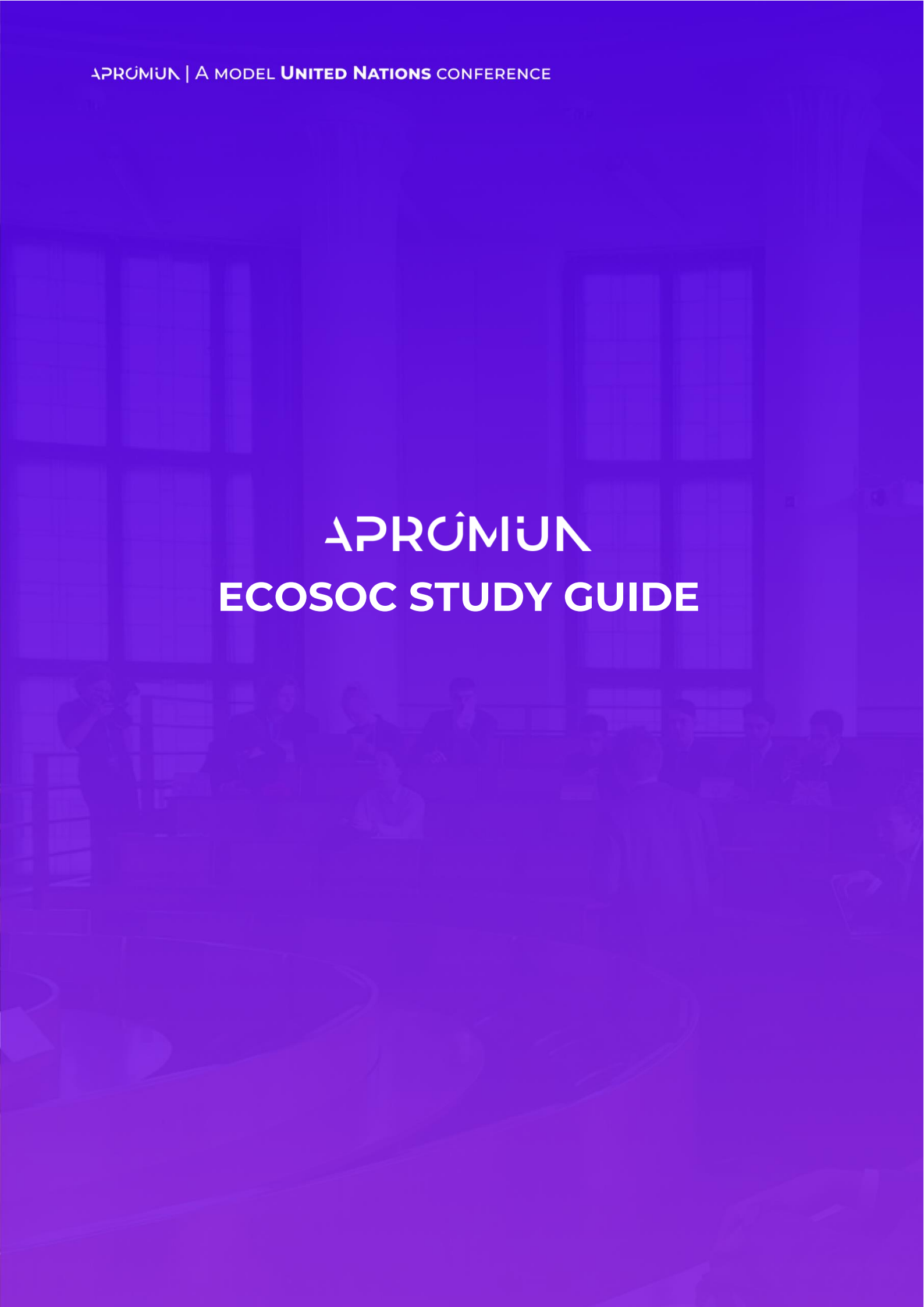


APRÓMUN

ECOSOC STUDY GUIDE



I. Table of Contents

I. Table of Contents.....	1
II. Letter from the Chairs.....	2
III. Introduction to the Issue	3
IV. History of the Issue	4
V. Food Insecurity and IPC	8
VI. Points to Consider	12
VII. Agenda 2030 Goal 2: Zero Hunger.....	13
VIII. Key Terms and Definitions.....	14
IX. Research.....	15
X. Position Paper	16
XI. Further Reading	17

II. Letter from the Chairs

Dear Delegates,

It is our greatest honour to welcome you to **AproMUN's 2023 Economic and Social Council**. As your chairpersons, we can promise that we will make every effort to keep the debates on the highest possible level and provide you with a genuinely unforgettable experience. Drafting this document, we wish to bring you closer to the discussed matter.

