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Global Model WHO 2024

COMMITTEE A3

STUDY GUIDE

**GLOBAL HEALTH AND
PEACE INITIATIVE**

Geneva, Switzerland

October 29 - November 1, 2024

The Most Accurate Simulation of the World Health Assembly

Global Model WHO

Committee A3

Global Health and Peace Initiative (High School)

This study guide is designed to help you navigate the complex topics of climate change, pollution, and health as you prepare for the Global Model WHO A2 simulation. Use it alongside the official UN document as a reference. The guide includes key questions to prompt deeper thinking, facts to expand your knowledge, and a glossary to clarify important terms. Be sure to consult the page and paragraph numbers listed for each comment to see exactly what section of the document it addresses.

As you read through each section, reflect on the questions provided to help shape your arguments and anticipate counterpoints. The guide also offers insights that can aid in forming well-rounded, innovative solutions during debates. Use this resource to complement your own research and strengthen your overall understanding of the issues.

INTRODUCTION

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Page 1, paragraph 1

- The initiative has an interdisciplinary approach, combining public health, diplomacy, and conflict resolution strategies to address the underlying causes of conflict, using health interventions as tools for peacebuilding.
- The key areas of focus of the Global Health and Peace Initiative include improving access to healthcare in conflict zones, supporting mental health in post-conflict recovery, and strengthening health systems to prevent the resurgence of violence.

- The initiative has gained broad international support, with endorsements from multiple countries and global health organizations.

ADDITIONAL READING

Page 1, paragraph 1:

Read the most recent draft of the [Roadmap](#) (5th draft). It is important you are familiar with the content in this document.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 1, Paragraph 1:

Who are the other important stakeholders identified in the Roadmap for the GHPI?

GLOSSARY

Page 1, Paragraph 1

- Stakeholders (in the context of WHO documents):

International or non-governmental organizations with a vested interest, or stake, in the decision-making and activities of WHO.

- Global Health and Peace Initiative:

A WHO initiative that links health programs with efforts to build peace in conflict-affected areas.

- Member States:

Countries that are members of the World Health Organization (WHO).

- Observers::

Entities that participate in meetings or activities without having full membership or voting rights.

- Health and Peace Programming:

Specific actions or strategies that combine health interventions with peacebuilding activities.

- Road Map: A strategic plan outlining steps to achieve the objectives of the Global Health and Peace Initiative.

ADDITIONAL READING

Page 1, Paragraph 2

To find out more about the development process of the Global Health and Peace Initiative, read "[Roadmap for the Global Health and Peace Initiative: The process so far](#)".

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Page 1, Paragraph 3

Countries with better health outcomes tend to be more peaceful. Healthier populations are less prone to conflict, and countries with strong healthcare systems and life expectancy rates tend to experience lower levels of violence and political unrest. The Global Peace Index incorporates health metrics, such as life expectancy and infant mortality rates, into its ranking system because better health contributes to stability.

CONSULTATIONS ON THE GLOBAL HEALTH AND PEACE INITIATIVE

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Page 2, top of page, last bullet point of Paragraph 3

80% of WHO's humanitarian caseload and 70% of disease outbreaks that WHO responds to take place in fragile, conflict-affected and vulnerable settings.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 2, Paragraph 4

The Roadmap claims that the GHPI seeks to contribute to "positive peace" and contrast it to the concept of "negative peace". What is the difference between these two concepts?

TAKING NOTE OF...

Page 2, Paragraph 5
[Global Model WHO 2024](#)

Review the principles that the GHPI is based on in the Roadmap and make a list for you to refer to when drafting your resolution.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 2, Paragraph 5:

What kinds of risks does the Roadmap seek to mitigate?

Why do you think integrating the health of youth into medical curricula is highlighted in this report ?

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Page 2, Paragraph 5

Health workers often play the role of peacebuilders in conflict zones by providing neutral, life-saving services. Their work crosses political lines, and they are sometimes the only group trusted by all parties in a conflict. Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) is a famous example of health workers providing critical medical care in conflict zones, sometimes serving as the only neutral group present during hostilities. Nonetheless, health workers often risk their lives to provide medical services in war zones. In some cases, healthcare workers and facilities are targeted during conflicts. For example, in Syria, over 900 attacks on healthcare facilities and workers have been documented since the start of the civil war. Despite these dangers, health workers continue to play a crucial role in providing care and supporting peace efforts, serving as the frontline responders in humanitarian crises.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 2, Paragraph 5, 2nd and 4th bullet

What are the challenges associated with implementing the Global Health and Peace Initiative in sensitive contexts?

Page 2, Paragraph 5, 4th bullet

What does the roadmap mean when it states that the Health and Peace approach must be “peace and conflict sensitive”? And what does it mean when it states it must be “peace responsive”?

Page 2, Paragraph 6

What important WHO initiatives should the Health and Peace approach be integrated into?_

Page 2, Paragraph 6, 2nd and 4th bullet

How has WHO responded to the concerns of Member States that have about whether the Global Health and Peace Initiative may duplicate the work carried out by the WHO health emergency programme as well as other health programmes in conflict-affected areas? Do you think the GHPI would duplicate or compliment the work carried out by the WHO health emergency programme? If you think it would compliment the programme, in what ways would it add value to the emergency programme?

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Page 2, paragraph 6, 3rd bullet

Public health programs can act as a form of conflict prevention. Countries that invest in strong healthcare systems, reduce health inequalities, and provide equitable access to services are less likely to experience civil unrest or internal conflict. A lack of healthcare access often leads to social unrest and can be a trigger for violence, particularly in fragile states. By addressing health disparities, governments can promote peace and stability.

