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General Assembly Chair Report

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Chair Report for The VIMUN General Assembly

“The Total Elimination of Nuclear Weaponry”

Introduction of Chairs:

President of General Assembly- Pavel Moroz

Greetings everyone and welcome to the UNGA Chair report. My name is Pavel Moroz, the President of this committee; I will be taking care of you all along with the Chairs. As a Russian-Brit, I have been exposed to two very contrasting political views, which is why I decided to embark upon my MUN journey five years ago. It was in order to solidify my own personal rights and wrongs as well as find a well founded perspective on the world as a whole. The agenda at hand, *the total elimination of nuclear weaponry*, can be seen as deeply engrossing due to its severity, therefore I look forward to a stirring debate between delegates representing opposing superpowers. Good luck!

Chairperson- Zaneerah Zaheer

Hello, I am Zaneerah Zaheer, chair of this committee. I am sixteen years old, and this is my 6th year in MUN. Conferences have always been an important aspect in my life, as I feel it is an extension of myself. One of the most vital things we youths can do is stay educated and informed, and MUN is the perfect opportunity for that and it's a very enjoyable experience too. I have been both a delegate and a chair multiple times, and each time is an unforgettable experience. I will make sure that every delegate will also find a love for MUN as much as I do in this conference.

Chairperson- Doyeon Kim

Hello everyone! My name is Doyeon Kim, and I am a chair of this committee. I'm currently a senior, and this is my 2nd year being a part of MUN. I think MUN is not only a great way to interact with other students but also to keep up with the ever-changing world surrounding us. Although I've participated in a couple of MUN conferences, I am really looking forward to what kinds of debates the agenda at hand for this conference can spark. Good luck everyone!

Committee Introduction:

Distinguished delegates welcome to the General Assembly!

This organization is one of the principal organs of the United Nations. With the combination of all 193 Member States of the UN, this panel strives to maintain peacekeeping throughout nations and mainly deals with how to finance the peace operations. The Member States of this respective Assembly pays a certain amount of money for peace and security purposes, however, each Member State pays a different amount based on their economic wealth. The permanent Security Council Members, The United States, United Kingdom, Russian Federation, China, and France, are required to pay a larger amount due to their special role.

There are many committees in the General Assembly, but there are six main committees. In order, from the First Committee to the Sixth, *Disarmament & International Security, Economic & Financial, Social, Humanitarian & Cultural, Special Political & Decolonization, Administrative & Budgetary, Legal*. The First Committee, *Disarmament & International Security*, create solutions to problems that threaten peace amongst international communities. The Second Committee, *Economic & Financial*, deals with the financial aspect of nations and how to fund sustainable developments. Moreover, this committee aims to eradicate poverty and ensure food security. The *Social, Humanitarian & Cultural* Committee relates to Human Rights and how to advance on ongoing issues like women's equality or education for all children. The Fourth Committee, *Special Political & Decolonization*, adheres to the political issues that are not dealt with by the First Committee. The *Administrative & Budgetary* Committee plays a key role when financing for any peaceful purposes are imposed by the Security Council. Lastly, the Sixth Committee, *Legal*, deals with any legal matters proposed to the General Assembly.

The General Assembly has many powers that allow it to function. They can elect who becomes the non-permanent Member States of the Security Council. They are allowed to make recommendations in order to maintain peace and more importantly, they may take action in any situation that causes a threat to peacekeeping when the Security Council has failed to do so. The General Assembly aims to build peace by first achieving its 17 Sustainable Development Goals they created in 2015. The goals are as followed; **No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-Being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Clean Water and Sanitation, Affordable Clean Energy, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, Reduced Inequalities,**

Sustainable Cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Life Below Water, Life on Land, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, Partnerships for the Goals.

Topic Introduction:

Nuclear weapons are the most dangerous and devastating weapons in the world. They have only been used twice as a means of warfare, yet there is still an over-loomng threat of their use. Only about 20 years after their first use, the NPT (Non-Proliferation Treaty) was signed, yet many countries still possess nuclear weaponry and have continued to use them as intimidation tactics. Many agreements and treaties have been signed but not put to use, and as a result it is estimated that over 13.4 thousand nuclear weapons are in possession by various states as of August of 2020.

