Georgia Tech Model United Nations
Atlanta High School Conference 2019

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
Welcome to the Georgia Tech Model United Nations Atlanta High School Conference 2019

Conference History

The Georgia Tech Model United Nations High School Conference is a two-day conference for high school students on Georgia Tech’s campus, located in the heart of Atlanta. Established in 1998, the GTMUN HS Conference strives to provide delegates with unique insights and perspectives into the most complex and pressing global issues faced by world leaders. The GTMUN HS Conference prides itself as being a venue in which the brightest minds in the region can come together to learn about the significance of diplomacy, gain new perspectives on global issues, and acquire a meaningful understanding of teamwork, leadership, and collaboration.

The conference has grown in size over the years and now attracts schools from the entire Southeastern United States and beyond. Run by Georgia Tech students from a variety of majors, the GTMUN HS Conference offers a range of committees and issues for high school students to discuss. Our Model United Nations simulation places delegates at the forefront of global issues and allows delegates to develop a profound understanding of the UN. Through negotiation, compromise, and shrewd manufacturing, students learn the process and challenges of diplomacy. The GTMUN HS Conference emphasizes these challenges by ensuring delegates accurately represent their countries and balance national interests with those of the international community.
Letter from the Secretariat

Delegates and Advisors –

I am thrilled to welcome each of you to the Georgia Tech Model United Nations Atlanta High School Conference 2019! We have been preparing for your arrival all year, and our entire staff is looking forward to meeting and working with all of you over the two days of the conference. The GTMUN Program prides itself on running the largest high school Model UN Conference in the Southeast, and we hope that the 2019 Conference will continue to build on our two decades of success to provide you with the most enriching experience yet. As we expand our program, the GTMUN Atlanta HS conference remains both the cornerstone and centerpiece of our organization. It is an honor to serve you as Secretary General. Having only started MUN my first semester of college, I’ve grown to love the community and creativity it fosters. In my previous roles, I loved seeing the dedication and knowledge of each delegate I encountered and look forward to seeing even more this year. I sincerely hope that this year’s GTMUN Atlanta HS Conference provides all delegates with both an educational and enjoyable experience. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to approach any of my Secretariat members, pictured below.

Again, Welcome to the Georgia Tech Model United Nations Atlanta High School Conference 2019 and GO JACKETS!

Simon Brozek,

Secretary General of the GTMUN 2019 Atlanta HS Conference
GTMUN Atlanta High School Conference: Secretariat 2019

Simon Brozek
Secretary General

Raegan Allister
USG of Logistics

Tal Nechmad
USG of Administration

Erin Shinners
USG of Press Corps

Madi Wickett
USG of Policy

James Johnson
USG of Crisis

Aiyanna Lowery
Assistant USG of Logistics

Teresa Flynn
Assistant USG of Administration

Nivi Minjur
Assistant USG of Policy
Important Information and Reminders

The GTMUN ATL HS Conference 2019 will take place the 14th and 15th October 2019.

The GTMUN ATL HS Conference 2019 will take place in the Scheller College of Business at Georgia Tech, located in Tech Square at 800 West Peachtree NW, Atlanta GA 30308. It is located adjacent to the Barnes and Noble Book Store and across the street from the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center. Please enter the Scheller College of Business building from the entrance on West Peachtree Street. All other entrances will be locked for security purposes. There will be security present throughout the conference.

Parking is located adjacent to the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center. If you came by car, you may pay for parking by taking a ticket when you enter and paying the daily fee upon exiting. The deck is marked on the map below and is accessible from Spring Street.

There are numerous dining options in Tech Square including Ray’s New York Pizza, Waffle House, Tin Drum, Chuck’s Famous Sandwiches, Moe’s Southwestern Grill, Gyro Brothers, Subway, Yogli Mogli, and Starbucks. There are also restaurants in the AT&T Center including Chick-fil-a and Willy’s Mexicana Grill.

Conference-provided lanyards with the appropriate name badges must be worn at all times for security purposes. Personnel in the building not wearing a lanyard will be asked to produce theirs and immediately put it on, and if they fail to do so, they will be asked to leave.

Please remember to review the conference policies and rules of procedure as several changes have been made from previous years.
Follow GTMUN on Social Media!

We’ll be posting pictures and updates leading up to and throughout the conference. Use #GTMUNATLHS2019 to connect and share your pictures with us!

https://www.facebook.com/GaTech.MUN/
https://twitter.com/GTMUN
https://www.instagram.com/gtmun/

Remember, delegates may not use their phones or other electronic devices during committee!
Conference Policies

Respect
Delegates must show respect to others at all times. This means that all delegates should respect staff members, fellow delegates, faculty advisors, guests of the conference, Georgia Tech faculty, and anyone else present at the GTMUN Conference. Delegates are responsible for the manner in which they treat others during the entire conference. Any delegate in violation will first be issued a warning, and if the behavior continues, the delegate will be disqualified, asked to leave the conference, and will become the responsibility of the advisor. In extreme circumstances, delegates will be immediately disqualified and asked to leave.

Diplomacy
Delegates are expected to behave in a diplomatic and professional manner during committee. Conference policy defines diplomatic behavior as maintaining positive and professional relations between delegates, regardless of the relations between the countries the delegates represent, the high schools that delegates attend, or any other potential point of conflict. Delegates may not bully other delegates, blatantly attempt to sabotage other delegates, or pressure other delegates to sign papers or vote in a certain manner. Any delegate in violation will first be issued a warning, and if the behavior continues, the delegate will be disqualified, asked to leave the conference, and will become the responsibility of the advisor. In extreme circumstances, delegates will be immediately disqualified and asked to leave. Any orchestrated attempts by one delegation to explicitly discredit another will result in that delegation’s immediate disqualification.