Henceforth, we highly recommend studying the contents of this document carefully. However, the study guide should not remain your only source of knowledge. We also strongly encourage you to **research further** as it will help you to represent your country.

We have chosen this topic because we believe it will enable you to discuss topics which you have not discussed in any other MUN. We believe you will learn a lot about a terrible issue formerly unknown to you.

Last but not least, we ask you to follow our social media, where we will inform you about the deadlines and organization of the conference. If you have any questions, you can contact us through discord. We are looking forward to seeing you in **October!**

Sincerely,

Michal & Jakub

III. Introduction to the Issue

The population of the Nations of the **Horn of Africa**; Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, and unrecognised Somaliland, (by broader definition also some regions of Kenya, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda), consists of around 160 million inhabitants out of which 70 million live in areas prone to **food shortages**. The lack of access to food is the main cause of hunger in the region. While rapidly increasing populations are tied to increased food demand in the Horn of Africa, meeting food security is still a major challenge. All of these countries experienced armed conflicts which resulted in destroyed infrastructure and an unending state of unrest. In addition to yearly record-breaking droughts and floods impair the local agricultural industry further deepening the need of foreign aid. These problems combined lead to general poverty of the countries with lead to **poor overall infrastructure**, including schools, hospitals, work opportunities...

This document contains information about the history of this region and what has led to its current situation. At last, you will find a more detailed description of the situations of the countries in the Horn of Africa.

We wish you pleasant reading!

IV. History of the Issue

The history of this region is fascinating. Over the years there have been many migrational and ethnic changes which have led to vast diversity in the Horn of Africa.

Additionally, drought and famines have always been one of the largest issues of the region. The dry seasons extend every year and when rainy seasons finally arrive, they tend to be insufficient and leave the countries devastated. The extreme weather has always been present, however, due to climate change, it is worsening drastically, and natural disasters such as droughts and floods occur with increasing frequency. The weather, however, is not the only culprit behind the region's terrible condition.

When the so-called "*Scramble for Africa*" began in the 1880s, the colonizers did not miss The Horn. The surrounding areas were colonized by the United Kingdom and the Ethiopian Empire managed to keep its sovereignty until it was engulfed by Italy in 1935. The colonial powers often prioritized cash crop cultivation over food crops, leading to food shortages for the local population. After most of the countries gained independence in the mid-20th century, they had to re-establish the economy – an unfathomably difficult task, leaving them with widespread food scarcity.

Conflicts slowly began occurring all over the region. The most substantial are mentioned later in this document. Such conflicts destroy infrastructure and cut people from food and water. Active conflicts impede access to humanitarian aid for those in need - this also causes migration, and displacement to surrounding countries, which are, more often than not, incapable of helping them alone.

These issues result in massive economic shocks, further expanding the problem.

The Horn of Africa is one of the largest recipients of humanitarian aid - which has become absolutely crucial for its survival. The UN and many NGOs continue to support this region, but as new situations arise, new changes and ideas are necessary.

1. Brief Overview of Several Conflicts in The Horn of Africa

a. The Ogaden War (1977-1978)

The conflict was fought over the Ogaden region in Ethiopia. The population of the region remains mostly composed of ethnic Somalis. Somalia tried to capture the region which was assigned to Ethiopia by the British Government in 1948. Before the conflict, Somalia was supported by the Soviet Union, but the USSR disapproved of the invasion and stopped the support. Since Ethiopia was also an ally of the USSR, they started providing Ethiopia with arms and Cuban forces. The conflict resulted in the utter destruction of the Somali forces and political unrest.

b. The Ethiopian Civil War (1974-1991) Eritrean-Ethiopian War (1998-2000) and the Tigray Conflict (2020-present)

After the military junta “The Derg” overthrew the Ethiopian Empire, they established a Marxist-Leninist State. The USSR began supporting the country which let them destroy the Somali offensive and the opponents of the regime. During the violent political repression, also known as “The Red Terror” (estimated 10,000 to 980,000 deaths) emerged various militant groups, most notably the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) and The Tigrayan People's Liberation Front (TPLF) which were situated in the north. The militant groups managed to persist and later overthrew the government. Eritrea declared independence in 1993 and the TPLF took over the control over Ethiopia. Later another conflict arose between these two countries over disputes but after grand loss of life they were resolved. Most recently the TPLF had issues with the current prime minister, and they decided to stop recognizing the current government. Due to rising tensions, a still-ongoing war erupted in the Tigray region. Ethiopia prohibits humanitarian aid to the region leaving millions without basic human needs.

