

MODEL UNITED NATIONS OF XIAMEN

4TH OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

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MUNOX23

14th Model United Nations of Xiamen

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Committee Information

United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF)

The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) is a program created by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on December 11, 1946. The existence of UNICEF is to help children who are seriously influenced by World War II in the aspects of emergency food, healthcare, nutrition, education, and well-being. Since the beginning, UNICEF has dedicated itself to promoting children's rights by helping children who live at risk, which includes but is not limited to poverty, armed conflict, abuse, exploitation, and severe natural disasters. UNICEF works closely with the international community to provide children with emergency supplies, logistics, education, protection, inclusion, funds, research analysis, evidence, and accessible solutions. Further, UNICEF always follows strict rules when helping every kid, no matter what role their country played in World War II. Hence, UNICEF ensures the obligations and accountability of aiding and enhancing the lives of children not only in the present but also in the long term. As a result, UNICEF will persist in rescuing children from the devastating effects of humanitarian crises, armed conflicts, and natural disasters.

Topic: Protocols and Aid to Children Affected by Natural Disasters

Natural disasters, ranging from earthquakes to hurricanes, cast a dark shadow of devastation upon our world, with children often bearing the heaviest burden. Around 535 million children, or nearly one in four globally, reside in countries affected by conflict or disaster, often without medical care, quality education, proper nutrition, or protection. Recent events in countries such as Syria, Turkey, Greece, Myanmar, and beyond have underscored the precarious nature of recovery from natural disasters, often hindered by economic constraints. The uncertain recurrence of such calamities wreaks havoc, taking a toll on children's health, eroding educational opportunities, infringing upon their human rights, and fostering malnutrition. Despite UNICEF's funding and aid, addressing the crises confronting children in the aftermath of natural disasters was not easy. The committee has the mission to develop protocols and aid approaches capable of mitigating suffering, safeguarding the inalienable rights of children, and nurturing resilience in the face of adversity.

Director: Reese Go

Co-Director: Mini Wong

Assistant Director: Aiden Lee

Assistant Director: Alice Wang

World Health Organization (WHO)

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health. Established on 7 April 1948, it is the leading global authority on health-related matters and operates with the mission to promote and protect the health of people worldwide. WHO plays a crucial role in setting international health standards, conducting research, providing technical assistance to countries, and coordinating responses to global health crises. Its work spans a wide range of health issues, from disease prevention and control to healthcare system strengthening, and it collaborates with governments, non-governmental organizations, and other international agencies to address health challenges on a global scale. Additionally, WHO is known for its efforts to combat infectious diseases, improve maternal and child health, ensure access to essential medicines, and promote universal health coverage as a fundamental human right.

Topic: The Strengthening of Implementations of Equitable Health Services in Developing and Transition Countries

Over the past 10 years, issues as regards on global health have paid increasing attention to the importance of health care systems, which encompass the institutions, organizations, and resources assembled to deliver health care services that fulfill population demands. It has become especially important to accentuate health care systems in developing and transition countries due to significant external funding directed towards disease-specific programs, notably for pharmaceuticals and medical supplies, and the comparatively insufficient funding allocated to the broader healthcare infrastructure in these nations. The functioning of a healthcare system is a fundamental prerequisite for achieving universal healthcare coverage, a focal point in recent statements by advocacy groups and global organizations, including a United Nations declaration in 2012. Recent analyses have highlighted the deficiencies in healthcare systems in rising and transition nations. The absence of financial safeguards for healthcare expenses results in approximately 100 million individuals falling below the poverty threshold annually due to healthcare payments, and many more refrains from seeking care due to financial constraints.

Co-Director: Siwon Heo

Co-Director: Morris Lin

Assistant Director: Jiho Choi

United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)

Established in 1972 to monitor global environmental challenges, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) is an authoritative programme that advocates for the environment. Since the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012, UNEP has become a preeminent global authority that unites 194 Member States to solve the triple planetary crisis: climate change, natural and biodiversity loss, and pollution and waste. Therefore, the works of UNEP attempt to realize the Sustainable Development Goals, by ensuring that humanity lives harmoniously with nature, and the planet and the life qualities of future generations are not pressured by unsustainable practices.