Cheating and Plagiarism
Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Any instances of plagiarism will be immediately reported to the appropriate advisor. Delegates who plagiarize a substantive portion of their position paper will be disqualified. Delegates may not bring pre-written resolutions or clauses to the conference, and may not use any such materials in any working paper or draft resolution. Pre-written resolutions or clauses are defined as language written before the official start of GTMUN. Delegates who use pre-written resolutions or clauses will be disqualified.

Notes
Delegates may only pass notes to discuss matters relevant to committee. Delegates may not pass notes to discuss personal matters. Vulgar notes will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Delegates may not read the notes of other delegates unless given explicit permission by the note’s author and recipient. If note passing behavior becomes a committee-wide concern, at the discretion of the Directors, the Page may be asked to read all notes before delivering them. Any delegate violating this policy will be issued a warning and if the behavior continues, the delegate will be asked to leave the conference, and will become the responsibility of the advisor.

Name Badges/Conference Lanyards
All Delegates AND Faculty Members MUST wear their conference lanyards with their name badges AT ALL TIMES without exception.

Location
The GTMUN HS Conference will take place at the Scheller College of Business on Georgia Tech’s campus. The GTMUN HS Conference will take place during a Georgia Tech school break, but Georgia
Tech students will still have access to the Scheller College of Business building. Delegates may not interact with these students. The building will have a security guard present at all times, and the Georgia Tech Police Department will also be present in the area. Delegates may not leave the building except during lunch, and advisors are responsible for delegates during this time.

**Dress**
The dress for the GTMUN HS Conference is Western business attire. All delegates at GTMUN are expected to be dressed appropriately. Men, at minimum, must wear slacks and a collared shirt. A blazer and slacks or a business suit are also acceptable. Tuxedos are not appropriate. Women may wear slacks or a skirt with a collared shirt, a dress, or a business suit. Formal dresses are not appropriate. All clothing should be of appropriate length and fit for a business setting. Jeans, shorts, athletic shoes, sandals, or t-shirts are not acceptable under any circumstances. If a delegate is not appropriately dressed, they will be asked to either change or leave the conference.

**Technology**
The GTMUN HS Conference has a NO TECHNOLOGY policy, unless you are a participant of the Press Corps committee. **DELEGATES MAY NOT USE CELLPHONES, TABLETS, COMPUTERS, OR ANY OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES DURING COMMITTEE.** Any delegate in violation of this policy will first be issued a warning, and if the behavior continues, the delegate will be disqualified, asked to leave the conference, and will become the responsibility of the advisor. In extreme circumstances, delegates will be immediately disqualified and asked to leave. If a delegate needs to use their cell phone for an emergency, they may inform their committee’s Director, and they will be allowed to leave the room to make the necessary call. If a delegate requires the use of technology due to a disability, they will be allowed access to the technology. Faculty advisors must notify the Secretary General prior to the conference so that we may make appropriate accommodations.

**Preparation**
At the GTMUN HS Conference, we expect all delegates to be adequately prepared for committee. All delegates should complete a position paper to explain their country’s position on the topic outlined in the background guide. Position papers should be completed and submitted as detailed on the GTMUN website by **September 20th, 2019.** Position papers will be used when determining delegate and delegation awards. Delegates who plagiarize a substantive portion of their position paper will be disqualified. Any instances of plagiarism will be immediately reported to the appropriate advisor. Once again, pre-written resolutions will not be tolerated. Please see the Cheating and Plagiarism policy above for details.

**Awards**
At the end of the GTMUN HS conference, Best Delegate, Outstanding Delegate, Honourable Delegate, and Best Position Paper will be awarded in each committee. Please be aware that diplomacy, leadership, and professional behavior are the biggest factors when considering delegates for awards. There will also be a Best Delegation, Outstanding Delegation, and Honourable Delegation awarded at closing ceremonies. Scores for the training committee, UNESCO, will not be included in the overall scoring for Delegation awards, but individual awards will still be given in this committee.

**Consequences**
All violations will be decided by the Secretary General. All consequences will be determined by the Secretariat. If a delegate violates any of these policies, the appropriate faculty advisor will be notified.
GTMUN Atlanta High School Conference 2019 Rules of Procedure

1. These Rules of Procedure are considered adopted by the Assembly prior to its first meeting.
2. Interpretation of these Rules shall be reserved exclusively to the Secretary General and his or her designate(s).

Rule 1

*Dates of Convening and Adjournment*

The Assembly shall meet every year in regular session commencing and closing on the dates designated by the Secretary General. The dates for the 2019 conference shall be October 14-15th.

Rule 2

*Place of Sessions*

The Assembly shall meet at a location designated by the Secretary General. The meeting location shall be the Scheller College of Business, located at 800 West Peachtree NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30308 on the Georgia Institute of Technology campus.

Rule 3

*Composition of the Secretariat*

The Secretariat will be composed of the Secretary General, Undersecretary General of Administration, Undersecretary General of Policy, Undersecretary General of Crisis, Undersecretary General of Logistics, and Undersecretary General of Press Corps. All Directors, Assistant Directors, and staff members are considered designates of the Secretariat.

