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KINGMUN 2019

BACKGROUND GUIDE



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IOM

KINGMUN 2019

DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) at KINGMUN 2019! My name is Anshita Saini, and I am delighted to be serving as your Director for this conference. I am a sophomore attending Interlake High School, and this will be my second year as part of Model United Nations. I will be joined by my Chair, Maya Nair and my Assistant Director, Rory McNerney.

The IOM oversees the broad matter of migration, arguably one of the world's most pervasive issues with its extensive effects upon people from all walks of life. It aims to uphold migrant rights, address the operational challenges of migration management, and encourage socioeconomic development through migration. The IOM facilitates discussions and policies regarding these overarching topics between various parties worldwide. Thus, the topics we have chosen reflects these goals: Capacity building for Climate Refugee Influxes and Ensuring the Wellbeing of Unaccompanied Child Migrants.

Given the presence of climate change and the increasing presence of chaotic natural disasters in the past decades, it is imperative to discuss the management of climate-induced migration. Developed and developing nations alike struggle with this issue, as the assimilation of immigrants into society is difficult to deal with especially during times of crisis. Future forecasts vary from 25 million to 1 billion environmental migrants by 2050, implying the necessity of addressing the issues of such migration.

Child migrants are often overlooked when it comes to discussing migration. Millions of children around the world are victims of poverty, indifference, violence, forced migration and the fear of deportation. Discussion in the IOM must address the violations of child rights and programs to keep child migrants safe and healthy through their migratory stages. Cooperation must occur between nations to ensure the safety of the future generations.

Due to the multi-faceted issues that we will be dealing with in the IOM, I highly encourage you to thoroughly research your country's stance regarding both topics, with a specific focus on past action and current programs implemented in the nation. Pay close attention to why previous programs were effective or not, as this analysis is incredibly relevant to our discussion.

On behalf of myself and my dais, we cannot wait to meet you all at KINGMUN 2019! Please feel free to reach out and ask any questions you may have in your preparation prior to the conference - I am always happy to help.

**Sincerely,
Anshita Saini
Director, International Organization for Migration**

Committee Overview

Welcome to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) at KINGMUN 2019. The IOM was founded in 1951 to help relocate millions of displaced Western Europeans after World War II. However, it wasn't until 1989 when the IOM adopted its current name, as the organization shifted its focus from logistics to migration. Recently, in 2016, the IOM became a related organization to the United Nation (UN). Whilst being "committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society", the IOM possess 4 main goals it strives to achieve: "Assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration, [and] uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants" (IOM). In order to achieve these goals, the IOM provides international services and advice to migrants in need and crisis. Additionally, it brings further order and management to the migration process, researches the effects of and possible solutions for migrational issues, serves as a hub for migrant data and information, and assists state migration programs. The IOM has an annual operating budget of 1.4 billion US dollars with most of that funding coming from voluntary funding from the IOM Development Fund in order to assist member states with their varying migrant programs. Whilst the rest of the funding comes from the contributions of member states.

The IOM currently consists of 172 member states and 8 observing states. The IOM's organizational structure of over 100 offices is spread all across the world with its 9 regional offices, 2 Special Liaison Offices, 2 Administrative Centers, 5 Country Offices with Coordinating Functions, 4 Country Offices with Resources Mobilization Functions, Country Offices and sub-offices, African Capacity Building Centre, and Global Migration Data Analysis Centre; all departments have been deemed highly decentralized. The IOM is divided into two organs, The Council and The Administration. The Council is made up of all IOM member states and decides IOM policies whilst retaining the highest authority in the organization. The second organization, The Administration, is made up of the Director General, Deputy Director General, and other staff. The Administration manages the organization whilst the council elects its officials. The current sitting Director General is António Vitorino and the Deputy Director General is Amb-Laura Thompson. The IOM has to ability to work closely with its member states' governments with or without the

cooperation of NGOs in order to promote and assist “migration management that ensures humane and orderly migration that is beneficial to migrants and societies” (IOM).

Position Papers are due by April 21st at 11:59 p.m. Please submit them to iom@kingmun.org with your name, country, and “position paper” in the subject line.

