

# Japan University English Model United Nations 2019

## Promoting Jobs and Protecting People

### Model United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)



## Background Guide for Meeting 1: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms



Written by:

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2019 Japan University English Model United Nations (JUEMUN). We are pleased to welcome you to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). This year's Secretary General is Kaori Matsuda and Assistant Secretary General is Haruka Jifuku. Kaori is a fourth-year student and Haruka is a third-year student at Kobe City University of Foreign Studies. Both major in International Relations. We wish you all the best in your preparation and look forward to seeing you at the conference!

The topics under discussion for the ECOSOC are:

**Meeting 1: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms**

Committee A: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Agriculture

Committee B: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Domestic Work

Committee C: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Armed Conflict

Committee D: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Commercial Sexual Exploitation

**Meeting 2: To Realize Equality of Opportunity and Treatment**

Committee A: To Realize Equality of Opportunity and Treatment for Persons with Disabilities

Committee B: To Realize Equality of Opportunity and Treatment for Indigenous peoples

Committee C: To Realize Equality of Opportunity and Treatment for Women

Committee D: To Realize Equality of Opportunity and Treatment for Youth

**Meeting 3: To Protect Labour Rights and Promote Safe and Secure Working Environments**

Committee A: Access to Social Protection

Committee B: Ending Violence and Harassment in the Work Place

Committee C: Ensuring a Healthy Work Life Balance

Committee D: Increasing Aid for Trade Support for Developing Countries

Members of the JUEMUN Secretariat that serve as the "Bureau" in each meeting:

**Meeting 1**

Anna Deekeling,

Under Secretary General

Christine Keiko Terrillon, Chair

Hibiki Maeda, Chair

**Meeting 2**

Akiko Teramoto,

Under Secretary General

Funo Heims, Chair

Anindya Mutiara Rahadiani, Chair

**Meeting 3**

Miu Kabayama,

Under Secretary General

Loh Sheng Nie, Chair

Niklaus Weigelt, Chair

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## **Part 1 - The Guiding Structure for our JUEMUN 2019 Meetings**

### **1.1 JUEMUN 2019 UN Body ECOSOC**

JUEMUN 2019 will simulate meetings of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Previously we have simulated the General Assembly, UNESCO, SOCHUM, the Security Council and FAO.

Although we will follow our familiar JUEMUN systems and procedures which we have developed year by year since 2010, we will look to ECOSOC's vision for leadership, base a substantial part of our research on ECOSOC's work, and represent the ECOSOC Member States.

### **1.2 Number of Delegates**

We hold 3 Meeting Rooms of approximately 54 delegates which consist of 4 Committees and 4 Regional Blocs.

### **1.3 JUEMUN Theme: Sustainable Development Goal 8**

The themes of each meeting and the topics of each committee are important aspects of United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. The targets of SDG 8 address the increased labor productivity and promotes improved rights of workers as well as sustainable economic growth. Decent work and economic growth affect the living standard of all citizens. Therefore, the theme is considered to be relevant across all SDGs.

SDG 8 has 10 specific Targets:

Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries;

1. Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries

2. Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labor-intensive sectors;

3. Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation,

entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services;

4. Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavor to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead;
5. By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value;
6. By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training;
7. Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms;
8. Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment;
9. By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products;
10. Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all.

#### **1.4 Meeting 1 Theme & Committee Topics**

The theme of Meeting 1 is Ending Child Labour in all its Forms. The committee topics cover four of the specific situations of the child labour.

Committee A: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Agriculture

Committee B: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Domestic Work

Committee C: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Armed Conflict

Committee D: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Commercial Sexual Exploitation

## 1.5 JUEMUN 2019 – ECOSOC Member States

The delegates of Meeting 1 to 3 represent the actual 54 Member States of ECOSOC in 2019: Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, China, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and Yemen.

The delegates belong to one Regional Block and one Committee group as the matrix indicates below. Our Regional Blocks are **Africa** with 14 Member States, **Asia** with 14 Member States, **Europe and North America** with 16 Member States, and **Latin America and the Caribbean** with 10 Member States.

Regional Bloc Committee	Africa(14)	Asia(14)	Europe and North America(16)	Latin America and the Caribbean (10)
Committee A (13)	Benin Ghana Kenya	Iran Republic of Korea Turkmenistan	Andorra Denmark Germany United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Brazil El Salvador Jamaica
Committee B (13)	Cameroon Egypt Sudan	Armenia Pakistan Japan Saudi Arabia	Azerbaijan Luxembourg Ukraine United States of America	Mexico Paraguay Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Committee C (14)	Angola Chad Ethiopia Malawi	India Philippines Russian Federation Yemen	Belarus France Ireland Malta	Ecuador Venezuela
Committee D (14)	Eswatini Morocco Mali Togo	China Turkey United Arab Emirates	Canada Greece Netherlands Norway	Colombia Uruguay

## 1.6 Tasks of the Committees and the Regional Blocs

In plenary sessions of Meeting 1, the Chairs of Meeting 1 will give instructions and guidance, delegates will make short speeches called Formal Debate, and vote on proposals for action which are called Motions - for example to suspend the plenary session to have discussions in Regional Blocs or Committees.

In Meeting 1 Regional Bloc sessions, there will be representatives of each Committee so that regional issues related to each Committee's SDG 8 topic can be discussed. In Committee discussions, the 4 Committees will talk about their Committee's topic, and gradually put their ideas into a written document called a Working Paper (WP). When the WP is completed, it is submitted to the Chair of Meeting 1. If the Chairs accepts it, it is called a Draft Resolution (DR). If the DR is agreed upon by a majority of Meeting 1 Delegates, it becomes a Resolution.

A WP has two parts – 1. A statement of vision related to the committee topic which identifies problems in terms of SDG 8, describes the background of UN efforts to solve the problems; and 2. A description of a plan of action.

You are not allowed to come to the conference with resolutions already prepared. You need to know in advance what has been done before and how resolutions are written, but your main conference task is to create an original, innovative resolution in collaboration with your committee team.

The main task of the Regional Blocs is to advise each Committee, especially about ways to improve their WPs and DRs. Advice about WPs is informal. Suggestions for changes to DRs are called amendments.

This process is explained in detail in other JUEMUN documents. In your JUEMUN preparation, concentrate on your Committee topic so that you are prepared for discussion. Your Bureau will support you at JUEMUN.

