

**XXXVII**

**TECMUN**

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United Nations Office for  
Coordination of  
Humanitarian Affairs

XXXVII TECMUN  
**Session Schedule**

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**Monday, April 15th**

Registration	8:00 – 9:00 h.
Opening Ceremony	9:00 – 10:00 h.
Break	10:00 – 10:30 h.
First Session	10:30 – 12:30 h.
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h.
Second Session	13:00 – 15:00 h.
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h.
Third Session	16:00 – 18:00 h.

**Tuesday, April 16th**

Master Conference	8:30 – 9:30 h.
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Fourth Session	10:00 – 12:30 h.
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h.
Fifth Session	13:00 – 15:00 h.
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h.
Sixth Session	16:00 – 18:00 h.

**Wednesday, April 17th**

Seventh Session	8:00 – 9:30 h.
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Eighth Session	10:00 – 12:00 h.
Break	12:00 – 12:30 h.
Ninth Session	12:30 – 14:40 h.
Meal	14:40 – 16:00 h.
Closing ceremony	16:00 – 18:00 h.

XXXVII TECMUN  
**General Agenda**

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*Secretary General: Santiago Gutiérrez Caycedo*

**GENERAL COORDINATION**

*Subsecretary of General Coordination: Lía Naomi Mejía Vargas*

*Supervisor of General Coordination for Media Content: Celic Regina Ramírez  
Garduño*

*Supervisor of General Coordination for Co. Secretariat: Samuel Alejandro Herrera  
Tapia*

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

*Subsecretary General: Monserrat Ríos Fernández*

*Supervisor of General Coordination: María Fernanda García Bautista*

**United Nations General Assembly**

*President: William Vázquez Hernández*

- A)** Measures to prevent disagreements and warlike conflicts between the nations that border the Arctic Circle coming from the militarization and exploitation of natural resources as a consequence of climate change in the region of the Arctic.
- B)** Strategies to halt the violation of human rights to the Uyghur Muslim ethnic minority in the Xinjiang province in the region of the People's Republic of China with emphasis on the concentration camps referred to as vocational education centers.

**Fourth Commission of Special Political and Decolonization**

*President: Miranda Senties Carmona*

- A)** Strategies to consolidate the Independence of Western Sahara after the territorial conflict with the Kingdom of Morocco, emphasizing the maintenance of peace and the protection of the human rights of civilians.

**B)** Measures to assure the national security in New Caledonia due to the protests caused by the political instability, prioritizing its total sovereignty.

### **Sexta Comisión Jurídica**

*Presidente: María Sigaru Alcántara Nieva*

**A)** Mecanismos para contrarrestar el uso inadecuado de inteligencia artificial en los Estados Unidos de América y el Estado de Israel con enfoque en los ataques cibernéticos Stuxnet, Equifax y Solarwinds a fin de instaurar disputas legales.

**B)** Estrategias para reforzar el sistema legal internacional con el objetivo de erradicar las redes globales de prostitución de mujeres y niñas, con énfasis en la República Federal de Nigeria y la República de Níger.

### **Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos**

*Presidente: Gael Santiago Pérez Guzmán*

**A)** Medidas para salvaguardar los derechos humanos en América Latina y el Caribe, con énfasis en las recientes protestas en la República de Nicaragua, la República de Perú, la República de Colombia, la República de Chile, la República de Honduras, los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, entre otros.

**B)** Medidas para frenar las infracciones de derechos humanos en el continente africano respecto a la mutilación genital femenina, haciendo énfasis en la región de la República Democrática Federal de Etiopía.

### **United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East**

*President: Yamir Bandala González*

**A)** Strategies to prioritize the education and health of refugees in the Near East following the Israel-Palestine conflict in Gaza.

**B)** Actions to enhance the internal infrastructure for post-pandemic established refugees in Gaza and the Near East.

### **Liga de los Estados Árabes**

*Presidente: Jorge Roel Rodríguez Alcántara*

**A)** Acciones para contrarrestar el aumento de secuestros y decesos en la República Democrática de Somalia debido a la presencia del grupo extremista Al-Shabaab, enfocándose en la protección de civiles.