Topic A: Capacity Building for Refugee Influxes Due to Changing Climate Conditions

Overview of the Topic

As the impacts of climate change continue to progress, the repercussions of ignoring the irreversible damage are beginning to impact migration. Many coastal nations face issues such as sea-level rise, extreme weather conditions, and environmental degradation. These all lead to millions of people losing their homes and lifestyles, forcing them to migrate to other cities or nations. Many nations also suffer from agriculture depletion and deforestation from the well-known “slash-and-burn” technique of using fire. Problems occur when the flames reach unintended lands and spreads, destroying other farmland and surrounding forests. As a result, agriculture dependent economies struggle from the climate change induced wildfire spreading. Many other impacts of climate change exist, including deterioration of biodiversity, interruption of fishery production, and intensifying natural disasters, all of which impose problems of the quality of life of individuals, threatening the population. The countries in which many migrants originate from are unable to support rehabilitating them into new properties because of their lack of supplies and backing from others. Nations willing to host these refugees must aid in creating infrastructure to provide for them in this time of crisis. They must be able to supply them with food, water, and shelter in order for the families to survive. Without the banding of countries together, the permanent effects of climate change will to push against citizens, endangering them until they are forcibly displaced from their own countries.

History

The topic of climate migrants was not discussed extensively until recent times, as they only became relevant with the advent of climate change, a development that only took place a couple decades ago. As natural disasters have increased over the years, emergency migrants, forced migrants, and motivated migrants, the three types of environmental migrants defined by the IOM have all increased concurrently.

Unfortunately, climate refugees are not currently protected by Article 1(a)(2) of the 1951 Convention of the Status of Refugees, which defines a refugee as “an individual who is outside his/her country of nationality...who is unable or unwilling to return due to a well-founded fear of persecution based on his/her race, religion, nationality, or member of a particular social group or political opinion...” Individual nations may, however, adjust their interpretation to include climate refugees as a separate group eligible for protection within their borders. However, while there has been increasing global resolve to combat the problem of climate change over time, most nations lack the political incentive to develop a plan to protect refugees impacted by climate change,

particularly if the issue does not appear to have a direct effect on them, and especially given the already high numbers of refugees created by war, conflict, and terrorism.

After this first convention regarding refugees, climate change impacts became more visible. In 1995, Bangladesh's Bhola Island was half-submerged by rising sea levels, leaving 500,000 people homeless. Current predictions suggest that about 15 million people in Bangladesh alone could be on the move by 2050 because of climate change.

However, following the migration crisis in Europe in 2015, which saw the biggest influx of refugees and migrants since World War II, 193 member nations besides the United States approved a non-binding Global Compact for Migration. This pact recognized climate change as a cause for migration, outlining ways for countries and states to cope with communities that are displaced by natural disasters as well as "slow onset events" like drought, desertification, and rising seas.

Past Action

Over the course of the past few decades, the damaging socioeconomic effects of climate change on nations has encouraged vast emigration. Nations have cooperated to develop various solutions in the past regarding these issues. These solutions have been both short term and long term, ranging from resolutions to specialized task-forces to collaboration with NGOs.

Previously, governments that met under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2009 formally recognized that the issue of climate induced displacement, migration, and planned relocation needed to be considered in their adaptation planning, specifically in the National Adaptation Plans. Several UN agencies and NGOs have offered help to governments in such planning, including the Nansen Initiative led by Norway. Moreover, following the migration crisis in Europe in 2015, which saw the biggest influx of refugees and migrants since World War II, 193 member nations besides the United States approved a non-binding Global Compact for Migration. This pact recognized climate change as a cause for migration, outlining ways for countries and states to cope with communities that are displaced by natural disasters as well as "slow onset events" like drought, desertification, and rising seas.

Beyond the previously listed international agreements, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is an organization that cannot be disregarded in the discussion for climate refugees as the lead agency with respect to the protection of refugees. It has worked together with the IOM and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to operate refugee camps and provide refugees with basic necessities through migration. Moreover, another organization working with the IOM is the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), created to facilitate inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance.

