



## **Background Paper**

**Committee:** African Union

**Topic A:** Maleducation of Children and Consequent Child Labor

**Chairs:** Fairuz Deras and Carlos Talamas

Child labor has existed in some form for thousands of years, the normalization and practice of child labor in Africa is a widespread problem, and addressing it is crucial for the region's sociocultural and economic growth. While child labor is often discussed from an economic point, its sociocultural consequences receive less attention, particularly the relationship between child maleducation and child labor in Africa, and how this problem ultimately leads to social immobility. According to UNICEF "Despite the fact that child labor rates have decreased in recent years, children are still vulnerable to some of the most severe kinds of child labor, including as bonded labor, child soldiers, and human trafficking". There's a strong chance you bought something created with child labor. Slavery and child labor are so closely connected in the production of products and services in so many nations that avoiding them can be a huge problem.

This problem has been in the region a long time ago, some solutions that have been applied for this issue in the past are that educators are the most important part to prevent child labor, this is a solution that has been used in South Africa before, this is because teachers are the ones who advise social workers if they see a child with signs of child labor as high levels of stress and fatigue in class time. UNICEF has been working with businesses to find sustainable options to stop the practices of some businesses that lead to child labor. NGOs have been taking action in this issue, one of the most significant for child labor is Save the Children, they give immediate aid to children that suffered from child labor and they are present in 120 countries, they have forged relations with international government and with police departments that prevent child labor. Most countries have laws restricting how much and what kind of employment children can do. However, this does not guarantee that they are recognized or applied. Some solutions for this problem is the education for children and families so they don't let their children work and try to

make them study, another solutions are campaigns with companies that used to have child labor, this heped reduce child labor in a 20 %.

This issue has been affected the region longt time ago, this issue need to be solved for the integrity of al the childs in the Au, you need to take in count the economy and the businesses not only the cold, abolishing chid labor is difficult for various reasos but one of the most important is how is going to affect the economy, the education i hme is fundamental so child don't get ito child labor, the majority of families put their own childs in child labor because poverty, in genral child labor is an issue that can be taken lightly Delegates will look forward to address this relationship and simultaneously address the issues of child maleducation and child labor, eventually proposing solutions that serve an overall economic goal while maintaining rooted in child welfare and education principles.



## **Background Paper**

**Committee:** African Union

**Topic B:** Hunger and Poverty in the AU

**Chairs:** Fairuz Deras and Carlos Talamas

For some years, Africa's hunger and poverty problems have increased, putting millions of people at risk of starvation and even more at risk of malnutrition. Recent droughts and excessive rains have aggravated these problems, causing crops to fail and leaving poor people without a reliable source of food. These crises are extremely severe and complex because of the mix of hunger, the recurrent nature of poverty, and sharp social distinctions. Delegates must address a complicated

issue that has heavily affected the region for decades and propose comprehensive, viable, and executable solutions.

For the last decades, Africa has worked with tons of solutions to get rid of poverty and malnutrition, but as time keeps going, it'll be more difficult to eradicate the problem. Sub Saharan African region is a clear example of the urgency. Is the region that witnesses the worst condition, with 413 million people living with less than \$2 a day. The Middle East and North Africa region have approximately 19 million people living with less than this amount.

Hunger and poverty within AU countries has been prevalent for decades, but one of the most alarming cases was the East African famine in 2011/2012. During this event, an estimated 13 million people in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti faced hunger as a result of extreme drought, which pushed up food prices. There are many causes present and difficult to determine precisely. These include, but are not limited to, geographic barriers that leave rural communities without access, conflict-related hardships that lead to instability in certain communities, cities, and even economies, and an unequal distribution of wealth.

There is no way to define quality of life, it is a "multidimensional" term that has both positive and negative aspects, but ultimately dictates a standard of health, comfort and happiness experienced by an individual or group. Poverty and hunger affect a person's quality of life, and with the above examples, you can clearly get an idea. Beyond this, those conditions affect mortality rates and life expectancy. In 2013, the average life expectancy of people in sub-Saharan Africa was 46 years, some 32 years less than the average life expectancy of residents of developed countries. This can be largely attributed to poverty, hunger and its consequences.

## Works Cited

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