c. Somali Civil War (1991-present)

Due to a failed war and a deteriorating socialist government, a civil war broke out between the clans and the government. The clans succeeded but another fight for power erupted with one of the strategies being food-control. After the war Somalia strengthened its relations with the USA for foreign aid. Because of this many militias formed, and a clan-war broke out once again. Nearly all Somali

infrastructure was destroyed. Shortages of food, water, and medicine. A Federal Government was formed but the fight for resources continues. The biggest opponent of the Somali government is Al-Shabaab which has the most presence in south Somalia.

d. South Sudanese Civil War (2013-2020)

e. Sudanese Civil War (April 2023-present)

Sudan has a long history of military coups. In its modern history 35 coups have taken place so far and there hasn't been a democratically elected government since 1989. The military has gained financial independence and controls over 80% of the state resources.

2. Al-Shabaab

Also known as "The Youth" Al-Shabaab is an al-Qaeda-linked militant group which is fighting for creation of an Islamic state in Somalia. The group once held sway over Mogadishu and major portions of the Somali countryside (mostly south), but an African Union¹ military campaign (backed by the UN) in recent years has considerably weakened them. Al-Shabaab's targets mostly Somalia, but they have managed coordinating bombings in Uganda and an attack on a mall in Nairobi. The group is mostly funded by al-Qaeda and extortion. They get most of their soldiers and other members via kidnapping children. Al-Shabaab was formed in the late 2000s. It is unclear whether they were created by the unification of the former Islamic terrorist groups or have a different origin. One of the tactics of Al-Shabaab is the destruction of fresh water sources, burning of fields and killing of farm animals.

Surprisingly they have a request to participate in our committee. Under special permission from the UN Secretary General António Guterres, they have been added as an observer to our committee meaning they do not get to vote.

¹ The African Union (AU) is a continental body consisting of the 55 member states that make up the countries of the African Continent. It was officially launched in 2002 as a successor to the Organization of African Unity (OAU, 1963-1999).

(The participation of Al-Shabaab is a fictive and impossible scenario created in order to spice-up the debate)

3. Impacts of COVID-19

The ripple effects of the COVID-19 pandemic still cause issues for the region. The main problems are the general inflation of food, fuel, and fertilizer prices which are mostly imported from other countries. During the pandemic over 2.7 million people have been displaced due to food insecurity, and anti-pandemic measures have also weakened the economy.

4. Black Sea Grain Initiative

By its' full name the Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian ports, the Black Sea Grain Initiative was an agreement between Ukraine, Russia, Turkey and UN. The agreement's purpose was to guarantee access to primarily Ukrainian grain to millions of people, primarily Africans, who would otherwise be met with devastating increases in food prices. The agreement stipulated that ships carrying primarily grain and fertilizer could travel through the black sea safely through special demined corridors. It was initially signed in Istanbul on the 22nd of July 2022, with an agreement period of 120 days. On the 17th of November, it was extended for another 120 days, and in 2023, in both March and May, it was extended yet again for 60 days each time, finally expiring on the 18th of July 2023, when Russia refused to re-extend.

V. Food Insecurity and IPC

As mentioned above, the Horn of Africa suffers from famines. The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (**IPC**) classifies the magnitudes of famines into five phases:

- Minimal/None
- Stressed
- Crisis - acute food insecurity and need for urgent assistance.
- Emergency - at risk of death or already facing starvation and death.
- Catastrophe/Famine - projected to face Catastrophic conditions.

