



SSPMUN 4.0

Background Guide

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COP-27

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Letter from the Executive Board

It gives us immense pleasure to welcome you all to the fourth edition of the Sainik School Purulia Model United Nations, 2023. The 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as COP27, was held in November 2022 in Egypt. The conference aimed to build on the successes of previous years and pave the way for future initiatives to tackle the global challenge of climate change.

We have prepared this guide to provide you with a brief overview of the agenda and help you get started with your research. However, we encourage all delegates to conduct further research beyond the scope of this guide for a more in-depth understanding of the topics. The agenda for this committee is '**Promoting the Development and Accelerated Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Low Carbon and Climate Resilient Development for Developing Countries**'.

The Executive Board looks forward to a research-based, debate-oriented and fruitful committee. We expect all delegates to be versed with the basic conflicts and stakeholders in the situation along with knowledge of the intricacies of foreign relations. An acute understanding of foreign policy is of paramount importance. We expect the delegates to be well versed with international laws and the UN Charter, which would help in a better flow of the committee.

Documentation and lobbying would play a major role in the committee. Delegates are not just expected to present information but also indulge in analysis and focus on argumentation. A solution-oriented approach is always appreciated, and delegates must think critically in order to solve real-time issues. At the same time, we do not want first-time MUNers to get intimidated and will try our best to make this a riveting experience for each one of you.

We would now like to leave you with our best wishes, and we hope that we all learn something new amidst the fierce competition during the conference.

Warm Regards,
The Executive Board
COP27

Samrit Banerjee
(Chairperson)

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Rishav Dutta
(Rapporteur)

Introduction to the Agenda

The two bodies under UN Climate Change's Technology Mechanism have stepped up their collaboration to help accelerate the development and transfer of climate technologies to developing countries.

The Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Center and Network developed a new joint work programme that will bring them closer together and enhance coherence and synergy in their work. The new work programme will shape efforts related to technology development and transfer under UN Climate Change for the next five years, starting in 2023.

Ambrosio Yobánolo, Chair of the Technology Executive Committee, highlighted the urgency for action, "The report on climate change mitigation by the third working group of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change highlights that systemic approaches to technological change could help countries make the necessary transformational changes to achieve the global temperature goal, while addressing parallel challenges of sustainable development and climate change," he said.

What's next?

- The Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Center and Network will launch their joint work programme, and initiate its implementation in 2023.
- Both bodies will engage with technology stakeholders at the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference (COP27), including at the Technology Mechanism Pavilion.
- Both bodies have planned joint communications and outreach efforts, including a LinkedIn group dedicated to climate technology, hosted by UN Climate Change.

