



TERROR FROM TEMPERATURE

2123 CLIMATE
REFUGEES



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DIRECTOR LETTER



Hi!

Welcome to “Terror from Temperature: 2132 Climate Refugees” My name is Logan Wax, and I am a sophomore at the University of Florida, majoring in Mathematics and Statistics and minoring in Music Theory. I am an active member of the UF Model UN travel team as a director for both our collegiate and high school conferences. I competed in 15 conferences throughout my time in Model UN, participating in both crisis and general assembly committees. Outside of MUN, I both write short stories and compose music in my spare time.

Now, about the committee. I have always been interested in sci-fi and fantasy novels since I was a kid, and when I started writing my own stories I was immediately drawn to similar ideas. This committee was themed around a combination of dystopian fiction and sci-fi technologies as well as the current issues regarding climate change. My goal with this committee is to have everyone involved both learn more about the dangers of climate change as well as express their creativity through the variety of solutions that a sci-fi setting allows for. Due to the amount of time these solutions may take, this committee will be fast-paced and likely have multiple months or years occurring between sessions and updates. Because of this, I hope that you all will take advantage of the global scale of these issues and use that to your advantage while coming up with ideas. This committee will be reactionary rather than preventive so take that into consideration as well.

My expectations are that you all maintain a level of professionalism and respect for each other, your SUNMUN staffers, and any real-world situations. We at UF hold a standard of acceptance of all types of people, and we will not hesitate to provide repercussions for bullying or mockery. There should be no prewriting and no plagiarism. Since this committee is set in the future, your positions are not based on real people. Therefore, I will provide you each with a brief description of who they are, but I strongly recommend that you all read the complete background guide and expand upon what I have provided to better understand your positions. I will also explain in this background guide some current research on the issues we are covering as well as the "history" from the present day into the present day of the committee. I do not expect you to do outside research, however, reading the full guide will make you much more prepared for this committee. I hope you all have a lot of fun in this committee and enjoy SUNMUN.

Sincerely,

Logan Wax

Director, Terror from Temperature: 2123 Climate Refugees





CLIMATE CHANGE

Around the time of 1900, the first effects of climate change had begun to be noticed by the scientific community, with global warming being discovered in 1938 by Guy Callendar. However, due to how taking efforts toward counteracting climate change would have negative economic impacts, little to no action was taken to combat climate change until the early 21st century.

One of the first significant attempts to address climate change occurred during the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, at which Marshallese government minister, Tony de Brum managed to get all countries present to agree to work towards adopting a goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius as the target rather than 2. Despite this, within the next 5 years, this goal became more and more unachievable, with most of the countries that had agreed to this goal doing little to nothing to achieve it.

Sea Level Rise

Around the early 21st century, there began to be major floods across many island countries as the sea level has begun to rise into towns. Unsurprisingly, the main cause of this issue was climate change, resulting in many citizens of island nations to grow more and more concerned as the greater population outside these countries did little to combat this issue. This led to many of these citizens becoming very influential within both international politics and activist groups.

However, despite the major political effects, the most notable impacts of sea level rise are the environmental and social impacts. For example, many citizens of island nations have discussed the worry of losing their culture and home when they are forced to leave the islands, as a significant number of them have accepted that saving their homes is nearly impossible.

Additionally to this, the environmental impacts on the ecosystems of these islands, most notably that of the effects the rising sea level has had on the atolls that make up the islands. Atolls are made of coral which can be eroded by the sea over time. Due to the increased strength of the tides the rise in sea level has caused, there is significant erosion and deterioration of usable landmass. This has exponentially increased the flooding of the islands and rapidly decreased the amount of time that is expected before the islands are lost to the ocean.

Societal and Migration Impacts of Climate Change

Due to the failure to reach a significant slowing of climate change, the loss of island nations, as well as the habitability of most of the planet's landmass is likely inevitable. Because of this, it is crucial to address how many citizens of nations impacted by climate change have begun to move to small towns and are starting growing communities there in an effort to ensure the safety of their families. As the tides have become more dangerous, they have begun to leave, usually sending one or two individuals to larger countries such as the US to earn money to buy plane tickets for the rest of their family to join them. Despite this not being a true solution, it ends up being the next best option for many.

