policy coherence, integrated approaches, coordinated action, enhanced cooperation, and the engagement of non-State actors in advancing the objectives of the three Rio Conventions;

Recognizing the role of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses as important legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation, including principles concerning equitable and reasonable utilization, prevention of significant harm, information exchange, cooperation, and, where applicable, integrated management of shared water resources, and recognizing the relevance of these principles to transboundary cryosphere-dependent waters and downstream hydrological systems;

Recognizing that planetary hydrological security depends upon the continuity and integrity of interconnected water systems from atmospheric precipitation and cryospheric storage, through headwaters, springs, groundwater systems, rivers, lakes, wetlands, floodplains, and coastal and marine environments, and that the stability of upstream water-storage and regulation systems is inseparable from the security of downstream freshwater, ecosystems, livelihoods, infrastructure, and communities;

Recognizing that planetary hydrological security encompasses not only the availability and continuity of freshwater, but also its quality, ecological integrity, accessibility, and sustainable use, and that pollution, contamination, ecosystem degradation, and unsustainable abstraction can undermine the resilience of cryosphere-dependent, upstream, and downstream water systems and the communities and ecosystems that depend upon them;

Recognizing that water is the foundation of life, that its three states—solid, liquid, and gas—constitute a single interconnected planetary hydrological system, and that maintaining the integrity, continuity, and functioning of this system is essential to planetary hydrological security, climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem integrity, human well-being, and international peace;

Recognizing the importance of the precautionary principle, prevention of significant environmental harm, intergenerational equity, environmental integrity, and science-based decision-making in addressing risks to cryospheric and hydrological systems, particularly where scientific uncertainty exists but the potential consequences of inaction may be serious or irreversible;

Acknowledging the importance of responsible adaptation in the face of glacier loss and the emergence of post-glacial ecosystems;

Recognizing that planetary hydrological security is closely connected with human security, public health, food and energy security, livelihoods, infrastructure, disaster-risk reduction, and peace, and that disruptions to cryosphere-dependent water systems may create cascading risks across communities, ecosystems, economies, and national borders;

Recognizing the rights, knowledge, cultures, livelihoods, and contributions of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including pastoralist communities, whose knowledge and stewardship practices contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of cryospheric, hydrological, rangeland, mountain, and freshwater ecosystems, and emphasizing the importance of their full and effective participation in decisions affecting the lands, waters, ecosystems, and livelihoods upon which they depend;

Emphasizing the importance of timely, interoperable, transparent, and scientifically credible observation, monitoring, data-sharing, information exchange, early-warning systems, and risk communication across national boundaries, particularly for hazards and hydrological changes originating in cryosphere-dependent systems and affecting downstream communities and ecosystems;

Emphasizing that scientific observation, assessment, monitoring, data-sharing, early warning, preparedness, financing, national planning, ecosystem restoration, and community-level implementation should be mutually reinforcing components of effective cryosphere governance and planetary hydrological security, and that scientific knowledge should be capable of informing timely and preventive action;

Recognizing that the interconnected nature of cryospheric change, planetary hydrological systems, ecosystems, land degradation, biodiversity, disaster risk, human security, and sustainable development extends across the mandates of several existing international legal and institutional frameworks, and that such fragmentation may leave governance gaps in addressing risks that are transboundary, cascading, cumulative, and intergenerational in nature;

Recognizing further the importance of strengthening coherence, coordination, complementarity, and cooperation among existing international environmental, water, climate, biodiversity, disaster-risk-reduction, and sustainable-development frameworks in order to address interconnected planetary risks more effectively;

Reaffirming that the proposed Convention on Planetary Hydrological Security and Cryosphere Stability is intended to complement and strengthen coherence among existing international legal and institutional frameworks, including the three Rio Conventions and applicable international water agreements, and is not intended to replace, diminish, or duplicate their respective mandates, rights, obligations, or institutional arrangements;

Recognizing the importance of Integrated Water Resources Management, including the coordinated management of water resources, land, ecosystems, surface water and groundwater, taking into account social, economic, environmental, and transboundary considerations and the needs of present and future generations;

Recognizing further that groundwater constitutes an essential component of planetary freshwater systems, and emphasizing the importance of its protection, sustainable use, monitoring, recharge where environmentally appropriate, and prevention of contamination, depletion, and irreversible degradation;

Recognizing the importance of preventing pollution and contamination throughout interconnected water systems, from precipitation, headwaters, glaciers, snowfields, groundwater and rivers through lakes, wetlands, estuaries, coastal waters, and the marine environment, and emphasizing the importance of maintaining source-to-sea water integrity;

