



## BACKGROUND GUIDE

CHANGE THE WORLD

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# EMIRATES 2025

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

**UNICEF**

CHANGE  
— THE —  
WORLD  
ACADEMY

POWERED  
BY



**Diplomatici**

Distinguished Delegates,

Welcome to the 2025 Change the World Model United Nations (CWMUN).

As your committee Dais, we are looking forward to meet you and to hear your ideas about how to solve international problems.

The United Nations (UN) depends on the cooperation and goodwill of its 193 Member States. Because each State has unique interests and concerns, it is challenging to write, negotiate and pass resolutions. Every stage of the process demands creativity and diplomacy.

You will be discussing this topic:

**"Safeguarding Children's Rights Amid Climate Mitigation Policies: Ensuring Access to Education, Health, and Protection in Developing Countries".**

While we may all lead different lives and face different struggles, we have to bear in mind that we all share the same world and the same resources. Whether it is environmental problems or political unrest, what is happening in the world concerns all of us. Only through mutual understanding, unity, and collaboration we can lay the foundations of a worthier world.

As your committee Dais, we will work to keep the committees running smoothly. We will do our best to help you understand the procedures and to ensure that the perspectives of all delegates are heard and respected.

Sincerely,

The CWMUN



### *What should you do now?*

The Change the World Model United Nations is a role-playing game. Your task is to impersonate a diplomat of the assigned Country and present the perspective of this Country's current government.

### *What should you do now?*

Before the Simulation, you should write down and bring with you:

- Handbook, a collection of relevant UN resolutions, reports, academic studies, and news from reliable media.
- Write the Position Paper, describing the position of your country on the topic you have been assigned to.
- Some topics for Moderated Caucus debates, i.e. for short formal debates which should cover narrow aspects of each topic. For example, within the topic "Violence against women"; delegates can hold a caucus with the subtopic "Ways of preventing genital mutilation".
- Ideas for the Resolution, id est, at least two or three paragraphs that your State would like to include in the preamble and/or in the main body of the Resolution.
- You should also learn the Rules of procedure.

## *What will you do during the Simulation?*

In the Moderated Caucus you will hold short formal debates on details of each topic. Delegates will present the policy and solutions of the represented States in very short (usually one minute) speeches. In the Unmoderated Caucus, you will informally engage with other Delegates to agree on your policies and solutions and to write draft resolutions together as a Coalition. Working Papers will be checked and possibly edited by Chair and Director to conform to all formal requirements and be described as Draft Resolutions. Eventually, Coalitions will present their Draft Resolutions to the whole Committee. Other Delegates will debate and then vote for or against. The scope for the Committee as a whole is to produce one or more Resolutions.

## *What is a Resolution?*

A Resolution is a very specific document, built of Preambulatory and Operative clauses, expressing the will of a particular UN Committee agreed upon by its Member States. Resolutions are central to the UN and thus CWMUN gives all participants the opportunity to understand the process of creating them. Please seize this opportunity and prepare in advance at least one or two paragraphs per each topic! Sample resolution: [Resolution 2349 \(2017\)](#)<sup>1</sup>

## *Tips (!)*

Learn about your Country from the [CIA World Factbook](#)<sup>2</sup>, from the official website of your State's permanent mission to the United Nations, and from other government websites (for example the website and social media profiles of the Royal Family or President, Prime Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs...). Make sure to know as much as possible about the foreign relations of your Country! Consider that at the United Nations, Countries generally lean towards their own geopolitical blocks: Western, Former Soviet, African, Middle Eastern, Asian, Latin American... Consider also organisations such as the European Union (EU), African Union, Arab League, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), The Union of South American Nations (USAN)...

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<sup>1</sup> UN General Assembly, 2017 ([https://undocs.org/S/RES/2349\(2017\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2349(2017)))

<sup>2</sup> CIA, 2022 (<https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/>)

## *REMEMBER!*

Your task is to present the official position of your assigned Country. Misrepresenting this position and/or representing your private views is against the rules, even if you do not agree with your Country's position. In any case, you must not hyperbolize nor satirise the position of your Country. Humour, and especially sarcasm, is generally not typical for formal writing nor formal debates. Although MUN welcomes wit and smart puns, please always be extremely considerate when using humour.

