

IASMUN

Background Guide



UNFCCC

IASMUN UNFCCC BACKGROUND GUIDE



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Welcome Letter From Dias

A VERY WARM WELCOME TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE!!

MY NAME IS FAHIM, AND I WILL BE SERVING AS YOUR HEAD CHAIR FOR THE UNFCCC COMMITTEE. IT BRINGS ME IMMENSE PRIDE TO RETURN TO IASMUN, THIS TIME NOT AS A DELEGATE, BUT AS A CHAIR, GUIDING AND FACILITATING THE DIPLOMATIC DIALOGUE THAT IS AT THE HEART OF MODEL UNITED NATIONS.

I LOOK FORWARD TO WITNESSING THE EXTRAVAGANT IDEAS, PASSION, AND DETERMINATION YOU WILL BRING TO OUR CONFERENCE SESSIONS. LET US WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS CONFERENCE BOTH IMPACTFUL AND MEMORABLE. WISHING YOU ALL THE VERY BEST OF LUCK AS WE EMBARK ON A SERIES OF RIGOROUS DISCUSSIONS AND MEANINGFUL SOLUTIONS.

I'M MAYA, YOUR CO-CHAIR. OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS WE'LL TACKLE SOME OF THE MOST CHALLENGING ISSUES FACING THE WORLD- ISSUES LIKE ECO-JUSTICE REVOLUTION, GREEN ACCOUNTABILITY, CARBON CREDIT CRUNCH, NET-ZERO MARKETPLACES, AND MORE. COMPLEX RIGHT? BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHY YOU'RE HERE, TO MAKE A CHANGE, TO SAVE YOUR WORLD FROM FADING, AND I BELIEVE IN YOUR ABILITIES TO BRING JUSTICE.

NOW, LET'S BE REAL. IT'S TOTALLY NORMAL TO FEEL AIX OF EXCITEMENT AND MAYBE A LITTLE NERVOUSNESS ABOUT WHAT LIES AHEAD. WHETHER THIS IS YOUR FIRST TIME IN A MODEL UN COMMITTEE OR YOU'RE A SEASONED PRO, EACH SESSION PRESENTS ITS OWN UNIQUE CHALLENGES. BUT REMEMBER WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER. IN THIS ROOM, THERE ARE NO "RIGHT" OR "WRONG" ANSWERS —JUST DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES, BRILLIANT IDEAS, AND COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING. YOUR VOICE MATTERS HERE, AND I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR THE CREATIVITY AND PASSION YOU'LL BRING TO THE TABLE.



Welcome Letter From Dias

YOU MIGHT SURPRISE YOURSELF WITH HOW MUCH YOU GROW OVER THE COURSE OF THE CONFERENCE—WHETHER IT'S THE WAY YOU HANDLE TOUGH QUESTIONS, NAVIGATE COMPLEX NEGOTIATIONS, OR FIND COMMON GROUND WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE. DON'T BE AFRAID TO PUSH YOURSELF OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE. YOU'LL BE AMAZED AT WHAT YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH WHEN YOU LET YOURSELF TAKE RISKS, EVEN IF IT'S JUST SPEAKING UP WHEN YOU'RE FEELING UNSURE.

THROUGHOUT THIS COMMITTEE, EXPECT MOMENTS OF INTENSE DEBATE, WHERE THE ISSUES WILL GET TOUGH, AND THE STAKES WILL FEEL HIGH. THAT'S WHERE DIPLOMACY COMES IN—FINDING THAT DELICATE BALANCE BETWEEN STANDING FIRM ON YOUR VALUES AND BEING OPEN TO COMPROMISE. SOME OF THE MOST POWERFUL SOLUTIONS COME FROM UNEXPECTED PLACES, SO KEEP YOUR MIND OPEN AND YOUR HEART INVESTED.

AS YOUR DAIS, WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE. NEED HELP CLARIFYING A RULE? WE'VE GOT YOU. NOT SURE HOW TO APPROACH A SPECIFIC CLAUSE? LET'S TALK IT THROUGH. FEELING STUCK IN A DEBATE? WE'LL BE THERE TO GUIDE YOU. AT THE END OF THE DAY, OUR GOAL IS TO ENSURE YOU LEAVE THIS EXPERIENCE FEELING PROUD OF THE WORK YOU'VE DONE AND THE SKILLS YOU'VE DEVELOPED.



Welcome Letter From Dias

So, as we begin this journey together, I encourage you to dive in with an open mind and an open heart. Challenge yourself. Challenge others. And remember that this experience is about more than just passing resolutions—it's about learning, growing, and becoming a better version of yourself.

Thank you for being here and for bringing your passion and dedication to this committee. I'm looking forward to seeing the incredible work we'll do together.

MAYA ALMUBARAK,
Co-CHAIR, UNFCCC
FAHIM SULAIMAN,
HEAD CHAIR, UNFCCC



COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

THE UNFCCC IS A KEYSTONE IN GLOBAL CLIMATE GOVERNANCE, ESTABLISHED AT THE 1992 RIO EARTH SUMMIT TO ADDRESS THE URGENT CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE. ITS OBJECTIVE, AS STATED, IS TO STABILIZE GREENHOUSE GAS CONCENTRATIONS IN THE ATMOSPHERE AT A LEVEL THAT WOULD PREVENT DANGEROUS INTERFERENCE WITH THE CLIMATE SYSTEM.