Topic: Restricting Unsustainable Sand Mining on Rivers and Coastlines of Asia

Sand is one of the most important natural resources for economic development, as it is a raw material necessary for urbanization and economic growth. Consequently, approximately 40-50 billion metric tons of sand is used annually (UNEP 2019), hence sand is the natural resource that is second most exploited after water. This excessive sand mining is a critical environmental issue because sand is not only economically important. Sand carries out a vital role in bodies of water, including rivers and marine ecosystems, and it is part of the land. Therefore, uncontrolled sand extraction results in various problems such as land loss, erosion, salination of aquifers, marine biodiversity loss, and reduction of the ecosystem's ability to protect against storm surges. Despite the unsustainable sand mining that is occurring globally, and the huge negative consequences to the environment, excessive and illegal sand mining is still occurring in many areas, especially in the countries along the coastline and riverbeds of Asia.

Director: Jane Yeo

Co-Director: Audrey Wong

Assistant Director: Andy Tai

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) is the main policy-making organ of the United Nations. All Member States participate in the General Assembly and each state has one equal vote. UNGA provides a unique forum to discuss, debate, and make recommendations on subjects pertaining to international peace and security covered by the Charter of the United Nations. It has also taken actions across all pillars of the United Nations, including with regard to political, economic, humanitarian, social and legal matters.

Topic: Women's Citizenship, Leadership, and Political Participation in Transition Countries

Women's leadership and political participation are limited at all levels, from the local to the global. Women are underrepresented as voters and in positions of leadership, whether in elected government, civil service, the commercial sector, or academia. This is despite their demonstrated ability as change agents and leaders, as well as their entitlement to participate equally in democratic administration. Women encounter various barriers to political participation. Women's political participation is nevertheless hampered by structural hurdles such as discriminatory laws and institutions. Women are less likely than men to have the knowledge, contacts, and resources needed to become effective leaders due to capacity disparities. The situation and challenges of women as well as the emergence of democratic politics and new role for women in policy have been shaped by the history of transition countries since 1989. In particular, the degree to which women were educated during the communist period, their participation in the labor force, and their status in the labor market varied widely throughout the region. Empowering women to participate fully in politics, countries stand to cultivate societies that are more equitable as well as sustainable. This way it will have a ripple effect, leading to better management, higher economic stability and improved social cohesion. It is not an ethical obligation to pursue between women and men in political life, it is a fundamental requirement of the prosperous, fair and inclusive future.

Director: Felix Liu

Co-Director: Claudia Go

Assistant Director: Ethan Chen

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is a United Nations agency mandated to aid and protect refugees, forcibly displaced communities, and stateless people, and to assist in their voluntary repatriation, local integration or resettlement to a third country. The UNHCR was established in 1950 to address the refugee crisis that resulted from World War II. The initial scope and legal framework of the committee were focused on Europeans uprooted by the war. Beginning in the late 1950s, displacement caused by international conflicts, from the Hungarian Uprising to the decolonization of Africa and Asia, broadened the scope of UNHCR's operations. Commensurate with the 1967 Protocol to the Refugee Convention, which expanded the geographic and temporal scope of refugee assistance, UNHCR operated across the world, with the bulk of its activities in developing and under-developed countries.

Topic: Protection and Assistance for Internally Displaced Persons

In May 2022, the global population of forcibly displaced people, which includes internally displaced people (IDPs), asylum seekers, and refugees, exceeds 100 million. According to the United Nations Refugee Agency's (UNHCR) 2023 planning figures, 44 million people are displaced across Central and Southern Africa, a substantial rise from 38.3 million at the end of 2021. In addition, Africa is home to almost three-quarters of all new internal displacements. Instability from climate-related disasters, drought, and economic constraints have displaced over 10.1 million people in Southern Africa. The ongoing conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has resulted in 5 million IDPs and 1 million refugees. Furthermore, neighboring African nations, such as Malawi and Mozambique, are also experiencing severe food scarcity as a result of poverty, extreme weather, and ongoing insurgencies, resulting in a major spike in the number of IDPs. Without a doubt, internal displacement in Central Africa is a serious issue that requires immediate attention and responses to address.