Rule 4

*Statements by the Secretariat*

Any member of the Secretariat, at any time, may make oral or written statements to the body concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 5

*Composition of the Dais*

The Dais shall be comprised of the Director and Assistant Director(s) of each committee.

Rule 6

*The Director*

The Secretariat shall appoint a Director who shall hold office and chair the committee for the duration of the session, unless otherwise decided by the Secretariat. If the Director finds it necessary to be absent during a meeting or any part thereof, the Assistant Director will assume the role of Director.

Rule 7

*General Powers of the Director*

In addition to exercising powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere in these Rules, the Director shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the session, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules,
accord the right to speak, put questions to a vote, and announce decisions. He or she shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings at any meeting and over the maintenance of order. The Director may, in the course of discussion of an item, propose to the Assembly the limitation of the time to be allotted for speakers, the limitation on the number of times each delegate may speak, the closure of the list of speakers, or the closure of debate. He or she may also propose the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting or the adjournment of debate on the item under discussion. The Director may also, for any reason, rule any points or motions dilatory. Points or motions may be ruled out of order if they contradict these Rules.

Rule 8
The Assistant Director
The Secretariat shall appoint at least one Assistant Director who shall hold office and co-chair the committee for the duration of the session. The Assistant Director shall serve as Acting Director in the absence of the Director, unless otherwise decided by the Secretariat. Alternatively, if the Assistant Director is unable to perform his or her functions, a new Assistant Director shall be appointed for the remainder of the term at the discretion of the Secretary General or his or her designate.

Rule 9
Invitation to Silent Prayer or Meditation
Immediately after the opening of the Assembly, the Director may invite the delegates to observe one minute of silence dedicated to private prayer or meditation.

Rule 10
Provisional Agenda
The Secretary General will draw up the provisional agenda and will communicate it to the members of the Assembly at least forty-five days before the opening of a session.

Rule 11
Adoption of the Agenda
The agenda provided by the Secretary General shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the opening session. Each committee may accept and debate motions to reorder the given agenda. The Director may limit the allowed number of speakers for debate upon the order of the agenda. At any time, delegates may move to set the agenda and each motion shall immediately be put to vote. A majority vote of those present in the body shall determine the order of the agenda items.

Rule 12
Motions Requiring Debate
For motions requiring debate, the Director will first ask for any delegates to speak against the motion. If there are no delegates wishing to speak in opposition, the motion will automatically pass without a vote.
Rule 13
*Quorum*

The Director may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when delegates of at least one-third of the members of the committee are present. However, a majority (one-half plus one) of the committee members must be present for any procedural decision to be taken.

Rule 14
*Speeches*

No delegate may address the committee without having previously obtained the permission of the Director. The Director shall take a List of Speakers in the order in which they indicate their desire to speak. The Director may call a speaker to order if his or her comments are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 15
*Official and Working Language*

English shall be the official and working language of each committee. Any delegate wishing to address the body or submit a document in a language other than English shall provide simultaneous translation into English and, for a speech, be afforded an equal amount of time to introduce the translation in addition to the original speech.

Rule 16
*Time Limit on Speeches*

The Director may determine the initial time limit for speakers. The committee may, by a majority vote, alter the time allotted to each speaker and/or the number of times a delegate may speak on a question. Before a decision is taken, however, two delegates may speak in favor of, and two against, such a proposal. When a delegate exceeds the allocated time, the Director shall call him or her to order without delay.

Rule 17
*Yields*

If a speaker concludes his or her substantive speech before the allotted time has expired, he or she may yield the remaining time to the Director, another speaker, or to questions. Speakers may only yield time when the floor is open to formal debate.

Rule 18
*List of Speakers*

Members may be on the list of speakers only once, but may be added again after they have spoken. After the initial establishment of the list of speakers by the Director, any delegate wishing to be added to the list must submit, in writing, their request to be added. Any delegate has the right to move to close the list of speakers, or if already closed, reopen it. This motion is not subject to debate, and requires the support of the majority of members present to pass. If the list of speakers becomes exhausted, formal debate automatically concludes and the committee proceeds directly into voting procedure.
Rule 19

Rights of Reply
If a remark impugns the integrity of a delegate’s state, the Director may permit a right of reply following the conclusion of the controversial speech, and shall determine an appropriate time limit for the reply. No ruling on this question shall be subject to appeal. Requests for any rights of reply must be submitted to the Director in writing.

Rule 20

Working Papers
Delegates shall submit working papers to the Director, with the names of at least four sponsoring members and a minimum total of ten signatory members recognized by the Dais (or 25% of the quorum, whichever is smaller), unless otherwise specified by the Director. A working paper shall retain the required number of sponsors to remain in debate and shall be written in the correct format. The Dais may, at its discretion, approve the working paper for circulation of copies to the delegates. The Director, however, may permit the discussion and consideration of working papers without such copies having been circulated. The Director, at his or her discretion, may also set a limit to the number of working papers that may be introduced on a topic.

Rule 21

Sponsorship of Working Papers
Working papers must carry a minimum of four sponsoring members and a minimum of ten signatory members, (or 25% of the quorum, whichever is smaller) unless otherwise specified by the Director. Sponsoring members are those who have contributed substantial language to a working paper. Signatory members are those who would like to see the committee consider a working paper. Observer delegations may be counted as signatory members of proposals, but not as sponsoring members.