## **Part 2 – Guidelines for Committee and Regional Bloc Discussions**

- Use English only.
- Place a priority on good communication. Include everyone. Be a good listener. Do not allow a few people to dominate in speaking roles. Make sure everyone understands what is going on.
- In discussions, search for innovative ideas. Try to find new answers to old problems.
- Write a WP with plans that could actually be implemented. Make detailed action plans. Explain who will do what, and how they will do it. Are all the interested people – the stakeholders - at the local level involved in making and implementing plans? Where will the funding come from? How will the plans be evaluated as they are carried out? How will the plans be revised as needed, and sustained?
- Will your Committee's work at JUEMUN come up with insights into why problems persist? Can your Committee's resolution offer practical ways to achieve the aim of SDG 8?
- In 2019 the world's problems are frightening and heart-breaking; on the other hand, the progress that has already been made gives us the courage we need to work to make problems of job promotion and the protection of people unthinkable. What will our world be like in 2030? When we open the UN website, we read, "It's Your World!" Keep this thought in your minds at all times.

### **2.1 Why is the JUEMUN 2019 theme – Promoting Jobs and Protecting People?**

In January 2016, the Member States of the United Nations started to take action on an ambitious 30-year-long plan – the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which aim to make the world a healthier, safer, and more just place for all of the world's peoples for many generations to come. In other words, the aim of the 17-SDG program with its 169 targets is to make certain the foundation of all that is needed for a better world is strong, lasting, and inclusive.

Specifically, SDG 8 focuses on Decent Work and Economic Growth. Decent work sums up the aspirations of people in their working lives. It involves opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men. It is estimated that over 600 million new jobs need to be created by 2030, just to keep pace with the growth of the global working age population. That is around 40 million per year. We also need to improve conditions for 780 million women and men who are

working but not earning enough to lift themselves and their families out of USD 2 a-day poverty.

Guy Ryder, ILO Director-General states that “Decent Work can lift whole communities out of poverty and underpins human security and social peace... It is not just a goal— it is a driver of sustainable development” In this way, we strongly believe that it is the influential step for the sustainable society to promote jobs so that people’s life could be protected.

## 2.2 ECOSOC and ILO

There are two UN bodies that can give us an especially helpful perspective for SDG 8. The economic and social missions of ECOSOC are certainly relevant and applicable; and the International Labour Organization (ILO) has specific, global, and timely information which we will rely on during our conference.

The UN Charter established ECOSOC in 1945 as one of the six main organs of the United Nations. ECOSOC is the central body of the United Nations system to advance the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental. This body contributes to foster debate and innovative thinking, forge consensus on ways forward, and coordinate efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals. It is also responsible for the follow-up to major UN conferences and summits. ECOSOC links a diverse family of UN entities (Organigram) dedicated to sustainable development, providing overall guidance and coordination. The entities include regional economic and social commissions, functional commissions facilitating intergovernmental discussions of major global issues, and specialized agencies, programmes and funds at work around the world to translate development commitments into real changes in people’s lives.

Since 1919, the ILO brings together governments, employers and workers from 187 Member States, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men. The ILO is the oldest UN specialised agency and in 2019, the ILO celebrates its 100th anniversary. ILO indicates international labour standards, promotes rights at work and encourages decent employment opportunities, the enhancement of social protection and the strengthening of dialogue on work-related issues.

The second Integration Segment of the Economic and Social Council (2015) focused on “**Achieving sustainable development through employment creation and decent work for all**”. The segment discussed how the creation of good quality jobs could be a tool for promoting the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development. It also served as a platform to identify policy

choices and possible trade-offs that could arise from an integrated approach. As it is, some topics discussed in ECOSOC sessions are related to the missions of ILO.

### 2.3 The Global Citizenship Generation

The average age of JUEMUN delegates is about 20. The work towards the achievement of the SDGs will conclude when our delegates are in their thirties. The SDGs aim to learn from the shortcomings, and build upon the successes, of the 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDG plans were implemented from the year 2000, when JUEMUN delegates were still very young children, until their target date of December 2015. The 30 year-span of these two global plans sets JUEMUN delegates' lives apart from all previous generations. You are the Global Citizenship Generation! A goal which could define your generation is to make your acts of good local citizenship inseparable from your lives as constructive global citizens. Today's problems are formidable. Your will to seek solutions with your JUEMUN friends is admirable!

Your natural instinct will be to act as friends of the people, protectors of our vulnerable brothers and sisters. We all hope the SDGs will be able to do this. However, the greatest challenge that JUEMUN delegates face is to act according to the policies of the governments of the nations you represent. This is the way we will find out why it has been so difficult for the UN to build global peace. Furthermore, at the same time, we will learn what a grand consensus created the MDGs, and today's SDGs!

## **Part 3 – Your Research: Sharing Responsibility for JUEMUN Success**

### **3.1 Background Information**

The United Nations Charter is at <http://www.un.org/en/charter-united-nations/>.

The mandate of ECOSOC, which was established in 1946 as one of the six main UN organs, can be found on Chapter X of the United Nations Charter: <http://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-x/index.html>

### **3.2 Five Research Areas**

It is obviously very important for you to do your own research. This Study Guide is not a substitute for individual delegate research. The following section is an outline of five key areas you should include in your research:

- I. The SDGs -mainly SDG 8- on the websites of UN organizations including the ILO;
- II. ECOSOC for background information and ECOSOC plans for sustainable development;
- III. UN Resolutions and actions related to SDG 8;
- IV. Committee topics for your meeting;
- V. The relevant information about the country you represent.

Which order should you do your research topics in? Make this decision yourself. Most delegates begin with country research, but it is the last on the list in this Study Guide. Why? It might be better to know what you are doing all together at JUEMUN 2019 Meeting 1, before you learn about which views you will express in discussions as a representative of your country's government. However, the order you choose for your research is entirely up to you.

Research is an essential first step but please remember JUEMUN is an intense, everyone-included, communication event. You will spend most of the conference time thinking out loud by talking to, and listening to your fellow delegates, and making plans for a WP which you hope will become a DR you can be proud of, and then, adopted by a majority of the Meeting 1 delegates as a JUEMUN Resolution.

### **3.3 Research Guidelines**

Do all of your research before you arrive at JUEMUN. The meeting is a Think Tank.

