



WHO

**WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**

20

23



CJCP MODEL UN

Committee Topic:

Addressing the Health Impacts of Climate Change: Mitigation, Adaptation, and Building Resilient Health Systems



**Take urgent action
to combat
climate change
and its impacts**

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MESSAGE FROM OUR DIAS MEMBERS

Seniha Kocak
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Dear MUN Delegates,

I am very excited to welcome you to CJCP MUN this year! To introduce myself, my name is Seniha Kocak and I am a senior here at Central Jersey College Prep Charter School. I'm so thrilled to meet you all! I have been a part of Model UN for 3 years, specializing in the World Health Organization (WHO) for two years and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for one. As the Chair, I am honored to guide and facilitate the proceedings of this Model UN committee, where we will collectively tackle pressing global issues, engage in meaningful debates, and work toward sustainable solutions

Participating in Model UN has granted me access to a supportive and caring community, where individuals willingly assist one another. I have met so many wonderful people and made so many new friends from different states and countries. MUN has not only introduced me to an extraordinary group of people but it has also equipped me with invaluable life skills that seamlessly extend to my everyday existence. Throughout the conference, my primary goal is to ensure a fair, inclusive, and productive environment that fosters active participation and respectful dialogue. As delegates, I encourage you to express your unique perspectives, challenge existing notions, and collaboratively explore innovative approaches to the complex topics at hand. I vividly recall my initial MUN experience, where even now, I experience nerves while delivering my opening speech. I want all delegates to recognize that feeling anxious is normal, and I urge them to bravely deliver speeches or initiate substantive discussions. As we embark on this MUN journey together, I am confident that CJCPMUN will be a memorable and transformative experience for all. I look forward to witnessing your passion, creativity, and dedication throughout the committee sessions.

Outside of Model UN, I have also actively engaged in Girls Varsity Volleyball, been an art teacher for grades K-6, and had the privilege of traveling to different countries. Whether MUN-related or not, please don't hesitate to approach me with any questions or concerns, before, during, or after this conference. Finally, I sincerely hope that all delegates thoroughly enjoy their time on the WHO committee and the overall CJCPMUN experience!

Sincerely,
Seniha Kocak
CJCPMUN Chair

MESSAGE FROM OUR DIAS MEMBERS

Varun Ramanathan
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Dear MUN Delegates,

It is my pleasure to introduce all of you to the very first CJCP MUN conference this year! I have been a part of Model UN for two years as a delegate for the World Health Organization Committee. As Vice Chair this year, I look forward to guiding all of you on your journey to put forth your ideas, take action, and determine resilient solutions to the challenges you will face.

As a Model UN delegate, I learned about many different perspectives from many different countries, which opened my eyes to how complex an issue can be. In doing so, I learned how strong collaboration and willingness to listen to others allowed me to make greater progress in moving toward a strong resolution. I also met many people from different states and countries and I enjoyed learning about who they were outside of being a delegate. Throughout this conference, I hope that I can give you an enjoyable experience while also teaching you the intricacies of what a United Nations conference would be like as we address real-world problems together. I look forward to witnessing the passion, creativity, and collaboration that all of you put forward throughout this conference.

Please do not hesitate to approach me with any questions or concerns you have throughout the conference. I look forward to meeting you all and hope that this experience will make you more excited about Model UN and tackling the real-world problems of today.

Sincerely,
Varun Ramanathan
CJCPMUN Vice Chair

Rules of Procedure

The Rules of procedure are three types: Motions (Verbal and Non-Verbal), Points, and Yields.

Verbal Motions

- Motion to Set the Agenda:** “Country X motions to set the agenda in favor of topic X.” Note that, since there will be one topic per committee this year, the agenda will already be set in favor of each committee’s topic. **This Motion Requires an Absolute Majority**
- Motion to Set the Speakers List:** “Country X motions to set the Speakers List to Y seconds.” **This Motion Requires an Absolute Majority.**
- Motion to Suspend the Debate:** The debate can be suspended to a moderated or unmoderated caucus, soliciting of third parties, or consultation of the whole.
 - Moderated Caucus:** “Country X motions to suspend the debate for a moderated caucus to discuss Y for a total time of Z minutes and speakers time of V seconds.” **This Motion Requires an Absolute Majority.**
 - Unmoderated Caucus:** “Country X motions to suspend the debate for an unmoderated caucus for the purpose of Y for a total time of Z minutes”. **This Motion Requires an Absolute Majority.**
 - Consultation of the Whole:** “Country X motions to suspend the debate for a consultation of the whole, to discuss Y for a total time of Z minutes.” **This Motion Requires an Absolute Majority.**
- Motion to Introduce Draft Resolution:** “Country X motions to introduce Draft Resolutions.” **This Motion Requires an Absolute Majority.**
- Motion to Begin Debating on Amendments:** “Country X motions to begin debating on amendments.” **This Motion Requires an Absolute Majority.**
- Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:** “Country X motions to adjourn the meeting for the purpose of lunch.” **This Motion Requires an Absolute Majority.**
- Motion to Close the Debate:** “Country X motions to close the debate and move into voting procedures...” **This Motion Requires a Two-Thirds Majority.**