According to current UN resources, an annual average of 21.5 million people have been forcibly displaced by climate disasters, such as flooding or wildfires, since 2008. Furthermore, it is currently predicted by some studies that there could be as many as 1.2 billion climate refugees by as early as 2050, making it clear that climate refugees will likely soon be quite common.

Scientific Thoughts on the Issue

While most scientists seem to think that the effects of climate change are too far gone to make much of an impact, some of the sources show a more optimistic view by showing ways we could combat the effects of climate change if we begin to take immediate steps to do so. The IPCC states that if we start making major changes to reduce our impacts on climate change, we may be able to reduce the effects by over 500 percent by 2050. However, upon searching for other sources that discuss this issue, most of the sources seem to agree that at the very least a notable amount of loss of landmass and destruction of ecosystems is extremely likely. One study predicts if immediate action is not taken to slow the effects of climate change, the number of individuals personally affected by climate change could double yearly. Additionally, data shows if the global temperature rises 2 degrees Celsius, most coral reefs and small island nations would be lost. Other sources state that if citizens of nations heavily affected by climate change do not migrate elsewhere, drastic measures such as creating new landmasses or elevating preexisting islands out of the ocean may be the only option.

Current Attempts to Address the Issue

Some countries have begun to preemptively allow climate refugees to relocate into their territory. One notable example is that of the US Compact of Free Association. Via the compact, citizens of Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau, as well as their spouses and children, can immigrate to the US without a visa and immediately be able to work there. As other nations are facing the same issues, it is very likely that either the US or the UN will begin to extend temporary international citizenship to climate change refugees within the next few decades. Additionally, the IPCC has suggested to island nations that they begin to use more sustainable designs for buildings and resource management, however, the economic status of these nations makes this an unlikely solution without major outside assistance.



MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS OF THE LAST CENTURY



22nd Century Continental Governments

As much of the Earth's livable land mass was lost during the 21st century, many state governments began to collapse due to protests and dwindling resources. This led to multiple international unions being reformed into continental governments. There are currently 7 continental governments:

North American Alliance

Due to the loss of major US cities, as well as the climate in southern Mexico, becoming near unlivable, many people have begun moving northwards into the northern US and Canada. Due to this migration of American and Mexican citizens, the US proposed the North American Alliance in 2072 which formed a joint government between the three countries. Most people in the NAA live in what is currently southern Canada. The main industry of the NAA is technology production, similar to that of 21st century China. The NAA's main resources are timber and available land.

Eurasian Union

After Russia joined the EU in 2053, the European Union began to allow Eastern Asian and Middle Eastern states to become members of the union, officially changing its name to the Eurasian Union in 2061. Due to the loss of New York City in 2069, the United Nations moved its main headquarters to Chernihiv, Ukraine with funding from the EAU. Most people in the NAA live in what is currently Eastern Europe and the northeastern Middle East. Due to a large amount of usable water and soil within EAU territory, it now provides most of the world's perishable food products. The EAU's main resources are water and soil.

Pacific Island Forum

Due to the flooding of the Pacific Islands, many citizens of this nation began to move to the continent of Australia in 2039. Over the next two decades, the PIF was formed, granting citizenship to the people of the islands. PIF is known for its fisheries and seafood production as the techniques of the Australians combined with the traditional practices of the island nations made for a healthier, more consistent, source of seafood. The PIF's main resources are gemstones and fish.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

After much of Asia's southeastern coast flooded and the Chinese government collapsed in 2057, the remaining citizens of southeast Asia formed ASEAN. The purpose of ASEAN was to recognize the differences in Asian cultures while also forming a unified community to support and aid the citizens. ASEAN was the first governmental organization to stop using coal and oil in favor of natural gas as an energy source due to multiple large deposits in the area. In the modern-day, ASEAN primarily produces refined metals which it trades for food and other necessities. The main resources of ASEAN are natural gas and metals.

