

**Committee: FAO**

**Topic: Discussing Sustainable Agricultural Development in Areas With Growing Populations**

**Report of the Chairs**

---

## **I. Theme of the Conference**

Model United Nations San Antonio (MUNSA) is a conference dedicated to fostering authentic and passionate debate amongst delegates in order to generate solutions to current global issues. The theme of *MUNSA XXIV: Envision* encapsulates our mission to urge delegates to foresee a future in which these problems have been dissolved. With collaboration in mind, delegates from every committee are encouraged to visualize innovative resolutions and a prosperous world to come. Together, we will propel ourselves into an age in which brilliant ideas converge to transform our world and address its most paramount issues.

## **II. Rationale**

Fostering sustainable agricultural development is vital in areas with high population growth, especially in developing nations stricken with famine and food shortages. Innovative replacements to current agricultural practices and uses of land mass will improve the quality and quantity of food produced. Densely populated areas with poor economic stability, such as Yemen, are often unable to meet the demands of a growing population. Without sustainable agriculture, child mortality rates will continue to rise as more people suffer from starvation. Tenable agriculture will boost economies, solve debt crises, and encourage nations to fully develop. As delegates push to further develop sustainable agriculture with assistance from already successful nations, this committee visualizes a future in which global hunger has been eliminated.

## **III. Background of the Topic**

Many families in developing nations have more children in order to increase the number of people working at the farm, house, or community.<sup>4</sup> Although this strategy sounds efficient, it

may be fatal if there is not enough food to feed all members of the family and community. This committee aspires to discuss innovative solutions for a more sustainable agriculture in order to provide food for these people throughout the year. Many nations have tried to assist by implementing agricultural systems but have ultimately failed in war torn areas. Heavy storms and rainfall have also devastated these new systems.

The UN has established a Food and Nutrition Security Council that debates solutions in order to make agriculture more sustainable in developing nations. Set up in 2012, this council has assisted over 20 nations in determining which agricultural systems work best in their environments.<sup>4</sup> The council was able to achieve this by contacting officials from national governments and farmers in order to discover which system best fits the needs of that nation, and it has been able to improve its work after these discussions.

#### **IV. Contemporary Evidence of the Topic**

Sub-saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, and other developing regions are being affected by the depletion of food. More than 70% of people living in African nations or in the Middle East are undernourished. Some developing nations report that up to 98% of their people are undernourished. In Sub-Saharan Africa, roughly 22.7% of the population goes hungry every day.<sup>5</sup> These regions of the world tend to suffer more than others due to their geographic location, which affects their climate, the rate at which they suffer natural disasters, and their susceptibility to many other geological phenomena. Due to the location of these nations, a heavy storm season tend to destroy any remnants of a productive agricultural system.<sup>2</sup> The governments in these nations are also weak, making them vulnerable to war, which can make setting up agricultural systems even harder for NGOs and farmers alike. These regions also are affected by the lack of aid developed nations have provided in helping set up agricultural systems, or assisting in ending the war effort.

The United Nations set up the Food and Agriculture Organization to discuss how to combat world hunger and to help nations struggling with setting up agricultural systems. FAO has been in contact with the governments of many developing nations to help push the efforts of setting up sustainable agriculture in their nations, as well as helping governments understand

what they can do to support their farmers.<sup>3</sup> Creating a solution for our topic is imperative because productive agricultural systems are necessary to feed exponentially growing populations, many of which suffer from hunger today. By finding ways to help advance agriculture in developing nations, we will not only help these nations feed their people, but also grow their economies, promote innovation, and create a healthier populace.<sup>2</sup>

## **V. References and Research Resources**

1. Food security and nutrition and sustainable agriculture. (n.d.) Retrieved on September 8, 2019 from <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/foodagriculture/>
2. 5 worst spots for hunger. (2018, November 21). Retrieved on September 7, 2019 from <https://www.worldvision.org/hunger-news-stories/5-worst-spots-hunger>
3. FAO (n.d) Retrieved on September 10, 2019 from [http://www.fao.org/farmingsystems/maps\\_SSA\\_en.htm](http://www.fao.org/farmingsystems/maps_SSA_en.htm)
4. Hidden Costs of Industrial Agriculture. (n.d.) Retrieved on September 10, 2019 from [https://www.ucsusa.org/food\\_and\\_agriculture/our-failing-food-system/industrial-agriculture/hidden-costs-of-industrial.html](https://www.ucsusa.org/food_and_agriculture/our-failing-food-system/industrial-agriculture/hidden-costs-of-industrial.html)
5. Agricultural Overview (n.d.) Retrieved on September 10, 2019 from <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/agriculture/overview>

## **VI. Note to the Delegates**

Greetings, delegates!

It is our pleasure to host this year's FAO committee! We are looking forward to observing insightful debate and cannot wait to see what innovative solutions your bright minds will create.

Sincerely,

Your Chairs

Charlie Johnson([tjohnson3298@stu.neisd.net](mailto:tjohnson3298@stu.neisd.net))

Victoria Tijerina([vtijerina0196@stu.neisd.net](mailto:vtijerina0196@stu.neisd.net))

Natalie Blanchard([nblanchard7310@stu.neisd.net](mailto:nblanchard7310@stu.neisd.net))

---

**VII. Director General Contact Information**

Joseph Ruelas - [jruelas4856@stu.neisd.net](mailto:jruelas4856@stu.neisd.net)

Dana Marion - [dmarion0455@stu.neisd.net](mailto:dmarion0455@stu.neisd.net)