Cleveland-Winter Conference
2018

Position Papers for:
United Nations Environment Programme
The issues before the United Nations Environmental Program are: Increasing access to Renewable energy; and the Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. Australia is committed to making sure their wide range of renewable energy sources are available to help reduce greenhouse gas emission and help lower the climate change to mitigate the risk/severity of its impact.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

With approximately 85% of Australia’s energy coming from fossil fuels, it is imperative that these energy sources are replaced with ones that are good for the environment. The issue in the inability to convert to green energy sources; however, with investment in large-scale companies that specialize in hydro, wind and solar electricity, the Australian Department of Environment and Engineering may be able to alleviate the power issues currently in dire need of being addressed. Unfortunately, clean energy sources are expensive and require maintenance, despite the best efforts that are made; to help this. Understanding that the national fund may be unable to provide support, the Commonwealth of Australia is devoted to increasing support and funding for this problem.

The Commonwealth of Australia favors increasing access to renewable energy. According to the Clean Energy Council as of 2017, all large-scale projects such as PV (what is that by the way, maybe not abbreviate) installations have been successful. In addition, the delegation of Australia suggests citizens increase use of green transportation such as technology fueled cars. Approximately 2 in 3 Australian citizens are driving to work daily, only exacerbating the issue. The support of environmentally friendly modes of transport is immense. Australia would like to focus on renewable energy sources such as solar, hydro and wind power. The Commonwealth of Australia has continuously supported increasing access by having policies in place such as the Solar Communities Program, the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC), and Australian Renewable Energy Agency (AREA). Since Australia’s decision to switch to energy sources that are better for the environment, many modifications have been made to a significant proportion of structures, including installation of solar panels and wind farms.

Australia hopes to encourage all countries to convert to cleaner energy sources and leave fossil fuels behind. Australia also advocates for each country to collaborate with AREA for bringing awareness to the harm fossil fuels are causing like pollution and gathering resources to build up companies that provide green energy. By switching to a healthier source, the earth will better off in the long run. Strengthening the connections between AREA and CEFC will result in less global warming and possible restoration of healthy temperatures. In partnership with other organizations such as AREA could potentially provide wind, solar, and water energy that is so desperately lacking. Organizing campaigns for all willing investors to participate in order to improve the overall quality of the country may also fall under the authority of NGOs. Australia encourages all countries to find alternatives on how to obtain energy and make burning fossil fuels a thing of the past. With the Earth’s population growing exponentially, those resources will
disappear over time, so adapting to a new way of harvesting sunlight or water power will be beneficial to the environment.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change
Finding a way for the Earth to supply its inhabitants is asking for a lot, especially when everything we do as a human race revolves around our need of energy. Internationally, there was a consensus that the world should shift in terms of where countries obtain their energy. The issue of providing everyone with water, solar, or wind energy is difficult to address, but if an international fund is created for this problem, it should be solved easily. Approximately 20% of the world’s energy is harvested from renewable energy sources. If the UN is able to increase this percentage, Australia as well as the rest of the world will be able to thrive without worries of pollution and climate change.

Australia has been successful in collaborating with and ratifying UNFCCC, an international agreement that discusses taking action and lessening climate change. Steps taken to stop climate change have been implementation of wind farms, solar panels, and dams along with the other renewable energy foundations. For example, SIEW is a short period of time that brings together investors to discuss the problems in the energy industry. In addition, IRENA has united delegates from 110 countries to allow the invention of new technology, progression of investment, and political development. With the emphasis on changing the mindset of the world and working together, this project has proved successful and helpful to Australian communities.

Australia hopes to increase the amount of projects and companies that specialize in renewable energy and to share their knowledge with the rest of the world. By collaborating with organizations such as AREA and the UN, the goal of a cleaner Earth should be achieved. This will provide more wind farms, solar panels, and dams/water that generates electricity. With a whole country, not to mention planet to power, the world cannot keep relying on nonrenewable energy sources because they will eventually run out and negatively impact the environment. With properly educated people and building resources, this goal is attainable. With renewable energy comes more job opportunities, 6080 to be exact. When an abundance of people occupies those jobs, more work will be done and we will be able to produce more energy than imaginable before, making burning coal and extracting oil from the ground a thing of the past.
Delegation from: Brazil
Represented by: St. Vincent-St. Mary High School

Position Paper for the United Nations Environmental Programme

The issues being debated by the Environmental Programme are Increasing Access to Renewable Energy and Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. The delegation of Brazil believes that debate on these issues is vital because international dialogue on climate change is necessary to properly represent the beliefs of all nations.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

The delegation of Brazil believes that renewable energy is a key issue that can help fill the issue of finding productive energy sources in all countries. Renewable energy has long been an important concern of Brazil, as Brazil gets 79% of all domestically produced energy from renewable sources. This issue affects all countries, including Brazil because nonrenewable resources are not infinite and will eventually run short. People around the world have worked for many years to make the most of our renewable resources. For example, hydroelectricity was invented in 1881 in the US, and has since grown to produce over 16 percent of the entire world supply of energy.

Brazil has long believed that renewable energy is key. Ever since the creation of Brazil’s first hydroelectric plant in 1913, hydroelectricity has been especially key to Brazil. Over the years, Brazil has become very effective in using our renewable energy resources in the most effective ways. In 2001, a major drought hit Brazil, causing power shortages because hydroelectricity was slowed. However, this has helped our nation learn more about how to effectively regulate hydroelectric power. The government created new regulations helping route power better and making current infrastructure more effective. Since then, production has increased and future droughts have been addressed well.

The delegation of Brazil is excited to debate more on this issue. Brazil would like to help countries cooperate more on renewable resources. Brazil would also like to continue to encourage research on new and improved forms of renewable energy generation. Brazil would also recommend the creation of a summit to allow nations to discuss implementation of new renewable energy research that will help improve all nations. Brazil is happy to hear the ideas of other delegates and is prepared to incorporate a variety of ideas to solve the many facets of this issue.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

The delegation of Brazil believes that international agreements combating climate change are very effective. Brazil is part of various pacts and agreements such as, the multi-country Paris Agreement. The country believes that with the help of other countries, the environment can be cleaned up and the people of the planet can prevent issues pertaining to the climate for generations to come. The way to combat this is to make various different committees that include
many world powers that will provide a backbone for many of the other countries that need support.

Multinational agreements pertaining to climate change do many things for the countries involved. First, they set an agenda for other countries of the world to follow, whether they are part of the agreement or not. This helps countries decide whether they will decide to make decisions for their own people to follow. Second, while these agreements have very rigorous rules to follow, they can push the countries that are a part of them to be better in what they use and omit into the environment. The rules set are meant to be followed, as there has been years of research backing each and everyone of them. Lastly, these agreements show the world that the countries that occupy it care about the Earth, the people of the planet, and all of its future generations.

Brazil's major problems in the environment include mostly two things. The water of Brazil is of poor quality due to the amount of industry that is present. Because of this there is a humanitarian issue, caused by the various diseases this infected has. The other issue is an issue caused by the booming need for paper products. Therefore, Brazil’s rainforests are being hugely depleted for the use of paper. With the help of environmental agreements Brazil believes that change and improvement is possible in these categories, along with various others.
Canada

Jefferson Area High School

United Nations Environmental Programme

**Position Paper for the United Nations Environmental Programme**

The issues before the United Nations Environmental Programme are: Increasing Access to Renewable Energy; and Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. Canada is working tirelessly to address the climate change and other related issues and is looking forward to working with other United Nations members to advance the access to renewable energy and discuss international agreements towards climate change.

### I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's party platform includes combating climate change and plenty of spending initiatives in order to fully combat climate change and increase access to renewable energy. Canada’s traditional industries have been based off of extracting natural resources, such as oil, but now the government of Canada has concluded that they must find a balance between protecting their economic interests while protecting nature. As one of the richest countries in the world, and due to the vast biological diversity between the territories and provinces, Canada has an abundance of resources to implement and increase access to clean, renewable energy. Energy plays a vital role in Canadian lifestyle and economy, and therefore it is important for Canadian industries, companies, organizations and individuals to have access to information and tools that will aid them in implementing renewable energy and conserving our Earth’s natural resources.

The country of Canada believes that the main factor in increasing access to renewable energy is making investments. Investments in research and development, demonstrating new technologies, and in implementing clean energy, the government will work directly with territories and provinces in order to transition into a low-carbon country. These investments are driving Canadian companies into creating new ways to be cleaner, such as extracting carbon dioxide from the air. The government of Canada fully believes that by supporting and financing these new programs, more and more companies will adopt cleaner production methods, decreasing the cost of this renewable energy, and in turn increasing access. Our companies entrepreneurs have already developed technologies such as new biofuels, advanced electric vehicle batteries, lightweight materials, new mining technology, and cleaner oil and sand extraction processes. Perhaps the most critical part to Canada’s adaptation plans is science, information, and collaboration. The government of Canada is going to work with provinces and territories to establish a Canadian centre for climate change that will make information about the impacts of climate change and clean energy more available, so that informed strategies can take place. Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) also provides program and funding information, energy offices and labs, energy publications, software tools, and price information. Canada is a world leader in the production and use of energy from renewable resources, and if our projects and investments can be implemented into other countries, we feel that it will help widen the access to renewable energy and information.

The financial aspect of renewable energy may not be as difficult as it seems. The government of Canada plans to deliver their climate-finance commitment of $2.65 billion by
2020 to help the poorest and most vulnerable countries during their transition to clean energy sources. Canada has also joined Mission Innovation, with a goal of doubling investments in clean energy innovation in order to ensure the affordability of clean energy sources and to drive economic growth. There are also several International Financial Institutions, such as Acumen and the Global Environment Facility, that have adopted the “International Financial Institution Framework for a Harmonised Approach to Greenhouse Gas Accounting” which is a very promising development that will serve as a powerful tool in aiding developing nations; because developing nations are a key factor in increasing the access to renewable energy sources.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

The effectiveness of international agreements towards climate change is very uneven, in fact, there has been little or no progress in approximately half of the goals mentioned in the fifth Global Environment Outlook (GEO-5) assessment and in order to reach the Paris Agreement’s goal to limit the global temperature to no more than two degrees celsius, and halt warming to one and a half degrees celsius, global emissions need to peak around 2020 and rapidly decline. This, however, does not seem likely to occur. The international community needs to take a new step towards reaching sustainable development by redefining and specifying their goals. Over five-hundred international environmental agreements have been concluded since the creation of the United Nations Environmental Programme, and this shows the international commitment and desire for change and a more sustainable future. The delegation of Canada fully believes that these good intentions can be redefined and more applicable to enable the world to reach a more sustainable future.

With all of these agreements put into place, the atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases continue to increase, the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of reducing the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010 was not met, the state of natural habitats continues to diminish, and the proportion of marine fish stocks that are overexploited and collapsed has increased. Although there are positives in the areas where specific, measurable targets exist. The world has nearly eliminated the production and use of chemicals that deplete the ozone layer of the atmosphere (showing success from the Montreal Protocol), almost all countries have eliminated lead in gasoline, and the reduction of emissions through renewable and efficient energy programs, with well designed policies, is clearly shown throughout case studies completed in New Delhi, Nanjing, China, the industrial Valle del Cauca in Colombia, Lagos and other Nigerian cities, and many more. Also, the adoption of MDGs shows how adopting specific, measurable targets, can initiate efforts in the collection and coordination of data, and these measurements are crucial in making any progress, because progress can not be known without data and measurements.

