**American Mock World Health Organization 2017 International Conference**

**Regional Block:** European Region

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

**Sponsors:** Romania, Hungary, Luxembourg, France, UK, Poland

**Signatories:** Turkey, Latvia, Monaco, Croatia, Montenegro, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan,Germany, Ireland, Denmark, Czech Republic, Italy, Poland, Belarus

**Humanitarian Index Score:** 66%

*Deeply convinced* of the scientific evidence of human caused climate change,

*Fully aware* of regional problems in flooding, extreme heat, and global public health concerns,

*Alarmed by* the pace of climate change and global warming caused largely by greenhouse gas emissions,

*Noting with deep concern* the human impact on climate change and the global health issues exacerbated by climate change,

*Emphasizing* the importance of a global and regional cooperative effort to developing greater preventative capacity to address the unavoidable consequences of climate change,

*Recognizing* the need for a dynamic definition of preventative capacity,

*Noting further* the scope of extreme heat events, which are projected to cause 150,000 excess deaths per year across Europe in the coming years,

*Desiring* to curtail the negative advancement of climate change,

1. *Defines* preventative capacities as insulation against the predicted harms of climate change as both the actions states take to reduce and curtail the production and subsuquent negative effects on harmful agents that affect regions and global environments;
   1. Encouraging the implementation of warning systems by individual member states during extreme and dangerous climate events
   2. Education and research paramount in furthering our understanding on the topic of regional and global climate change
   3. Legislation that affects both the private and public sector in order to reduce their impact on furthering climate change
   4. Encourages member states to seek clean and renewable energy sources
   5. Reinforce commitments to reducing carbon and pollutant emissions
2. *Calls*  the formation of an international fund for mitigation and preventative measures;
   1. Recommends implementing state and regional taxes and no-sale credits for production and use of natural gases and fossil fuels that would be funneled into green initiatives by;
   2. Implementing a joint funding program with all EURO region to increase contributions towards the WHO Health Emergencies Program
   3. Encouraging European Union members to expand civil protection programs as well as increasing the budget for Emergency Support past 200 million Euros that can help the EURO and global regions
   4. Funding education initiatives within the EURO region that expand education opportunities for less developed countries which respect and acknowledge cultures through cooperation with local leaders
   5. Encouraging EURO region members allocate local funds to specifically address regional disasters and emergency response
   6. Taxing corporate greenhouse gas emissions and implement non-tradable credits to the private market
   7. Providing lesser developed countries with funding to develop environmentally friendly infrastructure
3. *Calls upon* the formation of research organization known as Preventive Capacity Research (PCR) that will be formed as a subsidiary body of the WHO which shall:
   1. Be comprised of research experts from each member nation involved that are excelling in the field of building preventive measures against climate change who will work with several relevant NGO’s, and ensure the widespread, universal and smooth access of research that can be implemented by any involved member state,
   2. Allow any country to access this information to implement in their countries and further assist these developments of preventive measures,
   3. Be funded by the joint funding program described previously.
4. *Recommends* PCR to work with programs such as the National Adaptation Geo-Information System (NAGiS) to record and analyze climate conditions;
   1. Urges member states to use their own research and surveillance systems if already in place,
   2. Recommending continued surveillance of existing refugee populations in member states to ensure that the health needs of these displaced populations are addressed,
   3. Asking that all information gathered be compiled into an international WHO-hosted database that maps out climate issues and provides global analysis.
5. *Strongly* encourages the promotion of education among the public concerning public health impacts of climate change;
   1. Promoting curriculums developed by UNESCO and the NGO School-in-a-Box,
   2. Recognizing that further education will inspire the public to act against climate change with regard to both adaptation and mitigation,
   3. Recognizingthe importance of education to respond to health crises and be individually responsible for addressing their own and contributions to climate change,
   4. Creating Scholarships & Funding for women and minorities to establish scholarships geared toward specific issues including technological development for all countries and monetary incentives for trained professionals to remain in the region in order to help with brain drain in other nations.
6. *Emphasizes* the importance of bridging the gap between climate change surveillance and subsequent effects on public health through;
   1. Collecting data regarding the effects of change on public health to determine geographic susceptibility and gaps in policy and response to be addressed,
   2. Collecting data on vulnerable populations regarding health outcomes to better deploy effective, specific, and culturally appropriate public health initiatives geared toward adaptability,
   3. Establishing a Global Public Health Observatory based on the Johns Hopkins University model, providing active and sentinel surveillance around the world for all biological outbreaks of potential agents resulting in a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) under the IHR, specifically those select agents likely to result from increased transmission from Climate change,
   4. Proposes the development of a regional research program that partners with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to pinpoint regions at greatest risk of climate change displacement to prepare for possible influx of these populations into other countries or into the EURO region,
   5. Encouraging states to support both the public and private sectors to engage in research with the ultimate goal of mitigating the effects of Climate change with regard to public health.
7. *Further Emphasizes* the importance of improving ability to adapt to extreme heat events:
8. Funding and expand the Heatwave Early Warning System already established in Europe while helping other global regions develop similar early warning systems for heat waves and other regionally pertinent natural disasters,
9. Developing a heat death reporting system overseen by the WHO,
10. Creating accessible cooling centers in high-risk areas,
    1. i. Providing a map of centers as part of an advertisement campaign
    2. ii. Implement a curriculum in secondary education institutions to inform students of heat related hazards and preventative procedures
11. Prepare hospitals and emergency operations,
    1. iii. Encourage the training of health care staff on identification of heat related health problems, appropriate training and cooling techniques,
    2. iv. Encourages regulations to include WHO guidelines for building design.
12. *Prioritizes* the importance of early and effective global response to biological disasters by establishing and maintaining an international task force to respond to biological emergencies anywhere in the world within 24 hours;
    1. Comprised of international public health, epidemiology, and infectious disease specialists from member countries of the WHO,
    2. With Members traveling under Swiss diplomatic passports and provided diplomatic entry into any member country with identified biological outbreaks reported to the global public health observatory established above
       1. i. Provided with dedicated communication assets, necessary diagnostic and personal protection equipment, and international air transportation to deploy to the field and mitigate infectious disease outbreaks with the Task Force under the authority of the Director-General of the WHO,
    3. Intended to collaborate with local authorities throughout the management of biological crises in order to ensure cultural sensitivity of all actions.
13. *Urges* member states to increase their flood resistance by increasing;
    1. Land resilience through reforestation and adaptive urban planning,
    2. Water overflow capacity by dredging rivers and other bodies of water and creation of temporary water storage areas,
    3. Population awareness/protection through robust flood insurance programs, regulating development on floodplains, and creating international hazard maps and warning systems.
14. *Recommends* the design and implementation of proactive and reactive model to respond to increasing loss of forest lands by;
    1. Imposing regulations and recommending penalties on private logging industries that do not abide by existing regulations to minimize their environmental impacts,
    2. Including a reforestation program that incorporates experts on soil quality and sustainability.