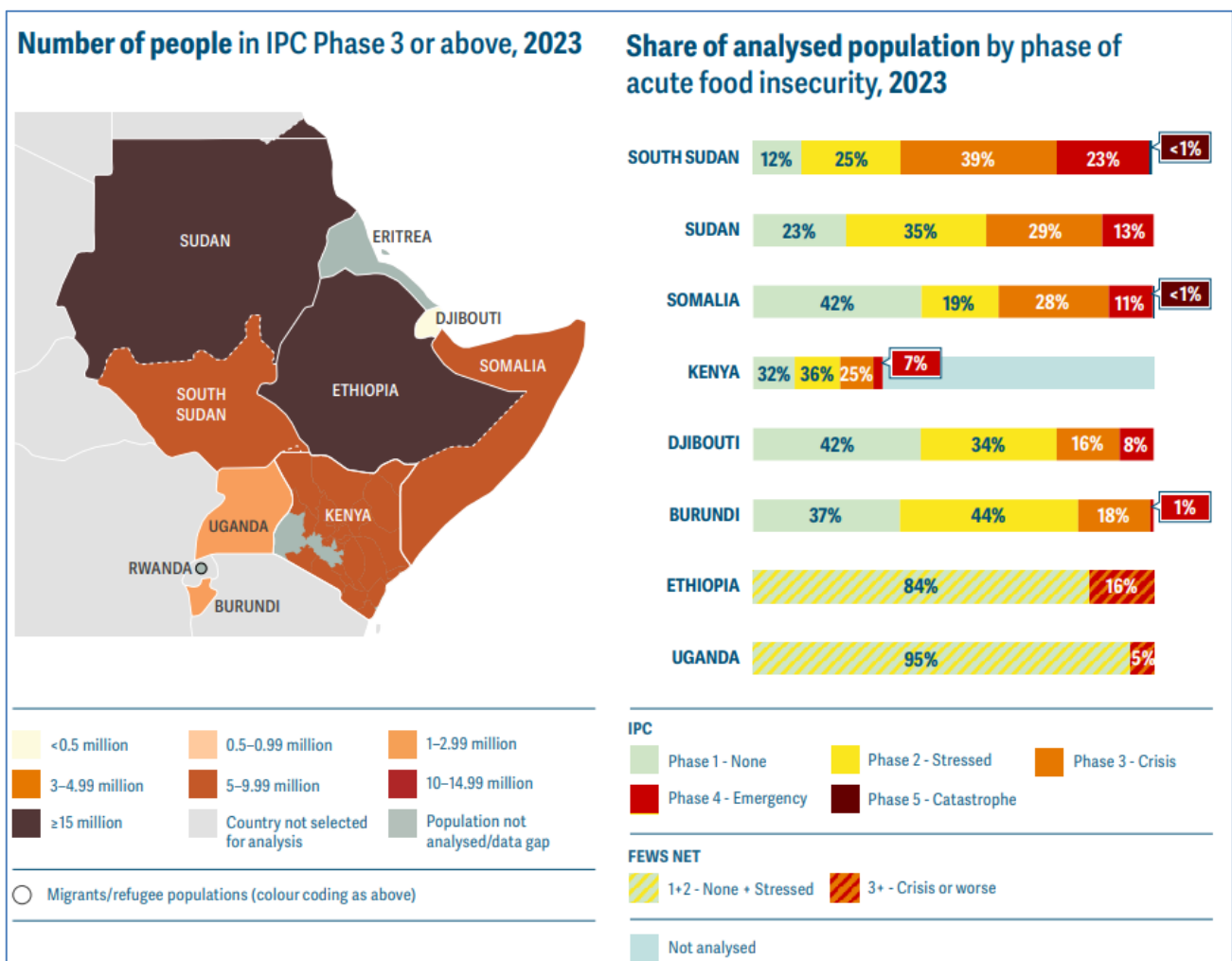


Figure 1: Areas by their IPC Phase

Djibouti - During July–December 2023, 285 400 people (24% of population) are expected to be in IPC Phase 3 or above, one of the largest increases globally compared to the same period in 2022, when 192 200 (16%) people were estimated to be in these phases. The severity of acute food insecurity is projected to increase, with the number of people in IPC Phase 4 estimated at 100 100 (8%) up from 12 400 (1%), caused by rising food prices, high unemployment, and floods. Seasonal factors are expected to worsen the situation between July and December, including intense heat and lower supply of animal products.

Ethiopia – Estimated 19.5 million people were in need of urgent food assistance during the peak period of acute food insecurity in July 2023. The food insecurity situation in Ethiopia varies from region to region. In general, under-average rains in some areas are expected to limit income from crop sales as well as labour opportunities compared to a typical year. While conflict in Tigray and drought in the south and southeast have decreased, the loss of incomes during these shocks have hindered the speed of recovery of food and income sources. Households in both areas face great difficulty in producing or purchasing food. October–December’s harvest in key producing areas in the west and some recovery of livestock production during the rains in the same period in southern agropastoral areas should see the population facing high levels of acute food insecurity reduction to 9.5 million by December 2023.

