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Position Papers for:
United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund

There are two issues presented before the United Nations International Children’s Fund: International Safeguards for Children of Disability and Preventing the Violation of Child Labor Laws. Brazil hopes to play an important role in addressing these prevalent issues in the world.

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

The issue presented before UNICEF today is that countries around the world have failed to fulfill commitments made towards improving children’s rights. In September of 1990, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) was signed, an important action taken by the United Nations to improve the treatment of children. Consequently, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was signed, and both agreements had over 140 signatories, working to create a system for taking care of disabled children. Immediately these conventions were received well; since then, however, many countries have failed to implement effective legal changes that are meaningfully helpful. Governments have compromised these conventions, failing to provide the necessary resources to families with children that suffer from disabilities. Children of disability are placed in abusive facilities, and withheld from resources that are able to provide additional support; only twenty-nine percent of the 193 signatories of the CRC had constitutional guarantees of education for these children, and only twenty-six percent guaranteed health benefits. Since many countries do not have these constitutional guarantees, governments are not held accountable for violating rights of disabled children and are unaware of how to properly care for them; fixing these specific problems is essential to improving treatment of these children.

Brazil is a signatory for both conventions, but the country is no stranger to these issues. Brazil has certain measures for caring for disabled children; mainly, those of disability are brought to private institutions that will care for them when their families cannot. After investigating facilities that take care of the disabled, it was found that many children are confined to these institutions, often facing neglect and abuse. The conditions in these facilities are inhumane, with many children packed into single rooms, given little opportunity for contact with the community. Most alarming of all, it is frequent that children of disability are locked in these institutions for the entirety of their life. Brazil does not provide special Early Childhood Intervention for these children, nor do these facilities provide educational opportunities for them. This treatment is an embarrassing reflection on the character of the country, and Brazil now understands that it is time to stop viewing children of disability as a burden.

The delegation of Brazil proposes to UNICEF that the operation of these specialized institutions continues, but with more regulation and a redefined purpose. Firstly, Brazil would like for nations to change the way their citizens view children of disability - the world should view children of disability as a demographic that can be enormously helpful to society, as long as
extra support is given to them. Nations should use their resources to support children and return them to their families as quickly as possible. Brazil wishes for all nations that are signatories of the conventions implement constitutional guarantees of safeguards (including education and mental development) for disabled children so that governments can be held accountable when the rights of the children are violated. Nations must then nationalize these facilities so that the constitutional safeguards are applicable to the children in those facilities.

II. Preventing Violations of Child Labor Laws

The issue presented before UNICEF is one that plagues children around the entire world - more than 150 million children are forced into child labor. Child labor places many in immediate danger as these children, from ages 5-17, are forced to forfeit their safety, their education, and their childhood. The United Nations has collaborated with International Labor Organization (ILO) to abolish child labor. This organization made many important strides for combating child labor, including: defining and combating the worst forms of labor; setting a minimum age for work; and defining and combating hazardous child labor. One of the most important aspects of this organization’s work has been the initiation of the global push to abolish child labor; as Susan Bissell, the former Chief of Child Protection for UNICEF, states, “We cannot tackle child labor in isolation and expect dramatic results.” Due to the global push by organizations such as ILO, child labor for children ages 5-17 has decreased from 246 million in 2000 to 168 million children in 2013. This decrease is a representation of the effectiveness of a collaborative push by many countries to solve the issue of child labor.

In 2014, the National Household Survey results revealed that 3.3 million children were employed in Brazil, with almost 62% of these children in the agriculture sector. Children in the agriculture sector are exposed to a hazardous environment because the exhaustive, dangerous production of tobacco is a key part of Brazil’s agricultural economy. Among other dangerous tasks, laboring children are also commercially exploited in Brazil - they are involved in drug trafficking, begging, and playing for soccer clubs. The government of Brazil acknowledged the widespread child labor violations, and made a push to improve the treatment of children. In 2015, the government carried out numerous child labor inspections and penalized companies for child labor violations. In São Paulo, the Municipal Plan to Eradicate Forced Labor was created to track a database of forced labor information and to provide benefits to forced workers.

The delegation from Brazil would like to see policy changes that focus on the enforcement of the child labor laws set by ILO. Following the model set by Sao Paulo, the delegation would like to see a policy shift to introduce databases into countries that provide a method to track forced labor situations that would otherwise be ignored. However, this database is not enough to combat child labor violations. In addition, the delegation from Brazil would like to see the implementation of an organization that investigates those companies notorious child labor violations, flagged by the database proposed. These policies will ensure that countries play an active role in combating violations of child labor laws, and that these companies cannot ignore child labor laws as they have in the past.
Delegation From: Canada  
Represented by: Saint Joseph Academy

Position Paper for the International Children’s Fund

The issues before the United Nations Children’s Fund are: Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability and Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws. Canada is glad to be taking part in this discussion and hopes to come up with solutions that will better every country in the United Nations.

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

Children in countries all around the world are suffering from disabilities which can keep them from doing basic tasks such as feeding themselves. Some of these children are facing discrimination and abuse because of a disability that they have no control over. It has been estimated that over 5.3 million Canadians are living with some sort of disability and out of those 5.3 million 200,000 of them are children. In some places these children are not being protected in the way that they should.

Canada has laws ensuring the protection of these young innocent children. They have set education policies to make sure that all children, including those with disabilities have access to free and appropriate education. The main federal laws that protect people with disabilities are the Canadian Human Rights Act and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Human rights Act protects those with disabilities while they are employee, while the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms makes sure that everyone is considered equal no matter what.

Canada is aware that there still issues with protecting children of disabilities in other parts of the world. Canada is willing and ready to work with other countries to resolve the issues on how children with disabilities are treated. Canada hopes that all children with disabilities are treated better, and believes that all children know matter what should be respected and treated equally. Canada is eager to see what kind of positive changes can be made to help children with disabilities everywhere.

II. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws

Children all around the world are suffering from child labor which is stripping them from their childhood and education opportunities. While progress in taking place it is not happening fast enough. It is predicted that more than 100 million children will be tangled up in child labor by 2020. Child labor is happening right now and it will continue to worsen if it is not stopped. Child labor must be prevented before it is too late.

Canada recognizes the issue of childhood labor and is working to put an end to it. By 1929 it was illegal for children under the age of 14 to work in factories and mines. Since then Canada has been working to make sure underage children do not get stuck in child labor. Today in Canada children under the age of 16 are not allowed to work and are obligated to attend school. Teenagers in Canada can only work up to three hours on a school day, 8 hours on the weekend, and only up to a total of 18 hours per week. These laws have been set to protect children for child labor.

Canada is working to help improve its country by enforcing laws to avoid child labor and hopes to work together with other countries to end child labor once in for all. Canada believes
that in working with other countries positive steps can be made in dealing with the issues child labor has caused, and preventing child labor furthermore. Canada hopes to see changes made in how young people are protected and awaits the day were child labor in the world is no more.
Delegation from: China
Represented by: Campus International High School

I. Increasing safeguards for children of disabilities.

This topic is super important because for all any country knows someone country most likely is breaking child labor laws. This is why we need to address this topic first. China cares about this topic because China has a large population and they want to help protect kids. China has changed its ways, China believes kids should not be forced to work.

