

Maroc

Model United Nations

Theme Guide

Explanation

Climate Change is a natural phenomenon in which climate or weather patterns change. Over long periods of time, different ecosystems in our planet adapted to these changes.

Nevertheless, our situation today is especially dangerous because the rate of climate change has been significantly accelerated by increases in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere that have reached their highest levels in history and that increase the temperature of our atmosphere.

Climate change is a borderless issue that affects us all. It is causing irregular rising sea levels, acidified oceans, abnormally severe weather, destroying ecosystems and is hampering the ability of the Coral Triangle's coastal environment to feed those that live near it. While being the source of new problems, if left unchecked, climate change will also exacerbate other issues such as food or water scarcity which could lead to further conflicts.

In order to combat climate change different industries from energy, food to transportation need to be transformed to ensure that temperature rise does not go beyond 2 degrees celsius i.e. the temperature rise above which most corals are eliminated.

The adoption of the Paris Agreement on December of 2015 that ensured action from a number of countries to address climate change would be taken was a significant step towards the solving of this problem. The commitment of many businesses and investors to lower their emission because of the Climate Action Agenda created at the 2014 Climate Summit in New York is also a considerable step towards a cleaner future.

But there is still a lot more to be done, climate change measures should be integrated into national policies and strategies, a greater ability to react to climate-related hazards and natural disasters should be shaped and structures to allow for effective climate change-related plans and action in least developed countries with a focus on marginalized communities/minorities should be implemented.

Notable Statistic from UNIPCG

- I. Global emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) have increased by almost 50 per cent since 1990
- II. Maize, wheat and other major crops have experienced significant yield reductions at the global level of 40 megatons per year between 1981 and 2002 due to a warmer climate.
- III. From 1901 to 2010, the global average sea level rose by 19 cm as oceans expanded due to warming and ice melted.
- IV. Given current concentrations and on-going emissions of greenhouse gases, it is likely that by the end of this century, the increase in global temperature will exceed 1.5°C compared to 1850 to 1900 for all but one scenario.

Glossary

Greenhouse gases: A gas that contributes to the greenhouse effect by absorbing heat instead of letting it escape out into space.

The Coral Triangle: The most diverse marine region on the planet covering about 6 million kilometers squared of ocean across 6 countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

Sources

"Climate Change - United Nations Sustainable Development." United Nations.

"Climate Change in the Coral Triangle." World Wildlife Fund, Catalyze Sustainability Communications, 2011.