There is a great demand for creating time-bound, measurable goals and targets with adequate monitoring in order to successfully implement these agreements. Canada believes that we must specify and redefine our goals and collaborate with private sector groups to implement various renewable and efficient energy programs. For example, in Mexico City their Sustainable Buildings Certification Programme developed and implemented in partnership with local construction and building industries to reduced 116,789 tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions, saved 133 million kilowatt-hours of electricity and 1,735,356 cubic meters of portable water, while created sixty-eight new jobs between 2009 and 20017. Expanding this type of private-sector engagement will enable funding, technology, and data to accelerate the rate of meeting the goals set by international climate change agreements. Adopting renewable energy and energy
efficiency programs together can allow goals to be met at a more rapid speed and drive economic growth. Indirect policy support such as, removing fossil fuel subsidies and the enactment of a carbon tax, can aid emission trading systems and benefit the renewable and efficient energy sectors of economies. Canada also feels that a strong part in increasing the effectiveness of these treaties begins with investments, and so Canada has joined mission innovation and are seeking to double investments in clean energy innovation over five years to ensure clean energy technologies are affordable and driving economic growth. Canada and mission innovation have set goals to support clean energy by doubling research and development (R&D) investments, encouraging private investments, and increasing domestic and international collaboration. Canada is supporting the Innovation Challenges, and has already made progress in this agreement by boosting R&D funding by twenty-four percent.
The People’s Republic of China

Position Paper for the United Nations Environmental Program

The issues being discussed today are Increasing Access to Renewable Energy and the Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. The People’s Republic of China is dedicated towards the development of green energy and the expansion of multilateral efforts in order to combat global environmental issues.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

With increasing problems arising from limited supply of nonrenewable energy sources, the need for cleaner energy becomes more prominent. Many countries still rely on fossil fuels such as coal and natural gas to provide electricity, a decision that causes considerable environmental consequences. Alternative sources such as hydropower and wind power can be used instead, but remain costly to build maintain despite the technology being well-developed and relatively widespread. As the world’s leading nation in renewable energy production, China strongly supports continued investment in clean energy, and plans to expand technologies to overseas markets as well.

For decades, China has focused on rapid, concentrated industrial development that has inevitably resulted in the production of millions of tons of harmful emissions into the atmosphere. Recognizing these potential dangers, China passed the Renewable Energy Law in 2005 which placed the development and implementation of renewable energy as a priority for all energy departments. A dedicated member of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), China has invested billions in the renewable energy sector, leading as top investor since 2005. While exempted from the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol from 2008-2012 due to status as a developing nation, China’s several successful projects during that time have raised total renewable energy capacity to over 40% as of 2017. Currently, around 20% of China’s total electricity is generated through hydropower, with an additional 20% from wind and solar. China also signed the Paris Agreement in 2015, committing towards the 40-45% reduction in carbon emissions by 2020, and meeting that goal in 2017 with a 46% reduction from 2005. By 2020, China’s projected renewable energy capacity stands at 60%, and there are plans to invest 2.5 trillion yuan in clean energy, as well as an additional 220 billion yuan overseas to promote worldwide development.

The People’s Republic of China is aware of the difficulties that all nations face in converting to renewable energy, and believe it is imperative that larger, developed nations spearhead this movement through sustained investment. Through the continued expansion of clean energy markets, technologies will become more advanced and globally accessible. China encourages member-states to work together to devise solutions that are not solely focused on larger developed countries, but acknowledge the needs and efforts of nations who do not have easy access to alternative energy sources. China proposes the UN Environmental Program to prioritize cooperation of all nations regardless of economic status in this global issue, as no nation can be left behind.
II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

Global climate change is the direct result of twentieth century industries with increased capitalist interests and the growing international consumer market. As each nation works to increase economic growth, the natural world is disappearing in favor of urban spaces to make room for the growing number of people who call the Earth home. With the world’s highest population, China is chief among those concerned with the rapid changes in the Earth’s climate. Currently, the People’s Republic of China is leading the international community in confronting climate change with focus on regulating the roots of carbon emissions and adapting to the consequences of climate change that occur in the status quo.

In 2006, China surpassed the United States as the world’s largest producer of carbon emissions. In response, China implemented it’s first Climate Change Program in 2007 with goals of reducing carbon emissions and sustainably developing the economy, including an innovative domestic carbon trading market that rewards domestic industries with lower carbon emissions. Thereinafter, China has been an important signatory in many multilateral agreements governed by the United Nations, including the Kyoto Protocol and the Montreal Protocol. China renounced the Kyoto in 2011, as it was ineffective in scope and nonbinding in participation, but signed the Paris Agreement in 2015, pledging to reach peak carbon emissions by 2030 or earlier. China has also strictly adhered to its obligations as a signatory of the Montreal Protocol as demonstrated in August 2018 when polyurethane foam producers were exposed for cheating and brought under the jurisdiction of the law by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment. In the present, China is on track with the binding targets laid out in the Thirteenth Five-Year Plan (2016-2020) that aims to reduce carbon intensity by 18% and to cap the use of coal at 5 billion through to 2020. In the future, China stands to invest almost 2.5 trillion yuan in domestic renewable energy by 2020, looks to further reduce the use of coal as an energy source and affirms its commitment to streamlining energy efficiency in market industries.

The People’s Republic of China is aware of the consequences of climate change on the global environment and stresses the responsibilities of all nations of the Earth to find multilateral solutions to sustainable human progress. China believes that these solutions should be focused on reduction, mitigation and adaptation of both sources and consequences of climate change; each country must be held accountable for taking planned and deliberate action with individual quotas and goals. The commitment to value environmental protection over commercial gain must be transparent within the international community, these values are of enormous importance in the upcoming 24th Conference of Parties of December 2018. China proposes that the UN Environmental Program emphasize this type of multilateral agreement in order to maintain the planet that we all call home.
Delegation from: the Republic of France  
Represented by: Archbishop Hoban High School

Position Paper for the Environment Programme

The issues before the Environment Programme are: Increasing Global Access to Renewable Energy; and addressing the Effectiveness of International Agreements on the Topic of Climate Change. France is devoted to the further spread and progression of renewable energy sources across the world and wishes to increase the effectiveness of international treaties seeking to combat climate change and its damages.

I. Increasing Global Access to Renewable Energy

The Republic of France zealously supports the efforts of the international community to introduce renewable energy efforts in developing nations. As a leader in pushing for green policies in the UN, France seeks to make it possible for countries to reach their goals set in the 2016 Paris Agreement. The French people and government has made this stance clear as it continues to fund and lead the UNEP appealing for nations to come together and discuss pressing issues. The issue of climate change is not a new one and is not impossible to address. The government of France sees the spread of renewable energy sources a possible way to help curb the threat posed by climate change.

Observing the importance of the changing climate as seen in the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, the French people and government support the spread of green energy across the world and the reduction unclean energy. France has recently started to move forward with a proposed 20 billion euro investment plan to help transition the nation towards more eco friendly future. Although France would like to see a clean energy world, it will not neglect the possible struggles of some countries in changing energy sources and will attempt to alleviate economic hardships presented by the transition. Both private companies and governments will have to cooperate in order to see the spread of green energy. As can be seen with many industrial countries around the world, governments often fund the energy sector pouring money into coal and oil. France would like to see this same practice adopted with the exception that governments would move money from those non renewable resources to more eco friendly options.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements on the Topic of Climate Change

The Republic of France firmly believes that future treaties regarding the issue of climate must have some form of enforcement backing them. This need has become clear as out of the 192 signatories of the Paris Agreement, nearly all of them have failed to meet their goals despite the fact all of these countries set their own goals. For this reason the Republic of France will be pushing for more ways to hold nations responsible for their goals in the upcoming COP 24. This issue of enforcement has been a blight for previous pieces of climate legislation such as the Kyoto and Montreal Protocols. While the argument can be made that these pieces of legislation were successful, they were very limited in scope and their successes minor.
The Republic of France recognizes that some countries may raise issues with whether these new rules infringing on their sovereignty. To address this issue the French government is calling for middle ground to be found between signatories so that rules made be formed while still not infringing on sovereignty. The Republic of France will be willing to make some concessions if necessary to find this middle ground. A way this could be done is by implementing more eco friendly policies in other global and regional communities. An example of this could be the development of eco friendly legislation passed within European Union. By doing this many countries would be obliged to follow these new regulations, and these regulations can actually be enforced.
Germany UNEP
Written By: Sanjit Srinivasaiah, Joonha Park

**Topic A:** Nonrenewable energy resources are harming the planet that we depend on, the sea level is rising, the land is getting hotter, and it is causing more natural disasters than ever before. Along with these horrible effects, the supplies of the nonrenewable energy resources are limited meaning that we shall soon run out of fuel to power our buildings. Thus why we must make the transition to renewable energy resources, but making this transition is not easy. Germany, one of the leading nations in renewable energy has been trying to make it easier by paving the way for the future of renewable energies. In the first half of the 2018 Germany has been able to produce enough renewable energy in 6 months to power all homes in Germany for a whole year.¹ And as a leading nation in renewable energy, it is Germany’s duty to help other nations get access to this.

The transition of Germany’s energy into a more sustainable one was been nicknamed Energiewend. It started in 1973 when a group of wine farmers, activists, and citizens from Switzerland and France occupied a construction site for a nuclear power plant in Wyhl in protest of the nuclear power plant.² This led the case to go to court where the power plant was canceled. In 1977 the Öko-Institut (Institute for Applied Ecology) was founded, whose mission statement is to help people, national and international, find alternative ways to power their buildings.³ In 1991 Germany implemented one of the world’s first feed-in tariffs, this made companies that use clean energy get a set market price for every kWh they put into the grid.⁴ This encouraged companies to make the transition in order to get better prices for their products. Germany has its roots deep in the act of going into clean energy and they want other countries to succeed as well.

What has Germany been doing in order to solve the energy crisis? In 2016, at the Petersberg Climate Meeting, Germany’s Environment and Development Ministries announced plans to help developing countries climate programs become more solid.⁵ Since the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris, it has not been easy for every country to fulfill its promise of lower global warming by 2 degrees. This is largely due to many countries not being able to invest into this promise when there are more pressing issues for them, this is where Germany could come in and help. Germany was one of the first countries to give money to the Green Climate Fund and it also gives money to the Adaptation Fund.⁶ Both of these funds are operated by the UN and both aim to help developing countries prepare for climate change.

**Topic B:** International agreements with climate change is being regarded lightly for many of the countries nowadays. Many countries are treating it lightly and ready to cross the agreement if necessary. As introduced on the topic above, the environment is rapidly changing, and

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¹ “Germany produces enough renewable energy in six months to power country's households for an entire year”. *Independent.* https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/renewable-energy-germany-six-months-year-solar-power-wind-farms-a8427356.html
² “The History of the Energiewende” *Clean Energy Wire.* https://www.cleanenergywire.org/dossiers/history-energiewend
⁵ “Germany pledges support for developing countries at Petersberg climate meeting”. *DW.* https://www.dw.com/en/germany-pledges-support-for-developing-countries-at-petersberg-climate-meeting/a-19375773
ecosystems are breaking down from nonrenewable energies. The problems have been accused from the late 20th century, and one of the agreement was the Kyoto protocol, which introduced legally binding emission reduction targets for developed countries. The second period of the protocol is covered by the Doha amendment, under which participating countries have committed to reducing emissions by at least 18% below 1990 levels. In 2015, a new agreement called the Paris Agreement presents an action plan to limit global warming 'well below' 2°C, which covers the period from 2020 onwards.