## *People to follow for your committee*

UN official social networks accounts: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#).

Official website of the UN: [United Nations](#)

UNEP official social networks accounts: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)

Official website of the UNEP: <https://www.unep.org>

## UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND

### *1. Establishment of the United Nations Children's Fund:*

The United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) was founded in 1946 after the end of the Second World War<sup>3</sup>. It can be considered as a development and continuation of the UN Relief Rehabilitation Administration<sup>4</sup> (UNRRA), which was created in November 1943 as a joint initiative of the United States, United Kingdom, USSR and the Republic of China. The main objective was to plan, coordinate and administer measures aimed at relieving the victims of war in any area under the control of the United Nations, by supplying food, water, clothes, shelter and other basic necessities. The United Nations Relief Rehabilitation Administration was dissolved in September 1948.

UNICEF’s creation, at first, aimed at providing temporary measures to relieve children and mothers who were suffering after the end of the war. The idea behind the creation of this Fund was to provide aid to young people as well as children, whose lives and future was in danger. This Fund was open to every youth and children coming from all the countries of the world, even though the country of belonging had an active role in the war.

In 1954, UNICEF became a permanent branch of the United Nations<sup>5</sup>. It also expanded its mission to a border mandate aimed at supplying humanitarian help and developmental aid to children worldwide.

UNICEF works with National Committees in 33 countries, which serves as a public face of UNICEF<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> “UNICEF,” *Unicef*, n.d., <https://www.unicef.org/>

<sup>4</sup> Fox, G. (1950). The Origins of UNRRA. *Political Science Quarterly*, 65(4), 561–584. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2145664>

<sup>5</sup> “Document Viewer,” n.d., [https://docs.un.org/en/a/res/802\(viii\)](https://docs.un.org/en/a/res/802(viii)).

<sup>6</sup> “UNICEF National Committees,” UNICEF, n.d., <https://www.unicef.org/unicef-national-committees>.

## 2. Functions and objectives of the United Nations Children's Fund<sup>7</sup>

UNICEF works in over 190 countries and its main function is to protect the rights of every child around the world. It aims at granting the same rights to everyone, by providing and advocating for education, health and nutrition services. The protection of children regards also the idea of safeguarding them from violence and abuses, enabling them to have clean water as well as sanitation. There are some specific areas where UNICEF focused on, namely child protection, children with disabilities, climate change, early childhood development, education, gender equality, health and immunisation, humanitarian emergencies, nutrition, social and behaviour change, social policy and water, sanitation as well as hygiene.

UNICEF, as stated above, works in varied countries, however there are some territories where the agency of the UN had decided to not operate because of the pro-abortion value that the agency has which is not compatible with those countries.

In addition to the previous stated objectives, UNICEF has the role of organising fundraising in order to promote the vision of this agency and obtain donations, which are crucial to provide assistance and mission in different countries. For instance, administering vaccines, providing medical care for newborns, infants, community education programs on family planning and children's rights.

## 3. Important actions or projects in the past:

UNICEF over the years has been engaged in the protection of child's right and, according to 2024's report<sup>8</sup>, over 1.5 billion polio vaccines have been given to children, humanitarian assistance has been provided in 104 countries, 26 million children have been able to access education and go to school. Over 18 million people gained access to basic sanitation services and around 6.2 million children have been able to receive health, justice and social work after having experienced violence.

However, one of main important projects is the GOBI-FFF project<sup>9</sup>, which was established by UNICEF In 1982 and its main goal was to improve the development and lives of children with assistance that has a lower cost but a high impact, particularly in the developing countries. The name GOBI-FFF is an acronym, in fact G represents Growth monitoring, O regards oral rehydration therapy, B is breast feeding and I regards immunisation. While F states for Female education, family spacing and food

<sup>7</sup> Sam Ursu, "A brief history of UNICEF," *DevelopmentAid*, July 26, 2023, <https://www.developmentaid.org/news-stream/post/165244/a-brief-history-of-unicef>.

<sup>8</sup> UNICEF Annual Report 2024. (2025). In <https://www.unicef.org/reports/unicef-annual-report/2024#Download-report> . <https://www.unicef.org/reports/unicef-annual-report/2024#Download-report>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/blog/legacy-progress-future-promise>

supplements. This project had been really successful in providing aid to millions of infants and children.

