



IASMUN
International Academic School
Model United Nations

COMMITTEE HANDBOOK

Accredited by



World
Health Organization

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World Health Organization (WHO)

History of WHO:

From the very beginnings of the United Nations, the founding fathers determined the need for world health officials to expand the purpose of the organization beyond the world of politics. And in 1948, the headquarters were established in Geneva, Switzerland with its first meeting being in July of that year. The governing body -namely, the World Health Assembly- met to, and continues to meet annually, coordinate major health affairs within the UN system. Today, there are 6 regional offices and 150 country offices worldwide under the leadership of the general director, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

Purpose of WHO:

The World Health Organization thrives under the objective of "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health". It plays an essential role in improving local health systems and coordinating the global response to health threats. And it promotes healthier lives – from pregnancy care through old age. All in all, it is an office created to connect with and aid people on a vulnerable, humanitarian level.



World Health Organization

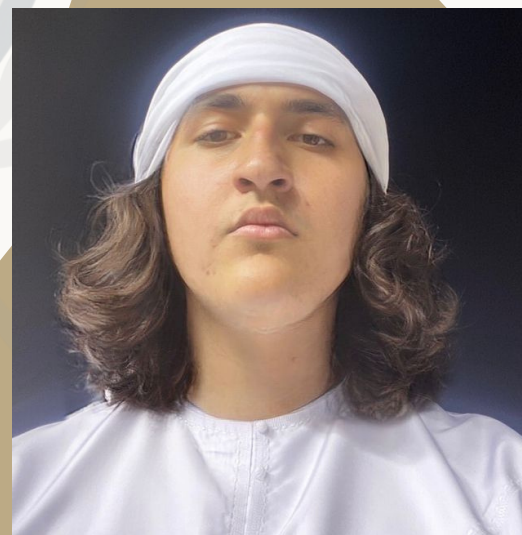
WHO Chair : Carine Chamas



Having prior MUN experience with a 'Best Position Paper' award, I profess to be able to guide my delegates through the incredible experience as smoothly as possible. My name is Carine Chamas, and I am the chair of the World Health Organization Committee. I have long had an interest in politics and its effect on health-related fields. I not only hope but aim to make the first-ever IASMUN an extraordinary success for the books.

WHO Co-chair : Imran AlWathaifi

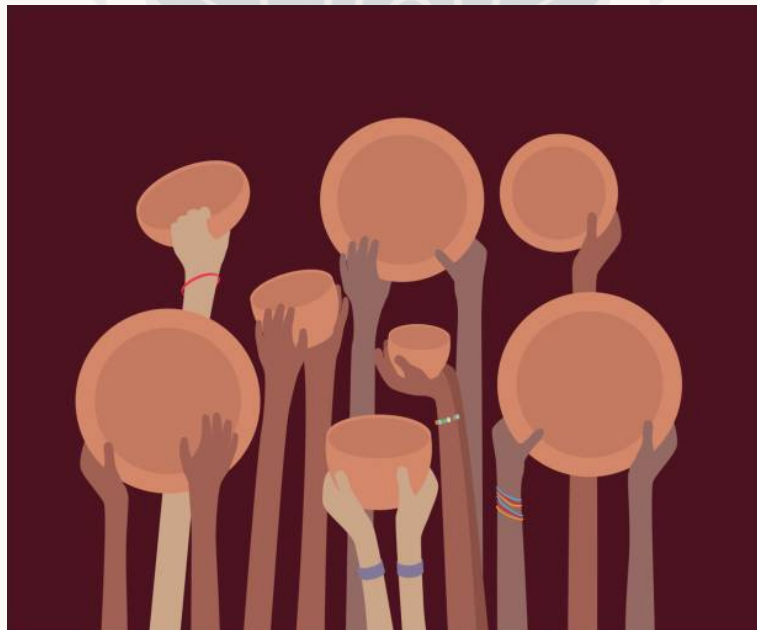
It is with the exciting news that I'll be taking part in this year's MUN with my team as the co-chair. I've had a positive past experience with MUN in my previous high school so I am well-equipped and qualified for the role of co-chair. We want to ensure that the delegates feel safe and firm to exchange ideas and observations of their assigned countries during the debates in a constructive respectful manner and not behave in a way that will destroy the competitive spirit of MUN or make it seem like a hostile environment. And last but not least, best of luck to everyone involved for IAS's 2023 MUN!