THE UNFCCC FACILITATES INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND ENABLES CLIMATE-RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT. IT FOCUSES ON MITIGATION, ADAPTATION, CLIMATE FINANCE, AND THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. THE KEY MECHANISMS INVOLVED INCLUDE THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, WHERE THE MEMBER STATES NEGOTIATE AND REVIEW PROGRESS TOWARDS GLOBAL CLIMATE GOALS. UNDER THE UNFCCC, LANDMARK AGREEMENTS INCLUDE THE KYOTO PROTOCOL, WHICH INTRODUCED LEGALLY BINDING EMISSION REDUCTION TARGETS, WHILE THE PARIS AGREEMENT PURSUES TO LIMIT GLOBAL WARMING TO BELOW 2°C, WITH AN ASPIRATIONAL TARGET OF 1.5°C. THE UNFCCC ALSO SUPPORTS INITIATIVES LIKE THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND TO AID DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR CLIMATE EFFORTS. DESPITE CHALLENGES SUCH AS ENFORCING COMMITMENTS AND ENSURING EQUITY, THE UNFCCC REMAINS ESSENTIAL IN MOBILIZING GLOBAL ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND BUILD A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.



AGENDA 1 OVERVIEW

THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CRISIS DEEPENS EXISTING INEQUALITIES, HITTING VULNERABLE NATIONS AND POOR COMMUNITIES-FIRST, WHICH BEAR LITTLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROBLEM. AT ITS CORE IS THE HISTORICAL POLLUTION BY INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS DURING AND AFTER THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, WHICH ACCELERATED A TRAJECTORY OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND SET THE TRAJECTORY TOWARD GLOBAL WARMING. CLIMATE JUSTICE, A FRAMEWORK THAT PRIORITIZES EQUITY AND FAIRNESS IN DEALING WITH CLIMATE CHANGE, HAS INCREASINGLY BROUGHT TO THE FORE THE NEED FOR CLIMATE REPARATIONS-COMPENSATION AND RESTITUTION FOR THE LOSS, DAMAGE, AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHALLENGES INFILCTED BY THESE HISTORICAL EMISSIONS.

CLIMATE REPARATIONS ARE ABOUT TRYING TO REDRESS THIS IMBALANCE OF RESPONSIBILITY BY RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL EMISSIONS OF DEVELOPED NATIONS THAT HAVE GAINED ECONOMIC BENEFITS THROUGH INDUSTRIALIZATION AT THE EXPENSE OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT. THESE EMISSIONS HAVE LEFT MANY DEVELOPING NATIONS GRAPPLING WITH DEVASTATING CLIMATE IMPACTS, FROM RISING SEA LEVELS THREATENING SMALL ISLAND STATES TO PROLONGED DROUGHTS AND EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS UNDERMINING FOOD SECURITY IN LOW-INCOME REGIONS. IN ADDITION, COUNTRIES LIKE BANGLADESH AND MOZAMBIQUE, AMONG OTHERS, ESPECIALLY IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, ARE FACING HIGHER VULNERABILITY REGARDING LOSS OF LIVELIHOODS, DISPLACEMENT, AND EVEN ERASURE OF CULTURE DESPITE THEIR SMALL SHARE OF GLOBAL EMISSIONS.

THE DISCUSSION ON CLIMATE REPARATIONS IS BASED ON INTERNATIONAL PRINCIPLES SUCH AS "COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSIBILITIES AND RESPECTIVE CAPABILITIES" THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE. THIS PRINCIPLE RECOGNIZES THAT WHILE ALL NATIONS SHARE THE DUTY TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE, DEVELOPED NATIONS BEAR GREATER RESPONSIBILITY DUE TO THEIR HISTORICAL EMISSIONS AND SUPERIOR RESOURCES. CALLS FOR REPARATIONS HAVE ESCALATED LATELY, ESPECIALLY THROUGH MECHANISMS LIKE THE LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND,



AGENDA 1 OVERVIEW

CALLS FOR REPARATIONS HAVE ESCALATED LATELY, ESPECIALLY THROUGH MECHANISMS LIKE THE LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND, AGREED UPON AT COP27 IN 2022 TO COMPENSATE FOR IRREVERSIBLE DAMAGE TO WHICH THE VULNERABLE COUNTRIES ARE EXPOSED.

THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTING CLIMATE REPARATIONS, HOWEVER, IS INTRICATE AND CONTROVERSIAL. CHALLENGES INVOLVE QUANTIFYING HISTORICAL RESPONSIBILITY, DETERMINING FUNDING MECHANISMS, AND OVERCOMING THE RESISTANCE OF CURRENT MAJOR EMITTERS, WHO ARE CONCERNED WITH SETTING LEGAL PRECEDENTS FOR LIABILITY. ACCORDING TO THEM, CLIMATE REPARATIONS ARE A MATTER NOT OF BLAME BUT OF JUSTICE AND SURVIVAL-TO PROVIDE WHATEVER RESOURCES NECESSARY FOR ADAPTATION AND RECOVERY, AS WELL AS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN Affected AREAS.

IN THE STUDY OF CLIMATE REPARATIONS, THE WORLD HAS TO CREATE STRONG MECHANISMS THAT BALANCE ACCOUNTABILITY WITH COLLABORATION. THAT INCLUDES OPENNESS IN MECHANISMS OF FUNDING, ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES THAT GIVE VOICE TO THE MOST AFFECTED NATIONS INCLUSIVELY. CLIMATE REPARATIONS ARE NOT A MORAL DUTY BUT ALSO A PRAGMATIC WAY TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE AND BUILD COMMON ACTION TO TACKLE THE SHARED CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE.



