

Research Report

General Assembly 3



The question of how to address the accelerating world population.

*Student Officers:
Carmen Eckhardt & Tayssi Gastrin*

Introduction

On the 15th of November 2022, the world population reached the number of 8 billion people. 218 years after the world population reached 1 billion people in 1804. In the past few years, the world population accelerated in a rapid pace. As the world population grew, the shorter the periods became in between new milestones. Because the world population is still accelerating, our supply of vital non-renewable resources is descending. This will result in ecological degradation, increased conflicts, and a higher risk of large-scale disasters like pandemics.

Some of the causes for the growing population is the decline in the death rate, the better medical facilities, but also the poor use of contraceptives. These are just some examples of the causes for the growing population.

For many low-income and lower-middle-income countries, the rapid population growth is a matter of concern. It adds up to the challenges achieving social and economic development and of ensuring that no one is left behind. The continuing high levels of fertility that drive such growth are both a symptom and a cause of slow progress in development, often linked to a lack of choice and empowerment among women and girls. The rapid acceleration of the population makes it also more difficult for LICs to commit sufficient resources to improve the health and education of their own populations. The rapid growth and the associated slow progress in development also reduce their capacity to respond and adapt to emerging environmental threats, including those caused by climate change.

The Committee

General Assembly 3 is a fairly ordinary committee, meaning there are no special Rules of Procedure specific to this committee. In MUNA, General Assembly 3 deals with environmental, humanitarian and health issues. In this General Assembly, nations come together to discuss a range of social, humanitarian affairs and human rights issues that affect people all over the world and to find solutions in a peaceful and respectful manner.

This year the issues that will be discussed in the General Assembly 3 are:

1. The need for the MEDC's to renew and strengthen commitments to cut greenhouse gas emissions to slow warming of the earth
2. The question of how to address the accelerating world population
3. The issue of alternative approaches to increase agricultural productivity in LEDC's that suffer as a result of CO₂-emissions by MEDC's
4. The question of how to prevent the diseases and illnesses that children undergo due to poor sanitation, poor hygiene or unsafe drinking water

When debating on different solutions, it is important to note money is not an issue as nations can call upon the UN's unlimited funds. Hence, a delegate should never vote or speak against a resolution because of financial reasons.

Keywords

World population = The amount of people living on earth.

Vital non-renewable resources = Resources that are needed to be able to live, and which exist in a fixed amount on Earth. And therefore, can run out.

Ecological degradation = The deterioration of the environment through depletion of resources.

LIC = A low-income country, a developing country.

HIC = A high-income country, a developed country.

Arguments

In order for LICs to develop and learn to cope with accelerating population, HICs have to invest and help, and not every country is willing and able to do that.

Since people getting older and live longer, the retirement costs are increasing. Which can be a difficulty for the economy. Especially in HICs.

Due to the rapid population growth, the housing market cannot keep up with the pace. Meaning that there is a housing crisis going on. In order to build a shelter for all these people, nature will be destructed. Which will have negative effects for the future.

In many LICs families have a lot of children, those children most of the time cannot finish their education and have to start working from an early age to help take care of the family. This will have its consequences in the future.

Timeline of events

1804 – World population reaches 1 billion people

1927 – World population reaches 2 billion people

1960 – World population reaches 3 billion people

1974 – World population reaches 4 billion people

1987 – World population reaches 5 billion people

1999 – World population reaches 6 billion people

2011 – World population reaches 7 billion people

2022 – World population reaches 8 billion people

Resolution

When composing a resolution, a delegate should carefully consider their country's perspective and opinion on the matter. Having read this research report is a good starting point for your research. Try to think of ways that offer a solution for all countries involved to know how to address the rapidly accelerating world population. Make sure the measures are realistic and achievable. Additionally, you should keep in mind that different countries have different policies, and keep the global differences in mind. Make sure to research your country in detail, and keep in mind that you are speaking as if representing that nation. Therefore, make sure to have done some research about your country's policies before joining the conference.

Links and sources

Population media center

<https://www.populationmedia.org/blog/overpopulation-cause-and-effect>

United Nations

<https://www.un.org/en/desa/population-growth-environmental-degradation-and-climate-change>

Conserve Energy Future

<https://www.conserve-energy-future.com/causes-effects-solutions-of-overpopulation.php>

World population prospects

https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/sites/www.un.org.development.desa.pd/files/wpp2022_summary_of_results.pdf?_gl=1*qb7s8n*_ga*OTI1MzE1NTYuMTY3MzA5MTU5OA..*_ga_TK9BQL5X7Z*MTY3MzA5MTU5OC4xLjEuMTY3MzA5MTczMS4wLjAuMA