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Position Papers for:
World Health Organization
Delegation from: People's Republic of Bangladesh
Represented by: Beachwood High School
Committee: World Health Organization

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The People’s Republic of Bangladesh believes in furthering discussions regarding these issues and working towards resolutions which will prove both effective and long lasting.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones
The unjustifiable, rampant escalation of fatal attacks causing healthcare workers and civilians to become victims of horrific violence remains a vehement concern to the world. The violations of the safety and protection of healthcare workers worldwide has become a growing international concern, corresponding directly with a growth of terrorism and dishonest authority. Though the number of healthcare worker attacks has decreased from previous years, the number of weapons and methods which have been used to inflict terror upon innocent civilians has remained at a standstill. Despite the numerous resolutions that have been passed to mitigate the disturbing injustice experienced by healthcare workers in conflict zones, words of encouragement alone have not been enough. A recent UNGA resolution on Health Worker Protection affirmed that upholding, “the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence in the provision of humanitarian assistance” is critical for, “humanitarian emergencies, armed conflicts and natural disasters.” Resources must be provided at local levels, and commitments must be secured from nations which are repeatedly experiencing attacks on healthcare centers. In a multilateral attempt to prioritize the futures of civilians and workers aiming to protect the lives of others in need, Bangladesh is looking to not only bolster global cooperation, but pursue a global commitment towards creating positive resolutions for the monumental crisis at hand.

As one of the most densely populated nations worldwide, Bangladesh is committed to undertaking a multitude of safety precautions to ensure the safety of healthcare workers within her borders. Bangladesh has opened itself to over 650,000 Rohingya refugees immigrating into the nation. By working with non-governmental organizations such as the Smiling Sun Project, Bangladesh has established and monitored the safety of many health clinics. To advocate for the necessity of an adequate and skilled health workforce, the first stakeholder dialogue on Human Resource for Health (HRH) in Bangladesh took place in 2012. Currently, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is finalizing a draft document regarding the country’s National Health Policy with a goal of, “ensuring primary and emergency health services for all . . . [with] equality based on quality health services.” The nation’s progressive actions to ensure the safety of healthcare workers and civilians has lead to praise from the international community, for endeavours such as the passing of the Labor Act, which requires that health centers with 50 or more employees establish safety committees. Bangladesh thoroughly supports UN Resolution 2286, but is calling for deeper international action. The international community has yet to make their mark in efficiently resolving the humanitarian crises which are only destined to grow. The severity and complexity of the effects of one single attack on healthcare, let alone hundreds, have
urged Bangladesh to codemm any affiliation with initiatives imposing threats to the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones. The delegation of Bangladesh seeks to cooperate with other nations in this World Health Organization Assembly to develop effective, long-lasting solutions to the aforementioned health crisis.

The People’s Republic of Bangladesh thoroughly supports policy-driven action established by the United Nations, while encouraging nations to strategically combat international antagonists. By recognizing that the safety crisis of healthcare workers in conflict zones is a multifactorial problem, Bangladesh would like to pursue a multi-faceted solution. The Delegation of Bangladesh supports the need to enhance international laws regarding the protection of healthcare workers in conflict zones. Bangladesh hopes to see a combination of international and national legislation passed by the United Nations and affected countries on behalf of the rights and protection of healthcare workers. With respect to the complexity of the problem at hand, including the conflict arising from terrorism, Bangladesh wants to uphold the true meaning of International Humanitarian Law by cooperating with the UN Security Council and organizations such as Interpol. The delegation of Bangladesh believes it is crucial that healthcare workers receive adequate training in order to know how to protect themselves before entering conflict zones; such education should include weapons training and proper evasive actions training. By municipally developing regional points of contact designed for reporting suspicions regarding violence, actions supported by federal governments will further the initiative to end attacks on the healthcare industry, ensuring not only global cooperation, but a global commitment to creating a better humanitarian world.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

For hundreds of years humanity has been plagued by the harmful effects of substance abuse: the use of illicit drugs, alcohol, or other psychoactive substances, in a way that leads to physical dependence on the substance. According to a World Drug Report by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 29.5 million people globally suffer from drug use disorders. The UN has played a pivotal role in combating and preventing substance abuse, starting with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and subsequent amendments, recognizing substance abuse as an international issue. The economic, political, and social consequences of substance abuse radiate outwards, affecting individuals, communities, countries, and the entire world. In the past drug abuse was seen as a personal lack of willpower. However, in recent years there has been a major attitudinal shift to recognizing this problem as a public health crisis; importantly, substance abuse is now viewed as a treatable disease. Echoing these sentiments, in a UN general assembly resolution adopted on December 29, 2017, the UN emphasized the need to, “mobilize adequate resources to address and counter the world drug problem.” In accordance with the sentiments of the UN, the delegation of Bangladesh seeks to work cohesively with other nations in the UN assembly to discuss durable resolutions on this issue.

The abuse of drugs presents itself as an ever growing challenge in both the poor and affluent communities of Bangladesh. Lack of citizen productivity, increased crime rates, higher healthcare costs, and negative social environments are only some of the burdens on Bangladesh as a result of its substance abuse epidemic. In 1975, Bangladesh made an accession of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs treaty of 1961. After having struggled with narcotics for years,
the most concerning factor is the recent increase in drug use among youth. A staggering 1 in 17 youths are addicted to drugs. In the 2014 Department of Narcotic Control (DNC) annual report, it was estimated that 88% of drug users in Bangladesh were aged 40 or below while 55% of drug users were aged 22-29, with the under 16 population accounting for 25% of the total drug use. Because most of the population is Muslim, they are restricted from alcohol, leading the drug Yaba, a combination of amphetamine and caffeine, to sadly becoming a release for youth. Overseen by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh’s government recently launched a drive to wipe out the drug epidemic. The ongoing Bangladesh Drug War's primary goal is to foster positive, safe and enjoyable environments for its citizens through eliminating the pedestrian sale of drugs. Over 15,000 people were arrested for drug-related crimes within the first three weeks of the start of the initiative. Bangladesh hopes this firm campaign will be the first step in reversing the dangerous substance abuse culture in the country. The delegation of Bangladesh hopes that further prevention and treatment measures will be discussed and implemented during this World Health Organization Assembly.

Because of the aforementioned concerns regarding the international substance abuse crisis, the People’s Republic of Bangladesh is committed to implementing stricter initiatives to truly tackle the problem at hand, believing that a country is only as healthy as its population. The Delegation of Bangladesh is committed to enacting judicial, social, and political initiatives aimed to directly reduce the infiltration of drugs and potentially abusive substances. Bangladesh believes international cooperation is an essential part of the road towards nullifying substance abuse and as such calls for the United Nations to hold another assembly dealing specifically with modern drug problems and solutions. Though the UN has made important treaties and resolutions against substance abuse, many are outdated and need to be reevaluated in light of the current international situation. The Delegation of Bangladesh stands firmly for greater judicial punishment and prosecution of drug dealers and drug crime offenders in order to remove these threats from suffering communities. Furthermore, Bangladesh promotes the protection of youth from dangerous substances; measures such as education regarding substance abuse and judicial penalties for youth drug dealers should be implemented. As many times young people get drugs from close friends or others their age, the delegation of Bangladesh hopes that judicial penalties to minors who illicitly sell and buy drugs will act as a discouragement for other youth to follow their bad examples. The delegation of Bangladesh strives to find practical and effective resolutions for the previously states problems dealing with substance abuse along with other nations in this WHO assembly, that will stand the test of time and rid this terrible sickness, overall leading to a healthier, safer world.
Delegation from: Belarus  
Represented by: Orange High School  

Position Paper for the World Health Organization  

The issues before the World Health Organisation are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. Though these conflicts are pressing in today’s society, many war torn countries seem to lack the funding, drive, or motivation to improve. Belarus has been devoted to solving these issues intranationally and expresses its hope for furthering these advancements.

Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The Republic of Belarus strongly supports the strengthening of a system that protects those that go out of their way to serve others, and believes that an in thorough discussion should be held about the means of said system and its funding.

The desire for the further reforms is heavily favored by the Belarusian people. The ongoing impact of the Chernobyl incident continuously calls for doctors who are needed to figure out the impact and solutions of the incident, which is affecting those to this day because of how nearby Belarus is to the Chernobyl territory. Due to the lack of funding for pharmaceuticals and equipment, Belarus is a very ridden country when it comes to this topic. In addition to this, the funding for more healthcare workers would be very helpful in helping to treat the Belarusians who are in need and very ill. With the addition of more healthcare workers, safety for those workers is also very important. As of late, the destruction and murder of hospitals and healthcare workers during wars has been a very strategic advantage for a country. Although these attacks have been condemned by many nations, they are rarely prosecuted, and have become a major issue.

With declining life expectancy rates every year, more healthcare workers and equipment is needed. In addition, when more healthcare workers are requested, this also must lead to an increase in protection and security of these workers. The Republic of Belarus has received several suggestions on how to address these ongoing healthcare issues. Some of the leading and most effective solutions for gathering money for equipment, workers, and more protection include a social insurance-based financing system, or an increase in health care taxes. Belarus looks hopefully upon the improvement of their condition, and the adaptation of upcoming suggestions.

Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The Republic of Belarus believes that it is crucial to address the need to prevent and treat substance abuse. As a nation that once struggled heavily with substance abuse, Belarus understands and remembers the importance of treating substance abuse. It is essential that strong education systems and treatment facilities are funded and supported to further assure the success and improvement of the infinite tomorrows.

Recognizing the importance of early intervention is something Belarus has never shied away from, as shown in the 2007 EMCDDA report and the World Health Organizations 2010 report.
The Belarusian government firmly believe in early action prevention, and have acted upon their beliefs by embedding substance abuse education into its school systems, establishing outreach services for ex-offenders, and using the media to spread the knowledge of the harmful effects of substance abuse. However, when comparing the substance abuse rates from previous years to current time, there is no doubt that Belarus still has a far way to go.

The Belarusian government expresses its concern for the ongoing drug epidemic and will now attend to whatever they see fit when it comes to the topic of the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. Whether it be by providing more addictionologists, neurologists, narcologists, psychiatrists or psychologists to those in need, Belarus is eager to mend the gaping wound of substance abuse.
Delegation from: Belgium
Represented by: Orange

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues for the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The Delegation of Belgium hopes to form strong, collaborative alliances with various nations to reach efficient solutions to these issues.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

In recent years, the rate of deadly attacks on healthcare workers operating in conflict zones has drastically increased. Health workers operating within NGOs like Doctors Without Borders and the Red Cross provide medical aid to areas most devastated by heavy fighting and casualties. However, as is the nature of the zones they operate in, healthcare workers are increasingly targeted by governments, terror groups, and opposing nations. These attacks initiate a ripple effect in at-risk areas, as workers are killed and they are no longer able to provide care for the many wounded. Many hospitals and temporary care sites have been disbanded due to attacks which left medical personal dead or maimed. Bombings have been the primary form of attack in many of these cases, as these weapons hold the ability to kill personal and knock out medical infrastructure.

Belgium itself has experienced the bi-products of conflicts, specifically in the Middle East. Many citizens from Belgium have left to become foreign fighters in a variety of conflicts, and many have been coerced by terror networks. Belgium has actively sought to stop these migrations into conflict zones. In 2000 and 2015, Belgium restructured its military to respond to humanitarian crisis specifically, thus we have become fully involved in the issue of protecting healthcare workers in conflict zones.

To combat this pressing issue, the Delegation of Belgium hopes to protect not only the workers who are attacked, but also the infrastructure and installations which can be affected by bombings. Ambulances have a particularly difficult time operating during times of conflict, so resolutions should be drafted focusing on the transportation of wounded individuals in the case of an attack. Furthermore, emergency safeguards must be implemented to ensure that medical centers remain active even in the case of an attack.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The use of illicit drugs, alcohol, or other psychoactive substances in a harmful way that often leads to a physical dependence on the substance, otherwise known as substance abuse, is a serious global problem, as it affects every single country. It can, however, be solved or at least lessened by policies and healthcare systems, but only if treated correctly: as a public health issue and crisis. Substance abuse not only causes issues for users, but for entire countries as a whole,
as it increasingly causes economic losses due to lack of productivity, higher crime rates, increased health care costs, and more negative costs and consequences for society. Additionally, viable treatment options are widely unavailable to substance users, and only one of every six people suffering from substance abuse has access to treatment.

Although Belgium’s drug abuse issues are minimal, there is a large presence of specifically alcohol abuse in the country. Treatment for substance abuse disorders is integrated with mental health care in Belgium, where there is also a specialized treatment system for these disorders. Like many other countries, Belgium struggles with having treatment options available for those with substance abuse disorders. Furthermore, the systems that are in place are reasonably effective for those that are affected, but the systems often do not reach the needs of the whole country.

To combat this crucial issue, the Delegation of Belgium hopes to not only increase the availability of treatment for substance abuse disorders, but to prevent more of these disorders from happening at all. People with substance abuse disorders are often thrown into jail rather than put on a path to recovery, so resolutions should be drafted focusing on providing rehabilitation to people with substance abuse disorders. Furthermore, people with these disorders should not serve jail time or any criminal punishment at all, as oftentimes their abuse issues are not personal faults. Many issues surrounding substance abuse disorders would be solved, or at least lessened, if people with these issues were sent to rehabilitation rather than prison.
Delegation from: Bolivia
Represented by: Lake Ridge Academy

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues presented before the World Health Organization are: The Safety of Healthcare Workers in conflict zones and The Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The delegation of Bolivia is devoted to providing protection and safety to its healthcare workers; and to prevent and find treatment for substance abuse.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones.

The delegation of Bolivia strongly supports the assistance and need of international organizations and neighboring countries in providing safety and assistance for healthcare workers in conflict zones. Over the years, the number of attacks on healthcare facilities has increased exponentially, due to several bombings. Because of these attacks, in times of desperate need, resources are not reaching healthcare facilities; therefore, injured individuals are being deprived of proper treatment; and the sanitary environments of the healthcare facilities are perilously subpar. Attacking healthcare facilities in conflict zones not only engender extremely unsanitary environments, but also severely dangerous environments for the healthcare workers. Healthcare facilities located in rural parts of Bolivia are extremely unsanitary and understaffed, and conditions of healthcare facilities in conflict zones are much more detrimental.

Recognizing the importance of the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones and the establishment of the Economic and Social Development Plan for Living Well 2016-2020, stating future reforms and measures needing to be taken, the Bolivian government and citizens firmly believe in the need to provide assistance and protection for its healthcare workers in conflict zones and to improve healthcare facilities. Although it is important to note that an implementation of new practices and policies could potentially lead to a further decline in the healthcare system.

The Bolivian government continues to struggle in making permanent reforms in the healthcare system. Struggling with various diseases, malnutrition, and exorbitantly high mortality rates specifically in conflict zones, the Bolivian government recognizes the need to improve healthcare facilities and increase resource availability to its healthcare workers, most notably in conflict zones. Reforming the healthcare system and healthcare facilities is both costly and is currently not economically feasible for Bolivia; therefore, the Bolivian government has increased citizens access to healthcare facilities and made drastic measures to reduce the effect natural disasters have on the populations’ health. In order to provide a safe environment for healthcare workers, the delegation of Bolivia believes that the following needs to occur. First, opposing countries should limit or eliminate the use of explosive weapons in highly populated areas. Second, countries should reduce the number of exports and imports of major weapons. Finally, neighboring countries should provide housing and assistance for its healthcare workers in times of conflict. The Bolivian delegation would like to call in assistance from neighboring countries including Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, and Peru to provide assistance for Bolivian healthcare workers, located in conflict zones and provide housing for Bolivian citizens.
whose residencies are located in conflict zones. This potentially will reduce the number of affected individuals when an attack occurs, which will decrease the number of necessary healthcare workers. Furthermore, healthcare workers will be able to medicate and treat fewer individuals and in more safe and sanitary conditions. The delegation of Bolivia would also look favorably upon international actors and countries to adopt and implement policies and legislation to reduce the number of imports and exports of major weapons, and to reduce the number of individuals residing in conflict zones. Furthermore, if the World Health Organization desires to implement lasting changes for improving the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones, the council must also recognize that this is an international effort. Bolivia firmly believes that the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones can be improved, but only upon further international action. International organizations and countries must comply with one another in order to implement legislation and policies to reduce the number of major arsenals present in countries and provide assistance for healthcare workers in conflict zones in times of attack.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse.

The delegation of Bolivia strongly supports the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. After gaining independence from Peru, Bolivia further gained control of a strong government which later fell into an economic crisis because of the import and export of illegal drugs. A direct relationship exists between substance abuse and economic deficit. With an increase in substance abuse, an economic deficit soon follows. The issues around narcotics are not solely a Bolivian problem but an international one.