Rules of Procedure

The Rules of procedure are three types: Motions (Verbal and Non-Verbal), Points, and Yields.

Written Motions

1. **Right of Reply:** This is requested when a delegate feels that another delegate has made a derogatory comment to the country they are representing. **There is no Right of Reply to a Right of Reply.**
2. **Appeal to the Chair's Decision:** This is used when a delegate feels that the chair committed a mistake or acted unfairly.

Points:

- **Point of Order:** This is used when a delegate feels that the chair or a fellow delegate has made an error in the running of the committee. **This Point is Interruptive.**
- **Point of Parliamentary Procedure:** Also known as a point of inquiry, this is used when a delegate has a question regarding the rules of procedure or flow of debate. **This Point is Non-Interruptive.**
- **Point of Personal Privilege:** This is used when a delegate has a certain personal discomfort. **This Point is Interruptive.**
- **Point of Information:** This is used when a delegate does not understand or needs more clarification on a certain speech or notion that a delegate gave. **This Point is Non-Interruptive.**

Yields:

Yields are only used when a delegate does not use their whole speaking time during the formal debate. There are three types:

Rules of Procedure

1. Yield to the Chair
2. Yield to Another Delegate
3. Yield to Questions

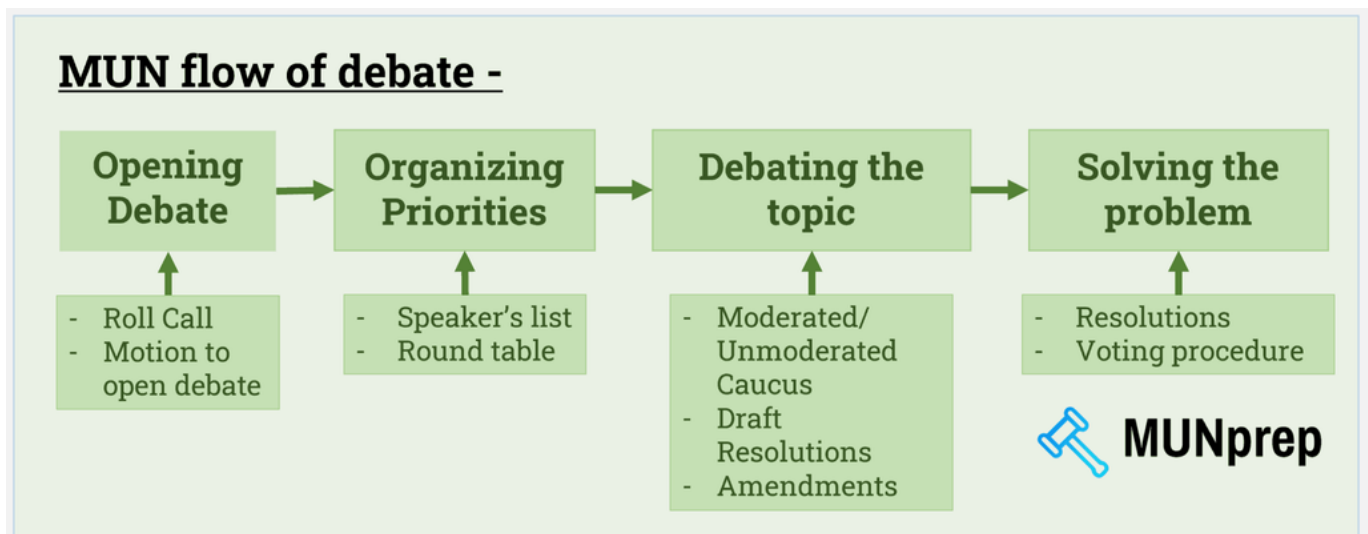
Amendment:

There are two types of amendments:

1. **Friendly Amendments:** A change to a draft resolution that all sponsors of the latter agree with.
2. **Unfriendly Amendments:** A change to a draft resolution that not all sponsors agree with. **This Amendment requires an Absolute Majority vote to pass.**

Passage of Resolutions:

In small committees, Draft Resolutions will require a two-thirds majority to pass. In large committees, they will require an absolute majority. **Each Chairperson will point out at the beginning of the session the 'required number to pass' votes that will be applied in each committee.**



COMMITTEE INTRODUCTION

Purpose and Mandate

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations, established with the primary objective of promoting international cooperation and addressing health-related issues on a global scale. With its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, WHO plays a pivotal role in shaping health policies, coordinating health-related activities, and setting international standards for public health.

Overview and History

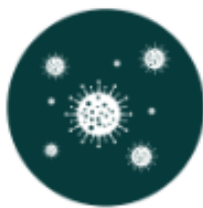
The WHO was founded on April 7, 1948, with a vision to ensure that all people attain the highest possible level of health. Since its inception, WHO has been at the forefront of combating diseases, coordinating emergency responses, and fostering innovative research in the field of global health. Its constitution, signed by 61 countries, has guided its actions and principles, emphasizing the right to health as a fundamental human right.



COMMITTEE INTRODUCTION

Issues Addressed

In this committee, we will focus on a range of critical global health issues. These may include but are not limited to:



01 — Pandemic Preparedness and Response

Addressing the lessons learned from recent pandemics and improving global readiness for future health crises



02 — Universal Healthcare

Exploring strategies to ensure equitable access to quality healthcare services for all individuals, regardless of socio-economic backgrounds.



03 — Vaccine Equity

Finding solutions to bridge the gap in vaccine distribution and access between high-income and low-income countries.



04 — Maternal and Child Health

Discussing measures to improve the health and well-being of mothers and children worldwide

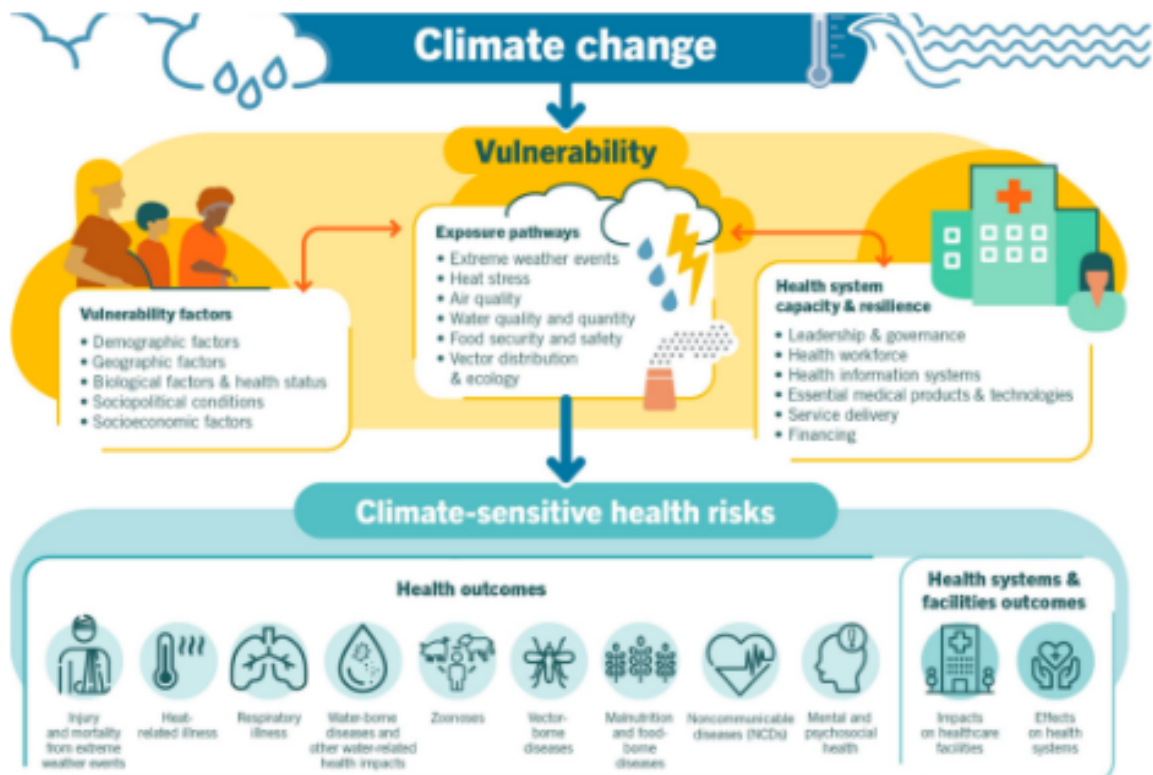


05 — Non-Communicable Diseases(NCDs)