Federation of South American Nations

The Federation of South American Nations, often abbreviated to FASUR, was created in response to the formation of the other global continental governments, becoming the seventh and final major authority in 2093. Due to the loss of most of the Amazon as well as the climate in most of what was Latin America becoming unlivable, most citizens live in the southwestern part of the continent. FASUR mostly focuses on producing different crops and cattle, as it was the first of the continents to breed cattle that could thrive in the altered climate. FASUR's main resources are crops and cattle.

North-South Pole Republic

As the melting of the ice caps was significantly slowed in 2081 due to UNESCO interference, it was discovered that the warming of the Earth's climate had led to the Arctic, Antarctica, and originally uninhabited parts of northern Greenland becoming similar to the previous climates of Russia and Canada. After millions of people, namely from the Pacific Islands to Antarctica and from northern Eurasia to Greenland and the Arctic, the North-South Pole Republic was formed and joined the UN continental government assembly in 2086. As the poles are some of the only places where glaciers can still be found today, the main exports of the poles are ice and coal. The main resources of the North-South Pole Republic are coal and ice.

African Union

Due to the fact that most of the land in Africa had not flooded by 2060, the African governments came together to create the first continental government, the African Union. Modeled after the original United States, it unified Africa and led to the start of the 21st technological revolution after the discovery of the African blue diamond which had special properties that could decrease the energy usage of technologies. Today, the African Union is the most wealthy of the nations, with its natural deposits of blue diamonds and remaining oil reserves, which are the largest left on the planet. The main resources of the African Union are oil and gold.

Climate Refugees

Because of the mass flooding of the planet along with the intense heating along the equator, millions of people were forced to flee from their homes. Due to the decrease in land along with the increase of refugees, overpopulation became one of the world's greatest issues. Although this problem has been somewhat addressed, as the world's resources continue to deplete, scientists estimate that we will once more be addressing overpopulation within the next decade.

The Role of Activist Organizations in 22nd Century Politics

Near the end of the 21st century, as the general populace became more dependent on activist organizations, a significant portion of the world's economic and political power became controlled by activists.

Technological Development during the Last Century

A larger emphasis on technological development has been present in society since the late 2100s. Because of this, there has been rapid development in most scientific fields, namely astrophysics, biochemistry, medicine, and environmental sciences. These specific fields have been used to slow the effects of climate change and search for off-planet resources.

2120s Protest Movements

As the population has remained stagnant, the decline in resources has become more apparent. Because of this, most of the continents have seen major protest movements in the last two decades. These movements focused on aid for the public, the reversal of climate change, and governmental reform, echoing many similar outcries during the early 21st century.



COMMITTEE GOALS

Address the global protests regarding the lack of governmental aid for both refugees and citizens in the wake of worsening environmental issues.

Address the issue of the activist monopolies that have formed over the last century.

Work towards finding new resource sources or creating man-made substitutes.

Create a temporary solution to the land shortage crisis.



POSITIONS

Political Representatives

Due to the dire circumstances, the representatives of each continental union have been given emergency authority over their respective governments. This grants them access to funding, untrained labor, and their countries natural resources. These politicians can pass laws within their respective territories, which will increase approval. However, the effects will be limited without proper funding and labor.

Peke Lea'ai - PIF Representative

Lea'ai was chosen as the representative of PIF for this conference as they have been very vocal about their support for diversity within continental governments. They are known for their policies which focus on providing necessities such as food and water to all the citizens of the forum, as well as their focus on the restoration of the Australian costal climate.

Allya Tamayo - ASEAN Representative

Tamayo is known as a supporter of a globalized culture and one of the core founders of ASEAN's modern economy. They were chosen as the representative via a public vote, winning with 48% of the votes. They are known for their policies which focus on establishing maritime trade routes and relocating refugees from the equatorial region. They stated that their main goal for this conference is to continue to prioritize current issues rather than issues which may happen in 20 years.

Elita Alxanova - EAU Representative

Alxanova originally was a supporter of present-day action, however, after the Mediterranean Flood of 2098, she shifted her focus towards terraformation technologies. She has passed multiple legislation with the EAU that terraforms uninhabitable areas in order to gather natural resources and create new homes for wildlife.



