



Tangier Model United Nations

World Health Organization
Sanitation and Hygiene

Chairs: Joudia El Moussaoui & Romaisae Saifdine

Dear Delegates of The WHO Committee,

We, Joudia El Moussaoui and Romaisae Saifdine are very pleased to welcome you to the annual Tangier Model United Nations conference and to the WHO committee. During the conference, the World Health Organization committee will be discussing the topic of : Sanitation and Hygiene. We advise you to read through this chair packet attentively. If you need any help with anything, do not hesitate to contact us.

(Please send us your phone numbers as we will be creating a WhatsApp group!)

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Introduction:

Health, survival, growth, and development all depend on sanitation and hygiene. As a result, many nations struggle to provide proper sanitation for all of their citizens, putting them at risk for illnesses connected to unhygienic conditions in the water, sanitation, and sanitary practices. For instance, 29,000 people die each year from diarrhea as a result of unsafe drinking-water, sanitation, and hand hygiene. Globally, about 1.7 billion people lack even the most basic sanitation. Not only is it everyone's right to live in a safe and clean environment but also, access and being able to afford clean water and good hygiene practices keep us thriving and healthy.

The United Nations hopes that by 2030, everyone will have access to safe, affordable drinking water. However, the amount of worldwide investment as of now is only around one-third of what is required to reach this goal. In order for everyone to be able to be healthy, clean, and have access to water, it requires a level of financial involvement and water treatment technology. Technologies for treating water are used throughout the supply chain, including in homes, to ensure chemical removal and secure storage, ultimately minimizing the danger of contamination, which is why the World Health Organization has been aiming to ensure that it gets its funding and resources required to carry out their role.

Organizations such as UNICEF work in over 100 different countries around the world to help provide

access to safe drinking water and sanitation, as well as to encourage basic hygiene practices in rural and urban areas, even during emergencies. Along with that, WHO collaborates with multi-sectoral partners, and gives rise or participates in global and regional outlets. At any given time, 30-40% of rural water supply in low-income countries is out of service. The dependability of the source, the mode of transportation, and the affordability of a water system are all factors that affect the long-term sustainability of a water system.

Despite the fact that COVID-19 emphasized the importance of hand hygiene in disease prevention, three billion people worldwide, including hundreds of millions of children who attend school, lack access to soap-free handwashing facilities. People in rural areas, urban slums, disaster-prone areas, and low-income countries are particularly vulnerable and affected. Poor sanitation and contaminated water contains thousands of infectious agents and contribute to the spread of diseases such as cholera. Researchers found that there are over 300,000 children that have died from cholera. In addition, due to a lack of sufficient WASH services, more than 700 children under the age of five die from diarrheal illnesses every day. In response of COVID-19, UNICEF has provided supplies for infection prevention and control. Along with collaborating effectively with governments globally to serve communities, health care professionals, and educators guidance.

The accessibility to safe drinking water and sanitation has not only saved countless lives, such as children who grow up to become leaders of this world, but it has helped reduce poverty. The WHO committee's topic this year is the building block of water sustainability. Without sanitation and hygiene, people's risk of getting a disease increases each day, and some die everyday, leaving less people to come up with a solution to this global conflict.

Questions to Consider:

- How is water sanitation and hygiene important to water sustainability?
- How can sanitation and hygiene be achievable?
- Taking into consideration the COVID-19 pandemic, how has the outbreak played a role in sanitation and hygiene practices?
- How has the cost of water treatment technology in rural and urban areas affect the accessibility of water?
- In what ways has contaminated water affected people, especially children?
- Over the years, has sanitized water increased or decreased?

Key Terms:

- **WASH:** Water, sanitation, and hygiene
- **Sanitation:** Refers to public health conditions related to clean drinking water and treatment and disposal of human excreta and sewage.
- **Environmental health:** Addresses all the physical, chemical, and biological factors external to a person, and all the related factors impacting behaviors. It encompasses the assessment and control of those environmental factors that can potentially affect health.
- **Fomites:** Objects or materials which are likely to carry infection, such as clothes, utensils, and furniture.
- **Cholera:** an acute diarrheal illness caused by intestine infection

- **Infectious agents:** The organisms that are capable of producing infection or infectious disease, such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, and parasites.
- **Microorganism:** Microscopic organism, especially a bacterium, virus, or fungus.

Requirements:

- Position Paper
- Research/Knowledge of Topic
- Research/Knowledge of your country and other countries in relation to the topic
- Potential ways to solve the problem(Resolution Papers)

Useful Links:

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/global/sanitation/index.html>

<https://www.unicef.org/wash>

<https://www.globalwaters.org/what-we-do/sanitation-hygiene>

https://www.who.int/health-topics/water-sanitation-and-hygiene-wash#tab=tab_1

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240057258>