

## **Alster Model United Nations – Delegate Preparation 2019**

Sample position paper

*Delegation:*  
World Health Organization  
*[Your Delegation, your committee]*

*Name of Student:*  
Jan Egeland  
*[your name]*

### **Position Paper for the Special Conference on Resources *[your committee]***

The issues stated on the agenda for the Special Conference of Resources *[your committee]* 2019 are

- I. Discussing Possible Regulations Regarding fracking *[first topic of your committee]*
- II. Improving the Recycle Process for Fossil Resources *[second topic of your committee]*

The World Health Organization is alarmed by the dangers and risks that the problems behind these issues have brought up. Especially with a focus on any risks for the well-being of our world's citizens, the World Health Organization will participate in the debates of the SCOR to ensure the best possible resolutions will be found.

#### **I. Discussing Possible Regulations Regarding the Usage of Fracking**

*[The first paragraph should consist of a short description of the issue]*

The method of fracking to pump oil has become more relevant within recent years. Fracking has been used for the first time in 1947, however due to high costs, it has not been widely used. With an increased oil price, improved drilling techniques and the soon exploitation of conventional fossil fuels sources, fracking today is an effective mean in the production of fossil fuels. Despite the economic possibilities and expanded amount of fossil resources due to fracking, the method bears different disadvantages and risks. Eight million litres of drinking water are needed to prepare a fracking site. In this drinking water, different chemicals are included. 700 different chemicals can be used in this process. There are only few regulations on the usage of these chemicals and some of them can potentially cause contamination of ground water. Moreover, fracking supports the further usage of fossil fuels and therefore does not only endanger the environment but also air pollution will not be reduced by the future use of fossil fuels.

*[In the second paragraph you should make clear what your delegation would like to achieve and how they plan to reach their goal]*

As the World Health Organization, we cannot accept the risks that are being taken for the further oil production by Fracking. Especially under the aspect of water contamination, air pollution and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions it appears as a high duty to the WHO to remind all countries that they are obligated to take care of their citizen's health and to participate in the debate to create a resolution which will focus on protecting the well-being of all worlds citizens.

*[In the third paragraph you should mention efforts that have been taken so far to tackle or are related to the issue]*

There have not been any international efforts on the regulation of fracking by now and national regulations vary. Even the EU has not yet introduced any guidelines or regulations on fracking.

#### **II. Improving the Recycle Process for Fossil Resources**

The recycling of fossil resources is an issue of outstanding importance. Not only is it that our earth and it's environment in danger because of the sheer mass of green house emissions that are released into the air every day. It is the waste of fuels and resources that are short by not recycling them, letting material go to waste when it could still be used in other means and the use of additions to products that prevent recycling that should draw our attention. Caused by the massive amount of greenhouse emissions the earth's ozone layer has suffered and is putting our environment at risk by decreasing temperatures, which also causes rising ocean levels and influencing the gulf stream. Avoiding the recycling of fossil fuels and resources is not helping in this situation. The further use of products, if it is not of pure laziness of the consumer, is often prevented by poor quality production. This can range from producing products that do not reach an as long as possible lifetime or by

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adding materials that prevent recycling of these products. This is a massive problem since the materials are often dangerous when not properly disposed and not recycling them causes a further exploration of already scarce materials. Different kinds of plastic are included in the group of materials that are often not recyclable. 5.25 trillion pieces of plastic debris are suspected to be floating around the oceans. These are not only dangerous for the animals of the oceans. Fishes which consume plastic can end up on plates – and by that again pose a threat to the human health.

As the World Health Organization, it is again especially a concern of health that worries us about this issue. The world community needs to focus on the improving the efforts that they are making. A first step to tackle the issue would be to encourage a more widespread application of using thermal energy that is produced as a side effect of energy production and search for new methods where this principle could be applied. Waste of products and materials could be tackled in various ways. Working together with companies to find alternatives to very short materials and expand the average lifetime of products, encouraging civilians to recycle what they will not use anymore. An option that should we should put our focus on in order to solve the problem of huge amounts of plastic in the oceans is the newly discovered ability of waxworms to consume plastic bags. This could be an option to take care of the plastic wasted that is poisoning our oceans and should be further investigated. Support by any country would be well welcome to make progress here.

Most obviously, the Paris Agreement that could be relevant to this topic. There is a direct connection between reducing the use and more effectively using fossil fuels and reducing the global warming. The Clean Seas campaign by the United Nations Environmental Programme is aiming at reducing the amount of plastic waste produced in the every-day life of the western world.