Check facts by reviewing more than one source of information. Look for different views on key issues. Use governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations and news media for research. You will speak with your own government's voice, but you must know about the range of perspectives from other points of view on your topic. Most of the advice on sources of information in the Study

Guide are internet United Nations organizations because using the internet is the quickest way to do research for JUEMUN, if we take care to ensure the sources are reliable. United Nations websites are recommended as the first step in research, but we must remember that credible journalists and NGOs often provide us with the most accurate and most up-to-date local facts and viewpoints on global issues.

It will be difficult, at times, for you to speak as your country's Chief Diplomat at the UN for three reasons: (a) your own personal values may be different, (b) an analytical review of your research from government and non-government sources may lead you to conclusions which differ from your government's statements and policies, (c) it may be difficult to get information on your government's views.

Do your best to accurately represent your country. Make 'educated guesses' if necessary about your country's likely policies. Base your 'educated guesses' on your research about your country's circumstances, the current government's political policies and statements at the United Nations and relationships with other nations.

If you are bilingual, do your research in 2-languages, whenever possible. Use your strongest language for the first step of your research. Use your other language for the second step. For example, if you are a native-speaker of Japanese and you represent Burkina Faso on your Committee, do your research on Burkina Faso's situation first in Japanese by using information from the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Embassy of Burkina Faso in another country, and other web sites. Then, look for the same type of information in English on the same websites, or use other sites that have similar information. This way you will have a clear understanding of the issues, and you will learn the English vocabulary to use at the meeting.

Please do not let your research overwhelm you. Focus your research. Become an expert in a few areas of your topic. You cannot learn everything there is to know about your role in JUEMUN. But you can learn something that will be useful. You can learn enough to make important contributions to JUEMUN's success.

JUEMUN with its delegate-friendly, learn-by-doing structure will support you as you build topic knowledge, communication skills, and self-confidence. Many JUEMUN participants have been delegates in 2 or 3, or even more MUNs. If this is your first time, the best advice is - Don't give up during preparation. Find your own 'place' during the conference.

### **3.4 JUEMUN Connections with your University Studies now, and with your Future**

Use your JUEMUN 2019 research to make your academic life easier. In your university courses, if you have to make speeches and other types of presentations, write essays, or do short research reports, use the content of your JUEMUN 2019 research whenever possible.

Attend any JUEMUN 2019-related special guest lectures, film showings, and photo exhibitions on your campus, or elsewhere in your community.

Refer to JUEMUN experiences in essays and interviews for scholarships, study abroad applications, and in the job-search process. The JUEMUN work you do might be the beginning of your graduation thesis. Some undergraduate JUEMUN delegates have found their research helped them prepare for successful graduate school applications in fields such as Development Studies. Other delegates have been inspired by JUEMUN experiences to seek jobs in International NGOs and UN organizations.

## **Part 4 – Sources of Information for 5 Research Fields**

We propose some of sources of information here, but if you find others, please share them with your fellow Meeting 1 Delegates. Empower each other by creating a Meeting 1 Research Database.

### **4.1 The SDGs and ILO**

The SDG knowledge platforms on nations: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf>

JUEMUN 2019 deals with just one of the 17 SDGs, but it is a very good idea to have an overview of the whole plan (refer to <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>) so you get a sense of how the goals fit together and how all 17 SDGs give us a vision of a better world. On this site you can find an up-to-date report on the SDGs for 2018.

The United Nations University in Tokyo also has very good information on the SDGs at <http://unu.edu/>.

#### SDG 8 Fact Sheet

There is an SDG Fact Sheet with the following useful summary of SDG 8 at:

[https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Factsheet\\_Summit.pdf](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Factsheet_Summit.pdf)

- Global unemployment increased from 170 million in 2007 to nearly 202 million in 2012, of which about 75 million are young women and men.
- Nearly 2.2 billion people live below the US\$2 poverty line and poverty eradication is only possible through stable and well-paid jobs.
- 470 million jobs are needed globally for new entrants to the labour market between 2016 and 2030.
- Small and medium-sized enterprises that engage in industrial processing and manufacturing are the most critical for the early stages of industrialization and are typically the largest job creators. They make up over 90% of business worldwide and account for between 50-60% of employment.

Other sources of SDG 8 information:

- <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/economic-growth/>
- <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg8>

Virtually every member of the family of UN organizations has useful information about the importance of this topic. For example:

World Bank – <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/jobsanddevelopment>

This website addresses job protection and employment as a means to decrease global poverty levels and promote development. Links to lists of publications and data dashboards that can be found should be useful for delegates to conduct in-depth, country-based research on the topic.

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) -

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/economic-empowerment/facts-and-figures>

Increasing women's participation in the labor market can accelerate economic growth. Currently, there is a large gap between male-to-female employment ratio. Women are more vulnerable to informal employment, which is prominent in areas such as South Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean. This can often be credited to gender inequality and discrimination.

United Nations Global Compact – <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/our-work/social/labour>

Companies and employers have the responsibility to protect the right of workers. Substandard forms of employment and working conditions, abuse, and exploitation are often met by certain groups who are discriminated against. Embracing diversity and inclusion increases companies' access to talented workers. Additionally, adopting non-discriminatory policies can decrease their risk of facing legal and reputational damage.

International Labour Organization, World Employment Social Outlook – Trends 2018 –

[https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_615594.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_615594.pdf)

In its most recent annual publication on the promotion of jobs and protection of people, ILO reported that the number of unemployed people is to increase by 1.3 million in 2019. With this, vulnerable forms of employment, such as jobs without social security or formal work arrangements, is expected to grow. Contrary to developing countries continually decreasing their unemployment rate, emerging and developed countries are expected to experience an increase. "Technological progress, capital accumulation, globalization, demographics and government policies" are dominant factors that influence labor trends.

Moreover, ILO and the other UN organizations have useful statistics sections on their home pages.

## 4.2 ECOSOC

Explore the ECOSOC website on Employment –

<http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/employment.shtml>;

ECOSOC Integration Segment on Achieving sustainable development through employment creation and decent work for all – Key Facts (2015) –

[http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/integration/2015/pdf/unechosoc\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/integration/2015/pdf/unechosoc_fact_sheet.pdf)

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs on Employment and Decent Work –

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/socialperspectiveondevelopment/issues/employment-and-decent-work.html>.

ECOSOC's is a UN body that specializes in advancing sustainable economic, social, and environmental development. The promotion of jobs and protection of people has been one of ECOSOC's main priorities as it directly affects people's standard of living. In 2006, ECOSOC organized a meeting on "Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development". The topic has since been addressed in multiple forms, with the most prominent one being the ECOSOC Ministerial Declarations of 2012 and 2017.