Director: Kenny Li

Assistant Director: Julie Chen

Assistant Director: Kyle Kim

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL)

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL) is the Fourth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, and it is the primary committee responsible for addressing issues related to decolonization, refugee crises, peacekeeping, and public information. Established in 1993, SPECPOL is the result of the amalgamation of the Decolonization Committee (formerly known as the Fourth Committee) and the Special Political Committee. The decision to create SPECPOL was significantly influenced by the United Nations' designation of the years 1990–2000 as the "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism." This decision held great importance because, during the UN's inception, over 750 million people lived under some form of colonial rule. Since then, the Fourth Committee has diligently worked to reduce these numbers, and today, only 2 million individuals remain in colonial territories a remarkable achievement for the international community.

Topic: Migrant and Refugee Crisis in the Mediterranean

Migration Crisis in the Mediterranean constitutes a multifaceted and ongoing humanitarian challenge marked by the large-scale movement of migrants and refugees across the Mediterranean Sea. This crisis primarily arises from a confluence of factors, including political instability, armed conflicts, persecution, and economic hardships prevalent in regions of Africa and the Middle East. Consequently, it has given rise to the issue of irregular immigration, wherein individuals seek illegal entry into countries, driven by a desperate quest to escape the turmoil in their countries of origin. This crisis encompasses situations of overcrowding and frequently unseaworthy vessels, resulting in tragic drownings and loss of life. Furthermore, the crisis has catalyzed discussions on immigration policies, border security, and the obligations of European nations in furnishing humanitarian aid and asylum. Effectively addressing this crisis necessitates international collaboration and the implementation of comprehensive strategies aimed at mitigating its root causes while ensuring improvement on the living conditions of migrants and the safety and well-being of those seeking refuge.

Director: Anna Liu

Assistant Director: Johan Lai

Assistant Director: Ehron Legatam

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is a vital organization that arose from the United Nations General Assembly's recognition of the need for strong oversight and cooperation in nuclear energy. The IAES was founded to address significant global concerns. It is the primary agency for nuclear safety and security, supporting the responsible use of nuclear technology globally. IAEA was established after World War II, when the global community the urgent need to prevent and protect the misuse of nuclear energy. At the same time, to ensure its peaceful applications. Since then, the IAEA has developed into an outstanding symbol of nuclear technology collaboration and monitoring. The primary mission of IAES is centered on promoting the safe and peaceful use of nuclear energy while firmly opposing nuclear weapon proliferation. With members from all around the world, the IAEA functions as a dynamic organization where expertise converges, and challenges are exchanged in order to discover common solutions.

Topic: Nuclear Waste and Spent Fuel Management in the Asia-Pacific Regions

Nuclear Waste and Spent Fuel Management in the Asia-Pacific Region stands as a pressing global issue, representing the intricate interplay between the burgeoning expansion of nuclear energy utilization and the unequivocal necessity for its secure and conscientious implementation. The middle of the 20th century marked a pivotal moment when nuclear power emerged and the widespread sharing of nuclear technology began. This transformative period introduced a new era filled with both great potential and significant challenges. While the initial focus revolved around the development of nuclear weapons, the evolution of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes ushered in a new conundrum - how to prudently manage the hazardous byproducts born of nuclear energy production. Intriguingly, the Asia-Pacific region, once primarily a recipient of nuclear technology, has undergone a transformative shift, now emerging as a significant contributor to the burgeoning nuclear waste dilemma. This burgeoning challenge has propelled the Asia-Pacific into the vanguard of global discussions on the responsible management and accountability of nuclear waste.

Director: Jasmine Chong

Assistant Director: Jonas Wang

United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is the sixth primary organization of the UN, established in 1945, the purpose of ECOSOC is to advance in three main sectors: Economic, Social, and Environmental. Consists of 54-member states elected by the UNGA, ECOSOC is able to launch studies and reports, draft recommendations, and submit solutions to the UNGA and other agencies about topics within its competence.