Exporting approximately 80 tons of cocaine per year, Bolivia’s exporting rate of narcotics is increasing exponentially. Economic and health conflicts that come with such a large caliber of substance abuse have only held the country back from making permanent solutions. On the narcotics side of the issue, the cocaine in Bolivia is made from a coca base that has traces of gasoline and kerosene and can be made into a powder form to be used in cigarette form. This is a problem because it is easier for citizens to get their hands on and is a more toxic drug. The use of this type of cocaine is very dangerous and addicting, but in Bolivia there is no way for one to be cured of the addiction because of the very sparse location of rehabilitation and treatment centers. The cocaine production based on the plant coca has increased by over 100% between 2005 and 20014. Bolivia has returned to the UNODC conventions, made agreements with the coca growers in Bolivia to make sure every coca grower in the committee has authorized growth rights. The problem is getting better with 35% of coca production dropping since 2011. Bolivia has attempted to try to combat the uprising issue, by restricting the amount of coca plants that a farmer is permitted to grow. Further, the Bolivian government has attempted to tighten the market of non-narcotic uses of coca plants. The plan to limit the amount of coca plants that a farmer is allowed to grow was paid for by the European Union, who has improved the crisis minimally, but Bolivia is still looking for an alternative plan to attack this sort of issue.

Bolivia is committed to the prevention and treatments of continued substance abuse and calls for assistance from other nations to attempt to combat this issue and to build treatment centers and rehabilitation facilities. Bolivia could also use the help of the UN for communication with other countries, as President Evo Morales does not want to partake in communications with the United
States. Bolivia needs doctors and therapists to station in rehabilitation centers, in order to help
the ongoing issue of substance abuse.
Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and Addressing the Universal Need to Treat and Prevent Substance Abuse. The Federative Republic of Brazil is willing to do whatever necessary to better improve the health and safety of citizens and their care workers.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The Federative Republic of Brazil is honored to be given the opportunity to discuss the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones. Brazil recognizes the need to have an integrated understanding and the need to work in compliance to ensure the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones. Brazil also expresses its gratitude toward the United Nations in their efforts to solve the issue at hand, as everyone has been working diligently for a solution. As many know, there are multiple wars taking place in the world today and each day healthcare workers are put in more and more danger as they are being sent in to help others. We are in dire need of a solution to this issue.

The Attacks on Healthcare Initiative states that “...attacks are defined as any act of verbal or physical violence or obstruction or threat of violence that interferes with the availability, access and delivery of curative and/or preventive health services during emergencies.” Even with ongoing research and investigation from the UN and countries, the issues concerning safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones continue to go unresolved and are in dire need of more attention, more minds collaboration, and more preventive measures. The Attacks on Healthcare Initiative shows that in August of 2018 new information was introduced on a new data collection system on attacks against health workers and facilities in Afghanistan. When a third healthcare workers is killed in Gaza, they reiterate the need for protections. Like these nations, Brazil wishes to diminish the dangers and lapses in safety that healthcare workers in conflict zones must endure.

To completely eliminate the danger these workers are put in, Brazil calls upon all other nations to do their part in solving this matter. While we understand the difficulties in doing so, we strongly encourage all other nations to provide safe zones/areas within conflict ridden zones to ensure the safety of these health workers, as they try to help our injured. But first, we must start with providing support for healthcare workers and deterring combatants from attacking these facilities and workers. We must work, in collaboration, to find a way to both support and deter in order to reach our common goal. With this issue becoming more and more severe, Brazil must continue to help to find a solution for the safety of our healthcare workers.
II. Addressing the Universal Need to Treat and Prevent Substance Abuse

The Federative Republic of Brazil supports the work and research being done to help the lives of abusers. Although our statistics for two of the most common substances, alcohol and tobacco, are not very high, Brazil agrees that the wellbeing of users should not be overlooked and must be addressed. With these concerns, Brazil has already implemented a program for drug prevention in the workplace. Although there might be some steps taken in this process, we still need to find a bigger solution to the overall problem.

As mentioned above Brazil has in place a program named “Drug Abuse Prevention in the Workplace,” which aims towards education amongst healthy workers and treatment amongst workers who are already suffering substance abuse. We are currently working towards making this program in the workplace and community. While it is developed by United Nations Drug Control Program (UNDCP) in partnership with the Social Service of the Industry of Rio Grande do Sul (SESI-RS) , this program is based on a model developed by the International Labor Organisation (ILO) and the World Health Organisation (WHO), meaning it can be implemented in other countries interested.

The Federative Republic of Brazil has believes that the topic at hand is an important issue to address. The ideal solution would to eliminate all substances that abusers would use, but Brazil recognizes that action is impossible. An area that always needs improvement is education of the healthy or at risk. With our program that is already in place, workers and their families will get education if they are considered healthy or have some problems with drugs and alcohol. Each group has specific needs and with the already at risk workers, they still get to be reintegrated back into the workforce after treatment and checked upon to see whether they fall back into abusing. One last solution is to find the root of the drug problem and to stop abuse at its roots.
Delegation from: Kingdom of Cambodia  
Represented by: Westlake High School

Position Paper for United Nations World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent Substance Abuse. The Kingdom of Cambodia is devoted to finding a holistic solution to the topics at hand that will prioritize the safety of the citizens of the world. The Kingdom is eager to collaborate with other countries and looks forward to progressive debate with strong resolutions and expresses its hope for cooperation as we discuss matters of basic human rights.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The international ignorance of basic human rights and ethics concerning health facilities in conflict zones is highly concerning, and the Kingdom of Cambodia recognizes that sudden action must be taken in order to enforce current neutrality laws while instituting new practices that emphasize accountability and contingency.

The Kingdom of Cambodia is working towards a disease-free future and has significantly improved public health and access to health care for our citizens in recent years. As a part of our Third Health Strategy Plan implemented by the Ministry of Health, Cambodia has taken great strides towards universal health coverage specifically through voucher programs and Health Equity Funds, while also increasing the number of medical facilities in all districts. Cambodia is working with the UN through the Development Assistance Framework in order to facilitate public discussion and information sharing concerning progress in healthcare. Our dynamic health sector made up of 30 partners and over 160 non-governmental organizations is working towards an efficient healthcare system, with our national budget almost doubling over the last five years. Despite our progress in the past years with plans such as the National Malaria Elimination Plan, our country still has a long way to go before we rectify some of our prominent health problems such as malaria and HIV/AIDS. Concerning health care in conflict zones, it is imperative that we address this issue as a united front with the goal of protecting all citizens. As a country with a rapidly developing health care platform, we cannot afford to lose any valuable resources and facilities to crossfire or actions of malicious intent. With many expensive facilities, healthcare policies, and new disease prevention plans, our country would like to see a guarantee that our assets are safe. The Kingdom of Cambodia believes that no nation should have to worry about the safety of their doctors and caretakers, to ensure the best possible care for those in need.

The Kingdom would like to stress the importance of accountability on these issues, since the main problem is the implementation of UN resolutions, not lack thereof. The UN approved Resolution 2286 in 2016, which condemns all attacks against the sick and their healthcare providers, but this resolution lacks enforcement and support in many countries. This mandate should be expanded upon, with new emphasis concerning accountability and individual progress in each nation, public education and engagement, contingency plans, fortification of facilities, and zero-tolerance policies towards acts of violence against medical facilities and workers. The Kingdom of Cambodia hopes that this committee can find common ground between each nation...
involved in order to enforce immediate action and implementation of the recommended practices while preserving national sovereignty.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent Substance Abuse

The Kingdom of Cambodia recognizes the immense issue that has become of the spread of substance abuse. Illicit trade of narcotics and other hazardous substances has been a lasting problem in the country. The Kingdom of Cambodia believes that the best course of action would be to battle this issue from its source and stop the substances from spreading to the public.

Cambodia’s avid black market has taken the country’s wealth of illicit substances and spread it throughout the rest of the world, facilitating the harmful spread of substance abuse throughout the world. Not only is Cambodia a major supplier of cannabis throughout East and Southeast Asia, but Cambodia belongs to the infamous drug-ridden Golden Triangle, a region in Asia in which opioids are easily produced. Cambodia aligns its approach to this issue with the UNODC Regional Programme Framework for East Asia and the Pacific. This paper cites means to combat the growing issue such as border control, drug demand reduction, and anti-smuggling actions. Furthermore, the Kingdom of Cambodia finds it best to also fight the substance abuse where it has already started. Encouraging rehabilitation and the construction of state run drug treatment and rehabilitation centers is highly recommended. Cambodia currently has fourteen state run facilities for this purpose. Lastly, considering the rising issue of increasing HIV caused by substance abuse, the Kingdom of Cambodia believes it is integral to take steps to combat that issue. Development on community-based treatment services to remedy this growing issue has been occurring in Cambodia with slow progress.

For these reasons, the Kingdom of Cambodia believes that it is vital to achieve a solution that cuts off the illicit dealings of these harmful substances so as to prevent the supplementary substance abuse that follows. Additionally, Cambodia hopes that this committee can find a solution that not only cuts off these substances from their sources but also enables the rehabilitation of those already affected by this travesty. The Kingdom of Cambodia is eager to find a solution to this pressing issue as relating to the health of its citizens and other peoples around the world.
Delegation from: Canada  
Represented by: Hoban High School

Position Paper for World Health Organization (WHO)

The issues facing the World Health organization are; Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones, and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The delegation of Canada recognizes the inherent importance of both these issues, and hopes to be of assistance in creating a useful dialogue for advancing both of these issues within the world through both legislative and private solutions.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The delegation of Canada recognizes the unique risks posed to healthcare workers as a new wave of guerrilla tactics takes hold in modern day conflict zones, and likewise knows the imperative nature of furthering their protection. Within 2015 alone, the U.N reported over 59 attacks on 34 hospitals, a marked increase over past conflicts. As a direct result of the disintegration of typical borders within conflicts, Hospitals are often now located within direct reach of militants. This, along with the increasing role of media in these fractured wars, means that hospitals often are centers of vital importance for the military. Therefore, Hospitals are often attacked much more frequently in the present state of conflict.

Although Canada plays no direct role in many of the international conflicts that are frequently the target of such attacks, Canada recognizes the need to utilize our position as a bastion of freedom and democracy in the west to promote multilateral agreements furthering the protection of such workers.

Canada has also continued involvement with nongovernmental organization (NGO) “Médecins Sans Frontières,” (MSF) a Canadian group which supports the rights of healthcare workers. This group works actively to negotiate their presence in conflict zones with all relevant military and government parties.

Canada, though a non-voting member of the Security Council, has supported U.N resolutions 2286 and 2175, both of which call member nations “to strengthen protection for health care workers, the sick and wounded, hospitals and clinics, in war zones.”

And while this important issue has clearly been brought to light in past U.N meetings, these resolutions have not been as effective as would have been hoped by its supporters, and increased international protection for healthcare workers within conflict zones is an issue that would benefit greatly from further debate within not only the WHO, but also by further Security Council involvement.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The government of Canada believes that addressing the problem of substance abuse, specifically the ongoing opioid epidemic, is an issue of vital importance for the greater good of the world and
preserving the integrity of life in the world. Canada currently proposes a four pronged approach to preventing addiction, and promotes Prevention first and foremost, followed by Treatment, Harm reduction, and Enforcement in order to assist those who suffer from drug addiction.

Canada has also held a nationwide summit on the problem. In November 2016, the Canadian Minister of Health organized both a private and governmental summit to discuss possible solutions to the developing problem.

As a result of this summit, Canada released an official “Joint Statement of Action to Address the Opioid Crisis,” a statement which outlines the steps taken by over thirty individual organizations and government agencies to swiftly and effectively take action to solve the pressing issues presented by Opioid addiction. This statement was created as a direct result of Canada's Opioid Conference and Summit, and continues to shape present day Canadian drug policy.

The position of Canada as a leader in worldwide healthcare policy has elevated our role in stopping the Opioid crisis, and has allowed for the promotion of new, radically different methods of harm reduction, such as the promotion of clean needle facilities as well as increasing access to the overdose-reversing drug Naloxone by repealing its prescription only status.

As a result of the drastically new view of addiction brought forth by Canadian funded research, new types of responses to addiction should also be promoted in the international community. Instead of perpetrating negative stereotypes of addicts as lesser individuals, countries should work to establish new, more accurate classifications of addiction as a disease of the mind instead of blaming individuals. Alongside this stigma reduction, Canada also advocates for a reduction in the legal penalties for possession of drugs, and decreasing the barriers of entry for previously convicted people, in order to speed up their re-entry into the workforce.

Canada believes that through an increased focus on harm reduction and a renewed effort on international education, the WHO can play a large role in bringing about the end of the Opioid crisis that has plagued the international community.
Committee: World Health Organization (WHO)
Delegation From: The Republic of Chile
Delegates: John Foertch and Luke Keenan
School: St. Edward High School

Position Paper for World Health Organization (WHO)
The topics presented to the World Health Organization are The Safety of Healthcare Workers in conflict zones and addressing the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. The Republic of Chile has had a strong stance on both of these issues and continues to hold those stances. The Republic of Chile looks forward to the creation of many new resolutions and solutions.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The issue of The Safety of Healthcare workers in conflict zones has been an ongoing problem in many regions of the world. While Chile does not currently have this issue in our country, it is essential that Healthcare workers are protected and feel safe, so that they can administer quality treatment to those who are in need of it. After multiple years of improvement in the number of Healthcare worker fatalities, 2018 has seen an increase through the first 3 quarters of the year. The Republic of Chile condemns those who perpetuate these illegal attacks and further encourages the security council to take stronger action to protect the healthcare workers in conflict zones.

The Republic of Chile believes that a more aggressive tactic needs to be taken towards the protecting of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones. Resolution 2286 that was passed in the security council did virtually nothing, all it did was remind the war criminals that they were committing a crime. The Republic of Chile believes that there needs to be a more comprehensive resolution that also punishes those committing the crimes, both nations and groups, more severe and provide further aid to hospitals that are in need of such aid.

The Republic of Chile recognizes the past efforts of the Security council to be limited and believes that further action needs to be taken. Chile believes that there should be more armed soldiers protecting Health Care facilities, Healthcare workers and patients. Chile also believes that the security council should enact further punishment on both countries that don’t protect the healthcare workers inside their borders and countries who attack the healthcare workers. The Republic of Chile further encourages that healthcare workers be trained on how to properly use weapons, so that if they do possibly get attacked they can defend themselves. Chile also believes that further fortification of hospitals to be stronger in conflict zones where bombings are common.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat substance Abuse

The Republic of Chile recognizes the problem of substance abuse and is willing to prevent and treat the ongoing problem. Substance abuse has always been an ongoing threat and needs to be contained. For those individuals who are struggling with it, they must seek treatment. Chile is a significant consumer of cocaine in this issue, as the domestic cocaine consumption is on the rise.
in Chile. In 2006, 170,000 chileans were dealing with cocaine abuse. Chile is willing to help in any way to rid the world of this threat.

Chile believes a direct approach of teaching citizens on how to lead a drug-free life. Such as helping them regain their self-worth and to help those dealing with drug addiction, be treated promptly. These qualities of a person are usually taken away when drugs are in the mix. Helping individuals recover these will be a very beneficial solution and help stop the ongoing threat.

The Republic of Chile has proposed the F course. This course is a path to helping individuals get their self worth back. This will be helpful in giving them their confidence to reject drugs. This can be acquired by therapy and rehabilitation. It is very transparent that it is hard to fully stop this threat because accessing drugs is very easy in poor countries. Course F will give a clear path on how to combat this threat and hopefully stop the threat.
Delegation from: People’s Republic of China
Represented by: Beachwood High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues for deliberation before the World Health Organization includes discussing the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones and addressing the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. The People's Republic of China is dedicated to resolve both of the issues posed before us and would be willing to work with other nations to come to an agreement on the pressing issues.

I: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

War has affected are nations from near to far, but the outstanding individuals and healthcare workers who go into this war zones to help civilians remain unsafe and unprotected. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there have been hundreds of attacks on healthcare facilities, providers, transportation, and patients with over 1,000 people have died due to unsafe working conditions in conflict zones in the last 4 years alone, due to bombs, shootings, sexual assault, and abductions. With over thousands of Chinese healthcare workers going into conflict zones each year, unsafe working conditions for healthcare workers is not only a threat to our citizen's lives and nations safety but to global security as a whole due to the impending threat terrorist hold over conflict areas. The People's Republic of China strongly believes that improving the safety of healthcare workers is a crucial step to make in order to protect our nation's, our healthcare, and global security and that maintaining a high level of security within the conflict zones through increased communication and cooperation between countries is of the utmost importance.

The People's Republic of China realizes that the international rate of incidents related to healthcare workers be greatly reduced with more cooperation from around the globe. With this being said, The People's Republic of China is has given over 285 million USD to multilateral organizations dealing with healthcare. China also hosted a 2015 the fifth roundtable between Africa and China to increase collaboration between the two continents regarding healthcare. The People’s Republic of China is the world as the second largest investment in military means it is an immense concern of China that the money is used to protect healthcare workers. China acknowledges effort is put forth by the United Nations to enhance channels for diplomatic cooperation relating to the coordination and creation of healthcare workers protection policy, dramatic improvement can be made to protect our nation's, secure healthcare, and ensure global security by protecting the healthcare workers.

The People’s Republic of China would like to reaffirm our willingness to collaborate with other nations in order to create comprehensive regulations to ensure the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones. This committee must come together to create a plan to confront protection in conflict zones. In order for this to happen, all nations must realize that ensuring the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones is the next step to take to protect all the world's nations. The People's Republic of China will support a resolution that will protect not only Chinese citizen
traveling abroad to help the injured civilians of the world, but also international doctors coming near our country by outlining a plan and frameworks for the further protection of healthcare workers in war zones.