ECOSOC annually holds the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). There, members evaluate the progress made towards achieving the SDGs, including SDG 8 on Decent Work and Economic Growth. The 2019 HLPF will be held in July 2019 under the theme of "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality". SDG 8 is included among the selected SDGs that will be evaluated during the session. In the 2018 HLPF, members affirmed their commitment to creating an "inclusive and sustainable economic growth, leading to decent work for all."

ECOSOC oversees 14 subsidiary bodies which include functional commissions, regional commissions, and those composed of government experts.

Functional commissions address specific issues within ECOSOC's work.

- Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)
- Commission for Social Development (CSocD)
- Commission on Population and Development (CPD)
- Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)
- Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)
- Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)
- United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC)
- United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

When learning about certain areas concerning the topic, delegates are highly encouraged to research about these functional commissions.

Regional commissions address regional issues within ECOSOC's work.

- Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

To understand your assigned country better, delegates are strongly recommended to conduct research on what has been discussed regarding the promotion of jobs and the protection of people within their regional commission.

SDG 8.B aims to “develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact” of ILO by 2020. The Global Jobs Pact (GJP) was created in 2009 to address the impact of an international economic crisis globally on society and employment. The pact also creates internationally agreed guidelines to policy-making on decent work opportunities after such crises. ECOSOC has been a strong supporter of the GJP since its inception and has called upon Member States to make full use of it.

For more information, visit: <https://www.ilo.org/jobs pact/about/lang--en/index.htm>

An additional aspect of SDG 8 is to promote sustainable tourism as a means to create jobs. On this matter, ECOSOC has worked closely with other UN bodies such as the World Tourism Organization (WTO). In a report from the 2018 HLPF, job creation as a result of developing the tourism industry was highlighted. For example, in Morocco, a Sustainable Tourism program partner switched to sustainable tourism practices with a specific standard set for businesses to obtain the associated label.

This included areas such as decent jobs, personnel training, and human resource management. Results showed that, in particular, human resource management was improved due to this initiative.

#### **4.3 UN Resolutions and actions related to SDG 8**

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2018/TheSustainableDevelopmentGoalsReport2018-EN.pdf>

Report of the Secretary-General, "Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals", E/2017/66

[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=E/2017/66&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/2017/66&Lang=E)

Report of the Secretary-General, "Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals", E/2016/75

[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=E/2016/75&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/2016/75&Lang=E)

A/RES/66/288 - The Future We Want

[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/288&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/288&Lang=E)

World Employment Social Outlook, International Labour Organization (ILO), 2016

[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2525wcms\\_481534.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2525wcms_481534.pdf)

World Employment Social Outlook, International Labour Organization (ILO), 2018

[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2517wcms\\_615594.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2517wcms_615594.pdf)

ECOSOC Resolutions and Decisions 1946-2000

[https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2017doc/ecosoc-resolutions-and-decisions\\_1946-2000.pdf](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2017doc/ecosoc-resolutions-and-decisions_1946-2000.pdf)

For more information, please see:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg8>

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/employment>

## 4.4 Agenda & Committee Topics for Meeting 1

### **Committee Aims**

Meeting 1 Topic is Ending Child Labour in all its Forms. The following aspects of the topic will be discussed-

Committee A: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Agriculture

Committee B: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Domestic Work

Committee C: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Armed Conflict

Committee D: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Commercial Sexual Exploitation

Prepare for JUEMUN by getting ready to talk about the current situation related to your own Committee's topic, but you should also have a general understanding of the other 3 Committee's topics, your own country, and also general information about your region of the world. As you understand the situation and position of your country, all of you will post Position Papers (maximum length - 2 A4 pages in Times Roman 12) on JUEMUN's Meeting Facebook page, June 3.

Only UN Security Council Resolutions are binding on Member States. Other Resolutions of UN organizations are recommendations not laws. Thus, your Committee has to accept the reality that a Resolution that passes may not be fully implemented by the governments of some Member States. Can you include incentives in your Resolution to encourage governments to carry out your Resolutions?

### ***The Agenda Related to Meeting 1- Ending Child Labour in all its Forms***

Following SDG 8.7, the ILO as the first specialized agency to join the UN in 1946, places high priority on stopping child labour in all its forms around the globe. The aim is to eliminate child labour by 2025. The 2017 World Report on Ending Child Labour estimates that around 218,019,000 children between 5 and 17 years are in employment, while 151,622,000 of those working in jobs defined to be child labour, 72,525,000 are employed in hazardous work. Although, less progress has been made from 2012 on, a continuing decline of child labour worldwide since 2000 can be seen, endorsing the efforts by the UN and the ILO to further strengthen their efforts to address the issue.

### ***Committee Suggestions for Meeting 1***

Good advice for your Committee work is to find one or two aspects within your broad topic so that you have a focus when you talk in discussions. Other delegates may be able to support you and include your ideas into your WP. Then, listen carefully to other delegates and find ways to support them.

### ***Committee A: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Agriculture***

#### **Definition:**

Children all over the world are being exploited, prevented from going to school, or pushed into work that endangers their health and normal development. Especially in African countries child labour mainly concerns agricultural issues, as indicated by the ILO. The ILO further notes that more than 70% of child labour worldwide is composed of agricultural work, taking over tasks like tending cattle, harvesting crops, handling machinery or holding flags to guide planes spraying pesticide. More than 132 million girls and boys, aged 5 to 14, are directly involved the production of consumer goods like food and beverages, as well as fibres and primary agricultural materials.

#### **Facts about Problems and Effects:**

Much of the work done by children in agriculture is not age appropriate. It is mostly in hazardous or inferior circumstances, such as children working under the minimum age for employment, working during night-time or being engaged in health-threatening labour such as spraying pesticides. With this, children reduce their chances of participating in education and actively tarnish their health, creating a perpetuating cycle of poverty for the children themselves, but also their families and communities. Lack of education diminishes future perspective, resulting in most of those children to remain poor. The prevalence of child labour in agriculture violates the principles of decent work. Perpetuating poverty further undermines efforts to reach sustainable food security and end hunger.