**B)** Mecanismos para contrarrestar el Tráfico de Armas hacia los Hutíes con énfasis en la protección de la población de Yemen ante la aún presente Guerra civil.

### **Counter-Terrorism Committee**

*President: Aranza Rodríguez Chagoya*

**A)** Measures to halt the growing menace of attacks with chemical components in the Middle East, focusing on the Syrian Arab Republic.

**B)** Strategies to control attacks caused by cybernetic interventions in the Middle East, with an emphasis on the Islamic Republic of Iran.

### **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

*Subsecretary General: Catherine Romina Espinoza Mora*

*Supervisor of General Coordination: Emilio Guillen López*

### **Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de las Mujeres**

*Presidente: Mariana Carolina Guerrero Zárate*

**A)** Estrategias para frenar la mutilación de genitales a niñas y mujeres de África Occidental a causa de la creencia de salvaguardar su castidad y reprimir su deseo sexual con énfasis en la República Democrática de Somalia y la República de Mali.

**B)** Medidas para erradicar cualquier sistema de tortura a las mujeres en el Medio Oriente con un énfasis en el Reino Hachemita de Jordania.

### **Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

*President: Sofía Juanico Ocegüera*

**A)** Measurements to manage the production of narcotic drugs and alteration of fentanyl-based medication in the United Mexican States, with distribution to the United States of America.

**B)** Actions to eradicate drug trafficking in the Middle East to minimize the misuse of drugs for medical and recreational purposes.

### **Consortio Internacional contra los Delitos de la Vida Silvestre**

*Presidente: Laura Mariana González Beltrán*

**A)** Estrategias para frenar la caza furtiva del elefante africano y el comercio ilegal de marfil en la Sabana africana, con énfasis en la promoción del desarrollo económico y social en las comunidades colindantes.

**B)** Acciones para frenar el comercio ilegal de especies en los Estados Unidos de América y Latinoamérica, haciendo hincapié en las especies de aves, reptiles y anfibios que habitan la región del Pacífico y la Amazonia.

### **Department of Peace Operations**

*President: Paulette Mayen Álvarez*

**Unique Topic)** Measurements to counteract violence towards the civilians from the Republic of Cambodia to safeguard them from the communist regime.

### **United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs**

*President: Frida Michelle Valadez García*

**A)** Strategic interventions for enhancing Immigration Systems amidst the crisis at the border of The United Mexican States

**B)** Actions to optimize humanitarian aid intervention during epidemics in developing African countries with emphasis on the cholera infectious

### **Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económicos**

*Presidente: Yésika Pamela García Trejo*

**A)** Acciones para mantener el nivel de empleo y el desarrollo de las fábricas automotrices de la Unión Europea reduciendo la emisión de carbono.

**B)** Medidas para regular la competencia laboral enfocado en la brecha de género situada en la República de Turquía y en los Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

**Comité de Expertos en Transporte de Mercancías Peligrosas y en el Sistema  
Globalmente Armonizado de Clasificación y Etiquetado de Productos Químicos**

*Presidente: Valeria Arroyo Jerez*

- A) Medidas para moderar el uso de las sustancias perfluoroalquiladas y polifluoroalquiladas en las industrias Europeas debido a su impacto negativo en el medio ambiente y la salud humana.
- B) Estrategias para prevenir los accidentes ferroviarios y carreteros de transporte de mercancías peligrosas con énfasis en los Estados Unidos de América.

**Historical Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

*President: Paulo Souto Núñez*

- A) Strategies to mitigate tensions between the extremist group Al Qaeda and the United States of America, following the onslaughts held against the United States of America, emphasizing on the prevention of crime through terrorist attacks. (1998 - 2001).
- B) Measures to eradicate the extremist criminal behavior of the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), addressing the attacks of the organization inside the territory of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. (2000 - 2011).

**SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND REGIONAL ORGANISMS**

*Subsecretary General: Bruno Ramírez Barcelata*

*Supervisor of General Coordination: Brenda Noreña Mejía*

**Comunidad Caribeña**

*Presidente: María José Parra Meza*

- A) Medidas para contrarrestar la violencia y salvaguardar los derechos humanos de los habitantes de la República de Haití, con énfasis en el tráfico de armas, tráfico de narcóticos y corrupción en la región del Caribe.
- B) Estrategias para frenar el reclutamiento de menores para el turismo sexual con énfasis en la región del Caribe.

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization**

*President: Regina Covarrubias Rosales*

- A)** Fostering defense capacity programmes for NATO's partners, such as the Republic of Moldova, emphasizing on Transnistria's occupation by Russian forces regarding the Ukrainian conflict.
- B)** Perspectives on reinforcement for seabed warfare, undersea infrastructure and security, ensuring NATO's members safeguard regarding the damage made to Finland-Estonia submarine pipeline.

### **Conseil de l'Europe**

*Président: Sofia Dominique Morin Anguiano*

- A)** Renforcement des mesures de prévention du trafic humain concernant la route du Nigeria vers l'Europe Occidentale.
- B)** Actions pour arrêter le blanchiment des moyens financiers en Europe.

### **Organización de las Naciones Unidas para Asuntos del Espacio Ultraterrestre**

*Presidente: Abril Victoria Rodríguez Aguirre*

- A)** Acciones para responder al cambio de paradigma y sistema internacional en materia de los tratados de no proliferación del armamento espacial con énfasis en las normas y regulaciones de estos con el fin de prevenir la militarización del espacio y desarrollo e implementación de armamento en el mismo.
- B)** Medidas para facilitar el acceso equitativo y sostenible al espacio y sus recursos con énfasis en garantizar la inclusión de las naciones y el aprovechamiento de los recursos y la tecnología por medio de prácticas sostenibles.

### **Security Council**

*President: Aranza Michelle Castro Rivero*

- A)** Actions to stop armed attacks on civilians in the Gaza Strip due to the conflict between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine.
- B)** Measures to avoid the indiscriminate use of weapons, violent clashes and reincorporation of armed groups in the region of Tripoli after the civil conflict in the State of Libya.

**Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children in Armed Conflict**

*President: Arantza González de la Peña*

- A) Strategies to cease the recruitment of children in armed forces in the Syrian Arab Republic as a consequence of the civil warlike conflict, as well as ensure the fulfillment of the human rights of the affected children residing in the country.
- B) Actions to put an end to the exploitation and abuse of children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo due to the ongoing conflict and state of anarchy in the country, while ensuring the fulfillment of their human rights and basic needs.

**United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect**

*President: Sara Sofía Govantes Cruz*

- A) Strategies to curb incitement of genocide and inter-ethnic violence by armed groups, due to the multifaceted crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- B) Measures to slow down genocidal practices towards the Uyghur community in the People's Republic of China, along with the repercussions it brings.

**Corte Africana de Derechos Humanos y Personas**

*Presidente: Beatriz Mena Torres*

- A) Dominick Damian v. República Unida de Tanzania.
- B) Samia Zorgati v. República de Túnez.

# Background

The United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) was founded in 1998; it has 30 active members who participate as a sounding board solving financing, policy, and program issues. It currently counts with 29 field offices and its headquarters are located in New York City and Geneva, which manages the coordination of field offices worldwide. This United Nations Office was created in response to resolution 46/182 adopted by the General Assembly. Its principal function is to coordinate, mobilize, and finance humanitarian aid to countries that have been victims of complex emergencies such as armed conflicts, sanitary crises, or natural disasters by ensuring the participation of humanitarian partners in inter-agency decision-making responses. To carry out its functions, this organization is managed with principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and respect for international law.

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## Faculties

To ensure the participation and correct administration of humanitarian aid to people in crisis, the Office for the Coordination on Humanitarian Affairs is entitled to:

- Promote principles of humanity through digital campaigns, social media, or quiet diplomacy with armed groups to create consciousness about the interaction between civilians and military entities in emergency management.
- Formulate recommendations based on analysis of information about the impact of the disaster on the affected communities to develop a collective plan of response which

can be applied with the collaboration of United Nations organs and governmental organizations.