Rule 22

Draft Resolutions
Once a working paper has been accepted by the Dais, it shall be typed and numbered according to the topic and the order in which it was received. Any member of the committee may move to introduce the draft resolution, at which point it will be distributed to the committee. This motion does not require a vote. Immediately following its distribution, the sponsors may exercise their right to a five-question question-and-answer session with the committee to facilitate discussion, as outlined in Rule 23. Only draft resolutions, alongside any amendments to the draft resolution, may be considered during voting procedure.

Rule 23

Author’s Panel
Following the introduction of a draft resolution, the sponsors may exercise the right to an author’s panel. This consists of members of the committee asking the sponsors five questions. The sponsors retain the right to accept to answer each question. The time allotted to answer a question is at the director’s discretion. Rejected questions do not count towards the five questions allowed.
Rule 24
Amendments to Draft Resolutions
Delegates may submit substantive amendments to draft resolutions to the Director. The Dais may, at its discretion, approve the amendment for circulation of copies to the delegations. The Director, however, may permit the discussion and consideration of amendments without such copies having been circulated.

Rule 25
Procedure for Amendments to Draft Resolutions
If all of the sponsors agree to the adoption of a proposed amendment, the amendment shall be considered friendly, and the draft resolution shall be modified accordingly. The amendment, along with written approval from all of the sponsors, must be submitted in writing to the Director. No vote shall be taken on the adoption of the friendly amendment. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the body for all purposes, including subsequent amendments. See Rule 44 for procedures regarding amendments to which not all sponsors agree.

Rule 26
Competence
Any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the committee to adopt a resolution or amendment submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a vote is taken on the resolution or the amendment in question.

Rule 27
Withdrawal of Motions and Working Papers
Any motion made may be withdrawn from the floor by its sponsoring delegate before it is entertained by the Director and action taken upon it. Likewise, the sponsors of a working paper may withdraw their working paper at any time before voting procedure has commenced, provided that no amendments have been submitted for the working paper. A motion or working paper thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any delegate.

Rule 28
Points of Order
To correct an error in procedure, a delegate may rise to a point of order during the discussion of any matter. The Director, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, shall decide immediately on the point of order. A delegate may appeal the ruling of the Director to the Secretary General by informing the Secretary General in writing. A delegate rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 29
Points of Information
Any delegate may rise to a point of information to direct a question concerning procedure to the chair. The point may pertain to clarification of the Rules of Procedure, the United Nations, or the direction of the proceedings. This point is in order only when the floor is open to formal debate.
Rule 30

*Points of Personal Privilege*

Any delegate may rise to a point of personal privilege if the noise in the chamber is too loud, the speaker cannot be heard, the temperature of the room is uncomfortable, or for some similar reason. If and only if a question requires immediate action may a delegate exercising a point of personal privilege interrupt the current speaker.

Rule 31

*Moderated Caucus*

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move for a moderated caucus, or a suspension of the meeting, by specifying a time limit, speaking time and a topic. The speaking time must divide evenly into the time limit, but the Director will entertain as many speakers as possible in the allotted time. Such motions shall not be debated, but shall be put to a vote, requiring the majority of the members present to pass. The delegate who proposed the moderated caucus may choose to reserve the right to speak first or defer to last speaker of the caucus. The Director shall moderate the committee and set all limitations during the specified time period.

Rule 32

*Unmoderated Caucus*

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move for an unmoderated caucus, or suspension of the meeting, specifying a length of time for the suspension. No topic of discussion must be stated; all matters can be discussed during this time. Such motions shall not be debated upon, but shall be put to a vote, requiring the support of a majority of the members present to pass.

Rule 33

*Closure of Debate*

A delegate may, at any time, move for the closure of debate on the item under discussion. Only two delegates opposing the motion for closure of debate will have permission to speak on it, after which the motion shall be immediately put to a vote. Closure of debate requires a two-thirds majority of the members present to pass. If the committee favors the closure of debate, the committee shall immediately move into voting procedure on all proposals introduced under that agenda topic.

Rule 34

*Adjournment of Debate*

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move to adjourn the debate on the item under discussion. Two delegates favoring and two delegates opposing adjournment of debate will have permission to speak on the motion, after which the motion shall be put to an immediate vote. If a motion for adjourning of debate passes by two-thirds of the members present the topic is considered dismissed, and no further action shall be taken regarding the topic. The committee shall immediately proceed to consideration of the next agenda topic.

Rule 35

*Adjournment of the Meeting*

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move for the adjournment of the meeting. This motion requires no debate and shall be put to a vote, requiring the support of a simple majority of the members present.
to pass. After adjournment, the committee shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time; adjournment of the final meeting shall adjourn the session.

**Rule 36**  
*Order of Motions*

Motions before the committee shall have precedence in the following order:

1. To suspend the meeting for a(n):
   a. Unmoderated Caucus,
   b. Moderated Caucus,
2. To adjourn the meeting,
3. To introduce a working paper to the floor
4. To introduce an amendment to the floor
5. To introduce
6. To table the topic of discussion,
7. To close debate on the item under discussion, and
8. To suspend the rules.

**Rule 37**  
*Voting Rights*

Each Member State with full membership of each committee shall have one vote on all substantive and procedural matters. Each Observer Delegation of each committee shall have one vote on all procedural matters. Observer Delegations do not have a vote on substantive matters.

**Rule 38**  
*Meaning of the Phrase “Present and Voting”*

All members present must cast an affirmative or negative vote on all procedural motions. However, on substantive motions, members designated “present” may abstain from voting affirmatively or negatively, whereas members designated “present and voting” must cast either an affirmative or negative vote. Members who choose to abstain from voting on substantive matters will not be considered as voting, and the Director shall disregard any abstentions from the final calculation of the majority vote on substantive matters. As used in these rules, the phrase “members present” includes members designated as both “present” and “present and voting.”