Germany has been a country that respects nature and endeavored to protect the environment. It has a department known as Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, working on a climate policy called COP 23. In November 2016, the German government joined the Climate Action Plan 2050, making Germany one of the first countries to submit the long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategy, which is required under the Paris Agreement. One of the aimed objectives of Climate Action Plan 2050 is at least 55 percent reduction of GHG emissions compared to 1990, with emission targeting all sectors.

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Delegation from: Israel  
Represented by: Beachwood High School

Position Paper for Environmental Programme
The issues before the United Nations Environment Programme are: Increasing Global Access to Renewable Energy, and Effectiveness of International Agreements on the Topic of Climate Change and Israel is dedicated to working with as many delegations as possible to find feasible solutions to the topics at hand

I. Increasing Global Access to Renewable Energy
As our planet and nations become more and more industrialized, the need for renewable energy grows ever larger. The most recent attempt at making renewable energy is found in the Paris Climate Agreement to reduce emissions from fossil fuels and find energy in more renewable sources, including but not limited to solar panels and wind power. Issues arise, however, in ensuring that all countries who need to address their emissions and gain access to renewable energy, as almost every single country requires a unique approach to this issue. Though great strides have been made in this area, only one-fourth of the energy needed will be provided for by renewable energy. This is a mark of great peril, as such a statistic would suggest that renewable energy is not as useful as non-renewable energy, however this is far from the case, as evident in Iceland, Costa Rica, and Uruguay. The gap in the status of these aforementioned countries demonstrates that the whole world can indeed become more reliant on renewable energy.

As is well known, the country of Israel prides itself in innovation, not least of all in regards to drip irrigation. Considering Israel’s desert climate, water is a luxury. With the use of drip irrigation, there is no runoff, plants grow to be larger, and the waste is nearly non-existent. In addition to this, 95% of Israel's wastewater undergoes treatment . . . and 86% of treated effluents [are] reused in agriculture, instead of flowing into the environment. Not only this, but wastewater to be treated is slated to grow to 75% by 2019. We have taken it upon ourselves to monitor diesel vehicles, whose emissions are greatly harmful. We have reduced the number of plastic bags that companies can buy, thereby greatly reducing the waste from such products. For 2030, we have a plan to recycle over half of urban waste. In addition to the aforementioned drip irrigation, Israel has greatly utilized desalination to conserve water.

To make as much renewable energy available as possible, Israel would like to see a great growth in research into the eradication of coal dependency and the involvement of non-state and subgovernment actors (NSAs). In addition to this Israel would like to see the implementation of at least one of the following: biotechnology involving cyanobacteria improved solar energy, cold fusion, and/or hydrogen power. As previously stated, a great amount of research must first be directed toward these causes, meaning that the first step toward the accessibility of renewable energy would be something already proven to function well, such as the drip irrigation as mentioned previously. But doing this, we take a step forward in retaining and maintaining as many resources as possible. Though water is not energy, it is still an important resource for countries to learn to maintain. Israel would also like to see the use of bioengineered solar panels with cyanobacteria, which is purported to be the most efficient converters of solar energy.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements on the Topic of Climate Change
Climate change has impacted the Earth for a long while, but often times people don’t pay attention to it. Anticipated changes in climate can seriously damage human welfare and natural systems around the world. According to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, there is a 95% likelihood that the principal causes of climate change are anthropogenic (resulting from human actions). Those causes include any activity that leads to increased emissions of greenhouse gases. The report also notes that each of the past three decades has been successively warmer at the Earth's surface than in any preceding decade since 1850. Luckily, President George H.W. Bush joined more than other world leaders at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit to adopt a series of international environmental agreements, including the UNFCCC. The president later ratified the UNFCCC with the advice and consent of the U.S. Senate, and the agreement has since been embraced by virtually every nation on earth. The UNFCCC sets a long-term objective of avoiding dangerous human interference with the climate system. Toward that end, the agreement commits all nations to take steps to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions; establishes the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities” (CBDRRC), recognizing that countries vary in their contributions to climate change and capacities to address it, so their obligations will likewise vary; commits developed countries to assist developing countries in reducing emissions and coping with climate impacts.

Israel takes climate change very seriously, for global consequences resulting from changes in climate have been manifested in the rise of temperature rise in ocean levels, drought, changes in precipitation and more. While Israel is a relatively small contributor to climate change due to its size and population, it is sensitive to the potential impacts of the phenomenon, due to its location. Thus, it is making an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while simultaneously doing whatever possible to reduce the expected damage that will result if climate change is not halted. In April 2016, the Israeli Cabinet approved a national plan to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and increase energy efficiency. The plan will ensure implementation of Israel's per capita GHG reduction target of 26% below 2005 per capita emissions level. Israel submitted this target to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Sept. 2015. The cumulative economic benefits to Israel's economy are expected to reach NIS 30 billion. The program is being led by the Ministries of Environmental Protection (MoEP), Energy, Finance, and Economy. Israel signed the Kyoto Protocol in December 1998 and ratified it in February 2004. Israel has taken several measures in their efforts to achieve greenhouse gases reduction(GHGs). The effort to mitigate greenhouse gases is accepted throughout the world as one of the best approaches to halting climate change. Examples include the more efficient use of fossil fuels for energy production and industrial processes; renewable energy use; better insulation of buildings in order to increase energy efficiency. In April 2016, the government passed a national plan aimed at reaching this target.

Israel would like to see a new growth of power which doesn’t rely on coal. Instead, advances of biotechnology would be ideal, for Israel uses the most solar energy out of all the other countries in the world, so the country has already made large leaps into achieving GHG reduction. The delegation of Israel suggests that other countries consider building solar panels to power their electricity. In time, the power of the sun can be at least almost a complete replacement to fossil fuels and other harmful sources of energy which trigger climate change. However, the delegation
of Israel is aware of the “duck curve” dilemma, where the power created from solar panels are too expensive to build and continuously use, whereas coal is used for the majority of power in the world. Therefore, we suggest the use of the “vortex dam,” in countries with several flowing water sources, so power is generated simply from the natural force of water spinning downwards. Increasing the amount of chicken and decreasing the number of cows because cow methane is very abundant is also an important step to decreasing climate change. Israel suggests a five-year plan in efforts for countries to slowly become less dependent on coal and decrease the number of cows. This plan will be updated every five years, such to create a sturdy framework to constantly develop better solutions as technology advances.
Delegation From: Italy  
Represented By: Saint Joseph Academy  

Position Paper for The United Nations Environmental Programme

The issues being presented to the United Nations Environmental Program are Increasing Access to Renewable Energy and the Effectiveness of International Agreements to Climate Change. The Republic of Italy is fully committed to addressing and solving these problems.

I) Increasing Access to Renewable Energy
Nonrenewable resources and fossil fuels have proven themselves in recent years to be harmful both environmentally and economically. Fossil fuels used to provide energy and electricity globally have accounted for 60% of harmful carbon emissions, making energy production and use the largest contributor to global warming. Global warming presents dire global consequences if it continues to progress at its current rate. The use of renewable energy sources is the best way to combat this due to their minimization of environmental pollution and the economic stability they provide. An accountable source of energy is crucial for a stable economy. The Paris Climate Agreement, as well as the Capacity Award Programme to Advance Capabilities and Institutional Training in one Year Fellowship Program, highlights a commitment to combating global warming and the Republic of Italy is fully committed to this goal.

The delegation from the Republic of Italy is committed to decarbonization, improving energy efficiency, and encouraging environmental conservation to mitigate environmental and climate impacts. By improving energy sources, issues within the global economy will be aided as well. As found in the 2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development, The Republic of Italy shares in the goals and ways in which nations can develop policies to help combat the effects of climate change and help increase access to renewable energy. We encourage other nations to support this as well. We firmly believe that the entirety of the global society would benefit from the adherence to these goals towards sustainable development. As such, the Republic of Italy remains a firm supporter of the Paris Agreement. We are already surpassed our goals for renewable energy use. In addition, the Republic of Italy has taken the initiative to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with United Nations Climate change to implement the Capacity Award Programme to Advance Capabilities and Institutional Training in one Year (CAPACITY) Fellowship Program. Through this program, we are aiding small island developing states and least developed countries in responding to the effects and consequences of global warming.

With the current issue in mind, the delegation of the Republic of Italy encourages a plan to both increase the use of renewable energy and decrease the use of fossil fuels and other sources of nonrenewable energy. We encourage other countries to follow suit and replace their use of fossil fuels with the use of renewable sources, as well as meeting their goals set in the Paris Agreement. The Republic of Italy is confident that with the proper cooperation of other nations these benchmarks set by the 2030 United Nations Environmental Agenda will be met.
Introduction
The discussion topics brought to the Ivory Coast in this conference are: Increasing Access to Renewable Energy; and Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. We, the delegation of Ivory Coast, are trying to provide more ways to do what is absolutely needed for our country; which, as of now, is being able to have more access to renewable energy, and to discuss the effectiveness of international agreements towards climate change.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

Part I: We, the Ivory Coast, have not a long history with renewable energy, with only recent statistics. For example, in 2008, we’ve generated 5.55 billion kilowatt hours (1,000 watts per 1 hour). The energy sources that we’ve acquired the energy from were (mostly) power plants and hydroelectricity. Also in 2008, the Ivory Coast produced 0.21 quadrillion BTU’s (british thermal units) (equivalent to $1.055 \times 10^3$ joules). Overall, the history of our country’s renewable energy is only recent, but the energy is needed.

Part II: As of now, in the Ivory Coast, we are aiming to be an economic hub for West Africa, producing and managing the need for renewable energy for anyone’s needs. We are working on giving priority to hydroelectric projects to increase generation of renewable energy while also making it less expensive. There are also products and services in Ivory Coast that have immediate need/potential, which include gas-to-power technologies, transmission and distribution equipment, energy efficiency, along with others.

Part III: Possible solutions to these problems would most likely include money from other countries. For example, we may need some other country’s GDP for us to make advances in our country. Of course, we can’t spend all of our own money to make these advances. We, along with Morocco, have already received a boost to further develop our planned projects. Our planned project is a hydropower project, called the Singrobo-Ahouaty project, involves the design, construction, and operation of a 44mW hydropower plant of the Bandama River. We definitely will need help to proceed with this plan.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

Part I: The earliest but also most recent agreement took place in Paris, 2015 from November 30th to December 11th, and is called the Paris agreement. What this agreement did was set forth a balanced outcome with a plan to limit global warming. It set many long-term goals, that have to do with reducing global warming, for many countries.

Part II: For the most recent years, we, the Ivory Coast, have been working on the long-term goals set by the Paris Agreement, such as: keeping the increase in global average temperature to well below $2^\circ$C and above pre-industrial levels and try to engage in efforts to limit it to $1.5^\circ$C;
submitting inclusive national climate action plans to reduce their emissions; agreeing to communicate every 5 years with other governments about their status; accepted to report to other governments and the public about how well they are doing to implement their other climate change plans (and how they’ll execute them); along with others.

