

1. Welcome From High Command.

Greetings, future delegates of the Thirteenth Edition of the Model United Nations Instituto Mexicano Madero.

It is an honor for the High Command to welcome you to an edition of MUNIMM that we proudly present with the goal of offering an enriching and meaningful experience—one that leaves a lasting impact on you and your surroundings. This Thirteenth Edition, organized by our dedicated team and brought to life through your participation, will take place on February 19th and 20th.

The High Command and the General Council would like to personally thank each delegate for choosing to take part in an activity that promotes a deeper understanding of our world. Your participation enables thoughtful and constructive debate, reflecting the very essence of the United Nations: **to unite**.

The Model United Nations Instituto Mexicano Madero has been organized not merely as an academic exercise, but as a platform to bring current global issues closer to the youth. Through this model, delegates are given the opportunity to analyze, discuss, and contribute their own perspectives on the challenges our world faces today.

For over a decade, MUNIMM has provided a space where fresh ideas can flourish, ideas that inspire reflection, action, and new ways of understanding global issues from multiple perspectives. This exchange of viewpoints strengthens critical thinking and problem-solving skills, both of which are invaluable in today's interconnected world.

Throughout this conference, you will not only debate topics of global importance, but also learn to work under pressure, collaborate with others, and develop well-founded solutions through careful analysis of the information presented by both yourself and your fellow delegates.

For this reason, a solid informational foundation is essential for successful participation. This document has been designed to guide you through the research process and support the development of your position paper.

Equally important in any MUN conference is maintaining a diplomatic mindset. Through respectful dialogue, we reach mutual understanding, not only of global issues, but also of one another. Diplomacy allows us to recognize and respect the diverse perspectives represented in this model.

“Do what is right, not what is easy nor popular.” – Roy T. Bennett

Every voice matters, regardless of race, gender, background, or place of origin. The opinions of fellow delegates and the nations they represent deserve to be heard and respected. This is the first step toward creating a safe and productive space for diplomacy.

By fostering mutual respect and cooperation, we move closer to common ground and effective solutions, both within MUN and beyond it. Our choices shape outcomes, and acting with integrity and purpose benefits not only ourselves, but those around us.

Ultimately, a Model United Nations conference does more than simulate the work of the United Nations; it demonstrates how individuals can come together to address global challenges through informed dialogue, collaboration, and collective determination. Together, we can achieve far more than we ever could alone.

1.1 Before We Begin...

At its core, **Model United Nations (MUN)** is an academic simulation of the United Nations. Within this forum, you step out of your own perspective and into the role of an ambassador representing a specific country or organization. You are not merely discussing global issues, you are actively working to address them through the framework of international relations and diplomacy.

By participating in MUN, you transition from being a passive observer of global events to an active contributor to international dialogue. This experience broadens your perspective, challenging you to engage with current global issues while understanding the policies and interests of the delegation you represent.

One of the most distinctive aspects of Model United Nations is the active application of knowledge. You do not simply learn about a country's policies, you must defend them. This process requires:

- Conducting thorough research on your assigned country's history, political structure, and economy.
- Understanding its strategic alliances and international position.
- Advocating for its interests, even when they differ from your personal beliefs.

Model United Nations is not just a conference held around the world; it is an immersive experience that allows you to navigate the various bodies of the United Nations, each addressing different sectors and global challenges. Through MUNIMM, we aim to bring this experience closer to you.

As this conference is conducted through formal debate, it is essential to maintain clear rules of procedure. By doing so, we emulate a professional diplomatic environment and uphold the standards of respect, order, and professionalism that define international diplomacy.

2. Before the Upcoming Model

To excel in Model United Nations, research is your most important tool. It serves as the bridge between being a student and acting as a diplomat. Proper research allows for efficient preparation, ensuring both a strong position paper and active, influential participation during debate.

It is essential for every delegate to understand the organization they are simulating, the United Nations. A well-prepared delegate should not only be familiar with the UN's general structure, but also have a clear understanding of the specific forum in which they will be working.

Before attending the conference, delegates must thoroughly research their assigned country. This includes understanding its geography, demographics, economy, and political system. Delegates should also be aware of their country's foreign policy, international alliances, and historical positions on key global issues.

