LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Greetings!!

We take pleasure in welcoming all of you to the G-20 being simulated at JPHS MUN 2022. This letter from the Executive Board will help you get a clear direction about the committee, the agenda that is supposed to be discussed and the method of researching that has to be followed. It is, however, important that you read the entire background guide very carefully and after reading it, focus on the topics that have been suggested for research and the links to the articles that have been attached herewith.

The way of approaching things and concepts in this background guide will be slightly different and it is preferred that you respect the way that has been suggested and then research in the manner so told in order to gain the maximum knowledge and also to get a clear direction of how UNGA at JPHS MUN 2022 will function this year. This background guide like other background guides in MUNs and other conferences will not run into a number of pages but will be brief document consisting less of matter to learn about things but research links, sorted topic wise for you, which you are supposed to read, which most people generally do not do in MUN Conferences and/or simulations of the same sort. By reading these articles/news reports/documents attached with the research links you will be able to gain around 80% of the knowledge about the committee and the agenda and the only thing you would be required to do after reading the matter provided in this background guide is to work on the remaining 20% matter for your research from as many sources as you can find on the internet.

Kindly feel free to write to me or contact me for queries or clarifications, if any at the contact details provided below.

All the best!

Warm Regards,

Mr. Priyanshu Grover (B.A. LL.B.), Chairperson

Mr. Vedansh Arora, Vice Chairperson

Introduction to the Agenda

Equitable access by all to assets and opportunities is considered important in sustaining economic growth and addressing poverty in the region. Inclusive development means that the benefits reached all those that made up the poor in the region, particularly women and children, minority groups, the extremely poor in the rural areas, and those pushed below the poverty line by natural and human-made disasters.

The current pace of poverty reduction depends not only on the rate of economic growth, but also on how the benefits of growth are shared.

rising income inequalities pose a danger to social and political stability and the sustainability of the growth process itself. The pursuit of equal opportunities stems from the belief that it is a basic human right to be treated equally in terms of access to opportunities. Equal access to opportunities increases growth potential; conversely, inequality in opportunities diminishes growth and makes it unsustainable.

In general, evidence supports that while the attainment of high per capita growth and lower inequality would almost ensure the accomplishment of the mission to eradicate extreme poverty, growth alone does not guarantee that everyone will benefit equally. Some level of growth is a necessary condition for poverty reduction. However, growth by itself is not a sufficient condition. In other words, growth may overlook the poor or marginalized groups, resulting in inequality.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused great devastation and has dramatically changed the global economic landscape.

- COVID-19 pandemic has spread across the world, leading to loss of lives and a deep recession in 2020.
- The recovery is likely to be partial and uneven, with some sectors and countries picking up faster than others.
- A sudden tightening of financial conditions—for instance due to adverse news on the disease front—or geopolitical and social tensions could also disrupt growth.
- Premature withdrawal of policy support would be costly in this environment.

The wounds inflicted by the pandemic are likely leaving deep scars, compounding underlying challenges.

- The pandemic has been a severe blow to people with low- and medium-skill jobs, many of which are women and youth.
- The transition to post- pandemic landscape could entail a wave of bankruptcies and a reallocation of resources between sectors, with the skills needed for the expanding activities possibly different than those possessed by the jobless.
- To avoid elevated structural unemployment and a loss in productivity, a reskilling of workers and efficient debt workouts will likely be required.
- Climate change, in the absence of strong adaptation and mitigation efforts, is likely to continue to disrupt growth, in particular in small disaster-prone economies.

Policymakers must focus on ending the crisis and begin to heal the wounds.

The utmost priority is to quickly end the health crisis, support economies and people through it, and set the stage for a recovery that is not only strong and durable, but that benefits all people.

- Continue to provide support through the crisis and bolster growth: Monetary and financial-sector policies should remain accommodative and help support financial stability. Fiscal authorities will need to ensure that policy support is not withdrawn prematurely.
- Ensure a durable recovery: Public investment in healthcare, education, and physical and digital infrastructure will help promote the recovery. Notably, the crisis has revealed the need for greater digitization, especially of government services; and reforms to insolvency regimes and debt resolution systems. Active labor market policies and reskilling can also help ensure a faster return to full employment.
- Enhance access to opportunities. Decisive actions are crucial to durably reverse the rise in poverty and income inequality. This would require wider social safety nets and expanded access to essential goods and services. Enhancing access for all to health care, high-quality education, financial services, and technology would not only help prevent a crisis-driven rise in inequality from becoming permanent, it would also lift aggregate demand as economies recover.

"Unilateral sanctions hurt all, but are particularly harmful to vulnerable groups within the populations of countries targeted by the sanctions."

In recent years certain States have found themselves facing the spectre of economic sanctions imposed by another State generally because of contrasting political issues. It is strongly contended that States impose unilateral and secondary sanctions on target countries in order to change their political behaviour. Also, the targets of such measures are invariably developing countries, and the resulting damage done by such economic measures is often catastrophic for the economic development of the State and the social and political wellbeing of its people.

The imposition of unilateral and secondary sanctions on countries through application of national legislation is not-permissible under international law. The uses of collective economic coercion or multilateral sanctions against a particular state by the international community for committing an internationally wrongful act, have been addressed under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. Increasingly, it is witnessed in the contemporary era that certain states impose unilateral sanctions against third party through application of national legislation. Such application is not only unjustifiable but also impermissible

The foundational principles that regulate and govern international relations are stated in Charter of the United Nations and the authoritative 1970 Declaration of Friendly relations and Cooperation among States. These include the principle of sovereign equality of states, principle of non-use of force, the principle of self-determination of people, the principle of non-intervention into the internal and external affairs States, the principle of peaceful settlement of international disputes, the principle of cooperation among states, and the principle of fulfilling in good faith obligations assumed under international law. The concept of unilateral sanctions violates certain core principles of the Charter of the United Nations, namely; principle of sovereign equality and territorial integrity, principle of non-intervention, and duty to cooperate.

Getting to strong and durable growth requires collaboration.

A global virus must be tackled with collaborative action. The G-20 policy agenda must include a collaborative global solution to ensure the development, production, and distribution of effective medical treatments and vaccines. The availability of adequate health supplies and medical solutions must be assured in all countries. This not only helps smaller and poorer economies, it would also bring the world back to normalcy more quickly, helping activity also in larger economies. Export restrictions on critical supplies should be lifted without hesitation as they limit the flow of goods at potentially great humanitarian cost.

The richest economies must stay committed to continued support for the poorest ones. As the crisis continues to unfold, the financing needs of developing economies continue to grow. The G-20 has already helped provide valuable debt service relief. But more needs to be done to help governments meet the needs of their populations at this time of crisis, including in the form of concessional financing, debt relief, and grants.

Global leaders should undertake a concerted effort to ensure the recovery is green and sustainable. The upward trajectory of global temperatures and carbon emissions must be put to an end to limit the large human and economic costs that inaction would entail. The world economy cannot afford a setback in addressing climate change as the window for limiting greenhouse gas emissions and global temperature increases to safe levels is rapidly closing. Instead, recovery from the crisis represents an opportunity to promote green investment and jobs—strengthening the economy and starting a transition away from dirty energy.

Other pre-pandemic challenges will also need to be tackled. These relate to international taxation to address base erosion and profit shifting and the digital taxation framework; improving debt transparency; and completing and implementing the international financial regulatory reform agenda.