**American Mock World Health Organization**

**Regional Block:** Afro 1.1

**Topic:** "Building Preventative Capacity for Climate Change Response"

**Sponsors:** Seychelles, Niger, Ethiopia

**Signatories:** Ghana, Liberia, Senegal, Sudan, Angola, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Cote d’Ivoire, South Sudan, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Nigeria, Algeria, Rwanda, Botswana, Mali

**Humanitarian Index Score:** 100%

*Alarmed* by the current negative effects of climate change on African countries,

*Deeply concerned* by the lack of preventative capacity for climate change response in the African region,

*Acknowledging* the need for more culturally competent, ground-up policies and education on building preventative capacity for climate change response,

*Emphasizing* the importance of agricultural techniques in reducing food insecurity, poverty, and conflict management,

*Recognizing* the heightened vulnerability of certain subpopulations in the region to climate change effects

*Alarmed* by the lack of disaster relief plans for numerous African countries,

*Emphasizing* the necessity of NGO’s as well as governmental collaboration in order to help address climate change,

*The General Assembly,*

1. *Recommends* the development and design for a comprehensive overhaul and improvement of agricultural systems through:
   1. Policies in relation to the improvement of agricultural systems, such as:
      1. The promotion of the use of water and soil conservation techniques by informing farmers and providing material, such as seeds,(modern inputs, manure and erosion protection)
      2. Collaboration with the Global Partnership for Plant Breeding Capacity for introduction of climate change resistant crops, specifically crops that are drought and disease resistant,
      3. Expansion of food preservation techniques specifically in rural areas,
      4. Assessments related to the use of mitigation measures for sustainable livestock production
   2. Education policies such as:
      1. Increased focus on implementation of community/cultural leaders into agricultural programs to teach farmers more biodiverse and efficient methods of agriculture as well as preservation techniques such as canning,
      2. Increased focus on using agricultural education to empower underprivileged populations; specifically women and children, minority groups, internally and externally displaced people,
      3. Encourages the implementation of a university or NGO funded engineering education program to provide self-sufficiency for rural African farmers with the following characteristics,
         1. The implementation of an university mandated service learning program that requires students to complete local service learning projects or capstones during their education, specific to sustainable agriculture,
         2. Programs that require students to work regionally with local farmers after their education in exchange for scholarships or compensation to be provided by willing NGOs
         3. The development of these programs on a local level in as many languages as possible,
         4. Encouraging NGOs to reach out to local leaders and help them understand the importance of sustainable agriculture and engineering education program,
         5. Encouraging NGOs to fund scholarships for females to go into agricultural engineering programs, stipulating that the recipients must then incorporate that education into work within the region for a minimum of four years,
   3. Programs such as:
      1. Regular meetings with community members in order to facilitate and monitor the execution of agriculture improvement and education policies,
      2. Surveillance of the agriculture improvement and education policies in order to regularly measure their progress and efficacy,
      3. Material subsidies or creation of a material loan system that lends tools and transportation equipment locally from community leaders who would possess a bank of material to rural resource-poor farmers in need of tools,
      4. Use of African Development Bank and willing country specific NGOs to help develop agriculture as well as educational programs mentioned above;
      5. Encouraging private companies to microfinance, with preference to women and small-scale farms;
2. *Expresses its hope that* the UNICEF WASH program will expand throughout the African continent with a special focus on water conservation, containment, and sanitation including methods for:
   1. Improved water delivery methods such as pipeline delivery across country lines,
   2. Establishing and implementing clean drinking water and sanitation programs such as:
      1. Water boiling,
      2. Hand washing,
   3. Promoting the sharing of water conservation and distribution practices that take into account local and cultural beliefs, and the access and coordination of current water resources, especially water basins, rivers, watershed, rainwater storage through innovative technologies
   4. Education of community leaders, chosen based on community respect, reliability, and ability to communicate with UNICEF and the community, to create a ripple effect across community members utilizing the WASH program; additionally this program will teach community members water management principles discussed in the clauses above,
   5. Providing funding and support through UNICEF WASH and associated agencies of the United Nations like the UNDP;
3. *Further recommends* expanded programs focusing on improving healthcare infrastructure, which includes:
   1. Emphasizing the need to expand care facilities for laboring mothers to reduce maternal mortality as climate change is projected to increase the risk of maternal deaths
   2. Stressing the importance of limiting the spread of vector borne diseases by promoting educational sessions for vulnerable populations focused on local preventative project based learning led by local community leaders to,
      1. Promote resources for basic prevention of malaria and other vector borne diseases such as addition of mosquito nets,
      2. Provide treatments for malaria,
   3. Suggesting the implementation of programs which provide financial incentives for agricultural families to allow young girls to attend school with the hopes of:
      1. Increasing the size of the workforce to further economic growth and raise the standard of living,
      2. Advancing the role of women in society understanding that adaptation to climate change is only achievable through the incorporation of women,
   4. Emphasizing the need for the creation and implementation of comprehensive sexual education programs available to all community members:
      1. By utilizing local schools and community centers, the sexual education program can assist with educating young women and men on the importance of family planning,
      2. By strongly encouraging the provision of family planning methods to those who desire improved access,
      3. By promoting the power of women in family planning to bolster the role of women in society,
   5. Calling for the incorporation of practical skills in public health initiatives and suggesting supplies for such practices are made more widely-available for the purposes of:
      1. Reducing the spread of waterborne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and hepatitis A which continue as a result of the use of contaminated water,
      2. Minimizing the spread of vector-borne diseases such as malaria and other neglected tropical diseases,
   6. Understanding the need for response for primary care measures and extreme climate health conditions,
   7. Recommending the utilization of previously-mentioned agricultural practices to reduce food insecurity,
   8. Requests funding from all willing and able member-states and non-governmental organizations,
   9. Strengthening disease surveillance systems to effectively assess and respond to outbreaks and disease trends with the additional goal of creating a database that can serve to inform future health and healthcare policy;
4. *Emphasizes* the implementation and design of sustainable non-agricultural land management programs and disaster relief, particularly dealing with coastal, desert, and forested regions, including, but not limited to the following:
   1. Policies relating to sustainable non-agricultural land management programs and disaster relief such as:
      1. Surveying and registration of land on a national and communal level,
      2. Organization and formalizing of communal groups and their inclusion in decision making processes,
      3. Afforestation commitments from countries across the region to preserve non-agricultural land, including:
         1. The implementation of programs to prevent coastal erosion in manners which are ecologically sensitive to individual countries' needs,
         2. The replenishing of fertile, non-saline soil,
         3. Renewed reforestation efforts,
      4. Designation and titling of national land and forested areas that have been infringed p by investments from foreign nations" with "which will give more land autonomy to the nations,
      5. Endorsement of the creation of nation-specific disaster relief plans that are sustainable, comprehensive, and immediate to address potential environmental disasters,
      6. Recommendations for disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery plans having specific guidelines for vulnerable populations including but not limited to women, children, internally and externally displaced citizens, and indigenous peoples,
   2. Calls upon the implementation of a voluntary buyer-seller system where land can be acquired by communities from willing estate owners, to better distribute land and increase productivity,
   3. Requests funding sources such as:
      1. The continuation of World Bank’s efforts in the implementation of computerized Land Information Systems through aid in selection and funding of large-scale orthophoto maps and rectified satellite imagery, in order to increase land security and investments on Sustainable Agriculture,
      2. The incentive provided by UNESCO for designation of forested land, agroforestry and protection of carbon sinks to mitigate further climate change and protect fertile soil from salination and erosion.

**Twitter Statement:**

Noting the current protests in Africa with deep concern, we would like to assure the people of the AFRO region that African leaders are working towards transparency in all levels of government and promoting the idea of an open line of communication between rural community leaders and government.

The AFRO Region strongly endorses development of accessible and inclusive educational systems in rural areas, development of water sanitation and irrigation measures, and greater access to healthcare for those in rural areas. These delegations welcome involvement from community leaders, and recognizes the need for action in reference to health conditions Africa.

We are working to address all of these points of concern in the AFRO Region’s final resolution.