Equally important is a strong understanding of the topic assigned to the committee. Delegates should explore the definition of the issue, its historical background, and the current global situation. Researching the involvement of key stakeholders such as countries, non-governmental organizations, and international institutions will help build informed and realistic arguments. Reviewing past UN resolutions and international agreements provides insight into previous attempts to address the issue.

Delegates must prepare a Position Paper, a concise document summarizing their country's stance. It should include the country's history with the topic, its current position, and proposed solutions. In addition, delegates are encouraged to prepare debate points and draft potential resolution clauses for committee sessions.

To effectively follow debate and develop meaningful ideas, delegates should be familiar with all topics that will be addressed within their committee.

2.1 Starting Your Investigation

Beginning your research by understanding the committee, its topics, and the provided background materials will allow you to establish a strong foundation for your investigation.

Start with the Background Guide provided by MUNIMM, but do not limit your research to it. Consider the following key elements:

- **The Problem:** What is the history of the issue, and why has it not yet been resolved?
- **The Mandate:** What actions is your committee authorized to take?
- **UN Precedent:** Research past United Nations resolutions and initiatives related to the topic.

This process will provide a solid starting point for both writing your position paper and building the informational base needed during debate.

Your Country's Policy

Understanding your country's priorities on the global stage is essential.

- **Official Statements:** Review speeches and publications from your country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs or its Permanent Mission to the United Nations.
- **Voting Records:** Consult the UN Digital Library to analyze how your country has voted on similar issues in the past.
- **Allies and Rivals:** Identify which countries your delegation frequently aligns with. Knowing your natural allies helps you form blocs quickly during the conference.
- **Domestic Context:** Consider how internal factors such as economic capacity, political stability, public opinion, and national development goals influence your

country's international stance. Domestic realities often shape foreign policy decisions..

Proposing Solutions

Strong delegates do not simply restate problems; they propose realistic and forward-looking solutions.

- **Feasibility:** Is the proposal financially realistic? Who will fund it? Can it be implemented within a reasonable timeframe?
- **Specificity:** Rather than stating broad goals, propose concrete actions. For example, instead of saying "support refugees," suggest creating a digital identification system to accelerate work permit access for displaced persons. Innovation should build upon existing frameworks.
- **SMART Goals:** Ensure that proposals are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound.

Providing multiple proposals categorized as short-term, mid-term, and long-term solutions is highly encouraged.

What Tools Can I Use?

In addition to outlining your position paper, it is important to rely on credible and reliable sources. Useful starting points include Google Scholar, the United Nations website and its affiliated agencies, academic journals, and the research guides included in the MUNIMM Background materials. Credible international media sources can also help provide a broader perspective on global issues beyond official policy statements.

Using a balanced combination of official UN resources, academic research, and reputable media sources will significantly strengthen both written preparation and active participation during committee sessions.

3. Criteria for the Position Papers

A position paper is a formal written statement used in Model United Nations to communicate a delegation's official perspective on the issues addressed in committee. This document allows delegates to demonstrate their understanding of the topic, reflect their country's interests, and propose solutions that align with national policies and international commitments.

A strong position paper clearly explains the relevance of the topic to the represented country and evaluates the implications of the issue at the national and international levels. It should reflect prior government actions, existing policies, and participation in international agreements, while maintaining a realistic and diplomatic tone. The concluding section should focus on proposing practical and cooperative solutions that the country would be willing to support during debate.

Throughout the conference, the position paper acts as a strategic guide for the delegate. It supports speech preparation, negotiation efforts, and resolution writing, ensuring that the delegation's actions remain consistent, informed, and aligned with its official stance.

Criteria 1	An introduction of the delegation, including relevant background information.
Criteria 2	How the issue affects the represented country at the national and international levels, considering political, economic, social, or diplomatic implications.
Criteria 3	Country's official policies regarding the issue, supported by justification based on national interests and foreign policy principles.
Criteria 4	A description of actions previously taken by the government in relation to the topic, including domestic initiatives or international efforts.
Criteria 5	Identification of international conventions, treaties, or resolutions that the country has signed, ratified, or actively supported concerning the issue.
Criteria 6	An analysis of the country's position toward actions taken by the United Nations or other international or regional organizations, including measures it has endorsed or opposed.
Criteria 7	The presentation of proposed solutions that the country considers viable, realistic, and aligned with diplomatic cooperation and international law.
Criteria 8	The inclusion of properly cited references in APA format, ensuring academic integrity and the absence of plagiarism. Arial 11.

