Position Paper: United States of America

Committee: World Health Organization (WHO)

Topic: Global Health Impacts of Climate Change and Mitigation Strategies

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a United Nations body tasked with protecting and improving global health. WHO collaborates with the international community on climate change, one of the greatest threats to health. The impacts of climate change have devastating consequences not only on the environment but also on public health. In this context, WHO leads efforts to strengthen health systems, prevent diseases, and adapt to climate change.

Climate change has caused many serious health problems in the United States, such as increased heat waves, wildfires, storms, and sea level rise. These events are causing increases in heat stroke, respiratory diseases, and waterborne infections. The United States is taking a leading role in combating these problems. For example, legislation has been passed to reduce carbon emissions by switching to renewable energy sources, and funds have been allocated to make health systems more resilient to climate change. In addition, the United States supports global cooperation, particularly by leading efforts to strengthen health systems in low-income countries.

The United States is taking a multidimensional approach to mitigating the health impacts of climate change. Investments in renewable energy projects are being increased, fossil fuel dependency is being reduced. An infrastructure that is resilient to the health threats of climate change is being built. Funding is being allocated for research to understand the health impacts of climate change, and innovations such as early warning systems are being promoted. The United States is taking a leading role in information sharing, financing, and technology transfer through collaboration with the WHO and other countries.

References

• World Health Organization (WHO). Climate and Health Reports.

• U.S. Department of Energy Renewable Energy Programs.

• National Institutes of Health (NIH). Climate Change and Health Impacts Research.

• Global Health Security Agenda Publications.