**Part III:** Possible solutions to making these agreements mostly successful would to just go along with the agreements. Do what is proposed in the agreements and the outcome will be beneficial for the country overall.
The United Nations Environmental Program is to address the following concerns: Increasing Access to Renewable Energy and the Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. Japan is committed to the creation of a clean and sustainable world.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

In the past century, energy consumption worldwide has skyrocketed. To meet this increasing demand, fossil fuels are exploited every year at an alarming rate. Even disregarding the many environmental issues that these energy sources bring, one cannot deny that humanity’s current dependence on ultimately limited resources is inherently harmful. Thus, the implementation and use of renewable energy is absolutely necessary—not only to protect the environment, but also to protect the world from future collapse over strained resources. The State of Japan is in full support of increasing worldwide access to renewable energy and will strive to cooperate with other nations to eliminate any issues in the way of this goal.

Japan has often been named the technological hegemon of the world. As the title suggests, Japan has long put forth an effort to advance technology in all areas conducive to human development. Recently, however, a major concern has arisen in Japan regarding the implementation of cleaner and more sustainable technology. Well aware that it is the 5th largest energy consumer in the world, the state has become increasingly insistent on promoting the switch to renewable energy through multiple domestic reforms. For example, a feed-in tariff enacted nationwide urged companies to acquire energy from renewable producers as well as encouraged innovation for cheaper alternatives to fossil fuels. This tariff resulted in a 5% surge in renewable energy use, and Japan believes it may be able to satisfy 24% of the country’s energy demand with renewable energy by 2030. Furthermore, the Japanese government recognizes the importance of working directly to develop and harness various forms of renewable energy as well, and its expansion of nuclear and photovoltaic projects exemplifies the potential of nuclear and solar power as a viable energy source for other nations. Japan wishes to begin a gradual world-wide implementation of renewable energy soon in the hope that accessibility to these resources may someday be commonplace.

Two key obstacles that currently limit access to renewable energy include the high cost of transitioning to it from inexpensive fossil fuels and a lack of innovation in the field. In order to directly solve for money, Japan encourages financial aid from developed countries to nations unable to afford the high cost of adopting renewable energy. However, the key factor that influences cost is innovation. After all, many nations are prevented from achieving sufficiently productive renewable energy use, which is extremely disincentivizing even in the face of adequate financial resources. Subsidized innovation, in that case, would further advance understanding of renewable energy, resulting in more efficient energy development and production. This will ultimately lower its cost, and thereby increase accessibility. Thus, expanding research will indirectly solve for cost and further improve the renewable energy
already adopted by many nations in this committee. In this manner, Japan hopes to work with other nations to help aid the transition to renewable energy and mitigate the devastating effects of fossil fuels on the people and planet.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

Nearly 747 international environmental agreements have been ratified since 1857. The process of climate change, however, has continued with minimal effect. Clearly then, there is a great issue regarding the willingness and capability of many nations to uphold their promises, and so far, there does not seem to exist any effective solutions to addressing this. Considering the disastrous nature of climate change and the state of this world’s already rapidly declining environment, the State of Japan believes this problem is one of extreme urgency. An efficient, diplomatic solution must be found, and quickly. Accordingly, Japan wishes to increase the ability of other nations to implement agreed changes and alter certain environmental goals to maximize practicality for all signatories.

As a prominent leader in the struggle against climate change, the State of Japan understands that global cooperation is crucial to creating the drastic change needed to avoid the calamitous effects this problem may bring in the future. Therefore, in recent years, Japan has consistently pledged support for a multitude of international environmental agreements. It has also played a central role in negotiating many of them; the most significant example, of course, is the Kyoto Protocol. Currently, Japan is implementing nearly 17 International Agreements, as it greatly recognizes the increasing danger of climate change and has constantly utilized local policy changes to reach its goals. The effects of its efforts are apparent. In 2011, when Japan created a feed-in tariff, the use of environmentally harmful traditional power sources (such as coal) was disincentivized. In 2012, when the federal government imposed a carbon tax, emissions were reduced even further. With these successes in mind, Japan officially submitted its goal of reducing global emissions by 23% by 2030 to the UN in 2015. Additionally, as of 2004, Japan has researched and produced nearly 20% of the world’s environment-friendly technologies. This technological excellence and proliferation has greatly aided other nations in reaching their own environmental sustainability goals in an economically efficient manner. Thus, Japan prioritizes economic stability and adequate technological ability as prerequisites to reducing emissions and achieving targets set by Climate Change agreements.

Hoping to set an example for other nations, Japan has consistently held itself accountable for its promises, always implementing the international agreements it has signed. However, it recognizes that not all nations do, and concludes that the main problem stifling the success of these agreements concerns the lack of financial ability to meet various impractical goals. To fix this problem, Japan proposes that the UN revise past agreements to maximize practicality and achievability for those nations involved in accordance to their political, economic, and cultural situation. Though a massive change is needed to mitigate the effects of climate change completely, there will be no change at all if the UN requires nations to make such massive adjustments immediately. However, Japan values efficiency as well, and realizes that small, gradual changes may not be enough to counteract climate change in an immediately effective manner. So, to expedite this process, Japan also encourages the UN to create incentives for private renewable energy companies such as Japan Renewable Energy Co., Canadian Solar Inc.,
or CropEnergies AG (among others) to expand into financially and technologically deficient countries. Such incentives include covering the losses incurred by these companies in taking the risk to expand, providing partial funding for any projects that they undertake in these new countries, and agreeing to share research and technological advancements in the field that they operate. In this way, struggling nations can improve their environments and economies simultaneously. This, the State of Japan believes, will encourage more nations to fulfill their climate agreements in an efficient and effective manner.
Position paper for the United Nations Environmental Program

The issues before the Environmental Program are Increasing Access to Renewable Energy; and Effectiveness of International Agreements towards Climate Change. The delegation of Jordan is devoted to finding solutions to these issues and expresses willingness for our fellow delegations in order to do so.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

Overall the global energy usage has come to around 80 percent fossil fuels 15 percent biofuels and nuclear energy and only 5 percent renewable energy. The use of renewable energy in Jordan is marginal, it contains less than two percent of the electrically engineered energy. Of that percent most is comprised of energy from solar and wind. The national government has instituted a National Energy Strategy under this plan renewable energy is going to be a major factor. The government is investing of 18 billion U.S dollars into the energy sector. This strategy aims to increase the renewable energy share from 0-5 percent in 2015 and then to 10 percent in 2020.

Jordan believes that renewable energy is needed. They have came up with many different ideas to try and combat this problem. Jordan needs more renewable energy because most people cannot afford the expenses of all the bills from other energy sources. At the Hamdan al-Qara mosque near Jordan’s capital they used to pay 13,000 dinars each year which is about 18322 USD. Now that they have installed dozens of solar panels all along the roof those costs have gone down to almost nothing. Jordan relies on about 98 percent imported energy and that costs about 4.5 billion each year on oil alone. Last year solar power plants were opened in two Syrian refugee camps Zaatari and Azraq this provides tens of thousands of people with free and clean energy.

Jordan would like to see that more renewable resources are being placed not only in developed countries but in developing countries as well. This could provide funding and it will ultimately decrease costs that the country has to overcome. It may be more expensive at first but then it will be free after that and they can start making money instead of losing it paying for energy. The delegation of Jordan would also like to see more solar panels because that is the main way that could sustain the whole country considering that there are not many water forms all around the country. Lastly the delegation of Jordan would like to see all of our fellow delegates working together to come up with more solutions.
II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

This topic is about the effectiveness of international agreements towards climate change. This basically means are the agreements that are being made between countries effective. Are they truly helping reduce climate change? The delegation of Jordan believes that this is working but still must be improved upon. Even though pledges have been made under the Paris Agreement it is still believed that global temperatures could still rise by up to 3.4°C within the next 100 years. This may not seem like much but it truly is and it is affecting many countries.

Jordan believes that this issue that must be addressed immediately. The acts being called into order must go into effect immediately. The middle east where Jordan is located already has a scarce source of water and climate change will make it even more scarce. This will affect our people and tourism to our country because there will not be enough water. Jordan can almost only rely on rainfall for renewable water sources and the increase in temperature will make rain our only source of renewable water.

One solution is that these policies made by our fellow countries, they must be put into action immediately and they must be harsh at first. Being harsh at first is the only way that we will be able create a somewhat immediate effect on our planet. We need to reduce the emissions we release and find new sources of energy to use to reduce them. There are so many ways all countries could create sustainable energy sources from renewable things.
Delegation from: Kuwait
Represented by: Lake Ridge Academy

Position Paper for the United Nations Environment Program

The issues before the United Nations Environment Program are: Increasing Access to renewable energy and the Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. The country of Kuwait is committed to meeting the increasing demands for renewable energy and finding solutions for climate change, while expressing its hopes for cooperation between state and non-state actors.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

Renewable energy is energy that is collected from renewable sources, in order to create clean and usable energy. It provides energy for electricity and water heating and cooling. Renewable energy provides energy for different purposes, from environmental sources that will never diminish. The two most common types of renewable energy are wind and solar. Renewable energy resources exist universally. Renewable energy systems are becoming more reliable with lower costs and by reducing environmental pollution, such as air pollution. Renewable energy provides for 13.5% of the world’s total energy, and 22% of the world’s total electricity. In Kuwait, 55% of the total energy used is from renewable energy, of that percentage, 84% is used for electricity and 16% for water heating and cooling.

Kuwait is fully reliant on the burning of fossil fuels in order to generate energy. In 2017, a Kuwaiti journalist, Muna al-Fuzai, stated that because the sun and wind are such large factors and powers in Kuwait, they will attempt to use them for renewable energy. Kuwait is currently carrying out projects regarding renewable energy, especially solar power, in order to decrease their reliance on oil and electrical production. Because of its geographical location, Kuwait receives an abundance of sun and wind, both of which are essential for reusable energy. Kuwait is changing its direction through adopting new sources of energy. Kuwait set the generation of renewable energy a goal by increasingly of 15% up until 2030.

Kuwait is facing severe environmental problems, as the country struggles to maintain the production of oils and natural gasses. Kuwait’s energy crisis is a result of straining their natural oils and gases. This is a concern to the country as it wrestles to become a major power in the industrial economy. The Kuwaiti government is working to make the usage of renewable energy and resources a priority. The strain of their fossil fuels like gas and oil can lead to straining water and oxygen in the air, and therefore increasing pollution. The Kuwaiti government needs to consider the use of renewable energy, as it is the most effective way to produce an abundance of energy.
II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

Historically, Kuwait has been a country filled with an abundance of social and economic struggles and corruption, due to the constant battle to maintain its elite status in the oil industry. Several conflicts include domestic violence from terror organizations, corruption of government leadership, and economical breakdown. However, none of these issues have taken a toll on Kuwait in comparison to the issues stemming from the country’s reliance on burning fossil fuels for energy. Kuwait’s irresponsible policies and lack of regard for the environment has not only affected their own country individually but has also placed a huge burden on other neighboring countries as well.