**Rule 39**  
*Majority Required*

Unless specified elsewhere in these rules, procedural decisions of the committee shall be made by a majority of the members in attendance of the committee. Substantive decisions of the committee shall be made by a majority of the members in attendance that cast an affirmative or negative vote with all abstentions disregarded from the majority calculation.
Rule 40

Method of Voting
Committees shall normally vote by a show of placards, but any member may request a roll call vote on any item of substantive consideration. The roll call vote shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members. When the name of each delegation is called, one of its delegates shall reply “yes,” “no,” “abstain,” or “pass.” The results of voting shall be listed in the record in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members. Only one pass is allowed per delegation per vote, and any member designated “present” who passes relinquishes their right to abstain from the vote. Any member may also request to adopt any item of substantive consideration by acclamation. Such motions require no debate, but shall be put immediately to a vote, requiring no opposition to pass. Delegates wishing to oppose the motion to adopt by acclamation should indicate their opposition by raising their placards when the Director asks for opposition. A motion for a roll call vote during voting procedure shall take precedence over a motion to adopt by acclamation.

Rule 41

Conduct During Voting
After the Director has announced the beginning of voting, no delegate shall interrupt the voting except to rise to a point of order in connection with the actual process of voting. The Director may permit members to explain their vote, either before or after the voting, if a request has been submitted, in writing, before the commencement of voting procedure. The Director may limit the time allotted for such explanations. The Director shall not permit any sponsor of a draft resolution or amendment to explain his or her vote on his or her own draft resolution or amendment. Explanations shall be permitted only if a member has voted in a manner contrary to what was made apparent during debate.

Rule 42

Assembly During Voting
At the beginning of voting, the page system will be suspended, and entry into the chamber will be prohibited. The permitted assemblage in the committee room during voting procedure is composed of the Dais of the committee, all full members of the committee, all Observer Delegation members of the committee, and any members of the Secretariat.

Rule 43

Division of Draft Resolutions and Amendments
Immediately before a draft resolution comes to a vote, a delegate may move that sections of a draft resolution or amendment be voted on separately. The motion for division shall be voted upon procedurally first, requiring the support of a majority of the members present to pass. Two speakers in favor and two speakers against the motion for division shall have permission to speak on it. The Director may limit the time allowed for these speeches. At the completion of these speeches, the committee shall move to an immediate procedural vote. If the motion for division is carried, the content of each section of the draft resolution or amendment that has been divided shall be voted on separately. If a majority of the members present vote in favor of the divided sections of the draft resolution or amendment, the sections are returned to the draft resolution or amendment as an annex. If a majority of the members present vote against the divided section of the draft resolution or amendment, the section will be considered rejected by the committee. If all operative sections of the draft resolution or amendment are rejected, the entire draft resolution or amendment shall be considered rejected.
Rule 44
Voting on Amendments
A motion is considered an unfriendly amendment if it adds to, deletes from, or revises part of the draft resolution without having the full support of all sponsors of the draft resolution. When such an amendment is proposed to a draft resolution, the amendment shall be voted upon first. When two or more amendments are proposed to a draft resolution, the committee shall vote on the amendments in the order in which they were received. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended draft resolution shall then be voted upon. See Rule 25 for procedures related to friendly amendments supported by all sponsors.

Rule 45
Voting on Draft Resolutions
If two or more draft resolutions are related to the same topic, the committee shall vote on the proposals in the order in which the Dais received them.

Rule 46
Important Questions
Decisions of the General Assembly on important questions shall be made by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting. These questions shall include: recommendations with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security, the suspension of the rights and privileges of membership, the expulsion of Members, questions relating to the operation of the trusteeship system, and budgetary questions. Any Member may move to consider a resolution an important question. Two Members may speak in favor of and two against the motion. It shall require a simple majority vote to consider a resolution as an important question.

Rule 47
Reconsideration
When a resolution has been adopted or rejected or when debate on a topic area has been adjourned, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the committee, by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, so decides. One speaker may speak in favor of the motion to reconsider, and one speaker in opposition, after which the motion immediately shall be put to the vote.
Topic One: Preventing Pollution of Drinking Water Sources

Introduction

In this world, there is no more valuable resource than clean drinking water, yet nearly constant problems of pollution plague a significant portion of the world’s freshwater sources. The World Health Organization (WHO) currently estimates that around two billion people use feces-contaminated water, well known to transmit diseases such as cholera and diarrhea and simultaneously act as a breeding ground for vectors of hundreds of other pathogens.\(^1\) Recognizing the critical importance of protecting drinking water for the survival of a population, the WHO originally published the Guidelines for Drinking-Water Quality (GDWQ) in 1984 and most recently revised the document in 2011. The protocol includes detailed water safety plans (WSPs) to identify points of contamination in the drinking water supply chain, how to manage these risks, and an extensive collection of datasheets on the hazards of specific pathogenic, chemical, and radioactive contaminants.\(^2\) The most pertinent dangers the GDWQ outlines will be elaborated on in the Current Situation section, but they include factors such as urban/industrial waste disposal and insufficient regulation and monitoring of surface water quality, groundwater levels, and storage and delivery systems. As a recent follow-up in 2018, the WHO published the review “A global overview of national regulations and standards for drinking water quality,” which quantitatively examines the number of national policies that address each specific contaminant mentioned in the GDWQ using data collected from 104 countries representing 89% of the world population.\(^3\) Observing which pollutants and systematic errors, many Member States are currently unable to address is likely to provide clues as to some of the issues the WHO representatives should target during this conference.