II: Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

It is the firm belief of The People's Republic of China that substance abuse is a notable threat to the safety of citizens worldwide, and ongoing international action must be taken immediately to address this impending issue. According to the 2017 IDPC report, because of “new drugs” being introduced to China, and the world, there has been an extreme increase of substance abuse since the early 1900s. Research from the IDPC, GBD, and other drug prevention organizations, shows the exponential increase of drug and substance abuse heading into the mid-21st century. We are immensely concerned about rising statistics of substance abuse that will leave our citizens vulnerable to an unhealthy and unstable lifestyle. The People's Republic of China is proud to be leading Asia to take initiative to cut down on drug, tobacco, and alcohol addiction and promote addiction-free life and will not only continue to take action to stop substance abuse but also urges other countries to do so as well to protect the safety of their citizens.

The People's Republic of China has implemented multiple initiatives which plan to reduce long-term substance abuse and crack down on illegal drug activity. China’s current goals include decreasing access to drug and other addiction agents by the year 2030 and reduce fifty percent of addiction among the working class by 2050. Other goals include increasing pressure against underground drug trade by 2024. The People's Republic of China is seeking to be a global leader in the transition to minimize substance abuse among the population and to teach the impending effects of substance abuse on citizens to other nations. Recently, according to The Diplomat, China Supreme court argued that “drug lords, professional drug dealers or re-offenders” should be given the capital offense on drug crimes. China proudly introduced new laws to force stricter watch illegal drug trade and added rehabilitation facilities across China to help the recovery of addicts. President Xi Jinping also pleads to increase military support to the police to crack down on drug deals and to promote solutions to drug, alcohol, and tobacco addiction.

The People's Republic of China would like to restate our eagerness to devote resources to the future action that will be taken to solve these issues. And being that main purpose of this conference is to bring together government officials and policymakers, leading scholars, and substance abuse treatment providers of diverse backgrounds from Asian countries to discuss opportunities, strategies, and challenges in substance abuse research, prevention and treatment, it is crucial that This committee must quickly take action to generate a plan to confront the problem of substance abuse. In order for this to happen, this committee must act together, as one body and realize the threat addiction poses not just to our respective nations but the whole world. The People's Republic of China will support a resolution that will face the effects of substance abuse by intervening on illegal drug activities and the outlines a promising solution to minimize the amount of drug and alcohol consumption.
Delegation From: Republic of Cuba
Represented by: Western Reserve Academy

Position Paper for The World Health Organization (WHO)

In the 70th year of the World Health Organization the delegation of Cuba could not be more excited to contribute to the resolution of what we believe to be two major problems. The safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones and the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse need to be solved now.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

In the first half of the year of 2018 there were roughly 149 attacks on healthcare workers. The large majority of the 261 healthcare workers deaths are found in the Syrian Arab Republic. Not only is the death toll of healthcare workers detrimental, but the main method of attack, bombing, is far worse. Bombings destroy facilities and medicine that could be used to save the lives of innocent people. The delegation of Cuba believes healthcare to be a fundamental human right under our constitution. Cuba finds that not only are the bombings of healthcare workers and their facilities completely unnecessary but also that they are a total violation of human rights. Resolution 2286 condemns all attacks against sick or wounded civilians, healthcare workers, health facilities and means of transportation and health equipment. The resolution determined that these actions violate international law, international human rights law and international humanitarian law. However, this resolution has been less than successful with certain terrorists organizations and even some governments giving complete disregard towards human rights.

Although Cuba is not involved in any wars, our government has sent over 30,000 health workers to 103 countries globally. We have also hosted plenty of victims of disasters in our country including 18,000 people affected by Chernobyl. Cuba also has several programs for training of doctors in nurses from other nations. We are proud to say that we have never lost a doctor but unfortunately we are unable to send our doctors to the most dangerous territories for fear of their safety. Even though Resolution 2286 states that attacking medical personnel is a war crime, it takes no action against those who do, and today we change that.

The Republic of Cuba declares that the safety of healthcare workers is of the utmost importance. We hope to see new funding provided by the United Nations and put towards the safety of healthcare workers internationally. The delegation is also looking to pass a stronger resolution that punishes those who attack medical personnel and violate other mandates in Resolution 2286.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

With the staggeringly high number of deaths by drug overdose, alcohol abuse related deaths, and other drug-related deaths Cuba finds it very important to prevent and to treat those inflicted with substance abuse problems. Despite many organizations formed by the United Nations to fight against drug abuse and trafficking the amount of abusers is still growing year by year.
In the past, Cuba has been accused of many drug-related crimes including but not limited to allowing a ton of cocaine per year to pass through and into the eastern coast of the United States, hosting drug lords meetings, and being a safe haven for drug lords. However, there is no country more inhospitable to drug than Cuba. The Republic of Cuba simply has no drug problem for our officials intercept everything before it can reach the people. This is evident in our seizure of over half a ton of cocaine and four tons of marijuana. Even with our extremely low amount of drug abuse we still have top-notch recovery facilities open to both Cubans and substance abusers from all nations.

The Republic of Cuba urges all nations to strengthen their drug control and also to better help those already struggling with problems of addiction. Our delegation would also ask all nations to stay away from Cuba in your new drug control endeavours for our nation is not the problem. Cuba would also further extend our invitation to come to our substance abuse rehabilitation centers.
Democratic Republic Of The Congo
Jefferson Area High School
World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The Democratic Republic of the Congo is working to improve the health care facilities and expresses hope for further advancement. We encourage an abstinence from substance abuse, but will take no legal actions to stop it.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The issue of safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones must be discussed many people have died or been injured from this action. There have been 149 attacks on healthcare workers from the beginning of the year to March 31st. This has caused 221 deaths and 261 injuries. Most of these have been around the Syrian Arab Republic. Since 2014, 678 attacks were placed on healthcare workers in Syria alone. The number of attacks will most likely rise if no action is taken.

This does not only harm the healthcare worker. When a worker is killed, they can not give healthcare to people, so the people they are trying to help will not get the help they desperately need. For example, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) did a study. Their study showed that when six ICRC workers died in a 1996 attack in Russia, thousands of people were left without medical care. Also, people do not want to be healthcare workers in conflict zones. An example is, Doctors Without Borders worked in Somalia for 22 years, but as of 2013 the refuse to go there because of the acts of violence. If they help their it put themselves in danger, and they can no longer help other people. On the other hand, if they do not go, thousands of people are put in danger. These attacks must be put to an end as soon as possible because they put thousands of people in danger.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo has been dealing with the situation. They have been in a war with Rwanda and Uganda since 1998. In February 2018, two health workers were killed and one was kidnapped by Rwanda and Uganda during the war. These health workers works for Hydraulique Sans Frontières. This is a non-governmental French organization. This organization conducts water projects in developing countries. The act of killing and kidnapping those people is a violation of international humanitarian law and standards of emergency aid. Now that they are gone, there is less people that are able to help with supplying people with clean water. This could put some other people in danger.

Action was taken in May 2016. The United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 2286. This was the first ever resolution that discusses the safety of healthcare workers in areas of conflict. It condemns the attacks and demands cooperation with international humanitarian law. Resolution 2286 also urges member states and the UN Secretary-General to work towards preventing attacks and holding the offender accountable for what they have done. The United Nations would publish a report annually that include what each country has or has not done to protect the safety of healthcare workers in Conflict zones. It pushes governments to update
military rules to incorporate health facilities. Some hospitals built their facilities underground for protection. The International Committee of the Red Cross has recommended building high boundary walls surrounding healthcare facilities to ensure some protection. The UN can not control national laws. They also cannot force countries to punish criminals. Counties need to take action upon themselves to work towards safe health care in conflict zones.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The Democratic Republic of Congo, like the rest of the world, has a growing issue with substance abuse, especially alcohol and drugs. The statistics show that there is around 3.3 million deaths per year due to this epidemic. In Congo, like most countries, the abuse starts young for kids. A study done by Blue Cross Congo shows that staggering 54% of people 15 years old consume alcohol on a day to day basis in Congo.

Many people in Congo say “You can bomb a hospital, but not Bralima.” Bralima being the brewing company that is responsible for most of the alcohol in Congo. It has a long history with Congo, including being involved with the civil war. It has special contracts with 68 of the bars located in Congo.

As the Democratic Republic of Congo, we are aware of this issue. However, we see no issue in this, as everyone has access to getting a Primus which allows them to buy alcohol. We see and recognize that people are making actions to stop this, to which we do not mind. Actions are not violent, and therefore do not pose a threat to our country. Due to other issues, though, we are unable to take legal actions at the moment. During our Civil War, we had found agreement documents with our leading alcohol provider, Bralima, making this company part of our Civil War, and perhaps our own country due to its high popularity amongst the people. Therefore, taking this away to our people would cause too much of a problem for us to handle.

For solutions, we recommend bringing more awareness to citizens. Give examples, statistics, theories. Make them consumed with the fact that people who abuse these substances are not making the right choices in their life. We have started programs such as the Life Skills and Peer Education program. This program aims to teach kids about the risks of drugs, alcohol, and HIV/AIDS. It promotes behavioral change in the youth and frowns upon the aforementioned issues. They reach out to high school students ages 14-18. There is also a program available run by Kavis Kasereka. This program focuses on having a healthy mind and body to create an overall healthy life. This five day program reaches out to people who may not have a healthy lifestyle.

On the first day, they are asked to question the use of drugs and reflect on the outcome. On the second day, they pass out soap for the people to clean their clothes and throw away all the drugs they may have. On the third day, they discuss ways to resist urges of tobacco and drugs and to drink more water and eat more fruits. The fourth day has testimonies from real life people who have overcome drugs and how that decision has changed their life. On the last day, they focus on thinking about ways that quitting drugs can affect their lives for the better. As a country we believe that this is the best way to approach this issue, and encourage other countries to do the same for their people.
Delegation from: the Republic of Ecuador  
Represented by: Avon Lake High School  

Position Paper for the World Health Organization  

The issues before the World Health Organization are: The Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. Ecuador calls for an overall increase of funding into both the conflict zone and substance abuse issues. With increased funding comes greater global stability and safety for all, thus it is critical that such funds are urgently dispersed as soon as possible so that the world can become a better place.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

As the world rages with wars and conflicts, thousands of innocent civilians are caught in the crossfire and experience the undeserved consequences. Healthcare workers then rush the scene and provide the much-needed assistance to heal and save lives. The issue then escalates when these lifesaving workers come under assault. Then not only are the workers limited, but more importantly the patients will then fail to receive their much-needed treatment as needed. Since Ecuador has a heavy cocaine presence within its borders, violence is running rampant. Statistically, the presence of large quantities of drugs lead to a heavy increase in crime and conflict. Healthcare workers then generously come to the conflict zone to provide their help. These workers are then caught up in the battle with the cartels and the drug gangs, causing injuries and even deaths for these innocent people. This occurs all throughout the world and is a universal problem the world is facing, requiring an urgent solution as both innocent workers and patients lose their lives. Since 2015, there have 1179 attacks on healthcare workers and 1392 deaths. These numbers are concerning for all healthcare workers and highlight how intense this problem is. The Republic of Ecuador would like to see an increase in funding so that, through collaboration, nations can globally better develop the strategies for preventing attacks and implementing the enforcement of rules and laws. If universal laws can be applied better, feuding sides of battles should be less likely to harm the innocent health workers. As with the violence Ecuador has experienced, Ecuador knows the horrors of this violence and is therefore urgently calling for increased funding so that, with better legislation, strategies, and enforcement, the world will become a safer place where innocent people are not harmed.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The issue of substance abuse has been an ongoing issue in the world that has gotten progressively worse. Substance abuse not only has negative effects on the person directly using illegal substances, but also the families and communities around them. In addition to an increase in crime, substance abuse can lead to sexually transmitted diseases, depression in substance abusers, and a negative impact in learning to name a few. Ecuador faces many substance abuse issues (especially cocaine) largely due to the fact that it shares a border with Columbia, one of the world’s largest cocaine producing countries. The streets of Ecuador are flooded with drugs, making it almost impossible to not get hooked, thus there is a desperate need for treatment.
Ecuador also has a shortage of drug treatment facilities, largely in part to the country’s widespread poverty. There is an urgent universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. Currently around 164 million people in the world have a substance abuse problem. Families are being destroyed and dreams are being crushed as more and more people get caught up with drugs. Globally around 318,000 deaths occur each year as a direct result of a substance use- and this number is increasing. Ecuador has had to deal with substance abuse for decades, so it is aware of the urgency and intensity of the drug epidemic. It is clear, a change must be made and globally, efforts must be made to reduce the substance abuse issue. In order to prevent the substance abuse problem, Ecuador would like to see an increase in the funding of school-based prevention programs. If substances can be kept away from minors and they can be better educated on the horrors of drugs, they will be less likely to engage in such acts. In order to help treat the substance abuse problem, Ecuador would like to make a clear push to increase the funding and the abundance of drug treatment facilities. Not only will this increase the overall health of the world, but also it will also stabilize family situations by returning families back to a steady state. Ecuador knows the importance of these facilities since their effectiveness can be seen in numbers. Ecuador, like much of the world, fails to have enough funds for these lifesaving facilities. More funding should thus go into improving the overall availability of the drug treatment facilities. In all, the Republic of Ecuador has seen the frontlines of the substance abuse problem and is calling for an overall increase of funding into both the prevention and treatment so that the world can be a healthier and safer place.
Delegation from: Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
Represented by: Solon High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization (WHO)

The issues brought before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has evaluated their vulnerability to these health concerns, current inflated poverty, and non-combatant nature with dire hopes in gaining inducement for drastic change and thus, collaborating to create resolutions to work towards solutions with member countries in the World Health Organization.

- Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

Basic human rights are at stake, even violated, when one of the most important components to a nation, their civilians and doctors health, is a target of attack. This occurs primarily in conflict zones, for example Syria, where 446 health facilities have been rendered non-functional. This form of warfare has been increasing astronomically over the years. In 2015, 112 hospitals were bombed in Syria, whereas the two in 2011. Even the simple threat of an attack on a hospital makes it so that doctors fear their safety and citizens are less likely to seek help since access to medical and humanitarian aid in conflict zones has drastically decreased, attributing to instability. This not only affects those who need help immediately, but also those in the future and the generations to come. In 2017 alone, there were at least 701 attacks on hospitals, health workers, patients, and ambulances in 23 countries. The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia desires that more hospitals are in use in conflict zones with strong safeguarding implemented by the military. This requires that governments, even if they’re corrupted, make laws and updates to their policies so that health is always a priority, since it is unethical to not protect the most vulnerable.

The most recent war-like conflicts in which Ethiopia has been involved in, such as the War in Somalia, and Operation Linda Nchi, were both short and did not involve many innocent civilians. Therefore, Ethiopia in the last decade has not been very concerned with threats towards their healthcare workers. Still, healthcare facilities in Ethiopia are in dire needs of expansion and advancements due to communicable diseases like HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, respiratory infection, and diarrhea remaining a serious challenge. Consequently, Ethiopia sympathizes with other rural, impoverished countries which are vulnerable health-wise due to their conflicts. Even though Ethiopia has been quiet on resolutions such as Resolution 2286, the member state is fully prepared and happily willing to contribute to the collaboration and brainstorm of ideas needed to acquire a solution to the current issue.

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, despite their lack of strong technological advancement, believes that there’s many ways to combat the current issue at hand. Many solutions such as expanding and protecting hospitals and having them be more available in rural areas will benefit Ethiopia as well as combat zones. Currently, the UN is aiding Ethiopia with strengthening health services at regional and district levels through coordinating and training of
rapid outbreak response teams. This is a possible solution for conflict zones such as Syria and Afghanistan. Also, the Security Council can take action by implementing a database which collects information regarding the types of attacks, targets, perpetrators, and research on the total impact on health in an area caused by attacks. This would make it possible so that transparent member countries could aid in combating the threat. In addition, some of this information will be given by the public. Thus, international report hotlines must be made as an easily accessible way to report attacks. To conclude, a possible way to acquire the money needed for these tactics is by seeking help from non-conflict ridden countries to aid by giving them long term economic incentives and trade opportunities.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Not only is substance abuse ruining people’s lives physically and mentally, but also economically. This puts more impoverished nations, such as Ethiopia at a higher risk of facing the consequences without much aid. Substance abuse is 100% preventable, but historically, in most cases, it has only gotten worse. For example, in 2011 there were 219 million opioid prescriptions dispensed by the U.S. pharmacies, an alarming three times more than the 76 million in 1991. Even though policies have been made over the illegal drug trafficking with The United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961), trafficking of illegal drugs has only decreased and the domination of the markets from within is still a dire problems. Furthermore, alcohol has claimed 2.8 million lives each year and is the seventh-leading risk factor for premature death and disability globally in 2016. Substance abuse with alcohol is not only the leading cause of road injuries, but also contributes to the development of cancer and tuberculosis. Due to Ethiopia’s primarily impoverished state, the country is extremely susceptible to substance abuse due to minimal forms of aid and the lack of information regarding dangers, treatment, and prevention.