A Brief History

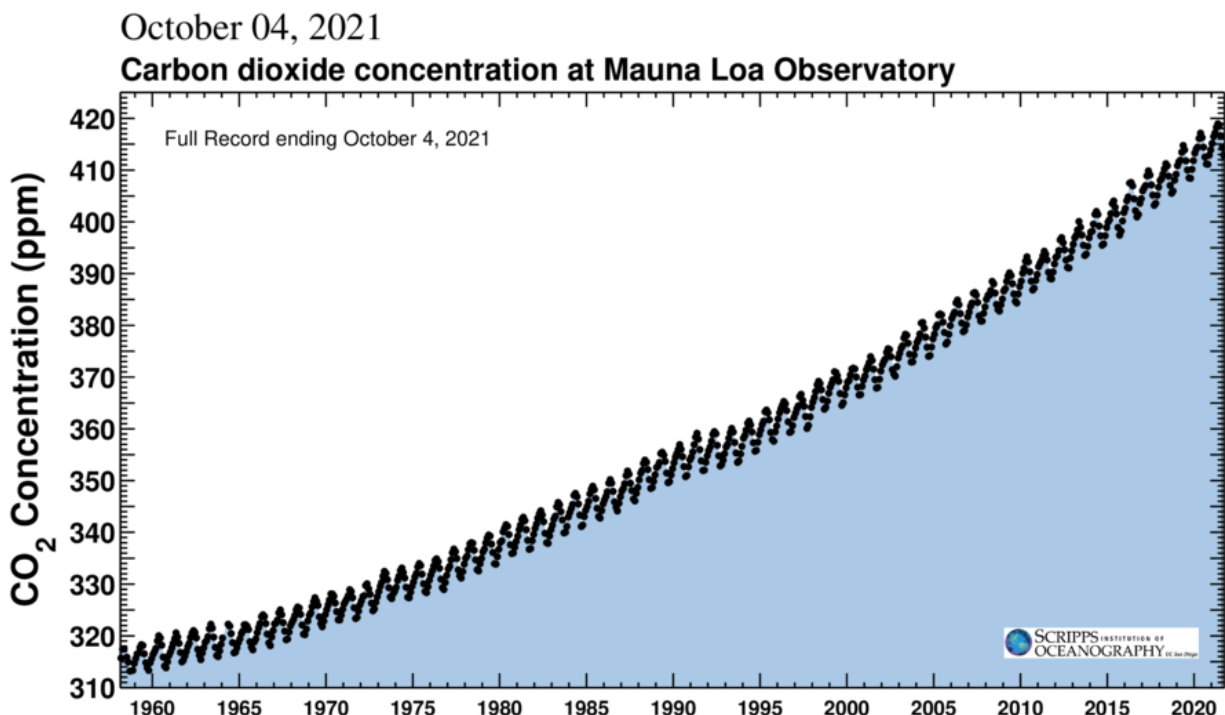
For more than 50 years, research and innovation has helped to understand, tackle and mitigate the effects of climate change, and embed evidence in decision making and climate policy. From early research proving global temperature rises and using ice cores that contain 800,000 years of continuous Earth climate records, to using supercomputers for climate modeling, we take a look at some of the most important discoveries in climate change research so far. Dr. Charles David Keeling provides the first evidence that CO₂ levels are rising. In 1958, a young postgraduate geochemist called Charles David Keeling decided to compare the amounts of CO₂ in water and air. Nobody had ever really tried to measure the level of CO₂ in the atmosphere before, so there was no off-the-shelf equipment he could use.

Efforts to raise awareness of the effects of climate changes were advanced at the second World Climate Conference, held from 29 October to 7 November 1990. In its Ministerial Declaration, the Conference stated that climate change was a global problem of unique character for which a global response was required. It called for negotiations to begin on a framework convention without further delay. As the urgency for a stronger international action on the environment, including climate change, gained momentum, the General Assembly decided to convene in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The Earth Summit, as it is also known, set a new framework for seeking international agreements to protect the integrity of the global environment in its Rio Declaration and Agenda 21, which reflected a global consensus on development and environmental cooperation. Chapter 9 of Agenda 21 dealt with the protection of the atmosphere, establishing the link between science, sustainable development, energy development and consumption, transportation, industrial development, stratospheric ozone depletion and trans boundary atmospheric pollution. The most significant event during the Conference was the opening for signature of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); by the end of 1992, 158 States had signed it. As the most important international action thus far on climate change, the Convention was to stabilize atmospheric concentrations of "greenhouse gases" at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. It entered into force in 1994, and in March 1995, the first Conference of the Parties to the Convention adopted the Berlin Mandate, launching talks on a protocol or other legal instrument containing stronger commitments for developed countries and those in transition.

The cornerstone of the climate change action was, therefore, the adoption in Japan in December 1997 of the Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC, the most influential climate change action so far taken. It aimed to reduce the industrialized countries' overall emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases by at least 5 per cent below the 1990 levels in the commitment period of 2008 to 2012. The Protocol, which opened for signature in March 1998, came into force on 16 February 2005, seven years after it was negotiated by over 160 nations.

Once again, the United Nations has shown its leadership role in bringing issues requiring global action to international attention. However, its efforts throughout the years to make the issue of climate change a central focus of the international agenda continues, even as opposing sides of the debate try to make their case.

Rising level of CO₂



Current Situation

Climate scientists have showed that humans are responsible for virtually all global heating over the last 200 years. Human activities like the ones mentioned above are causing greenhouse gases that are warming the world faster than at any time in at least the last two thousand years.

The average temperature of the Earth's surface is now about 1.1°C warmer than it was in the late 1800s (before the industrial revolution) and warmer than at any time in the last 100,000 years. The last decade (2011-2020) was the warmest on record, and each of the last four decades has been warmer than any previous decade since 1850.

The consequences of climate change now include, among others, intense droughts, water scarcity, severe fires, rising sea levels, flooding, melting polar ice, catastrophic storm and declining biodiversity.