- Mobilize aid and assistance from regional offices and surge mechanisms when required;
- Collect and manage humanitarian funding to support high-priority projects, humanitarian response plans, and effective field coordination.
- Implement tested emergency measures, tools, and contingency plans to help save lives during crises.

# Topic A

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Strategic interventions for enhancing Immigration Systems amidst the crisis at the border of The United Mexican States

## ***Introduction***

The United Mexican States is a nation that has grappled with immigration since the 20th century. A conflict that began with the Mexican Revolution in the 1900s, this upheaval left “the nation’s economy in disarray, leading to a significant reduction in the workforce” (Library of congress, n.d). Furthermore, over 20 years, the active population decreased from 35 % to 31 %. This decline was largely attributed to the abandonment of key economic resources as civilians fled to battles during the revolution, resulting in a notable drop in agricultural output.

As a consequence, the number of immigrants in the United States of America witnessed an escalation, rising from approximately 200,000 to 600,000 individuals in pursuit of economic opportunities. Presently, thousands of migrants go through the United Mexican States towards the United States of America. Over the past two years, the cumulative number of immigrants that undertake this journey has surpassed two million. Therefore, the Texas border, in particular, has emerged as a pivotal conduit for Mexican immigrants.

In December alone, CNN reported an average of 10,000 migrants per day sought to cross the border. This figure has persisted in January, with an estimated 3,000 per day. The United States of America Customs and Border Protection blames the misinformation caused by the smugglers<sup>1</sup> and drug cartels. Migrants confront not only instances of abuse but also endure profoundly adverse living conditions. These challenges are a consequence of “*coyotes*” a term denoting smugglers.

These entities are frequently associated with the Mexican cartels and operate within the border regions, covering expansive distances that span thousands of miles. Their primary objective lies in facilitating the passage of migrants from the United Mexican States toward

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<sup>1</sup> **Smugglers:** Someone who takes good or takes people into or out of country illegally (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d)

the United States American Border. Unfortunately, during this journey, migrants become vulnerable to exploitation by individuals commonly referred to as “coyotes”. These coyotes tend to exploit migrants both physically and emotionally, presenting formidable challenges throughout their journey towards the United States America.

The process endured by migrants in this undertaking is marked by severe conditions, resulting in tragic consequences such as fatalities or abandonment without resources. Subsequently, in certain cases, once they become cognizant of the dangerous circumstance they face, migrants may contemplate retracing their steps. However, measures imposed by these criminal entities compel them to persist in their journey against their own will.

### ***Organized groups “coyotes” and their impact***

The impact of organized groups is widespread. Organized crime, marked by its intricacy, engages in illicit activities and exploits various targets, with migrants being a prominent group among them. Numerous countries are impacted by these circumstances, influenced by the transit, origin, and destination points of migrants. Smugglers take advantage of the vulnerability of migrants who are willing to undertake risks in the pursuit of a better life.

Smuggled migrants are vulnerable to abuse of exploitation, their lives and their safety are put at risk. They suffocate in containers, perish in deserts and even drown at sea. Smugglers predominantly operate along primary routes situated in the east, north from Latin America and America. According to the United Nations, these illicit activities yield an estimated annual revenue of approximately 6.5 billion. The principal catalysts for this circumstance are corrupt officials and criminals.

Overall coyotes have orchestrated progressively sophisticated networks, transcending borders and extending across diverse regions. Criminal groups have initiated collaborative efforts, fostering cooperative relationships. The allure of smuggling for criminal individuals

is further heightened by the low risk of detection associated with this activity. As stated by the United Nations, approximately one-third of immigrants in the United States of America lack documentation, with approximately 80 % coming from South Africa and the United Mexican States.

The predominant method of working for smuggling involves the transportation of immigrants across the border using trucks, although there are other methods such as foot travel, rail transport, and even specialized tunnels. The United Nations estimates that approximately 3 million illegal entries into the United States of America emerge from Latin American countries like The United Mexican States, The Republic of Guatemala, and The Republic of Costa Rica. This circumstance not only impacts migrants but also impacts society, taking into consideration that migrants are key actors in the sustainable development.