Parker Allan - NAA Representative

Allan is the son of a survivor from the Manahattan Flood which has led him to promote many survivor aid organizations as well as support the creation of new technologies that can explore and reclaim items from the world's sunken cities. He was elected to the NAA congress in 2091 and passed multiple bills which created the Eastern Coastal History Museum in Ontario as well as the Sunken Survivors act which used government funding to sponsor five different activist organizations which aided global flood survivors.

Flávio Maia Rodriguez - FASUR Representative

Rodriguez comes from one of the major farming families in FASUR. He helped to establish the major trade between the FASUR, NAA, and EAU which kickstarted both the nation's economy as well as the global trade market. He promotes the sharing of resources and the traditional refertilization of land as a

Sisipho Najeke - NSPR Representative

The daughter of two of the NSPR's founding members, Najeke alongside her parents helped establish multiple major cities in Antarctica, eventually starting her own corporation which extracted natural resources from the Antarctic glaciers. Her corporation became globally successful, and she used her fortune to fund the construction of further NSPR settlements and companies. She is widely respected by the nation's citizens and known to speak for the sharing of resources and wealth within her community.

Caleb Zeki Habibi - AU Representative

Habibi was the youngest person to have ever been elected to the AU parliament when he was elected to office in 2119. He has worked with multiple major African companies and activist groups, leading him to be well known by AU citizens. He promotes policies which maintain the AU's wealth as well as increase the use of blue diamond technology.



Scientists

There are several scientists who have been asked to join this committee due to their knowledge in their fields. These scientists work in many departments of the UN and have access to UN labs and technicians for anything they deem necessary. Additionally, they have all been granted the funds and resources to invent technology to combat this global crisis. Scientists can invent new technology and research possible solutions. They need funding to create the new technologies, but if no funding is available, they can instead choose to research during that session and the UN will sponsor their invention next session.

Orion Castor - Astrophysicist - COSPAR, UNESCO

Castor is one of the greatest minds of modern astrophysics, having discovered proof of wormholes as well as creating the first man-made blackhole to be larger than a centimeter. He has currently been working towards creating technology to harness the power that wormholes could provide for humanity and has been known to speak on the topic of searching for other habitable planets.

Basil Abilene - Thermo-Environmental Physicist - UNEP

Abilene is the creator of the most powerful terraforming technology humanity currently has access to. Their research has allowed for the continued habitation of the poles as they managed to alter the melting temperature of the polar glaciers. They now claim to be working towards further terraforming progress by powering the technology via the energy outputted from extraterrestrial occurrences such as solar flares.

Ether Dalton - Biochemist - IUBS, UNESCO

Dalton's main accomplishment has been with genetically modified crops. Her GMOs have allowed the EAU to begin producing a yearly harvest as well as provide food for local species in order to semi-maintain the local environment. Her next goal seems to be creating a temperature resistant vaccine via by examining the evolution of the few species that still live in the equatorial region and find their temperature resistant genes.

Zephyr Sperou - Immunologist - WCRP, UNESCO

Sperou is the main voice in the scientific community that speaks about the negative effects that air pollution in combination with the warming of the atmosphere has had on humanity's respiratory health. They have created multiple new technologies and medications that combat the side effects, however, they still state that in the long run, that lack of a clear atmosphere will be humanity's downfall.

Kale Bobal - Food Scientist - FAO

Bobal has been working closely with FASUR experts to examine the nutritional benefits of food produced in different areas of the nation. Their research focuses on the effect the climate and weather of different areas across the plant have had on both the people who are born there as well as the local flora and fauna. Their newest research has a focus on the health of those born in the modern age to the data from the 21st century.

Alek Misra - Resettlement Advisor - UNHCR

Misra is a UN resettlement advisor and has helped members of all seven nations relocate after they were forced from their homes due to floods, overheating, or environmental declamation. They have been asked to attend this conference due to their expertise in the planning of large-scale migration and relocation efforts.

Poet Arzt - Physician - WMA

Arzt is one of the world's leading medical professionals. He specializes in the treatment of climate related illnesses such as respiratory issues, heat strokes, and the treatment of diseases that have mutated due to the warming of the planet. He states that he sees no future for humanity in which drastic efforts are not taken immediately as he claims that the overall health of the population has seen a sharp decline.