In context to COP27:

The 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, more commonly referred to as COP27, was the 27th United Nations Climate Change conference, held from November 6 until November 20, 2022 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. It took place under the presidency of Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sameh Shoukry, with more than 92 heads of state and an estimated 35,000 representatives, or delegates, of 190 countries attending. It was the fifth climate summit held in Africa, and the first since 2016.

The conference has been held annually (except 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic) since the first UN climate agreement in 1992. It is used by governments to agree on policies to limit global temperature rises and adapt to impacts associated with climate change. The conference led to the first loss and damage fund being created.

Egypt was announced as the host of the conference following a successful bid launched in 2021. On January 8, 2022, the Minister of Environment of Egypt, Yasmine Fouad, met with COP26 President Alok Sharma to discuss preparations for the conference. The Egyptian organizers advised countries to set aside tensions over the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine to ensure negotiations are successful.

Possible climate change measures were discussed at the 2022 United Nations General Assembly, including the governments of several island nations launching the Rising Nations initiative, and Denmark and Scotland announcing climate finance measures for developing countries. On October 14, 2022, the Scottish government called for climate reparations at COP27, as a "moral responsibility".

The world is in a critical decade for climate action. This is not hyperbole – the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says limiting warming to around 1.5°C requires global greenhouse gas emissions to peak before 2025 at the latest, and be reduced by 43% by 2030. That's seven short years from now.

However, the world is currently off course to keep 1.5°C within reach. A stark report from UN Climate Change shows implementation of current pledges by national governments puts the world on track for a 2.5°C warmer world by the end of the century. At COP27, countries reaffirmed their commitment to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

That means the global economy must "mitigate" climate change – in other words, we must reduce or prevent the emission of greenhouse gases to get us to where science says we need to be by 2030. In line with that, a mitigation work programme was established in Sharm el-Sheikh, aimed at urgently scaling up mitigation ambition and implementation. The work programme will start immediately and continue until 2026 when there will be a review to consider its extension.

At COP27, governments were also requested to once again revisit and strengthen the 2030 targets in their national climate plans by the end of 2023, as well as accelerate efforts towards the phasedown of unabated coal power and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies. Governments stressed the importance of a clean energy mix, including low-emission and renewable energy as part of diversifying energy sources and systems.

About the Conference

Around 90 heads of state and representatives from more than 190 countries were expected to attend, including United States president Joe Biden and climate envoy John Kerry, French president Emmanuel Macron, German chancellor Olaf Scholz, European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen, Indian prime minister Narendra Modi, Kenyan president William Ruto and Sri Lankan president Ranil Wickremesinghe. Among the heads of state and government not attending were Chinese leader Xi Jinping and his premier Li Keqiang, as well as Russia's Vladimir Putin and his prime minister Mikhail Mishustin.

In September 2022, Egypt warned the United Kingdom not to backtrack on its climate targets, in light of a change to the new government of prime minister Liz Truss, and the announcement that new monarch Charles III would not attend the conference on Truss's advice. Following Truss's resignation, the request that Charles III not attend remained in place. Instead, he hosted a reception to discuss climate change at Buckingham Palace two days prior to COP 27.

Position Paper Policy

What is a Position Paper?

A position paper is a brief overview of a country's stance on the topics being discussed by a particular committee. Though there is no specific format that the position paper must follow, it should include a description of the position your country holds on the issues on the agenda, relevant actions that your country has taken, and potential solutions that your country would support.

Purpose:

Keep in mind the recent decisions taken by your own country and major events that have taken place after the war and your foreign policy regarding the same. The Position papers should include the following details:

- The delegate's preliminary understanding of the topic and what it entails
- Allocation of the delegate and your stance on this agenda
- Your proposed plan of action and effective solutions
- Any information regarding your portfolio that you think that the Executive Board members should know
- Furthermore, your expectations as to how this committee should progress and what are your expectations from the debate.

Each position paper should not exceed two pages, and should all be combined into a single PDF format per delegate (other formats will not be accepted.)

Formatting

Position papers should include the name of the delegate, his/her country, and the committee, along with the agenda —

- Be in a standard font (e.g. Times New Roman) with 12-point font size and 1- inch document margins.

Due Dates and Submission Procedure

Position papers for this committee must be submitted by midnight of July 25, 2023. Once your position paper is complete, please save the file as your country and position paper and send it as an attachment in an email to your committee's email address, with the subject heading as your country name and position paper. (File should be saved as a country position paper) The subject of the mail should be: Country Name - Position Paper. Each position paper will be manually reviewed.