At one point China was battling against child labor 11 years ago. They were fighting so that kids in high school and jr. high can’t be forced to work. China tends to attend conferences that involve children and children working. Yes China said that they will help stop this just like they did with the children’s work circle which ended with saving over 150 children and arresting the leaders and Kidnappers but we do not have a number for that. China proclaimed that had a bunch of child protection laws. China has attended the U.N. Convention on Rights of the Child 1989 (CRC), Optional Protocol to the Convention on Rights of Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography 2000, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1966, The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women 1979, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention 1999 and The Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption 1993

At the end of this China wants to make sure children labor laws are enforced and protected. China also hopes that we get a lot of resolution papers. But again China’s wants to protect children. China has done it before China is pretty sure other countries can help them in their fight.

II. Preventing violations of child labor laws

Preventing violations of child labor laws, in regards to the topic includes but is not limited to the disassemblment of child sweatshops, the creation of better living conditions for children and their families. As the world continues to evolve, so does the need for labor. Many countries have established laws to combat the issue of harsh child labor, but some have not.

China has been the production capital of the world. This has caused a great need for labor due to the vast need for products. Instead of creating laws to combat the constant flow of children into the workforce, China has chosen to ignore the issue. China has the goal of acquiring knowledge in order to create laws that will help both China's people and China's economy.

China is the manufacturing hub of the world. Many countries have sent production to China in order to produce items cheaper. In order for China to cut down on the poor condition for child labor, China will have to work with countries like the United States Of America to slowly cut down on the work lode forced upon China that has caused for child labor to become a necessity. By collaborating with countries that use China for labor, China hopes to cut down on the labor load and communicate with other countries in order to understand how to establish strong and
efficient child labor laws. With these goals china hopes to help further understand and help the issue of violations against child labor laws.
Delegation from: The Republic of France  
Represented by: Archbishop Hoban High School  

Position Paper for the United Nations International Children’s Fund

The issues concerning the International Children’s Fund include: Increasing Safeguards for Children with Disabilities, and Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws. The nation of France is dedicated to protecting the rights of children from all backgrounds and encourages other delegations to support the preservation of children’s rights globally.

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children with Disabilities

The Republic of France believes that children with disabilities should be given and treated with the same respect and benefits as any other citizen. In a nation with over 17 percent of citizens affected with some form of disability, The Republic of France has taken a major interest in the betterment of families with disabled children. The fair treatment of less fortunate children in France has established a major step in the care for French children as well as a reliable example for the rest of the United Nations to follow.

The European Journal of Special Needs Education was published in 1997 and included France as well as many other European nations, such as the United Kingdom and Denmark. Volume 12 regards the special education system in France established in the 1970s. The volume states the two education groups for children with special needs in France: one regarding those with learning difficulties, which is caused due to the ineffectiveness in the classroom environment, and one regarding the re-education of children, which was often refused to be given by many French schools. In the later decades of the twentieth century, these policies were fought to be enacted and finally brought into the government in the 1970s. These new additions to the education system allowed for all French children to receive proper education at the right pace and skill.

The French nation also plans on creating a major policy in the future which will create easier and better living conditions for disabled citizens and children, as well as their families. Beginning in 2018, many human rights will become much more accessible, and many public services and centres will become far more responsive. These Home Departments for the disabled, or Maisons Départementales des Personnes Handicapées (MDPH), will run for more efficiently and give much better benefits for the children and clients. It is imperative that handicapped children receive rights in the most vulnerable areas of nations, such as the rural and severely urbanized areas of the nation. These orders will enact a vital aspect in the safety of these children, and it will help give them a place among the rest of the citizens. Along with the education policies enacted in the 1970s, the Republic of France plans to create even more substantial policies in the future, giving citizens the option to gain assistance with childcare from early schooling and preschool all the way up until high school or university level education. In addition to the increased school systems, research for handicapped children also is intended to become better funded in order to gain a better understanding of this diseases and conditions. The French Delegation would like to bring attention to the major discrimination and poor human rights to children with these conditions in many developing nations. The Convention of the Rights of
People with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) clearly state the rights to leisure, participation, education, and proper treatment in all nations and government. However, in many developing nations, these rights are refused, and discrimination is prevalent in many instances. The Republic of France would like to establish a clear change in the world’s stance on this issue, and the French Delegation plans on establishing the proper agreements to bring these rights to life.

II. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws

The Republic of France believes that labor for those aged under sixteen years of age should not be legalized, unless there is an exception, such as the entertainment industry or an apprenticeship for a future career path. The exploitation of child labor discreetly violates the CRC (Convention of Rights of the Child) and clearly ignores all basic and deserving human rights given to children in all nations.

Worldwide, there are over 218 million children employed, of which, 152 million are victims of child labor, and 73 million work in hazardous or life-threatening conditions. Established in 1959, Principle 7 of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child states that all children, no matter what background, deserve rights such as the right to education. By keeping these children in claustrophobic factories and workplaces, the right to education is revoked and unable to be obtained by many of these children. The French Delegation intends to touch on this issue throughout the debate, and many children will eventually receive the rights received by those in the same age group.

In many of these developing nations, the conditions of the workplaces are deadly. Central and eastern African nations, such as Eritrea, Nigeria, and Ethiopia, as well as many Middle Eastern and Asian nations, such as Yemen, Afghanistan, and Myanmar, children’s rights in the workplace are blatantly ignored. Although these nations are known for their terrible child labor laws, these are not the only locations that possess tremendous child labor. Many better developed countries, like China, Brazil, Russia, and India often suffer from childhood labor, due to extremely loose enforcement of these laws. The Delegation from France believes the recognition of these facts is the first step in creating a better world for these suffering children in these harsh and often life-threatening factories. The French Delegation also believes that minors interested in the military should not be able to apply until the age of seventeen and must be approved by a parent or guardian, and underage recruits should not be able to travel abroad for service. The Republic of France believes the United Nations can establish a substantial solution to the worldwide problem of child labor, and hopefully, the United Nations can finally put an end to the terrors that comes with harsh treatment of children.

The issues before the United Nations International Children's Fund are: Preventing violations of Childhood Labor Laws; and Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability. Germany is determined to end the violations of children’s rights, and hopes to increase safeguards for children of disability. Germany seeks justice for all children affected.

I. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws

Child labor is a crime as seen by the United Nations, and the nation of Germany. Violations of laws that are set in place in order to protect these children is a constant problem that needs immediate attention. Millions of children, about 246 million, are trapped in child labor all around the world. Intensive jobs that strip children of their childhood, education, and health should not be an option for any family. West and Central Africa has the highest rate of child labourers, at 29%, of ages 5 to 17. As well 9% of these child labourers being involved in hazardous work, such as slavery, debt bondage, trafficking, retail and services, industry and manufacturing. This directly violates the 4th article of 138 of the Geneva ILC session that was enacted to protect underage children from strenuous employment. The Central African Republic has recently established policies to address child labor. There are four (4) key policies that cover child soldiering, child disarmament, demobilization, and a reintegration policy. However, this has yet to be implemented due to lack of funding and stability of the government.