Delegates are required to prepare one position paper for each topic assigned to their committee. Every delegate **must** bring two printed copies of each position paper.

4. Motions

Motions of Procedure

- Motion to Open the Session
- Motion to Reopen the Session
- Motion to Postpone the Session
- Motion to Open the Speakers' List
- Motion to Open an Extraordinary Session of Questions
- Motion to Open/Extend a Moderated Caucus
- Motion to Open/Extend an Unmoderated Caucus
- Motion to Read the Working Paper
- Motion to Read the Resolution Paper
- Motion to Proceed to Voting on the Working Paper/Resolution Paper
- Motion to Close the Debate

Point of Personal Privilege: Used by any delegate to address a personal need such as audibility or room conditions. It may not interrupt a speaker unless related to audibility.

Point of Inquiry: Used to request clarification regarding committee procedure or the topic under discussion.

Point of Order: Used when a delegate believes an error has been made in the application of the rules or formal procedure.

Right of Reply: May be invoked by a delegate who feels personally, nationally, or religiously offended by a statement made during debate. It allows for a brief factual response and may include a request for an apology.

During the session, delegates may communicate through the note-passing policy. This policy may be suspended at any time by the Chair to ensure the orderly flow of debate. All diplomatic notes must be reviewed by the President to verify compliance with committee protocol.

4.1 RULES

1. **Official language:** The official language of the committee must be used at all times during the session. If a word or expression is used in a different language, an immediate translation must be provided.
2. **Use of third person:** With the exception of some committees, all interventions must be delivered exclusively in the third person.
3. **Prohibition of direct contact:** Except in some committees, direct interaction between delegations is not permitted during committee sessions.
4. **Appropriate language:** The use of offensive or inappropriate language is strictly prohibited, including the mention of sensitive terms such as “poverty,” “wealth,” “war,” “holocaust,” among others.

Prohibited Word	Acceptable Alternative
Poverty	Lack of resources, economic hardship
Wealth	Economic prosperity, financial stability
War	Armed conflict, military confrontation
Holocaust	Genocide, mass extermination
Terrorism	Extremist violence, violent activities
Terrorist group	Extremist organization, subversive group
Poor countries	Low-income countries, economically vulnerable states
Rich countries	High-income countries, economically advanced states
Violent regime	Authoritarian government, repressive administration
Dictatorship	Non-democratic system, centralized authority
Mass killing	Large-scale civilian casualties

Ethnic cleansing	Forced displacement, population removal
Illegal migrants	Undocumented migrants
Backward nations	Less industrialized countries
Slavery	Forced labor
Radical groups	Extremist factions

Even when alternative wording is used, delegations must refrain from employing disrespectful or dishonorable language toward others. Disagreement does not justify offensive remarks or direct confrontations, which will not be tolerated.

5. **Dress Code:** Delegates are required to wear neutral-colored attire at all times. For further details regarding appropriate attire, delegates are encouraged to consult the official MUNIMM website.
6. **Warnings for Non-Compliance:** A delegation that accumulates three warnings for failing to comply with committee rules will receive a formal admonition. This may affect deliberations related to awards and recognitions.

5. Resolutions

A resolution paper is a formal document that outlines the proposals and decisions of a committee regarding a specific agenda item. It reflects the collective efforts of the committee to address the topic through cooperation and diplomatic negotiation. Each resolution must contain the following components:

1. **Committee Title:** The official name of the committee in which the resolution is being discussed.
2. **Agenda Topic:** The specific issue addressed by the resolution.
3. **Date of Submission:** The date on which the resolution draft is formally presented.
4. **Signatory Countries:** Delegations that support the discussion of the resolution draft but do not necessarily agree with all of its contents. Signatories are not required to vote in favor of the resolution; their role is to ensure that the proposal is introduced for debate.
5. **Sponsoring Countries:** Delegations that drafted and fully support the resolution. Sponsors are responsible for the content of the document and are expected to vote in favor of it.

Resolutions must also include structured clauses that define both the context and the proposed actions:

6. **Preambulatory Clauses:** A total of ten preambulatory clauses must be included. These clauses establish the background, guiding principles, and international precedents relevant to the issue, often referencing past agreements or resolutions.
7. **Operative Clauses:** A total of fifteen operative clauses are required. These clauses specify the concrete actions, measures, and recommendations proposed by the committee to address the topic.