Studies from the United Nations Network on Migration suggest immigrants have various positive impacts on the income of all United States of America-born workers. This effect is ascribed to the fact that immigrants typically do not compete for the same employment opportunities as native-born workers. Rather, they complement the undertaken work of United States of America-born employees. However, this event is not lacking in negative impacts, according to experts, it leads to a reduction in the number of college graduates and low-skilled workers within the workforce.

### ***North America cooperation against smugglers***

Various actions have been taken to reduce the number of smugglers in the region while improving the investigation and sentencing of these criminals. The Binational Group Against Arms Smuggling comprises various security and law enforcement agencies from both countries. Its primary goal being to increase the seizure of weapons intended for illegal sale in the United Mexican States on both sides of the border. Additionally, the group aims to

bring arms smugglers to countries, expediting case processing, strengthening mirrored patrols on the border, collaborating on the modernization of border inspection technology, and enhancing information.

Similarly, efforts have been made to mitigate the number of human trafficking victims. The Regional Conference on Migration has been working in cooperation with the involved nations to address the multi-billion-dollar illegal industry of migrant smuggling. The current regional workshop aims to develop a counter-smuggling work plan, enhance coordination, establish common goals, and protect vulnerable migrants. This event is supported by the IOM Mesoamerica Program, funded by the United States of America department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration. Through these collaborative initiatives, stakeholders strive to reduce the adverse impacts of smuggling activities and uphold the safety and well-being of affected individuals.

### ***Unaccompanied alien children***

According to the United States of America states law, individuals under the age of eighteen without legal status within territory who lack a parent or legal guardian to provide care for them, are classified as unaccompanied alien children (UAC). These minors typically traverse the border with the aid of smugglers. The motivation behind their migration vary, some depart from their familial environments to escape prevailing conditions of poverty, domestic violence, or criminal organization. Alternatively, parents may elect to send their children unaccompanied. Driven by desperation stemming from security and economic adversities in their country of origin.

In the United Mexican States border with the United States of America, children immigrant cases have been increasing severely in the last years. As a consequence, during the government of Donald Trump, United States of America president, new immigration policies

were implemented since he argued immigrants were a national security threat. However, in 2022, more than 152,000 UAC crossed the border, of which the majority were fifteen years old, but infants were also present. Consequently, the detention of the minors was unfair since International Human Rights norms were violated, since the treatment was the same as to an adult and there was no regulation.

Most of the detained Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) turn themselves into the authorities. From that point on, the immigration system comes into force by applying United States law. As a consequence of the beginning of this process, two agencies, the Departments of Homeland Security (DHS) and Health and Human Services (HHS), are made responsible for children's security and well-being. The actions of DHS are carried out by adhering to the 1977 Flores Settlement; they take care of the process, and if the cases require, return them to their countries. Additionally, HHS protects accompanied immigrants by ensuring the provision of basic services, such as medical care, bathroom facilities, food, and water.

### ***Humanitarian Aid and Refugee Assistance***

In the context of migration across the United Mexican States and the United States of America border, a distressing scenario unfolds as individuals seeking asylum encounter discriminatory policies within the United States of America. Regrettably, these policies restrict access for those in search of refuge. The International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) has identified a troubling pattern wherein the United States of America targets individuals with the highest likelihood of gaining legal admission. Tragically, the journey towards asylum in the United States of America is often fraught with inhumane treatment for these asylum seekers.

To address this crisis, the IRAP collaborates with Derechos Humanos Integrales en Acción (DHIA) to offer essential legal advice, educational resources, and legal

representation. Their collective aim is to facilitate the attainment of asylum for those in need. Drawing upon insights from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Mexican States has developed a robust national framework to protect asylum seekers within its borders. Central to this framework is well defined understanding of asylum, as outlined in the Cartagena Declaration of 1984.