Activists

The current leaders of multiple major activism organizations have been asked to join this committee due to their significant public aid and public support. They have access to supports across the world as well as the ability to speak freely with the public. Due to the activists' aid over the last century, the public seems to trust them more than the governments of the world. Activists can provide funding and labor for the other two groups, however they can also instead use funding and labor to boost public opinion, allowing them to be able to fund two projects during the next session.

Jemima Hadassah - Greenpeace

The acting leader of the EAU branch of Greenpeace, Hadassah has worked on the many terraforming efforts in the region as well as the efforts to revive the local animal populations. She states that the current goal of Greenpeace is to help restart and rehome the populations of all species at risk for extinction as Greenpeace believes it may aid in climate efforts.

Maraline Battle - Actionaid

Battle is the leader of Actionaid's climate crisis survivor's aid which is currently funded by the NAA. She has volunteered at a variety of crises in the last 22 years and states that through Actionaid, she has been able to help maintain hope amongst the survivors of these climate crises.

Galaad Illés - IRAP

Illés is the Director of International Connections at IRAP. In this role, he leads the IRAP's development of assistance programs which focus on family reunification and relocation of large groups of refugees. He states that the priority is to make sure that as many people as possible have a proper place to live as all people deserve a home.

Hamza Probert - Action against hunger

Probert and the rest of Action Against Hunger have been a critical part of the refertilization of EAU soil. Their efforts allowed the EAU to provide enough food to support most of their population. They now focus their efforts towards taking food to areas in need and help to renew the nearby land to start food production.

Agi Orellana - Fossil Free

Orellana has been the leader of Fossil Free for the past 25 years and he has worked with the AU to reduce the amount of oil and natural gas fueled technology as well as aided in the distribution of new clean energy sources to other parts of the world. His current focus is set towards removing all usage of fossil fuels and work towards revitalizing the atmosphere.

Dayaa Akai - Mercy Corps

Akai has grounded her career in the simple belief that, no matter where someone is born, no matter where they live, they should be able to lead a thriving and successful life. Her areas of focus include disaster prevention, risk mitigation and governance of refugees. She states her goal is to limit the number of those effected by climate crisis through prevention rather than reaction.

Giannino Castellano - Crisis Aid International

Castellano is the leader of the UN branch of Crisis Aid International and has led multiple UN climate restoration efforts as well as disaster aid in crisis scenarios. He has caused the formation of an organization which provides funding of other activist groups as well as worked with multiple UN officials, advising them about the effects that climate change has had on citizens.



OTHER INFORMATION

Delegate Expectations

Please refer to the Delegate Handbook for more details. The Delegate Handbook remains the first and final guide for all delegate expectations at SunMUN I.

- All other delegates, staff, and non-participants are to be treated with respect and courtesy, including properly interacting with facilities of the University of Florida. Discrimination on all bases, including race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or disability, is never acceptable. If you believe you have seen any instances of discrimination or sexual harassment, do not hesitate to bring it to the attention of your chair or the SunMUN secretariat.
- Maintaining professionalism is expected of all delegates, including: keeping academic integrity, using polite and professional language, as well as wearing Western Business Attire.
- The safety and security of both attendees of this conference and its hosts remains our primary concern which is why we ask all participants to observe all appropriate public health measures, not leave any important personal items unattended, refrain from any substance abuse, as well as follow any and all local ordinances.

Academic Integrity

We maintain a zero-tolerance policy in regards to plagiarism. Delegates found to have used the ideas of others without properly citing those individuals, organizations, or documents will have their credentials revoked for the duration of the conference. This is a very serious offense. Additionally, pre-writing is strictly prohibited as well. Any work which is pre-written will not be recognized. *All* committee work will be completed on GoogleDocs shared with the dais.



Technology Policy

The usage of technology during committee remains first and foremost within the discretion of the dais and the SunMUN secretariat.

Land Acknowledgement

The University of Florida resides on land of the Timucua people and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. It is important to understand the long-standing history that has brought us to reside on the land, and to seek to understand our place within that history. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context: colonialism is a current ongoing process, and we need to build our mindfulness of our present participation. It is also worth noting that acknowledging the land is Indigenous protocol. For more information, visit <http://www.lspirg.org/knowtheland>.



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