Preambulatory and operative phrases will be provide to guide the drafting of resolutions.

Preambulatory clauses:

Alarmed	Fearing	Noting with regret
Aware	Fulfilling	Noting with satisfaction
Believing	Guided by	Observing
Concerned	Having adopted	Persuaded
Conscious	Having considered	Reaffirming
Contemplating	Having considered further	Realizing
Convinced	Having devoted attention	Recalling
Declaring	Having examined	Recognizing
Deeply regretting	Having heard	Referring
Deploring	Having received	Regretting
Desiring	Having studied	Seeking
Disturbed	Inspired	Taking into account
Emphasizing	Keeping in mind	Taking into consideration
Expecting	Nothing further	Taking note Welcoming
Expressing its appreciation	Noting with approval	
Expressing its satisfaction	Noting with deep concern	

"Further", "Fully" or "Deeply" may be used together with every perambulatory phrase.

Operative clauses

Accepts	Emphasizes	Refers
Affirms	Encourages	Regrets
Appeals to all States	Endorses	Reminds
Approves	Establishes	Renews
Authorizes	Expresses	Requests
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Requests the
Calls upon	Expresses its concern	Secretary-General
Complements	Expresses its hope	Resolves
Condemns	Has resolved	Solemnly affirms
Confirms	Insists	Suggests
Congratulates	Invites	Supports
Considers	Notes	Takes note of
Decides	Pays tribute to	Transmits
Declares	Proclaims	Trusts
Demands	Proposes	Underlines
Deplores	Reaffirms	Urgently requests the
Designates	Recalls	committee
Draws the attention	Recommends	Urges

"Further" or "Strongly" may be used together with every operative phrase.

6. During the Debate

Leading a debate in Model United Nations requires a careful balance between assertiveness and empathy. Effective delegates do not seek to prevail by silencing others, but by contributing in ways that guide the committee toward consensus and collective understanding.

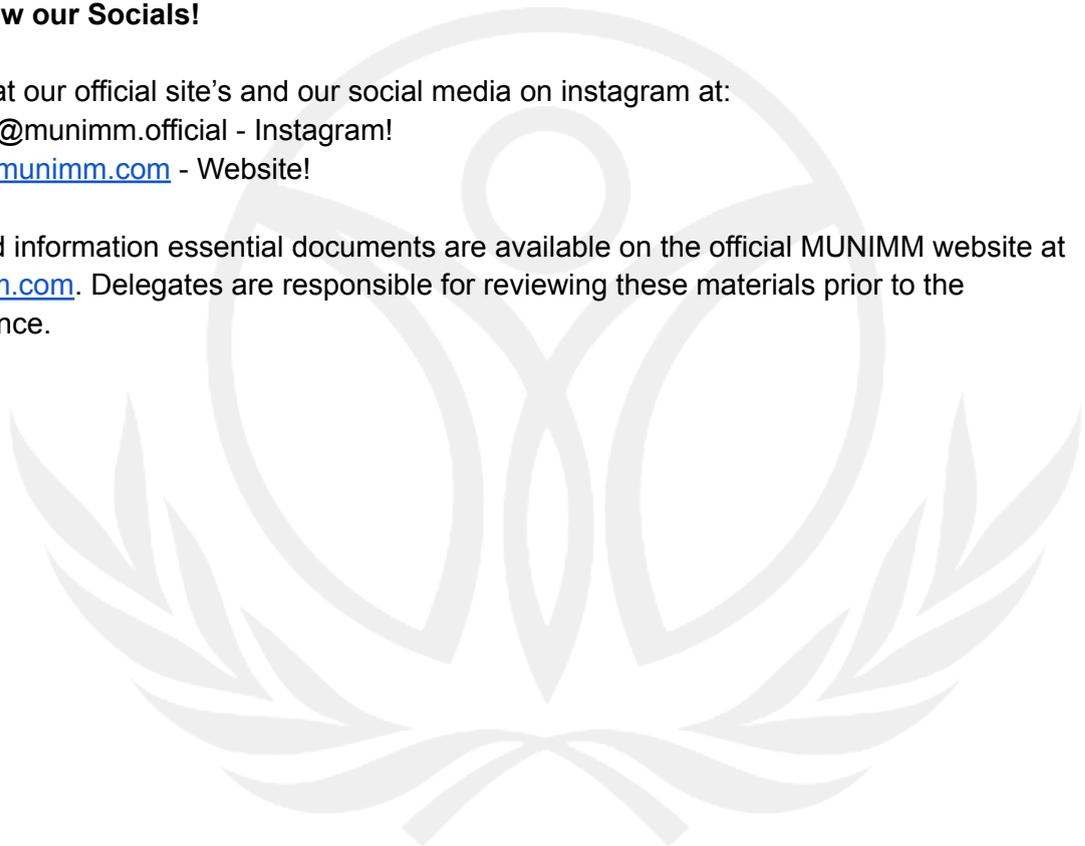
At MUNIMM, we aim to promote this diplomatic approach. Even when an idea is not accepted, opportunities remain to find common ground and build cooperation with opposing viewpoints. Active listening is just as important as speaking. By valuing the perspectives of others and engaging thoughtfully with them, delegates strengthen the quality of debate and foster a more comprehensive understanding of the issues before the committee.

