**SSUNS 2016 Position Paper for The UNFCCC Conference of the parties: 22nd session**

**Committee:** UNFCCC Conference of the parties 22nd session

**Country:** The Republic ofMadagascar

**Topic One: The Impact of Climate Change on Human Health**

Climate change in the past several years due to human activity is projected to raise Earths atmospheric temperature between 1.5 to 5.8. The overall warming is also projected to make sea levels rise by nearly 40cm². This not only threatens Earths delicate ecosystem but also threatens human life, increasing risk of infectious diseases, natural disasters and famine. As a nation dedicated to helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to further achieve the goals set by the 2015 Paris Agreement, The Republic of Madagascar is passionate to find a solution to said problem.

As a nation, The Republic of Madagascar has joined several blocks in hope of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and in turn reduce the impact they have on human health. Madagascar has exceeded the expected MDG for climate change, by mitigating their greenhouse gas emission. It is projected that the Republic of Madagascar will reduce about 30 MtCO2 of said emissions by 2030 with aid from foreign investments. Madagascar’s involvement is largely due to the threat the nation faces from climate change. Due to increase of temperatures The Republic of Madagascar is at a high risk of certain diseases which thrive in warmer weather such as malaria which is the biggest threat currently. Other diseases which are projected to affect more people due to global warming are; Bird flu, Babesiosis, Cholera, Ebola, certain parasites, Lyme disease, rift valley fever, sleeping sickness, tuberculosis, and Yellow fever. In a poor nation, such as Madagascar where the current health budget was cut by 30% the effects have lasting impacts. Climate change has also left much of Madagascar’s population in risk of famine. For the third consecutive year in a row crop yields have failed to meet the countries demand. Leaving 850,000 people in an alarming state of hunger. Climate change will directly affect the worlds populations if action is not taken sooner, and Madagascar continues to be impacted by this epidemic. Although many agreement, blocks and organizations have been established (such as the MDG and WHO). The Republic of Madagascar would push that goals set in place by other nations in several agreements be met. The nation also urges any non-signatories of blocks which would help mitigate climate change to sign said agreements such as the Paris Agreement or blocks which the WHO have introduced. It also urges nations to assist poorer regions in both helping them with current health problems due to climate change but also supporting them in their goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Republic of Madagascar sees the issue of health being affected by climate change of utmost importance. It also acknowledges that long term goals must be implemented for a resolution to be met. If nothing is done developing countries impacted by scenarios (such as a drought) caused by climate change many lives will be lost especially in Madagascar.

**Topic Two: Climate Refugees**

From 2007-2008, more than 400 natural disasters affected over 234 million people, cost over 16,000 lives, and displaced millions of people for either short or long periods of time worldwide. From 1988-2008, the number of recorded natural disasters has doubled. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reported that rising sea levels and a higher frequency of storms and floods will impact tens of millions of people, especially those in coastal areas and on islands. Some have hypothesized that by 2050 the number of economic refugees could reach a figure as high as 250 million. Just recently in 2010-2011 the displacement of people due to economic events just in Asia and the Pacific alone reached about 42 million.

In 2014 The Republic of Madagascar had taken in 281 refugees, which is less than one percent of their total population. This country suffers from their own issues. The nation currently is in a severe drought with more than 850,000 people seeking water. The nation is also a hotspot for natural disasters which alone displaces its people and forces the nation to spend their funds on restoration rather than refugee programs. Though our nation has taken refugees, we are not equipped to provide the necessities of life to support said refugees. Madagascar lacks the proper infrastructure (such as hospitals, schools etc.) crops, and supplies to sustain any refugee. This nation must deal with its internal problems before handling the problems of other nations.

60% of Madagascar’s population lives below the poverty line. The nation proposes that climate refugees be relocated to countries that can provide sustainability for the climate refugees. A different nation where there are locations for said refugees and asylum seekers, where proper implications exist according to the UNHCR. Thus, the refugees would be better in another nation than The Republic of Madagascar which has been known to violate human rights such as excessive use of force and violence, arbitrary arrests and detentions, limiting freedom of expression and unfair trials. This country urges this committee to develop a sustainable strategy that could help climate refugees.

**Topic Three: Steps to Enforce the Paris Agreement and Further Reduce Green House Gas Emissions**

The Paris Agreement which took place in 2015 aimed to largely reduce greenhouse gas emissions, by keeping global temperature increase to well below 2℃. They also set a goal to keep the max increase to about 1.5℃. Then to see GHG emissions peak, then work on reducing them right after. The Paris Agreement also sees that developing countries will get receive economic help to reach their Paris Agreement goals.

The Republic of Madagascar had submitted its climate change action plan before the conference where the Paris Agreement was introduced. The nation plans to reduce about 30 MtCO2 of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. This country would like to enforce renewable energy increasing their current production of 35% to 79%. Their plan also aims to reforest the island. By 2030, The Republic of Madagascar has set up an emission reduction contribution of at least 14% of its greenhouse gases, and an increase of greenhouse gas absorption of at least 32%. The Climate Change Plan clearly shows the nations determination to reduce and prevent current and future greenhouse gas emissions. In this action plan The Republic of Madagascar states that they are committed to mitigation and the decreasing of GHG, but also to seek sustainable economic and social development. Our nation has not found it difficult to meet such goals because it has been affected by natural disasters such as floods and cyclones.

The Republic of Madagascar would like to see more funds put towards developing countries which would help them achieve their goals in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The nation also urges all other states to do their part in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.