According to this declaration, asylum is granted to individuals who have fled their home countries due to threats to their lives, safety, or freedom stemming from violence, aggression, internal conflicts or massive violation of human rights. In instances where individuals do not neatly fit within this definition, the United Mexican States Commission for Refugee Assistance (COMAR) steps in to provide protection, ensuring that they are not compelled to return to risk situations in their countries of origin. Notably, the United Mexican States stands among the select nations participating in the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS). Within this framework, the United Mexican States strategic plan aims to bolster protection measures and facilitate the successful integration of seekers into Mexican society .

Responsibility for these critical procedures lies with COMAR, which actively fosters collaboration among various institutions to uphold its mandate of safeguarding the rights and wellbeing of asylum seekers.

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## **Topic B**

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Actions to optimize humanitarian aid intervention during epidemics in developing African countries with emphasis on the cholera infectious

## ***Introduction***

The term epidemic refers to the sudden outbreak <sup>2</sup>of a disease that has a great impact on numerous people within a particular territory. Different factors can influence the appearance of an epidemic, for example, the strengthening of viruses or bacterias, the appearance of new means of contagion of the disease, or if the population has become more susceptible to its contagion. The spread of a virus outbreak can occur through direct contact, common exposure to an infectious agent, or through animals that spread the disease to humans. Despite the existence of a medical remedy for the infection, it remains susceptible<sup>3</sup> to cause an epidemic.

According to the World Health Organization, cholera is a disease of poverty which affects people with inadequate access to safe water and basic sanitation<sup>4</sup>. A disease that is caused by the *Vibrio cholerae* virus. It is an acute diarrheal infection with a high mortality rate. On an annual basis, the virus is responsible for causing between 21,000 and 143,000 deaths. One of the primary symptoms associated with this infection is severe dehydration and watery diarrhea, which typically manifests within 12 hours to 5 days after the infection. This disease is closely linked to the ingestion of unpurified water, contaminated food, and infected inorganic waste, which is why its spread predominates in rural areas where there are few hygiene measures.

The virus originated in Ganges Delta, India and spread all across the world during the XIX century. Since then, six pandemics have occurred, and after its expansion in Asia, it arose in the African region. Although it turned into an outbreak, nowadays in many countries it has

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<sup>2</sup> **Outbreak:** A time when something suddenly begins, especially a disease or something else dangerous or unpleasant. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

<sup>3</sup> **Susceptible:** Easily influenced or harmed by something. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

<sup>4</sup> **Sanitation:** conditions relating to public health, especially the provision of clean drinking water and adequate sewage disposal. (*Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages, 2024*)

been recognized as endemic<sup>5</sup>. The control of it has been reached through the implementation of preventive measures, such as programmes, water and sanitation intervention, and the appliance of vaccines.

### **How the cholera outbreak began**

Since the end of 2021, there has been an increase in the number of cholera outbreaks<sup>6</sup>, mainly in African regions. Despite the medical treatment available for this condition, the mortality rate remains alarmingly high, surpassing that of previous years. Furthermore, the outbreaks were exacerbated<sup>7</sup> by health sector deficiencies and complex humanitarian crises facing African countries. Similarly, the lack of economic resources to finance treatments and the geographical expansion of countries make it difficult to implement crisis response activities.

The first wave of infections occurred in 2022. As the months passed, the number of infected people increased exponentially. During the same year alone, more than 80,000 infections had already been reported. By early 2023, the number of cases detected exceeded 30% of those detected the previous year. Not only is the incidence of infections increasing, but also the mortality rate, which is 2% higher than the permissible limit set by the World Health Organization. The countries most affected by this issue include Burundi, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Zambia.

### **Situation of the african population**

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<sup>5</sup> **Endemic:** regularly occurring within an area or community. (*Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages*, 2024)

<sup>6</sup> **Outbreak:** the sudden or violent start of something unwelcome, such as war, disease, etc.. (*Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages*, 2024)

<sup>7</sup> **Exacerbated:** To make something that is already bad even worse. (*Cambridge Dictionary*, 2023)

The African population is particularly susceptible to this disease due to climatic, geographical, and economic factors. In regards to climatic factors, experts have indicated that the elevation in temperature resulting from climate change has played a significant role in the spread of the disease. On the contrary, geographical factors encompass the ongoing migrations that occur within the region, as the refugee camps have become a focal point for infection due to the water shortage<sup>8</sup> issues that predominate in these locations. Ultimately, the economic factors pertain<sup>9</sup> to the dearth<sup>10</sup> of financial resources available to African governments to address the issue, either through financing the treatment of the populace or by adopting preventative measures prior to the emergence of outbreaks.

