Delegation: Haiti

Delegate: Lauren La Ruffa

Committee: United Nations General Assembly: Special Session on Indigenous Affairs

Topic: Indigenous Peoples, Healthcare, Mental Health, and Wellness

The delegation of Haiti believes that indigenous peoples need greater access to healthcare. We realize that we report some of the world's worst health indicators, however we uphold our belief that universal access to healthcare is vital in developing a prosperous nation. The Haitian government recognizes that its people draw different conclusions for the causes of illnesses from different cultural, religious, and social beliefs. Mental health in Haiti is often viewed as a sign of supernatural forces such as a curse or karma. This provides obstacles when tackling the issue of universal healthcare for indigenous peoples of Haiti. The delegation of Haiti also recognizes that the 2010 earthquake has further weakened our national healthcare system: destroying our Ministry of Health, teaching hospital, and multiple health centers. Over 50% of our nation has no access to healthcare, mostly due to barriers such as distance and expenses. Therefore the delegation of Haiti calls for a solution in which healthcare is tangible to the indigenous people of Haiti.

Sources:

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Delegation: Haiti

Delegate: Lauren La Ruffa

Committee: United Nations General Assembly: Special Session on Indigenous Affairs

Topic: Indigenous Land Rights, Climate Change Impacts and Environmental Protection Resources

The delegation of Haiti believes that land rights are pivotal in pertaining to human rights. Indigenous people of Haiti are faced with agricultural challenges such as climate change, and access to water and seeds. Agricultural yields are low and lacking in quality due to these challenges. The Haitian delegation believes that in order to expand the land rights of indigenous people, we must come up with a solution that also grants them security to overcome environmental adversity. Their rights cannot be dictated by capitalist interests. Haiti has been exploited for its sugar and coffee cash crops. We believe that in order to raise our markets we must continue to uphold and create guidelines to protect our vital resources.

Sources:

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Delegation: Haiti

Delegate: Lauren La Ruffa

Committee: United Nations General Assembly: Special Session on Indigenous Affairs

Topic: Indigenous Peoples, Poverty, and Development

The delegation of Haiti recognizes that it is one of the poorest countries in the developing world. We believe that in order to strengthen our nation we must further develop our healthcare and economic systems. With monetary help from other countries we will be able to implement new healthcare solutions. The nation of Haiti has about one doctor for every 6,000 citizens, and in the rural areas it is even worse. We must first look to reform our healthcare system, if we wish to see positive change in our nation. Regarding development, our nation is open to new policies pertaining to our economy

which would stimulate our exports of cash crops. In order succeed we seek policies that place an emphasis on healthcare and economic reforms.

Sources:

Plant, R. (1998). Issues in Indigenous Poverty and Development. Washington D.C.

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