*Zero Hunger* is only possible with *Zero Child Labour*. The *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations* (FAO) stresses that child labour in agriculture is a global issue harming children, damaging to the agricultural sector and perpetuating rural poverty. For instance, when children are forced to work long hours, their opportunity to attend school and develop their skills becomes limited, which interferes with their ability to access decent and productive employment opportunities later in life including opportunities in a modernized agricultural sector. “Since more than 70% of child labour worldwide takes place in agriculture, it is vital to integrate child labour into national agriculture policies and address the issues at the household level. Otherwise, it will further exacerbate poverty and hunger in rural areas. We need to break this vicious circle if we want to achieve progress towards the *Sustainable Development Goals*. *Zero Hunger* is not possible without *Zero Child Labour*”, as stated by the FAO.

#### **Actions That Have Been Taken or Are Being Taken:**

The following actions have been or are currently employed. For instance, 1) sharing knowledge and building capacity: the type of work that children perform in agriculture is often invisible, since available data on the activities that girls and boys are involved in as well as the risk associated with them are limited. In response, the FAO works to promote a greater knowledge base on child labour across countries and within different agricultural subsectors. It enables the exchange of good

practices and develops tools in support of national capacity buildings and institution development. The organization also provides support to overcome constraints to agricultural production that create a demand for child labour such as limited uptakes of labour-saving technologies. Finally, it promotes the adoption of safer agricultural practices to mitigate occupational hazards. 2) Delivering support at regional and country-level; Child labour in agriculture is challenging to address, because the agricultural sector tends to be under-regulated in many countries. FAO supports governments to ensure that child labour issues are better integrated into national agriculture development policies and strategies. It also promotes coordinated action and implementation of national and regional commitments. 3) Promoting global action; FAO engages in major international initiatives, including the *World Day Against Child Labour*, to raise awareness on priority area of action to eradicate child labour in agriculture. Across its working area, the FAO is paying increasing attention to child labour issues and aims to ensure that these are considered in its global labour mechanisms. In 2013, a revised *International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management* was approved at the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Conference to encourage governments and the pesticide industry to adopt measures to reduce children's vulnerability to exposure.

#### **Important Resolutions/Conventions/Treaties:**

- Minimum Age (Agriculture) Convention, 1921 (No.10)
- International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management (2013) – revised to encourage state governments to adopt measures aimed to reduce children's vulnerability to exposure.

#### **Important Research Links for Committee (Country databases, Resolutions):**

- IPEC: Rooting out child labour from cocoa farms (ILO, 2007)
- IPEC: Child labour book series: Corporate social responsibility for farmers (ILO, 2009)
- FAO: Child labour prevention in agriculture: Junior Farmer Field and Life School - Facilitator's guide (2010)
- FAO: Sharing Junior Farmer Field and Life School: Experiences, challenges and innovations (2008)
- ILO Work in Fishing Convention No. 188 (2007)
- ILO Work in Fishing Recommendation No. 199 (2007)
- ILO Vocational Training (Fishermen) Recommendation No. 126 (1966)
- FAO: Workshop on child labour in fisheries and aquaculture in cooperation with ILO – Report No. 944 (2010)
- FAO. ILO: FAO-ILO Good practice guide for addressing child labour in fisheries and aquaculture policy and practice (Preliminary version December 2011)

## Further Research:

- How does the issue of Child Labour and refugees relate?
- How to incentivize countries to ratify relevant conventions and adhere to higher standard on child labour rights?
- Creating improved international customs, the next step being an evolution of international law, targeting institutions and social structures forcing children into labour
- Improving international labour standards and child labour in agriculture
- Gender and child labour in agriculture
- Occupational safety and health and hazardous work of children in agriculture

### **Committee B: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Domestic Work**

#### **Definition:**

Child labour in domestic work refers to situations where domestic work is performed by children below the relevant minimum age (for light work, full time non-hazardous work), in hazardous condition or in a slavery-like situation. *The fifth Innocenti Digest* looks at what is probably the largest and at the same time most omitted group in child labour: child domestic workers. The limited research available on this invisible workforce suggest that 90% are girls, mostly between 12 and 17 years old, some of them working 15- hours per day. As one of the world's oldest occupations, child domestic work is increasingly becoming a commercialized trade while in many societies domestic work employed by children is not considered exploitation.

#### **Facts about Problems and Effects:**

Child labour is often hidden and hard to extinguish because of its links to social and cultural patterns. In many countries child domestic work is not accepted socially or culturally, but also can be regarded in a positive light as a protected and non-stigmatized type of work, being preferred to other forms of employment – especially for girls. The perpetuation of traditional female roles and responsibilities, within and outside the household, as well as the perception of domestic service as part of a woman's "apprenticeship" for adulthood and marriage, further contribute to the persistence of child domestic work as a form of child labour.

While there are many differently rooted causes for child domestic work, they can be broadly differentiated between "push and pull" factors. The first encompasses poverty and its feminization, social exclusion, lack of education, gender and ethnic discrimination, violence suffered by children in their own homes, displacement, rural-urban migration and the loss of parents due to conflict and/or disease. The latter includes increasing social and economic disparities, debt bondage, in addition to the perception of an employer simply being an extended family and therefore offering a protected environment for the child, as well as the increasing need for the women of the household to

have a domestic “replacement” which enables more and more women to enter the labour market, and lastly the illusion that domestic service gives child workers an opportunity for education.

The hazardous impacts on the child domestic work force are numerous. Hence, hazards linked to child domestic work are a matter of serious concern. The ILO identified a number of risks to which domestic workers are particularly vulnerable to, thus considering this type of work to be one of the most dangerous and destructive forms of child labour. These risks encompass: 1) long and tiring working days 2) use of toxic chemicals 3) carrying heavy loads 4) handling dangerous items such as knives, axes and hot pans 5) insufficient or inadequate food and accommodation, and humiliating or degrading treatment including physical and verbal violence, and sexual abuse. The negative effects are even more amplified when a child lives in the household where he or she works as a domestic worker. These hazards need to be seen in association with health care, the right to rest, leisure, play and recreation, and the right to be cared for and to have regular contact with their parents and peers. These factors can have an irreversible physical, psychological and moral impact on the development, health and wellbeing of a child.

#### **Actions That Have Been Taken or Are Being Taken:**

IPEC (*International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour*) has worked to achieve the elimination of child labour and domestic work in several ways: through country-based programmes which promote policy reform, building institutional capacities and aiming to put in place concrete measures to end labour; through awareness raising and mobilization intended to change social attitudes and promote ratification and effective implementation of the ILO *Child Labour Conventions*.

