



# **Tangier Model United Nations Environmental Chair Packet**



**Natural Resource management and  
sustainability challenges that come  
with rapid development in Asian  
countries**

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## **Introduction:**

Dear distinguished delegates,

We, Nour Iraqi and Farid Mandour are extremely delighted and honored to welcome you as the chairs of the environmental committee to TMUN's ninth annual conference. In this upcoming event, we will be acknowledging and discussing the natural resource management and sustainability challenges that come with rapid development in Asian countries.

## **Environmental Committee Overview:**

The Environmental Committee focuses on and deliberates about county and regional initiatives, regulations, and endeavors that could influence the physical environment and long-term sustainability of the area. The Committee covers a range of service areas connected to environmental sustainability, such as land utilization, transportation, water resources, waste management, parks, ecological preservation, climate and energy matters, and environmental stewardship.

In pursuing its work on these concerns, the primary goal of this Committee is to uphold and promote the values outlined in the Environmental Vision, with a particular emphasis on safeguarding the environment and maintaining a high quality of life for both present and future generations.

## **Topic Overview:**

Sustainability and natural resource management in rapidly-growing Asian countries come face to face with various challenges. Negative human activities usually result in increased resource exploitation, deforestation, water pollution, and biodiversity loss. The process of urbanization as well as industrialisation promotes these tendencies to a higher extent by putting high pressure on ecosystems.

It is a balancing act, as pushing growth and at the same time, maintaining responsible environmental stewardship at the same time are very fragile tasks. Sustainable practices, proper utilization of resources, as well as proper conservation, need comprehensive policies to be enforced. The balance must be struck in order for the environment of the regions to remain healthy, not only in the immediate present, but also for future generations.

For example, the increasing rates of deforestation in countries of Southeast Asia especially Malaysia where valuable rainforests and rich biodiversity are increasingly under threat by plantation expansions for palm oil.

Not only that, water resources also suffer from rapid industrialization. An example is the contamination of the Yamuna River in India through untreated industrial waste dumped into the river and seas. This not only threatens the aquatic environment, but also poses serious threats of human consumption by communities depending on their water sources for various needs.

On similar lines, biodiversity loss fits in areas that are transforming at a faster pace, like most parts of China, where natural landscapes are being urbanized, therefore breaking habitats along with threatening endangered species.

With such conditions, it becomes imperative to have an approach, which takes all the issues into consideration. Economic progress and ecological preservation must be balanced in order to serve the long-term interest of both the evolving regions and communities.

## Questions to Consider:

1. What are the specific natural resources that are most affected by rapid development in Asian countries, and why are they important for sustainability and economic growth?
2. How has rapid development in Asian countries contributed to the depletion or overexploitation of these natural resources?
3. What are the environmental impacts that arise from rapid development, such as deforestation, pollution, and habitat destruction, and how do they affect local ecosystems and global climate change?
4. What are the economic consequences that arise from unsustainable natural resource management, including loss of biodiversity, increased resource scarcity, and potential economic crises?
5. What policies and strategies have Asian countries implemented to address natural resource management and sustainability challenges during rapid development?
6. How can international cooperations and support play a role in helping Asian countries balance rapid development with natural resource conservation and sustainability?
7. How do cultural and social factors influence the approach to natural resource management in Asian countries, and how can these factors be integrated into sustainable development strategies?
8. What are the potential consequences that arise from failing to address natural resource management and sustainability challenges in Asian countries, both at the national and global scale?

## **Key Words:**

**Natural resources:** resources found naturally in the environment, meaning they are developed without human intervention (e.g. water, oil, sunlight, etc.).

**Sustainability:** the ability for resources to be maintained and used at a certain rate or level over time. It is accomplished through meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability for future generations to meet their own needs as well.

**Rapid development:** when a country is experiencing significant and accelerated economic growth and urbanization through increased infrastructure construction (buildings), technological advancements, and improvements in education, healthcare, and industry.

**Resource scarcity:** when there is a low supply and high demand of a limited resource, meaning the amount of resource available is not enough to support the entire population of an area.

**Environmental degradation:** any changes or disturbances to the environment that would lead to negative results such as deforestation, soil erosion, water pollution, and the burning of fossil fuels.

**Biodiversity conservation:** the practice of preserving and protecting the abundance and variety of species, habitats, ecosystems, and genetic diversity on the planet.

**Sustainable consumption:** the use of resources in a way that minimizes negative impacts on the environment and society while promoting long-term well-being. It is accomplished by making lifestyle changes that reduce resource consumption, and minimize waste such as recycling.

**Global perspective:** a view on an issue that either has global influence or takes into account the nature and effects of the issue globally.

## **Requirements:**

### **1. A Position Paper (NO PLAGIARISM)**

- Here is a guide on how to write a position paper:  
<https://www.marianuniversity.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/MUN-2-Writing-a-Posistion-Paper.pdf>
- Click [HERE](#) for a position paper exemplar

### **2. A Resolution Paper in relation to the topic**

- Here is a guide on how to write a resolution paper:  
[https://www.tangiermun.org/uploads/3/9/9/5/39954039/resolution\\_paper\\_guide.pdf](https://www.tangiermun.org/uploads/3/9/9/5/39954039/resolution_paper_guide.pdf)

### **3. Memorizing all the Points and Motions**

- Here are the points and motions you should be very familiar with:  
[https://www.tangiermun.org/uploads/3/9/9/5/39954039/points\\_and\\_motions\\_tmun.pdf](https://www.tangiermun.org/uploads/3/9/9/5/39954039/points_and_motions_tmun.pdf)

### **4. Potential solutions to solving the problem**

### **5. Substantial research done on the committee's topic**

### **6. A considerable amount of knowledge about your country**

### **7. A smile on the face :)**



## **Helpful Websites:**

1. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0301420723003616>
2. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2211464515300646>
3. <http://faculty.washington.edu/stevehar/Economy.pdf>
4. <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/521606/adbi-wp990.pdf>
5. <https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/download-manager-files/Sustainable%20Urbanization%20in%20Asia.pdf>
6. <https://www.oecd.org/dac/environment-development/Final%20SE%20Asia%20Brochure%20low%20res.pdf>

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***P.S:*** *we will be more than happy to help you :)*