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia was represented in the General Assembly when the resolution A/RES/63/197, which was passed in 2008 as a step towards combating the worldwide drug problem, was adopted without a vote. A study conducted among youth in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia regarding the severity of substance, additionally proved that stereotypes revolving around the “coolness” of drugs has heavily influenced them. Furthermore, Ethiopia has a drastic issue with finding ways to advocate against substance abuse and educate local and rural communities on the dangers. This has led to an extremely prevalent HIV/AIDS epidemic in Ethiopia. Even though HIV/AIDS are contracted mostly by heterosexual contact in Ethiopia and not substance abuse, solutions geared towards aiding those who have contracted HIV/AIDS is in their greatest interest so that the rising concern of substance abuse can be addressed before it hits. Also, studies such as one done in Axum University, in a multi-stage sampling technique with 764 selected students, show that the young generation of Ethiopia has a lifetime prevalence of khat chewing 28.7%, alcohol drinking 34.5%, and cigarette smoking 9.5%. Substance abuse among Ethiopian adolescents is rising, and will continue to do so as time goes on and they age, exacerbating and contributing to the HIV/AIDS epidemic if not dealt with.

Solutions towards this issue have to take into consideration the socio-economic level of each country. Thus, it’s extremely hard to internationally come to an agreement. Ethiopia proposes that based on GDP per capita, a certain percentage of taxes should go towards
rehabilitation for treating people who suffer with substance abuse. This way, each country would pay a fair amount in relation to their wealth. As the immediate people in need of help begin to receive aid, money can begin to be allocated towards advancing rehab techniques and treatment towards those with AIDS and HIV. This is essential because many developing countries, such as Ethiopia, have STD epidemics due to not having accessibility to treatment and information on the dangers of these deadly autoimmune diseases which are widely due to preventable causes, such as substance abuse. This treatment and education would be followed with providing birth control and other forms of contraception. In addition, since media is not globally available, Ethiopia proposes the creation of an international organization that sends speakers to countries or specific regional areas that are highly affected by substance abuse so that education is administered. These speakers will be people who are well versed in the consequences of substance abuse: organizers of substance abuse awareness campaigns, licensed clinical counselors, recovering and recovered addicts, and certified first responders. In totality, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia strongly desires that both developed and developing countries will prosper and benefit from the collaboration done and solutions formed in committee.
Delegation from: The Republic of Finland

Represented by: Bay High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before The World Health Organization today are: Discussing the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones and addressing the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. Finland is committed to resolving the current issues all over the world and ensuring every country is content with the outcomes that can be attained.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

As armed conflicts continue to evolve, the safety of healthcare workers is a problem that is prominent in many different nations and regions worldwide. The World Health Organization has set precedents for Healthcare workers, materials, and facilities in regards to the safety of both workers and patients. Conflicts leaking into the hospitals and facilities is very dangerous, as not only is the patient already injured, but if the doctor is injured it affects and deprives patients of the medical services they desperately need. There have been 293 documented attacks on U.N healthcare workers in 2018 alone, resulting in 298 deaths and 364 injuries, an alarming statistic. These ruthless attacks have been happening more frequently and Finland agrees some act of measure must be taken.

Finland’s efforts in furthering the safety of health workers is one of our utmost priorities in the fact that we are one of the leading European nations in terms of health services. We are supporters of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) which was created in part to stop attacks and murders like these from happening as well as to protect civilians and to regulate combat. Some militant groups and armies do not abide to the IHL, which makes working as a healthcare worker very dangerous in some regions. Conflict has taken its toll on healthcare workers, with the job exponentially increasing in danger with every quarter. Attacks limit supplies coming into facilities, as well as the rate people can get vaccines to stop spreading Infections and disease that was almost eradicated or could be very easily, like Polio and Cholera respectively. The Finnish people readily accept U.N healthcare jobs in most areas of expertise, and have taken measures to make sure that these workers as well as the overall population are safe both at home and abroad; they support the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones and are actively trying to decrease attacks by supporting the services used to take care of these workers and patients.

Finland suggests many solutions to be made of this crisis, as one solution may become obsolete within years of implementing it. One idea is a new system of coordination, as local police forces, peacekeeping forces, or other armed guards should be implemented into protecting the facilities. Humanitarian action also involves early recovery, which refers to development-oriented measures initiated during the humanitarian phase to allow the transition from attack to recovery, fast. In addition to humanitarian assistance, the initial stages of a crisis often involve emergency rescue operations, which in Finland are coordinated and funded by the Ministry of the Interior and will be executed by specialized workers. we support the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid and the implementation of the UN resolution 46/182, which confirms the
UN’s leading role in coordinating humanitarian assistance among other peacekeeping roles. We would like to call on the rest of the nations to train and help Finland protect doctors, nurses, and healthcare workers along with patients from armed crisis in general.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Abuse of highly addictive substances is a worldwide epidemic that results in the deaths of more than 8 million people each year, mostly from alcohol and smoking but also from illegal drugs such as amphetamines and opioids. In many cases, substance abusers are seen as the problem, not the substances themselves and are not treated properly, resulting in no progress, further abuse, and ultimately death caused by the substance in one form or another. Though the U.N has held many conventions on illicit substances and abuse of substance, these mainly focus on trafficking and punishment, not help and treatment. Finland would like to work with other nations to not just punish substance abusers, but to treat and help those who have become addicted.

The Republic of Finland, use of all major illicit substances has increased over the last decade among the adult population. Cannabis, mainly in herbal form, remains the most common illicit drug used (13.5%), and its use is mainly concentrated among young people aged 15-34 years. All forms of Cannabis were made illegal by law in 1972, and laws have reformed so punishments for carrying small amounts are now just day fines, but larger amounts and traffickers must go to court for hearings. Finland has a not relaxed but also not very strict substance policy, as compared to other nations such as Sweden and the very similar Norway. In terms of prevention, an approach to drug prevention and early intervention is particularly important among young people. Schools and educational institutions will prevent drug use through multidisciplinary schools and student welfare teams in collaboration with parents, substance abuse workers, social workers, youth services, the police, and other anti-drug workers. This could be seen as a global solution to get youth help from substance abuse and therefore prevent a large group of young adults from doing drugs and alcohol.

To limit what could and still might be a catastrophic problem in Finland as well as the world, Finland would like to support other nations to stop drug abuse and trafficking leaking from a production country such as Columbia, Ecuador, and Afghanistan to take much more of a harsh approach on drugs to kill the problem at its roots. In conclusion, The Republic of Finland strives to end all substance abuse worldwide through numerous programs in the youth and eradicating production of drugs in certain countries so they are to not affect our populous as well as the world’s growing population.
Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization (WHO) are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The French Republic is strongly committed to facing these issues which are a detriment to human health worldwide and seeks international cooperation for the purpose of creating valid solutions to address these significant issues.

I: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

Throughout history as conflicts have occurred, many people have been stripped of their access to vital resources and services. One necessity that is often in high demand during periods of war is access to medical supplies and treatment. In order to aid those who lack medical care due to the outbreak of a conflict, health organizations have sent many healthcare workers to operate in the middle of the fighting. International treaties such as the Geneva Conventions have consistently stated that such workers must be protected and allowed to perform their services free from interference. Recently though, the number of attacks on these healthcare workers and their facilities has expanded greatly. From July 2018 to September 30, 2018, the WHO recorded sixty nine attacks in seventeen countries which ultimately led to the deaths of thirty seven healthcare workers. Furthermore, while attacks on healthcare facilities can result from a lack of caution by a military party, they can also be intentional attacks, designed to gain control of the building or to weaken an enemy party’s capabilities. However, the group most strongly affected by acts of violence against healthcare workers is the civilians living in the zone of conflict. Without the presence of medical staff, civilians face increased rates of morbidity and mortality as medical supplies and procedures become unavailable. One possible long-term effect of a lack of healthcare in a region is the return of exterminated diseases such as in Syria, where the fighting has deprived civilians of medical care and polio outbreaks have occurred despite polio having been previously eradicated in Syria in 1999. This trend of regrowth of deadly diseases can put additional strain on healthcare workers already struggling to perform their services in the middle of complex and dangerous conflicts.

The French Republic has a long history of providing and advancing humanitarian services from active participation in the Geneva Conventions to the establishment of multiple healthcare centric NGOs. France continues to support international efforts to alleviate the chronic lack of healthcare in regions ravaged by conflict. In doing so, French medical staff working in zones of conflict have been subject to attack. In order to protect their own citizens as well as all health workers and to confront this rapidly expanding issue, The French Republic has taken action both internationally and domestically. One such action was, in 2016, France, as part of the UN Security Council, adopted resolution 2286 in which the council, “Strongly condemns acts of violence, attacks and threats against the wounded and sick, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities.” Also, France has made plans
domestically to triple its monetary contributions to humanitarian causes by 2022 as well as to construct a new framework to make humanitarian assistance more effective.

The French Republic is devoted to aiding those who cannot access healthcare due to conflict and looks towards international cooperation as a promising way to address this growing crisis. One solution proposed by France would be to construct an international framework in which participating countries would step up material contributions to health organizations as well as better consolidate humanitarian, healthcare needs into international plans for addressing conflicts. Also, stronger international action in reaction to these attacks as well as working directly with local leaders with the goal of enforcing international law would be greatly beneficial to those in need of healthcare. France believes that a single country is limited in its ability to accomplish a task such as this, but with international cooperation, France believes that together we will be able to combat this serious issue.

II: Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The issue facing the World Health Organization known as Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse is in reference to the spike of alcohol and drug abuse in recent years and the search for possible solutions involving prevention and treatment. Substance abuse has become one of the most controversial topics among all citizens of the world. The average amount of people who deal with substance abuse is estimated to be around two-hundred seventy-five million people worldwide. In recent studies by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, reports claim that seventy-six percent of substance abuse in recent years is due to opioids. Within the past ten to fifteen years, the risk of opioid abuse has gone up extensively. In an attempt to address this epidemic, up to fifty percent of the United Nations member countries have started to supply methadone for pharmacological treatment. Along with opioid addiction, other examples of commonly abused substances that have increased to concerning levels are Cannabis, Cocaine, Heroin and Alcohol. On September 28, 2018, the World Health Organization released the SAFER initiative, five highly effective strategies that can assist governments in the prevention and protection from alcohol abuse on a social and economic level. Actions such as these will help in the universal war against substance abuse.

The French Republic deems the issue of substance abuse as one of great importance and believes that if a solution is not provided soon, then France will be affected in a major way. Unlike former problems faced by the World Health Organization, the issue substance abuse is one that the French Republic believes will have greater impact on developed countries, seeing as developed countries have a greater access to supplies needed to produce and distribute possibly harmful substances. Prevention and treatment of substance abuse is a matter taken very seriously by the French Republic and in 2013 the Inter-ministerial Mission for Combating Drugs and Addictive Behaviours (MILDECA) was established with the hopes of combating substance abuse. Similar to the SAFER initiative developed by WHO, MILDECA is a five-step program meant to help support awareness of substance abuse and addictive behaviors. Steps to the program include promoting prevention, care and risk reduction, stepping up the fight against trafficking, and improving the application of the law. The French Republic believes that using
systems such as SAFER and MILDECA are essential in the prevention of substance abuse, seeing as most violations of French substance laws come from citizens between the ages of 15 and 34 years old. Also, due to the fact that certain substances are proven to have negative effects on newborns and France’s fairly high rate of natural birth is mostly to parents within this age range, the national government finds the future of France’s health concerning.

The French Republic has clearly given its support for policies focusing on prevention and treatment of substance abuse and even offers MILDECA as an outline to allow nations to begin developing their own policies specific to their lifestyle and government structure. Along with each country forming a national policy on substance abuse, it is suggested by the French Republic to form an international awareness and treatment plan. France recognizes that all countries are in their own sorts of danger from the recent rise in substance abuse incidents. Therefore, France proposes an international substance education program, where public influences, political leaders and doctors from participating countries can be educated in the dangers of substance abuse and possible steps that can be taken for treatment. By allowing public influences to be a part of this education system it becomes more likely for citizens to follow along. The chronic issue of substance abuse can only be corrected from within and it must be addressed now so that it doesn’t have any further effect on human health worldwide.
The issues presented to the World Health Organization are: Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The delegation of Germany is dedicated to finding a solution to these problems as well as protecting and improving the rights of all people.

1. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones should be high priority on every country's agenda. There are many organizations that provide healthcare to those in need. Doctors Without Borders is one of the most important NGOs (non-governmental organizations) in the world. Doctors Without Borders (MSF) provide aid to innocent and needy people throughout the world. Groups like these can go into many places that IGOs (international governmental organizations) cannot, these types of groups also cannot have weapons to protect themselves. Germany believes that healthcare to those who need it most is very important and Germany supports providing aid to the needy but also agrees that the safety of the healthcare workers is most important.

The Safety of healthcare workers is very important to Germany because it has many NGOs. For starters, Germany has VENRO which means Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid Organisations. This association has about 120 German NGOs and its main goal is to attain more justice in the world, fight poverty and enforce human right. Germany has many NGOs however it is not actively working in any combat zones.

The delegation of Germany believes that we has the solution to this problem. We believe the best way to bring those needing healthcare as well as those providing healthcare to safety. All refugees needing medical attention should be brought to the doctors willing to provide it. This way, the refugees will seek safety and the doctors will not be put in harm's way. Many of these refugees could become German citizens or they could even return home when it is safe. This would also provide safety and shelter to those who really need it. They would be safe with food and shelter, which would most likely be better than what they were living in previously. This solution would be better for all. The doctors will stay safe and those in need will receive the help they deserve.

2. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Substance abuse is clarified as the use of illicit drugs, alcohol and any other psychoactive substances in a damaging way. This leads people to use the substance every day and this leads them to have a health problems. This problem can be fixed. Substance Abuse is extremely serious global problem that affects every country. Numerous places still see substance abuse as the fault for the of the person who is addicted. Some places think addiction is a crime related problem. Alcohol and drugs have existed for most of human history. Some of the drugs are used
for a healing illness like opiates and hallucinogens. Then trade of drugs became very popular. Drug and alcohol is big in Germany.

In Germany more than a quarter of the adult population have used illicit drugs during their lifetime. 1 in 10 have done so in the last 12 months. About half of these people have used drugs in the last 30 days. The drug Affinity Study (DAS) issued data on the use of licit and elicits in Germany. Data shows that these drugs are mostly used on young ages 12-25. In 2015 the most popular drug in Germany was cannabis. Studies has also showed that more males have a addiction over females. In 2015, amphetamine was for the first timed used by Germans. This research also showed cocaine and MDMA is used by 2.8% of Germans everyday. In 2017 there was record that showed people putting cocaine in the water sold in stores in Germany. Today Germans are injecting heroin.

Teenagers in Germany are making drug deals and injecting heroin mostly on the weekends in the streets. The average person that smokes or injects heroin has started around the age of 15. Some try to get help. While others just want to live this life of dealing and smoking for the rest of their lives. Germany has more of a problem with drugs than with alcohol. Drug addiction is getting bigger problem every year. The data shows that the younger ages of addict is getting bigger.
Delegation from: India  
Represented By: Beachwood High School

**Position Paper for the World Health Organization**

The issues brought to the World Health Organization include *Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones* and Addressing the *Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse*. India would like to seek better systems and policies with our fellow esteemed nations represented in the WHO to accomplish reasonable and effective solutions to address these issues.

**I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones**

The universal right to health and healthcare access is currently under siege. Since the early 2000s, the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones has been increasingly threatened by violent and radical organizations who possess little to no concern for basic human rights. These organizations, having resorted to scorched earth tactics, relentlessly shell and decimate healthcare facilities and supplies located in rebel-held areas. In 2017 alone there was a total of 322 attacks resulting in the deaths of 242 healthcare workers and an additional 229 injured. The Syrian government in alliance with hostile foreign powers are prime instigators of these aforementioned attacks, as they are responsible for a vast amount of these deadly and inhumane assaults on those who are incapable of defending themselves. Within Syria’s borders alone, there have been a total of 678 attacks over the span of the past four years. The Syrian nation now accounts for 70% of all attacks on healthcare facilities documented by WHO worldwide. Due to the increasing threat to their well being, numerous healthcare workers representing organizations such as the Red Cross and Doctors Without Borders have been forced to abandon their presence in countless conflict zones. With each zone deserted, thousands in desperate need for medical attention are left helpless. To purposefully slaughter those who are in no way capable of defending themselves is not only a war crime according to the Geneva Convention of 1949, but also a stark violation of human decency. Not only this, but these heinous acts also violate UN resolution 2286 which clearly condemns attacks on medical personnel in conflict situations today. Seeing that these healthcare workers are both willing and selfless enough to risk their own personal safety and security in order to ensure that of others, they do indeed deserve the utmost guarantee that no harm will come their way. India is dedicated to doing everything within its sovereign power to reduce and ultimately eliminate the threats posed against healthcare workers.