#### *4. Challenges and important future projects:*

Even though the work of UNICEF has been particularly important and crucial over the years in order to save and improve the lives of many children around the world. There are still some challenges which the agency has to deal with, namely, the humanitarian crisis, funding limitations and the impact of global issues such as climate change and the current conflicts taking place in our world. The last two issues stated, namely climate change and conflicts, are unfortunately something that it is impossible to predict how they will develop and therefore, it is also really difficult to be able to tackle and address them in the most concrete possible way.

# Safeguarding Children’s Rights Amid Climate Mitigation Policies: Ensuring Access to Education, Health, and Protection in Developing Countries

## 1. Introduction to the topic.

Children are the future and each of them should have the same rights, opportunities and freedom. However where you are born influences your future, your health, your opportunities and your well-being. Over the years, even though UNICEF has been involved in the protection of children rights, nowadays there are still 244 million young people who do not gain access to education, 1.4 billion children who do not have access to health services and around 450 million are not able to drink or use clean water everyday<sup>10</sup>.

In 2025, these numbers are worrying the whole world and climate change is worsening and complicating the situation nowadays because of the uncertainty of what could happen in the future and the non-capability of developing countries to address these issues.

## 2. Climate Change and how it has affected developing countries

Climate change is considered one of the main global issues and one of the biggest threats for our future. These temperatures are transforming our world and our environment, with the melting of the ice, the agricultural problem, the deforestation and migration of animals are all factors which are changing the habitat and the current condition where human beings have lived. Climate change is affecting the whole world, however, the main targets and the main victims are people living in developing countries.

Due to the change in temperature, the main consequences that people are experiencing are in terms of health, hunger, water scarcity, creating refugees and work-related hazards. For instance, an increase of temperature of just two or three degrees could result in more than 150 million cases of malaria worldwide because of the increase in the number of mosquitos due to an expansion of their habitat caused by the warmer temperature<sup>11</sup>. Moreover, it could also affect the behaviour and life cycle of the insects.

<sup>10</sup> “UNICEF Annual Report 2024,” <https://www.unicef.org/reports/unicef-annual-report/2024#Download-Report> , June 2025, <https://www.unicef.org/reports/unicef-annual-report/2024#Download-report>.

<sup>11</sup> “The climate crisis disproportionately hits the poor. How can we protect them?,” Word Economic Forum, January 13, 2023, <https://www.weforum.org/stories/2023/01/climate-crisis-poor-davos2023/>.

Another critical area is food production, in fact the increase or change of temperatures could result in a shift of rural production and income which could lead to a rise of prices of basic foods<sup>12</sup>.

In addition to that, water scarcity is another factor which has an influence also on the agricultural sector and the well-being of people. Not having clean water would not allow people to be able to clean themselves, hydrate themselves leading them to be more susceptible to any kind of disease. Moreover, the scarcity of water could lead the population to avoid using water for agricultural production, which in the end would result in a decrease of the production of foods. All these aspects could cause migration, because people, who already live in a precarious condition would find themselves without any food or water and therefore, they will be forced to move in order to be able to survive<sup>13</sup>.

Usually migration take place towards neighbouring countries, however the risk is that also bordering states could find themselves in a precarious situation. As a consequence, a plausible and possible outcome could be the beginning of conflicts due to the lack of goods and what it is needed by the population to survive.

In addition to that, climate change could also affect the work of people due to the hardening conditions, ending in stress, a restriction of the worker's physical functions and capabilities, reducing also the total workload of the country itself.

### ***3. Consequences of climate change on the education of children living in developing countries***

Climate change has different effects, however, education, which is a pillar and fundamental rights for the well-being and the future of children, is one of the main areas affected by climate change.

In 2024, at least 242 million students worldwide experienced school disruptions due to climate events<sup>14</sup>. As stated in the previous paragraph, climate change drives migration and forced displacement, therefore, children have to stop going to school, move to another country and sometimes their education does not continue there for varied reasons.

In addition to that, one of the other main risks is the fact that some families would prefer their children to go to work in order to earn more, or unenroll them from school due to the cost of education which could not be any more feasible to sustain.