In Germany, strict laws against child labor are fully enforced, and violations of these laws along with sexual exploitation and human trafficking laws are prosecuted to the highest degree. Though Germany does not have an increasing issue with violations of child labor laws because of the fact that said laws were instituted in 1839 in pre-unified Prussia, violations still occur. National businesses, such as Volkswagen, BMW, and Daimler, seldomly allow these underage workers in their manufacturing facilities. However, in the past, German automotive industries funded supply chains that traced back to child labor. In recent years, BMW, has been working to make their supply chain as transparent as possible. Volkswagen and Daimler have taken similar actions in order to consistently be aware of how and where their materials are being made. Germany encourages the transparency of supply chains in all industries.

A protective environment needs to be built for children. Free compulsory relevant education services need to be implemented. Children and families need to know that children have a right to education, and that education is a better option than entering the workforce prematurely. The nation of Germany encourages all nations to commit themselves to international standards such as the International Labor Organization, and the ILO convention No. 182 on the worst forms of child labor. This standard has been ratified by 132 governments and makes sure that laws are implemented to protect children and prosecute any employers who exploit said children. Also, many times little objection from families or communities arise when children enter the workforce. A lack of social disapproval of employers who exploit and use child labor, in the communities that these children live in, increases a risk for violation of child labor laws. Promoting a change in attitude and practices in communities provides an increased protection of
vulnerable children. The nation of Germany believes that it is the government’s responsibility to be aware of how many child laborers there are in their respective countries. Specific statistics on gender, age, and ethnicity is vital in understanding what makes children in child labor vulnerable. Without this information, effective responses are near to impossible. Children need to be immediately removed from hazardous laboring jobs and be provided with healthcare, education, and social services. Along with building a protective environment, NGOs need to be utilized. Organizations such as Global March Against Child Labor prevent child labor crimes and utilize community participation. This organization is an International Network of: Teachers, Trade Unions, and Civil Societies. Germany believes that with accurate attention and the willingness of nations to change social structures, the violations of child labor laws can be significantly decreased. Preventing child labor is key to preventing violations of child labor laws. Decreasing the vulnerability of children in nations all over the world will not only decrease child labor rates, but decrease the violations of laws set in place to prevent said labor. Germany, supports transparency of supply chains, implementing standards that prosecute employers for exploitation of children, and lastly, encourages the protection of children and their rights.

II. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

Children with disabilities often times are not given the same opportunities to flourish as other children. They experience the greatest disadvantages and are least likely to gain an education, have adequate access to healthcare, and experience exclusion. In many countries, the common response to a child with disability is either institutionalization, abandonment, and neglect. It is estimated that there are around 95 million children with disabilities in the world, but statistics can be much higher. In such situations, as the nation of South Africa, there is an estimated 500 thousand children with disabilities who are not enrolled in any type of educational system. This situation is common all around the world, and commonly overlooked.

Germany’s child protection system includes multiple institutions within obligations to protect disabled children from mistreatment and provide assistance and support. About 5 million people around the world live with Down Syndrome, however, in Germany, the number is around 50 thousand. Down Syndrome can bring on mental and physical impairments that make every day life difficult. These difficulties arise in exclusion and marginalization, due to the fact that society is prejudice against children with Down Syndrome. For many years finding schools that accommodate children with disabilities such as down syndrome was difficult for German families. Often times, disabled children had to go to separate schools, where each one was specialized based on disability. However, this has changed within the past few years, because Germany has recently ratified the United Nations resolution 24 that states all children with disabilities have a right to be educated in a public school. This provides a guaranteed education to disabled children and defies social norms, prejudice, and discrimination.

Germany strongly encourages the body to ratify and implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. These conventions “Promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity.” With this convention the ensurement of inclusion, dignity, and respect are all present, and encourages
a better national stance on including children with disability. In order to have accurate statistics on children and adults with disabilities, an accurate and more reliable birth registration is strongly encouraged. In nations like the Congo, it is hard to bring immediate attention to the issue of disability if the disabled population is not adequately represented. In nations like Germany, the birth registry is quite advanced, making it easy to identify and call attention to issues regarding disability. Encouraging acceptance and tolerance in all nations of any and all disabilities is essential. In Germany, there is a organization called International Down Syndrome Day, this organization not only promotes acceptance but also raises awareness of said disability and the effects it has on the people that have it. Being educated and being inclusive of children and adults that have a disability is a key safeguard and is essential to their success. Other organizations such as the European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education promote projects and desegregation of the school systems. Inclusive early child education, raising the achievement of all learners in inclusive education, ICT for information accessibility learning, ICT for inclusion, organization of provision who support inclusive education, raising achievement for all learners including a quality all inclusive education. Vocational education and training, mapping the implementation of policy for inclusive education, accessible information, provision for lifelong learning, teacher education for inclusion, multicultural diversity in special needs education and assessment in inclusive settings; to name a few. These projects have been implemented in the German culture and have had a great success rate. This is evidence that inclusive education systems provide the best safeguards for children with disability.
Delegation From: Avon Lake High School
Representing: Ghana

United Nations International Children’s Fund

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

With the frequent ‘institutionalization’ of children with disabilities on the rise UNICEF is charged with finding ways to give aid to those affected. The delegation of Ghana is currently working with UNICEF to resolve the issues their disabled children face in their availability of education. Understanding that many of the violations upon the children are denying them the right to grow up in a family environment, which can negatively impact their ability to grow to their full potential and could even increase their vulnerability.

Some policies have been put in place by the Ghanaian Government regarding the education of special needs children. The main facilities that exist for children with special needs revolve around visual impairment, hearing impairment and mental retardation. No special facilities or services exist for the learning disabled, the behaviour disordered, and others related. There are also records that the National Assessment Centre has an inadequate number of staff and lacks some important equipment needed to facilitate its work. A significant number of teachers for the children with special needs in Ghana are non-specialist and/or untrained.

As of April 2017, thousands of children with mild to moderate disabilities in Ghana now have more access to mainstream schools that provide services for their disabilities. This is thanks to the establishment of the Inclusive Education Policy. With support like funding from USAID UNICEF is working with the Ghanaian Government, to aid 20 districts in the implementation of Inclusive Education, through the Ghana Education Service. UNICEF and USAID both gave aid in providing essential assistive devices and basic screening materials, which were procured by UNICEF. These essential and basic materials are worth $100,000 (USD) and provided to the Ghanaian Government for use in assessment centres in all ten regions across the country. Despite commitments made by the Government in its Inclusive Education policy, the children are still at risk of misunderstandings and discrimination. Most of which can be found within their local communities. Discrimination like this will most certainly hinder a child’s chance to receive quality education.