Current Situation

With the impacts of climate change worsening, its detrimental effects to refugees have already been felt by many all around the world. Such effects can be felt by many of the inhabitants of low-lying countries. In Southern Asia, approximately half of the region's inhabitants are living in

areas soon to become climate change hotspots by the year 2050, with 800 million of those inhabitants living in moderate to severe climate change hotspots. For example, rising sea levels in the Ganges Delta, home to approximately 160 million people, will cause salt water to seep farther inland whilst destroying many crops and arable land. Many scientists estimate that 17 percent of the land in the Ganges Delta will be destroyed, leading to the migration of 18 million inhabitants by 2050. Bangladesh doesn't stand alone, by 2100 Vietnam's 5 major cities will be flooded, leading to the migration of millions. Many of Tuvalu's islands, as do other islands of the Pacific, lie just meters above sea level, and they could be submerged in the near future with the Tuvaluan residents presumably migrating to either New Zealand or Australia.

Another of climate change's detrimental impacts to migration is scarcity of food and water. Climate change can diminish agricultural productivity, leading to the internal migration of rural residents to urban centers. Rural areas are extremely sensitive to the effects of climate change, and with more and more rural inhabitants leaving for urban centers due to climate change, it will become increasingly difficult to produce the 60% more food required to feed the earth's population in 2050. Such migration can be seen in Afghanistan, where drought has caused the mass migration of thousands of farmers to bigger cities. Fishing industries and those with fish heavy diets will suffer heavily from climate change. Due to warming waters, many fish species are leaving their tropical habitats, creating food shortages, thus leading to more migration. In South Sudan, violence and lack of food have combined to drive nearly 4 million South Sudanese from their homes, with South Sudan now becoming the third largest refugee exporter in the world. The Colorado river in the United States of America provides water to over 30 million people and is now running dry due to climate change, potentially causing massive internal migration in the future. In Europe, the glaciers of the Andes Mountains are melting fast, and by 2020, millions of Europeans will have lost their largest source of water. In Somalia, the deterioration of lake Chad's ecosystem has not only heightened social tensions but forced the migration of many "climate refugees" despite their lack of protection under international refugee law.

Moreover, there is no official international recognized definition of climate change induced migration. Furthermore, there is minimal data on climate change induced migration, thus leading to a lack of policies to deal with the coming crisis. With the most cited estimate for the total number of climate change induced migrants by 2050 totaling approximately 200 million, this is a dire problem for the UN and IOM to solve.

Bloc Positions

Low Lying Nations

China, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Bulgaria, Japan, Tuvalu, India, United States of America, Brazil

With land lying below sea-level, these nations are threatened by the rapidly rising water along their coasts. These countries are on the edge of flooding, while natural disasters are becoming more intense and violent, endangering the citizens along coastal cities. In Eastern Asia, populations

are vulnerable to cyclones from the Pacific Ocean, flooding millions of homes in highly populated cities. All of these nations suffer from the effects of climate change, whether their government believes in it or not, causing a varying amount of climate refugees to leave these nations. Some of the countries within the bloc are able to survive for now, but will need to take action to help smaller nations that are facing worse conditions. Countries such as the USA, China, and Japan are mainly migrant intakers and despite the impacts of climate change on their nations, remain a home for many refugees. Other nations within this bloc are focused on the safety of their people and need to work with these larger nations to be able to find homes for their citizens while the country is unable to host them due to climate related circumstances. Some within this group may have differing opinions on the amount of importance this issue brings, but still remain critical players in promoting the safety of citizens with a changing climate.

Unadaptable Nations

Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Tuvalu, Brazil

These nations, having some of the least successful economies in the committee, are suffering some of the most severe consequences of climate change. All of these nations are extremely low-lying and are suffering from extensive amounts of flooding throughout their coastal cities and towns, as well as depletion of their agriculture. Due to their economic status, they are unable to effectively solve the problem nor provide enough resources to their affected citizens, causing their people to remain homeless and in poverty. In effect of their financial instability, the inhabitants of these nations are forced to become refugees, fleeing from the dangers of human induced climate change. Without the support from other nations to either intake their refugees or help them implement prevention technology against climate impacts, both the people and the governments of the countries will not be able to escape the depletion of their economies and lifestyles because of the detrimental growing conflicts caused by climate change.