AGENDA 1 HISTORY

THE IDEA OF CLIMATE REPARATIONS GREW FROM THE BROADER MOVEMENT TOWARD CLIMATE JUSTICE, WHICH TOOK CENTER STAGE IN THE LATE 20TH CENTURY AS CLIMATE CHANGE BEGAN TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY WORLDWIDE. AS SCIENCE MADE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES AND GLOBAL WARMING SO THE UNFCCC, THROUGH ITS INCEPTION IN 1992, RECOGNIZED INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS FOR THEIR DISPROPORTIONATE CONTRIBUTION TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. THIS WAS THEN CODIFIED INTO THE LEGAL PRINCIPLE OF COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSIBILITIES, WHICH STIPULATED THOSE WEALTHY COUNTRIES HAD A GREATER DUTY TO ACT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE. FINALLY, THE NEED TO COMPENSATE VULNERABLE NATIONS FOR LOSS AND DAMAGE CAUSED BY HISTORICAL POLLUTION COALESCED INTO A NOTION, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE INCREASINGLY INTENSE CLIMATE IMPACTS ON DEVELOPING NATIONS THAT HAVE DONE LITTLE TO CAUSE GLOBAL WARMING.

THESE KEY MOMENTS INCLUDE THE PUSH FOR A LOSS AND DAMAGE MECHANISM AT COP19 IN 2013 AND THE CREATION OF THE LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND AT COP27 IN 2022. THESE ARE INDICATIVE OF THE GROWING RECOGNITION THAT THE QUESTION OF HISTORICAL RESPONSIBILITY BY HIGH-EMITTING COUNTRIES LIES AT THE HEART OF EQUITY AND JUSTICE IN GLOBAL CLIMATE GOVERNANCE.



AGENDA 1 DISCOURSE

CLIMATE REPARATIONS ARE A VERY COMPLEX AND POLARIZED ISSUE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, ENCOMPASSING ETHICAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS. THE DEBATE ESSENTIALLY REVOLVES AROUND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS FOR HISTORICAL POLLUTION AND THEIR OBLIGATIONS TOWARD VULNERABLE COUNTRIES THAT BEAR A DISPROPORTIONATE BRUNT OF CLIMATE CHANGE. WHILE PROONENTS ARGUE THAT CLIMATE REPARATIONS ARE A MATTER OF JUSTICE AND EQUITY, OPPONENTS RAISE CONCERN ABOUT FEASIBILITY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND THE POTENTIAL FOR DIVISIVE OUTCOMES.

PROONENTS FRAME CLIMATE REPARATIONS AS A QUESTION OF MORAL OBLIGATION FROM HIGH-EMITTING COUNTRIES TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DAMAGES THEIR HISTORICAL EMISSIONS HAVE CAUSED. THE PROCESS OF INDUSTRIALIZATION AMONG DEVELOPED NATIONS HAS CONTRIBUTED TO GLOBAL WARMING, RESULTING IN DETRIMENTAL IMPACTS LIKE INCREASED SEA LEVELS, DESERTIFICATION, AND EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS, AFFECTING COUNTRIES THAT CONTRIBUTE THE LEAST TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS DISPROPORTIONATELY. IT PLACES THE FRAME THAT THIS IMBALANCE CAN BE DEALT WITH THROUGH REPARATIONS, WHICH INVOLVE RESOURCING VULNERABLE COUNTRIES IN ADAPTATION, RECOVERY, AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

IT ALSO FINDS ECONOMIC REINFORCEMENT, WHERE THE MULTIBILLION-DOLLAR COSTS OF CLIMATE IMPACT THE DEVELOPING NATIONS CANNOT BEAR ALONE; REPARATIONS WOULD GO TOWARD FINANCING INITIATIVES ON DISASTER RECOVERY, INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE, AND RENEWABLE TRANSITIONS. IN DOING SO, THIS MAY ENGENDER FURTHER GLOBAL COOPERATION AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY. INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS, SUCH AS THOSE REPRESENTED BY THE LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND ESTABLISHED AT COP27, EPITOMIZE MECHANISMS CONCEIVED OF FOR SUCH PURPOSES.



AGENDA 1 DISCOURSE

Critics of climate reparations say it is hard to determine responsibility for historical emissions, pointing to long timelines and generally collective industrialization. It, therefore, becomes a fair challenge to determine how much a country owes and how the funds are to be apportioned, especially with emerging economies such as China and India also contributing immensely to global emission. Wealthier nations may also resist the reparations because they realize that such measures could set a precedent for broader liability, opening the door to legal claims.

Besides, the political barriers make the matter even more complex, as reparations may widen the gap between developed and developing nations. Critics argue that the focus should shift from punitive measures to collaborative solutions, such as technology transfer and capacity building, to address climate impacts collectively. Further, there are concerns about transparency and corruption in the distribution of reparations, with calls for robust governance mechanisms.

The discourse on climate reparations accentuates the urgent need for innovative solutions that balance accountability with collaboration. Efforts like the Loss and Damage Mechanism, combined with broader climate finance initiatives like the Green Climate Fund, present possible pathways toward addressing the historical responsibilities without exacerbating divisions. Ultimately, what needs to be nurtured through an international commitment is trust for making sure that reparations serve as a tool for equity and resilience in the face of a shared global crisis.