The Delegation of Ghana would hope only the best outcome for children of disability comes out of this committee. Focusing on strengthening child protection systems, and identifying and addressing social norms which cause discrimination. By doing this also ensuring child protection systems, and acknowledging that work is needed to reduce stigmatization and discrimination of children with disabilities. Also making sure to incorporating attention to disability in efforts to increase birth registration. Adding the importance of turning attention to the promotion of the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children. As has been suggested by UNICEF and fully supported by the Delegation of Ghana.
II. Preventing Violations of Child Labor Laws

Millions of children around the world are forced into child labour, depriving them of their childhood, negatively affecting their health and education, and condemning them to a life of poverty and want. Child labour spans various sectors, including agriculture, manufacturing, quarrying and mining, and domestic service. In Ghana one in six children, ages ranging from four to sixteen, are faced with long hours of work with no pay. With the largest man-made reservoir in the world, Lake Volta, as the hub for child labor and trafficking in Ghana. Of the 49,000 children working on the lake, 66% are between the ages of 5 and 14 years old. Thousands of children work in Ghana’s small scale gold mines in hazardous conditions, despite both Ghanaian and international law prohibiting hazardous child labor. Most children are aged 15 to 17, but younger children work in mining too. Ghana has an Anti-Trafficking National Policy Framework and Implementing Institutions, as well as many laws such as the Children's Act of 1998 and the Labor Act of 2003.

Ghana has ratified several international conventions that established standards to protect children from exploitative work, including the ILO’s Minimum Age Convention and the Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention. The Constitution of the Republic of Ghana protects children by creating laws restricting child labor, but the laws are not vigorously enforced. The Constitution of the Republic of Ghana protects children by creating laws, The minimum age for work in Ghana is 15 years old and 18 years old for hazardous work. However, the practice of children working is widely accepted in Ghanaian society.

The Delegation of Ghana would like to take action in the prevention of subjecting their children to trafficking for unpaid labor. The delegation would also like to put emphasis on the implementation of programs to prevent child trafficking in vulnerable regions, and to identify and assist existing trafficking victims. Using said programs to intervene with the traffickers, teaching them that children should not be separated from their parents or perform work meant for adults.
Delegation: India
Represented by: Beachwood High School

Position paper for United Nations International Children's Fund
The issue before the United Nations International Children’s Fund is increasing safeguards and preventing violations of childhood labor laws. The delegation of India is dedicated to working with as many countries as possible to improve child labor conditions and provide more security for children with disabilities.

I. Increasing safeguards for children with disabilities
Children with disabilities face many hardships including discrimination, unequal opportunities for education, and neglect. As an effect of this many of these children are unable to receive proper healthcare, are institutionalized, and are likely to be the victim of sexual violence before the age of 18. Since about 93 million children live with a disability in the world, ensuring that they have the proper safeguards is a complex but entirely necessary task. One that the delegation of India is honored to be able to help address and work with other countries on.

Over the last two decades, the Indian government has made great strides regarding reforms in education for children with disabilities. One example is Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is a government program that has been operational since 2000 and aims to get free education for children of disabilities with the age range of 6–14. Similarly, the government has opened around 3000 specialized schools in urban areas that are run by volunteer organizations that range from helping children with impaired hearing (900 of the schools), children with impaired sight (400), impaired mental abilities (1000), and physical disabilities (700). Though it does not seem like much, programs and schools like these have considerably helped young students with disabilities navigate later life.

To combat this intricate issue the delegation of India proposes attempting to provide treatment for curable disabilities at schools. This can be done through hospitals and volunteer private businesses and work to set up more specialized schools and/or integrated schools. In India, cataracts are a major problem that begins to develop in a lot of children. But, surgery can be done at this young age to make sure the problem does not become a lifelong issue. This tactic can be applied to many fields and can be best applied by going to schools and finding students who could benefit from this type of help and giving them proper treatment and provide them with a better future. The second area of focus uses a similar idea of helping children of disabilities at a young age in order to secure for them a better future, but this time through education. As previously mentioned, there are some schools that are specifically for persons with disabilities, but there are many more needed not only in India but around the world. And this is beneficial for students who need special attention and need to be educated at their own pace. But for students who can go, integrated schools are an amazing opportunity, as long as the school has the proper resources for all its students.

II. Preventing violations of childhood labor laws
Every country has experienced the reverberating consequences of improper child labor, leaving no room for the neglect of improper labor regulation. African and Middle Eastern children alike have faced injustices in the workplace as over 20,000 children die yearly due to poor working conditions and forced labor. These hazardous conditions which oversee the lives of 160 million children globally, not only subjects the youth to severe injury but also the possibility of death. Although many countries have improved their policies, more improvement is necessary to provide the safety and education children deserve worldwide. The delegation of India wants to address the issues of improper child labor laws and their consequences. Through discussions with other nations and compromise, India hopes to find a feasible solution that will address the issues at hand.

Preventing violations of child labor laws is an issue that India has made great strides to improve and prevent, but there are still fundamental flaws behind implementing and enforcing them. As a low-income country, where each household makes an average of 160,000 Indian Rupees (2,240 USD) per year, often times families need the extra income that a child can provide by working instead of attending school. India has a large rural community focused on farming, which more often than not requires manual labor that children must perform. In addition to family-based work, India has a very difficult time enforcing child labor laws already set in place. India is split up into 29 states which are required to enforce child labor laws. Unfortunately, these states don't always have the infrastructure and resources to enforce these laws, especially in rural areas. Although there are many flaws in the enforcement of child labor laws, India has reformed their laws to ensure children attend school until the age of 14. By signing off on article 138 of the ILO policy India has agreed to implement a policy that would provide free education to all children through high school. Under the child labor (prohibition and regulation) amendment in 2012, a minimum of 2-year jail sentence was implemented for employing children under the age of 14 except for a few family-based work circumstances. Furthermore, this amendment made it so adolescents 14-18 years are not permitted to work in hazardous occupations.

The delegation of India firmly believes that the proper and fair regulation of child labor is a fundamental right every child deserves. The first issue that comes to mind when addressing the issue of child labor regulations is the importance of safe working conditions. By having routine checkups of occupations where children work, countries will be able to ensure that children are working in secure conditions. Additionally, proper pay and working hours should be regulated and checked through finance documents when performing these checkups. Another issue that often arises is uneducated children. Rather than sending children to school, parents often put their children to work for the additional income. To assure that all children receive the proper base education, mandatory education should be implemented until age 14, where at that point the child may continue his or her education or can enter the workforce.
Delegation From: Italian Republic
Represented by: Saint Joseph Academy

Position Paper for UNICEF

The issues set before UNICEF are: Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability; and Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws. The mandate of the Italian Committee for UNICEF is to advocate for children’s rights and raise funds to support UNICEF related programs in developing countries. The rights of children are held to the Italian Republic’s highest regard as they are involved in many children’s rights fundraising campaigns. The delegation of the Italian Republic awaits the session and hopes for a resolution to the conflicts.

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

As society has continued to develop, children with disabilities have consistently been overlooked and left behind. An estimated amount of 93 million children around the world have disabilities, and they tend to be the most impoverished members of the world with a lack of access to proper services. Disabled children have exactly the same rights as everyone else to keep them protected from a life of neglect and abuse, but they are still treated worse by society than their counterparts who do not suffer from disabilities. Children with disabilities require more action than children who are non-disabled because they experience greater vulnerability as result of the negative attitudes toward disabled children and their unequal access to services and resources. In 1989, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) was created which was an influential action taken by the United Nations in order to increase better treatment of children with disabilities across the world. The CRC eventually lead to the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) which has a greater focus on children suffering from a disability. UNICEF’s full intention is to increase awareness and better treatment of children with disabilities globally. In order to achieve this, countries must put their economic agenda to the side and consider their moral values to defend and protect children with disabilities.