Examining ways to combat the growing burden of NCDs, such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and cancer.

Climate change refers to the long-term alteration of Earth's average weather patterns, including temperature, precipitation, and wind patterns, primarily driven by human activities that release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. This phenomenon has gained significant attention due to its far-reaching and often detrimental impacts on the planet's ecosystems, weather systems, and overall sustainability. The primary cause of modern climate change is the excessive emission of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O) into the atmosphere. These gases trap heat from the sun, creating a "greenhouse effect" that raises global temperatures. The main sources of these emissions are the burning of fossil fuels for energy, deforestation, industrial processes, and agricultural practices.

One of the most evident consequences of climate change is the global rise in temperatures. This warming trend leads to various secondary effects, including melting ice and glaciers, rising sea levels, and altered precipitation patterns. As temperatures increase, ecosystems and species struggle to adapt, leading to severe health consequences that are potentially irreversible. The impact of climate change is a complex and multifaceted challenge that affects all aspects of the planet's ecosystems and human societies. Addressing this issue requires a global collaborative effort to curb greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to changing conditions, and work towards a sustainable future for generations to come.



INTERNATIONAL ACTION

Climate change poses unprecedented threats to public health, with its far-reaching consequences affecting vulnerable populations worldwide. As the World Health Organization (WHO), it is our duty to take decisive and collaborative international action to mitigate the health impacts of climate change and build resilient health systems to protect the well-being of every individual.

01 - Strengthening Climate Change Mitigation Strategies

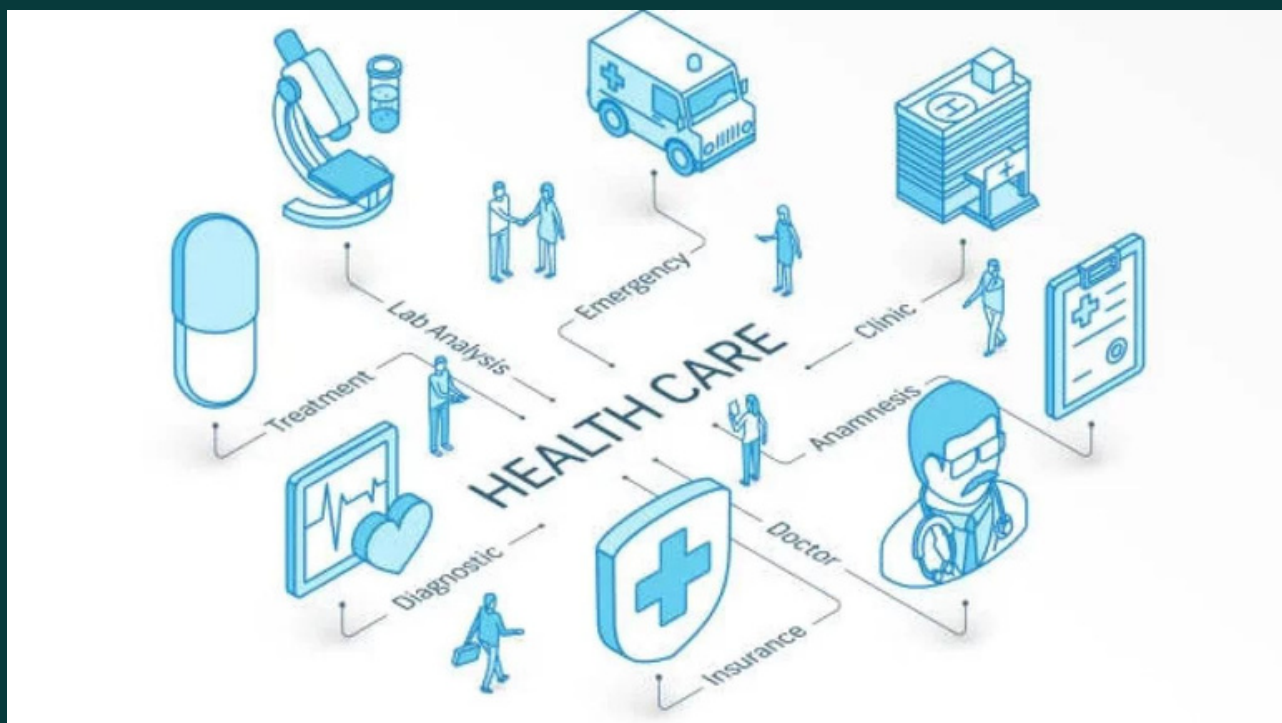
The goal of mitigation is to avoid significant human interference with Earth's climate and stabilize within a short time period to allow for humans and other species to sufficiently adapt to climate change. Reducing climate change involves reducing the flow of heat-trapping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The best way to do this is to reduce the source of greenhouse gases, such as the burning of fossil fuels for heat, electricity, or transport. By lowering the current primary source of energy, it is vital for us to find a replacement for fossil fuels to supply the required energy. Some options for replacing fossil fuels include the use of solar energy, wind energy, geothermal energy, and nuclear energy. All of these energy sources contribute to mitigating the instability that has been caused by climate change as a result of fossil fuels.