This ongoing debate reflects the broader challenge of integrating justice into climate governance, highlighting the intersection of ethical responsibility, global cooperation, and sustainable development.



AGENDA 1 LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

THE MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CLIMATE REPARATIONS UNDER THE UNFCCC FRAMEWORK, WHICH CAME INTO LIGHT DURING THE COP28, IS THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE ON OPERATIONALIZING THE LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND ESTABLISHED AT CO27. THIS FUND AIMS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO VULNERABLE COUNTRIES ALREADY EXPERIENCING SEVERE CLIMATE IMPACTS. MORE THAN \$661 MILLION HAS BEEN COMMITTED SO FAR, MARKING A SUBSTANTIAL STEP TOWARDS CLIMATE JUSTICE. IN ADDITION, THE SANTIAGO NETWORK FOR LOSS AND DAMAGE WAS STRENGTHENED, WITH THE SECRETARIAT HOSTED BY THE UN OFFICE FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND THE UN OFFICE FOR PROJECT SERVICES, ALLOWING ACCESS TO MORE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR AFFECTED COUNTRIES.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDE THE ENHANCED EMPHASIS ON ADAPTATION THROUGH THE GLOBAL GOAL ON ADAPTATION, WHICH WILL ESTABLISH TARGETS FOR RESILIENCE IN WATER, HEALTH, FOOD SECURITY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE. COP28 ALSO SAW FINANCE DISCUSSIONS, FROM THE REFORMING GLOBAL FINANCIAL SYSTEMS TO BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF DEVELOPING NATIONS TO A RECORD PLEDGE OF \$12.8 BILLION INTO THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND, WITH MORE INTO OTHER CLIMATE-FOCUSED INITIATIVES.



AGENDA 1 SUBTOPICS AND FOCUS QUESTIONS

SUBTOPICS

- HISTORICAL RESPONSIBILITY AND THE PRINCIPLE OF COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSIBILITY (CBDR).
- SANTIAGO NETWORK FOR LOSS AND DAMAGE.
- GLOBAL CLIMATE FINANCE NEEDS.
- EQUITY AND JUSTICE IN CLIMATE GOVERNANCE.
- FUTURE GOALS AND COMMITMENTS.

FOCUS QUESTIONS

1. HOW SHOULD FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND BE ALLOCATED AMONG DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS?
2. WHAT MEASURES CAN BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THE CLIMATE FINANCE COMMITMENTS ARE MET AND SCALED UP TO ADDRESS THE FUNDING GAP?
3. HOW CAN COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSIBILITIES (CBDR) BE OPERATIONALIZED TO ENSURE FAIRNESS IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF CLIMATE ACTION OBLIGATION BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES?
4. HOW CAN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND CAPACITY-BUILDING MECHANISMS BE IMPROVED TO BETTER SUPPORT DEVELOPING NATIONS IN THEIR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION EFFORTS?



AGENDA 2 OVERVIEW

THE RACE TO NET ZERO IS ACCELERATING BY THE DAY, AND GLOBALLY INTEGRATED, TRANSPARENT, AND WELL-MANAGED AND EFFICIENTLY RUN CARBON MARKETS COULD PROVIDE THE MUCH-NEEDED BOOST TO REACH THE FINISH LINE. YET CARBON MARKETS ARE IN FLUX, DESPITE YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS, SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS, AND WIDESPREAD CONSENSUS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ROLE THEY SHOULD PLAY IN THE GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION. CARBON MARKETS ARE AN ESSENTIAL GLOBAL DECARBONISATION, BUT STAKEHOLDERS SHOULD COLLABORATE TO MAKE THEM ROBUST, TRANSPARENT AND TRUSTWORTHY. CARBON MARKETS, HAVE GARNERED ATTENTION AS A MECHANISM TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS COST-EFFECTIVELY. BY ASSIGNING ECONOMIC VALUE TO CARBON EMISSIONS, THESE MARKETS INCENTIVIZE REDUCTIONS THROUGH TRADING EMISSIONS ALLOWANCES OR CREDITS. HOWEVER, WHILE THE CONCEPT IS PROMISING, THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT CONCERNs REGARDING FAIRNESS, TRANSPARENCY, AND INCLUSIVITY. ENSURING THAT CARBON MARKETS ARE EFFECTIVE INVOLVES ADDRESSING THESE CHALLENGES WHILE BALANCING THE INTERESTS OF DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS. THIS AGENDA FOCUSES ON CREATING REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS THAT UPHOLD EQUITY, ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY, AND FOSTER GLOBAL COOPERATION.



AGENDA 2 HISTORY

1997: THE KYOTO PROTOCOL IS SIGNED BY 84 COUNTRIES, ESTABLISHING LEGALLY BINDING TARGETS TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS. IT INCLUDES PROVISIONS FOR SETTING UP CARBON TRADING MECHANISMS BETWEEN NATIONS.

2003: THE CHICAGO CLIMATE EXCHANGE, THE FIRST VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKET, LAUNCHES. IT CONTRIBUTES TO REDUCING OVER 700 MILLION TONS OF GHG EMISSIONS BEFORE CLOSING IN 2010.