Eritrea – It is estimated that around 2.2 million people (60%) are food insecure in Eritrea. The country has struggled with poverty since gaining independence. The rainy season has proved underwhelming, but more rains are expected. The weather is very important since around 70% of the population works in the agriculture industry. Furthermore, Eritrean government has banned several NGOs and stopped various humanitarian aid programmes sparking international concern.

Kenya – Around 5.4 million people are estimated to be experiencing acute food insecurity in Kenya, with constant deteriorations and fluctuations in food security. Agricultural practices are commonly disrupted by lack of rainfall or drought (as approximately 95% are rain-fed), and it is estimated that 29% of all children are

stunted by malnutrition. Households, especially those in rural areas (70% of the population) and those headed by women find it increasingly difficult to access enough food, and despite Kenya's economic growth, over a third of all its' people live in extreme poverty. Additionally, Kenya is home to over 500 000 refugees, often in camps in highly food-insecure regions, fostering a high reliance on international assistance.

Somalia - Levels of acute food insecurity remained high in Somalia in April–June 2023, with 6.6 million people (39% of population) in need of urgent humanitarian food and livelihood assistance. This is an 18% increase since October–December 2022, due to the lasting impact of the severe drought that covered from late 2020 to early 2023, prices remaining above the five-year average in most markets and conflict has displaced tens of thousands of people. Of the population in IPC Phase 3 or above, 1.85 million were estimated to be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). However, areas at Risk of Famine, mainly the South-Eastern regions, in January 2023 are no longer at risk following a significant scaling up of humanitarian assistance, decreasing food prices and improved access to job opportunities due to a better-than-expected performance of the October–December 2022 rainy season. This corresponded with a significant decrease in the number of people facing Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) from 214 100 in October–December 2022 to around 40 400 in April–June 2023.

South Sudan – A devastating 7.7 million people, more than two thirds of the country's population, are facing crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse levels of hunger – a record high for food insecurity in the region, unseen even at the peak of South Sudan's civil war. Massive regions of the country are struggling with large-scale flooding, while others are suffering from devastating and long-term drought. These environmental conditions continually lead to horrible conditions for food production, displacement of people from their homes and livelihoods and a massive dependence on foreign aid. Additionally, over 43 000 people are estimated to be facing starvation. South Sudan's instability can also be partly attributed to its' governance, with its' relative stability being only very recently achieved. The situation is not helped by the fact it is still operating with a

transitional government, or that the country received massive amounts of refugees (numbering at over 200 thousand) from Sudan as a result of conflict in the region.

Sudan - The eruption of conflict has led to a severe deterioration in the Sudan's pre-existing acute food insecurity crisis. During July–September 2023, 20.3 million people (42% of population) are estimated to face Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above). This is a rapid and dramatic increase (74%) over the same period in 2022, when 11.7 million (24%) faced high levels of acute food insecurity. The population facing IPC Phase 4 has grown faster than the overall population facing acute food insecurity, having more than doubled from 3.1 million (6%) of the population in 2022 to 6.3 million (13%) in 2023. Between October 2023 and February 2024, the situation is projected to improve, with 15 million people (31%) facing high levels of acute food insecurity but these projections are still worse than the peak estimates of 2022. (IPC, n.d.) (FAO, n.d.)

VI. Points to Consider

Dear delegates,

The Horn of Africa has been in a difficult situation for decades. The climate and political situation have thwarted progress for many years, and we need to remember that what has been destroyed, broken or stunted **cannot be solved quickly**. Both long and short-term solutions must be created. It is important to note that, while it is outside of your power to stop these conflicts or natural disasters, you can help in fixing their aftermath. What you also may want to address is the already existing humanitarian aid in this region, and the fact that it may not always be as effective as it could. The armed conflict in Ukraine has also taken its toll, and with the Black Sea Grain Initiative ending, a solution needs to be found as soon as possible as to not disrupt this supply chain further.

Although this document explains this issue profoundly, every delegate **should further investigate this issue** and the politics of their respective countries. This topic might seem difficult, but we are certain that it will be adequate and fun for all delegates both new and experienced and bring **wonderful MUN experience**.

VII. Agenda 2030 Goal 2: Zero Hunger

Goal 2 is about creating a world free of hunger by **2030**. The global issue of hunger and food insecurity has shown an alarming increase since 2015, a trend exacerbated by a combination of factors including the pandemic, conflict, climate change, and deepening inequalities.