Adaptable Nations

China, Japan, United States of America

These nations are considered the “more developed” economies within the committee, allowing them the opportunity to provide for nations more seriously impacted by climate change repercussions. As many of them still suffer major flooding, wildfires, agriculture deficiency, and many other issues all caused by climate change, they are all able to remain financially stable throughout the next few decades. Being more developed nations, they have access to high level technology that can be used to prevent or delay the effects. If they are willing to help, these nations would play key roles in helping agriculture dependent struggling nations survive and prepare for future altercations around climate change. While the help of the United States of America, being the least affected in the bloc, may be beneficial to the conflict ridden countries, their current government will not accept that climate change is a legitimate reason to their problems. This will cause either other nations to step up as leaders in the committee, or promote the use of NGOs to support the housing and resource supply necessary.

Case Studies

Australia

Australia, facing problems with the impacts of climate change itself, is actually becoming a major receiver of climate refugees. As many nations in the Asian Pacific begin to suffer from rising sea levels, droughts, extreme weather, and many more effects of climate change, refugees look to nearby countries such as Australia to become their new home. Australia is also dealing with their own form of conflicts induced by temperature rises. The Australian Climate Council released a report in which it stated that climate change in Australia, “poses a significant and growing threat to human and societal wellbeing, threatening food, water, health and national security.” Australia has recently joined a group that is working together to develop recommendations on how to respond to displacement of people due to climate hazards. This initiative is helpful in establishing rights of these refugees within agreeing nations, as well as stopping the effects of climate change itself. This deal is vital to upholding human rights of refugees as there is currently no legislation in place securing their freedom. Australia has fallen behind in participation within the group agreeing on this action. They need to work with the other countries and create an international framework to allow refugees to culturally express themselves and live normal lives in the new nation. Using the resources they already have. Australia must step-up and combat their own issues battling with climate change, while also begin to start supplying incoming refugees with all resources necessary to become influential members of society.

Venezuela

As of December 2018, over 3 million Venezuelans had fled the country, and Colombian authorities expected the amount of Venezuelan migrants to double over the next year. Venezuela is extremely vulnerable to climate change, mainly due to its population distribution along coastlines and unstable terrains. 75% of all Venezuelans are concentrated in the 20% of the territory that faces the country's coast. In recent years, extreme climate events have produced visible, immediate displacement of people from their homes. Rare events like semi-tornadoes have occurred more and more frequently. Furthermore, people living in urban slums are uniquely affected, as these slums are often built on unstable terrain that is prone to mudslides and disaster preparedness is limited. However, the longer-term effects of climate change are the reason for recent Venezuelan migration being termed a ‘crisis.’ Climate change has raised air temperatures which impact the water cycle, hurting food production, with desertification occurring in much of the country. Less total rainfall means less electricity and a smaller water supply. Such implications have turned over a tenth of the population into refugees. However, as is evident in Brazil's similar drought situation, the flow of refugees cannot only be attributed to climate change - rather, the government's poor decision making in response to water scarcity contributed significantly to the number of families leaving the nation. More significantly, the Venezuelan crisis has broader consequences for the Latin American region. The influx of impoverished Venezuelan climate refugees to neighboring countries may contribute to climate change in the regions where they settle. Thus, initiative must be taken cooperatively between these countries to combat the ravaging effects of climate change on the movement of people.

Guiding Questions

1. Why might developed countries owe an obligation to help the migrants of developing countries as in certain cases, it was their pollution that forced such migration in the first place?
2. Should the IOM prioritize capacity building for internal or external migrants? Why or why not?
3. How might the IOM prioritize and obtain funding for both topics with dire cases of both situations spread all across the globe?

Additional Resources

1. https://migrationdataportal.org/themes/environmental_migration

This website not only contains useful charts and graphs of data on climate refugees, but also contains links to other official organizations' charts, graphs, and maps tracking climate change induced migration.

2. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/03/19/climate-change-could-force-over-140-million-to-migrate-within-countries-by-2050-world-bank-report>

An article by the World Bank containing a report on three regions of the world that are likely to be heavily impacted by migration induced by climate change and their potential solutions to this issue.