Furthermore, high temperature prevent children to go to school and this happened also when natural disaster such as hurricane or heavy rian occurred in those areas. As a

<sup>12</sup> "The climate crisis disproportionately hits the poor. How can we protect them?," Word Economic Forum, January 13, 2023, <https://www.weforum.org/stories/2023/01/climate-crisis-poor-davos2023/>.

<sup>13</sup> "The Climate Crisis Disproportionately Hits the Poor. How Can We Protect Them?"

<sup>14</sup> "The Climate Crisis Disproportionately Hits the Poor. How Can We Protect Them?"

result of climate change, children and youth are missing out on learning, play and safe spaces to thrive. Climate impacts on education can put children and youth's physical and mental health at risk, and lead to adverse coping mechanisms, learning losses, and long-term dropout, which in turn lead to lower productivity, greater inequality, and possibly greater social unrest.

#### **4. UNICEF important and relevant initiatives.**

In 2019, the Intergovernmental Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action was signed at the 25th Conference of the Parties (COP25) in Madrid<sup>15</sup>. This was a first-of-its-kind commitment to accelerate inclusive, child and youth-centered climate policies and action at national and global levels.

As one of the custodians of the declaration, UNICEF works with governments to support its implementation. UNICEF is calling on governments and partners to act: to protect the lives, health and well-being of children and the resilience of their communities by adapting essential social services to a changing climate, more frequent disasters and degrading environment<sup>16</sup>.

To empower every child through their life course with the developmental opportunities, education and skills to be a champion for the environment. Moreover, reduce emissions and fulfil ambitious international sustainability and climate change agreements.

Furthermore, UNICEF is on the ground with partners deploying innovative climate adaptation solutions. It is working with governments to address the impacts of climate change on children.

#### **5. Future challenges and possible solutions**

It is important that states take part and to be involved in protecting children's rights and to be able to address any obstacles that impede children to have rights. Therefore, what states should focus on is to prioritise education for all children and youth, including in climate-vulnerable and crisis-affected countries, in funding allocations by establishing education as a core priority. Ensuring as well that climate vulnerable and crisis-affected countries are prioritised for education funding.

<sup>15</sup> "Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action," UNICEF, n.d., <https://www.unicef.org/environment-and-climate-change/climate-declaration#declaration>.

<sup>16</sup> "Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action."

It will secure the provision of direct loss and damage funding for children, youth and communities adversely affected by climate-related extreme events, as well as building resilient education systems to avert and minimise loss and damage.

To tackle the climate crisis in an equitable manner, a fundamental shift is needed in how countries and global actors invest in our most valuable asset: children and youth, including those in climate-vulnerable and crisis-affected settings. There is a pressing need to strategically leverage existing resources while mobilising additional financing to protect the education of all children and youth so that they can thrive and drive climate ambition.

There should be more extensive and complete cooperation among countries aimed at providing that children in developing countries are able to have access to water, food and be able to cure themselves. States should therefore create a plan with the goal of allocating those resources needed in developing countries with structured projects, which should be enacted and respected.

## ANNOTATED BIOGRAPHY

- The more inspiring and complete website when talking about the UN is their own: <https://www.un.org/>. Especially useful is their Official Document System (ODS) <https://documents.un.org/prod/ods.nsf/home.xsp>.
- The website of your committee is always a good place where to start, in the case of UNEP it is the following: <https://www.unep.org>
- The <https://securitycouncilreport.org> provides independent, in-depth analyses of the work of the UN Security Council, including background briefings, resolution tracking and forecasts on upcoming decisions.
- The <https://unctad.org> website gives key resources on trade, development, investment and the green economy, especially in the context of Global South challenges.
- The <https://www.oecd.org/greengrowth> publishes policy reports and data tools related to sustainable industry, environmental regulation and green innovation.
- Finally, joint website of WTO-UN, <https://intracen.or>, offers support to developing countries on sustainable trade, green value chains and inclusive economic growth.
- Ursu, S. (2023, July 26). A brief history of UNICEF. DevelopmentAid. <https://www.developmentaid.org/news-stream/post/165244/a-brief-history-of-unicef>
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