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Jamia Millia Islamia

Model United Nations

Group of 20 (G-20)

JMI Model United Nations, 2023



Letter from the Executive Board

Greetings Delegates!

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the academic stimulation of the G-20 Summit of the Jamia Millia Islamia Model United Nations. In this committee, we shall be analysing a very common subject in today's time which is "Deliberating upon the lack of risk mitigation for pandemic preparedness in comparison of the actions of global north vs global south and prevention response". Please note that this background guide is in no way meant to be an exhaustive guide on the subject, but merely a stepping stone for the rest of your research, which you are expected to undertake independently. Also, not under any circumstances can the background guide be quoted or used as substantial proof in committee sessions. The more information and understanding you acquire on the agenda, the more you will be able to influence the documentation process through debate in committee.

We understand that MUN conferences can be an overwhelming experience for first timers but it must be noted that our aspirations from the delegates is not how experienced or articulate they are. Rather, we want to see how he/she can respect disparities and differences of opinion, work around these, while extending their own foreign policy so that it includes more comprehensive solutions without compromising their own stand and initiate consensus building. New ideas are by their very nature disruptive, but far less disruptive than a world set against the backdrop of stereotypes and regional instability due to which reform is essential in policy making and conflict resolution. Thus, we welcome fresh perspectives for intelligent management of human capital which shall shape the direction of this world. We are looking forward to meeting you all virtually. Don't be afraid to speak up and be heard.

Regards,

Rahul Menon (Chairperson)

Lovisha Jindal (Vice-Chairperson)



G-20 Summit

Introduction

The Group of Twenty, or G20, is the premier forum for international cooperation on the most important aspects of the international economic and financial agenda. It brings together the world's major advanced and emerging economies. The G20 comprises Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, EU, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, UK and USA. The G20 Countries together represent around 90% of global GDP, 80% of global trade, and two thirds of the world's population. The objectives of the G20 are: a) Policy coordination between its members in order to achieve global economic stability, sustainable growth; b) To promote financial regulations that reduce risks and prevent future financial crises; and c) To create a new international financial architecture.

Origin and Evolution

The G20 was created in response to both the financial crises that arose in a number of emerging economies in the 1990s and to a growing recognition that some of these countries were not adequately represented in global economic discussion and governance. In December 1999, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of advanced and emerging countries of systemic importance met for the first time in Berlin, Germany, for an informal dialogue on key issues for global economic stability. Since then, Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors have met annually. India hosted a meeting of G20 finance ministers and central bank governors in 2002. G20 was raised to the Summit level in 2008 to address the global financial and economic crisis of 2008.



Organisational Structure of G20

The G-20 operates without a permanent secretariat or staff. The chair rotates annually among the members and is selected from a different regional grouping of countries. The chair is part of a revolving three-member management group of past, present and future chairs referred to as the Troika. The current chair of the G-20 is Mexico; the next Chair will be Russia.

The preparatory process for the G20 Summit is conducted through the established Sherpa and Finance tracks that prepare and follow up on the issues and commitments adopted at the Summits. The Sherpas' Track focuses on non-economic and financial issues, such as development, anti-corruption and food security, while addressing internal aspects such as procedural rules of the G20 process. The Sherpas carry out important planning, negotiation and implementation tasks continuously. The Finance Track focuses on economic and financial issues. The Sherpa and Finance tracks both rely on the technical and substantive work of a series of expert working groups. Additionally, the thematic agenda is developed through the organisation of several Ministerial Meetings, such as the Joint Meeting of Finance and Development Ministers, and the Labour, Agriculture and Tourism Ministerial meetings.



Agenda :

“Deliberating upon the lack of risk mitigation for pandemic preparedness in comparison of the actions of global north vs global south and prevention response”



Risk Mitigation

Risk mitigation is defined as the process of reducing risk exposure and minimising the likelihood of an incident. It entails continually addressing your top risks and concerns to ensure your business is fully protected. Mitigation often takes the form of controls, or processes and procedures that regulate and guide an organisation.

To better understand what risk mitigation means, let's look at it in relation to the entire Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) process: Your controls are born out of your risks; your overall goal is to prevent certain risks from materialising. This leads you to develop policies and procedures to help prevent them. The process of strategically creating controls is what "risk mitigation" refers to.

Types of Risk Mitigation Strategies

Just as there are various types of risk, different companies have different tolerances and approaches to dealing with threats to their business. Here are some handling options for risk management:

- Risk avoidance – An organisation avoids investments or operations in areas with too significant a risk or cost.
- Risk acceptance – Operating with an understanding that some risk will occur in one area so the organisation can prioritise mitigating or profiting in other areas.
- Risk transfer – The process of allocating a portion of risk to a third party. An insurance policy is one example.
- Risk monitoring – Watching for changes in risks and their potential impact on an organisation.