After the Gulf War, the Kuwaiti government assembled a panel of researchers to evaluate the destruction and long-standing effects of the Gulf War and the horrific oil fires it caused. What they found, was that there was an overwhelming effect of pollution in the air and soil; as well as, destruction to the water sources and animal species. Rather than using money to clean up the affected areas, Kuwait implemented a plan, which later failed, to allocate its funding in order to subsidize production costs for oil companies and to increase its profits by hoping to rebuild its depleted economy. Although, this only contributed to the compounding of environmental issues; such as, air pollution and increased climate change effects. This also placed Kuwait under intense scrutiny from the UNFCCC, for solely being concerned about their own economy and disregarding the global efforts to help mitigate the environmental issues. From 1995 to 2005, Kuwait showed no effort towards enforcing policy and addressing their environmental issues.

In recent years, Kuwait has made the decision to take important steps, both domestically and internationally, to address its environmental issues. On the domestic level, Kuwait has created its own policies and government bodies to oversee and regulate a more responsible and regimented oil production process. Kuwait now has its own Environmental Protection Agency. On an international level, Kuwait has been very involved in international agreements supporting climate change reform. However, in spite of these significant efforts on behalf of the Kuwaiti government, environmental experts claim Kuwait still displays complacency towards their responsibility to the environment at a global level.
Delegation from: The Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal
Represented by: Macarah Morgan and Hilal Balik

Position Paper for the United Nations Environmental Program

The issues placed before the UNEP are: Increasing Global Accessibility to Renewable Energy and the Effectiveness of International Agreements on the Topic of Climate Change. The delegation from the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal strongly believes that to pave a way for a more efficient and secure future, these issues must be resolved. In order to achieve this goal, The Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal looks forward to discussing these two pressing matters with fellow UN members and forming comprehensive resolutions that benefit all parties.

I: Increasing Global Access to Renewable Energy

Approximately, 80% of global energy consumption is derived from fossil fuels while renewable energy sources account for an upsetting 15% of global energy consumption. While some countries are converting to sustainable development, other countries with high populations and fossil fuel reserves have contributed to a significant amount of fossil fuel consumption and have not taken major steps toward renewable energy methods (hydropower, wind power, and solar power), which are proving to be efficient ways to reduce their carbon footprint. As a signatory of the Paris Climate Agreement, Nepal fully supports its plan to mitigate and adapt to the emission of greenhouse gases by promoting the switch to and construction of renewable energy technology.

In Nepal’s mission to not only become non-dependent on fossil fuel importations from Europe, but increase access to renewable energy by 2030, the Nepali government, through the AEPC, has been building micro hydro plants across Nepalese communities with the assistance of the World Bank. Because of this program, over 1,000 micro-hydro plants have been built in 52 districts. In 2017, the U.S and Nepal signed a $500 million Millennium Challenge Corporation Compact with the purpose to expand the electricity infrastructure of Nepal and lower transportation costs. The two countries have also worked together on the “Nepal Energy for Education Project” on behalf of the Global Sustainable Electricity Partnership. Even though Nepal is amongst the least developed countries with no coal, gas, or oil reserves, 94.5% of its electricity is derived from hydroelectric plants and biomass is its primary energy source.

Nepal believes that the necessary transition from fossil fuels to complete use of renewable energy sources must be made. To make this transition, Nepal is willing to collaborate with UN member nations to work towards not only developing their own technology and ideas of renewable energy, but expanding their own infrastructures to less developed countries who do not have the funds to build their own. Along with this, Nepal would suggest the Security Council to fund the construction of mainly hydropower, wind power, and solar power designs in landlocked Middle Eastern and Asian countries who have no incentive in making the change as some, like Nepal, have very high poverty rates and no money to spend on the expensive construction of renewable energy technology. Taking note of this fact, Nepal encourages the implementation of research facilities to find cheaper and more efficient renewable energy
II: Effectiveness of International Agreements on the Topic of Climate Change

Currently, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Climate Agreement are forefront in helping combat climate change internationally. With the Kyoto Protocol, 38 countries have agreed to reduce their overall gas emissions by 18% of the emission levels of 1990. Likewise, the Paris Climate Agreement’s long term goal is to limit the global temperature increase to 2 degrees. In order to reach this goal, the 175 parties that signed the Paris Climate Agreement will meet every 5 years to set ambitious goals. However, since 1880, the overall global increase in temperature is reaching the 2 degree limit at 1.4 degrees. In fact, it is predicted that temperatures will rise 2.5-10 degrees in the next century alone. These changes in the global climate have many high risk implications for both developed and developing countries. Effects may include harm to both the diverse ecosystems of the globe as well as economy of many nations.

As Nepal is home to 118 ecosystems, 75 categories of vegetation, and 35 types of forests. With climate change, Nepal’s biodiversity and resources are at risk. The rural areas of Nepal depend on the environment for survival. Additionally, much of Nepal’s economy comes from industries reliant on the environment: agriculture, forestry, and eco-tourism. To quantify, due to their biodiversity and economic and geographic profile, Nepal is ranked 13th for climate vulnerability. With the support of USAID funded programs, Nepal was able to work towards a more community-driven model of reducing climate change and environment protection. Nepal recently completed NAPA with help from UNDP-GEF, DFID, and DANIDA, a plan for national adaptation. As a result of three dialogues in different locations, the plan focuses on local-level adaptation tactics. Additionally, Nepal’s people have started adapting autonomously in order to maintain their way of living and in order to prevent future compromisation of their lifestyle. Furthermore, many households have migrated, either short-term or long-term, in order to mitigate the negative effects of climate change. However, this method has many negative implications for the social order of communities as well as the economy.

Nepal strongly supports an all inclusive plan to make sure that the negative effects of climate change are decreased by a majority of countries. To increase the effects of international agreements on the topic of climate change, Nepal believes that every plan should be tailored to the needs of each and every participating country. Nepal also believes that agreements would receive more participation and support if they took the position of every country or party that could act a signatory. Alongside this, Nepal would like to suggest the implementation of more local solutions to the problem of climate change. Nepal suggests that every country/party participating in a global agreement should create awareness within their own communities rather than just regulating sizeable industries to reduce emissions. Furthermore, Nepal encourages the
growth of technology and research in fields regarding climate change in order to ensure that international agreements have the most impact in terms of implementation. Nepal is willing to take the lead on such research programs and encourages collaboration efforts to do so.
Delegation from: Netherlands  
Represented by: Ansuman Nayak and Anthony Perstin  
Position Paper for United Nations Environment Programme  
The concerns to be addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme are: Roles UNEP should take on to encourage increased implementation of renewable energy in developing countries; and the process to make a checking system for developing countries to force production of renewable energy. With that in consideration, the Netherlands stand with supporting the environment as a whole and is willing to help as many countries as possible.

I. Roles UNEP should take on to encourage increased implementation of renewable energy in developing countries

The UNEP has published various guides and reports that inform governments and other groups about renewable energy progress, policies, and the current situation. Some of these include the 2016 UNEP Guide for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Laws that describes legal issues associated with renewable energy development and presents solutions such as having investment subsidies and investment grants. This guide helps presents ways to decrease the upfront costs leading to increased production of renewable resources. The efforts of groups like UNEP have produced results and in 2017, renewable energy was the fastest growing energy source. Netherlands is committed at solving this issue. So far, The Netherlands already spends the internationally agreed 0.7% of GNP for ODA. 0.8% of Netherlands GNP will be spent on ODA and 0.1% of Netherlands GNP will be spent on international environmental issues.

Netherlands approach would be to create greater production and transportation of renewable resources towards poverty stricken countries to avoid running on fossil fuels. The easiest way to achieve this issue is to place taxes on non-renewable resources. Since 1992, the Dutch government has issued taxes such as, Tax on Uranium, Waste disposal fees, Water Pollution discharge taxes on heavy metals, and taxes on fuels. Taxes placed in developing countries can help countries back off on full dependence on non-renewable resources by limiting the amount of production. Many of these developing regions are also dependent on fossil fuels due to the availability and cost efficiency of production of this type of energy. For example, the ORET/MILIEV, a corporation created within the Dutch government, main objective is to boost trade and industry in developing countries and provide environmental protection. Its objectives are achieved by providing grants for capital goods, services or works from the Netherlands to developing countries. Another important program is the Sustainable Development Agreement between the Netherlands, Costa Rica, Bhutan, Benin implementing UNCED agreements, based on equality, reciprocal effort and the mutual acquisition of knowledge and experience in regards to each country. This can not only create ties with other developing countries, but can also offer funds to developing countries so that their reliance on fossil fuels decreases.

II. Implement a Process to Make Environmental Treaties More Reasonable for Countries to Follow

The Paris Climate Agreement was signed in 2016 by most of the Parties to the UNFCCC, but has not achieved universal ratification. Notably, even President Trump decided in 2017 to withdraw the United States from the Paris Agreement. International environmental treaties also don't seem to help developing countries. Wealthy countries have consistently promoted economic agendas to help impoverished countries to very big corporations. This can cause countries to essentially ignore environmental laws. For example, oil companies in Nigeria...
continue production with almost no consideration in obeying environmental agreement laws. Underdeveloped countries are not affected at all by the treaties placed due to the high amount of thresholds they have to reach. The Netherlands have been currently working towards implementing education systems developing countries in hopes of making countries have a easier time in achieving international environmental agreements.

The Netherlands approach would be to implement education systems and increase research into environmentally sound technology that can help countries better achieve these agreements. As of now, most developing countries lack advancements in environmental technologies that have been currently developed in the Netherlands. The principles of Netherlands environmental policies is to implement the application of clean technology. In 1995, an Information Centre for Environmental Licensing was opened. The centre was set up primarily to provide licensing authorities with information. The idea is that licensing authorities, should be able to apply the ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) principle as referred to in the Environmental Protection Act. The information centre has started by integrating existing information facilities regarding air pollution, energy, soil remediation technology and the helpdesk of the facilitating organization for industry. The information centre will be extended, with information on water, waste prevention and environmental care systems. With regards to achieving minimum requirements in environmental agreements, the Dutch government should begin to implement this principle in developing countries. The Netherlands actively began setting up environmentally sound technology centres and with countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America for this purpose. The network of cleaner production centres cooperates closely with the industrial market for technology development and transfer. The main activities of the centres lie in the field of strengthening environmental care in industry by the organization of seminars and courses and provision of support for companies preparing environmental working plans. In addition to Netherlands approach, the government should promote environmental standards to developing countries through education. A National Education Strategy has been prepared by the Netherlands to help promote the reorientation of education towards sustainable development. The Ministries involved encourage partnerships, mobilize resources, provide information and assess the needs of different population groups. The results are then reviewed and revised to address environment and development as a cross-cutting issue. Implementing education systems can help many developing nations achieve the minimum agreements within international environmental treaties.
I. **Issue of increasing Global Access to Renewable Energy**

Fossil fuels emit about sixty percent of greenhouse gases that are responsible for climate change on earth. Russia like many other countries, wants to and needs to transfer over to using renewable energy. The problem with the transition is that carbon-intensive energy technology is and continues to be cheaper than renewable energy technology. Many developed and/or developing countries have plants for coal and fossil fuels already, and just maintain and sustain them. Therefore, the U.N.E.P needs to implement renewable energy. Renewable energy needs to be implemented very quickly between now and 2040 faster than it ever has been. It may be difficult because of the cost of renewable energy, with geography and feed-in tariffs, but countries have never needed to implement something faster than this. The U.N.E.P only promotes energy efficiency, and the use of energy from renewable sources. The U.N.E.P only gives advice and raises awareness but does not implement anything in developed or developing nations. The U.N.E.P needs to implement renewable energy sources in developed countries. The U.N.E.P have passed things like the clean air act in 1963 and have worked with CECEP but have never used money to teach how to build renewable energy sources or even donated renewable energy sources. Even though it may be expensive to build and maintain these renewable energy sources, if the U.N.E.P does not do these things the nations of the world face a dark future.

