

2011 YMCA MODEL UNITED NATIONS – PRECONFERENCE SUBMISSION

establish a Coalition for Worldwide Public Health. Medication to treat these diseases is relatively inexpensive, but still out of reach for many of those with the greatest need.

The second paragraph of each topic discussion should be a description of what your country would like the committee to resolve regarding the topic. This paragraph should outline a few potential solutions to the problems identified in the topic description and position paragraph above.

To begin to address these issues on a global scale, Luxembourg would like to join its partners in the General Assembly to create programs to educate at-risk populations on the spread of infectious diseases, with concentrations on HIV/AIDS and Malaria. These programs should emphasize prevention. Luxembourg would also like to initiate a program that constructs hospitals and ships medical supplies and technology to developing nations that lack the infrastructure to treat sick people and prevent further spread of disease. This program should also provide grants and other incentives to doctors, nurses, and other medical personnel to staff these facilities and train locals on the use of cutting edge medical technologies.

The third paragraph is a brief description of the way other countries might react to the ideas outlined in the prior paragraph on potential solutions. In this paragraph, identify potential supporters of your ideas and include details on their positions, blocs and alliances, and any influence they have on the topic at hand.

Germany is a potential ally in implementing global healthcare initiatives because it is the third largest financial contributor to the United Nations. Like Luxembourg, Germany believes that education, containment, and advances in medicine can all help alleviate the spread of disease. France serves as a model of low-cost, effective health care for all citizens of a nation, and believes that the best way to advance this cause is by using biotechnology to stop diseases before they spread widely. The United States also focuses on prevention and could help with increasing the production of important vaccines to help prevent the spread of disease.

Topic 2: Human Rights – Torture

The first paragraph of each topic discussion should be a brief description of the position of your country on the topic. Clearly state any positions your country has on the topic and give reasons and facts to support your position. To help develop your position, consider the questions listed at the end of each topic description.

Luxembourg is proud to be a signatory to the United Nations Convention against Torture and, pursuant to Article 22, allows individual complaints to be made directly to the Committee against Torture. Luxembourg has condemned the use of torture throughout its history and would like to see member nations face penalties if their military branches currently employ the use of torture on detainees and prisoners. Whether used during peacetime or in warfare, torture is deplorable and should never be considered acceptable under any circumstances.

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During this session of the General Assembly, the use of torture in the Darfur region should be addressed by the United Nations. The United Nations must do everything possible to prevent the use of torture and end the genocide in this region that has affected millions of people. Luxembourg recommends the use of economic sanctions, military force, and a diplomatic effort involving the entire international community. All possible resources must be used to stop the atrocities in the Darfur Region.

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The Democratic Republic of the Congo has similar views on this topic because it has dealt with torture of its citizens firsthand at the hands of the Congolese. The General Assembly should draw from the experience of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in developing a plan to end the use of torture in the Darfur region. The United States recommends that any new standards related to torture be broad enough to allow for any nation's cultural sensitivities, yet strict enough to prevent the severe pain and anguish caused by such practices. Finally, the United Kingdom believes in a strengthening the legal framework that protects individuals from such blatant and dangerous mistreatment and violates fundamental human rights.

Topic 3: International Disputes

The first paragraph of each topic discussion should be a brief description of the position of your country on the topic. Clearly state any positions your country has on the topic and give reasons and facts to support your position. To help develop your position, consider the questions listed at the end of each topic description.

Luxembourg believes that the best way to resolve international problems is through the use of diplomacy and above all, believes that member nations should do everything possible to avoid warfare. In instances when this is not possible, Luxembourg believes that international courts should have the final say in responsibility for the consequences of warfare. The International Court of Justice and International Criminal Court are vital tools and Luxembourg implores all members of the General Assembly to recognize the value of these bodies and honor their verdicts.

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Although the international courts have clearly defined roles in settling international disputes, the roles of the General Assembly and Security Council have more overlap in addressing such problems. These bodies must work together because their actions in mediating such conflicts are often needed on short timeframes. Luxembourg recommends that members of the General Assembly and the Security Council establish a special task force to develop clear parameters for each body's involvement when intervening in international disputes.

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Other small European nations, such as Liechtenstein, have similar views on this issue. Like Luxembourg, Liechtenstein is not involved in any international disputes at the present time and would look to the United Nations and international courts to resolve such conflicts if they arise in the future. Germany is a potential ally because it shares the belief that United Nations bodies serve as fair mediators and their decisions in resolving international disputes should be respected. Finally, the United Kingdom shares Luxembourg's view that the General Assembly should be free to use its authority under Resolution 377(V) to intervene in international disputes as necessary.