There are many factors that contribute to the risk of contracting this disease, but there are certain groups of people who are more likely to contract it due to delicate physical conditions or the place they live. With regards to physical conditions, individuals who are afflicted with malnutrition or dehydration, as well as those who are afflicted with chronic diseases, are more susceptible to infection. Because physical conditions are a reflection of people's living conditions, cholera outbreaks are more common in places where there is no access to drinking water or clean food, or where there is poor hygiene. Examples of these places are refugee camps, poorly urbanized areas, or sparse communities. Approximately 97% of cholera infections occur in countries where there exist communities that exhibit the aforementioned<sup>11</sup> characteristics.

### **Africa's response within the edpidemic**

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<sup>8</sup> **Shortage:** A state or situation in which something needed cannot be obtained in sufficient amounts. (*Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages, 2024*)

<sup>9</sup> **Pertain:** To be connected with a particular subject, event, or situation. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

<sup>10</sup> **Dearth:** An amount or supply that is not large enough. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

<sup>11</sup> **Aforementioned:** Mentioned earlier. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

The African region is undergoing a high transmission of cholera in East and South Africa, Since 2021 there have been various outbreaks that have affected approximately 17 countries. Despite the efforts of African governments to reduce the infections, there are factors outside the disease that are hindering the prevention of outbreaks. These factors are:

The persistence of armed conflicts in some countries in the region has led to the maintenance of sewage and drinking water infrastructures becoming nonexistent. Furthermore, the displacement of migrants to areas where there is little access to potable water makes them drink water from unsafe sources.

Lastly, climate change and rising temperatures are reducing the amount of clean water available for consumption. These factors are related to the spread of cholera, but there are also issues related to the treatment of the disease. The primary challenge in the African region among the population is the low income<sup>12</sup> per capita. This factor significantly impacts individuals' ability to self-manage cases and their conditions.

In rural areas, job opportunities are scarce<sup>13</sup>, leading to a constraint on economic resources. Conversely, in urban areas, there are greater opportunities to generate monetary incomes. This makes it more feasible for individuals to afford treatments not covered by the government. The world health organizations are working with countries to strengthen the key of the outbreak in order to provide cholera control supplies for treating cases.

### ***Healthcare system***

Cholera outbreaks have proven extremely difficult to control, and require a coordinated response to be fully controlled. Unfortunately, the African health system is very precarious and not very functional. Hospitals do not have supplies, doctors and tools, in

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<sup>12</sup> **Income:** money received, especially on a regular basis for work or through investments. (*Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages, 2024*)

<sup>13</sup> **Scarce:** insufficient for demand, especially of food, money or some other resource. (*Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages, 2024*)

addition to not having human resources or quality<sup>14</sup> equipment. Deficiencies in the quality of the health sector in these regions represent a deficiency in prevention and treatments to cure the disease.

The member states of the African Union, comprising approximately 1.3 billion individuals, are presently confronting inadequate health systems. These systems are paramount in ensuring that vulnerable demographic groups have access to safe and dependable healthcare<sup>15</sup> services. Recent statistics reveal that only 48 percent of the continent's population has access to modern sanitary facilities. South Africa, in particular, is experiencing a rise in diseases due to the lack of improvement in its health systems. The underlying cause of endemic diseases in Africa remains one of the highest in the world.