GLOSSARY

Page 2, Paragraph 6

- Hybrid Consultation:
A meeting or consultation that includes both in-person and virtual participants.

Page 2, Paragraph 6, 3rd bullet

- Peace Outcomes:
The results or impacts of actions taken to promote peace, such as reduced violence or improved social cohesion.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Page 3, Paragraph 7, 2nd bullet

Societies that have unequal access to health care-services are far more likely to lapse into violent conflict. This is why one of the fundamental principles of the Health and Peace approach is to ensure equitable access to and inclusiveness of health-care services.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 3, Paragraph 7, 2nd bullet point

- The Roadmap is very careful to point out that healthcare workers are not expected to act as peace makers or mediators in the Global Health and Peace Initiative. Why is it important for this to be highlighted in the roadmap?

GLOSSARY

Page 3, Paragraph 7, 2nd bullet

- **Social Cohesion:**
The willingness of members of a society to cooperate with each other in order to survive and prosper.
- **Resilience to Violence**
The capacity of individuals, communities, or systems to endure, adapt, and recover from violent events.
- **Equity:**
Fairness or justice in the way people are treated.

Page 3, Paragraph 7, 4th bullet

- **Humanitarian Assistance:**
Aid and action designed to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain human dignity during and after crises.
- **Medical Ethics:**
Moral principles that apply values and judgments to the practice of medicine.

Page 3, Paragraph 8:

How is the link between health and peace embedded in the WHO Constitution and what WHA resolution emphasizes this link?

OTHER EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN SINCE THE SEVENTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY THAT CONTRIBUTE TO STRENGTHENING THE ROADMAP FOR THE GLOBAL HEALTH AND PEACE INITIATIVE

Evidence generation through research and analysis

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 3, Paragraph 9:

Why is it important to document the impact of the GHPI?

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Page 3, paragraph 9

During the Sudanese civil war, Operation Lifeline Sudan became one of the largest health diplomacy efforts ever. The United Nations negotiated with the government and rebel factions to allow health workers to deliver vaccines, food, and medical supplies to both sides of the conflict. This initiative provided essential health services to millions of people and helped save thousands of lives, setting a precedent for future health diplomacy efforts in conflict zones. Other examples of health diplomacy include smallpox eradication in conflict zones (1970s), polio vaccination ceasefires (Afghanistan and Pakistan), Ebola response (West Africa, 2014-2016), cholera outbreak response (Yemen, 2016-present), Guinea worm eradication (South Sudan, 2000s), cross-border malaria control in the Greater Mekong Subregion (2000s) among others.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 3, Paragraph 10:

What reasons does the Roadmap provide for why it is important for WHO to conduct awareness-raising activities on the GHPI?

GLOSSARY

Page 3, Paragraph 10

- **Grey Literature:**
Research and reports produced by organizations outside of traditional academic or commercial publishing, such as government reports, white papers, and working papers.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 3, Paragraph 11:

How can universal health coverage contribute to achieving peace?

GLOSSARY

Page 3, Paragraph 11

- **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

Processes used to assess the performance of projects, institutions, or programs and to measure their outcomes.

Mainstreaming the Health and Peace approach

ADDITIONAL READING

Page 3, Paragraph 12:

Read about the [Peace through Health project in Cameroon](#) that aimed to reduce violence in the far north of the country through including health and social interventions.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Page 4, paragraph 14

UN peacekeeping missions often include healthcare components to help stabilize conflict regions. Peacekeepers provide essential health services to civilians, including vaccination campaigns, maternal health services, and disease outbreak control. In Haiti, after the earthquake and subsequent cholera outbreak, UN peacekeepers worked alongside health organizations to deliver medical care, helping to restore stability and prevent the further spread of disease.

Page 4, paragraph 14

Health diplomacy has been a major force for international cooperation, even between countries with hostile relations. For example, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria has facilitated cooperation between countries in conflict to tackle these global health issues. The eradication of polio is another example of global cooperation in health diplomacy, with over 200 countries working together to immunize children and control the spread of the disease.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 4, paragraph 14:

The GHPI Roadmap makes it very clear that this programme must be designed at the national and local level and adapted to the national context. It goes on to stress that national authorities will have different preferences on the scope and substance of the program and may even choose not to implement it. Why is it important for the Roadmap to stress the importance of local control over the program?

GLOSSARY

Page 4, Paragraph 14

- **Peacebuilding Fund:**
A fund established to support activities, programs, and organizations that build peace in conflict-affected regions.

Dialogue with key stakeholders

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 4, Paragraph 16:

How can gender equality impact health and peace? How are they connected?

GLOSSARY

Page 4, Paragraph 16

- **Conflict Transformation:**
A process of engaging with and transforming the relationships, interests, discourses, and structures that support or generate violent conflict.

- Health Equity:

The absence of unfair and avoidable differences in health among different groups of people.

- The Lancet Commission:
A group of experts assembled to address a major public health or medic

Capacity-building

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 4, Paragraph 17-19:

What is the role of capacity-building in achieving global health and peace?

Strengthening communication and awareness about the Global Health and Peace

Initiative and the Health and Peace approach to programming

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Page 5, Paragraph 20, Line 2

What is the role of capacity-building in achieving global health and peace?

ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Page 5, Paragraph 25

Can you answer these two questions?

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