02 - Strengthening Climate Change Adaptation Strategies

Adapting to life in a changing climate involves adjusting to actual or expected future climate. The goal of adaptation is to reduce the risks from the harmful effects of climate change, such as sea level rise, extreme weather events, and food insecurity. In some cases, adaptation even involves making the most of the beneficial changes climate change has given us, such as longer growing seasons and increased crop yields in some parts of the world. Adapting to climate change requires one to understand the effects of climate change and the best approach to fix it. In doing so, it is important to first address the effects of climate change at a local scale and build up to widespread adaptations. This would allow for greater efficiency in adapting to the changes that we have faced in the past couple of decades.

03 - Building Resilient Health Systems

There are multiple components that are required to build resilient systems that will continue to be effective even under the worst circumstances. Climate change has not only caused weather changes and climate-related disasters, but the effects of climate change are different in different parts of the world, meaning that the optimal health system is not the same everywhere. Therefore, before determining the optimal way to build a health system, it is important to address which effects of climate change are most common in a specific region and what the health consequences are as a result of these effects. For example, if climate change has caused long periods of drought in a certain region, an adaptation plan would need to be set in place to improve crop yield and increase fresh water supply in that region. By addressing what effects are most common, you can also determine what diseases are more likely to spread in that region, which would have a major impact on what the most effective health system is. After addressing these concerns, the next steps would be to gather the resources necessary to implement these health adaptation actions and put your plan into action.



INTERNATIONAL ACTION: BY REGION

01 - North America

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- **Rejoins the Paris Agreement**
 - The United States, under the Biden Administration, rejoined the Paris Agreement in January 2021, signaling a renewed commitment to global climate action and mitigation efforts
 - This agreement aims to mitigate global warming and its health-related impacts by reducing greenhouse gas emissions
 - The agreement covers climate change mitigation, adaptation, and finance
- **CLIMATE MITIGATION POLICIES:**
 - Several North American cities and states have implemented climate mitigation policies, such as setting renewable energy targets, promoting energy efficiency, and transitioning away from fossil fuels. These efforts contribute to reducing air pollution and improving public health
- **CLEAN POWER PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS**
 - While Clean Power Plan introduced during the Obama administration was repealed, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has continued to regulate emissions from power plants and other sources
 - The EPA's regulations play a role in reducing air pollution and its associated health risks

CANADA

- **PAN-CANADIAN FRAMEWORK ON CLEAN GROWTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE:**
 - Canada's federal and provincial governments collaboratively developed this framework to address climate change and reduce emissions
 - The framework includes measures to promote clean energy, enhance carbon pricing, and build resilience to climate impacts, which can have positive health effects
- **CANADA'S ADAPTATION STRATEGY:**
 - Canada has been developing an adaptation strategy to address climate change's health and other impacts
 - This includes actions to enhance public health preparedness for climate-related events and to improve the healthcare infrastructure's resilience
- **INDIGENOUS PARTNERSHIPS:**
 - Canada has recognized the importance of including Indigenous knowledge and perspectives in climate adaptation strategies
 - Indigenous communities' involvement is crucial as they often have valuable insights into local climate impacts and health effects