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10. http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTSOCIALDEVELOPMENT/Resources/SDCCWorkingPaper_MigrationandConflict.pdf
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20. <https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/podcast-australia-joins-climate-displacement-group>
21. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/apr/05/disaster-alley-australia-could-be-set-to-receive-new-wave-of-climate-refugees>

Topic B: Ensuring the Wellbeing of Unaccompanied Child Migrants

Topic Introduction

In 2017, there were approximately 40 million migrants forced to flee from their home countries due to conflict and violence, 17 million of which were children. Child migrants have no control over where they are taken and must face the result of living a new life in a completely unfamiliar place. Throughout the time of migration, children do not receive proper health services to ensure their wellbeing. There has been a lack of accessibility to health providers as they are unable to help in cases of mental illnesses, or cases surrounding treatment that could break cultural standards of the migrants. Without their families, these unaccompanied children are stuck without a secure home. These limitations continue to endanger the lives of millions of children attempting to survive without appropriate guidance from their families. Not only the hosting countries, but the countries of origin of the refugee, need to work together in order to provide for the helpless children who are stuck in a never-ending cycle of unaccompanied migration.

History

Child migrants and their rights throughout the migration process were originally disregarded, but in recent years have been addressed to a greater extent, especially after the advent of national conflicts. A child migrant is defined as the the movement of a person under the age of 18, with or without his or her parents/legal guardian to another country or region. However, definitions and categories used by governments which collect information at border entry points and during the asylum process vary, just as the concept of “childhood” and “adulthood” varies across cultures.

Overall, children tend to cross borders due to varying circumstances and different reasons. Families often migrate due to economic, socio-political, and environmental factors. Poverty is one of the leading causes of child migration from rural to urban locations. However, through this process, children have previously been trafficked to provide labor.

In recent years, the number of children migrating unaccompanied by guardians has increased, and unaccompanied children are often the ones experiencing the greatest violation of rights. According to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), the estimated number of people aged 19 or under living in a country other than the one where they were born rose from 30 million in 1990 to 36 million in 2017, an increase of 21 percent.

A large part of action taken on the issue of child migrant rights was implemented by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, established on 11 December 1946 by the United Nations to meet the emergency needs of children in post-war Europe and China. UNICEF data shows that in 2015-2016, there were five times as many children estimated to be migrating alone than in 2010-2011. The number of unaccompanied and separated children applying for asylum in

countries other than in the European Union increased from 4,000 in 2010 to 19,000 in 2015. Action by the UNICEF regarding child migrants has increased in recent years in response to these changes, with new programs to increase the collection of data on child migrants.

Even with the expansion of UN programs to aid the wellbeing of child migrants, their rights are still often violated and they experience extensive security and health issues. One of the most recent examples of this is the US government's practice of separating children from migrant families entering the United States, violating their rights and international law. However, these policies are often determined by sovereign nations, but a larger issue is the protections of children's basic needs. The World Health Assembly (WHA) has endorsed a resolution on "Promoting the health of refugees and migrants," yet the psychosocial well-being of migrant children is still an urgent issue facing many Western countries as the number of migrant children in the population increases rapidly and health-care systems struggle to support them.

Past Action

Following conflict between nations regarding policies for the welfare of child migrants, compromises have been created throughout the past decades to address the safety and security of our future generation. Limited action has been taken on this issue in the past, though new organizations have been created specifically for the protection of women and children.

The United Nations General Assembly passed A/RES/71/177 addressing the rights of child migrants, calling upon states "to ensure that... unaccompanied migrant children, those separated from their parents and primary caregivers and those who are victims of violence and exploitation, receive appropriate protection and assistance..." The UNGA further adopted A/HRC/RES/33/7, specifically concerning 'Unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents and human rights.'

One of the most significant articles passed by the UN is the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the most widely ratified international human rights instrument, with 193 nations. Articles in the CRC include Article 9, stating that a child "shall not be separated from his or her parents against their will" and only if it is "necessary for the best interests of the child," highly debated in today's context. The Committee on the Rights of the Child accompanies this convention, addressing the rights of all children in the context of international migration.

Moreover, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) assists in many matters pertaining to the growing migrant children crisis. UNICEF, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), IOM, Eurostat, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) have worked together to collect extensive data to understand patterns of child migration.