Documentation

Chits

Chits are a way of indirect communication amongst the delegates as well as the Executive Board and the delegates. These are primarily of four types:

Substantive chits - These are chits that are sent by delegates directly to the Executive Board. They contain substantive information that the delegate feels is relevant to the agenda and the Executive Board should be made aware of. Substantive chits can also include speeches that the delegate is unable to speak in committee.

Points of Information - Point of Information chits are used when a delegate wishes to ask another delegate a question but is unable to do so verbally. Such chits may be sent after a speech or at any point in the committee. POIs can be sent directly to a delegate or can be sent via the Executive Board if the delegate wants their question to be noted by the Chair.

Replies to Points of Information - When a delegate receives a Point of Information, they are expected to respond to the same verbally, if not, then, via a chit which may be sent directly to the delegate or via the Executive Board. Whilst it is not necessary to respond to all POIs, delegates are recommended to respond to them in order to clarify their foreign policy and proposed solutions.

Chits used for Lobbying - In committee, delegates may utilize chits as a mode of lobbying with other delegates. Through these, they may undertake various tasks such as forming blocs, clarification of speeches, and communicating informally with other delegates presenting the committee. These chits are sent directly to the recipient and not marked by the Executive Board.

Substantive Chits: Kindly note that you are free to include as many points as you wish to, however, ensure that the chit is concise, and all the important words/points are underlined.

Working Paper

A working paper, in its most elementary sense, refers to a list of solutions prepared by a group of delegates working together (hereinafter referred to as a bloc). A working paper essentially serves as a precursor to a Draft Resolution and allows delegates to frame their solutions in a formal manner.

Delegates are requested to note the following points with reference to working papers;

A working paper has no prescribed format. However, delegates are highly recommended to write it in the same format as a Draft Resolution, which is explained later in this guide.

In order for a working paper to be accepted by the Executive Board, it needs to have at least 1/3rd of the committee's total strength as signatories.

Discussion of working papers is preferred through an unmoderated caucus, with a defined number of speakers and the total speaking time.

The Executive Board will not be accepting working papers that are plagiarized, pre-written, or submitted by an individual delegate.

Draft Resolution Guidelines

The three days of debate are ultimately directed towards reaching a consensus and forming a solution, known as the Draft Resolution (DR), that delineates how the Member States must tackle the various issues of the agenda. A good Draft Resolution requires a well-rounded approach to the agenda and must be supported with a realistic framework for implementation.

The perambulatory clauses of a Draft Resolution state the purpose of addressing the agenda at hand and highlight past international action on the issue. Each clause begins with a present participle, called a perambulatory phrase which is italicized, and the clause always ends with a comma. These clauses can include references to the UN charter, citations of past UN resolutions or treaties on the agenda etc.

Key Terminology

Clause: one section of a resolution, containing one argument or one action

Phrase: Phrases are the first word(s) of a clause. They introduce the clause and define the nature of its recommendations.

Perambulatory Clause: The perambulatory clauses (also called preambles) of a resolution state the reasons for addressing the topic. Preambles can reference the UN charter and past international actions. Each clause begins with a perambulatory phrase and ends with a comma.

Amendment: An amendment is a change that a delegate would like to introduce to the resolution once it has already been submitted to the chair.

Sponsorship and signatories

Sponsors are delegates who have participated consistently in the writing of the Draft Resolution, and who will be presenting the document to the committee and answering questions asked by other members of the committee. A delegate may be a sponsor to only one Draft Resolution.

Signatories are delegates who want to see the Draft Resolution discussed in committee, regardless of whether or not they agree with it. There is no limit to the number of Draft Resolutions that a delegate may be a signatory to. A Draft Resolution must meet a Specified minimum of Sponsors and Signatories in order to be submitted to the Executive Board.

Amendments

Amendments serve as a way for delegates to make changes to a Draft Resolution which has been discussed in committee. The following points must be kept in mind for amendments:

Amendments must be sent in the prescribed format, otherwise, they will not be accepted by the Executive Board.

Sponsors cannot send amendments to their own DR.

Note: The purpose of this background guide is to brief you about the agenda and it should only act as a starting point in your research. The background guide cannot be used as evidence for any claims in the committee.