INTERNATIONAL ACTION: BY REGION

02 - Europe

- **EUROPE GREEN DEAL**
 - The European Green Deal is a comprehensive strategy that aims to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050
 - It encompasses various policy initiatives, regulations, and funding mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance sustainability across sectors
 - The Green Deal acknowledges the importance of addressing health impacts alongside climate actions
- **CLIMATE TARGETS:**
 - The EU has set ambitious climate targets, including a 55% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 levels
 - These targets contribute to mitigating climate change and reducing associated health risks
- **RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY:**
 - The EU has been actively promoting renewable energy sources and energy efficiency to reduce emissions and improve air quality, thus positively impacting public health
- **EUROPEAN CLIMATE LAW:**
 - The European Climate Law, adopted in April 2021, legally binds the EU to the objective of becoming climate-neutral by 2050
 - This law provides a framework for EU action on climate adaptation and mitigation, which can have direct health-related benefits
- **EU ADAPTATION STRATEGY:**
 - The EU has developed an Adaptation Strategy to enhance Europe's resilience to climate change impacts
 - The strategy includes actions related to health, such as improving the healthcare infrastructure's resilience and addressing the health risks associated with extreme weather events



INTERNATIONAL ACTION: BY REGION

03 - Asia

CHINA

- **RENEWABLE ENERGY INVESTMENTS:**
 - China is one of the largest investors in renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power
 - Transitioning from fossil fuels to cleaner energy sources can reduce air pollution and improve public health
- **AFFORESTATION AND REFORMATION:**
 - China has implemented large-scale afforestation and reforestation projects to combat deforestation and increased carbon sequestration, contributing to climate mitigation and improved air quality
- **AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT:**
 - China has taken measures to address air pollution, which is closely linked to health impacts
 - The government has implemented stricter emission standards, encouraged electric vehicles, and taken steps to reduce coal consumption

JAPAN

- **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS:**
 - Japan, which is prone to natural disasters, has a well-developed disaster preparedness and response system
 - This includes measures to ensure public health and medical care during climate-related emergencies
- **CLIMATE-RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE:**
 - Japan has invested in climate-resilient infrastructure such as flood defenses and earthquake-resistant buildings, to mitigate climate-related health risks

INDIA

- **RENEWABLE ENERGY EXPANSION**
 - India has set ambitious targets for renewable energy capacity, focusing on solar and wind power
- **NATIONAL HEALTH ADAPTATION:**
 - India's National Action Plan on Climate Change includes a National Health Mission, emphasizing the integration of climate change considerations into public health planning

REGIONAL COOPERATION:

- **ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB):**
 - The ADB supports climate-resilient projects and initiatives across Asia, including those that address health impacts
 - It provides funding and technical assistance for climate adaptation and mitigation projects

INTERNATIONAL ACTION: BY REGION

04 - South America

Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)

- ACTO is an international organization that aims to promote sustainable development and conservation in the Amazon Basin
- Its member countries collaborate on various initiatives related to climate change mitigation, biodiversity preservation, and community health in the region

Brazil:

• AMAZON FUND:

- Brazil established the Amazon Fund to support projects aimed at conserving and sustainably using the Amazon rainforest
 - This indirectly contributes to climate mitigation and biodiversity preservation, which can impact health outcomes

Chile:

• RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSITION:

- Chile has made substantial investments in renewable energy sources, including solar and wind power
- This transition contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality.

Peru:

• NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY:

- Peru developed a National Strategy for Climate Change, which includes actions to address health impacts

Bolivia:

• COMMUNITY ADAPTATION PROJECTS:

- Bolivia has implemented community-based adaptation projects that focus on vulnerable populations
- These projects consider health risks and provide resources for building resilience to climate-related impacts

Regional Initiatives:

• HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (LAC):

- The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has worked with countries in the LAC region to promote research, capacity-building, and knowledge sharing on the health impacts of climate change

• LIMA-PARIS ACTION AGENDA (LPAA):

- The LPAA is a joint initiative of the Peruvian and French governments that encourages partnerships between countries, cities, and businesses to address climate change
- It includes actions related to health and public health resilience