Pandemic Preparedness

Influenza pandemics, whether mild, moderate or severe, affect a large proportion of the population and require a multisectoral response over several months or even years. For this reason, countries develop plans describing their strategies for responding to a pandemic supported by operational plans at national and subnational levels. Preparing for an influenza pandemic is a continuous process of planning, exercising, revising and translating into action national and subnational pandemic preparedness and response plans. A pandemic plan is thus a living document which is reviewed at intervals and revised if there is a change in global guidance or evidence-base; lessons learned from a pandemic, an exercise, or other relevant outbreak; or changes to national or international legislation related to communicable disease prevention and control.

Pandemic preparedness is most effective if it is built on general principles that guide preparedness planning for any acute threat to public health. This includes the following:

- Pandemic preparedness, response and evaluation should be built on generic preparedness platforms, structures, mechanisms and plans for crisis and emergency management.
- To the extent possible, pandemic preparedness should aim to strengthen existing systems rather than developing new ones, in particular components of national seasonal influenza prevention and control programmes.
- New systems that will be implemented during a pandemic should be tested during the inter-pandemic period.
- Adequate resources must be allocated for all aspects of pandemic preparedness and response.
- The planning process, implementing what is planned, testing and revising the plan in order for key stakeholders to familiarise themselves with the issues at hand, may be even more important than the pandemic plan itself.
- Pandemic response requires that business continuity plans and surge capacity plans be developed for the health sector and all other sectors that could be affected by a pandemic to ensure sustained capacity during a pandemic.



- The response to a pandemic must be evidence-based where this is available and commensurate with the threat, in accordance with the IHR. Planning should be based on pandemics of differing severity while the response is based on the actual situation determined by national and global risk assessments.
- Not all countries will be in a position to contribute to global risk assessment, nor conduct evaluations such as pandemic vaccine effectiveness. They must all have the capacity to access and interpret data for risk assessment provided by WHO, ECDC, and from other countries or sources.



Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response

As the process of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body is solely the decision of WHO's 194 sovereign Member States, WHO's Member States will ultimately determine the form and content of the new accord, including its objectives, principle(s), and scope.

The new accord could represent a global commitment to work together, as an international community, to help prevent disease outbreaks from impacting individuals, communities, countries and the world in the same way as the COVID-19 pandemic did. Importantly, any new accord would be expected to establish principles, priorities and targets for pandemic preparedness and response, with the aim to:

- build resilience to pandemics;
- support prevention, detection, and responses to outbreaks with pandemic potential;
- ensure equitable access to pandemic countermeasures; and
- support global coordination through a stronger and more accountable WHO.

The new accord could complement other initiatives, actions and measures aimed at making the world safer from pandemics, including the International Health Regulations and global institutions and systems working to equitably share health technologies, information and expertise.

The proposed accord could take the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and use them to build back better. Equity is one of the key principles being discussed as part of the work on the new accord.

A new accord could promote political commitment at the highest level, through ensuring an all-of-government and whole-of-society approach within countries, and sustained and sufficient political and financial investment within and among countries.



Global North vs Global South

The concept of Global North and Global South is used to describe a grouping of countries along socio-economic and political characteristics. The terms are not strictly geographical, and are not “an image of the world divided by the equator, separating richer countries from their poorer counterparts.”

The idea of categorizing countries by their economic and developmental status began during the cold war with the classifications of East and West where the “West” is meant to refer to countries—particularly European nations and the United States—that benefited from the exploits of colonialism, achieving a higher quality of life and more power than the East. Similarly, the terminology of “developed” and “developing” nations indexes a power differential along with the ethnocentric assumption that all countries follow a singular idealized trajectory. Anthropologists and social theorists have critiqued this notion, insisting that societies change over time, proceeding along varied developmental paths.

Global South: The term “global south” refers to those countries which are developing or underdeveloped. The following are some of the reasons why these countries are distinctly poor.

1. **High Level of Unemployment:** High level of Unemployment in such countries is a key cause of poverty. There are various types of unemployment that mark these Nations, majorly disguised unemployment, where more Labour is employed than needed. This leads to larger unproductivity and lower living standards.

2. **High dependence on Agriculture:** 70% of the population depends on agriculture and lacks scientific farming, resulting in Labour intensive modes of production and low quantitative output. Also, lack of Scientific farming methods further leaves the production threat prone to natural disasters.



3. Income disparity between the rich and the poor: Rich people in Global South are becoming Richer and poor becoming even poorer. One of the catalysing phenomenon for this are the vicious cycles, which means low income leads to lower living standards, leading to lower standards of education and health, which again causes lower income and the cycle continues.

4. Low per capita Income: Due to the people's low per capita income, the people are very poor. Per Capita Income refers to money earned by and Individual in a Nation or geographical area, higher rate of unemployment is one of the Major reason.



Points to consider

- What is pandemic preparedness, and what are the grounds of its comparison?
- How does international financial institutions like world bank assist in risk mitigation?
- Is the world ready for another health crisis taking in account the anti- climatic conditions and their effects?