However, on the other hand, the same 193 nations that ratified the CRC agreed on the final text of the Global Compact for Migration, which aimed to establish a common agenda for managing migration and protecting migrants' human rights. Though Amnesty International recommended ways to ensure that the GCM protected migrant children's rights, nations chose to include "migration detention only as a last resort" and "work to end the practice of child detention in the context of international migration." Nations must continue to create further agreements to better the situation of child migrants, arguably one of the world's most vulnerable populations.

Current Situation

In 2017, the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimated the total number the total number of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) was a conservative 173,800. In addition, 45,500 of these children applied for asylum in 2017. Italy received the most asylum applications by unaccompanied and separated child migrants with 9,900 registered asylum claims, a 68% increase from 2016's 5,900 claims. Before, after, and during their entry, many of these unaccompanied child migrants fall victim to physical health issues and attacks on their wellbeing. Lacking the protection of their families, these unaccompanied children often fall victim abuse, exploitation, sexual assault, and human trafficking. An IOM survey found that approximately 75% of all polled children (aged 14-17) migrating to Italy said they had been trafficked or exploited in some way. Due to the difficulty of transferring medical records many child migrants receive over-immunization, rendering many vaccines ineffective. Moreover, a report from the WHO in Europe found many migrant children in Europe to be under vaccinated. Children who migrated to Germany were three times more likely to not have received a measles vaccine than German born children. In June of 2018, A USA Today report found that there had been outbreaks of scabies in US border detention centers with outbreaks of lice, measles, flu, drug-resistant tuberculosis, dengue fever and Zika also being reported. Furthermore, past reports have stated that these detentions centers have lacked medicine, medical screenings, vaccinations, and basic sanitation. However, it is not just the USA that possess these child detention centers. In 2017, several Southeast Asian countries housed thousands of Rohingya child refugees from Myanmar in detention centers without sufficient access to food or medical assistance.

Not only do refugees fall victim to physical health issues, they also fall victim to mental health issues. In a study of 166 unaccompanied refugee children, researchers found that between 37 and 47% of unaccompanied child refugees have severe or very severe symptoms of depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The study also found that girls and those who had experienced traumatic events were at an even higher risk of developing these mental health issues. Returning to the child detention centers, many health experts have stated that extreme stress the children are put under can result in lasting brain injuries and harm brain development. Moreover, once child migrants take residence in a country, racism, lack of social inclusion, and other forms of the discrimination they often receive from society and their host country creates even more physiological stress for these young migrants and worsens their mental conditions.

With a lack of universal health care coverage leading to extremely high medical expensive for migrants, many have to pay for services themselves which they can't afford. The IOM may have to partner up with other organizations such as the WHO, UNHCR (who provided health care and services to many Venezuelan migrants fleeing for Brazil) if they want to protect unaccompanied child migrants.

Bloc Positions

Migrant Intakers

Bangladesh, Germany, Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, Uganda, Argentina, Australia, Italy, China, United States of America, Mexico, France, Serbia, Bulgaria, Japan

All of the nations in this bloc are mainly migrant intakers who are able to somewhat successfully provide aid to incoming migrants from other countries. As their policies on child migrants and their stay within their nations may differ, they all have basic standards of living that they must supply the new people being immersed into their country. Most of the nations are somewhat financially stable to accommodate for a substantial influx of people and have a balanced source of resources to do so. These countries being open to introducing new civilians into their land has brought their nation diversity and prosperity, an incentive for countries unwilling to allow migrants to release tensions among their own borders. As some of the nations within the committee and this bloc may not be the most supportive of allowing entry to all, they all share a same want to allow the movement of people to be both effective and impactful. These countries will need to uphold certain standards of living that is welcoming to all backgrounds of people coming into their country. Nations like these must focus on the quality of life they will provide for the migrants within the workforce, housing, and education systems. A main controversy within this bloc is the discussion on child migrants specifically and how they will be immersed into society and educational systems smoothly. These unaccompanied children need to be monitored closely into new homes within the nation. Without taking precaution and attention to detail of the lives of these new child migrants, they will enter a dangerous and alone state within the nation that they had originally been attempting to leave in the first place.

