



Resource Guide

WFUNA International Model United Nations New York City 2024

30 January 2024 - 2 February 2024

Intercontinental Times Square and The Westin Times Square

Second Committee of the General Assembly (HS)

**: Protection of global climate for present and future
generations of humankind**





Welcome to WFUNA International Model United Nations New York 2024.

We are very pleased to introduce you to the most authentic simulation of the United Nations in the world; and hope to contribute to your understanding of the Organisation, its mandate, and its critical role in global affairs.

Through a series of pre-conference webinars that will be offered and documents – like this resource guide – we aim to educate you not only about the global issues on the UN agenda, but also about the ways and means through which those topics are discussed, debated and negotiated by real UN diplomats.

This resource guide will provide you with a head start in doing research to gain a deeper understanding of the global issue that you will be discussing and the actions that the government you have been assigned recommends that the international community should take to address this issue. To make the research process a bit easier, the resource guide has been divided into sections and sub-sections to assist you in researching these two components. We strongly recommend you to give a careful look through the sources listed below so that the interaction with your peers is as exciting as possible.

We wish you all the very best in this journey of learning!





Topic Description:

Climate change is now affecting every country on every continent. It is disrupting national economies and affecting people's lives. UN Secretary-General António Guterres has noted that climate change is the defining issue of our time.

Climate change is a global challenge that does not respect national borders. Emissions in one country affect people living in another country. It is an issue that requires solutions that need to be coordinated at the international level and it requires international cooperation to help developing countries move toward a low-carbon economy.

The impacts of climate change can be seen in changing weather patterns, rising sea level, and more extreme weather events. The greenhouse gas emissions resulting from human activities are driving climate change and continue to rise. They are now at their highest levels in history. Without action, the world's average surface temperature is projected to rise by more than 3 degrees Celsius this century—with some areas of the world expected to warm even more. The poorest and most vulnerable people are being affected the most. Climate change could force as many as 216 million people to move within their countries by 2050.

In October 2015, the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that included a goal, known as SDG 13, to "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts." Just two months later, the international community reached a landmark agreement in Paris which urges countries to take steps to limit the average increase in global temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius, commits all countries to report regularly on their emissions, reaffirmed the obligations of developed countries to support developing countries, and calls for efforts to raise \$100 billion a year to help mitigate and adapt to climate change by 2020. When this goal was not achieved, the deadline was extended to 2025, with a view to establishing a new global finance goal by 2025.

In response to global warming more people are turning to renewable energy and a range of other measures that will reduce emissions.

If Member States do not collectively succeed in implementing the Paris Agreement and also work together to achieve SDG 13, it will be close to impossible to achieve Agenda 2030. Limiting the human suffering from a warming planet will require transformational change in the resources we use to produce energy and how we manage our economies so that we minimise damage to the environment for present and future generations.



Official Resources on the Topic

- [General Assembly resolution on the protection of global climate for present and future generations](#)

Summary: Resolution adopted by the General Assembly by consensus on the protection of global climate for present and future generations in 2022. Refer to this resolution to the latest solutions presented and actions taken on the agenda item.

Published: 2022

- [The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change \(UNFCCC\)](#)

Summary: The UNFCCC was adopted in 1992 with the aim of preventing human interference with the climate system. The UNFCCC has since been the primary international, intergovernmental forum to negotiate the global response to climate change. Each year parties to the treaty meet in the Conference of the Parties (COPs) to advance the aims of the Paris Agreement.

Published: 1992

- [The Paris Agreement](#)

Summary: The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty which was adopted at the Conference of the Parties (COP) 2021 and entered into force in 2016. The goal of the agreement is to limit the temperature increase across the works to 1.5 degrees celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Published: 2015

- [Report of the Conference of Parties' 27th Session \(COP27\) held in Sharm el-Sheikh \(The Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Change Conference\)](#)

Summary: The Final Report of the Glasgow Climate Change Conference which contains all the relevant desciiisions adopted and actions taken by member states at the Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Change Conference (COP27).

Published: 2023

- [Report of the Conference of Parties' 26th Session \(COP26\) held in Glasgow \(The Glasgow Climate Change Conference\)](#)

Summary: The Final Report of the Glasgow Climate Change Conference which contains all the relevant decisions adopted and actions taken by member states at the Glasgow Climate Change Conference (COP26).

Published: 2022

- [Climate Actions Fast Facts - United Nations Climate Action](#)

Summary: A curated collection of relevant facts and findings around climate change and



actions including their links to social and economic issues maintained by the United Nations. Basic information on all aspects of climate action including but not limited to the science behind climate change, climate finance, gender-based elements and economic constraints are covered.

Published: 2022

- [United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action](#)

Summary: The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 13 deals most directly with climate change and its effects: Climate Action. This webpage provides a brief overview of the 13th goal and the targets associated with the goals.

Published: 2023

- [Five Key Takeaways from COP27 \(The Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Conference\)](#)

Summary: A summarised overview of the five major takeaways around the decisions taken in the Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Conference in 2022.