In a country where most of its wealth comes from oil and gas companies Russia wants to and is has been transitioning to renewable energy sources. Russia along with the United States of America has pledged to keep its greenhouse gases below twenty five percent and has planned to increase in non-hydroelectric renewables. Russia is one of the top five countries in the nation with hydropower as of 2012, and accounts for twenty two percent of power-generated capacity. Russia aims to be able to produce 4.5 percent of energy with renewables by 2020 according to Main Directions for the State Policy to Improve the Energy Efficiency of the Electricity Sector. Russia has a lot of potential for the future of renewable energy and has a lot of ideas just they have not implemented them due to prices and non-access to the energy reserves.

Russia like many of its other countries has been planning and has ideas for the future of the nation’s renewable energy. The government adopted the Resolution Areas of Government Policy to Raise the Energy Efficiency of Electric Power from Renewable Energy resolution and the updated Energy Strategy to 2030, 4.5 percent of all the electricity that is produced and consumed in 2020 should be generated from the seven Federal Law amendments that will be put in place. Also, Russia’s state nuclear major, Rosatom, has partnered with the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission on joint research into alternative energy sources and energy storage. Rosatom has planned to start mining and selling lithium and possibly even create its own lithium-ion batteries. The company is focusing specifically on EVs. Moscow state University has also stated has developed a new way for synthesis of cathode material that could significantly shorten battery charging periods. Russia has also just launched a auction to generate money for wind powered systems for the country. Russia is mainly focused on storing energy in the country
II. Issue of the Effectiveness of the International Agreement on the Topic of Climate Change

Since the late 1900s, the international community has taken notice to the issue of climate change. Climate change is defined as the abnormal change in a regional or global climate. These abnormal changes in climate have been caused by the Earth’s rising temperature, greenhouse gas emission, and emission of carbon dioxide. The average temperature of the earth has risen over 0.8 degrees Celsius since the year 1980 and is still rising. This has been caused by the greenhouse effect. Certain gasses cause heat to become trapped in the earth's atmosphere. The amount of greenhouse gasses emitted into the atmosphere is constantly increasing. In the year 2017, the emission of carbon dioxide rose over 1.4%. The rising levels of carbon dioxide has caused a buildup of heat in the earth's atmosphere causing the earth’s temperature to rise.

In order to counter the issue of climate change, the delegation of the Russian Federation has greatly reduced the Russian greenhouse gas and carbon dioxide emission by over 30% since the 1990s. The Russian State environmental committee, Russian office that deal with issue concerning the environment, has also put into place the Climate Doctrine of the Russian Federation, enacted in the year 2010, which aims to decrease energy produce through use of natural gas to 46% or 47% from 50% by the year 2030. This also aims to increase renewable energy sources by 4.5% by the year 2020. The Russian Federation has also taken part in different climate change agreement such as the Kyoto climate change protocol and the Montreal protocol. The Russian Federation also formed the Russian Climate Plan back in 2015. Agreements such as these include policies and goals such as stabilizing greenhouse gas concentration in the atmosphere, prevent and reduce global warming, and reduce emission of greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere.

Outcomes desired by the Russian Federation aim to greatly reduce the issues of climate change. Possible solutions could include expanding on agreement and resolutions that are already in place, decreasing of greenhouse gas emissions, preventing and reducing global warming and others.
Delegation from: Saudi Arabia  
Represented by: Lake Ridge Academy

Position Paper for the Environmental Program
The issues before the United Nations Environment Program are as follows: Increasing Access to Renewable Energy and Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia looks forward to effectively addressing both topics, as well as finding positive solutions that benefit all parties involved.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia supports the influx of renewable energy efforts and continues to research the global benefits of renewable energy, specifically solar energy. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia understands the worldwide need for renewable energy and has composed several different proposals domestically, such as the Vision 2030 plan or the Nationally Determined Contribution, to substantially increase the amount of renewable energy in total energy production and reduce overall carbon emissions.

Recognizing the global issue of finding renewable energy, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has joined the many countries searching for a potential answer to this crisis. Recognizing the negative effects of a lack renewable energy source, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia feels pressure to find a global solution to the problem. As a member of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is requested to research and begin to maintain a use of technologies that in the long term, reduces the greenhouse gases emitted.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continues to support treaties and committees that embrace policies for limiting fossil fuel emissions, which includes transitioning technology for energy to a more renewable source. As shown in several countries, domestically energy consumption needs to be reduced, especially in Saudi Arabia. The Kingdom could become a major importer of oil instead of exporter in the near future. To prevent this reversal, which could cause great chaos to economies worldwide, measures must be taken to ensure a steady path to renewable energy sources. In addition to economic issues, globally, countries need to understand the growing concern for the overall increase in temperature. A major step in preventing this increase is backing away from the use of fossil fuels. Instead, countries should promote finding a more environment-conscious energy source. For these reasons, The United Nations Environment Program should continue to encourage the growth and development of technologies that harness the power of renewable energy. The Saudi Arabian delegation urges the United Nations Environment Program to concentrate more time and funding in collaborative research efforts and implementing several technologies to continue to transition to a more renewable energy source. By increasing the progress of renewable energy technologies, the United Nations Environment Program will be able to assist the countries of the Paris Agreement and their goal of reducing greenhouse gases, prevent future global economic turmoil and support world leaders in their hopes of attaining a renewable energy source.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Toward Climate Change
Recognizing the growing concern over high emissions and a need to diversify energy supply due to oil dependence, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia supports the work of international agreements
toward climate change, however the large economic burden that is created must also be taken into account. The UNFCCC has made agreements in order to limit the temperature increase, as well as aid in the financial flow, based on each countries’ national objectives. Despite this however, current emission targets are currently not being met, and the effectiveness of these agreements is being questioned, despite the large diplomatic success. The overall effectiveness of these agreements must be increased as climate change becomes a larger and larger problem.

In recent years, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has altered its position on climate change, and now is actively working with other governments and international agreements in order to effectively reduce emissions. The Kingdom signed and ratified the Paris Climate Change agreement on November 4, 2016, and since then has taken many important steps in order to assess the development and progress of these agreements. Saudi Arabia’s hope is to reduce annual emissions by 130 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2030. However, because these climate change agreements do out an abnormal burden on the economy, Saudi Arabia is hesitant to fully commit to their current plan.

With the international goal of preventing a two degree celsius rise in global temperature, certain steps must be taken in order to strengthen and enforce already established international agreements. Saudi Arabia remains committed to the 2015 Paris Climate Change Agreement, and hopes to wean off oil dependency by 2030. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia encourages all countries to diversify their energy supplies, but recognizes that this change cannot occur suddenly. Due to the large economic ramifications, Saudi Arabia suggests a long term program in order to slowly, but effectively, reduce emission standards and diversify energy supply. Many countries emission standards and project targets are well below their Nationally Determined Contributions, and if there is not a international push to meeting these determined contributions the goal of preventing a two degree celsius increase will not be met. Saudi Arabia’s stance is that, “all countries have common but differentiated responsibilities” that must be taken into account when dealing with each countries’ contribution to climate change. However, despite whatever economic or political concerns a country might have, each country has a large responsibility in order to effectively address the issue of climate change.
Delegation from: South Korea
Represented by: Jefferson Area

Position Paper for United Nations Environment Programme

The issues before the Environment Programme are: Increasing Access to Renewable Energy; and Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. South Korea recognizes the ever-increasing importance of renewable energy along with the effects of climate change and expresses its hope for increased cooperation between all member states and advancement of renewable energy sources throughout the world.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

The Republic of Korea recognizes previous attempts made at environmental protection such as the Clean Air Act, passed by the United States in 1963, and the Environment Act, passed by India in 1986. Over one hundred nations have committed to reduce emissions and meet the targets set in the Paris Agreement, including South Korea. In 2017, approximately 25 percent of the world’s energy came from renewable sources. This is a substantial improvement from 18 percent in 2007. However, one of the leading energy producers in the world, the United States, has withdrawn from the Paris Climate Agreement, so the future of the world’s conversion to renewable energy hangs in the balance.

Regrettably, South Korea only produces two percent of its energy with renewable sources. Attempts have been made to establish more nuclear power plants throughout the country, but after the 2011 meltdown of Fukushima in neighboring Japan, public support decreased, and these projects were canceled. Despite this setback, South Korea is determined to expand renewable energy to 20 percent by 2030 by phasing out the use of coal. Implementing renewable energy sources that are not nuclear power plants may prove to be a bit of a struggle because they often require large sites. Land in South Korea is very limited and there are many construction regulations. Regardless of these limitations, we recognize the need for the world as a whole to convert to renewable energy sources and look forward to being a part of the process. We notice that harnessing ocean power in the ocean that surrounds our border is possible and believe that many countries in the same position as us could also explore this possibility.

The Republic of Korea would like to propose a multi-tiered solution. This body can not approach developed economies, economies in transition, and developing economies in the same way. Developing economies require a substantial investment of outside sources to implement renewable energy technologies. South Korea proposes requesting funding from the Environmental Defense Fund along with the non-governmental organization Practical Action. This funding can be used for purchase and installation of solar panels from reliable energy suppliers such as Bennu Solar. This technology would prove the most beneficial in central Africa and Central America. Transitioning economies need encouragement to allocate resources to renewable energy. These are the areas in which feed-in tariffs, renewable energy auctions, and renewable Clean Energy Certificates could continue to be used. Developed economies are responsible for being role-models in renewable energy. Efforts and acts to reduce fossil fuel consumption should be put into place. These countries should invest in creation of renewable
energy in other nations and they should have to meet certain goals every ten years. Not only should developed nations be expected to meet these goals, but so should the top ten percent of energy producers not already included in this category. South Korea believes it is quite possible to attain 50% renewable energy by 2050. We propose setting goals of 30% in 2030, 40% in 2040, and 50% in 2050. Making this happen will require cooperation from every nation in the world. This cooperation may be hard to obtain from the petroleum-producing countries, especially those in the Middle-East. To gain their collaboration, South Korea suggests using an incentive system that slowly shifts to feed-in tariffs. We do believe that it would be appropriate to offer those nations relatively high feed-in tariffs as we are diminishing their economy to an overwhelming extent. It may also be possible to gain their cooperation by offering them a much slower pace at which to convert to renewable energy. South Korea realizes the importance of this worldwide shift to renewable energy to not only our future, but the future of mankind, and emphasizes that if action is not taken now, it may soon be too late.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

The Delegation of South Korea feels that warming of the climate system is unequivocal. Observations show that global air and water temperatures have increased, as well as average sea level to be raised due to the melting of ice and snow. Surface temperature of Earth, over land and ocean, has been increased by 1.4°F from 1901-2010 and 0.9°F from 1979-2010. Average sea levels across the globe has increased by 7 inches with it rising faster since the early 1990s.