Topic: Impact of Aging Population in Asia on Government Expenditures and Society Structure

Aging Population Problem, a consequence that comes after a period of birth rate increase, is extremely severe in Asian countries, and is a problem that would be faced by every country on the globe. Population aging would lead to problems listed but not limited as below: lower GDP growth rate; lower labor force participation rate; higher government expenditure on subsidies provided to elder population; increase in the pressure enforced on food production. In order to address this issue, economic and legislative actions must be taken simultaneously with other reforms.

Director: Steven Chen

Assistant Director: Stella Wu

Assistant Director: Doria Li

United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

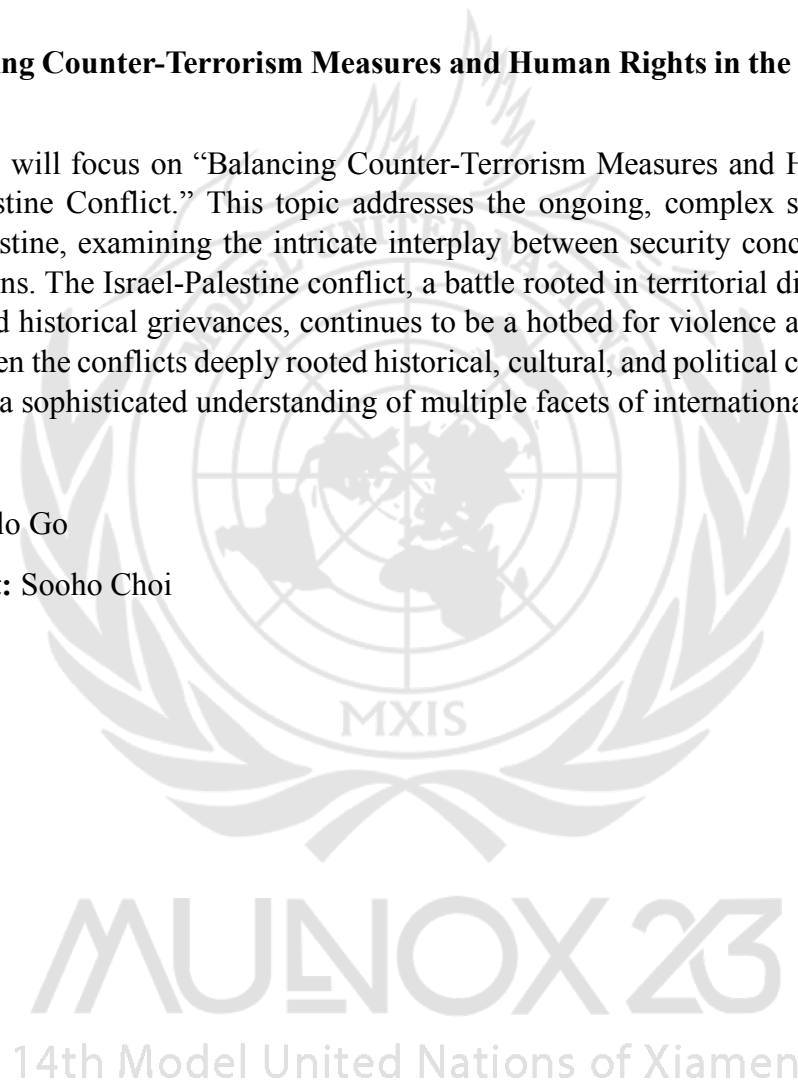
The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, responsible for maintaining international peace and security. The Council comprises fifteen-member states, including five permanent members with veto power. Given its unique authority to pass legally binding resolutions on UN members, the UNSC is often considered the most powerful body in international politics.

Topic: Balancing Counter-Terrorism Measures and Human Rights in the Israel-Palestine Conflict

The committee will focus on “Balancing Counter-Terrorism Measures and Human Rights in the Israel-Palestine Conflict.” This topic addresses the ongoing, complex struggle between Israel and Palestine, examining the intricate interplay between security concerns and human rights obligations. The Israel-Palestine conflict, a battle rooted in territorial disputes, religious differences, and historical grievances, continues to be a hotbed for violence and human rights violations. Given the conflicts deeply rooted historical, cultural, and political complexities, this topic demands a sophisticated understanding of multiple facets of international relations.

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