The persistent surge in hunger and food insecurity, fuelled by a complex interplay of factors, demands immediate attention, and coordinated global efforts to alleviate this critical humanitarian challenge.

Extreme hunger and malnutrition remain a barrier to sustainable development and creates a trap from which people cannot easily escape. Hunger and malnutrition mean less productive individuals, who are more prone to disease and thus often unable to earn more and improve their livelihoods.

2 billion people in the world do not have regular access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food. In 2022, 148 million children had stunted growth and 45 million children under the age of 5 were affected by wasting.

Food security requires a multi-dimensional approach – from social protection to safeguard safe and nutritious food especially for children to transforming food systems to achieve a more inclusive and sustainable world. There will need to be investments in rural and urban areas and in social protection so poor people have access to food and can improve their livelihoods. (UN, n.d.)

VIII. Key Terms and Definitions

1. IPC

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is an innovative multi-partner initiative for improving food security and nutrition analysis and decision-making. By using the IPC classification and analytical approach, Governments, UN Agencies, NGOs, civil society, and other relevant actors, work together to determine the severity and magnitude of acute and chronic food insecurity, and acute malnutrition situations in a country, according to internationally recognised scientific standards.

2. Displaced Person

A person who is forced to leave their home country because of war or persecution; a refugee.

3. Famine

Extreme scarcity of food

4. Malnourishment

Lack of proper nutrition, caused by not having enough to eat, not eating enough of the right things, or being unable to use the food that one does eat.

5. Food Insecurity

The condition of not having access to sufficient food, or food of an adequate quality, to meet one's basic needs.

6. Extreme Poverty

The most extreme form of poverty, defined by the international poverty line as living below \$1.90 a day. This number often refers to the monetary value of a person's consumption. Extreme poverty is also defined by the UN as "a condition characterized by severe deprivation of basic human needs, including food, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education and information. It depends not only on income but also on access to services".

IX. Research

Please keep in mind that this document is only a guide to your research of the topic, which should direct you to what is being discussed. The majority of the research, however, should be done by you. When researching, make sure you keep in mind these recommendations:

- Make sure you know basic information about your assigned country/group – leader, population, political system, foreign relations (especially with other members of the committee), etc.
- Check your country's policies and approach to drug trafficking, how it tries to stop it, or does not try to stop it. Find out how effective these measures have proven.
- Find out how the topic specifically affects your country. Does it provide supply or demand? Is your country on the trafficking path?
- It is recommended to familiarize yourself with the policies of other countries in the committee.

X. Position Paper

The position paper should be at least a half-page document, but one page is the standard, outlining your country's involvement and stance on the topic. It should cover these points:

- Present your country's approach to the agenda topic.
- Describe your country's past and present actions undertaken regarding the agenda topic, highlighting their effectiveness or lack of it.
- Introduce ideas for the resolution.
- Make sure your position paper, as well as your statements during the debates, correspond with the country's policy.
- Including factual knowledge, such as charts and statistics is highly recommended.

XI. Further Reading

An overview with lots of data

[GRFC2023-MYU-Regional-eastafrika.pdf \(fsinplatform.org\)](#)

<https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/183543/Al-Shabab%20-%20Council%20on%20Foreign%20Relations.pdf>

https://books.google.pl/books?hl=sk&lr=&id=YbzsBPuhyggC&oi=fnd&pg=PA441&dq=hunger+horn+of+africa&ots=LkRj_7wKPc&sig=5DIJLf7MJLOQaEwUf-P7zxeAMzQ&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q=hunger%20horn%20of%20africa&f=false

https://books.google.pl/books?hl=sk&lr=&id=Zk2_EAAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PT6&dq=horn+of+africa&ots=UVTcxjAmyt&sig=ptynJXWdFSSacLUBr1wZu9yzGc&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q=horn%20of%20africa&f=false

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/362428506_The_effect_of_climate_change_on_food_insecurity_in_the_Horn_of_Africa

More condensed articles

<https://borgenproject.org/>

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/06/1138087>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conflicts_in_the_Horn_of_Africa

<https://www.fao.org/common-pages/search/en/?q=Horn%20of%20Africa>

Videos

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9diumjPgs4&ab_channel=NBCNews

<https://youtu.be/6FW0399BfD4?si=A0y1TqVdHXiwrdar>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1IYd5vJ6og&ab_channel=Vox