

Michael Frances  
Marianopolis College  
Gabon  
Climate Change Committee

In the past fifty years, the world has expressed concerns about the widespread issue of climate change. With the advent of record breaking emissions, many countries have decided to control these increases in controlled manners. Gabon intends to keep adopting many measures, over the course of time, to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions nationwide. Among them, it has opted to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent. Gabon is committed to cooperating with the international community in order to achieve a minimal level of emissions internally and externally.

As a relatively prosperous country in Africa, Gabon recognizes the importance of the climate change issue with regards to its population. Thermal stress spurs mortality rates and accelerates the spread of infectious diseases. We have suffered greatly in the past because of these issues and we recognize our governmental responsibility to protect our population. Gabon support the WHO's efforts to improve global health through environmental adaptations and strives to implement new strategies to promote population health and biological safety.

At this meeting, Gabon reaffirms its devotion to environmental stability. In the recent past, climate change has affected Gabon's shoreline materially, receding up to 4 meters per year. This is unsustainable for the country and must be addressed as soon as possible. Aside from the considerable loss of biodiversity as a result of this, many people had to be relocated. The sudden increase in water levels currently results in the internal displacement of many people who live near the rapidly moving shoreline. We have some climate refugees, however, but most people affected by this issue relocate to another part of Gabon.

Economically speaking, Gabon has been a large oil producer, once being a part of OPEC. Oil makes up 50% of its GDP. In recent times, oil prices have dropped, decreasing the profitability of this economic activity. Consequently, this is an important time for Gabon to seek alternatives to oil. In addition to economic benefits, this favours sustainable energy sources greatly.

Gabon has always supported innovation and improvements in infrastructure. Consequently, the implementation of new energy technologies remains a top priority. In turn, this will benefit the environment as well as the growing population. Looking forward, Gabon seeks to adopt new methods of energy creation, gradually reducing its reliance on traditional energy sources like crude oil. With the goal of economic growth and stability, Gabon strives to position itself in the most advantageous way in order to promote environmental preservation.

#### References:

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