

## GA4

(Decolonization and special political)

### **“Creating further frameworks to support areas endangered by natural disasters as a result of climate change “**

#### 1. General information:

Climate Change has substantially increased the frequency and magnitude of Natural disasters worldwide such as hurricanes, wildfires, floodings, and droughts. These events often affect vulnerable regions or areas disproportionately because of poverty, or geographic location. Therefore, vulnerable regions frequently experience heavy property and infrastructure damage and loss of life, especially in areas that aren't properly equipped and prepared to deal with such events. The purpose of this topic in the GA4 committee is to allow delegates to explore and propose resolutions that aim to tackle this issue as well as spread the burden that these disasters are causing as there is no correlation between how much a country contributes to climate change and the effect climate change has on the country.

#### 2. Background:

It has been scientifically proven that there is a strong correlation between climate change and the increase in the frequency and severity of natural disasters. The rise of global temperatures is a leading cause of more extreme weather patterns, while rising sea levels are the leading cause of coastal flooding which can be especially damaging in areas relying on agriculture due to the salinity of the water. Many regions, especially those in less developed countries are not well prepared for such disasters as they suffer from poor urban planning and insufficient access to emergency services all of which negatively influence their ability to cope.

So far the international community has made repeated efforts to address these challenges which include the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2025-2030 which is one of the most noteworthy examples as it focuses on understanding disaster risk, strengthening risk governance, investing in disaster risk management, and enhancing disaster preparedness in the case of a disaster. However the framework implementation has not been as successful as initially hoped as the implementation in areas most vulnerable to climate change has not been uneven. Additionally, other environmental frameworks like the Paris Climate Agreement aim to stop or mitigate climate change; they do not focus on the specific challenges faced by areas and regions that are affected most. Therefore, there is a lack of frameworks targeting this issue specifically.

#### 3. Issues that are likely to arise:

One of the most significant challenges that are likely to occur is addressing the disparities between all nations involved. Developing nations, which are often the most vulnerable, lack the financial and technical resources to effectively address matters such as DRR or climate resilience. Additionally, coordination and cooperation between international organisations, governments, and local communities are regularly challenging to implement.

Another issue is the need for improvement in data collection and more importantly data sharing. Accurate, and up-to-date data is crucial for risk assessment and management as well as evacuation planning. Nevertheless, many vulnerable regions lack the necessary

technology and skills to effectively gather data needed for early warning systems. Delegates might want to pay attention to this as being able to evacuate a vulnerable area in a timely manner can be vital in mitigating casualties.

#### 4. Main Countries involved:

- Bangladesh: Bangladesh is one of the countries most affected by climate change, especially by rising sea levels and frequent cyclones. So far the country is improving its disaster preparedness, but further support is needed to strengthen its resilience.
- United States of America: Although the US has substantial resources for disaster response, they are still facing the consequences of climate change. Areas such as the Gulf Coast and California are highly vulnerable to hurricanes and wildfires. Additionally, the US often plays a key role in supporting other countries that are affected by climate crises.

#### 5. List of questions delegates should ask themselves in regards to the topic:

- How can we effectively spread resources so that the most vulnerable regions have the capability of assessing and mitigating risk?
- What steps can be taken to improve global cooperation in response to natural disasters?
- How can we improve data collection and sharing to better prepare for natural disasters?
- How can currently active frameworks be improved or altered so they can have a greater positive impact?
- What have we learned from past frameworks and how can we apply this knowledge in the creation of future frameworks?

#### 5. Key-terms and explanations:

- SFDRR (Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030): a global, non-binding framework endorsed by the UN, that emphasises the importance of disaster risk management and calls for investment in risk reduction.
- Climate Resilience: The ability of a community, system, society, area, etc... to withstand and recover from climate-induced disasters. This can be improved by improving infrastructure, implementing early warning systems, and promoting sustainability.
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR): Strategies that are aimed at mitigating the risk of damage caused by climate-related disasters. This can range from building codes and standards to public education (how to act in case of emergency.)
- Climate-induced Displacement: The forced movement of people due to climate-related factors such as rising sea levels, drought, extreme heat, and environmental degradation. Displaced people will more often be from a less developed country as they can typically only afford to adapt to climate change which can only go so far compared to more developed countries that can mitigate it.
- Climate Vulnerability Mapping: The process of identifying and analysing the geographic areas and populations most at risk of climate-related disasters. This information is crucial for risk assessment and targeted risk reduction strategies as well as resource allocation.

## 7. Useful sources:

CIA World Factbook for basic information on your country

The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) provides extensive information on the Sendai framework and other risk reduction initiatives.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) provides scientific assessments and reports on the impacts of climate change.

The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)

“Established in 2006, the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) is a global partnership that helps low- and middle-income countries better understand and reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change.”

Climate links: “A Global Knowledge Portal for Climate and Development Practitioners”

Many countries will have some sort of Climate risk profile. Many can be found under this link. If not, try searching “Climate risk profile” and then the country name.