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TOPIC 1: DROUGHT AND FOOD SHORTAGE IN AFRICA

Millions in the greater Horn of Africa are facing acute hunger as the region faces one of the worst droughts in recent decades, compounded by years of conflict and instability, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and rising food prices due to, in part, the war in Ukraine. As people become increasingly food insecure, they also must make the impossible choice between food and healthcare, even as nutritional deficiencies make them increasingly vulnerable to disease. This is particularly true for children, for whom the combination of malnutrition and disease can prove fatal. Is this catastrophe the result of something? What is it? What and/or who caused it? And what can be the subsequent consequences?



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Subtopics:

- **Climate Change as a Precursor**

Climate change has long been a topic of conversation. It has had major effects on our environment, how we interact with it, and the consequences of our interaction. And with that in mind, how can there be a sudden, violent drought in Africa? How can climate change try to explain that? And how can it affect the food supply?

- **Susceptibility Due to Global and Political Disasters**

In light of recent events that have struck western/European countries, the rest of the world has had to deal with certain circumstances as well. How did these circumstances strike African countries? Particularly, how did malnutrition and consequently increased vulnerability to diseases come to be, given the timeline?

- **Productive and Anti-productive Efforts**

Many countries have come to the aid of issues such as malnutrition, lack of healthcare, and climate change. But in what ways? Is the situation with respect to these issues getting better or worse? And why so?

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TOPIC 2: ISSUES WITH WORLD POPULATION

The world's population has long been a controversial conundrum. There are parties who solely promote the idea of the planet getting overpopulated, opening the door for lifestyles and phenomena that draw back the ratio of people to products. On the other hand, there are ones that argue the prior indoctrination to be faulty, enabling a mass increase in consumption. What is the issue? What caused it? And what is there to prevent it?

Subtopics:

- **Modernization Movements' effect on birthrates**

There are many factors that contribute to the current underpopulated state of the world. The declining birth rates, whether due to women empowerment, urbanity, etc, is one of them. It is even predicted that within the next generations, the number of seniors will much surpass that of youngsters, hindering the global market and domestication of workers.

The past several decades have allowed women to work on an equal footing with men, opening up a wider range of opportunities for them. Many women are choosing to focus on their careers before starting a family, or they're deciding not to have children altogether. Many believe that they can achieve everything they want to without having children, which has resulted in many younger generations being less interested in procreating than their parents were.

World Health Organization (WHO)

- **Environmental factors that affect the world population**

With the current overuse of materials and resources, inflation, scarcity, and demand increase consequently. A decrease in food production and quality of life will also occur. All the aforementioned can -and does- increase our susceptibility to abstract and heavily promoted indoctrinations that allow further issues to the population. If we do not reverse this trend, the world will be faced with an extinction level event that can only be avoided by changing our habits and making the necessary sacrifices to ensure our survival.

- **Compulsory sterilization**

Forced or coerced sterilization is a government supported program that eliminates a person's capability to procreate, it is usually performed by forced surgery that governments mandate on low-income and disabled people in order to “perfect” a country and reduce poverty. The countries and governments responsible for this program believe it's for the greater good as their goal is to lower high birth rates and to have a “flawless” country. But where is the definition of flaw drawn for these countries? What kind of history do these programs hold? And in what ways is it seen as harmful or helpful, and why?

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- **Money hungry pharmaceutical companies**

Modern medicine is one of the greatest achievements of human history. However, how can the susceptibility to other illnesses increase after consuming a certain type of medicine? What does that say about the profit made by these big pharmaceutical companies? It is largely acknowledged that Big Pharma is perhaps one of the greatest systematic medicinal organizations. It is the world's pharmaceutical industry as a whole. Nevertheless, why is a patient expected to purchase a treatment worth heaps of money, only to spend more on sideeffects?

Focus questions:

- In what ways has each country contributed (positively and negatively) to the supply shortages in Africa?
- What policies are put forth by WHO to aid the African countries?
- How and with what can countries volunteer in disaster relief?
- What social issues- promoted, controversial, or catastrophic- can be the roots to the problem?
- Can Africa aid itself?
- How can fertility rates increase again?
- Annual population growth is projected to decline by 1 million every year, why is that?
- Scientists say that the peak of human population is around 10.4 billion in the 2080s. But what is to happen after the peak? And why?
- Are we overpopulated or underpopulated?
- Is the shortage of food supply linked to the decrease of population growth?
- Is medicine the only way to treat diseases?

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NOTE:

The aforementioned subtopics are suggested, however, delegates may pick and choose which subtopics to research or even introduce subtopics that have not been mentioned in this document, as long as they are relevant to the topics and appropriate.

Moreover, the more focus questions delegates cover in their research, the better prepared they will be for their session.

**Email address for contacting the WHO committee -
whoiasmun2023@gmail.com**

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