The Italian Republic has held the rights of children to their highest regard starting in the Fascist age. The first welfare state authorities were OMNI (National Institution for Maternity and Childhood), established in 1925; EAOLI (National Orphan AID) and ENMPF (National Organization for Children Moral Protection), which was established in 1941, both dating back to the Fascism age. Still, these organizations could only truly help a very select group of people. The national policy of Italy on childhood protection was based on scattered forms on the placement of children in large institutions. The first time there was a change of approach was after the enactment of the Italian Republican Constitution which lead to a universalistic welfare system. Three national conferences held in 1954, 1955, and 1958 proved to be prominent in helping to stimulate the start of a new childhood culture. Several laws have been passed by the Italian Republic to increase safeguards for children of disability, and these must continue to be enforced, especially in schools. Easier access to services, teaching time, and curricula can be altered in order to accomodate children who need assistance.

The Italian Republic hopes to work toward increasing safeguards for children with disabilities by integrating the efforts above into their society and working with other countries in order to protect them from a life of neglect and abuse. UNICEF in Italy is dedicated to raising money and
awareness for the rights of children, including those with disabilities. Italy hopes to work towards a resolution in which children with disabilities are considered as valuable and equal members of society.

II. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws

Childhood labor has been a serious universal problem throughout history. Currently, UNICEF and the International Labor Organization (ILO) estimate that there are one-hundred and sixty-eight million children in unsafe work environments. This has lead to around twenty-two thousand children dying each year because of the hazardous conditions. Keeping these numbers in mind, it is important that nations around the world work together to enforce more effective restrictions and regulations regarding children in the workforce. Childhood labor is prevalent in third-world countries such as Somalia, Sudan, and Myanmar because there is a need for children to supplement their family income. However, economically important countries such as China, India, Russia, and Brazil also have a high level of childhood labor because labor laws are often poorly enforced in those countries. Childhood labor has the capability to stunt both physical and mental growth in a child’s developing years. UNICEF and the Italian Republic are dedicated to advocating for children’s rights, and hope to eradicate childhood labor throughout the world.

As stated above, childhood labor is one of the main problems that UNICEF works towards solving. UNICEF has a strong presence in Italy with more than one-hundred subcommittees run by volunteers and professional staff that are dedicated to advocating and raising money for the rights of children. The Italian Republic spreads awareness through campaigns and has many laws regarding childhood labor, however, child labor still persists as an issue. According to the International Labor Organization there are at least three-hundred and forty-thousand children under the age of sixteen working or being forced to work in Italy. In response to this, the ILO is working towards a national program in Italy to combat labor exploitation of children and adolescents in the country. Childhood labor seems to be the only option for some families because the parents’ income alone will not suffice for the family. The Italian Republic must work to help and support families in need so that children are not forced to work in unsafe conditions for their family. The purpose of UNICEF is to raise money for children’s rights, so financially helping the families in need would greatly help in their attempt to lessen the amount childhood labor. The Italian Republic encourages schools and media outlets to educate citizens of the country on the dangers of childhood labor in order to combat the problem. With the help of UNICEF, Italy and other countries around the world are working to educate and protect future generations from the dangers of childhood labor.

Poverty and the enforcement of childhood labor laws are the leading causes of why eliminating childhood labor has posed such a problem in Italy and around the world. With this being said, there have been major improvements. In the late 1800s the percentage of child laborers in Italy was around 30% and that has slowly decreased to about 5% in today’s world. The number has dropped significantly, but improvements must still be made. The Italian Republic, along with UNICEF and other nations must work together to enforce laws, hold countries accountable for violating the laws, and work to educate the public on the dangers of child labor. The Italian
Republic has confidence that through determination and alliance with other countries, the violation of childhood labor laws can be combated and put to an end for future generations.
The issues being dealt with by the United Nations Children’s Fund are increasing safeguards for children of disability and preventing the violation of childhood labor laws. Nepal is glad to be part of this committee to help come up with solutions and resolutions that will benefit our nation, as well as many others.

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

Having a disability in Nepal is quite a difficult situation. Over 30% of disabled children in Nepal don’t go to school. Disabled kids who do choose to go to school are often treated as outsiders by other students and teachers and often have to go to segregated classes. These segregated classes are taught by teachers who don’t have the proper resources to take care of and teach disabled students. Because of a lack of funding after Nepal’s economic downfall, teachers can’t access any resources to help them and school building aren’t disability accessible and often don’t have or teach braille and sign language. The private schools for children with disabilities also don’t have a lot of funding to create a good and inclusive education system. On top of Nepal’s funding issues, many parents of children with disabilities are unaware that their child can even attend school. Since school is also optional in Nepal, many parents just choose to not send their disabled children to school. Even if parents do try to enroll their disabled children, many public and private schools deny acceptance to disabled kids.

Although Nepal has many struggles when it comes to protecting the rights of children with disabilities, it also has taken steps in the right direction. In recent years, the government started to promote an education policy in Nepal that is very inclusive and supports setting up a system of classes designed for children with disabilities in mainstream schools. Nepal’s government also supports setting up separate schools specifically for children with disabilities.

Nepal acknowledges that it has many issues that need to be fixed when it comes to increasing safeguards for children of disability. In the future, Nepal would like to have many of these issues solved. To solve the barriers faced by children with disabilities, Nepal calls for help to increase funding to make schools, resources, and adequate teachers accessible. Nepal also calls for a government program to be set up and funded that will educate the public of how people with disabilities aren’t punishments and that disabled children have the right to attend school. Nepal asks for this help from the United Nations and other countries so that the children of Nepal have the rights and opportunities of other children across the globe.

II. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws

The delegation of Nepal has a split opinion about preventing violations of childhood labor laws. On the one hand Nepal sees that keeping the number of violations down or trying to get rid of violations completely is the morally correct thing to do. However on the other hand, Nepal has been guilty of several violations and believes that the drastic increase in labor laws is unfair. This is due to the fact that Nepal uses children in our factories and on our farms and the products from
those areas gives our country the most profit. So with the recent passing of child labor laws it has left Nepal no choice but to participate in these violations. Nepal needs the child labor to make our products. We believe that this creates justification for our violations because, if we didn't commit these violations Nepal would not have an economy at all. It would also harm the countries we trade with and hurt the entire trading system entirely. So even with our obligation to the recent child labor laws the delegation of Nepal had no choice but the “bend” the rules and disobey some of the newer regulations passed by the UN. But we do believe that violations shouldn't be occurring, and that there shouldn't be any child labor at all. We just have no other choice but to use it and commit violations to keep the country of Nepal alive. Nepal just does not have the economic means to keep pursuing this issue with such a strong force.