Published: 2023

- [Document Search - The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)

Summary: The Document Database maintained by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary source for statements made by Member State Delegations and official documentation on climate change

Published: 2023





Official Statements or Documents issued by Member States

- [Statement of the President of Zambia at COP27 - The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)

Summary: The UNFCCC's official transcript of the remarks presented by the President of Zambia at the Conference of Parties' 27th Session (COP27) conducted in Sharm el-Sheikh in 2022.

Published: 2022

- [Remarks of President Biden at COP27 - The White House](#)

Summary: The White House's official transcript of the remarks presented by the President of the United States at the Conference of Parties' 27th Session (COP27) conducted in Sharm el-Sheikh in 2022.

Published: 2022

- [Minister of the Environment of Japan's Statement - COP27](#)

Summary: The UNFCCC's official transcript of the remarks presented by the Delegation of Japan at the Conference of Parties' 27th Session (COP27) conducted in Sharm el-Sheikh in 2022.

Published: 2022

- [Nationally Determined Contribution Registry - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)

Summary: Each Party to the Paris Agreement is required to establish an NDC or a Nationally Determined Contribution which is a climate action plan to meet the standards set in the Paris Agreement. NDCs are updated every five years.

Published: 2023

- [National Adaptation Plan Registry - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)

Summary: National Adaptation Plans are submitted by developing countries to assess the institutional support they require to meet internationally set climate change standards and to showcase strategies the countries will undertake to meet targets.

Published: 2023

- [Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India's Statement - COP27](#)

Summary: The UNFCCC's official transcript of the remarks presented by the Delegation of India at the Conference of Parties' 27th Session (COP27) conducted in Sharm el-Sheikh in 2022.

Published: 2022



- [Statement of the Prime Minister of Denmark - COP26](#)

Summary: The UNFCCC's official transcript of the remarks presented by the Prime Minister of Denmark at the Conference of Parties' 26th Session (COP27) conducted in Glasgow in 2021.

Published: 2021

- [Statement of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh - COP26](#)

Summary: The UNFCCC's official transcript of the remarks presented by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh at the Conference of Parties' 26th Session (COP27) conducted in Glasgow in 2021.

Published: 2021

- [Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment of The Kingdom of Thailand's Statement - COP27](#)

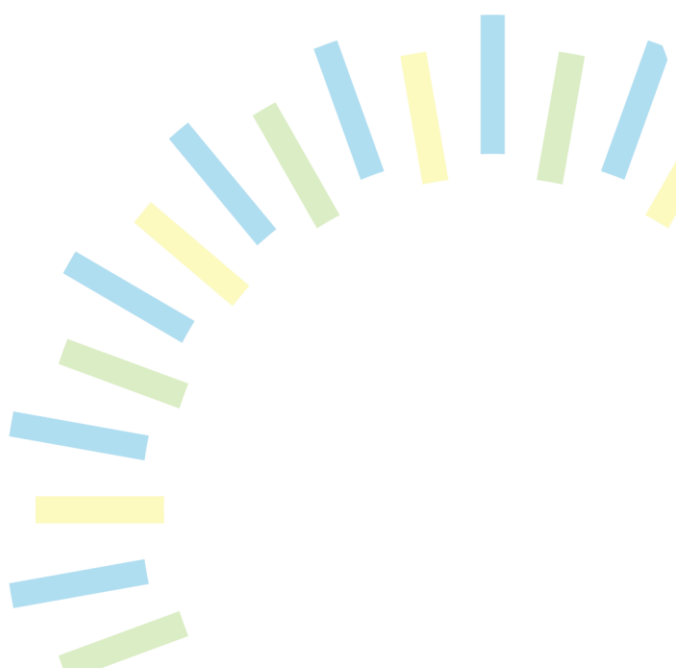
Summary: The UNFCCC's official transcript of the remarks presented by the Delegation of Thailand at the Conference of Parties' 27th Session (COP27) conducted in Sharm el-Sheikh in 2022.

Published: 2022

- [Climate Change Indicators in the United States - United States Environment Protection Agency](#)

Summary: A collection of the status of over 50 climate change indicators in the United States based on official government data compiled by the US Environment Protection Agency (EPA)

Published: 2023





Official Statements or Documents issued by Regional & Political Groups

- [Statement of Colombia on behalf of the Independent Alliance of Latin America and Caribbean Group - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)

Summary: Statement presented by the Delegation of Colombia on behalf of the AILAC group on international climate change efforts and next steps forward in the fight against climate change.

Published: 2022

- [European Union general statement on the resolution on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind](#)

Summary: The general statement of the European Union on the general assembly resolution A/RES/77/165 on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

Published: 2022

- [ASEAN joint statement on climate change to the 26th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change \(UNFCCC COP26\)](#)

Summary: Joint statement by the ASEAN group on the decisions undertaken at the COP26 conference conducted in Glasgow in 2021.