7. Follow our Socials!

Follow at our official site's and our social media on instagram at:

- @munimm.official - Instagram!
- munimm.com - Website!

Detailed information essential documents are available on the official MUNIMM website at munimm.com. Delegates are responsible for reviewing these materials prior to the conference.



Example of Position Paper

Committee: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Delegation: Federal Republic of Nigeria

Delegate: John Doe

Topic A: Addressing the Emerging Production of Fentanyl in Latin America and the Caribbean (China-Mexico-USA)

Good morning honorable chair and fellow delegates,

On behalf of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and the people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, it is an honor to address this distinguished conference. This delegation is committed to promote diplomatic cooperation and sustainable development, as we work together to address global challenges. The Federal Republic of Nigeria is eager to engage in this dialogue and to work together to find just and lasting solutions for a better world.

Nigeria, the largest economy in West Africa and a key African leader, recognizes the global threat posed by synthetic opioids such as fentanyl. While Latin America is currently the epicenter of production, Africa must prevent its spread into the continent. Nigeria approaches this issue with urgency, emphasizing international collaboration that prioritizes health, security, and cooperation.

The public health implications are serious: potential overdose cases, youth addiction, and weakened communities. Socially, synthetic drugs could fuel crime and instability. Economically, they could strain health systems and divert resources. Politically, this challenges the need for greater cooperation among nations to prevent a new wave of opioid abuse that could destabilize entire regions.

Nigeria enforces drug control laws through the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), established under Decree No. 48 of 1989, to regulate, prevent, and prosecute drug offenses. Efforts include border control, anti-terrorism measures, and public awareness campaigns, based on public health, national security, and international obligations.

Nigeria continues to participate in awareness campaigns such as MTN Foundation Anti-Drug Campaign focused on prevention and rehabilitation, particularly among youth populations. Furthermore, Nigeria actively cooperates with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to enhance forensic capacities, improve public health strategies, and address transnational organized crime. Nigeria also engages with the United States and China under the Global Coalition to Address Synthetic Drug Threats (2023).

Nigeria is committed to various key international treaties, including

- *The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961)*
- *The Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971)*
- *The United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988)*
- *The United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (2000)*

These instruments demonstrate Nigeria's commitment to a coordinated and rules-based international response against narcotics trafficking and the misuse of chemical precursors.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria proposes the following measures to strengthen international efforts against the production and spread of fentanyl:

1. Enhance border and customs inspection systems. Nigeria calls for the modernization and reinforcement of customs and border control systems across Africa to prevent the illicit importation of synthetic opioids and their precursor chemicals. This includes investing in advanced scanning technologies, increasing the number of trained officers, and improving data integration between border posts. Strengthened monitoring at ports, airports, and land crossings would help intercept illegal shipments before they enter African markets. By prioritizing border cooperation and intelligence-led inspections, countries can prevent traffickers from exploiting weak entry points across the continent.

