Position Paper

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Zimbabwe

Climate Change Committee

The Republic of Zimbabwe’s history is one of turmoil, and has been greatly affected by colonialism and now a new threat has emerged, climate change. Zimbabwe was once a land of vast forests blooming with wildlife. Now the Republic of Zimbabwe faces complete loss of its natural woodlands by 2065 and climate change has been a major culprit in this destruction. Climate Change has greatly affected the people of the Republic of Zimbabwe through the degradation of land by climate and lack of environmental awareness by citizens. Zimbabwe intends to collaborate and create solutions for this troubling issue affecting not only the people of Zimbabwe but the whole world.

The Republic of Zimbabwe strongly believes that a climate solution must consider the needs of less economically prosperous, developing countries. European nations and America are the most responsible for climate change and yet it affects them least. Instead countries like Zimbabwe are hit the hardest, and because of this the Republic of Zimbabwe demands that these countries be held accountable. Countries like America must amend their disproportionate environmental damage and help other countries mitigate the effects of it. Zimbabwe also believes that organizations like WHO are morally obligated to help with this issue because the reality is that people are dying from climate change right now. This is the strongest way to recruit them because their collaboration is key and these organizations missions are to help the people. Furthermore, increased aid is a key part of mitigating the destructive health effects and the Republic of Zimbabwe recognizes this, but increased aid calls for the need to adapt and currently in many countries this is impossible because lack of awareness and education on climate issues. The Republic of Zimbabwe recommends increased climate education to make a more aware populous that is able to change because they have an understanding of the issues facing them.

The Republic of Zimbabwe believes that solutions need to be found to deal with the growing issues of climate refugees. As shown in Syria climate issues have the potential to start conflicts and the Republic of Zimbabwe is wary of this and believes that the rest of the world should share this concern. Due to hyperinflation taking place in Zimbabwe and farm land becoming increasingly scarce, the Republic of Zimbabwe intends to stop this problem before a similar war can outbreak domestically. The Republic of Zimbabwe recommends that UN countries combatting desertification, something sure to create many climate refugees must create a frame work to combat this issue before it can become out of hand and destabilize the country. The Republic of Zimbabwe recommends creating a dedicated panel to monitor this issue and find solutions to the roots of the issue proactively before this prolonged issues can create mass migration crisis like we are seeing in Syria today. Zimbabwe also will look to help victims of climate change (IDPs) to relocate domestically to ensure minimal disruption. Zimbabwe supports the creation of NDERPS for each nation as a measure to prepare for disaster.

The Republic of Zimbabwe believes that the Paris Agreement is a necessary and a step in the right direction for the worlds future and so, Zimbabwe is pleased to say that the treaty has been ratified. The next step in this is creating a global consensus on the treaty for it to really work. Zimbabwe urges every nation to ratify this agreement so positive measures can be put in place to begin to slow the disastrous effects of climate change. Zimbabwe proposes that economic sanctions be put on countries that are non-compliant with the treaty and also there must be increased political pressure. The Republic of Zimbabwe believes that strong methods such as sanctions are the best and only way to get compliance across the world and to create real change. Zimbabwe also strongly believes that the 100 billion must be increased. This is due to the fact that this money comes from more developed nations who are creating the pollution that is stifling the growth developing nations so greatly. Countries like America, China and EU nations are the most to blame for climate change and yet it effects them the least. Zimbabwe believes that these countries must be held accountable and developing nations who are largely innocent in the issue of climate change need and deserve all the help they can get in a fight against this larger than life issue. This increase to the fund also must come with an expanded mandate to help revitalize land and help those most vulnerable to climate change. This expanding would also include helping create more prepared resilient communities in the face of climate change and also expanding healthcare to mitigate the effects of diseases amplified by climate issues. The Republic of Zimbabwe is in support of further emissions cuts and the way to do this is to go back to holding the big nations accountable. In past Zimbabwe and other African nations have been exploited by the destructive power of colonialism and the perpetrating countries were allowed to walk away unharmed, and now these same countries are once again hurting Zimbabwe. The major climate change contributors (America, China and the EU) must stick to these treaties and begin making large cuts to their emissions. Zimbabwe also believes that countries emissions must be monitored and limited and those exceeding those limits must be punished with sanctions.

The Republic of Zimbabwe is eager and intent to be a part of real change in the worlds environmental policy. Climate change is a serious threat to the people of Zimbabwe and this will only continue until the nations of the world begin to collaborate and take ownership for their wrongdoings. Zimbabwe would like to reiterate that more must be done to monitor and contain a potential environmental migrant crisis, expand funds to help developing countries deal with the burden of climate change created by the developed world and also to commit to axing world emissions in a more serious manner to protect the nations of this earth.