Migrant Exporters

Myanmar, Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan, India, Tuvalu, Republic of the Congo, Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Ecuador

The nations within this bloc are where there are hundreds to millions of children leaving to other countries to attempt to live a better life. Some of the unaccompanied minors are sent by their families to go find jobs to help support them financially, while others travel with incentive to better their future economically and socially. These child migrants leave in search for opportunities in the workforce, the education system, and overall freedom. As these countries wish they could promote successful lives for their citizens, many of their economies can not provide the connections and opportunities their people are seeking to strive. Majority of the countries in this bloc still wish to see their citizens prosper in their new lives and want the help from the intakers to provide as many equal opportunities for them as possible. This bloc relies on the willingness of larger nations to supply these child migrants with the proper daily necessities and care that they deserve to have.

Case Studies

Germany

Germany is a child migrant intake nation and is in need of deciding how to deal with the increased influx of these unaccompanied minors. Germany and other countries like it are focusing on deciding the future of these children and how they will be immersed into their culture and society. In 2015 alone, there were approximately 42,000 unaccompanied children that entered the nation. Ideally, Germany would be able to properly educate and find homes for these children. Unfortunately, due to Germany's decentralized education system, they struggle to provide proper learning for these minors. In the capital of Berlin they have now made progress in integrating these new children into schools. There has been 20,000 children given educational classes, 18,000

of which were welcome classes to teach language and customs. Germany hopes that other cities can follow in the steps of Berlin to introduce these unaccompanied migrants into their nation. Accommodations and care for the children are put at utmost importance in Germany. Immediately after entrance, minors are taken into care by German youth welfare systems. These systems are where children will be provided with preliminary care and distributed properly throughout the nation. Then, the migrants are appointed guardian and will be prompted into various services designed around helping these unaccompanied minors. Although these facilities exist, their low capacity level and unqualified staff, members bring challenges to the process. Germany is a leader in the migrant progress within the European Union and is constantly finding new ways to open their society and nation up to new people.

Myanmar

Children who have migrated for religious or social regions are a uniquely vulnerable population, and a large part of the migrants leaving Myanmar. Since the military took control of this country in 1962, millions of Myanmar children and families have fled to Thailand and China. While many families are economic migrants, there is also a significant migrant population created by the Rohingya Muslim crisis, involving armed conflict with the military government for over 30 years. This conflict has caused families to flee from violence, detention, arrest, and internal displacement. During 1991 and 1992, over 270,000 Rohingya refugees crossed the border from Myanmar, with experiences of violence, forced labor, rape, executions, and torture. Human and child rights have largely been ignored up to the present day as well. The Thai government did not carry out regular age assessment procedures and could not identify children due to a lack of adequate screening. These Myanmar children and unaccompanied child migrants were forced to remain in detention centers. Currently, boys from rural areas in Myanmar are trafficked and delivered to fishing ports in Southeast Asia, including thousands of Rohingya children. Such trafficking is intrinsic to Asia's fishing industry; poor regulation and a lack of political will to end these rights violations keep this system in place. Though state policies have increased school enrollment in Afghanistan, Myanmar's military government refuses to acknowledge rights violations and children's educational needs. Approximately 60% of Rohingya children have never been to school due to poverty, with only five government schools for all of 12 Rohingya camps in the Western Rakhine State of Myanmar. According to the government, Rohingya children are excluded to maintain peace. Governments must work together locally and internationally to develop mechanisms that will ensure the best interest of the child migrant in such situations.

Guiding Questions

1. Should the settlement of child migrants in a new host country be prioritized over assistance to unaccompanied children during the migration process?
2. How might a nation's sovereignty potentially hinder the development and implementation of international standards for the treatment of unaccompanied child migrants?
3. What is the official internationally recognized definition of climate change induced migration?

4. How might the IOM prioritize and obtain funding for both topics with dire cases of both situations spread all across the globe?

Additional Resources

1. https://migrationdataportal.org/themes/environmental_migration

This website not only contains useful charts and graphs of data on climate refugees, but also contains links to other official organizations' charts, graphs, and maps tracking climate change induced migration.

2. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/03/19/climate-change-could-force-over-140-million-to-migrate-within-countries-by-2050-world-bank-report>

An article by the World Bank containing a report on three regions of the world that are likely to be heavily impacted by migration induced by climate change and their potential solutions to this issue.

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