India is extremely fortunate to have not experienced nearly the great amount of tragedy that many other nations have suffered from with regards to healthcare workers in conflict areas. India’s closest brush with tragedy occurred on June of 2014 when 46 nurses were captured and taken hostage by ISIS for 23 days. These nurses were eventually returned by ISIS, though India fully understands that many healthcare workers have not had similar fortune. With this in mind, India is clearly no stranger to these intolerable acts of violence and completely unnecessary utter destruction of both human life and property. Indeed, the trauma of this experience has proven to India that the international community must work together in order to protect healthcare workers in conflict zones around the world.
India is more than willing and eager to seek peaceful solutions, adequate enough to satisfy the concerns of all parties involved in the assembly. In the short term, India believes that destroyed medical centers in conflict centers must be rebuilt and re-equipped. India strongly commends nations such as Japan, whose generous donations have substantially aided in the medical centers in Syria. These centers should be well-built and reinforced, in order to protect against bombings or such attacks. Mobile healthcare centers are also a viable option, as these centers can treat patients in a city and move into the surrounding countryside during air raids. India also believes in the collection and standardization of data pertinent to attacks on healthcare workers, as this data could potentially be used to predict and prevent future attacks. In regard to long-term solutions, India strongly encourages the creation of a WHO-sponsored program utilizing voluntary donations from the nations of the assembly modeling that of Japan, whose donation in early October allowed for the rehabilitation of vital medical centers in Syria. The sole purpose of this program would be to educate and train citizens within conflict zones in medicine. Once adequately trained, these citizens, now trained healthcare workers, will be able to apply their knowledge in training and treating all those affected by the war. This ensures that, in the long run, foreign nations will no longer need to risk the lives of their own healthcare workers.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Substance abuse has rapidly evolved into a serious global health problem. According to the 2018 World Drug Report, some 30 million people worldwide are engaged in overconsumption of drugs for recreational purposes. This problem has massive side-effects, such as the spread of bloodborne illnesses, including HIV and Hepatitis C, along with the strengthening of drug cartels that use violence to expand their businesses. The proliferation of illegal drugs has even funded the growth of terrorist organizations—it is estimated that 50% of the Taliban’s revenues are generated from the illicit drug trade. Overall, the problem of drug use has turned into a deadly issue—in 2015, around 450,000 people died as a direct result of drug abuse, a number that the World Health Organization can simply not afford to tolerate. India is dedicated to the reduction and eventual elimination of even the potential for these aforementioned abuses.

The Republic of India prides itself on its position regarding substance abuse. Per the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act of 1985, the Republic of India has prohibited the production, consumption, sale, or transportation of any narcotic or psychotropic substances. It is thanks to this policy that India has one of the lowest rates of cannabis use on Earth at 3.2%. India has similarly low consumption rates of drugs such as cocaine, methamphetamine, and other drugs commonly found around the globe. This can be attributed to both the aforementioned act and the moral strength of the largely Hindu people of India. There are only two drugs in India which constitute a serious detriment to public health: heroin and alcohol. India consumes around 17 metric tonnes of heroin per year, most of it grown in Taliban-controlled fields in Afghanistan, and shipped through Pakistan across the Indian border. The heroin epidemic in India is largely concentrated in the state of Punjab, where 233,000 people of nearly every social class are addicted to heroin. With regards to alcohol, India has one of the lower consumption rates in the world at around 4.5 liters/capita/year. However, the rate of alcohol consumption has risen by 55% in the past 20 years alone, which caused a rise of alcohol-related deaths and has potentially fuelled violence against women. In order to combat this problem, India has taken anti-alcohol measures; multiple Indian states have banned the consumption of alcohol, and India banned the
sale of alcohol within the vicinity of highways in 2017. Overall, India finds itself in a position of strength regarding drug usage, and the majority of India’s drug problems can be traced to foreign nations.

India firmly believes that stopping the international flow of drugs is imperative in the overall goal of reducing global substance abuse. While India does believe in national sovereignty and that nations should be allowed to have drug policies to their respective likes, nations have a responsibility to secure their own borders against the flow of drugs. The Republic of India believes that the World Health Organization must encourage stricter control of the flow of drugs at border checkpoints, and provide staffing and specialized equipment to help screen for drugs. The Republic of India would strongly support an intense program to aid in seizing heroin and halting production, along with the potential development and funding of rehabilitation programs for the millions of global heroin addicts. The Republic of India believes that alcohol abuse is more of a domestic problem than an international one, but would endorse an information campaign on the dangers of excessive alcohol consumption, along with intensified funding and development of rehabilitation programs.
Delegation from: the Republic of Indonesia  
Represented by: Avon Lake High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

Each nation has made great strides at combating their healthcare demands, from maternal mortality to cancer treatment. However, during times of crisis, the safety for healthcare workers and patients that are usually guaranteed wavers on a precipice of conflict, ethical, natural and violent. The Republic of Indonesia strives to carry our global healthcare success into areas of disaster to provide for those who need it most.

Throughout Indonesia’s history, there have only been a handful of violent conflicts. Starting in 1996, there was a period in which Indonesians of Chinese descent were the victims of violent discrimination. These riots have ceased and Indonesia no longer faces any conflict that would demand the need for international aid in regards to health services. Though violent conflict is not prevalent, the Republic of Indonesia faced an earthquake and tsunami on the Sulawesi Island. The earthquake was scaled a 7.5 on the Richter scale, bringing in waves up to 800 km/h. Over 2,500 citizens were injured and around 75,000 displaced. In order to treat injured citizens, Indonesia enlisted the aid of Doctors without Borders (Medecins sans Frontieres). Through the Republic’s experience with handling the tragic effects of natural disasters, the government understands the importance of quality healthcare in trying times. Without the ensured safety of international healthcare workers, it would be impossible for any nation to amend the conflict and start anew.

In the same way, Indonesia cared for the doctors and healthcare providers, the Indonesian government wishes to extend this treatment into areas of conflict where there is not a transparent government. The safety of healthcare workers should never be questioned as long as the doctors respect the current state of affairs of a region. The workers’ job is to provide aid to those affected by the conflict surrounding them, not aiding in the promotion of one side of the dissention. By working with nations who battle violent acts within their borders, Indonesia aims to produce an individualized approach for healthcare safety in various conflicts. Indonesia hopes to ensure that a nation can do its part in protecting its citizens’ lives while they are exposed to threats.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

In even the past decade, the global community has taken great strides in changing perspectives and providing treatment in substance abuse. The western world has paved the way for decriminalization and further legality of traditionally illicit materials and in turn, transformed the way we see drugs. Replacing jail time with rehabilitation, guards with nurses, the treatment of substance abuse has seen great success internationally. Removing barriers to and improving the
quality of healthcare has proven itself highly effective in a situation normal policies of enforcement have not. Yet despite an overall trend of progress, the Republic of Indonesia has often found itself regressing on the very same issue.

Indonesia is widely considered one of the harshest in its approach to drug abuse. In Indonesia, even for merely using illegal substances, offenders can receive from 12 to 20 years in prison depending on various factors, for those selling drugs, the death penalty. Users are considered severe criminal offenders in Indonesia, grouped together with convicted terrorists. The imprisonment of non-violent drug users amounts to a fourth of the total prison population: a massive quarter of a million people. Although rehabilitation is an option for legal officers, it is hardly ever used. The vast majority of those caught using drugs, barring bribery, is sent to jail for long sentences. Even in prison though, does a suspected half the trafficking occurs. An estimated 56% of inmates used drugs due to rampant corruption in the prison service, therefore decreasing quality and increasing the chance of repeat offenders. Effective treatment methods are few and far between, inaccessible to the general population due to cost and fear of government intervention. Ineffective treatment, like spiritual cleansing and religious prayer, still degrade the legitimacy of medical rehabilitation.

Despite its strict policy on prohibition, Indonesia is well aware of the adverse effects of growing prison populations and abusive enforcement practices. Although the Republic takes a firm stance against the legalization of selling or possessing prohibited substances, it is also open the option of treatment. Increasing the accessibility of effective treatment, especially in outpatient facilities, can serve not only to decrease the justice system’s oversight and investment in offenders and as a result, but those seeking treatment can also receive it without fearing criminal punishment. Judicial magistrates should be better afforded the opportunity to sentence offenders to treatment instead of jail, although programs must have strict and rigid requirements. Banning ineffective treatment practices like those of traditional and religious origin can protect the legitimacy of healthy recovery from addiction as well. Through these policies, the delegation of Indonesia hopes to combat issues prohibition has not solved.
Delegation from: Israel  
Represented by: St. Vincent-St. Mary High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The two topics before the World Health Organization: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. Israel hopes to collaborate with other nations to work toward the resolution of these issues.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones
Health care workers are an integral component of bringing relief to conflict zones. These healthcare workers maintain a status of neutrality that must be respected. International law protects health care workers; however, we are still faced with a crisis of attacks on health care workers. This situation is increasing in severity in recent years in the first half of 2018 there have been 271 deaths as a consequence of attacks on healthcare workers. This count is an increase from the total number of deaths in 2017, with a total of 242 deaths of health care workers, in six months. Not only are the lives of workers lost in these tragedies, but also those patients with them, and those they would be helping. These catastrophes must be prevented, and an end to violence against health care worker must end.

Israel has faced much violence in the past decades. This conflict has made healthcare imperative. Israel supports the unanimously passed Security Council Resolution 2286, condemning any attacks against healthcare workers or facilities. In the past, there have been instances of attacks inside of hospitals. The Health Ministry has condemned these attacks and called for further security in healthcare institutions. Using institutions such as the Health Ministry Israel hopes to create a safer environment for healthcare workers and decrease violence.

We must work as a global community toward a common goal of protecting these workers with neutrality. By creating a more aware community, the success of this prevention can increase. To further this goal, a political and social outreach initiative would be suggested. It is also imperative that healthcare workers be educated on how to address and prevent attacks. With both outreach and education, enforcement of the protection of healthcare workers will be encouraged. Israel hopes to collaborate with other nations to find a way to work toward an end to this appalling issue.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse
Substance abuse is truly enough to bring down the value and safety of a country in a very short span of time. The use of illicit drugs is an issue that grows year by year because it is an easy thing to pass on or become addicted to within just a first attempt. Nearly half of crimes committed yearly have affiliation with individuals using substances that and not prescribed or even legal to use, which is why it is best for the people of a nation and their safety if these illegal substances become terminated, giving citizens a greater chance to fight current addiction and stay away from future trouble.
Israel currently is in a building process to keep our citizens away from drugs. We are working past a time where children are exposed to drugs for the first time at elementary and have easy opportunities to get their hands on more as they please. Israel showed their first steps of determination to ending the drug epidemic in 1988 when the Israel Anti-Drug Authority Law was formed to combat with drug abuse throughout the country. In 2005 they expanded to alcohol and all other substances. Since then, the group continues to work side-by-side with the Israeli Government in bringing substance use numbers lower and lower.

Of course, work is still to be done within our nation and beyond. The focus needs to be directed to not only prevention of the future, but also those who are already affected by substances used in past or face addiction. An idea such as treatment centers would only be a starting step for the issue. Much more details that go in depth pertaining the solutions are what is necessary to develop an effective solution for these deprived individuals. Short term and long term solutions are may be the only things that will work for this long fought issue.
The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. Jordan recognizes the conditions of healthcare workers and the prevalence of substance abuse.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

Near Jordan, there have been approximately 149 attacks on healthcare workers resulting in 221 deaths and 261 injuries in the past three months. In Syria alone, there have been approximately 678 attacks in the past four years.

Jordan condemns the actions of those who seek to harm healthcare workers in conflict zones. In the past years, the occurrences have been most prevalent in Syria. These occurrences are unacceptable.

Military action is needed. Military rules should be updated to allow action to be taken against those who seek harm to healthcare workers.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The abuse of substances such as alcohol, causes 3.3 million people to die every year. Approximately 15.3 million people have drug disorders resulting in diseases such as HIV/AIDS in 10% of those with drug disorders. Only about 1 in 6 have treatment options for their disorder.

Jordan encourages providing assistance to substance abusers. Jordan recognizes substance abuse as a disorder.

Treatment must become a more widely available option for those suffering. Also, stricter rules should be required to decrease the access to substances which are abused. Warnings and education of the effects of the use of such substances should be required as well.
Delegation from: Republic of Kenya  
Represented by: Saint Joseph Academy  

Position Paper for the World Health Organization (WHO)  

Principal issues presented by the World Health Organization to be addressed by the United Nations are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The Republic of Kenya is greatly honored to participate in this discussion, as it is crucial to all countries that such topics be addressed in order for resolution of internal conflict and provision of safety for their citizens.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The delegation for the Republic of Kenya is addressing the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones, especially those affected by the increase of terrorism. The Republic of Kenya, which has been stricken by a recent surge in terrorism from Al-Shabaab due to an influx of about 580,000 wartime refugees from Somalia and South Sudan, has acknowledged this issue as a key concern for the well-being of Kenyan citizens. The Republic of Kenya is not alone in this issue, as terrorism has arisen as a detrimental conflict most other United Nations countries, but most especially countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria, as well as African countries such as Nigeria, Somalia, and Libya. This terrorism poses a threat to national security and the safety of healthcare workers, as numerous hospitals are targeted by such terrorist groups. To address this issue, President Kenyatta has been working with the African Union Peace and Security Council to enhance de-radicalisation processes.

The delegation for the Republic of Kenya believe that the issue of understaffing, underpayment, and emigration of healthcare workers located in rural areas is to be addressed. With an upsurge in the HIV/AIDS epidemic and the outbreak of malaria cases, there is a higher demand for healthcare officers, but due to poor working conditions (including work-time violence) and low payment, the public healthcare system is experiencing a depletion of healthcare officers and availability of affordable treatment. President Uhuru Kenyatta has addressed this specific issue, “...Free health care is very important in our life because of the level of poverty.” President Uhuru’s main goals are to eliminate terrorism and to enforce medical reform, which would lower the cost of proper medical treatment, increase healthcare salaries, and inspire emigrating doctors that fear attack in the workplace to remain in Kenya. The Republic of Kenya signed the Health Bill (2015) and the Clinical Officers Bill (2016) to strengthen policy on work-time educate. Through more thorough education, stricter background checks, and higher levels of implementation of healthcare laws, the Republic of Kenya hopes to resolve internal conflict and violence in the workplace.

The Republic of Kenya, as well as global health organizations, have recently been collecting data on health care incidents which have threatened doctors, EMTs, and nurses. One of the most notable sources of conflict identified in the data is terrorism. Because of the Republic of Kenya’s location, it is liable to suffer from extreme surges of terroristic threats. Aside from attacks specifically targeted at the Republic of Kenya, it is also impacted by threats of attack on countries that are surrounding this nation. Somalia and South Sudan’s conflict have caused an influx of wartime refugees to seek shelter in the Republic of Kenya. This drives terrorist groups such as Al-Shabaab to threaten and attack hospitals and other healthcare institutions. Although it is difficult to recognize which branches of healthcare establishments are more likely to be targeted, organizations such as the Center for Public Health and Human Rights and the Kenya Ministry of Health have been making efforts to identify and analyze data trends of attacks on
healthcare institutions. Additionally, these organizations have been taking steps to learn how to predict and prevent attacks in the future.

In the future, the Republic of Kenya will be making efforts to limit healthcare official casualties from wartime tension between South Sudan and Somalia by targeting trends of incidents and using such trends to predict future conflict. The Republic of Kenya believes that taking proactive steps, such as increasing data collection to target trends of attacks on healthcare officers and increasing national and hospital security, will increase protection of both urban and rural health institutions. Also, passivity on documentation of healthcare conflict will be limited through more extensive data collection to target biased and passive officials or institutions. In the past, many cases of work-time violence towards medical professionals have been left unreported. Through more thorough collection of data, the Republic of Kenya and its partners hope to provide more security to healthcare professionals. The Republic of Kenya believes working with other countries and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism may provide aid to this situation, as terrorism is believed to be one of the main sources of threats to safety of healthcare workers. Through this committee’s resolution, the Republic of Kenya hopes to lower the amount of emigrating healthcare officials, primarily in Africa, and to improve security of medical institutions by strengthening and forming new policies to combat terrorism.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The delegation for the Republic of Kenya acknowledges the universal opioid crisis, as well as the abuse of other addictive substances such as nicotine products and alcohol, as another key internal problem that afflicts all nations regardless of economic status or power. The Republic of Kenya has experienced a past of tobacco and alcohol as major health-oriented risk factors. A notable segment of the population that has been abusing drugs and alcohol is children and adults from the ages 10-19. The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kenya created a National Protocol for Treatment of Substance Use Disorders, which addresses the importance of keeping all people, but most especially the youth population in Kenya, sober. Decline in socio-economic development due to the usage of drugs by citizens from a young age is detrimental to the productivity of goods for the economy. The protocol covers pharmacological treatment, psychosocial interventions, and aftercare support. Through collaboration with the World Health Organization, the Republic of Kenya is striving for decreased drug usage and lowered drug-related death and illness.

To limit the extension of the tobacco epidemic, Kenya has worked with the World Health Organization and other United Nations countries to formulate and implement a tobacco control programme. This programme, MPOWER, entails monitoring tobacco usage for all groups of peoples, enforcing smoke-free facilities to protect people from second-hand smoke, offering alternatives to tobacco usage, enforcing the usage of warnings on cigarettes and other tobacco products by law, enforcing bans on tobacco advertising by law, and raising taxes on tobacco. While it is widely accepted by countries in the United Nations, it is the goal to become 100% smoke free and to stop deaths caused by tobacco-related illness. Increased implementation of MPOWER will limit tobacco usage further and hopefully eventually universally stop the tobacco epidemic.