In the recent years the delegation of Nepal has complied with the UN’s overall decisions to reduce violations of child labor laws, even though it goes against our overall opinion on the subject. In 2009 the government of Nepal began to provide sufficient resources for the collection, storage, and publication of data on labor and criminal law enforcement actions including the number of violations committed. In 2011 the delegation of Nepal increased the number of labor inspectors trained and responsible for providing enforcement of child labor laws. In doing so the owners of companies can see that this is a serious issue and the violations can also be identified before they get to out of hand. Then in 2015 the government of Nepal also increased the penalties to ensure sufficient deterrence of child labor law violations. This way company owners would not be inclined to commit the same violation again because of the increased severity. Most recently In 2017 Nepal passed the Labor Act, which prohibits forced labor and sets penalties for forced labor violations. Violations resulting in a fine, revoking of a license or possible jail time. The government also began implementing a child labor monitoring system in Panauti Municipality and implemented the first nationally representative survey examining forced labor among adult and child workers. Which at first did not work extremely well but more recently the acts has had greater effects, and the number of violations has been reduced. But all in all the delegation of Nepal has made great strides in trying to reduce the number of violations of child labor laws, even though it hurts our country as a whole.

The delegation of Nepal would like to see one main result from this meeting of UNICEF. Nepal’s primary goal is to solve this issue and reduce the number of violations. However, this committee also needs to tackle the results of solving this problem, because if we do reduce the number of violations or attempt to enforce harsher regulations Nepal would suffer extremely. The entire committee needs to recognize the probable repercussions solving this issue has. If we solve this one problem we have to be ready to solve all the other problems that come with it. The committee itself has to be ready to solve the domino effect. The delegation of Nepal believes that the committee has to include clauses that would give funding and assistance to countries such as Nepal and India that rely on child labor to fuel their economy in any solution to this issue. All in all the delegation of Nepal is looking forward to collaborating with other delegations to help solve this issue, while solving some problems this issue has created for us.
Delegates from: The Netherlands
Represented by: North Royalton High School

Position Paper for the United Nations International Children’s Fund

The topics that the committee for the United Nations International Children’s Fund will be focusing on are: Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability and Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws. Netherlands strongly advocates for the safety of children and hopes to be able to cooperate with the other committee members to protect their well-being.

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

The Netherlands has changed their social policies for children with disability since the 1980s like many other Western European countries. They follow the general policies that the European Union has to follow such as finding what is best for the child, non-discrimination, evolving capacities, right to be heard, rights against violence, right to have a family, and most importantly a right to have education. In 1999, Netherlands responded to the problem of juvenile delinquents needing psychological and psychiatric treatment by creating more institutions to help treat them. Netherlands has a tax claim for fully disabled people, named WAJONG. It provides people who turn eighteen who are physically not able to work to earn some benefits so they can survive. In 2007, the cabinet sent a letter to Parliament to reform some of the clauses as there were too many people claiming benefits. Netherlands decided that they needed to get those people some special jobs or supporting jobs so they can provide some money to their households. They also added a clause that help children with disabilities so they can get future help. These children have to go to special schools to get special education. The schools have to work with the region to organize more jobs for their students. They also have to provide the preparation for the disabled children for them to excel in their workplace in the future.

Netherlands encourages disabled students to go to mainstream primary school, as in the students are placed in classrooms with general teaching while also taking special education classes. They have the Passend Onderwijs to check whether the school can provide students with the necessities to succeed. If the students cannot receive the proper education there, then they are transferred to a special education schools. Netherlands has two types of special education schools: for children with learning disabilities, such as behavioral problems or low IQ scores, the government offers schools called speciaal basisonderwijs (SBO), while children with physical disabilities, such as vision impairment or speech impairment, as well as Autism or ADD, go to speciaal onderwijs schools. The main problem with these two schools is that it takes a lot of time and money, therefor many parents defer from sending their children to school. The Netherlands’ government set aside one billion euros to fund the children’s education. The government handles education costs and municipalities handle the care costs, so the children can lead a better life.

Netherlands main source of increasing safeguards for the disabled children is by providing many different organizations that work to include the children as well as prepare them for the future. Netherlands provides support groups for parents and the children. There are ADHD parent support groups, for example Balans, as well as Autismecafé which are groups for parents with autistic children. Auris and Kentalis are organizations for children with speech impediment, deaf,
or communication barriers. Eseng is a group for children with dyslexia, autism, and ADHD. These groups have really improved the conditions of the children as well as provide support to the parents. Netherlands hopes to work with the committee to include more programs to help the disabled children so they can succeed. With the help of the UNICEF committee, Netherlands hopes that we can provide assistance needed to protect every disabled child around the world and help them have a better future.

II. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws

The Netherlands supports having regulations on childhood labor. To protect the safety and education of young workers domestically, the government of Netherlands has imposed a law preventing children younger than thirteen from working in any industry (other than the entertainment industry, in which the minimum age to work is seven). In addition to the minimum age, there are also regulations and conditions for youth workers age thirteen to sixteen, such as the type of work they could do and restricting their work to outside school hours or during holidays. Regulations are also found in the entertainment industry, where children age seven to thirteen are only allowed to perform twenty-four days annually. Violation of these regulations is punishable by fines or even imprisonment.

The Netherlands has worked with other nations and organizations to protect against violations of child labor. In 2017, the Dutch government passed the Child Labor Due Diligence Law, which prevented not only domestic child labor, but prevented imports on any supplies that used child labor. Working with other nations of the European Union, Netherlands and the rest of the EU prohibits children under the minimum school-leaving age from being part of the workforce, as stated in Title IV, Article 32 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. Although it is important to protect children from dangerous working conditions domestically or within the organization, Netherlands strongly supports preventing child labor outside the borders of countries in the organization.

The Netherlands, being a part of the International Labour Organization or ILO, fights against child labor domestically and worldwide. Netherlands supported ILO Convention No. 138, which set limits on the minimum age for child employment depending on the level of work. Since many families in developing countries depend on child labor, the convention includes small exceptions for these countries. Recently, Netherlands has planned with ILO to eliminate child labor in Africa, focusing on supply chains in agriculture and mining. With the cooperation of the African government and its organizations, Netherlands and the ILO will collect data, improve regulations and enforcement, and help communities in the supply chains so they can eliminate and prevent childhood labor. Netherlands hopes that with the partnership of the committee for the United Nations International Children’s Fund, we could prevent and eliminate child labor and the violations of such laws.
Delegation: Republic of Korea  
Represented By: Orange High School  

**Position Paper for United Nations International Children’s Fund**

The issues that will be discussed in the United Nations International Children’s Fund will be: Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability and Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws. The Republic of Korea has a strong belief that children will be the gateway to creating a stronger world in the years to come. We need to take extra care of the children of this generation if we want to build upon the success of our future. With that being said, children with disabilities need to be protected with the utmost care, and we need to put an end to child labor at any and all cost.

**I. Increasing Safeguards for Children with Disability**

The entire world has had to deal with the major issue of disabilities. Unfortunately, children are not exempt from them. With that being said, we, the United Nations International Children’s Fund, need to find a way to help these children make their way into society with as little a struggle as possible. With the 2 billion dollar budget the UNICEF has, we have the potential, the money, and the technology to help these children who are not as fortunate as others. At this point, the technological advances that we have made is unreal. The Republic of Korea has a great idea as to how this can turn out and we can do so much to help these children.