2005: THE EUROPEAN UNION LAUNCHES THE EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME (EU ETS) WITH 25 MEMBER COUNTRIES. THE SCHEME TARGETS EMISSIONS FROM SECTORS LIKE POWER PLANTS AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (OIL, CEMENT, STEEL), ACHIEVING A 35% REDUCTION IN EMISSIONS BETWEEN 2005 AND 2021.

2006: THE CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM (CDM), RUN BY THE UN, BEGINS OPERATION. IT BECOMES THE FIRST GLOBAL CARBON CREDITING SYSTEM, REDUCING 3.2 BILLION TONS OF CARBON BEFORE ITS EXPIRATION IN 2020.

2015: THE PARIS AGREEMENT IS SIGNED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION AND 195 OTHER COUNTRIES. IT AIMS TO LIMIT GLOBAL WARMING TO WELL BELOW 2°C, WITH A PREFERRED TARGET OF 1.5°C ABOVE PRE-INDUSTRIAL LEVELS.

2016: THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION (ICAO) ADOPTS THE CARBON OFFSETTING AND REDUCTION SCHEME FOR INTERNATIONAL AVIATION (CORSIA). THE SCHEME TARGETS AIR TRAVEL EMISSIONS AND WILL OPERATE VOLUNTARILY UNTIL 2026, AFTER WHICH INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS MUST COMPLY.

2021: AT COP26, ARTICLE 6 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT IS ADOPTED, LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CARBON MARKET. THIS PROVISION ESTABLISHES MECHANISMS FOR COUNTRIES TO MEET DOMESTIC CLIMATE GOALS USING MARKET-BASED SOLUTIONS



AGENDA 2 HISTORY

2023: THERE ARE NOW 36 COMPLIANCE CARBON MARKETS ("CAP-AND-TRADE" SYSTEMS) COVERING APPROXIMATELY 20% OF GLOBAL EMISSIONS AND WORTH \$850 BILLION. VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKETS (VCMs) ARE VALUED AT \$2 BILLION, THOUGH OVERTSUPPLY KEEPS CARBON CREDIT PRICES LOW. THERE IS INCREASING DEMAND FOR HIGH-QUALITY CREDITS, ESPECIALLY THOSE RELATED TO ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES LIKE DIRECT AIR CAPTURE. NEW GLOBAL CARBON CREDITING STANDARDS ARE BEING TESTED, WHILE SOME COUNTRIES SECURE ARTICLE 6 TRADING AGREEMENTS WITHOUT INITIATING TRANSFERS YET



AGENDA 2 DISCOURSE

WHILE AVOIDING AND REDUCING EMISSIONS SHOULD ALWAYS BE THE TOP PRIORITY FOR EVERY COUNTRY AND ORGANIZATION, SOME PEOPLE MAY ARGUE THAT CARBON MARKETS CAN BE A BRIDGE FOR ABATING EMISSIONS IN THE DECADES IT MAY TAKE TO DEVELOP TECHNOLOGIES TO COMPLETE THE ENERGY TRANSITION. SOME ARGUMENTS INCLUDE:

CARBON PRICING:

THE DISPARITY IN CARBON PRICING MECHANISMS GLOBALLY POSES CHALLENGES. DEVELOPING NATIONS OFTEN LACK THE RESOURCES TO IMPLEMENT HIGH-CARBON PRICING SCHEMES, LEADING TO INEQUALITIES IN PARTICIPATION AND IMPACT.

ROLE OF DEVELOPING NATIONS:

CRITICS ARGUE THAT CARBON MARKETS OFTEN MARGINALIZE DEVELOPING NATIONS, FOCUSING INSTEAD ON THE INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD. A FAIR SYSTEM MUST ADDRESS CAPACITY-BUILDING, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, AND FAIR ACCESS TO CARBON MARKETS.

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY:

THE RELIABILITY OF CARBON OFFSETS—WHERE ENTITIES COMPENSATE FOR EMISSIONS BY FUNDING PROJECTS LIKE AFFORESTATION—HAS BEEN QUESTIONED. ENSURING THAT OFFSETS GENUINELY REDUCE EMISSIONS WITHOUT CONTRIBUTING TO "GREENWASHING" IS CRITICAL.

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

WEAK OVERSIGHT MECHANISMS IN VOLUNTARY AND COMPLIANCE MARKETS HAVE UNDERMINED TRUST IN CARBON MARKETS. EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE AND MONITORING SYSTEMS ARE ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE EQUITABLE OUTCOMES.



AGENDA 2 LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

EXPANSION OF CARBON MARKETS: THE 2024 ICAP REPORT REVEALS THAT EMISSIONS TRADING SYSTEMS (ETSS) NOW COVER JURISDICTIONS REPRESENTING 58% OF THE GLOBAL GDP, WITH 36 SYSTEMS IN OPERATION AND 22 MORE UNDER CONSIDERATION. EMERGING ECONOMIES LIKE BRAZIL, INDIA, AND VIETNAM ARE ACTIVELY EXPLORING ETSS, TAILORING THEM TO LOCAL NEEDS. REVENUES FROM COMPLIANCE MARKETS REACHED A RECORD \$74 BILLION IN 2023, SUPPORTING LOW-CARBON TECHNOLOGIES AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS.