In addition, the *International Domestic Workers Federation* (IDWF) and the ILO has developed *Tackling Child Labour in Domestic Work: A Handbook for action for domestic workers and their organizations* to enable domestic workers and their organizations to draw up advocacy plans designed to spread knowledge on the rights of child relative to decent domestic work. Moreover, IPEC has placed a *Child Labour Monitoring* (CLM) system, which is based at the local level that regularly observes workplaces and determines child workers, as well as identifying the detrimental risks they are exposed to. CLM also undertakes referrals of these children to educational services, tracking them after they left these conditions to confirm that their situation has improved.

Also, *The National Domestic Work Movement* (NDWM) has been involved with domestic workers, children in domestic work and migrant domestic workers for the past 30 years. NDWN is focus on organizing and empowering domestic workers to address root issues that adversely impact their living and working conditions.

### **Important Resolutions/Conventions/Treaties:**

- ILO Convention No.189 and Recommendation No. 201(2011) – new labour standards concerning decent work for domestic workers. Contains new instruments to encourage states to ensure that young workers beyond legal working age are able to do work without interfering with opportunities to complete basic education

### **Important Research Links for Committee (Country databases, & Resolutions):**

- [www.gsdrc.org/wp-content/.../101-Worst-forms-of-child-labour.pdf](http://www.gsdrc.org/wp-content/.../101-Worst-forms-of-child-labour.pdf)
- <https://www.osce.org/cthb/68992?download=true>
- [stopchildlabor.org/?p=3643](http://stopchildlabor.org/?p=3643)
- [https://www.ilo.org/tokyo/areas-of-work/WCMS\\_239545/lang--ja/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/tokyo/areas-of-work/WCMS_239545/lang--ja/index.htm)

### **Further Research:**

Domestic labour of children is influenced by a multitude of social and economic factors, driven under situations where there are limited alternatives presented to children other than domestic work. It should be further noted that the issue of domestic labour of children must take into account cultural sensitivity. The problems posed by child labour in domestic work and the protection of young workers under legal working age require a complementary approach in different domains and at different levels, including:

- How can ECOSOC collaborate with UN Country Teams (UNCTs) to improve monitoring techniques to ensure efficient data collection?
- How can the UN system develop statistical visibility and further enhancing knowledge on child domestic work to better capture child labour and youth employment in domestic work?
- How ECOSOC can contribute to awareness-raising and advocacy to transform social attitudes? and to address the widespread acceptance of child labour in domestic work and the beliefs amongst employers and parents that these situations represent a proactive and healthy environment for children – especially girls;
- Identifying types of hazardous domestic work for children
- How to educate parents and communities that are prone to employ children in domestic work on the negative effects?

### ***Committee C: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Armed Conflict***

#### **Definition:**

As defined by the ILO Convention No. 182, the use of children in armed conflict is one of the worst forms of child labour. *The Worst Forms of Children Labour Convention* (1999) also confirms that the compulsory or voluntary recruitment of children under 18 is one of the worst forms of child labour. The *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court* (1998) further refers to the matter as a war crime and an unacceptable violation of human rights. Consequently, the UN Security Council has condemned the recruitment and use of children as child soldiers during conflict as one of the *Six Grave Violations*.

#### **Facts about Problems and Effects:**

Thousands of children are currently recruited to fight in at least 17 regions around the world. Children are not only involved as combatants, but can also take on supportive roles such as cooks, messengers, or spies which embroils them in great danger and further robs them of a normal childhood, education and future perspective. Although exact numbers are not clear, it is estimated according to UNICEF that 250,000 children are currently involved in armed conflicts. The world has seen fragmented eruptions of inter- and intra-state conflicts since the last few decades, and the scale of children involved in conflict in recent years is truly alarming. For instance, according to UNICEF, it is estimated that solely in 2017, armed militias have recruited more than 3,000 children in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Moreover, 203 cases have been reported in Cameroon and Nigeria, that Boko Haram, a notorious armed group, used children as suicide bombers. This number is four times the total in 2016, with 66% of them girls according to Child Soldiers International (CSI). However, the issue is not reserved for developing nations. 46 countries still enlist children under 18 into their militaries, which curtail the non-participation of children in armed conflict set forth in numerous human rights instruments.

Children may become involved in armed conflict for a variety of reasons. They can be forcefully recruited or abducted, or personally decide to join armed groups for survival, vengeance, escape from extreme poverty, or in order to protect their families or community. Children who live in conflict zones and are separated from their families, volunteer to join armed groups or the state military to pursue the comfort of food, a form of income, and security. Moreover, internally displaced persons (IDP) camps have a large population of internally displaced children. These children are particularly vulnerable and exposed to recruiters, since these camps remain unprotected and armed groups find them easy to infiltrate.

Armed groups view children as ‘cheap to maintain’ and ‘replaceable’, and therefore malleable into the shape of their own making. Since children have not developed a full concept of the difference between right and wrong nor a sense of fear, armed groups recognize that children are easier to

influence than adults, who may be more hesitant about carrying out dangerous tasks. Children who have lost parents or family may transfer their dependence to an adult, especially one that promises security, food, and shelter. Armed groups use violence and methods such as narcotics to desensitize children to violence, indoctrinating them to efficiently undertake their role as child soldiers. Furthermore, by placing a ranking system, children are rewarded by achieving higher ranks. By bonding with comrades through such social systems, this enables armed groups to entrap children by creating a sense of group identity. This ultimately makes it further difficult for children to escape from this vicious cycle of violence.

Conflict affects children in different ways than adults; former child soldiers should not be regarded as perpetrators of violence, but victims. They are daily subjected to witnessing deaths, torture, and sexual violence. Many are forced to perform violent acts, which creates serious repercussions to their long-term mental health and development. Girls are also recruited and experience rape and sexual violence, along with forced pregnancy. Furthermore, once children are able to break away from the armed groups, they often face issues during reintegration. Social attitudes often associate former child soldiers with violence, and due to fear, communities may refuse to accept them back into their local community. Acclimating children must take into consideration alternative solutions due to the sensitive nature of social reintegration.

### **Actions That Have Been Taken or Are Being Taken:**

The UN negotiates action plans with armed groups to end the recruitment of children, thereby reintegrating children back into society through release and rehabilitation programs. The ILO, through IPEC, works towards the reintegration of child soldiers at national and local levels. IPEC aims to address the issue through the economic empowerment of children through basic education to minimize at-risk children, as well as providing jobs to former child soldiers. The ILO further pursues efforts to ensure sustainable reintegration of former child soldiers of legal working age through capacity-building and monitoring with local partners and the cooperation of UNICEF.