Recognizing the objective of Land Degradation Neutrality and the importance of preventing, reducing, and reversing land degradation through sustainable land management, ecosystem restoration, drought resilience, water conservation, and the maintenance of ecological functions;

Recognizing the contribution of nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation, where scientifically appropriate and consistent with environmental and social safeguards, including the protection and restoration of wetlands, floodplains, watersheds, rangelands, forests, mountain ecosystems, riparian systems, and other natural systems that contribute to water regulation, ecosystem resilience, and climate adaptation;

Recognizing that changes in the cryosphere extend beyond mountain and terrestrial environments and have important consequences for the oceans, coastal ecosystems, coastal communities, and marine environments, including through changes in sea ice, freshwater fluxes, ocean circulation, ecosystem processes, and sea level;

Recognizing further that continued loss of glaciers and ice sheets contributes to sea-level rise, creating risks for coastal States and communities, including low-lying and particularly vulnerable States, and emphasizing the importance of international cooperation in observation, assessment, adaptation, disaster-risk reduction, ecosystem protection, and resilience-building;

Recognizing the particular vulnerabilities and circumstances of Small Island Developing States and other vulnerable coastal States and communities, whose exposure to sea-level rise, coastal hazards, freshwater stress, and ecosystem change may be compounded by cryospheric change and other climate-related pressures;

Recognizing that mountain States, upstream States, downstream States, and coastal States are interconnected through shared hydrological systems, and that the stability of mountain and cryosphere-dependent water sources may have consequences extending across national borders and from high mountain regions to downstream river basins, coastal areas, and the ocean;

Recognizing that mountain States, upstream States, downstream States, and coastal States are interconnected through shared hydrological systems, and that the stability of mountain and cryosphere-dependent water sources may have consequences extending across national borders and from high mountain regions to downstream river basins, coastal areas, and the ocean;

Emphasizing the importance of timely, transparent, accessible, interoperable, and scientifically credible environmental information, and recognizing that public access to relevant information strengthens environmental governance, preparedness, accountability, and informed participation in decisions affecting water, land, ecosystems, and communities;

Recognizing the importance of equitable access to cryospheric and hydrological data, particularly for developing countries, vulnerable regions, mountain and downstream States, and communities exposed to cryosphere-related hazards and water insecurity;

Recognizing further the importance of open science, scientific cooperation, data-sharing, knowledge exchange, and the interoperability of observation and monitoring systems, while

respecting applicable national laws, legitimate security considerations, Indigenous Peoples' rights, and the protection of sensitive information;

Emphasizing the importance of technology transfer, technological cooperation, scientific capacity-building, and equitable access to appropriate technologies, particularly for developing countries and climate-vulnerable regions, in order to strengthen observation, monitoring, forecasting, early warning, adaptation, ecosystem restoration, water management, and resilience;

Recognizing the importance of Indigenous and traditional knowledge systems, including knowledge held and transmitted by Indigenous Peoples, pastoralists, and local communities, as valuable knowledge systems contributing to the observation, stewardship, conservation, adaptation, and sustainable management of cryospheric, hydrological, mountain, rangeland, and freshwater ecosystems, and emphasizing that such knowledge should be respected, protected, and incorporated through the free, prior, and informed participation of the knowledge holders concerned;

Recognizing the importance of public participation and meaningful stakeholder engagement in environmental decision-making, including access to information, participation in processes affecting communities and ecosystems, and appropriate opportunities for affected persons and communities to contribute to the development, implementation, monitoring, and review of measures under this Convention;

Recognizing the importance of equitable cooperation and benefit-sharing in relation to shared water systems, scientific knowledge, technology, data, capacity, and resources, particularly where actions in one jurisdiction may affect communities, ecosystems, or water resources in another jurisdiction;

Recognizing that activities undertaken within or affecting transboundary cryospheric and hydrological systems should be guided by the principle of prevention of significant transboundary harm, cooperation, information exchange, consultation, and, where appropriate, equitable and reasonable utilization of shared water resources;

Recognizing the importance of monitoring, reporting, verification, scientific review, periodic assessment, transparency, and learning in evaluating the effectiveness, environmental integrity, social consequences, and long-term sustainability of measures undertaken under this Convention;

Welcoming the United Nations Early Warnings for All initiative, and recognizing the importance of universal, people-centred, end-to-end early-warning systems capable of connecting hazard monitoring, forecasting, risk information, communication, preparedness, and timely action, particularly in relation to rapidly evolving cryosphere-related and hydrological hazards;