The Republic of Kenya is presently implementing numerous plans and protocols in regards to substance abuse. The Kenya Health Policy, 2014-2030 and Kenya Health Sector Strategic and Investment Plan highlight the importance of remaining sober and attaining the highest standards of health relative to the population and minimizing exposure to risk factors. The National Protocol for Substance Use Disorders educates citizens about the risk of using
alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs. With a more organized and national approach to substance abuse, the Republic of Kenya believes that the growing youth population will begin to use drugs less. The protocol assures that substance abuse treatment services are available, accessible, affordable, evidence-based, and diversified. It must appeal to the poor population, as well as human rights and the diversity of peoples within the population. The Republic of Kenya believes that if all countries implemented this approach and actively acknowledged the dignity and rights of their peoples, a lower percentage of users in each country would be evident. Internal conflict of drugs and crime would lessen if the protocol and plans would target youth; the future economy and social structure of a nation depend on its youth, and if the youth population were to experience developmental problems or develop drug-related illness, the economy would become incredibly unstable in the future due to a struggling labor force and the continued spread of the drug epidemic.
Delegation from: Kuwait
Represented by: Lake Ridge Academy

Position Paper for the World Health Organization (WHO)

The issues before the WHO are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. Kuwait hopes to have a fruitful discussion and is willing to share any ideas among the other nations in order to resolve the two issues at hand.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones is a topic Kuwait strongly feels as appropriate to bring much awareness to. Many healthcare workers in areas like warzones are often threatened with potential attacks and are rarely out of harm's way. Not only can the intervention from an assault put the well-being of health workers at risk, it can also take a toll on the patient as a result from the deprivation of treatment (in addition to physical harm). Kuwait realizes this issue is ongoing in many countries and is prepared to take any step necessary in order to ensure the protection of threatened healthcare workers and their facilities.

Although the government of Kuwait has not addressed this direct issue on the safety of health workers, Kuwait takes great concern in the quality of its healthcare, including its security. As the High Council of Planning and Development is responsible for the establishment of health policies and directives, and the Ministry of Health manages the development of programmes for the criteria, it is with no doubt Kuwait will not hesitate to further protect its healthcare, patients, and workers; accordingly, Kuwait fully supports the need for a solution for this issue and will put forth much effort into securing the full safety of health facilities, its patients and workers in less fortunate nations located in conflict zones.

With the nation of Kuwait is deeply invested in its quality and safety of healthcare, we would support any policy advocating for the safety of health workers involved in current and future life-threatening conflict zones. Although Kuwait is not directly affected by this situation, we realize how much of a toll this could have on our future health care workers in case we find ourselves in this circumstance; unfortunately, there are many nations currently dealing with this problem. In the year of 2017, statistics have shown there has been 322 attacks on healthcare providers, facilities, transportation, and patients involving 20 countries and territories, which lead up to 242 deaths and 229 injuries. The highest type of infiltration is bombing, shooting, and assault. The nation of Kuwait hopes to discuss these methods of attack on health care workers and facilities in attempt to analyze possible solutions that will decrease the chances of these assaults with the involvement of the World Health Organization. Kuwait hopes the World Health Organization will put forth a serious approach and funds into whatever solution discussed for this issue as Kuwait is aware of many countries struggling including Sudan, Nigeria, Libya, Pakistan, Central African Republic, and our neighboring country Iraq.
II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The topic of substance abuse is one of importance to Kuwait to address, as it has become a harmful universal issue. Kuwait has addressed this topic in hope for prevention of alcohol abuse by becoming one of the few counties that has strictly banned alcohol in the market and some forms on consuming the beverage.

Although the citizens may not act upon the sales of alcohol, it is legal to consume it in a private area. Substances were banned in Kuwait in the year of 1964. Kuwait is only one of four countries who had completely or partially banned alcohol. Most of their countries consist of a Muslim origin or background that has influenced their decision making as religion looks down upon this substance. The need for prohibition world wide became of notice in the time frame of the 1920s. As the percentage of fatalities increased in most countries and the shortage of supplies grew, most countries that had been involved in war such as Russia and Turkey had cut out the production of alcohol. To this day, countries all face the dramatic effect that substance abuse has on their citizens and their countries as a whole. In 2002, there was a 4% contribution of diseases that had arose because of alcohol. There was also 3.2% of fatalities that were a contribution of substance abuse. This risk to the citizens is in affect of both developed and underdeveloped countries. In 2015, the amount of alcohol consumed by citizens who are fifteen or older in the countries that have formally banned alcohol usage, has a consumed amount of up to one litres per person in a year. The second highest consumption in one county is in Russia. The consumption in Russia is fifteen litres per person over the age of fifteen. The highest consumed country is Belarus, and Lithuania.

The government of Kuwait is collaborating with the United Nations Development Programme in an effort to treat and prevent alcohol and drug abuse. Users who inject drugs or abuse alcohol have not only become a religious concern to the nation, but a health concern as well since we have national treatment services which are funded by national sources. A total of 282 individuals have received treatment from 2009 to 2010 with the programme. With a double stance on this issue, Kuwait hopes that the World Health Organization will be willing to provide and contribute to whatever reasonable funds needed in order to further resolve this situation. The cutback of these substances and and the increase of aid needed for abusers would not be a problem when it comes to the support of Kuwait; however, the universal ban of these substances would be looked a bit higher upon. Either way, the nation of Kuwait hopes for a fruitful discussion of solutions for this issue in order to lessen the universal concern and general abuse of these substances.
Delegation from: Mexico  
Represented by: Bay High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues presented to the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones, and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. Mexico looks forward to working in conjunction with other nations to eradicate the dangers the world faces.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

In 2018 alone, 299 attacks on healthcare workers and hospitals have been carried out on in Syria, resulting in 298 deaths, and the numbers keep rising. The conflict in Syria has lasted eight years, and is responsible for 70% of healthcare-related attacks. Facilities in Syria had already suffered insufficient amenities and a lack of workers, but the frequent attacks contribute to a larger problem. Doctors and surgeons are forced to practice with only candlelight in the basements of hospitals in order to save lives.

Currently, the World Health Organization (WHO) has implemented a plan, known as Attacks on Health Care, in order to prevent the bombings, shootings, lootings, et cetera, hospital workers face in Syria. Additionally, the Surveillance System on Attacks on Healthcare (SSA) have been working hard to monitor actions taken against healthcare facilities in order to stop them. They are encouraging nations and parties to speak out against these violent crimes.

In order to keep the number of healthcare workers in conflict zones sufficient, violence against them must be prevented at all costs. Healthcare workers deserve to be treated with respect; adequate wages, fair treatment in the workplace, appreciation by superiors and the community, are all factors that contribute to a healthy amount of employees in this field. Mexico would like to see less violence against healthcare workers in the future, and an increase in incentives for the hardworking individuals in this field.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Although substance abuse is prevalent in most nations, Mexico faces it in an extreme and terrifying sense. Mexico is estimated to be the third largest producer of opium, and 95% of the cocaine exports to the US stop in Mexico first. The nation is also a major supplier of heroin and marijuana. Because it acts as a large catalyst for substance abusers, the Mexican government is working fiercely to prevent the cultivation and export of these drugs, which kill 990 Mexicans a year.

Currently in effect between Mexico and the United States is the Merida Initiative, implemented in 2008 to provide training, funds, and technical assistance to bolster Mexico’s security and judicial institutions. Additionally, the government has tripled its federal police force and encouraged nationwide reform in the general police force as well. The federal budget for public and national security has increased from by 3.6 percent, augmenting the budget to 15.4 billion dollars. This way, organized crime can be stopped quicker, more of the public can be educated.
about it, and it will also lead to reforms in police and justice centers. Since 2009, fifteen drug treatment courts have been built around the country. Although the government is a huge advocate against the sale and use of drugs, corruption still lurks, but improved anti-corruption systems are in the works.

As the Mexican government is fighting to eradicate the sale and use of drugs in the nation and the exports to the rest of the world, it is crucial that this horror stop soon. Mexico would look favorably on increased educational plans to teach the public about the negative aspects of the drug trade and its effects on people. Additionally, Mexico wishes to see more funds redirected to reforming police and judiciary systems.
Delegation of: Netherlands  
Represented by: Chardon High School

Position Paper for World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones and addressing the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. The delegation of Netherlands is committed to cooperating with other delegations in order to resolve these issues.

A. Discussing the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones.

Healthcare workers in conflict zones lose their lives giving healthcare to those in need. Due to them losing their lives, many communities lose their health services. Health services would especially be required in these conflict zones, due to obvious casualties involved in the war. The safety of healthcare workers is especially important due to a great problem for populations in conflict zones to receive the healthcare that they require. Should healthcare workers lose their lives, these populations would not be able to receive their much-needed healthcare.

Healthcare workers from the Netherlands could have their lives taken while supplying their services. Although the Kingdom of Netherlands is not in a current state of war, they do allow healthcare workers to go to other countries in order to provide their services. Should too many workers die, healthcare services around the world would prove to be ineffective, and would most likely not achieve the desired magnitude of effect.

The Netherlands has already endorsed a declaration by France to take actions to protect healthcare workers in conflict areas. They currently help France pass a resolution to solve this. The Kingdom of Netherlands can implement preventions of attacks on healthcare workers as well as promote ethical healthcare services. Netherlands can also speak out against violence against healthcare workers, in order to rally support to help protect them.

B. Addressing the universal need prevent and treat substance abuse.

Every year, countless deaths occur around the world caused by substance abuse. Unfortunately, this number has been trending upwards as the years go by. While substance abuse is most commonly noted by its detrimental effect on individuals, there are also more large scale problems that affect our communities and nations as a whole. The effects that substance abuse can have on the productivity of a country is quite astonishing. The economy can be fairly poorly affected because substance abuse decreases workers’ productivity and thus the country’s productivity. Substance abuse causes health insurance rates to go up, and there is a lack of treatment for it. The UN must work together to solve this world-wide issue and find ways to effectively prevent and treat substance abuse.
In the last year, the amount of deaths from drug overdose in the Netherlands has reached an all-time high. A considerable amount of cannabis and other drugs are used throughout the Netherlands, especially in the capital, Amsterdam. This has led to violent outbursts in Amsterdam by drug gangs and other distributors of illegal substances. A large amount of tourists in Amsterdam have been affected by “white heroine” that is sold in the city by street vendors thinking it was a softer drug. This drug is highly dangerous and requires medical attention to those who use it.

The Netherlands have worked hard to manage a consistent and effective drug policy to reduce the effects of substance abuse. The Netherlands focus on informing people about drug safety and giving medical attention to those in need rather than incriminating substance abusers. The Netherlands’ “Coffee Shop Policy” is a policy that allows the sales of “soft drugs” in coffee shops or other small stores in order to hide and decrease the amount of harder drugs that are extremely detrimental to individual and society alike. This idea is called the separation of markets, separating the soft drug market from the hard drug market. This allows for users of soft drugs to be safe from more harmful substances that could be sold to them by a more secluded vendor. If the vendor is public it is less likely to have harmful substances that could hurt the population’s health and productivity. The Netherlands would like to share this plan with other delegations and encourage countries to incriminate less and inform more.
Delegation of: Nigeria  
Represented by: Chardon High School  
Position Paper for World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The delegation of Nigeria is committed to a productive debate that comes to a resolution reasonable to all countries involved.

A. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The safety of healthcare workers has become a larger and larger problem in the recent years. Many bomb attacks leave thousands of people wounded by conflict, left without medical care. These conflict zones often further workers safety as many of them fear getting treatment will only cause them more harm. These bombs and attacks on healthcare workers not only puts human rights at stake but also violates many humanitarian laws.

The healthcare system in Nigeria is one that is relatively weak compared to many other countries. There have been a number of workforce crisis that have been reported in the past year. These crisis total to 230 attacks, 271 deaths, and close to 300 injured people. Because of past attacks that have destroyed the city there has been a lack of health facilities that have prevented optimal healthcare delivery. In 2014 Nigeria instituted the National Healthcare Act to help provide a legal framework for the regulation, development, and management for Nigeria’s Healthcare System. 53.1% of healthcare professionals believed the NHA (National Healthcare Act) would help reduce strucked in this area. However, they have not seen much of a difference and continue to suffer.

Nigeria would like to see the WHO committee make a big contribution to help rebuild and bring together many groups of people to provide legal obligations to protect these healthcare workers.

B. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Substance abuse has become an increasing severe global issue. Every year, up to 250,000 people die globally from illegal drugs. This number doesn’t even compare to the 164 million people that suffer from substance abuse disorders. Whether this disorder is rooted in addiction or abuse, substance use destroys people's lives and makes country’s much more dangerous.

Nigeria as a whole is becoming more and more of a drug-ridden country. It starts with tobacco and escalates to illegal drugs. Up to 22.1% of Nigeria’s youth uses tobacco and this percentage is increasing annually. Nigerians live in a harsh reality, many living unemployed and uneducated. To cope with their dreary lives, young Nigerians turn to drugs and alcohol. Everyday, over 500,000 bottles of codeine, an addictive cough medicine, are consumed in Nigeria along with other opioids. Pharmaceutical companies in Nigeria are selling illicit drugs illegally. Nigeria is a member of the Non-Alignment movement along with Iran and Afghanistan, two of the worst drug countries. Additionally, many of the countries that Nigeria is close to in both geography and alignment are some of the largest drug producers in the world, such as Afghanistan and
Chad. To solve this issue, Nigeria has emphasized law enforcement and imprisonment to control drug trafficking and consumption. Despite these efforts, a notable drop in substance abuse and related issues has not occurred.

The country of Nigeria calls for assistance from other countries in resolving this issue. Nigeria is open to working with other countries to find potential solutions to this issue, both short and long term.
Delegation from: the Kingdom of Norway  
Represented by: Campus International High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The Kingdom of Norway feels strongly about both issues and takes seeks to find a peaceful solution to both.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

During times of conflict health care workers are left behind and unprotected. Aid and development workers are usually absent during times of conflict or in combat zones. Those that are most needed to provide emergency, stop the spread of infectious disease or treat those wounded are the most vulnerable. Emergency health Care is only one example of the need in these areas. Mother and infant mortality rates along with infections disease. Health care workers need more protection and support.

The UN Security council (UNSC) has adopted a resolution to strengthen protection for health care workers, the sick and wounded, and hospitals in war zones this resolution was passed unanimously. The UNSC urged all those involved in conflict help with humanitarian access develop laws that protect health care workers and facilities, train armed forces, and hold attackers accountable for violations. Norway is an international leader that works to protect those health workers and facilities most at risk in combat zones.

It is clear that this issue has far reaching effects on health care workers as well as those devastated by combat and warring states. It is imperative that these health care workers be afforded all protections and that those combative states respect those unbiased workers. Aid and supply lines for all workers and facilities must also be protected.

This is a simple matter of the human rights of health and safety. Sustainable development does not start from zero, it begins with what is salvaged from what already exists. The protection of education is also imperative. Norway is working to protect education environments alongside the International Red Cross and Red Crescent. The maintenance of health care and education and the protection of health care workers and facilities is the foundation of the future.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The Kingdom of Norway is committed to preventing substance abuse, allotting 266.7 million euros into the 2016-2020 budget, as well as 20.5 million euros for treatment of substance abuse. Possession of illicit substances results in fines or two-year imprisonment. Aggravated penalties
result in up to 10 years, “considerable quantity” results in up to 15 years, and “very aggravated” crimes result in up to 21 years in prison.

Cannabis is the most widely used illicit drug in Norway, with 8.6% of adults reported to have been engaging in cannabis use. Cocaine was used by 2.2% of adults, MDMA by 1.2%, and Amphetamines by 0.3%. Compared to other European countries, Norway has a low prevalence of substance abuse. Norway provides several treatment options for every one of these drugs, including OST, short and long term residential treatment, assessment, stabilization, and detoxification.

Norway focuses prevention on young people outside of school, when they are most vulnerable to engage in illicit substances. Norway prioritizes activities integrated into the learning environment. Parents are encouraged to join in these activities through programs such as “Love and limits” which encourage cooperation between school and home environments. Norway also controls accessibility to psychoactive drugs and alcohol, especially for students.

Norway provides many harm reduction responses, more than most other European countries. Along with needle and syringe programs, Norway also provides drug consumption rooms and take-home naloxone programs. These are all intended to prevent and treat substance abuse.
Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The topics given to us today are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. Russia is determined to finding a solution to the current issues globally and ensuring every country is satisfied with the solutions that are within reason.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

Although Russia has in the past been suspected to be behind several attacks on various nations healthcare workers alongside Syria, the greatest threat to our healthcare workers are a severe lack of funds. While the recent economic crisis did not cause this, it did make it much worse. This has caused a great decline in healthcare, which has accumulated over many years. Our government has made many attempts at reforming this, most being various tactical approaches that made no effect followed by an inattentive attitude from the government. Even today, the search for a suitable policy to solve the problems continues.

While in the past the government has turned a blind eye to the healthcare workers and their lack of funding, we are now taking active strides to find a solution to this unignorable problem. One of the more popular solutions being discussed is enhancing the rights of healthcare providers and consumers of health services. While this would give health care providers more freedom to deploy workers in areas where care is needed while also being able to insure their safety. However this does not provide a solution for the lack of funding, failing to acknowledge it at all. There are however, basic principles for reforming health care and the safety regulations for the healthcare workers, including decentralization of management and creation of a health services market. In the future however, we would like to focus on increasing the funding of healthcare workers to increase their safety in hostile environments.