South Korea has experienced increased rainfall over the past 20 years. Annual rainfall in South Korea has increased by 7% and heavy rainfall has increased by 23%. Temperature is expected to rise 34.16°F by the 2020s, 36.32°F by the 2050s, and 39.2°F by the 2080s. Cultivation areas for warm seasoned fruits will be expanded and cultivation areas for temperate fruit trees will be expected to face issues with increasing temperatures. Also, subtropical insects and pathogens, along with forestry viruses, are expected to increase due to the increase of winter temperatures. The increase in rainfall will cause an increase in floods causing damage to the surrounding areas. Finally, the increase of heat will cause multiple casualties like the ones recorded in 1994.

South Korea believes it to be obvious that this projected increase in temperature means that, thus far, international agreements towards climate change have not proven to be very effective. Seeing as how not all countries are required to sign international agreements for climate change, and that even if they do sign these agreements, they are not binding and produce no punishment, it is extremely difficult to ensure the success of any type of agreement. South Korea believes that the UNEP is able to improve the effectiveness of current and future international climate change agreements by first offering incentives to participate in the agreements, then by setting goals for each country who joins. When these goals are met, a nation may be awarded a certain status and reward that labels them as a role model to the other countries of the world. Countries often strive to accomplish this kind of award, because they are all vying to be on the forefront of change and advancement. This gives them a powerful position, and for many countries, that is wanted. South Korea believes that future international agreements should be structured very similarly to the Montreal Protocol. Unlike many other international agreements, it specifically targets Ozone-Depleting Substances. Its targets were both permanent and resulted in broad participation across the world. Identifying and attempting to fix a specific problem often ends in better results than a
broad range of issues, which is what many of the other international agreements are. Agreements can be enforced by placing tariffs on countries above a certain percentage of emissions or by simply setting international fines when emissions surpass a certain percentage. These fines would be calculated per country based on GDP and also based on the extent of natural gas/ozone-depleting substances used. To comply with current and future climate agreements, nations can allocate resources to climate change research, and reaching the goals they agreed to in these agreements. They could also employ a technique in which, if they are planning to follow through with their agreement, they immediately start education of their citizens on climate change and broadcast the goals they have set. If the population of the country supports changes that align with the goals of the agreement, the government will almost be forced to carry them out in fear of public disapproval.

In summary, South Korea believes it is possible to improve the effectiveness of agreements towards climate change. Agreements should identify a specific issue and then attempt to solve that issue by the use of attainable and progressing goals. Incentives and other techniques may be used to garner the participation of nations and convince them to comply to these agreements. Climate change affects our country along with the rest of the world and will create detrimental effects if changes are not made across the world.
Delegation from: Country of Sweden
Represented by: Lorain High School

Position Paper for the United Nations Environment Program Committee

The current topic put in front of the Environment Program Committee is that of Increasing the Access of Renewable Energy and the Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. Sweden is committed to discovering potential solutions in conjunction with other members of the UNEP to make renewable energies such as hydro, wind, and bioenergy available in more nations and regions of the world as well as discussing alternative methods to brokering unifying agreements on climate change.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

Renewable energy has been a topic of discussion for many years and how it is imperative that the attempt to reduce long term environmental damages from carbon emissions and other means become more widespread. Sweden, being a country in which from 2016, 54% of our annual energy consumption is from renewable energy, feel it is very important that renewable energy become more accessible. While it is recognized that to further increase this type of energy accessibility is costly, in the long run with cooperation it will be worthwhile in the long term to make this venture.

However, it has always been known that renewable forms of energy have been required, there are a few reasons and impracticalities as to why this switch has been slow for a lot of the world and why it has been difficult to make renewable energy more accessible. One being how financially costly it will be to replace already existing carbon emitting energy sources, already in place in a lot of countries. Especially when many of the energy suppliers are private companies not interested in change.

Another well-known reason why access to greener energy has been slow and difficult is that it is impractical for big oil and other companies for them to make the switch. It is significantly cheaper for them to dig up oil, natural gases, and coal than for them to switch to greener energies which will cost them money for downtime maintaining costs. It will be very difficult to incentivize them to change markets at the costs of some business.

Sweden looks forward to working with other nations of the committee and seeing how in more ways we can implement renewable energy and making it a reliable and worthwhile project to maintain. While not all forms of renewable energy are equally available in each country there is always a form to some degree everywhere in the world whether it be biomass or hydro. So let’s work towards a greener future.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

Sweden is a pioneer, having lead the way in various fields, laws, motions, and even tackling many big social/economic aspects throughout the globe especially in the environment. The standpoint of Sweden on the effectiveness of international agreements on climate change is as
obvious as it is potent. Sweden is in complete support of climate change and believes it’s necessary that other nations should take as many precautionary steps to help control and keep down climate change as it can. Sweden is hopeful agreements between most or all of the countries will lead to a cleaner, safer future for the rest of the world.

Sweden began its environmental front for living around the 1960’s and 70’s when Sweden itself had begun to lose significant natural resources, it was 1967 that Sweden was the first country to launch an environmental protection agency. Soon after in 1972, it was Sweden that hosted the very first UN conference on the environment which led to the creation of the UNEP (United Nations Environmental Program) which has been the leading global environmental authority of today. Since then Sweden has been addressing the conflict of climate change in strides also being one of the first countries to sign and ratify the international climate change treaty known as Kyoto Protocol both in 1998 and roughly 2002.

Many options have been presented to solve or at best ease climate change and while many countries have not yet embraced its very real nature, Sweden has stood by its belief wholeheartedly and completely. It was only 3 years ago that Sweden’s prime minister made the announcement that his country would become the first country to be completely fossil fuel free. The allowed budget to make this change possible was $546 million to hopefully change an entire country’s unhealthy way of living and making Sweden, by 2050, fossil fuel free. Renewable energy is the next big stage in industry, and Sweden firmly believes it's safer to stick to a greener solution.
Position Paper for the Environment Programme

The topics before the Environment Programme are: Increasing Global Access to Renewable Energy and the Effectiveness of International Agreements on the Topic of Climate Change. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is committed to protecting its country and the world from the detrimental effects of climate change and greenhouse gas emissions. The UAE also believes in international agreements to solve these plights.

I. Increasing Global Access to Renewable Energy

For hundreds of years, fossil fuels have been the main source for energy around the globe, even though they are detrimental to the environment and are one of the main sources of greenhouse gases, which cause climate change and global warming. Because of their negative effect on our planet, many countries have been searching for ways to stop the use of fossil fuels and produce energy from renewable resources. The Paris Agreement, ratified in 2016 by over 100 countries, was a great step towards reducing climate change and allowing access to renewable energy sources. The goal of this agreement was to stop the growth of fossil fuel emissions and provide support to handle the effects of climate change. However, because nonrenewable energy is relatively cheap to produce and is in high demand, many countries are reluctant to fund the building and maintenance of renewable energy sources.

The United Arab Emirates is a pioneer in increasing global access to renewable energy. The UAE has already put foundations in place for green growth and has passed measures to prevent climate change and expand renewable energy in their own country, as well as around the world. According to their National Climate Change Plan, the UAE proves to be an excellent example for the world in implementing renewable energy plans in their own borders. By taking away subsidies previously given to natural gas companies, the UAE has encouraged the use of renewable energy, as it has become more expensive to produce natural gas. They also have assisted outside their borders by providing over 1 billion USD to other nations with the purpose of developing renewable energy resources. The Abu Dhabi Fund for Development provides loans with concessionary interest rates to developing countries, supporting infrastructure projects concerned with renewable energy. By providing renewable energy resources to developing nations, the UAE is giving these developing nations an affordable way to provide electricity to their citizens and fuel economic growth.

The United Arab Emirates hopes the Environmental Programme will address climate change through multiple methods. First, the UAE hopes that the Programme will be able to spread awareness to other countries and get more of them to cooperate with their efforts, as many countries are still skeptical on the subject. Also, by taking action to fund projects that promote renewable energy, countries that would normally not have the means to support a clean energy initiative could now pursue these efforts. Even though the Paris Agreement is already in place, it is not doing enough to promote renewable energy and fossil fuel emissions continue to grow. The UAE hopes this could be achieved through positive reinforcements for pursuits of renewable
energy. The United Arab Emirates believes that the Environmental Programme should further its action to combat climate change and promote renewable energy resources in developing nations.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements on the Topic of Climate Change
As climate change continues to be a serious problem in our world, countries have been looking for ways to stop its effects and shrink its growth. One way that nations around the world have been doing this has been international agreements. The most prominent of these agreements, The Paris Agreement, was signed in 2016 by over one hundred countries with the goal to keep global temperatures below 2 degrees Celsius pre-industrial levels and limit growth to 1.5 degrees Celsius which would significantly reduce the effects and growth of climate change. The Kyoto Protocol, ratified in 2005 by 192 parties, was an agreement that stated that humans are the main cause of carbon dioxide emissions, and therefore are responsible for fixing it. The Kyoto Protocol was the first to legally bind developed nations to reduce emission rates.

The UAE has been active in working with foreign countries to counteract the effects climate change. One way that they approached this is through international agreements. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change lead to the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, both of which were signed by the UAE. Whether or not these measures have been effective is debatable and difficult to tell. Despite being a major oil-producing country, the UAE ratified the Kyoto Protocol. Even though the UAE was not required to reduce emissions under the Protocol, they took action to lower carbon emissions and invested in renewable energy. The Paris Agreement aims to keep global temperatures from increasing and the UAE has effectively reduced their emissions since it was signed, doing their part in preventing the increase of global temperatures.

The United Arab Emirates has been clear in its support for international agreements relating to climate change. For the Paris Agreement to be effective, it requires support from nearly all countries around the world. The Agreement would be more effective if the United States took part in it as well, since the US is responsible for a large amount of the world’s emissions. The UAE hopes that the Environment Programme can persuade the US into joining the Paris Agreement. If the US signed the Paris Agreement, then global emissions will be reduced more than anything the UAE could have done on its own. If the Environment Programme can get all countries around the world to agree to cutting emissions, then the UAE believes that the Programme should shift its focus to improving renewable energy.
Delegation from: The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Represented by: Campus International High School

Position Paper for the United Nations Environment Program

The issues before the United Nations Environment Program are: Increasing Access to Renewable Energy; and Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change. The United Kingdom is committed to implementing energy efficiency within its borders and encourages other countries to follow its example, providing worldwide support for countries in need of renewable energy sources.

I. Increasing Global Access to Renewable Energy

Access to renewable energy all over the world has been a long lasting issue, especially in developed countries. After putting the Kyoto Protocol into action, a heavier burden has been placed on developed nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions because it recognized that they were significantly larger emitters of greenhouse gases than developing nations. The United Kingdom in the past enacted the Green Deal (ended), Low Carbon Buildings Programme (ended), and the Energy Act 2008 (superseded). Each of these acts had an attempt at strengthening the Renewables Obligation to drive greater and more rapid deployment of renewables in the UK.

In November of 2008 parliament adopted a new Climate Change Act. It recommends that by 2020 the United Kingdom's greenhouse gas emissions should come down by 42% as part of a stringent international agreement that builds on the current Kyoto commitments. The act requires the United Kingdom to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 80% less than its greenhouse gas emissions in 1990 by 2050. The UK is currently showing the most commitment towards the law. The United Kingdom, as of mid-2017, renewables generated 29.8% of the UK’s electricity. The United Kingdom implemented the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI), this is to incentivize people that have renewable heat installations with a fixed payment for each generated kWh. RHI payments for non-domestic generators are awarded for a period of 20 years. A large contributing factor to increase access to renewable energy was the Electricity Market Reform, this regulates Contracts-for-Difference, for renewable electricity generators designed to gradually replace Renewable Obligation (RO) system. CfD provides a premium payment for renewable electricity paid on top of the wholesale market price to reach the agreed payment level (strike price).

