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As a climate vulnerable deltaic plain, Bangladesh recognises the importance of proper use, management and conservation of aquifers as vital groundwater resources. With our fast evolving population dynamics, there is increased pressure on our natural groundwater rendering it susceptible to over-exploitation, depletion and pollution. Our Government has undertaken a host of measures, including commissioning water treatment and desalination plants, to ensure viable sources of safe drinking water for our entire population, including those concentrating in the urban metropolises.

We acknowledge the important resources developed by the International Law Commission for the draft Articles on the Law of Transboundary Aquifers, annexed to Resolution 68/118. The draft Article 3 carries the fundamental principle of the sovereignty of aquifer States over the portion of a transboundary aquifer or aquifer system within its territory.

The draft Articles 4 through 9 add considerable value in the context of potential transboundary aquifer management based on the principles of equitable and reasonable utilization, obligation not to cause significant harm, and general obligation to cooperate. The draft Article 2(4) stipulates that "weighini