Recognizing that cryosphere-related hazards may generate transboundary, cascading, cumulative, and compound risks, including glacial lake outburst floods, glacier and ice–rock instability, landslides, floods, droughts, changing river flows, permafrost-related hazards, and associated impacts on infrastructure, ecosystems, livelihoods, and human settlements;

Recognizing further that climate-related changes in cryospheric and hydrological systems may contribute to displacement and human mobility, and emphasizing the importance of risk reduction, adaptation, resilience, preparedness, and cooperation to reduce avoidable displacement and protect the rights, dignity, livelihoods, and well-being of affected populations;

Emphasizing the importance of drought resilience and drought risk management, including improved monitoring, preparedness, water conservation, sustainable land and rangeland management, ecosystem restoration, and locally appropriate adaptation measures in drought-prone and water-stressed regions;

Emphasizing the need for adequate, predictable, accessible, and sustainable financial resources for developing countries and climate-vulnerable regions to enable effective participation in scientific observation, monitoring, early warning, adaptation, ecosystem restoration, sustainable water management, technology deployment, capacity-building, and implementation under this Convention;

Recognizing that capacity-building should be country-driven, demand-responsive, context-specific, and sustained over time, with particular attention to developing countries, least developed countries, small island developing States, mountain regions, vulnerable coastal communities, and other regions facing significant cryospheric and hydrological risks;

Emphasizing the importance of environmental and social safeguards for all measures undertaken pursuant to this Convention, including appropriate consideration of biodiversity, ecosystems, water quality, groundwater, downstream users, land rights, customary rights, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, livelihoods, cultural heritage, and potential cumulative and transboundary impacts;

Recognizing further the importance of appropriate implementation support and compliance arrangements that assist Parties, particularly developing countries, in fulfilling their commitments under this Convention through cooperation, capacity-building, technical assistance, access to information, scientific support, and other appropriate means;

Noting the potential of Distributed Pond Systems (DPS) and the Green Web as decentralized, locally adaptable approaches for retaining rainfall and runoff within landscapes through ponds, artificial lakes, wetlands, infiltration structures, groundwater-recharge areas, vegetation restoration, and other nature-based and locally appropriate measures, and recognizing their potential contribution to strengthening drought resilience, restoring degraded land and ecosystems, supporting groundwater recharge, sustaining livelihoods, and enhancing planetary hydrological security, including by complementing broader efforts to maintain hydrological continuity and strengthen resilience across cryosphere-dependent and water-stressed landscapes;

Recognizing further that, where eligible activities implemented through Distributed Pond Systems, the Green Web, ecosystem restoration, or other appropriate measures generate mitigation outcomes that satisfy the applicable requirements of the Paris Agreement and its Article 6 framework, such outcomes may, subject to authorization by participating Parties, applicable accounting and reporting requirements, corresponding adjustments where required, technical review, and other relevant rules and procedures, potentially be used within cooperative approaches under Article 6.2 to mobilize additional resources for climate-resilient water management, ecosystem restoration, and planetary hydrological security;

Emphasizing that such potential financing mechanisms should be additional to, and not a substitute for, public and international climate, adaptation, development, water, biodiversity, and land-restoration finance, and should be designed and implemented in accordance with environmental integrity, transparency, measurable outcomes, sustainable development, national circumstances, and the applicable rules of the Paris Agreement;

Noting further the voluntary ambition of the G20 Global Land Initiative to reduce land degradation by 50 per cent by 2040, and recognizing the potential contribution of integrated water-retention, ecosystem-restoration, sustainable land-management, and landscape-resilience measures to supporting land-degradation neutrality, drought resilience, and restoration objectives;

Recognizing the importance of a just and equitable transition for communities and workers affected by measures undertaken to advance planetary hydrological security, and emphasizing the need to protect the rights, livelihoods, participation, and well-being of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth, workers, and vulnerable populations;

Recognizing the responsibility of present generations to protect and restore the cryosphere and planetary hydrological systems for the benefit of present and future generations, and reaffirming the principle of intergenerational equity in the conservation, protection, and sustainable management of these interconnected planetary systems;

Determined to take appropriate action in preserving the cryosphere and ensuring planetary hydrological security for the benefit of present and future generations;

Have agreed as follows…:

THE 0.01% SOLUTIONS–GREEN WEB–CRYOSPHERE CONVENTION INITIATIVE TEAM