As recently as 2017, there are at least 93 million children in the world with some form of a disability, and there are possibly even more cases of disabilities that are not recorded. Imagine that number, 93 million children. That would mean over a quarter of the United States would have a disability. That is an absurd amount of people. We need to do something about this, and we can’t just sit here with billions of dollars and the latest technology at our disposal and do nothing about it. The Republic of Korea has an idea of what to do, and this could truly help the children of this generation.

The Republic of Korea suggests that the UNICEF implement a system that would work as a slow process to help the children work through their disability and learn to potentially thrive in society. These sessions would continue to go on for as long as they need to in order for the children to know that they are able to function in society without their disabilities preventing them from gaining their necessary education and other needs such as building social relationships and other things alike.

**II. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws**

Child labor has been an issue that has plagued the world for hundreds, if not thousands of years. Children should not be subjected to labor in order for their family to be able to barely get by on a day-to-day basis. There needs to be justice for these children that are working illegally.
Throughout the entire world, there are about 168 million children that are workers and most of them are in hazardous areas. 168 million. There are more children workers in the world than there are citizens in the entire nation of Russia. That is an absurd amount of children that are working. There needs to be something done about the ridiculous number of child workers, and the Republic of Korea might have the right idea of how to get it done.

There is an act that was passed in the United States known as the “Federal Meat Inspection Act of 1906” which allows inspectors to go throughout meat packing facilities to make sure that the meat is edible and not dangerous to digest. There could be another act that can be passed along those lines, but with assuring that there are not workers below the legal age to begin working. Though these children may be working to provide food for their families, UNICEF and other organizations may be able to confront the owners of the businesses and improve the wages of these workers so the children do not have to miss out on their education and potentially create a better future for themselves.
History on the Issue

Russia is the largest country in the world, in terms of landmass, and its population is approximately 142,000,000 people, as of July 2018. This ranks number 9 in the world. However, even with the enormous land mass, most of the population is centralized in the western fifth of the country, near Moscow and Saint Petersburg, but there are small pockets around the Trans-Siberian railroad in the South. Russia is not very diverse, with 85 percent of the people speaking Russian and 78 percent of the people being ethnically Russian. It has the 6th largest GDP in the world, and it can compete economically with the major nations of the world. The economy mainly relies on the exportation of steel, aluminum, natural gas and oil. However, it is still rebounding from the disaster of the Soviet Union. Just like it has been for centuries, Russia is the least technologically advanced world superpower, and it relies on other countries for technology. In terms of child labor and safety, Russia has not used child labor for centuries. During the time of the USSR, child labor was frowned upon, and children were forced to excel in school, or in athletics. They were prepared to be constructors of communism. People were not allowed to work until they were 16, a point where they are arguably not even children anymore. However, when the USSR collapsed, the GDP dropped by 42%, and thousands of refugees flooded into the country, of which many were children. This created a crisis, and children had to fend for themselves. Also, many children became separated from their families during emigration, and they went to orphanages. These facilities however were exposed however to be under equipped by the human rights watch. Around the same time, education was cut by a third. Combined with the horrible poverty rate, child labor flourished in the Russian Federation. Also, due to the fact that twenty-five percent of the economy depended on illegal means, many children were used in the drug trade, and even prostitution. Very minimal reforms have been made, and the only law against child labor is that children can not work if they are below 16, with some exceptions. These laws are not enforced though, and child labor still runs rampant.

Stagnancy in Terms of the Issue

In the United Nations, the Russian Federation signed the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was signed by every country except the United States and Somalia, and Somalia was not able to because they had no government at the time. Russia simply follows most other countries and do not have a loud voice in terms of this issue. As to this date, no major leaders in Russia have commented on the issue.

Goals

From the committee, the main goal would be to stir some action. The policies for Russia have been stagnant since the 20th century, and if anything have gotten worse. Policies for less incentives for child labor, or more for education would be ideal. However, a long-term goal would be hard to reach, as Russia’s GDP dropped and became a market economy. It was simply not fit for that, and now it is bearing the weight of the problems which arise from a laissez-faire economy. There is not much sudden change achievable for Russia, however a small baby step would point in the right direction.
Delegation from: Turkey
Represented by: Archbishop Hoban High School

Position Paper for the International Children’s Emergency Fund

The issues before United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund are: Increasing Safeguards for Children with Disabilities; and Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws. Turkey aims to set higher standards for the rights of children. As a signatory of both Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and Convention On the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD), Turkey plans to integrate marginalized youth into mainstream society, thus calling attention to the value of every child.

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

In the past, Turkey’s policies have been less efficient in their nature, but they now serve as the foundation for our improved legislature aiming to meet the needs of disabled children. 1.48% of the total student population are disabled, and with current government efforts this number has been on the rise, helping to meet Goal Area 2 of the Turkey-UNICEF Country Program's Strategic Plan for 2018-2021. Moreover, by integrating these children earlier into mainstream society, there is hope to combat any lingering social stigma. The current administration is moving forward to raise awareness for the mistreatment of handicapped youth, as well as adapt government policies to provide disabled children with the safest and most beneficial environments. The Turkish Ministry of Family and Social Policies set groundbreaking regulations to improve the accessibility of public buildings, bringing the disabled into the heart of the community and actively supporting the disabled children of Turkey. These steps to further equality for the handicapped correlate to Goal Area 5 of the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan of the Turkey-UNICEF Country Program, Every Child has an Equitable Chance in Life.

In the constant hope of securing a more inclusive future, Turkey is a signatory of the CRC and CRPD. Turkey aims to protect not just the disabled children of Turkey, but also those in the international community. The safety of such children is recognized as a top priority for the government of Turkey, and its administration will continue to take any necessary measures to instill this ideology in the hearts of all its people and all in the world alike. Citing the Turkish constitution articles 10, 42, and 60, Turkey wishes to stress that all kids are meant to have equal opportunity, equal chances for schooling, and a lack of discrimination on the basis of any impairments or physical attributes. As stated in Goal Area 5 of the Turkey-UNICEF Country Program, every child should be able to survive and thrive.

Turkey is embracing innovative policies to protect children with disabilities and challenge the stigma against impaired youth. The goal of the Turkish government is to offer as much support as possible to disabled children, and to encourage international support of advancing policies to help better protect disabled children. There are over 93 million disabled children in the world, and Turkey recognizes that there have been many historic violations of human rights towards disabled children, such as inappropriate usage of psychotropic medicine, inhumane beatings, sexual violence, and ostracization from society. To help combat this, there should be an increase in ECI (Early Childhood Intervention) buildings, as well as significantly more pressure from the
world community and CRPD to embrace beneficial policies for the long-shunned disabled children. Turkey would like to encourage it's fellow United Nations to also introduce programs which enable their disabled youth to feel comfortable in mainstream society and in schools.

II. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws

The usage of child labor and the the violations of the international child labor laws established by the International Labor Standards (ILO) are heavily condemned by Turkey. Child labor under the age of 15 is considered a crime by the employer, and can result in extreme fines and government prosecution. Unfortunately, crooked businesses have attempted to capitalize on the influx Syrian refugees and have been hiring refugee children. In response to these accusations of illegal child labor, Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım has declared that 2018 would be “the year of the battle against child labor,” showcasing the nation’s outrage against any child labor transgressions.