The United Kingdom completely supports a resolution to make renewable energy globally accessible. The United Kingdom will support a resolution that increases the accessibility of renewable energy, reduces the greenhouse gas emissions, and has ensured the security of electricity supply to the consumer at the least cost. Making this a worldwide resolution would greatly help climate change. Thus this resolution would help the UK to cut their greenhouse gas emissions by 42%. Multiple people would also install these generators due to the incentive that is given by the least cost to the consumer, it’s accessibility, and the effect it will have on the life of our planet. As the United Kingdom develops ways to create renewable energy, supports continuing to follow the Climate Change Act as well as the Kyoto Protocol inside the country’s borders and paving way for other countries to follow in efforts of greater access to renewable
energy. The UK will also provide resources and contribute ideas to this effort of the globalization of renewable energy.

**II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change**

The United Kingdom currently encourages Climate Change Agreements (CCAs) within its borders, these agreements take place between operators of UK industry and the Environment Agency. In a CCA, an industrial or agricultural sector receives a 90% reduction in taxes for electric bills and a 65% reduction in taxes for various fuel bills in exchange for meeting its individual energy efficiency targets by the end of each reporting period. The United Kingdom has also made significant progress in the national reduction of energy use, cutting the carbon intensity of electricity by more than half since 2012, more than any other major economy in the world. UK investment in renewable energy has risen to a higher percentage than that invested in coal and has made over 430,000 jobs available in low-carbon sectors.

The United Kingdom acknowledges that international agreements towards climate change can only be achieved successfully when targets for reducing carbon emission are made regarding both developing and developed economies are included and when a binding, meaningful behavior change within each country is provoked. In order for an international agreement to be achieved and implemented, worldwide participation must be encouraged and penalties for countries that pull out of an agreement or miss a goal for carbon emission levels should be put in place.

The United Kingdom strongly recommends that a future international agreement towards climate change include the acknowledgment of the difference between countries when considering carbon emission levels and be able to alter plans to accommodate. The UK also believes in informing member nations of an international agreement in the details of the agreement and awareness of the issue the agreement is addressing.

The UK recommends implementing a worldwide system similar to its own CCA scheme in order to hold industry accountable for its contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and helping them decrease energy usage while also providing incentive, such as tax reductions to do so. The United Kingdom expresses its willingness to contribute to developing the system described during the upcoming conference and looks forward to international collaboration in order to enforce a worldwide agreement. The United Kingdom also hopes to help organize an international system that will provide support to countries that do not have the resources to switch to renewable sources of energy and is willing to contribute ideas and resources to this scheme.
Delegation from: Ukraine  
Represented by: Saint Joseph Academy  

Position for the United Nations Environment Program

The issues currently presented to the United Nations Environment include: Increasing Access to Renewable Energy and Effectiveness of International Agreements towards Climate Change. Ukraine has a very personal experience with the dangers coming from non-renewable, environmentally unsafe resources. The Chernobyl disaster in 1986 and its effects are still devastating this nation to this day. These devastations have caused irreversible climate change and environmental disasters. The delegation of Ukraine believes the experiences brought upon by this disaster gives this nation a unique and educated perspective on the topics at hand. Ukraine looks forward to collaborating with other countries to formulate resolutions.

I. Increasing Access to Renewable Energy

Renewable Energy is used much less than fossil fuels which give off many pollutants. In recent years it has come to the attention of many researchers that fossil fuels can be detrimental to the condition of the earth. Some Fossil Fuels include coal, oil, natural gas, petroleum, and liquefied petroleum gas. According to the U.S. Department of Energy fossil fuels make up 90% of the energy that we use. Renewable energy can be used in the form of wind, sun, and water. Renewable energy does not give off any harmful pollutants which makes it the better option compared to fossil fuels. Around 3 million people depend on fuels from coal and wood, and almost 2 million people die each year from pneumonia because of these fuels. By increasing access to renewable energy it will reduce indoor air pollution, improve the health of people, and it will assist in strengthening the security of energy which can help with economic growth.

Ukraine has been very active in trying to help with increasing the access of renewable energy. By 2050 Ukraine plans on completely transitioning to renewable energy by following a strategic plan that has been laid out. On February 24, 2018, Ukraine became a member of the International Renewable Energy Agency. This has given Ukraine many opportunities to learn more about the crisis and recognize new solutions. In addition, the agency involves other countries that are looking to fix the problem. Ukraine has also had many internal conditions put into place. Ukraine made an amendment called the “Green Tariff” to make sure people are using renewable energy. This tariff states that any non-renewable energy brought into the country has to be matched by renewable energy. Ukraine has also passed a law where industries are taxed less if they use renewable energy. These strides are putting Ukraine in a great position for fixing the issue of accessing renewable energy.

Ukraine would like to see resolutions passed that will help other countries access renewable energy. Ukraine believes that countries need to be aware of the crisis at hand because it affects the entire world. The country recognizes the need for change, but also knows that this will be a long process. Ukraine thinks that countries can fix this problem by educating citizens, and attaining more money to fund projects that help with the implementation of windmills and solar power grids. Ukraine acknowledges that these projects are costly, but they are also crucial. This means that fellow countries in the committee need to work together to carry out these tasks and find sources of money. Ukraine believes that by starting with funding, many doors will be
opened to other ideas that will support the issue. Ukraine wants to work with countries to make a resolution that will solve the problem using long-term and short-term solutions.

II. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

In the past, many agreements have been made and sanctioned by the United Nations and many cosponsors in order to attempt to end, slow, or deter climate change. A few of these agreements include the UNFCCC (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change), the Paris Agreement, and the Kyoto Protocol. Each of these solutions has had great potential due to sound foundations and a sol end goals. These end goals, of course, revolve around stopping climate change from growing worse and hopefully taking back some of the damage caused in our pasts. Most of such aforementioned agreements have been proven to work to a certain extent. For these reasons, The delegation of Ukraine respects the efforts made and the hurtles tackled in recent years.

Despite these valiant efforts and great ideas brought forward, Ukraine has not seen the effectiveness of such agreements on a significant scale. As climate change grows exponentially, the UNEP is moving at a steady pace using the UNFCCC as its main framework. Climate change is a serious issue, and while most treat it as such, the few who do not recognize it’s seriousness and the consequences it can bring end up hurting the rest of the world. The delegation of Ukraine believes education and enforcement in addition to pre-existing resolutions, policies, and agreements can and will make a world of a difference.

In conclusion, the effectiveness of climate change agreements has not been wide scale or significantly helpful yet. With an issue as big as climate change, intense action, force, and time, as well as effort, money, and care, is vital. Ukraine has not lost hope, although, and believes these currently slightly ineffective agreements have potential to end this issue once and for all. This effectiveness can be increased through stricture enforcement, education on climate change, and increased funding.
Delegation from: The United States of America
Represented by: Vermilion High School

Position paper for the Environment Program

The issues of concern are access to renewable energy and coming to a international agreement on climate change. The environment program is currently discussing these issues. We the United States of America firmly believe in preserving the natural world but not before we protect and preserve our people.

I. Effectiveness of International Agreements Towards Climate Change

In recent years the world has put its focus on climate change. The United States of America firmly believes that this focus should be put somewhere else, on more pressing matters. On June 1, 2017 the United States withdrew from the Paris Climate Agreement. We are aware that humans are changing the climate however, we believe that this change is not drastic enough to be dangerous. The Paris Climate Agreement has countries pledge to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide they omit. This means that we the United States of America no longer have a international obligation to reduce our carbon dioxide omission. We firmly believe that this agreement was unfair to the United States, would reduce jobs and barely make a difference. It is in our interest to either renegotiate the agreement’s terms or make a agreement that will benefit the United States of America.

The United States of America has recently decided to put a stop to the clean power plan. This is a plan created to limit the amount of carbon dioxide put into the air. Different goals would be given to different states depending on what types of carbon omitting facilities they have within their borders. By 2030 all states carbon emission should be reduced by 32 percent. However after coming to the realization that climate change does not pose any threat the United States of America has decided to put a stand still on the clean power plan.

The United States of America lead by president Donald Trump highly doubts that climate change significantly affects the world. America’s Environmental Protection Agency has been sued fourteen times by a single individual. Trying to stop something as insignificant as climate change from happening only causes problems for American citizens, jobs are taken away, productivity is lowered and more money is spent. The United States wholeheartedly believes trying to stop climate change is what is hurting people, not climate change itself.
To effectively cut back on our involvement in trying to stop climate change, the United States has added many new and replaced members to its government including the environmental justice sector. The executive and legislative branches have undergone this change as well. Scientists have been directed to focus their studies elsewhere. The United States of America is pleased with its departure from environmental policies and changes within the country and, strongly encourages the other nations of the world to join us by putting their focus elsewhere. If the other nations insist on pursuing climate change than the United States is open to making a agreement. However this agreement unlike the Paris Climate Agreement must benefit the United States of America as we strongly believe that stopping climate change does not benefit us in any way.
II. Renewable Energy and Future Energy Demand

According the the united states government renewable energy is an important topic for many reasons. Even though the united states of America left the Paris agreement and do not put renewable energy in the forefront it is a relevant topic for this ever changing country.

Previous to the 1920s, the role of the Federal government in energy was restricted to the disposition of oil, gas, and coal on Federal lands. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 also known as 30 U.S.C. § 181 et seq. is the major Federal law that authorizes and governs leasing of public lands for developing deposits of hydrocarbons and other minerals. Previous to the act, these materials were subject to mining claims under the General Mining Act of 1872. In *BP America Production Co. v. Burton*, 549 U.S. 84 (2006), the Supreme Court held that a statute of limitations does not apply to government actions.

The most recent major law is the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which was an attempt to combat growing energy problems, changed the energy policy of the United States by providing tax incentives and loan guarantees for energy production of various types in renewable ways. There were various criticisms of the Act. It also directs a study for the development of oil shale and tar sands resources on public lands especially in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. However this was under the former administrations under trump we have gone back towards coal and fossil fuel.

Alaska is an important state to bring up in the argument. Major oil and gas reserves are found in the Prudhoe Bay area of the Alaska North Slope and Cook Inlet basins. According to the Energy Information Administration, Alaska ranks second in the nation in crude oil production, accounting for 1/5 (20%) of United States oil production, Prudhoe Bay alone accounting for 8% of the United States domestic oil production.

New Mexico is another important state to bring up as a major energy producer, New Mexico has government offices related to energy, including the Energy Conservation and Management Division; which is part of the state's Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department. All of the major laws impacting energy are available from the Division's website. These include links to all of the state's statutes and related government websites, Federal and State regulations, and Executive orders.

In the future renewable energy will be more renewable as coal becomes more scarce. Current estaminets say we have used 99% of the coal and fossil fuel left on the earth. By offering tax breaks to those who use renewable energy the trump administration should but more of a public emphasis on the very important topic of Renewable Energy and Future Energy Demand. The trump administration has not commented on what he wants the un to do about this problem as he sees more important things to focus on. America doesn't see any benefits from renewable energy.