Published: 2021





Official Documents about the situation in UN regions or Member States

Asia Pacific

- [Getting a Grip on Climate Change in the Phillipines - The World Bank](#)

Summary: A document published by The World Bank on the impact of climate change on Philippines and recommended action that can be undertaken by the Government of Philippines and the international community at large.

Published: n.d.

- [Asia's Climate Emergency](#)

Summary: This article from the International Monetary Fund addresses how the Fiscal policy can help address climate change in Asia, the region hit hardest by global warming

Published: 2021

- [Climate change impacts increase in Asia](#)

Summary: This article from the World Meteorological Organization summarizes what is written in the [State of the Climate in Asia 2022](#) that summarizes the state of the climate and the extreme events and their socioeconomic impacts in Asia.

Published: 2023

- [The Asia-Pacific Riskscape: How do the changes in weather, climate and water impact our lives?](#)

Summary: This article from the the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) gives a good overview of how climate change is impacting the lives, livelihoods and economies of the region and highlights the hotspots to look out for where risk are most acute.

Published: 2023

Africa

- [Africa suffers disproportionately from climate change](#)

Summary: This article from the World Meteorological Organization summarizes what is written in the [State of the Climate in Africa 2022](#) that shows the rate of temperature increase in Africa has accelerated in recent decades, with weather- and climate-related hazards becoming more severe. And yet financing for climate adaptation is only a drop in the ocean of what is needed.

Published: 2023

Latin America and the Caribbean

- [Climate change vicious cycle spirals in Latin America and Caribbean](#)



Summary: This article from the World Meteorological Organization summarizes what is written in a new report [State of the Climate in Latin America and the Caribbean 2022](#) that shows how climate change is triggering a vicious cycle of events, with spiralling impacts on countries and local communities of the region.

Published: 2023

Europe

- [Climate change impacts scar Europe, but increase in renewables signals hope for future](#)

Summary: This article from the World Meteorological Organization summarizes what is written in a new report [State of the Climate in Europe 2022](#) that shows how Europe has been warming twice as much as the global average since the 1980s, with far-reaching impacts on the region's socio-economic fabric and ecosystems.

Published: 2023





Non-Official Resources on the Topic

- Evidence - How do we know climate change is real? - NASA

Summary: A collection of scientific evidence presented by NASA to validate that climate change is real, its devastating effects and the fact that human activity is the primary cause behind it.

Published: 2023

- Causes - The causes of climate change - NASA

Summary: A discussion on the scientific causes behind global warming and an evaluation of the role of human activity on the rapid changes in climate conditions.

Published: 2023

- The science of climate change explained: facts, evidence and proof - The New York Times

Summary: An article published in the New York Times discussing the scientific consensus around climate change, potential effects of the rapid warming of climate systems and required measures.

Published: 2021

- What are the solutions to climate change? - Greenpeace

Summary: An article published by Greenpeace on solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and in turn reduce the warming of the planet.

Published: n.d.





Non-official Resources about Member States or UN Regions

Asia Pacific

- [Asia-Pacific needs disaster warning systems to counter rising climate change risks, report says](#)

Summary: This article summarizes the challenges countries face from natural disasters brought on by climate change and what needs to be done to address them.

Published: 2023

Latin America and the Caribbean

- [The Caribbean's Last Indigenous Community is Living Proof that Sustainability is Survival](#)

Summary: This article by the UN Foundation covers what the Kalinago people of Dominica, the largest remaining indigenous people in the Caribbean are doing to confront climate change.

Published: 2023

African Group

- [Climate Change in Africa](#)

Summary: This article by African Development Bank highlights that Africa, despite its low contribution to greenhouse gas emissions, remains the most vulnerable continent on the planet. After pointing the estimated costs of confronting climate change it concludes that the ability of Africa to mitigate the impact of climate change is conditional upon receiving adequate financial, technical and capacity building support.

Published: 2023

- [In-depth: How climate change affects health in Africa](#)

Summary: This article by the online publication Carbon Brief provides an overview on how climate change is affecting health in Africa particularly with regard to infectious diseases, heat related illnesses and other health impacts. It emphasizes the importance of early-warning systems and highlights a few successful cases where early-warning systems are already being developed.

Published: 2023



Europe

- [Droughts, fires and floods: How climate change will impact Europe](#)

Summary: This in-depth article is based on a survey by the publication Politico of more than 100 scientific papers, interviews with climate scientists and a draft of the the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for COP 26 that reveals Europe will change everywhere— especially if appropriate countermeasures are not taken immediately — and that those disruptions will deepen existing divides, with profound implications for the Continent’s grand political project. A fascinating look at the what is anticipated and the political ramifications of the changes that will occur because of climate change.

Published: 2021





**WFUNA International Model United Nations
New York City 2024**

30 January 2024 - 2 February 2024
Intercontinental Times Square and The Westin Times Square
wimun@wfuna.org | www.wfuna.org