

Committee: World Health Organization

Topic: Improving Global Access to Clean Water and Sanitation

Delegate Name: John Harvard

Position: Papua New Guinea

Dear Honorable Chair,

I am writing because I think it's important to talk about water and sanitation because a lot of people don't have it. I heard in class that like 2 billion people globally do not have access to safe drinking water, and 4 billion don't have sanitation services. They sure are in a pickle. Not having water can make people really sick with stuff like cholera and diarrhea, which I believe can be really bad. Kids under five are especially at risk, which is just awful if you think about it. I remember reading that this problem is super serious in places like Papua New Guinea, Niger, and the Democratic Republic of Congo where they don't have much infrastructure or resources. Papua New Guinea, where about 63% of people don't have safe water, is trying to fix this with some programs. One of these is the WaSH Policy 2015-2030 which plans to give everyone in cities safe water and sanitation by 2030, and 70% of rural areas. This policy is supposed to get everyone to improve their sanitation and hygiene, but it's not going very fast and there are lots of issues with getting it done. Papua New Guinea is working with some international organizations like UN-Habitat to help, and they have some projects that they're working on.

Papua New Guinea promises to put \$20 billion into clean water infrastructure which I think is a great idea. They really want to build more toilets and stuff. Also, they want to make sure local people are more involved in these projects by training them. They also think it's a good idea to get more money from international aid and partnerships to support these programs. Developed countries like Germany and the UK should help, not only because they have the cash, but also to make up for being evil past colonizers of Papua New Guinea. Monitoring and evaluation are super important too, so we can make sure everything is going as planned and everyone is doing their job right. I think it's really important for all the UN member states to get on board with these ideas to help make sure everyone has access to clean water and sanitation.

Sincerely, John Harvard

Position Paper Commentary and Feedback

This is an example of a poorly-written position paper, which disregards the formatting and content rules [outlined on our website](#). YMUN Latin America has provided feedback below on the errors made in this position paper so that delegates may avoid these same mistakes.

(Some of the mistakes in this position paper are written in red text for identification purposes.)

Formatting Errors: Although this position paper is correctly 1 page long, as well as possesses the proper heading and 1-inch margins on all sides, it has many formatting issues.

- This position paper is in Arial font; it should be in Times New Roman.
- This position paper is double-spaced; it should be single-spaced.
- This position paper has text that is size 10; it should be size 12.
- Additionally, this position paper has no references. It is important for you to write your position paper based on credible sources and robust research. You must include both in-text citations and a bibliography in MLA style. A good resource to understand MLA format is Purdue OWL ([here](#)).

Content Errors:

- You should write the position paper similar to how you would write a formal paper or school assignment. Thus, you should not write it like a letter. You do not need to start with greetings such as “Dear Honorable Chair...” or end with closings such as “Sincerely.”
- The language of this position paper is informal, unclear and lacking in sophistication. Though it is one page long, it has little substance in its contents. The writing in your position paper should be detailed and exact, especially due to the page limit. Also, the paper should preferably have no errors in grammar or spelling.
 - Error Example: “They sure are in a pickle.” Please avoid informal language such as slang and idioms.
 - Error Example: “with stuff.” Again, the use of ‘stuff’ is informal, and also reflects a limited vocabulary. Instead of ‘stuff,’ for instance, one could say ‘diseases.’
 - Error Example: “... but it’s not going very fast and there are lots of issues with getting it done.” Why is this the case? What are the issues? Be specific, precise and succinct when conveying information.
 - Error Example: “Developed countries like Germany and the UK should help, not only because they have the cash, but also to make up for being evil past colonizers of Papua New Guinea.” Please avoid using subjective opinions and language in the position paper. This document should be factual, objective and informative. The desire to address the legacy of imperialism in Papua New Guinea is valid;

however, this should be done in a factual way. Any normative arguments you want to present should be made during debate.

- Additionally, in terms of language, this position paper is written in first-person. Unless you are in a specialized or crisis committee where you are representing a person, you must use third-person to refer to your position (for example, “Papua New Guinea believes...” instead of “I believe...”). Please avoid personal pronouns.
- As mentioned in the formatting section, you must cite the sources of your research both in the text and in the bibliography using MLA format. These sources need to be credible; this means that they come from a reliable reference point, such as an expert, an established organization or a scholarly institution. Any specific information, such as statistics, should have a credible source attached to it.
 - Error Example: “I heard in class that like 2 billion people globally do not have access to safe drinking water, and 4 billion don’t have sanitation services.” A classroom setting is not a credible and verifiable source, especially since education systems vary across the world.
- The content of your position paper should be grounded in research and realism. The points you make in your position paper should be plausible and applicable to your specific position. For instance, when making claims or proposals, you should include things that your position could reasonably carry out. This shows a truly in-depth understanding of your position, background and motivations.
 - Error Example: “Papua New Guinea promises to put \$20 billion into clean water infrastructure.” This proposal is unrealistic for any country given fiscal constraints, and more so for a small, developing country like Papua New Guinea. Such a statement shows a lack of research on many aspects of Papua New Guinea, including its economics and government.