PROGRESS ON ARTICLE 6 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT:

AT COP29, DISCUSSIONS FOCUSED ON OPERATIONALIZING ARTICLES 6.2 AND 6.4. THESE AIM TO CREATE ROBUST MECHANISMS FOR TRADING INTERNATIONALLY TRANSFERRED MITIGATION OUTCOMES (ITMOs) AND ESTABLISHING CLEAR FRAMEWORKS FOR CREDITING EMISSION REDUCTION PROJECTS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT. KEY PRIORITIES INCLUDE PREVENTING DOUBLE COUNTING, IMPROVING REGISTRY SYSTEMS, AND STANDARDIZING AUTHORIZATION PROCESSES.

THE ARTICLE 6.4 SUPERVISORY BODY ADOPTED NEW STANDARDS TO STREAMLINE CREDITING MECHANISMS AND ENHANCE TRANSPARENCY IN CARBON OFFSET PROJECTS.

TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS AND INTEGRATION: COUNTRIES ARE INVESTING IN DIGITAL SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE TRANSPARENCY AND TRACKING OF CARBON CREDITS. THE ADOPTION OF "AGREED ELECTRONIC FORMATS" FOR ITMO REPORTING AND IMPROVED CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN REGISTRIES AIM TO FACILITATE EFFICIENT CARBON TRADING.

THESE DEVELOPMENTS UNDERLINE THE GROWING GLOBAL FOCUS ON INTEGRATING CARBON MARKETS INTO BROADER CLIMATE STRATEGIES, BALANCING ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY WITH ECONOMIC INCENTIVES, AND ADDRESSING FAIRNESS CONCERNs ACROSS NATIONS.



AGENDA 2 SUBTOPICS AND FOCUS QUESTIONS

SUBTOPICS

- THE ROLE OF ARTICLE 6 IN ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON CARBON MARKETS.
- THE IMPACT OF CARBON PRICING ON GLOBAL ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES.
- ENSURING TRANSPARENCY IN CARBON CREDIT TRANSACTIONS THROUGH TECHNOLOGY.
- THE POTENTIAL OF REGIONAL CARBON MARKETS IN ACHIEVING GLOBAL TARGETS.
- THE IMPLICATIONS OF PRIVATE-SECTOR-DRIVEN VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKETS.

FOCUS QUESTIONS

1. HOW CAN INTERNATIONAL CARBON MARKETS ENSURE EQUITABLE PARTICIPATION FOR DEVELOPING NATIONS, ESPECIALLY THOSE DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE BUT WITH LIMITED RESOURCES TO REDUCE EMISSIONS?
2. SHOULD WEALTHIER NATIONS TAKE ON ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN CARBON MARKETS TO ACCOUNT FOR HISTORICAL EMISSIONS?
3. HOW CAN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES, LIKE BLOCKCHAIN OR AI, BE UTILIZED TO ENSURE TRANSPARENCY IN THE TRACKING AND TRADING OF CARBON CREDITS?
4. HOW SHOULD THE OVERTSUPPLY OF CARBON CREDITS IN VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKETS BE TACKLED TO MAINTAIN A FAIR PRICE THAT INCENTIVIZES MEANINGFUL EMISSION REDUCTIONS?
5. HOW CAN BILATERAL AGREEMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 6.2 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT BE LEVERAGED TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION BETWEEN COUNTRIES WITH DIFFERENT LEVELS OF DEVELOPMENT?



RESOURCES AND RECOMMENDED READINGS

RECOMMENDED READINGS

AGENDA 1: ADDRESSING CLIMATE JUSTICE: IMPLEMENTING CLIMATE REPARATIONS FOR HISTORICAL POLLUTIONS

- 'EQUITY IN CLIMATE CHANGE: FROM PRINCIPLES TO PRACTICE' BY NAVROZ K. DUBASH

THIS BOOK EXPLORES EQUITY IN CLIMATE ACTION, INCLUDING HISTORICAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPARATIONS.

- 'LOSS AND DAMAGE: ADDRESSING THE NEW FRONTIER OF CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY' BY MEINHARD DOELLE

ANALYZES THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOSS AND DAMAGE MECHANISMS UNDER THE UNFCCC FRAMEWORK.

- 'MAKING CLIMATE FINANCE WORK FOR THE POOR' BY STEFAN HALLEGATTE ET AL., WORLD BANK GROUP

A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF HOW CLIMATE FINANCE MECHANISMS CAN TARGET VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES



RESOURCES AND RECOMMENDED READINGS

AGENDA 2: GLOBAL CARBON MARKETS: ENSURING FAIR AND EFFECTIVE CARBON TRADING SYSTEMS

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RESOURCES AND RECOMMENDED READINGS

ONLINE RESOURCES

AGENDA 1: ADDRESSING CLIMATE JUSTICE: IMPLEMENTING CLIMATE REPARATIONS FOR HISTORICAL POLLUTIONS

1. UNFCCC – LOSS AND DAMAGE

THE OFFICIAL UNFCCC PAGE ON LOSS AND DAMAGE PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE DETAILS ABOUT ONGOING INITIATIVES, INCLUDING THE WARSAW INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM.

1. CENTER FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY SOLUTIONS (C2E5)

C2ES OFFERS ANALYSIS AND UPDATES ON LOSS AND DAMAGE POLICIES, THEIR IMPLICATIONS, AND DEVELOPMENTS FROM RECENT COPs.

1. CLIMATE POLICY INITIATIVES (CPI)

CPI PROVIDES DETAILED REPORTS AND TOOLS RELATED TO CLIMATE FINANCE TRACKING AND STRATEGIES FOR FUNDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE.