According to the *Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict* published by the Secretary General released in June 2018, “...engagement with armed forces and groups resulted in the formal release of over 10,000 children in 2017.” In 2014, UNICEF, along with NGO partners and with the cooperation of peacekeeping missions, launched the campaign *Children, Not Soldiers* (2014-2016) which set global objectives to end the recruitment of children into armed conflict. Following the end of the campaign, thousands of child soldiers were released from armed groups. Furthermore, the *Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict* provides detailed information on human rights violations against children by non-state armed groups. The report also includes an annex, which provides a list of states and non-state actors who have recruited children, and may delist states when necessary steps were taken to meet the obligations or recommendations by the UN. The *International Committee of*

the Red Cross (ICRC) spreads knowledge of international humanitarian law and assists countries to develop national laws in line with relevant conventions. One of the central provisions of the ICRC and *Red Crescent Societies* is to collaborate with national societies in order to deliver long-term reintegration programs on a local level; their position as community-based organizations with local knowledge and close proximity to the victims allows reintegration programs to be sustainable. Similar programs have been in place in countries such as: Congo, Sierra Leone, and Uganda. Furthermore, ILO-IPEC has articulated the *Strategic framework for addressing the economic gap*, which addresses the economic dimension of the recruitment of children in armed conflict. The framework elaborates on individual and community-based approaches to realize sustainability of reintegration programs by offering vocational trainings and creating business opportunities. Furthermore, NGO groups such as CSI state “*education is vital. All children have the right to access education in a safe environment without the fear of attack or recruitment.*” Advocacy for the importance of education has prompted the *Safe Schools Declaration* (2015), which invites countries to protect schools from attacks.

The ICC has acknowledged that child soldiers themselves can be victims of gender-based war crimes and violence, and has been established under article 26 of the *Rome Statute of the ICC* that the court has no jurisdiction over defendants who were under the age of 18 at the time of the commitment of a crime. Taking this into consideration, the ICC has launched its *Policy on Children*, which reaffirms that children under 18 are placed under special protection according to international law.

### **Important Resolutions/Conventions/Treaties:**

- Convention on the Rights of Child (1989)- establishes state responsibility on the protection of children during armed conflict (Article 38 and 39)
- Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (1998) – criminalizes the recruitment of children and the legal process of defendants under 18 years old.
- Security Council (SC) resolution 1261 (1999) – On Children in Armed Conflict is the first Security Council resolution concerning the topic, and condemns the recruitment of children in armed conflict while considering the impact of conflict on children.
- Worst Forms of Children Labour Convention (1999)
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict – (OPAC) deliberates on state responsibility concerning the recruitment of children under 18.
- The Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups (Paris Principles) (2007) – provides guidelines to implement programs targeted to prevent and protect child recruitment by promoting best practices and knowledge-sharing

### **Important Research Links for Committee (Country databases, Resolutions):**

- <https://childsoldiersworldindex.org/> – database on visual trends of recruitment of children, national policies, and number of countries that are members to OPAC
- <https://undocs.org/s/2018/465> - This is a report by the Secretary General released in June 2018, which provides details on recent country-level situations of the recruitment of children. Furthermore, the report provides recommendations for individual countries, which delegates can find useful in formulating their policies
- [Security Council Resolutions and reports by the Secretary-General](#) – documents on Children in Armed Conflict

### **Further Research:**

The Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, in a joint statement with the foreign minister of Sweden has stated that: *“The most effective way to protect children is by preventing and resolving conflict and sustaining peace. The international community has to find better ways to leverage influence on parties to conflict and to illustrate the enormous costs of war, both on the future of children and their communities. When peace processes begin, we must systematically include child protection from the outset.”* In the course of research, delegates should look at the past work of ECOSOC dealing with the agenda, and how the UN system as a whole can cooperate to prevent, protect, and rehabilitate children into society, as well as hold armed groups responsible for the recruitment of children.

- How can the UN cooperate with regions affected by conflict, such as law enforcement to strengthen the judicial system and hold armed groups accountable?
- How can ECOSOC and the UN system cooperate in order to advocate for the strict standard of the enlistment of persons above 18?
- How can MS build off of global action plans to strengthen partnerships and develop national policies, such as strengthening child protection?
- How can the UN ensure the efficiency of their resolutions targeting reintegration of child soldiers especially on a local level?

## ***Committee D: Ending Child Labour in all its Forms in Commercial Sexual Exploitation***

### **Definition:**

In 1996, the *World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children* defined *Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children* (CSEC) under the age of 18 as “the exploitation of children by an adult, accompanied by payment to the child or to one or more third parties”. The *Stockholm Declaration* (1996) defines CSEC as “a form of coercion and violence against children [that] amounts to forced labour and a contemporary form of slavery.” Furthermore, the *Report of the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children* (2006) established CSEC as violence, including activities of the following: “the use of girls and boys in sexual activities reimbursed in cash or other forms of payment, the trafficking of children into the sex trade, child sex tourism, the production, promotion, and distribution of child pornography, and the use of children in private or public sex shows.”

### **Facts about Problems and Effects:**

UNICEF and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimate that 2 million children are exploited in CSEC every year worldwide. On a global scale, CSEC occurs on almost all continents. It is particularly prevalent in countries that are stricken by poverty, political turmoil, conflict, and corruption. It is virtually impossible to tell the exact details of the number of victims affected due to its clandestine nature, lack of evidence, concrete statistic and figures, and different terminologies across countries. In addition, state governments may hide the true nature of CSEC to avoid international criticism. These socio-economic factors in combination with the deterioration of rule of law and sound government institutions lead to the surge of organized criminal networks, fomenting illegal activities such as CSEC.

There are several aforementioned socio-economic factors, which cause child victims to fall prey to commercial sexual exploitation (CSE). One of the largest causes is extreme poverty, where families are forced to sell their children, or instances where families encourage children to seek a better life by leaving their homes. However, some children are more vulnerable than others; children who are at particular risk of exploitation are: runaways, street children, children who live near tourist areas and military bases, children from dysfunctional families, children of sex workers, AIDS orphans, migrant children, children of ethnic minorities, stateless children, and children who are unable to go to school due to poverty or cultural stigma. The ILO has acknowledged that especially girls already involved in other forms of child labour, such as scavenging and street vending may be pulled into the sex trade.