2. Implement educational and prevention campaigns. Recognizing that prevention is as crucial as enforcement, Nigeria proposes large-scale educational programs targeting youth and vulnerable populations. These initiatives should focus on raising awareness about the dangers of synthetic opioids, particularly the high risk of overdose and addiction associated with fentanyl. Partnerships with schools, media outlets, and community organizations would help create informed and resilient communities. Education campaigns would not only discourage use but also reduce stigma around treatment and rehabilitation, promoting a culture of prevention rather than punishment.

3. Adopt stricter domestic legislation. Nigeria encourages all nations to adopt and enforce comprehensive legal frameworks regulating synthetic opioids and their precursor substances. Such legislation should include tighter control over chemical imports, enhanced penalties for trafficking, and clearer mechanisms for monitoring pharmaceutical production. Within Nigeria, these principles are already being implemented through the NDLEA, which serves as a model for other African countries. Stronger laws will ensure that synthetic drug manufacturing and trafficking are addressed with the seriousness they deserve, closing loopholes often exploited by criminal organizations.

4. Strengthen international intelligence sharing and law enforcement cooperation. Nigeria urges the establishment of robust intelligence-sharing frameworks between African countries, Latin American producers, and international partners. By exchanging real-time data on trafficking routes, precursor chemical shipments, and organized crime networks, authorities can anticipate and intercept illicit operations. Joint investigations, task forces, and cross-border police cooperation will ensure that criminal organizations cannot exploit gaps in enforcement. Technology-driven platforms, such as shared databases and encrypted communication channels, will support rapid coordination and reduce bureaucratic delays.

5. Enhance regulation of chemical precursors. Nigeria recommends tighter international control over chemical substances used in fentanyl production. This includes mandatory registration, licensing, and tracking of precursor chemicals at import and export points. Collaboration with producers in China and distributors in Latin America will ensure legal channels are strictly monitored, preventing diversion to illicit markets. Enforcement agencies must be trained to identify suspicious orders and shipments, with clear penalties for non-compliance, reducing the raw materials available to traffickers.

6. Implement regional monitoring and early-warning systems.

Nigeria proposes the creation of a regional system to detect emerging synthetic drug trends. Using advanced analytics, data from customs, law enforcement, health agencies, and social media can identify new trafficking methods, novel fentanyl analogues, and shifts in consumption patterns. Early-warning mechanisms allow authorities to respond proactively, preventing widespread distribution and protecting public health. Such systems can be coordinated through regional organizations like ECOWAS, CARICOM, and the OAS, enhancing continental preparedness.

References

- National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). (2023). NDLEA annual report on narcotics control and drug law enforcement in Nigeria. Federal Government of Nigeria. <https://ndlea.gov.ng>
- Reuters. (2023, October 4). Nigeria intercepts record drug shipments amid growing concerns about synthetic opioids. <https://www.reuters.com>
- ThisDayLive. (2023, August 15). NDLEA issues warning over possible fentanyl circulation in West Africa. <https://www.thisdaylive.com>
- TheCable Nigeria. (2023, July 22). UNODC partners with Nigeria to combat synthetic drug threats. <https://www.thecable.ng>
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). (2023). Global report on synthetic drugs 2023: The growing complexity of the opioid crisis. Vienna: UNODC. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/wdr.html>
- United Nations. (1988). United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. Vienna: UN Treaty Collection. https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=VI-19&chapter=6
- United Nations. (2000). United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime. New York: United Nations. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/organized-crime/intro/UNTOC.html>
- World Health Organization (WHO). (2022). Public health implications of synthetic opioid use. Geneva: WHO <https://www.who.int>
- Wikipedia contributors. (n.d.). President of Nigeria. Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_Nigeria
- Wikipedia contributors. (n.d.). Nigeria. Wikipedia. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigeria>

Example of Position Paper

Committee: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Delegation: Federal Republic of Nigeria

Delegate: John Doe

Topic B: Development of Strategies to Combat and Eradicate Environmental Crimes and Illicit crop

Good morning honorable chair and fellow delegates,

On behalf of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and the people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, it is an honor to address this distinguished conference. This delegation is committed to promote diplomatic cooperation and sustainable development, as we work together to address global challenges. The Federal Republic of Nigeria is eager to engage in this dialogue and to work together to find just and lasting solutions for a better world.

Nigeria is one of Africa's most biodiverse nations, endowed with rich forests, minerals, and ecosystems. However, illegal logging, wildlife trafficking, and environmental degradation are rising challenges that threaten both national security and regional stability particularly in states such as Zamfara, Kaduna, and Cross River.