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SAMPLE POSITION PAPER

Delegation From
Republic of Turkey

Represented by
Al Salam Community School

Position Paper for the General Assembly 6: Legal (GA-6)

The sixth committee of the United Nations General Assembly is the main panel where legal issues are discussed and resolved, abiding by the rules set out by international law within the UN. The topics before General Assembly 6 are "Rights and Limitations of Digital Citizenship" and "Securing rights for illegal immigrants". Turkey hopes to provide its substantial effort to assist the United Nations in reaching to the best of resolutions for the above topics.

I. Exploring the Rights and Limitations of Digital Citizenship

Ever since the late 1900s, there has been a significantly increasing use of technology, especially in economically developed countries. Quite undoubtedly, this increasing use of technology has brought about a variety of benefits and opportunities in almost every aspect of our lives, including but not limited to its power to transform education. However, with this comes an array of social and ethical issues with which we must contend. These issues range from basic health hazards (eye strain, RSI) to online safety (identity theft, cyberbullying, phishing, hacking, scams) to misuse of information (plagiarism, access to inappropriate content, ability to buy dangerous goods). Unfortunately, the most vulnerable to these issues is the youth; who get tricked into various tactics adopted by hackers who compromise the child's online safety.

Turkey, as a country with a developed economy, understands that the present revolves around technology and that the future shall also revolve around technology. Therefore, it becomes the understanding of Turkey that it is the responsibility of the global community as a whole to allow people to profit from only the benefits and opportunities that technology has to offer while completely limiting any possible issues or threats; the first step of which is to enforce and raise awareness about the need and importance of Digital Citizenship.

The need for Digital Citizenship is and was quite clear, and so, Turkey has attempted its level-best in the past to protect its people from becoming vulnerable to threats on the Internet. Turkey (along with many other countries) has adopted law enforcement techniques that protect citizens from social and ethical issues that can arise as a result of the internet's threats. For instance, Article 312 of the criminal code in Turkey imposes three-year prison sentences for incitement to commit an offense and incitement to religious or racial hatred. Likewise, several other laws protect the citizens of Turkey from becoming a victim of racism and/or defamation, as well as other illegal activities that could be undertaken over the Internet. Moreover, Turkey has used techniques of blocking, filtering, censorship, surveillance, and content-removal to ensure maximum eradication of dangerous content on the Internet.

Ultimately, the need and scope for Digital Citizenship increases each day; and it is understood by Turkey that censorship and surveillance methods are to be changed or added to in the future when these methods may become ineffective on their own. Thus, Turkey hopes to resort to other, more effective methods that could easily be undertaken on a larger scale and eventually, further maximize and ensure online safety for all its citizens. However, the need for Digital Citizenship comes with the limitation that the citizens do not want to be policed and surveilled by the government, which is deemed as an invasion of privacy to them. Therefore, a balance must occur to prevent an invasion of privacy while yet enforcing Digital Citizenship.

Possible solutions that take into account both, the limitations and requirements of Digital Citizenship, include the introduction of Digital Citizenship officially as part of a curriculum in schools. Currently, this is not widespread in many countries as it should be. Nonetheless, this strategy embeds the need for and importance of Digital Citizenship in the youth of future generations. Doing this ensures a maximum percentage of future generations to be mindful and responsible when using any sort of technology, especially the internet. Turkey agrees with such



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methods, as the benefits of this are what is required – people would become less likely to engage in unpopular, dangerous activities if they know it is wrong from an early age.

II. Securing Rights for Illegal Immigrants

Illegal immigrants are widespread across the world, and they are a cause of a variety of problems to the destination country. They are seen to have negative impacts on the social, economic and political aspects of the destination country. However, some countries argue that illegal immigrants are employed by businesses for lower wage costs. This exploitation of illegal immigrants is one example of the many ways in which the rights of illegal immigrants are snatched; with other ways being needless torture, discrimination, slavery and a lot more.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is one of the several organizations that recognizes the problem and attempts to improve the conditions for illegal immigrants by ensuring the orderly and humane management of migration, promoting international cooperation on migration issues, assisting in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and providing humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, be they refugees, displaced persons or other uprooted people.

The Republic of Turkey also hopes to solve the problem of irregular migration as it has global repercussions. Turkey is of the opinion that the most sustainable solution to irregular migration would be the prevention of push factors that force people out of their country, to seek shelter in another country. However, Turkey has a present aim to secure basic human rights for these illegal immigrants, since irregular migration cannot be eradicated completely as of now.

Turkey also understands the importance of ensuring complete and comprehensible migration policies for these migrants; as well as ensuring that migrants are allowed to enter and stay in destination countries through legal channels. These allow illegal immigrants to at the least, enjoy basic human rights since it is not them, but the push factors that force them to migrate.

Furthermore, Turkey believes in the significant need to fight discrimination and racism against illegal immigrants, and in lieu, believes in embracing the diversity of cultures, ethnics, religions and race. It is known that illegal immigrants in Turkey are vulnerable to prostitution, human trafficking, exploitation of labor, slavery and death.

These create a matter of great concern, and consequently, Turkey has taken several measures to combat the problem of irregular migration. Firstly, the Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) was established with the sole purpose of making migration management more efficient. Turkey, with a view to prevent irregular migration, has improved border controls, strengthened cooperation among law enforcement agencies and created hefty penalties for migrant smugglers. Moreover, Turkey hopes to make use of international cooperation to solve the issue by becoming a member of organizations like IOM.