Before the issue of drinking water pollution and availability can be discussed, it’s important to understand the specific terms the WHO defines on the subject. Most articles will refer to “improved drinking water sources,” which are constructed and maintained with the sole intent of preventing external contamination, especially fecal matter. The ideal improved source is water piped directly into homes, but when unfeasible, “basic services” like public taps and protected well or rainwater collections are acceptable improved drinking water sources; furthermore, in 2018, 89% of people worldwide had access to at least a basic service within a 30-minute round trip.\(^4\) Unfortunately, this leaves 844 million people only able to use unimproved drinking water sources such as unprotected wells, tank/drums for collection, surface water, or uniquely, even plastic water bottles.\(^5\) Decreasing global reliance on unimproved water, therefore, is tied not only to human and community health but also environmental protection; establishing protected and stable water sources is generally better than utilizing temporary relief methods over longer periods of time.

\(^4\) World Health Organization, “Drinking-water.”
Member States that have well-defined drinking water quality standards that are consistently met have an important role in using their expertise to help other nations where control is harder to achieve. Like most other issues, drinking water security is constrained and shaped by the unique environmental and societal conditions of the area, but there are many commonalities at each logistical step, and based on previous examples and up-to-date risk assessments, the most pressing issue for each can be identified easily and targeted. Whether that critical step is local law enforcement, waste regulation, or perhaps even just raising awareness about the importance of clean drinking water practices and improving public confidence in a source, the WHO should create a protocol for the prevention of drinking water pollution that encompasses all of the previous tenets and is also readily enforceable by both national and local governments.

**Topic History**

Water-borne illnesses, such as the cholera pandemics that have killed millions since the 1800s, have existed since antiquity, but the most famous example that was scientifically investigated is the water pump cholera epidemic of 1854 in London, England. By mapping the geographic incidence of cholera outbreaks and water usage of citizens, Dr. Snow traced the source back to the Broad Street pump, which had been contaminated by a mother washing her baby’s diaper in the well. For the first time, people understood that microorganisms could indeed cause disease, and various nations took precautions to recognize this type of contamination and prevent its intake. In the United States, the public health department relies extensively on indicator organisms, called coliforms, to detect the presence of other microbes and the number of feces a water source contains. The test is a valuable tool and inexpensive to conduct, but given the variety of microorganisms that cause disease, it isn’t enough of a precaution on its own.  

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The connection between the Industrial Revolution and drinking water pollution is almost too apparent, not only in unrestricted dumping of chemical waste but also in the rapid urbanization and population growth of cities coupled with crude sanitation measures. By the mid-20th century, the negative effects were felt and vividly visualized across the world - from an Ohio River bursting into flames from mixed pollutants (1969), to the Exxon Valdez (1989) and Deepwater Horizon (2010) oil spills, to critically high benzene levels in Lanzhou, China (1987-2014).\(^8\)

In 2000, the UN designated eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to improve the sanctity of life among the poorest people of the world, and many of them were closely tied to improving drinking water access for both rural and urban populations. Well ahead of the 2015 deadline in 2012, the world successfully halved the number of people unable to access improved drinking water sources, but this still left around 11% of the world reliant on unimproved and contaminated sources, 40% of which live in sub-Saharan Africa. Additionally, because improvements in sanitation are far below where they need to be – a whopping 2.5 billion lack improved sanitation, with at least 1 billion of them still practicing open defecation – many potential water sources are jeopardized even further.\(^9\)

The African continent represents perfectly the health risks associated with reduced access to clean drinking water. Contaminated water increases the occurrence of diarrheal diseases such as dysentery, cholera, and typhoid fever, which in 2015 amounted to 2.8 million severe cases and many more health incidents in the region.\(^10\) Even when basic improved water services are constructed within 30 minute walks for rural citizens to use, the distance encourages families to store water in households; this allows mosquitoes and ticks to take residence, breed, and transmit malaria and arboviral fevers like dengue, Zika, yellow fever, and West Nile virus if the container is left uncovered, killing hundreds of thousands every year.\(^11,12\)

Despite the restrictions that rural conditions place on drinking water availability, water pollution is arguably worse in a highly industrialized setting that lacks regulation of waste disposal. This is especially exacerbated by lacking local government regulation and oversight that fails to adhere to recommendations passed by the WHO and their own national legislation for punishing improper waste disposal, monitoring sources, and establishing control standards. In Beijing, for example, homes, businesses, and industrial complexes have released 1.98 million cubic meters of untreated sewage and across China, causing 80% of groundwater to become completely “unsuitable for human contact” because local provinces do not enforce penalties.\(^13\)

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hallmark of the nation’s rapid growth – massive factory production of cheap goods and clothing – is beset by the perils of unrestricted dumping of toxic industrial chemicals in lakes and rivers; for the villagers living near these factories who are forced to rely on surface water sources for drinking and daily activities, rates of cancers of the digestive system have skyrocketed. Already the people of China face a per capita water availability one-third of the global average\textsuperscript{14} and the combination of local inaction/corruption and outdated regulations on hazardous chemicals most other industrialized nations have already banned is worsening the health epidemic.\textsuperscript{15}