Nigeria has taken important legislative steps to address these challenges. The National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) Act established a national authority to enforce environmental laws. The National Forest Policy promotes reforestation and sustainable resource management, while the Endangered Species Conservation and Protection Bill (2024) introduces stricter penalties for wildlife trafficking and aligns national law with international commitments.

These actions reflect Nigeria's dedication to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly SDGs 13 (Climate Action), 15 (Life on Land), and 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), ensuring that environmental protection remains a pillar of national progress.

Furthermore, Nigeria collaborates with international bodies including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and INTERPOL to enhance environmental law enforcement and intelligence-sharing (otra palabra).

Through the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Nigeria advances regional strategies against environmental crimes and supports sustainable development across West Africa.

Nigeria is a signatory to several multilateral environmental agreements, demonstrating its strong commitment to environmental governance:

- *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)*
- *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)*
- *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)*
- *United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development (2013)*

These frameworks guide Nigeria's actions to replace illicit crops with sustainable economic alternatives and to combat environmental crimes in accordance with international standards.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria proposes the following measures to strengthen environmental protection, sustainable development, and community resilience across Africa:

1. Promote sustainable agricultural alternatives. Nigeria encourages the implementation of programs that support farmers currently involved in illicit crop cultivation. These initiatives should provide training, access to legal and profitable crops, microcredit schemes, and guaranteed market opportunities. By offering viable and sustainable livelihoods, rural communities can reduce dependence on environmentally damaging practices while maintaining economic stability.

2. Strengthen international conservation financing. Nigeria proposes the establishment of partnerships with global financial institutions such as the African Development Bank, and multilateral funds dedicated to climate action and biodiversity conservation. These resources would support long-term projects in reforestation, soil restoration, and ecosystem management, integrating ecological restoration with community development initiatives to ensure sustainable outcomes.

3. Establish regional intelligence-sharing alliances. Nigeria calls for enhanced cooperation through ECOWAS and other regional frameworks to coordinate joint operations, share intelligence on environmental crimes, and harmonize enforcement strategies. Collaborative efforts should include combatting wildlife trafficking, illegal timber trade, and cross-border illicit mining activities. Additionally, public awareness campaigns should be expanded to rural and vulnerable communities to foster local engagement in conservation efforts.

4. Incentivize private sector participation in sustainability. Nigeria recommends encouraging businesses to invest in green technologies, sustainable agriculture, and reforestation projects. This can be achieved through tax incentives, subsidies, or public-private partnerships. Active private sector engagement complements government efforts and introduces innovative approaches to environmental protection.

5. Implement stricter regulatory frameworks and penalties. Nigeria supports the revision and enforcement of environmental laws, including the NESREA Act and the Endangered Species Conservation and Protection Act. Strong penalties should be imposed on individuals or companies involved in illegal mining, timber extraction, and wildlife trafficking. Transparent enforcement will deter unlawful exploitation of natural resources and ensure legal compliance.

6. Promote renewable energy alternatives. Reduce reliance on environmentally harmful energy sources by supporting solar, wind, and bioenergy projects in rural and industrial regions. This transition can decrease deforestation for fuelwood, reduce pollution, and provide sustainable energy solutions to underserved communities.

References

- National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA). (2023). National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency Act. Federal Republic of Nigeria. <https://nesrea.gov.ng>

- Nigerian Ministry of Environment. (2023). National Forest Policy of Nigeria. Federal Ministry of Environment. <https://environment.gov.ng>
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). (2023). UNODC and Nigeria: Strengthening environmental crime prevention. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2023/April/unodc-works-with-nigeria-to-combat-environmental-crimes.html>
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). (2022). Niger Delta cleanup project: Progress report. <https://www.unep.org>
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). (1992). Convention on Biological Diversity. United Nations Treaty Collection. <https://www.cbd.int>
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). (1973). Text of the Convention. <https://cites.org/eng/disc/text.php>
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). (1992). United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. <https://unfccc.int>
- OECD. (2023). Environmental performance and policy trends in Nigeria. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. <https://www.oecd.org>
- Reuters. (2023, May 19). Nigeria boosts crackdown on illegal mining and environmental crime networks. <https://www.reuters.com>