The healthcare systems in Africa have encountered significant pressure, compounded by public health emergencies<sup>16</sup> and other prevalent challenges across the continent. Infectious diseases, which notably affect Africa, annually result in the loss of over 227 million healthy life years and contribute to an annual productivity loss exceeding 800 billion dollars. In recognition of the inadequacy of global health services in addressing the needs of their populations, the World Health Organization has initiated reforms<sup>17</sup>. Recent deliberations have underscored the imperative of advancing efforts to strengthen health systems, achieve universal health coverage, and make substantial progress toward fulfilling the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

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<sup>14</sup> **Quality:** the standard of something as measured against other things of a similar kind, the degree of excellence of something (*Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages, 2024*)

<sup>15</sup> **Healthcare:** the activity or business of providing medical services. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

<sup>16</sup> **Emergency:** a serious unexpected, and often dangerous situation requiring immediate action. (*Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages, 2024*)

<sup>17</sup> **Reforms:** make changes in something, typically a social, political, or economic institution or practices. (*Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages, 2024*)

## **United Nations response**

The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Aid has been involved in the development of the cholera outbreaks. Its primary function has been to collaborate with other United Nations organizations in order to spread the word about the crisis that exists in African countries. Thanks to the work of communicating about the cholera epidemic, OCHA has been able to mobilize countries and donors to provide financial support to solve this problem. However, this body is capable of tackling the issue in greater depth due to its powers.

The World Health Organization is a United Nations agency that has been extensively involved in this crisis, and its contribution to medical assistance and treatment has been greatly beneficial. Its main objectives are to improve surveillance, prevention, and treatment measures for cholera. In order to accomplish these tasks, the World Health Organization has donated more than \$6 million to implement emergency responses in countries such as Kenya, Malawi, and Mozambique. Furthermore, since the year 2023, it has distributed more than three million vaccines in countries such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, and Mozambique.

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XXXVII TECMUN  
**Glossary of Forbidden Words**

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***Forbidden Words***

*Defined by the United Nations, are non diplomatic terms participants must avoid to mention during their speeches on the debate and in the writing of resolution projects.*

<b>Forbidden Words</b>	<b>Permitted equivalents</b>
First world countries	Developed countries
Third world countries	Developing countries
Gay	Member of the LGBTIQ+ community
War <sup>18</sup>	Belic conflict
Rape	Sexual Harassment
Terrorist	Extremist
Kill or murder	Deprive someone of their life
Death	Casualties
Assassination	Homicide
Army	Military forces
Money	Economic resources
Poor	Lack of resources
Okay	Yes or agree
Black <sup>19</sup>	African American

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<sup>18</sup> The word war can be used in order to refer to historical contexts, such as the Cold War, the First World War, etc. It can only be used in the Security Council to refer to armed conflicts.

<sup>19</sup> The word black, with regard to race, is not forbidden but it is recommended to limit its use and refer to this sector as African American or Afrodescendants.

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**Glossary for Resolution Projects**

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***Preambulatory Phrases***

*Preambulatory Phrases are used at the beginning of every Resolution Paper in order to give context about the resolutions made for the topic. Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics followed by a sentence that gives said context. For each Resolution Paper there must be five sentences beginning with a Preambulatory Phrase.*

Affirming	Desiring	Noting with deep concern
Alarmed by	Emphasizing	Noting with satisfaction
Approving	Expecting	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Believing	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Confident	Fully aware	Realizing
Contemplating	Further deploring	Recalling
Convinced	Further recalling	Recognizing
Declaring	Guided by	Referring
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Taking note
Deeply disturbed	Having received	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting	Keeping in mind	Welcoming

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***Operative Clauses***

*Operative Clauses are used at the beginning of every resolution within the Resolution Paper on the debated topic. They must be written in italics and bold.*

Accepts	Endorses	Notes
Affirms	Draws the attentions	Proclaims
Approves	Emphasizes	Reaffirms
Authorizes	Encourages	Recommends
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Regrets
Calls upon	Expresses its hope	Reminds
Condemns	Further invites	Requests
Confirms	Further proclaims	Solemnly
Congratulates	Further reminds	Affirms
Considers	Further recommends	Strongly
Declares accordingly	Further requests	condemns
Deplores	Further resolves	Supports
Designates	Has resolved	Takes note of
		Transmits
		Trusts