INTERNATIONAL ACTION: BY REGION

05 - Africa

- **AFRICAN UNION (AAI):**
 - The AAI was launched by the AU to promote climate adaptation strategies and enhance resilience across the continent
 - It emphasizes the importance of integrating health considerations into climate adaptation efforts
- **AFRICAN RENEWABLE ENERGY INITIATIVE (AREI):**
 - AREI aims to develop Africa's renewable energy potential to mitigate climate change while improving energy access and reducing air pollution, which can impact health

REGIONAL INITIATIVES:

- **WEST AFRICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WAHO):**
 - WAHO collaborates with West African countries to strengthen health systems' resilience against climate impacts
 - It supports health infrastructure development and capacity-building in climate-related health risks
- **SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC):**
 - SADC countries collaborate on climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies, including those that address health risks posed by extreme weather events

NATIONAL INITIATIVES:

- **ETHIOPIA'S CLIMATE-RESILIENT GREEN ECONOMY STRATEGY:**
 - Ethiopia's strategy focuses on sustainable development and climate adaptation measures, including water resource management and health sector resilience
- **SOUTH AFRICA'S NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY:**
 - The strategy emphasizes integrating climate adaptation into various sectors, including health, to enhance preparedness and resilience

PARTNERSHIP AND FUNDING:

- **GREEN CLIMATE FUND (GCF):**
 - Several African countries have accessed funding from the GCF to support climate adaptation projects that consider health impacts
 - These projects include building climate-resilient healthcare infrastructure and improving disease surveillance
- **GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF):**
 - African countries collaborate with GEF to implement projects that address climate change impacts on ecosystems and health

INTERNATIONAL ACTION: BY REGION

06 - AUSTRALIA

PACIFIC ISLAND ENGAGEMENT:

- Australia recognizes the vulnerability of Pacific Island nations to climate change and has engaged in various initiatives to support these nations' adaptation efforts
- Australia has provided funding for climate resilience projects, including those related to health infrastructure and disaster preparedness in the Pacific

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CLEAN TECHNOLOGY:

- Australia has been investing in renewable energy sources like solar and wind power and promoting clean technology innovation
- These actions contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality, which can positively impact public health

NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NHMRC):

- Australia's NHMRC funds research on the health impacts of climate change and supports projects that aim to enhance health system resilience and preparedness for climate-related challenges

RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION:

- Australian researchers and institutions collaborate with international organizations and other countries on climate change and health research
- They contribute to global knowledge about the health impacts of climate change and potential mitigation and adaptation strategies

CLIMATE-RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE:

- Australia has taken steps to build climate-resilient infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather events
- This includes health infrastructure that remains operational during climate-related emergencies

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE:

- Australia acknowledges the importance of involving Indigenous communities and incorporating traditional knowledge into climate adaptation strategies, which can include health-related aspects

INTERNATIONAL ACTION: BY REGION

07 - ANTARTICA

The region of Antarctica, while not a political entity itself, is governed by the Antarctic Treaty System, which includes a framework for international cooperation and scientific research. The focus of the Antarctic Treaty System has primarily been on environmental conservation, research, and cooperation among nations rather than specific actions related to addressing the health impacts of climate change.

However, given the importance of Antarctica's environment and its potential influence on global climate systems, several aspects are relevant to the topic of addressing health impacts of climate change:

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH:

- Many countries conduct scientific research in Antarctica to better understand climate change and its impacts
- This research includes studying ice melt, sea-level rise, ocean currents, and their potential effects on global climate and health

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING:

- Various research stations in Antarctica monitor changes in the environment, including temperature, ice coverage, and ecosystem health
- These observations contribute to understanding the effects of climate change on the region and beyond

Global Climate Influence:

- Antarctica plays a significant role in regulating the Earth's climate systems, including sea-level rise and ocean currents
- Addressing the health impacts of climate change requires understanding these processes and their potential consequences

International Collaboration:

- The international community cooperates through the Antarctic Treaty System to share research findings, exchange data, and develop strategies for protecting the region's environment
- Collaborative efforts can contribute to addressing health impacts globally

While Antarctica itself does not have a population that directly experiences health impacts, understanding and addressing the region's role in climate change is crucial for global efforts to mitigate and adapt to the health impacts of a changing climate.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER



01 - What actions is your country taking to address this issue?



02 - Which health consequences are specific to your country? How can these specific issues be addressed?



03 - What root causes do you believe are the main reason why climate change has had such a big impact on us?



04 - Has your country placed an emphasis on addressing climate change? If not, why do you believe so?

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