In Latin America as well, industrial pollution plays an oppressive role in limited access to drinking water, but the effect of socioeconomic inequality, infrastructure, and water privatization cannot be overstated. The region has vast freshwater resources - enough to provide every person with 110,000 cubic feet of water annually, but in practice, the average person is only allocated 1,100 cubic feet of water (one-fourth of North America’s average), as the majority of water is siphoned for large scale agriculture and unrestricted industrial use. Safe sanitation is impossible for more than 100 million people, and both surface water sources like lakes and rivers as well as groundwater aquifers are unusable due to waste disposal, hurricane destruction, and overexploitation. Finally, inefficiencies in pipeline infrastructure cause most cities to lose 50% of the water supply to leaks, and as a result, Mexico City pulls water from its aquifers at a rate of 80 times the natural replenishment rate.\textsuperscript{16} Even for the safe water available, Latin America’s extreme socioeconomic inequality has left poorer families manipulated to pay more for lower quality water in their homes. The inequitable pipe access to clean drinking water is a problem propagated by the increase in private sector water companies that the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank push for. The many well-documented detriments of water privatization include higher prices, sudden cut-offs, and exploitation of the poor, lower water quality, and organizational corruption/high profits.\textsuperscript{17,18}

**Current Situation**

As a follow up to the MDGs, the UN passed the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for activities spanning 2015-2030 to meet unfulfilled and new objectives and further improve the lives of all people across the world. For SDG 6, the supreme mission is designated as achieving “universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030,” aided by peripherally integrated goals like improving sanitation, waste management, water-use efficiency, and strengthening the role of local administrative units.\textsuperscript{19}

Looking at the GDWQ in more detail, the WHO has compiled a wealth of information on every step in the drinking water supply chain, from surveillance of water quality, contamination prevention through WSPs, and regulation aspects and detailed datasheets for the most prevalent contaminants: chemical, radiological, and

microbial. Condensing it all would be near impossible, but one takeaway to consider is that industrial waste management is a critical failing of many nations and perhaps the most significant reason for compromised drinking water in the urban landscape, something only stronger government regulation and local activism can solve. In rural areas, the contamination due to improper sanitation and microbial pathogens is more pressing, and solutions involve increasing public awareness of safe water practices, building more improved drinking water services, and vastly raising the bar for sanitation to prevent fecal contamination.\(^{20}\)

There is a very telling discrepancy between the percentage of people that have access to basic service and the number that still drink water contaminated with feces (much higher than expected considering worldwide access to improved sources). The reason is partially a lack of public awareness, but in fact, a significant proportion of so-called “improved sources” like pipeline water and wells may be contaminated because of intermittent or irregular water delivery schedules, minimal treatment, and bad sanitation in the area.\(^{21}\) This could explain why even though Sub-Saharan Africa is currently given the largest amount of official development assistance towards improving sanitation and water supplies, it has very low drinking water quality and sanitation compared to the rest of the world\(^{22}\); progress will be hampered unless good improved services are developed, not just adequate ones, and regular monitoring is performed on existing sources to verify quality.

The WHO previously collaborated with UNICEF in a Joint Monitoring Program for Water Supply and Sanitation during the MDGs and has continued this partnership towards reaching SDG 6 since 2016. Using their extensive expertise, the WHO could readily expand their relationship with and mentor more NGOs involved in providing clean drinking water to rural areas. One such example is the Marion Medical Mission, which builds wells in eastern sub-Saharan Africa, using donations to provide skilled labor, fuel, and pump tools, while involving the local community to provide the raw gravel, bricks, and unskilled labor. This not only provides an economic boost for the village but also allows brick-lined and covered pump-wells to be built with only 450 USD.\(^{23}\) With so many non-profits establishing improved water sources, it’s critical that they understand the best methods of protecting the source from contamination so the discrepancy mentioned previously can be mitigated.

\(^{20}\) World Health Organization, Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality.
\(^{21}\) WHO: Regional Office for Africa, "Water."
**Directive**

This committee is tasked with preventing the pollution of drinking water worldwide, both in rural and urban locations. Improvements in rural drinking water are well established, but factors of widespread defecation and unmanaged sanitation as well as flaws in pipes and storage hurt the quality of existing services. As for cities and rapidly developing nations as a whole, government regulation of industrial chemicals and strict punishment of improper waste disposal is a must, particularly for local leaders and law enforcement; public awareness needs to increase and a greater interest in surveillance is crucial to that end. Finally, decreasing the socioeconomic gap in clean drinking water access and corruption is important and something the WHO will have to pursue in a unique way as a health-oriented organization.


Topic Two: Preparing for Regional Endemic Disease Outbreak

Introduction

In our increasingly interconnected and interdependent world, advanced transportation connects nearly all corners of the globe. Through the movement of different people and goods, diseases can be spread in ways they never could before globalization. While measures exist and are being created to prevent the next global disease outbreak, experts predict that it will inevitably occur. To prepare for this type of global disaster, the World Health Organization (WHO) emphasizes that “global health security depends crucially on much greater awareness, cooperation and collaboration between individual countries, agencies, organizations and communities” and outlines three concentrations that the international community should focus on in their efforts: community engagement during epidemics, risk engagement, and treating patients and protecting the health force.24

Based off of the WHO’s reports and methods of preventing and dealing with endemic diseases, the members of the international community should see the value in working together to ensure health safety for their citizens. However, there is an obvious disparity between the capabilities of wealthier nations to manage disease crises compared to poorer countries that possess limited means in combating health disasters. Currently, high-income countries contain means that prevent infectious diseases from being a major cause of death, with most of their populations dying of chronic diseases, compared to low-income countries which have populations that die primarily from these infectious diseases.25 Through communication and the assistance of wealthier countries through financial and educational means to poorer nations, it is believed that a more equitable balance can be achieved in the global community in preventing endemic diseases.

