**World Water Forum – Committee Description**

Water is the foundation of life on Earth. It covers 70% of the planet’s surface, yet just 3% of the world’s water is fresh water, and two-thirds of that is unavailable for human use. With an ever-growing population and the continued escalation of climate change and water pollution, water systems are becoming increasingly stressed, and water scarcity represents one of the defining plights of our time. An estimated 1.2 billion people worldwide lack access to water, and a staggering 2.8 billion find water scarce for at least one month of the year. Lack of access to clean water not only sets back several pillars of human development – including education, health, and food security – but is also likely to initiate and intensify interregional conflicts. Water issues are not matters of a single region or nation, but necessitate global solidarity and joint counter-measures.

Now in its eighth session, the World Water Forum is the largest international event focused on discussing and tackling issues surrounding water. It represents a unique multistakeholder platform on which policymakers from around the globe can collaborate to counter water shortage and its aftermath. In this committee, we will address three critical issues. The first is the development of novel technologies to ensure the sustainability of water resources. Here, delegates will be tasked with devising and implementing new strategies to limit water consumption while maximizing returns for the global population. The second topic will address international security and conflict as it relates to water scarcity. Delegates will explore countries’ struggles in accessing water resources, and how these struggles have expanded to the international scale. Finally, we will discuss the plausibility of ocean privatization as a potential solution to the classic “tragedy of the commons” issue that has resulted in widespread pollution of international waters and the depletion of fisheries. We look forward to a stimulating and productive forum that will result in positive action on these pivotal water issues.