

# TOPIC SYNOPSIS



## Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Sub-Saharan

### **POSITION PAPERS**

Position papers are due by midnight, January 12<sup>th</sup>. Please send to the email address below. Identify your committee and assignment on the subject line and in the text of the message. Include your position paper as an attachment in .PDF format. If you choose, you can also include it as a Google Doc, but remember to give access to the Secretariat.

The position paper format can be found [HERE](#).

Email your position paper and any questions you might have to:

Advanced UN Development Programme (UNDP): [whsmunundp19@gmail.com](mailto:whsmunundp19@gmail.com)

### **IMPORTANT COMMITTEE POLICIES TO BE AWARE OF**

- Speaking time for speeches will not be lowered to anything shorter than a minute-thirty seconds. Lowering a speaking time below this does nothing to facilitate debate;
- Comments on speeches cannot be lowered below 30-seconds;
- Moderated caucuses have a set time of 20-minutes. They can be extended for two extra 10-minute sessions afterward;
- Unmoderated causes can be set for 10, 15, and 20 minutes with one 10-minute extension permitted;
- There is no yielding of speaking time to other delegates;
- No pre-written resolutions will be accepted;
- The use of national flags, pins, or any other national emblem in committee is discouraged, as the United Nations does not allow them either in committee;
- Handouts or briefing sheets are not allowed to be distributed in committee as it gives an unfair advantage to delegates who don't have them and is in conflict with the spirit of no pre-written resolutions;
- Computers and phones are not permitted for non-committee related activities such as chatting, gaming, non-conference related web browsing, etc.
- All committee rooms are open to adult advisors including during voting blocs. Student advisors can be kept out during voting blocs;
- Recently, we have discovered that some delegations have been relying on chat groups with adult and student advisors writing speeches and comments for delegates in order to help them with committee awards that they could not do on their own. The use of using chat to, in essence, cheat, is prohibited. This does not mean that advisors cannot send general advice to their delegates such as "get yourself on the speaker's list" or "raise your placard more." This is just to keep delegates from being fed speeches or comments on information they did not research themselves.

Delegates found to be in violation of these restrictions will lose diplomacy points and may be excluded from any recognition. In addition, they will be reported to their advisors.

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**Background:**

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a global development agenda issued in September 2015 by the United Nations in order to assist governments, international agencies, and civil societies. The goals were drafted to be reached over a course of 15 years, starting in 2016 and ending in 2030. The 2030 agenda is universal, and exists to improve economic, social, and environmental conditions. The goals were established due to the concern that many underdeveloped nations could not sustain themselves economically while social issues still existed. Even though developed nations may not have completely fulfilled all these goals, the main purpose of the SDGs are to provide a framework to support underdeveloped nations in finding stability in all aspects previously mentioned.

Sub Saharan Africa is in critical need for the implementation of the SDGs, due to their neglected environment and unstable economy. The SDGs expect to have an impact on the environment since it is important to epidemiological and determinant goals. The goals are designed to help developing nations in need, this committee will focus mostly on countries in the Sub Saharan area where there can be a reduction in the slum populations, reduction of waste, marine conservation, and climate change to improve the quality of life. In Sub Saharan Africa, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which recently ended in 2015, were a large success seeing that they improved the amount of children going to school, a lowered the gender gap of education, gave more representation to women in parliament, found ways to reduced child mortality and the amount of people who contracted HIV/AIDS. However, of the MDGs, the least amount of progress made was in Sub Saharan Africa's environment sustainability and

hunger reduction. It's important to notice that many of the economic, social, and political problems are connected to each other. The Sub Saharan area relies on its agricultural area to sustain the economy, which is why environmental sustainability is a significant issue that should be fixed to allow efficiency in both aspects. In order for the SDGs to succeed in countries in Sub Saharan Africa, the majority of goals need to improve the rate of their progress since many underdeveloped nations neglect these goals and are noncompliant.

### **United Nations Involvement:**

The United Nations Development Programme's main role is to guide others in their policy and to fund the project for the next 15 years. Their project is to focus on key areas including poverty alleviation, democratic governance and peacebuilding, the issue of climate change and disaster risk, as well as economic inequality. Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs are a universal call to action to end poverty, to protect the planet and ensure that everyone is at peace. These goals are expected to shape the global agenda on economic, social and environmental development for the next 15 years. MDGs have worked to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, and promote gender equality and empower women. Another aspect that the UNDP is trying to work towards is to reach all targets set out by 2030, and additionally, African countries have already committed to implementation of the African Union Agenda in 2063, which is a vision to create a prosperous and thriving Africa, essentially transforming the continent. Additionally, they are working to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. The governments of Sierra Leone, Uganda, Madagascar, and Togo have volunteered to conduct national reviews of their implementation of

the 2030 Agenda by receiving support from UNDP and to prepare them to present at the UN High-level Political Forum, which is conducts a follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs by providing policy guidance to countries for the implementation of the goals. The UNDP has worked with other UN organizations, such as the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and the Ministry for the Economy and Finances, in order to discuss the implementation of the SDGs in countries such as Mauritania. They also supported a national workshop to provide the tools and methods to fully integrate the SDGs in Mauritania's new strategy. All in all, the United Nations recognizes that ending poverty is vital, but they also believe that building economic growth and addressing a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities are important.

### **Bloc Positions:**

**European Bloc:** The European Union focuses on technical aspects of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. They acknowledge the overall progress that could be a result of the SDGs, and acknowledge other problems such as slums and poverty in these countries.

Economically, the EU is Africa's partner in trade, development aid, or investment. They want to become involved in the SDGs.

**Latin American Bloc:** Since the SDGs have had a positive impact on Latin American countries, Latin America encourages the implementation of the SDGs in Sub Saharan Africa, because they believe that Sub Saharan Africa will have similar results to them because of the SDGs. As they have been involved in the creation and the adoption of the SDGs, they have displayed an increasing amount of support towards the goals, and believe that the implementation of the goals will assist with the progress needed in the international community.

**Asian Bloc:** Many Asian societies and Sub Saharan African countries have developed program networks that encourage policy dialogue and practices in a network society. This can encourage progress with the SDGs in both Sub Saharan Africa and in developing Asian countries. More developed Asian countries want to invest in the SDGs, because they believe they can create a profit on it, and find methods of implementing them in a cost-effective way in their own countries as well as other developing countries.

**West/North American Bloc:** The North American Bloc is in support of the SDGs, and would also like to become involved in the implementation of it.

**African Bloc:** Sub Saharan Africa is currently attempting to implement the SDGs and improve the effects that the MDGs had on them.

**Questions to consider:**

- 1) What is the political and economic climate of your country? Has your country achieved some of the SDGs? Can those methods be applied to underdeveloped nations in Sub Saharan Africa?
- 2) In what ways can the sustainable development goals be improved so that progress can be achieved in Sub Saharan Africa? What role will developed nations play alongside helping underdeveloped nations?
- 3) What are some solutions that can be used to ensure consistent transportation of resources and medical aid to Sub Saharan African countries?
- 4) How can countries who do not have access to many resources or funding be given the opportunity to implement the SDGs?
- 5) How important are the SDGs to the actual development of a country?

### Works Cited

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