Topic History

Regional endemic disease outbreaks have famously occurred throughout history, notably the Bubonic Plague in Europe in the Middle Ages or the Justinian Plague in the Sixth Century. While plagues that kill dozens to hundreds of millions have not been seen recently, the threat of fatal disease outbreaks still looms. Notable recent outbreaks include the HIV/AIDS pandemic, which although was more prominent in western nations in the 1980s and 1990s, reached its global peak between 2005 and 2012, and has severely hurt populations in Sub-Saharan Africa. Estimates indicate the disease killed nearly 36 million people.26

From 2013 to 2016, the Ebola outbreak which originated in Western Africa scared much of the world. Originating in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, the Ebola virus spread to other Western African countries which included Nigeria, Senegal, and Mali and then traveled to the United States, the United Kingdom, Italy, and Spain, where it famously received large amounts of western news coverage.27

The response to the outbreak was both regional and global. The World Health Organization stated it did not have the resources it needed to deal with this outbreak, and many countries responded accordingly. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) worked towards recruiting volunteers and training workers to combat the endemic. In Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, public health officials focused on community surveillance and contact tracing which is defined as “the identification and follow-up of persons who may have come into contact with a person infected with the Ebola virus.” 28 Additionally, WHO workers in this region spread community awareness through social campaigns, which highlighted the danger of Ebola and efforts communities could take to reduce the spreading of the disease. These efforts included altering some risky traditional practices like taking safer health precautions when burying the dead. 29

Another disease that has a disproportionate regional effect is malaria. Although South-East Asia, the Eastern Mediterranean, the Western Pacific, and the Americas face the threat of malaria, 92 percent of Malaria cases and 93 percent of Malaria deaths are located in Sub-Saharan Africa. 30 The climatic conditions of this region, the breed of mosquitoes located here, and the water conditions of sub-Saharan Africa make the region particularly vulnerable. Compared to other population groups, children, infants, and pregnant women are at an even higher risk of infection. WHO outlines a number of measures that can be taken to prevent Malaria, which includes vector control – or eradication of the species, mosquito nets, indoor spreading, and antimalarial drugs. 31

Throughout particularly vulnerable parts of the world, measures have been taken to combat these endemic diseases. Assistance often comes in the form of aid from international organizations like the World Health Organization or bodies of the United Nations while other methods of assistance come from private organizations or other countries. Although much has been done to combat these diseases, prevention must not be ignored. Poverty and inadequate healthcare are the primary causes of these diseases, which have often resulted from historical economic inequalities among different regions in the world. Most western nations have eradicated many of the preventable diseases in the beginning of the twentieth century while a majority of the countries in the “global south” still see endemics wreak havoc on their populations.


31 “Fact Sheet.” World Health Organization.
Established in 2004 through the Regulation (EC) 851/2004 by the European Parliament and Council, The European Center for Disease Prevention and Control demonstrates a regional body that works to prevent the spread of endemic diseases. It has created programs to target the major threatening disease to Europe which include “antimicrobial resistance and healthcare-associated infections, emerging and vector-borne diseases, food and waterborne diseases and zoonoses, sexually transmitted infections, including HIV and blood-borne viruses, influenza, tuberculosis, and vaccine-preventable Diseases.” Through the structure of the organization, specific areas of concern have been able to receive specific attention. The main bodies include surveillance and response support and public health capacity and communication. Currently, the organization communicates throughout different countries in Europe to alert the body as a whole of potential risk areas and diseases and address them accordingly. Looking at this model could provide other regions a structure of how to prevent and combat endemic diseases.

As mentioned earlier, regional inequalities persist in the ability to prepare for regional endemic disease outbreaks. Europe contains a strong regional body to prepare for outbreaks, although other developed countries often rely on their internal health systems for precautions, such as the United States, Canada, and Japan. To ensure stability for the global community, these economic powerhouses could become leaders in preventing disease outbreaks for their neighbors.

Within the African Union is the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, which works towards “Safeguarding Africa’s Health.” Established in 2015 after the Ebola crisis, the organization works to ensure a healthier Africa. In 2017, the Emergency Operating Center in Addis Ababa was created and was “designed to

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support early warning and response systems, deliver technical expertise and strategy, and coordinate public health services.” Regional centers are currently being established in Kenya, Zambia, Egypt, Gabon, and Nigeria and aim to coordinate with each other in combatting health crises. However, these efforts are still developing, and the continent as a whole lacks a solid foundation for fighting endemic outbreaks.  

While regional bodies such as the African Union exist, their ability to help their whole region is limited due to lack of funding and corruption that often exists. Latin America, Africa, and much of the Middle East and eastern Asia face regional problems in disease prevalence and disease preparation. To make a change, these regions will likely need more funding or coordination, which the global community aid in.

Figure 2: The map shows the threat of foodborne diseases in states throughout the world with blue indicating the smallest threat and red indicating the largest.

**Directive**

The committee must create a solution that responds to specific regional concerns, which, in its entirety, will ensure a healthier and more stable global community. Past solutions such as the response to the Ebola and Aids crises can be possible guides for solutions. However, the committee must emphasize preparation and not only dealing with outbreaks after they have occurred. Western nations that have eradicated many of their diseases could also be looked to as guides, specifically to funding, although eventual economic independence is key to long-term stability in poorer regions.


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