

World Food Programme

Topic 1: Alleviating Hunger Through the Strengthening of Global Partnership

The United Nations is an intergovernmental organization tasked to promote international cooperation and to create and maintain international order. The basis for this idea is that most of the time one country's lack can be fulfilled by another's abundance. This fully applies to food. Eighty countries have citizens that are starving, and the other one hundred and thirteen countries have heard their cries for help. Some have the means to help, whereas other don't, but it is now our job to strengthen global partnerships between these two categories of countries and help those people in need.

When the World Food Program governing body adopted its first Mission Statement in December of 1994, it promised "to operate virtually everywhere in the developing world, without regard to the political orientations of governments."¹ That shows that from the beginning, WFP's aim was to help everyone, regardless of their nationality. This borderless mentality is what we need to strive for.

By teaming up, the countries of the WFP become much stronger as a unit to combat hunger. In 2009, the WFP created "Fill the Cup". This used the symbol of the Red Cup to raise awareness of global hunger, specifically involving hungry school children. This spanned all over the world, and was a hint to what can be achieved through global partnerships. By the end of 2015, the WFP planned to halve the number of hungry people. This initiative was simply called "Fight Hunger". This, too, was global and also gave us a peek of the effects of global partnerships. The initiative included an event called "Walk the World", a global day of advocacy and fundraising. One hundred and eighteen countries participated. It is always important to remember that there are always opposing sides to UN initiatives. Consider that your country might want to remain independent and fight hunger alone.²

When writing your position papers, it is important that you remember your role, as a delegate, is to represent the position of your country and work towards resolutions that your country would realistically agree with, rather than your personal opinion or the opinion that you think will be most favored by the committee. Please remember to keep your position papers to one double-spaced page.

Some questions to consider:

- What roadblocks does the WFP face today in strengthening global partnerships?
- Are any countries opposed to strengthening partnerships in regard to food?
- If yes, how can that be addressed?
- Once unified, what will the WFP be able to do differently?
- What initiatives can be started around the world, like there have been in the past?
- What can be done differently in these initiatives to make more of an impact?
- What can be done to ensure every country takes part in said initiatives?
- Will our resolution extend help to any country that has hungry citizens, or will it deny help to countries that have the funds to help themselves, but chose to spend it on other things?³

I hope you enjoy researching this topic. As always, please reach out to me at iatri@mail.yu.edu with any questions.

Best,
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¹ <http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/newsroom/wfp076289.pdf>

² <http://www1.wfp.org/>

³ <http://www.newsweek.com/north-korea-starving-nuclear-missiles-641188>