The only feasible solution we can see to the growing problem of being unable to guarantee the safety of our healthcare workers is to increase the funding that goes towards their organizations and equipment. Not only will the funding increase our healthcare being put in conflict zones, but it will also allow for some means of security in these facilities. This will keep not only those being treated but also those treating them safer. Should this prove successful, we have reason to believe that it will also reduce the amount of security need due to the lessening of conflict in these areas due to people being brought back to health in a much quicker time. This can also be applied to any other country that is facing a similar problem, and we strongly encourage the implementation of this policy, of raising healthcare and security funds, to any country in need of it.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

In Russia Alcoholism has always been a problem. This used to be the main drug related problem in Russia, however the popularity of intravenous drug use has recently skyrocketed. Heroin has
become popular fairly recently during the mid 1990s. Alcoholism has been consistently bad for Russia and is even affecting the younger generations. The rate of drug related deaths in Russia was estimated to be at about 80 deaths a day. This and the low rate of childbirth would explain the problematic decrease in population, and the issue has only gotten worse since substance abuse hit its current popularity.

When the issue reached the point of affecting our country's future, our government took action. The government instituted alcohol licensing and sales laws in 2006, which have had some success, decreasing alcohol consumption and slightly reducing the death rate from alcohol. However when Heroin enters the scene, we couldn't react fast enough. Heroin has caused the death rate from drugs and alcohol to increase exponentially, which in turn has had its own effects on the birth rate in Russia. The birth rate experience a major decline during the time of alcohols popularity and Heroins introduction, and although it is at an incline, we have reason to believe that it is on the verge of a collapse, as the death rate has begun to climb. Currently our solution revolves around a proper education concerning various substances and their respective dangers.

We would like to review and rework our current drug and alcohol education curriculum, as we believe that our greatest hope is in the next generations. This policy will include putting greater emphasis on substance abuse in our school systems, putting more money and government insight into our rehabilitation facilities. If we can give out students the knowledge of these substances before they are introduced to them, we believe we can severely reduce not only the death rate but the rate of substance abuse as well. Obviously this will not stop all substance abuse, but those who continue down the path of addiction will hopefully receive the help they need in one of our rehabilitation facilities. These facilities will not only have the means to detox their patients, but also give them a proper education, much like the step discussed above. This combined with government insight and funding put into these facilities, we believe we can decrease the death rate to a manageable state. While it may need slight adjustment depending on the situation, we recommend that any country facing a substance abuse problem implement this policy.
Position Paper for World Health Organization

The issues of the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones (WHO) in Sunni Arab states; and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. Saudi Arabia is committed to develop skills to provide for the citizens and families with the hope to further advance the prevention of exposure of disease spreading throughout the war of Yemen.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones (WHO)

In 2015, Saudi Arabia and eight other Sunni Arab states began a military campaign, in response to the Houthi rebels taking over the country of Yemen due to economic and political differences. Unfortunately, this Saudi-led war to restore the order of the government has had the opposite impact causing disease, famine, and poverty in Yemen. As a result, the World Health Organization, along with international health organizations, such as Doctors Without Borders and local healthcare groups, try and help countries avoid complete destruction. This has led healthcare workers to come into conflict with dangers associated with war such as, the exposure of diseases while treating local people, the lack of basic supplies that are stolen, overcrowded clinics with failing infrastructure and workers dealing with their own personal losses.

The economic war of Yemen has created a great challenge for civilians due to a country-wide famine and wide spread exposure to diseases caused by a failing economy and infrastructures, in addition to, limited health resources. Since 400,000 children in Yemen are considered to be ill, the World Health Organization developed the “humanitarian air bridge”, allowing the sickest Yemenis to fly to Egypt and get cured but others have been left stranded because these clinics are starting to overpopulate. Some children are carried by their parents to clinics for treatment, but half of Yemen’s health facilities are closed because of the battle of Yemen. This has created an increased risk for healthcare workers by having an increased exposure to diseases as patients are healing due under limited access to resources like lack of medicines. There is emotional burnout for healthcare workers who are under stressful situations during the conflict between Saudi Arabia and Yemen. Doctors treating the suffering of civilians personally struggle with earning enough income to provide food for their own families. They also are dealing with the loss of many of their own relatives and friends due to the attacks in their region which is a constant reminder of how vulnerable they are during the conflict.

Saudi Arabia healthcare workers are not immune to the dangers, challenges, and risks that come from country-wide suffering during a time of conflict such as the Saudi-led war in Yemen. The healthcare workers who help treat patients is extremely valuable to the civilians in Yemen who need care. However, the training these healthcare workers received didn’t prepare them for the challenges in treating patients in hostile environments that can’t support the capacity that is desperately needed. As a result, they developed special skills on the job to protect civilians who
were suffering in the worst conditions while also trying to protect themselves and loved ones during the war.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Saudi Arabia believes that it is important to prevent and treat substance abuse. Saudi Arabia feels substance abuse is affecting many lives and causing problems. We found that peer pressure has a major impact in substance abuse. Saudi Arabia feels that substance abuse is affecting the whole world and wants to address this problem.

In 2013, 8.2% of children older than 12 have met the criteria for having a dependence on substances in the last year. Research shows that substance abuse has many health effects such as medical disorders and can lead to physical violence. Substance abuse has many negative effects on the body and the mind and causes 5% of families to lose jobs and lose food causing hunger. Saudi Arabia wants to treat substance abuse to prevent the hunger and loss of jobs.

While it is clear to say that substance abuse is not safe and can hurt thousands, we have to take into account that many cities can't afford to prevent and treat substance abuse. Another big problem is that 70% who abuse substances had a family history of substance abuse, which passed down to the following generations. The way to treat and prevent substance abuse is to provide money to the communities in need and build rehabilitation houses. As people obtain treatment in these rehabilitation houses, the following generations will see the outcomes and gain a better understanding of the problems with substance abuse. Therefore, Saudi Arabia has many plans and hopes to prevent and treat substance abuse.
Delegation from: Senegal  
Represented by: Avon Lake High School

United Nations World Health Organization  
I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

Conflicts are arousing throughout the whole world, many have different causes and few have black and white solutions. Of course, safety is the main concern for those who are not directly involved with the fighting. Conflicts in Senegal's southern Casamance region have raged on for decades. Furthermore, this struggle presents many unique challenges to the democratic nation. However, the safety of healthcare workers is the main concern. This debate of the safety of our medical professionals has been an ongoing issue in Senegal. In order for those involved in the fighting to be properly treated, the medical professionals must have a safe work environment in our country, Senegal, and in the many other war-torn nations. Even though the fighting currently remains on a small scale, it cannot always be contained in the areas where the aid of medical workers is necessary. Senegal is one of twelve countries that promises to protect the brave individuals who provide medical care to victims of these conflicts. This includes ensuring accountability for violations of International Humanitarian Law when a health professionals safety is violated.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The use, trafficking, and production of drugs pose a threat to virtually every nation. Drug use threatens the health and wellbeing of our citizens and our economy. When drug use increases, our countries crime rate does too. Throughout the decades, Senegal and the countries around it have been known for high amounts of drugs coming into our borders. Consequently, in the past, our country didn’t realize the effects of such drugs. We are just recently cracking down on abusers of the law through checking all items that pass through our borders. Senegal has conducted studies on the use of drugs in controlled environments. As a result of our studies, in 2014, we opened a drug addiction and rehabilitation center at the University Hospital of Dakar. We also held a training workshop for local authorities and rehabilitation workers, hoping to better understand each other’s experiences and to gain more knowledge on how to handle situations of addiction and drug use. The Delegation of Senegal hopes our countries efforts to outlaw the use of drugs and rehabilitate those who abuse it within our country will not go unnoticed. We are aware that drug use is an international issue and believe it needs to be outlawed to protect our people and countries.
The Delegation from: The Kingdom of Sweden  
Represented by: Westlake High School  

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues facing the World Health organization are: discussing the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones, and addressing the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. The Kingdom of Sweden is eager to exchange ideas with other delegations in order to ensure the protection of those who put their lives in hostile situations to help people in need, and to reduce the current drug epidemic that has plagued much of the world all while promising to administer help to those who have been affected.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The delegation from the Kingdom of Sweden is appalled that the safety of the brave men and women who put themselves in harms way to treat those whose lives have been uprooted from the constant stress of war. Whether it be in Yemen, Syria, or the Congo, Sweden calls for immediate action in protecting these healthcare workers.

In 2015 Sweden devoted 1.41% of its gross national income towards humanitarian efforts around the world, and has promised to keep this value over one percent. This is the highest percentage of national income that is donated by any UN member state, and Sweden has given the sixth most in total aid to foreign countries. Since Sweden generously provides aid to all who are in need of it, Sweden would like to see the increased protection of both materials and people. The illegal seizure and unnecessary killing, wounding or capturing of healthcare workers needs to be ended immediately.

The harm that occurs when healthcare workers become the victims of violence is not limited to just the workers themselves, but in in a larger sense affects the hundreds of people who are reliant on the workers to survive. When such events occur complete documentation needs to be done so we may learn and adapt to the issue at hand.

The evolution of modern warfare has made the challenges of protecting the sick and those who aid them even more difficult. Conflicts are now mostly fought within a country without clearly defined borders between factions, and as such hospitals and humanitarian centers are often in the middle of the belligerents. This is especially true in Yemen, as the Yemeni Civil War has created the greatest humanitarian crisis in the world with millions starving and susceptible to cholera due to unsanitary drinking water.

The problem lies not in the absence of attempts to solve the issue, but rather in the weak enforcement of resolutions. Sweden sees that it is pertinent to work with other countries to ensure that everyone follows universal humanitarian laws established at the Geneva Convention of 1949, that includes both legitimate governments and any group that bears up arms.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse
The Kingdom of Sweden believes that drug use puts traditional Swedish values at risk and therefore the overall goal of Swedish drug policy is the total elimination of drugs from society. In order to accomplish such a task, Sweden has invested heavily into police enforcement, prevention, and abstinence based treatment and education. Sweden punishes both drug use and drug possession as crimes; while fines are the most common form of punishment, jail time is used as well. The strict policy has led to Sweden boasting one of the lowest rates of drug use in both the European Union and the rest of the world. However addicts may forgo punishment if submitted into a treatment and rehabilitation center.

One of the main pillars of Swedish drug policy is rehabilitation because while a low percentage of Swedes rely on the use of drugs, the fatality rate among those who do is extremely high. To combat this Sweden has began adopting legislation such as needle distribution stations, opiate substitution therapy (OST), prescription recollection centers, as well as forced enrollment of up to six months into rehabilitation centers for substance abusers, yet most of these initiatives are still experimental and thus limited to a small population of users. Needle distribution policies are particularly important as they have lead to a decrease in needle-contracted cases of HIV in the country, despite the rise in people who use heroin. Sweden would like to see such plans implemented on a much large scale in the future.

A unique aspect of Sweden’s plan to create a drug free society is specifically aimed at helping the developing nations where a majority of drugs are grown and through which they are trafficked. Sweden acknowledges the difference between the most efficient way to substance abuse in developed and underdeveloped nations. And therefore, the Kingdom of Sweden wishes to invest in these developing countries to both strengthen their policing efforts and to diversify their economies away from narcotics. As more countries join with Sweden to build up these developing worlds into leaders in the fight against drugs, less and less people both in Sweden and around the world will have to suffer in the streets.

The delegation of Sweden would like to emphasize the importance of each country prioritizing their efforts in fighting substance abuse domestically, yet would also like to encourage global cooperation to end the issue and eliminate drug use from society. This threat to our culture is not to be taken lightly and the government of Sweden will do what is necessary in order to create a world that is drug free and remains so for centuries to come.
The issues presented to this delegation in the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The Delegation of Turkey is dedicated to protecting the Healthcare workers in Conflict Zones, and hopes to address their own substance abuse problem within their country.

I. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Substance abuse is a problem not just in Turkey, but universally. In 2017, 72,000 overdoses were estimated across the world. Of that number, 30,000 resulted in death. In Turkey, the number of overdoses has drastically risen due to the heroin epidemic that spread across Europe in the 1980s. As of 2016, Turkey has had 920 citizens die due to overdoses. In years prior, such as 2013, only 232 people died, which only happened 3 years prior to 2016. These statics are a huge factor showing that drugs in Turkey are becoming a lot more popular. Turkey’s most common substance abusers are males between the ages of 15-35. As of 2017, Turkey’s population was 79.81 million people of that 67% are males between the ages 15-65. This is a little over half of the population that is most likely to have a substance abuse problem in their life. Considering this background information, Turkey is in need of substance abuse help.

The Delegation of Turkey believes that substance abuse is an increasing problem in our world today. For instance, Turkey has countless treatment centers in which to help addicts. Proving they don’t want substance in their borders. Turkey also is between the Middle East and Europe making them a popular place for drug trafficking. Although, Turkey legalized Medical Marijuana, it still doesn’t stand any illegal drugs. For instance, Herbal Cannabis one of the most popular drugs in Turkey is illegal because can’t be used for any medical purposes and is merely harmful to the body. Turkey, also doesn’t tolerate possession or import or export of drugs in which consequences in 15-30 years in prison. Concluding that, Turkey position on substance abuse is that it is a increasing problem that needs to be solved desperately.

Turkey is very supportive of their citizens trying to get help with their addiction. For example, Turkey has 39 treatment centers in 24 of their provinces out 81 provinces. This is not even half of the provinces that they have. Validating that, Turkey is in need of more treatment centers across their whole country. Another thing to discuss that substance abuse if treated as criminal acts and not as a mental health problem. Proving that, Turkey, and the world needs more treatment centers and mental health centers to help with substance abuse. Another possible solution could be to have more information about how these substances could affect your body, by having informational meeting at schools and work. This would show people how bad these substances are for your body and how badly they can affect you in the future. Most abusers in Turkey are often male between the ages of 15-35. These statics show that younger males do more drugs concluding that they should be shown more persuasive arguments in which not to do drugs and other abusive substances.

II. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones
The delegation of Turkey understands that the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones is a rather ubiquitous topic, impacting many countries around the world. The issue at hand, in the means of incapacitation and death of people, refers to the fact that many people in conflict zones and areas of war are at risk of attack, even those working in healthcare facilities, along with those being treated within healthcare facilities. This has been a growing problem within many countries across the world. Multiple studies have shown that the healthcare workers that are subject to the most violence are physicians working in emergency departments, with 99.7% question were exposed to violence or was under attack. These attacks do not fail to include shootings, bombings, physical violence, verbal violence, and even death from the attacks. It is clear to see that many factors can affect why these attacks can happen. These factors include age, current condition, location of the hospital, and more. It is a growing problem worldwide, and it needs to be addressed.

Very little action has been taken by the delegation of Turkey to end or prevent violence and attacks within public and private healthcare organizations. Multiple studies within the country have proven that it is a very big issue. With the conflict in Syria going on for multiple years now, many refugees have seeked asylum in Turkey, which has simply prolonged the reason for attack within this field. Even with the highest number of Syrian refugees in the world, Turkey still has failed to take action to end the violence and attacks, only recording the incidents, the location, and other information but failing to address who led the attacks (when in a terrorist situation). Turkish authorities have imposed new curfews which prevent civilians from leaving their homes and being at risk of attack. This has ultimately had an effect on people who need medical treatment within these hours of curfew, allowing them no access to medical treatment that is vital to their health. This has affected many people and been the cause of death for some. Ambulances have been attacked by unidentified groups before this. Some healthcare professionals have even quit because of certain conditions. What can be safely said though is that there certainly are better solutions to these issues and sub-issues.

The delegation of Turkey proposes many solutions to the topic and requisitions upon other delegates on how the topic should be addressed. Depending on the issue at hand, many different actions can be taken. In a threat of a bombing terrorist attack, shelters should be made to transport patients to. The shelters may be made out of heavy steel to ensure safety. In an attack of physical assault, healthcare workers should be trained to handle it in order to protect themselves through lessons of self defense. Metal detectors should be a regulation in all hospitals to ensure safety, and weaponization may be best in the case of a shooting or an attack. Different solutions may be proposed depending on the type of attack, there is no universal solution here.
Delegation from: The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Represented by: NRHS

Position Paper for The World Health Organization
The issues in question by the World Health Organization are: to Discuss the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The United Kingdom is proud to offer insight on these topics and assist towards a solution to these issues

I. Discussing The Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The United Kingdom takes great pride in the opportunity to discuss this issue with the WHO. We recognize the existence of these threats and our plan to handle them is to be well calculated, organized, and most importantly effective. The United Kingdom is aware of the severity of this issue as it is important to our country that healthcare and aid workers from all around the world as well as the United Kingdom are safe in their humanitarian efforts to help those in conflict zones.

The United Kingdom played a part in the passing of UN resolution 2286 adopted in May of 2016. Which ruled for the protection of humanitarian aid workers engaged in medical duties in conflict zones as well as their means of transport and equipment. This issue has become a matter of concern to the United Kingdom as it challenges the integrity of the UN resolution and the commitment of all the countries in the WHO and UN. The United Kingdom would also like to call reference to the 2012 World Health Assembly resolution 65.20 were section one calls upon member states and donors to allocate resources for the health sector during humanitarian emergencies. Thus, the United Kingdom calls for trained protective forces for aid workers in conflict zones as it is an important for us member states to provide protection to aid workers treating patients and working in conflict zones.