With rapid globalization, demand for children in the commercial sex industry has risen considerably and at an alarming rate in the last few decades. CSEC is a lucrative business, which creates tremendous wealth, also funding other illicit activities. There is a strong correlation between CSEC

and human trafficking of children. According to the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (2017)* published by the UNODC (UN Office on Drugs and Crime), trafficking for sexual exploitation among girls is increasing in recent years, trafficking of children for the purpose of CSE being the most prevalent form. Although human trafficking exists worldwide, human trafficking for the purpose of CSEC remains highly pervasive in the Americas, Europe, and East Asia and the Pacific. Technology has been abused by perpetrators of CSEC to advertise child work online, as well as the explosion of child pornography, or images and videos of sexual abuse. According to the *National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children*, an US-based NGO, they encounter 25 million images of child sexual abuse every year.

Domestically, inhabitants of local communities can be perpetrators as clients or recruiters. Recruiters who act as intermediaries of the sex trade then traffic children into the sex trade within the country or across borders. Recruiters may manipulate children and or convince their families under guise as a representative of a legitimate business, taking advantage of their desperate situation for their personal profit. Children who are migrating without the presence of a parent or legal guardian are also exposed to traffickers who target children enroute to their destination.

Child victims are inflicted severe physical and psychological harm. Not only are they vulnerable to constant risk of physical violence from their recruiters or clients, but they are exposed to unwanted pregnancies, as well as risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as HIV/AIDS. Many children in sex trade are also drug users; adults who command the illegal business may use drugs as a means to maintain control over the children. Child victims experience humiliation, harassment, guilt, and sadness. In some cases, children use drugs as a way to cope with their powerlessness and the pain of their reality. Repeated trauma manifests into acute psychological illnesses ranging from depression, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), to learning problems such as verbal and written communication. These factors severely restrict children from employment prospects as adults even after they are able to break away from the sex industry.

It is extremely difficult for child victims to escape and break away from their dire situation. Many child victims who are entrapped in CSEC stay in fear of punishment, or are unable to seek help, as they are socially isolated in the country they were trafficked to. Since children are not fully developed the way adults are, children may not recognize the full magnitude of their situation, which does not compel them to remove themselves from that situation. In case of their escape, they may also lack the necessary identification documents, which describes their legal status. This hinders them to seek appropriate help from government authorities.

Legal procedures to prosecute responsible criminals are arduous and may provoke further trauma for children who are required to testify against their offender. The protection and care of children through such legal processes is paramount in order to secure the best interests of a child.

In conclusion, children are targeted due to their vulnerability exacerbated due to environmental and socio-economic factors. While the issue of CSEC is fundamentally a human rights issue, it also contains a development aspect. The prolonging of such an abhorrent practice of exploiting children and trading them as commodities impedes on universal development and the realization of the SDGs, in particular SDG 5 and 16. Failing to address and salvage this issue further infringes on the commitments made towards achieving universal development.

### **Actions That Have Been Taken or Are Being Taken:**

Aside from the creation and ratification of international legal instruments, The ILO has been a focal point that has historically been taking initiatives to end CSEC. The ILO provides 4 indicators of vulnerability factors, which varies from child-specific to socio-economic risks indicators. The ILO also assists countries to implement their international legal framework to fight CSEC by providing technical assistance and policy guidance to aid national governments to articulate national strategies. The activities of IPEC consist of sharing best practices on legal reform and awareness raising, involving various actors including NGOs such as ECPAT (End Child Prostitution, Pornography, and Trafficking). Furthermore, ILO bodies monitor the state parties to the ILO Convention No. 182 (1999) through its state-driven reporting system. The ILO participates in multiple global forums including but not limited to the *Executive Committee on of the Task Force to Protect Children from Exploitation in Tourism*, which is led by the *World Tourism Organization*. The increased participation of employers' and workers' organizations has had a major impact. The role of employers' organizations in the tourism and transport sectors has helped raise awareness through campaigns. For instance, since 2003 in Costa Rica, local companies have adhered to the *Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children and Adolescents from Commercial Sexual Exploitation Associated with Travel and Tourism*, promoting sustainable tourism and companies to take social responsibility while ensuring the protection of children and adolescents.

### **Important Resolutions/Conventions/Treaties:**

- UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) (2000)
- UNTOC Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (TIP Protocol)
- Stockholm Declaration (1996)
- ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No.182) (1999)
- Conventions on the Rights of Child (Article 34 and 35)

- ECOSOC Resolution 2002/14-Promoting effective measures to deal with the issues of missing children and sexual abuse or exploitation of children - elaborates on work of ECOSOC and recommendations for countries

### **Important Research Links for Committee (Country databases, Resolutions):**

- <https://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2018/> - Trafficking in Persons Report (2018) published by the US Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons provides country narratives on the situation of human trafficking
- <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/global-report-on-trafficking-in-persons.html> - Global Report on Persons in Trafficking (2017) by UNODC
- <https://www.ecpat.org> legal database, national frameworks and policies, and UN reports on the situation of CSEC by ECPAT, which is an international coalition of NGOs and grassroots organizations working towards ending the sexual exploitation of children
- <https://www.ilo.org/ipecinfo/product/download.do?type=document&id=8270> - ILO Guidelines on the design of direct action strategies to combat commercial sexual exploitation of children

### **Further Research:**

Eliminating the root causes and establishing a no-tolerance policy of CSCE on all levels is crucial in order to eliminate CSEC. Delegates are tasked to approach an issue with multiple dimensions due to interlinking factors, which contribute to the issue. Over the course of their research, delegates should consider the following:

- How can the ECOSOC and the UN system coordinate to empower stakeholders within the private sector such as employers' and workers' organizations to raise public awareness?
- How can ECOSOC, with the cooperation of relevant UN entities, eliminate social and economic barriers, which foments CSEC?
- How can the UN system cooperate with government institutions and law enforcement agencies break the chain of supply-and demand, which facilitates the trafficking of children into the commercial sex industry?
- How could the UN partner with MS to introduce sustainable rehabilitation measures for children who were in the sex trade?
- How can law enforcement utilize modern technology to track child victims and perpetrators of CSEC?
- How can the UN system and ECOSOC better mainstream development perspectives into the efforts to eradicate CSEC?

#### 4.5 Your country

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