The rights for illegal immigrants can be secured by starting to raise awareness about the issue; which can spark pressure groups to take effective actions against businesses who exploit these immigrants. Moreover, the government of Turkey is willing to itself investigate human trafficking and prostitution to finally punish such activists with hefty penalties. Such measures discourage others from doing the same, and so, it should decrease the overall level of exploitation of human rights from illegal immigrants. Other than that, Turkey is and will continue to attempt to manage the humane migration of people; where they can enjoy basic needs and are not compelled to resort to unpopular methods.



SAMPLE RESOLUTION PAPER

AUSMUN/2023/GA1

General Assembly First Committee (Disarmament and International Security)

Main submitters: Russian Federation, Japan

Sponsors: Germany, Iran, Iceland

Signatories: Palestine, Libya, Algeria, Syria, Jordan, Bulgaria, Egypt, Nigeria, Iraq, Sweden, United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Luxembourg, Hungary, Kuwait, Tunisia, Pakistan, France, Cuba, Poland, Colombia, South Africa, India, Bangladesh, Yemen, Turkey, Paraguay, Switzerland, New Zealand, Central Africa, United Arab Emirates, Bulgaria

Agenda: "Gun Control Policies: Effective or a Hindrance"

The General Assembly,

Alarmed by the increasing gun violence across the world,

Bearing in mind every citizen has the right to their safety, security and self defense and that their right to live is their most important right,

Recognizing the need for effective gun control policies in order to prevent tragedies and mass shootings,

Concerned that illicit trafficking and diversion of arms and related material of all types undermine the rule of law and human rights, and has the potential to undermine the respect for international humanitarian law, can impede the provision of humanitarian assistance and have wide ranging negative humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences,

Emphasizing the need for proper implementation of measures to curb arms trafficking,

Noting with deep concern that the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons in many regions of the world continue to pose threats to international peace and security, cause significant loss of life,

Emphasizing the need for international cooperation on this issue,

1. *Recommends for the establishment of rules and regulations internationally over the eligibility for obtaining firearm licenses of all kinds;*
 - a. These include a thorough testing process which includes;
 - i. Background checks including mental health evaluations;
 - ii. Must be over the age of Twenty-One;
 - iii. Physical tests to make sure the person is capable of being responsible;



SAMPLE RESOLUTION PAPER

- b. These tests must be done every two years to renew one's license;
 - c. Must have a rational reason or motive to own the firearm;
 - i. hunting;
 - ii. sport shooting;
 - iii. collection;
 - iv. tradition;
 - d. Only one firearm is allowed for each license;
-
2. *Further recommends* alternative government initiatives such as buyback programs for illicit firearms;
 3. *Condemns* the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons;
 - a. Small arms refer to weapons designed for individual use, and light weapons are designed for use by several people serving as a crew;
 4. *Calls for* mandatory gun safety education programmes for any who would like to wield a firearm;
 - a. This teaches the responsibilities and consequences of using a firearm;
 - b. Both physically and psychologically prepares citizens for the usage of a firearm;
 - c. Furthermore, raises awareness by showing gun violence related statistics;
 5. *Encourages* the use of lengthier punishments against transgressors of gun laws;
 - a. Illegal gun ownership will entail a sentence of at least 5 years;
 - b. Crimes committed with a firearm will entail a sentence of 7 years;
 - c. Gun related homicides will result in 30 years in prison;
 6. *Emphasizing* the creation and maintenance of a National Firearms Registry for each nation;



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- a. Every citizen with ownership of a firearm must officially register it with the government;
 - b. Any illicit ownership of firearms will face harsh punishment;
-
7. *Requests* the researching and implementing of smart gun technology;
 - a. Includes features such as;
 - i. Biometric recognition;
 - ii. Personalized locks;
 - iii. Gps tracking;
 - b. This will help reduce:
 - i. the number of accidental shootings;
 - ii. theft-related gun violence;
 - iii. unauthorized use of firearms;
 - iv. reduce illicit firearm trafficking;

 8. *Authorizing* the implementing of stricter regulations on the legal import and export of firearms;
 - a. Working with trusted manufacturers that use high quality materials to prevent accidental malfunctions;
 - b. Limiting a country's amount of firearm importing and exporting based on the impact of the limitation on the national economy;
 - i. Special exceptions such as countries being at war will be considered;

 9. *Requests* the prevention of 3d printed firearms;
 - a. Regulating the sale and distribution of 3D printers capable of printing firearms;
 - b. Enforcing laws that prohibit the production and possession of 3D printed guns;
 - c. Tracking and removing illegal files used for printing firearms from the internet;
 - d. Implementing background checks and licensing requirements for those who own or operate 3D printers;
 - e. Incorporating technology such as radio-frequency identification (RFID) or fingerprint recognition to ensure that only authorized users can access 3D printers;



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10. *Solemnly affirms* modifications to the following treaties;

- a. The UN Arms Trade Treaty;
 - i. Ammunition needs to appear included in the Arms Trade Treaty;
 - ii. The recording of weapons should be under a central authority;

- b. The UN Firearm Protocol;
 - i. Adopting this protocol universally and implementing all provisions;
 - ii. Including enforcement mechanisms;
 - iii. Modifying the protocols to track the movement of firearms and to identify their origin;
 - iv. Criminalizing the illicit trade of firearm;