The United Kingdom is more than willing to send resources if called for by further resolutions on the issue to protect healthcare workers in conflict zones. It is in our ability to offer opinions and possible solutions to this issue that the United Kingdom takes great pride in. We are here to assist. The United Kingdom believes that ignoring these issues could stunt humanitarian efforts in conflict zones and would like the bring the attention of the WHO to that. We of course will not act until resolved to do so by the United Nations and will offer all we can to reach said resolution.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The United Kingdom is proud as well as optimistic to discuss the issue of addressing the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. As defined by the World Health Organization, substance abuse is “the harmful or hazardous use of psychoactive substances, including alcohol and illicit drugs.” The United Kingdom has witnessed drug abuse for years and many civilians have been harmed by it or even lost their lives to overdose. There were 3,756 deaths relating to drug poisoning in England and Wales in 2017, a rate of 66.1 deaths per 1 million population. These statistics are very similar to those of 2016. We fear that our past
resolutions are not effective enough to treat this epidemic. It is because of this that we take this matter very seriously and wish to offer as much insight as we can on the issue. In the hopes of furthering discussion to a resolution on the issue to help combat substance abuse in our nation.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) resolution 55/7 reaffirms that the prevention of all drug abuse is of primary importance to all Member States. As a member state of the UNODC the United Kingdom would like to bring awareness to the WHO that substance abuse is a primary concern of the United Kingdom and that the United Kingdom would call for a resolution offering the support of other member states of the WHO as well as containing a plan to combat substance abuse. In this September, 2018, the WHO launched a program to oppose alcohol abuse known as SAFER. The United Kingdom proposes a similar program or stretching of the existing one to also combat substances such as Opioids, Amphetamines, and Hallucinogens. The United Kingdom believes that with time SAFER will help reduce harmful alcohol use and hopefully a similar program can do the same for other harmful substances. Extension of this program, as well as working on creating more effective procedures, will help combat drug and alcohol abuse in the United Kingdom. We also encourage other Member States to take part in the program and work with the United Kingdom to fix the epidemic of substance abuse harming our citizens.

The United Kingdom is immensely grateful for the chance to offer our opinion on the issue as well as show our position and offer a resolution. Of course, without the resolution to do so by the United Nations or WHO, the United Kingdom will not act on the issue internationally. The United Kingdom hopes to reach a resolution and hopes our opinions have helped further the WHO to do so.
Delegation from: Ukraine  
Represented by: Saint Joseph Academy

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones; and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. These issues have become more prominent in the past years and the urgency of addressing these topics have increased considerably. The delegation of Ukraine acknowledges the urgency of the above topics and looks forward to reaching a solution that benefits the lives of all those in the world.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

Healthcare has spread to encompass almost all corners of the world, including the areas that are currently suffering from increased instability and violence, which are known as conflict or war zones. The global health workforce consists of any and all healthcare workers who strive to preserve the safety and health of other humans. These workers are committed to providing the best care and aid for any people who may need it. Due to the increased violence and instability in conflict zones, not only are healthcare workers at risk of harm, but so are civilians receiving treatment at the healthcare areas. In 2018 so far, there have been 299 known attacks on healthcare, including facilities, workers, transports, and patients, which have resulted in 308 deaths and 364 injuries. Because of the consistent attacks on healthcare, it’s workers, and facilities, it has become increasingly hard to sustain medical centers in conflict zones. An injury or death of one single healthcare worker could result in multiple civilians not being able to receive treatment; if it’s multiple workers in a particular area, it may even cause the area’s facility to close. In 2017, of the 322 healthcare attacks that happened in the year, 169 took place in the Syrian Arab Republic, with the Central African Republic coming nowhere close with only 24. The Syrian Arab Republic has consistently had the highest recorded number of healthcare attacks; due to this, the area is one of the hardest to establish long-term medical centers.

The delegation of Ukraine acknowledges the struggles that the healthcare community has currently been undertaking. Although this issue has been present for some time, the annual injury and death rates have become a consistent issue. Ukraine understands the urgency of this issue and recognizes that it needs to be addressed as soon as possible. Ukraine itself provides universal healthcare to its citizens but state funding provides the bare minimum in facilities and accessible medications. Many healthcare facilities do not have the privilege of having hot water, and only cover the electricity and salaries of the employed medical personnel. Due to these professional settings, Ukraine has implemented two major internal health reforms in 2018 and 2017 respectively, USAID HRS (USAID Health Reform Support) and the SAFEmed Project (Safe, Affordable, and Effective Medicines for Ukrainians). These reforms focus on reforming the widespread health system, countering corruption, and strengthening the pharmaceutical industry.

Ukraine sees the toll of working in conflict zones takes on healthcare workers and their industry, and sees that this is an acceptable time to meet violence with immediate acts of legislation. Ukraine believes that areas immersed in war should have increased protection and improved
healthcare facilities, so the risks of injury and death are reduced and do not drive away those in need of medical attention. Ukraine wishes to work with others to create a more universal protection from violence and corruption, to improve the settings of healthcare workers, and to provide all with increased medical coverage.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Substance abuse is a pressing global health crisis, affecting all United Nations (UN) member states. 3.3 million people die of alcohol abuse every year, with many more dying of other hard-drug related overdoses. In addition to high mortality rates, substance abuse also poses an increased risk of deadly viral and bacterial infections as substance abusers struggle to take care of themselves or practice regular hygiene. Despite the severity and prevalence of substance abuse in all nations, many nations have failed to recognize substance abuse as a public health crisis, leaving their citizens without the support necessary to overcome substance abuse issues. Substance abuse does not just affect the abuser themselves, but it also negatively affects their family structure and wider community. Ukraine believes that the family is the cornerstone of society, and it should be protected from fracture due to substance abuse issues. Substance abuse must be recognized as a disease that requires both physical and mental health treatment in order to be healed.

Ukraine is deeply concerned with the public health risks posed by substance abuse and its ramifications on the wider family unit. In the past the WHO has addressed substance abuse in the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961), the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971), and the United Nations Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988), it has still failed to address the disease as a global epidemic. Ukraine faces high rates of alcohol abuse, with the number of drug-dependent Ukrainians growing 10-12% each year since 1990 and hard drugs such as heroin and cocaine being too expensive for the average Ukrainian. The use of narcotic drugs is illegal Ukraine, however, through the Ukrainian Penitentiary System drug addicts are treated for physical dependency and mental health issues to help move on from addiction.

The WHO must address substance abuse as it is: a global health epidemic. Ukraine supports official recognizing substance abuse as an epidemic, and the creation of a solution focused on the treatment of individuals in the context of the family unit. In avoiding infringing on national sovereignty, Ukraine supports a comprehensive substance abuse curriculum provided by the WHO to member states to implement in elementary and secondary education to prevent future substance abuse. Prevention and treatment should be completed in tandem, to effectively end the issue of substance abuse.
Delegation from: USA  
Represented by: Vermilion High School

Position paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: discussing the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones; and addressing the universal need to prevent and treat substance abuse. The United States of America is devoted to securing healthcare among healthcare workers, while also focusing their attention on the substance abuse nationwide. In hope for the protection of these important issues, the United States will connect with states within, and countries worldwide for the improvement of health.

I. Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

The United States of America highly supports the idea of creating safer conditions of healthcare workers in conflict zones. As for the United States is actively involved within other countries globally, the increase of healthcare workers are in demand overseas. Being over thousands of conflicts between countries, the U.S. is involved in quite a few, resulting in need for healthcare. Consequently, the issue arises of the safety of these workers in conflict zones.

Healthcare is fundamentally important during times of conflict, for as preventing the spread of disease and treating injuries is crucial for survival. This being, many are hurt and harmed, and poor safety for healthcare workers is provided. The International committee of red cross was created … main purpose being to protect wounded soldiers. Within time, it eventually led to the creation of the ICRC in 1863, and expanding to both medical personnel and patients. -- In just two years, between 2000 to 2002, the Department of Labor reported an average of 77 healthcare workers death annually. The United States is globally involved in hundreds of conflicts between countries, both direct and indirect. Many medical personnel and soldiers are being hurt minute by minute, over 18 million. For as this goes, the United States should focus on improving safety in conflict zones of healthcare workers.

The United States should direct its focus on improving the safety. By possibly creating more organizations, and congress passing more laws, the workers safety will be improved. After realizing the conditions of which soldiers and healthcare workers endure overseas, the sympathy of improving the safety should be heavily considered. A law should be passed in which helps protect our healthcare workers. By providing safer conditions, it allows for the safety of the healthcare workers to increase. By providing more care for the United States workers, it allows more safety for healthcare workers in conflict zones. The World Health Organization should focus primarily on the healthcare workers safety in conflict zones worldwide, for as the United States is becoming more involved in issues globally.

II. Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

The United States of America supports the the work of international actors to help end the crisis of substance abuse. Drug abuse within the United States is on a rise. The United States has
recognized the issue and has made a considerable investment to help resolve the issue. This country is dedicated to the well being of its people and people worldwide. Our hope is that others will follow the United States lead against this war on substance abuse.

The United States has made tremendous efforts to end addiction and help those who are addicted to drugs. Addiction is an illness, a mental illness. Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) is an organization within the United States working to help those suffering with alcohol addiction. It is estimated in 2017 that there was over two million active members of Alcoholics Anonymous. The 2014 NSDUH report states that if among people with mental illness in the United States over 18% had a substance abuse disorder swell, while those without had around a 6% rate of substance abuse. Therefore, this is not just a fight on substance abuse but a fight to help those with mental illnesses as well.

The United States has consistently been fight in the war against substance abuse. The prevention of substance abuse and treatment of mental illness that can lead to substance abuse is significantly cheaper than the health costs. The United States understands that it is not easy to prevent addiction, however the effort is needed. Mental illness needs to become more recognized as a real illness and there needs to be more awareness. Many people are uneducated on the affects a mental illness can have on someone such as leading them to substance abuse. The United States urges the United Nations to create more awareness of how to get help and modern forms of substance abuse and addiction such as vaping. By staying with current trends and creating awareness of the dangers we can prevent people from starting to use these dangerous items.
Position Paper for The World Health Organization (WHO)

The issues before the United Nations World Health Organization are: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones and Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is eager to discuss these imperative topics with fellow nations at this meeting of the World Health Organization and hopeful of the prospects that they will bring in resolving the issues set before the United Nations World Health Organization.

I: Discussing the Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

As a country facing excessive inflation and a declining economy, Venezuela’s health care system is on the verge of collapse. The Pharmaceutical Federation of Venezuela estimates the country is suffering from an 85 percent shortage of medicine amid an economic crisis also marked by severe hyperinflation and food scarcity. Some hospitals lack electricity, and more than 13,000 doctors have left Venezuela in the past four years in search of better opportunities. In addition to that, most laboratory services and hospital nutrition services are intermittent or completely inoperative. Staggering statistics highlight the shortages of items such as basic medicines, catheters, surgical supplies and infant formula.

In response to the situation in the country of Venezuela, the Pan American Health Organization has greatly increased its cooperation with the Ministry of Health of Venezuela and has strengthened the management of health systems, improved communicable and noncommunicable disease prevention and control, and improved disaster management and the procurement of medicines, vaccines, laboratory reagents, and other supplies for health programs through the Regional Revolving Fund for Strategic Public Health Supplies (Strategic Fund) and the PAHO Revolving Fund, which facilitates vaccine procurement. This response was strengthened in December 2017 by activating the Incident Command System (at PAHO headquarters and at Representative Offices in Venezuela as well as Brazil and Colombia) and delivering resources from the PAHO Disaster and Emergency Fund and PAHO Epidemic Emergency Fund, as well activating administrative procedures internally to facilitate a rapid and flexible technical cooperation response to countries. For this reason the delegation of Venezuela is a staunch supporter of the WHO’s Plan of Action on Workers' Health 2015-2025. The Plan contains strategic lines of action, and specific objectives and indicators aimed at protecting workers’ lives and promoting their health and well-being which the delegation of Venezuela supports wholly as it is in need of aid amidst its struggling healthcare system.

Venezuela’s health system is currently under a large amount of stress as a result of a combination of factors, including migration by health workers and scarcity of medicines and health supplies. This stress has affected the general functioning of the health system and its capacity to respond rapidly to emergencies and disease outbreaks and causes a large demand in Venezuela for Healthcare workers, especially ones that are healthy so that they are capable of doing their jobs in this time of endemics such as diphtheria, measles, and malaria.
II: Addressing the Universal Need to Prevent and Treat Substance Abuse

Being one of the preferred trafficking routes for illegal drugs from South America to the Caribbean region, Central America, the United States, Western Africa, and Europe, due to its porous western border with Colombia, weak judicial system, sporadic international counternarcotics cooperation, and permissive and corrupt environment, Venezuela is still a major drug-transit country today.

In 2014, increased amounts of marijuana cultivated in Colombia were transported through Venezuela, primarily to the Caribbean Islands. It is for this reason that Venezuela is demanding that Colombian state officials double their anti-drug trafficking efforts in light of the “alarming increase” of illicit coca crops. Coca production increased by 13 percent since last year, with another 25,000 hectares tilled for crop expansions. For the government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, it is even more worrisome that one of the most affected departments is precisely the north of Santander, bordering Venezuela, from where groups of drug trafficking and paramilitary violence are constantly attacking the population, the economy, and Venezuelan institutions according to reports from the United Nations.

At least 4.4 million men and 1.2 million women are afflicted by drug-use disorders—including drug dependence and other ailments—at some point in their lives—and that’s just in Latin America and the Caribbean. Annually, 1.7 million men and 400,000 women are affected. The delegation of Venezuela would like to change those statistics, even amid the country’s own economic crisis. Venezuela calls on the countries of the UN WHO committee to aid in preventing drug trafficking and decrease substance abuse globally and acknowledge it as a real problem that has numerous consequences.

The delegation of Venezuela would additionally like to point out that three factors are at the heart of the problem inequities in development, lack of access to health services and the exclusion of some segments of the population from the mainstream of society. These are three things that are unfortunately common place in third world countries like Venezuela. A public health approach to prevent substance abuse must therefore focus on long term implications as well as short term implications such a sustainable development, providing health care as a basic human right and promoting programs of social inclusion for marginalized groups at high risk of drug abuse and de-escalation of any conflict relating to drug trafficking as seen in the departments north of Santander on the border of Venezuela. According to a 2009 drug-consumption study by the Venezuelian National Anti-Narcotics Office (ONA), marijuana and cocaine were the most commonly consumed illicit drug in Venezuela. The delegation of Venezuela urges the WHO to end substance abuse as best as it can for the sake of Venezuela’s youth and global youth.
Delegation from: Vietnam
Representing: Avon Lake High School

World Health Organization (WHO)

As the concern for the health of the global population increases, specific issues reemerge regarding citizens of all countries. Vietnam supports the increase of regulations for the safety of medical workers in conflict zones due to the similar assault of Vietnamese medical staff. The prevention and treatment of substance abuse is a primary concern in the international drug crisis and Vietnam finds it necessary that the WHO direct the global community in the right direction in securing the safety of medical staff, combating the source of potential substance abuse, and treating current drug abusing citizens.

I. Safety of Healthcare Workers in Conflict Zones

Although security measures have been placed at most national and provincial hospitals in Vietnam, like those in conflict zones, assaults on medical staff are on the rise. Increasing already high-security measures will only treat the symptoms, but not the core disease. Vietnamese Minister of Health Nguyễn Thị Kim Tiến has requested that criminal proceedings should begin to take place against people who attack health workers and medical personnel. Other actions taken by the Ministry of Health have involved a standardized book with instructions involving how to recognize psychological changes within patients as well as procedures to be taken if violence arises. Similar hospital assaults occurring in conflict zones have earned the sympathy and concern of Vietnam.

II. Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse

Substance abuse of any kind causes a chain reaction of physical and psychological disorders that devastate citizens, communities, and entire countries. Vietnam boasts one of the highest smoking prevalence rates in the world, but it is certainly nothing to brag about. Although there is a toll-free telephone hotline to discuss smoking cessation, all forms of nicotine replacement therapy and medicines such as Bupropion and Varenicline are illegal to sell in Vietnam. Even mandates requiring health warnings on all tobacco products are made insignificant because it is legal for these health warnings to be obstructed by other required markings on the product. Along with the high tobacco, presence is a sharp increase in alcohol consumption. Vietnam is now one of the top ten consumers of alcohol due to a staggering 40% increase since 2010. Both alarmingly high tobacco and alcohol user rates have opened the gate to harder drugs in Vietnam. Heroin has replaced opium as the most preferred drug in the country's illicit drug market, especially among young users in urban areas. In addition, injecting has exceeded smoking and taken precedence in the country's drug abuse culture, especially among heroin users. Unless forceful steps are taken to reduce smoking among men and prevent the uptake of smoking by youth and women, Vietnam will face a tremendous health and economic burden in the near future.

As the issues of the safety of healthcare workers in conflict zones and prevention of substance abuse rise in prevalence, it is imperative that the WHO takes action. It is the responsibility of the WHO to provide de-escalation, self-defense, and emergency code response training for hospital employees. To ensure proper conduction of these safety measures, hospital managers should be trained to conduct drills and carry out such drills regularly. The WHO is in control of solving the international drug crisis. International tobacco campaigns will be the key to exterminating the tobacco crisis in Vietnam as well as worldwide. Alcohol restrictions to
prevent excessive abuse are also critical in diminishing the prevalence of alcohol abuse. Vietnam encourages direct solutions and compromises in order to better the lives of the international community.