

# 6

# CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



MODEL UNITED NATIONS

# SOCOMUN XXXIII

## FRESHMAN #6

TOPIC: IMPROVING WATER QUALITY



# SOCOMUN XXXIII



## Freshman #6 Improving Water Quality

### **Introduction:**

Hi, delegates, and welcome to SOCOMUN 2024! My name is Brooke Barber, and I will be your Head Chair for Freshman Committee 6. I am a Senior here at Santa Margarita, and this is my fourth and final year in MUN. Aside from MUN, I love to go to the beach with my friends to surf, watch the sunset, run, and go to the gym! SOCOMUN was the very first conference I had in MUN and since then, I have had endless experiences and opportunities through this program that are truly unforgettable. Through MUN I have learned to better my public speaking skills as well as my research and writing abilities, all while making lasting friendships and memories on the trips I have been on. If you solely try your best and engage yourself, you will have a fantastic time! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me [socomunfresh6@gmail.com](mailto:socomunfresh6@gmail.com). I can't wait to see you all on the committee!

My name is Matthew Abad and I've been doing MUN since freshman year. I went to the Georgetown conference this year in DC. MUN is a great way to learn public speaking skills and leadership skills. Overall, I just think it's a great experience.

Hello delegates! My name is Mia Maroutsos and I'm so excited to be your rapporteur this year at SOCOMUN. I'm currently a sophomore here at SM and this is my second year being a part of MUN. I love to dance, see friends, and go to the beach! MUN has helped me so much in the past years, such as being more confident and allowing myself to speak in front of people. Again, I'm so excited to be a part of the start of your MUN journey!

Our goal is to make your MUN experience fun and collaborative, ensuring you are prepared to thrive at future MUN conferences. The committee will initiate with opening debate. Chairs will smile upon and call on delegates who raise their placards to participate and will thus be on the speaker's list. We will continue moving down the list until a delegate wishes to motion for other action (this could include a motion for a moderated or unmoderated caucus). Motions will be voted on by the delegates in committee and motions pass and fail based on majority vote. Formal consultations (moderated caucus) consist of a short speech with a time limit. When requesting this consultation, the delegate must include the topic of speech and time requested to speak. Informal consultations appear when a delegate requests a period to work with the delegates around them, potentially to form resolutions or obtain knowledge of country policy. Throughout informal consultations, you will be slowly forming resolution groups which will be later presented in formal debate. After this, the committee moves into voting bloc where you attempt to pass the resolution papers with your written solutions, once again, a majority vote passes or fails the paper (any delegate can vote for, against, or abstain from). Hopefully, this guide helps you to prepare and understand the procedures of the conference. We can't wait to see you all there!



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## Background

This committee will be discussing one of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals are global issues that the United Nations deems as issues around the world in need of being addressed and solved. This committee will be discussing the 6<sup>th</sup> SDG, being Clean Water and Sanitation. Rural and developing areas and their limited access to clean water will be in focus. Out of the nearly 8 billion people in the world, approximately 25% (2 billion), live in water-stressed countries (where water is very limited). The water that is consumed in water-stressed countries is likely contaminated with feces, posing a greater risk to human health. Two contributing factors to this are climate change and population growth, where the rising temperatures affect the likeliness of precipitation, impeding the water cycle, and population growth meaning more demand for clean water. Especially with recent events such as the COVID-19 pandemic, disease, and contamination are significant factors in the ability to access water.

Access to clean water in rural areas and systems in developing nations results in extremely low quality and quantity of water availability to the population. For example, the five most water-stressed countries include Bahrain, Cyprus, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, and Qatar. The low supply and the demand for agricultural and domestic use drive the water stress. Additionally, the most water-stressed regions are the Middle East and North Africa. 83% of the population is exposed to water stress. Global water demand is expected to increase up to 25% by 2050, and by this year, the Middle East and North Africa expect 100% of the population to undergo high water stress. Many water treatment systems expect to have installed intensive facilities with an extensive infrastructure and labor force to help them operate. However, in impoverished nations, this is much more difficult to supply, limiting access to safe water for the public. Additionally, the 'Water for Life' International Decade for Action between the years 2005 and 2015 helped to provide about 1.3 billion citizens in developing countries gain access to safe water. The progression of sanitation is geared to meet the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations.

SDG 6 aims to *Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all*. The SDG goes beyond drinking water and sanitation, expanding to quality and sustainability of water-based resources, being critical to the survival of all living things on the planet. The UN plans to aid nations economically, infrastructurally, and in numerous other ways to increase water-use efficiency and ensure clean, sanitized supplies. The goal is that by 2030, water-use efficiency will be increased across all sectors and ensure the supply of fresh water to nations. Additionally, addressing the impacts of water scarcity and focuses on the reduction of those suffering from the scarcity.



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## **Possible Solutions:**

After researching this topic, you will be prepared to craft innovative solutions for your topic. You WILL need more than one solution. Creating multiple (at least 3) developed, quality solutions is crucial. Prior to writing your solutions, please make sure they align with your country's beliefs and policies. Please see the below questions to consider crafting high-quality solutions. The dais of Committee 6 has come up with an example solution. These solutions are meant to give you an idea of what a solution could look like, and we suggest that you create some in your uniqueness. As an example, PurAID is a technology where no pipeline construction is needed, giving a quick solution to nations struggling to provide sanitized water due to their economy. This relieves some of the challenges of finding clean water as it provides a much lesser investment value. This technology can be easily designed and installed as a new purification plant, requiring no pipeline construction. One plant can serve up to 3,000 people daily.

During committee, we suggest not questioning or advising how projects and solutions will be funded. Most approved solutions are already assumed to be approved by UN Funding and sponsors of resolutions are presumed to be a part of that as well.

Conclusively, collaboration is one of the most important aspects of a committee. Working with nations who have a similar policy and forming resolution docs with your fellow delegates will allow for an efficient and successful committee!

## **Questions to Consider**

The following questions are meant to assist you when creating your solutions!

1. Do your solutions align with your national policy?
2. Have you considered all global events and how they will affect your solutions?
3. How sustainable is your solution regarding functionalism and economic considerations?
4. Will other nations be in support of your solution and want to work with you?
5. Is your solution realistically applicable to your nation? Is it able to be implemented?
6. How can NGOs support this solution?
7. Are your solutions innovative enough to expand beyond SDG 6?



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## **United Nations SDG 6 Targets** (From the SDG 6 Website)

**6.1** - *by 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.*

**6.2** - *by 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls in vulnerable situations.*

**6.3** - *by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating the dumping of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater, and substantially increasing recycling and safer use globally.*

**6.4** - *by 2030, sustainably increase water use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of fresh water to address water scarcity and reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.*

**6.5** - *By 2020, protect and restore water related ecosystems, including mountains, forest, wetlands, rivers, aquifers, and lakes.*

**6.6** - *by 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity building support to developing countries in water and sanitation related activities and programs including water harvesting, Desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies.*

## **MUN Impact**

We are beyond excited to see you all in committee! We are hopeful that you will take this opportunity to develop your skills, have a fun time, and take what you learn to your future in MUN! Beyond our committee today, we hope you will take advantage of furthering your MUN experience and knowledge by becoming a part of our MUN Impact Program <https://munimpact.org/> to understand how the world of MUN relates to our committee. See <https://munimpact.org/sdg-6/> to find out how you can help meet the needs of MUN Committee 6!



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