Currently, nine UN Member States possess nuclear weapons, with several other Member States having nuclear weapon-sharing capabilities. According to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) (1968), a nuclear weapon is an explosive device that releases energy as a result of nuclear fission. While nearly all UN Member States acknowledge that nuclear disarmament is fundamental for achieving international peace and security, nuclear weapon states (NWS) are reluctant to destroy their nuclear stockpiles for strategic, tactical, and security purposes. This lack of commitment and adherence to the international nuclear non-proliferation regime hampers the ability of the international community to achieve complete and total disarmament.

As a nuclear reprisal to military threat would ultimately have widespread and long-term consequences outside of the immediate conflict, the UN is committed to the complete eradication of nuclear weapons to provide for a more secure world and ensure the wellbeing of humanity. This sets the ground for disarmament and non-proliferation; while disarmament refers to the full eradication of nuclear weapons in the world, non-proliferation simply aims to limit the spread. The current state of global nuclear disarmament depends on the ability of various Member States to work together and decrease their nuclear arsenals. However, whether or not certain Member States are willing to sacrifice their nuclear power still remains unanswered.

Historical Background:

The first nuclear explosion that dealt damage took place on August 6, 1945, as the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. Three days later, they bombed the city of Nagasaki, and Japan agreed to an unconditional surrender for WWII.

Afterwards, countries like the US, UK, Soviet Union, France, and China began to develop nuclear weaponry of their own. On July 1, 1968, however, many countries including the US and the UK signed a treaty to seek the end of nuclear weaponry. This treaty was put in place from 1970, and was extended indefinitely on May 11, 1995. Accordingly, in December 1986, The South Pacific Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone was put into effect.

In 1994, the US and North Korea met to resolve nuclear issues. Both sides took a big step to achieve peaceful relations, but by 2003, North Korea cancelled all their international agreements on non-proliferation.

In 1998, North Korea test-fired a medium range missile over the Japanese mainland. The missile's immense range meant that South Korea and Japan were in range of North Korea's nuclear weaponry. In 2006, North Korea tested a nuclear weapon with almost the same power as the Hiroshima bomb. They declared themselves a nuclear weapons state, and also announced that they had missiles that could hit even the US and Russia.

The United States is the only country known to have missiles that could reach anywhere around the world, but dozens of countries have powerful missiles that could go undetected in missile defense systems.

Definitions of Key Terms:

1. WMD: Weapon(s) of Mass Destruction, capable of causing huge loss of life/extensive damage
2. ASAT: Anti-Satellite
3. Nuclear Weapons: Explosives whose structures of atoms release great bursts of energy; resulting in a radioactive blast wave, thermal radiation and initial and residual radiation
4. UNODA: United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
5. NPT: Non-Proliferation Treaty
6. NWS: (Nuclear Weapon States) - States who possess Nuclear Weapons recognized by the NPT
7. CTBT: Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
8. PTBT: Partial Test Ban Treaty
9. TPNW: Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
10. NWFZ: Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones
11. Little Boy: The first ever atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima
12. Fat Man: The second nuclear bomb dropped on Japan in the city of Nagasaki
13. Conventional Weapons: Weapons that have been excluded from the list of WMD(s)

Guiding Questions:

The following questions are simply a guide that delegates may use to assist them in getting started with their research. However, understanding the answers to the following questions from the perspective of your respective nation will greatly benefit your knowledge of this topic in preparation for the committee. There are also several resources attached below.

Preliminary Research Questions

1. Who are your country's strongest allies and enemies? (*your nation will typically have similar political views to your strongest allies)
2. What power does the General Assembly have?
3. What (if anything) has your country done to contribute to nuclear proliferation?
4. Does your nation conduct/plan to conduct a WMD Elimination Operation?
5. Should the General Assembly pursue a categorical prohibition of nuclear weapons?

Important Treaties & Agreements

1. Which treaties and agreements is your country associated with? What is the significance of those agreements to your country's use of nuclear weaponry?
2. Does your country plan to make any new treaties and agreements on nuclear weaponry in the future?
3. How can the international community emulate the successes of the Iran Nuclear Deal in future negotiations?

Militarization & The Current Use of Nuclear Weaponry

1. Does your country use nuclear weaponry? Do they support the use of it?
2. Is your country's military heavily reliant on nuclear weapons?
3. How should the international community address the lack of adherence of Member States to international norms and pre existing agreements on nuclear safety?
4. How should the international community deal with states that refuse to submit to the NPT system?

Useful Resources

- [Country Research Tips](#)
- [Topic Research Tips](#)
- [UNODA's WMD Website](#)

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