To secure a victory in this battle, Turkey has been trying to bring Syrian refugee children into schools. Once again this corresponds to Goal Area 2 of the Turkey-UNICEF Country Program's Strategic Plan, Every Child Learns. The current administration is using increasingly harsher policies, stricter inspections, and widespread public education on this issue. Turkey embraces a large amount of child legal labor regulations that are internationally agreed upon- such as a minimum age for working, prohibition of sexual exploitation and trafficking, free public education, and many more compulsory laws. To help prevent any further accounts of child labor and comply with the ILO’s advice, the number of labor inspectors have been greatly increased to raise attention against this issue. Turkey is a signatory of the CRC, and the well-being of children is a top priority to the current administration. In 2013, Turkey instilled a government program to help discourage child labor in migrant worker families, and to provide more educational supplies and opportunities for said children. Cooperation with organizations such as the Association of Chocolate, Biscuit and Confectionery Industries of Europe (CAOBISCO) have helped to target specific industries using child labor, such as hazelnut harvesting, and take measures to prevent this abuse of children.

Turkey would like to extend the invitation to the international community to join in making this year the end of child labor. Turkey asks that all nations follow ILO guidelines and raise awareness about the problem of child labor. By promoting educational opportunities for all victimized classes of children and targeting industries known for previous violations of ILO standards, Turkey hopes to see a decline in the international number of child laborers. Turkey is looking optimistically to a future free of child labor where every child has an equitable chance in life (Goal Area 5 of the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan for the Turkey-UNICEF Country Program).
Delegation from: The United Kingdom
Represented by: St. Vincent-St. Mary High School

Position Paper for the United Nations International Children’s Fund

The issues before the United Nations International Children’s Fund are: the Increasing of Safeguards for Children of Disability and the Prevention of Violations of Childhood Labor Laws. The country of the United Kingdom has been working to further the help of children and express its desire to develop policies to further the safety of children.

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

Everyday, children with disabilities are harassed, abused, and bullied by their peers and families. They are not given equal education and are often excluded from a chance to learn at productive rate. They are often put in classes where their teachers and trusted instructors will not teach them how to learn and succeed in life. Another major problem is the healthcare and medication needed to help children and people with disabilities. Plenty of children who are “special needs” are not provided those “special needs.” They are often denied the proper care and medicines they need during events and emergencies. Some nations have a good system for helping disabled kids, while others suffer in that area.

The United Kingdom has has an increase in the amount of children with disabilities in the past few years. Slowly but steadily, progress has been made to help disabled kids learn and thrive. The UK has taken a stall on working to develop help for disabled kids to get it right. We are working on researching exactly what can be done to help these kids. The United Kingdom is pushing back on previous actions to review and make changes to better the available help. The UNited Nations has worked in the past to better the rights of those with disabilities. They have passed papers stating that they should have the same rights as everyone else.

The world has made great progress towards helping children with disabilities. Although much can still be changed to better the world, we are at a good place. In order to better the world, the United Kingdom recommends educating the public on why we need to help special needs children. Education plays a huge roll in both getting them help, and teaching them. The United Kingdom recommends a guidance system be put into place so that these children in need can have people to make sure their families have everything necessary to help these kids reach their full potential.

II. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws

Child labour is a globally pressing issue Internationally. In the past, child labour has been a problem due to shortage of jobs, and economic status of families. Parents resort to their children to help mend their economic status, and the unfortunate deficit of funds they are receiving. Children are stripped of the right to grow up let alone for their brains to develop. Continents such as Asia and countries in the Middle East enforce child labour to this day and the work situations are unsafe. Children are exposed to adult-like situations at a young age and feelings of anger and
neglect arise. Unsafe, dirty and overcrowded environments are the only thing the children know
to be normal.

The United Kingdom makes education and having a safe learning environment its top priority for
its children. The UK received the Rights of Respecting Schools Award ensuring that kids are
given respect in their learning environment and have equal opportunities for success. With this
initiative in place, child labour is out of the picture for the United Kingdom and education is the
main priority. The UK has a large number of laws that protect the rights of children, relieving
them of issues such as abuse, exploitation, or over-working. Child Labour has been against the
law since 1920 when the UK created the Employment of Women, Children and Young Persons
Act 1920, which prohibits the employment of children in any “industrial undertaking,” including
mines and quarries, manufacturing industry, construction, and the transport of passengers or
goods by road, rail, or inland waterway. The United Kingdom has enforced the prohibition of
child labour and will continue to work with UNICEF to globally influence nations to do the
same.

The United Kingdom suggests that funding towards countries that face issues with child labour is
put in place. The funding will then be divided among the families that are resorting to their
children financially. The United Kingdom will make it their goal to promote peace among
nations as well as global prohibition of child labour.
Delegation from: United States of America  
Represented by: Saint Joseph Academy

Position Paper for The International Children’s Fund

The issues before the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund are: Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability; and Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws. The United States of America is very honored to be included in this hopefully productive conference.

I. Increasing Safeguards for Children of Disability

The United States of America has made strong efforts to increase safety and convenience for children of disability. One of America’s fundamental principles is that we believe in equality and therefore we hope to do more to help children of disability become equal to everyone else. In the past we have struggled with hate crimes and prejudice against them and we have started many inclusivity programs to solve this. The United States of America wants to work with other delegations to find new and innovative ways to protect and assist children of disability. We believe that all people deserve to get the education they need.

Things in our country have become much better for these children because of the anti discrimination laws in place and the efforts made by the general public. The overall understanding of these issues throughout our country has increased drastically. In the past the main cause of these issues was lack of knowledge about disabilities and we have taken steps to educate people. One of the main things that has changed over time is the amount of information people have on this topic and the gain of it has made things much better for the children.

The United States recently signed a resolution that supports disabled people by requiring other countries to give disabled people the same rights as everyone else. We hope to continue to work with other countries to make this solution permanent. We intend to create another resolution more focused on the rights of children with disabilities. These children need to be advocated for but they also need to be well educated so that they can advocate for themselves. The United States of America is excited to help solve these issues.

II. Preventing Violations of Childhood Labor Laws

The United States of America takes many precautions when it comes to preventing violations of child labor laws. We have established many laws protecting children, one of them being the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). In the late 1700s and early 1800s, manufacturers began to employ children because factory machines were simpler to use and it was cheaper. Children did not have time for school and they often got very sick which caught the attention of many people who fought for their rights. In 1938 congress passed the FLSA, protecting the kids.

The United States of America’s views on child labor has definitely changed. Children used to be forced into manual labor for about 12 to 18 hours a day, 6 days a week. But now we have laws and regulations protecting them. Children under the age of 16 and they cannot
participate in any job that may damage their mental or physical health. That is specifically stated in Child Labor portion of the FLSA which also secures minimum wage for children 16 and older.

Although we have been fighting against child labor in our country, we are also interested in getting rid of child labor everywhere. The United States of America has held meetings with West African cocoa producers who employ a lot children in terrible conditions. They have been known to kidnap children and have killed reporters who have tried to expose them. During our meeting with these companies, we urged them to use more humane tactics and outlaw child labor. We hope that other countries like these, will follow our lead and cease to employ children.

The United States of America is excited to work towards completely abolishing child labor.