

Introduced by: Pikeville High School, Syrian Arab Republic

Author(s): Tyler Marcum, Ross Shurtleff, Salman Jeelani, Caleb Wheat

Subject: A proposal to create an arbitration panel to resolve transnational water conflicts.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

Justification Clause: When discussing the basic necessities of life, perhaps the first thing that comes to mind is water. Water is necessary for the human race, and most living organisms. It is crucial in many of the life-processes that allow us to function the way we do. In many places around the world, water is taken for granted, as something that naturally appears for them; something they never need to worry about. According to a United Nations study, however, every day 4,500 children under the age of 5 die around the world, having fallen sick because of unclean water or sanitation. A third of the world's population is enduring some form of water scarcity, and one in six human beings on the planet has no access to clean water within a kilometer of their homes. As these facts show, water is not available everywhere and the human population is paying the price for it. The real shocker, however, is that water can easily be obtained by many of these people with the proper distribution.

Water is ultimately a shared resource. According to the United Nations, two-fifths of humanity lives in river and lake basins that lie within two or more countries. Tied together in a web of interdependence, these societies can either suffer from increasing political conflicts or benefit from cooperation. Shared management of river basins has the potential for yielding large benefits in terms of quantity, quality and predictability of water flows.

Even if these water basins are equally shared, however, there is still another issue: contamination and water deficiency. Contamination of freshwater limits the ability of a region to develop. Fewer people can be supported, and people must share smaller amounts of water. If a contaminant is present, the effects will spread quickly throughout the whole population who drink from the same reserves. In addition, wildlife and game decline due to pollution, potentially harming communities who rely on fishing or hunting.

Ultimately, sustainable development depends on the maintenance of adequate freshwater sources. Our bill aims at preserving and allowing the proper distribution of the most precious, life-bringing resource of all: Fresh Water.

Section One: The United Nations, on behalf of all its delegated countries, would set up an arbitration court which can voluntarily resolve conflicts over transnational water sources. These conflicts may include the distribution and supply of water between countries.

Section Two: As used in this proposal, the phrase "transnational water sources" refers to any water source which may be accessible by multiple countries.

Section Three: In an event of arbitration, two countries would have to agree to the adjunction, which must occur within 180 days and will be under the supervision of three judges randomly selected from a group of fifteen judges. All decisions will be decided by a simple majority vote.

Section Three: The panel of fifteen judges will be voted on by the General Assembly and include no more than one delegate from each country. These delegates will serve for nine year terms and their confirmations will be based upon an absolute majority.

Section Four: The funds needed to create and maintain the arbitration court and delegations will be provided by a trust fund, which will be established 90 days after the passage of this proposal.

Section Five: Given that the following is a voluntary court, it would be assumed that both parties are willing to uphold the decision given, since they have previously agreed to the arbitration. If the arbitration is not upheld, the U.N. General Assembly may choose to issue a formal censure.

Introduced by: Mercy Academy, Republic of Yemen

Authors: Erin Shaughnessy, Jenna Hollinden, Meredith Large, and Taylor Theodore

Title: A Proposal to create a program that makes purification systems available to citizens in dire need of clean water.

Enacting Clause: Be it hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Justification Clause: In 2002, 1.1 billion people lacked access to improved water sources, which represented 17% of the global population. Our proposal aims to remedy the situation by providing nations without access to clean water purification systems to aid the situation. We propose to use LifeStraw ® systems, a portable water purification system in order to increase the availability of clean water.

Body:

Section I: The World Health Organization (WHO) would establish a program to make portable water purification systems (LifeStraws ®) available to countries in dire need of clean water.

Section II: Countries with fewer than 70% of the population using purification systems could be eligible to apply for the program.

Section III: The WHO will pick countries for the program based on clean water availability, population, and poverty level.

Section IV: Once the countries have been approved for the program, they can apply for low-interest loans through the World Bank. Once the country has been approved for a loan, the WHO will select organizations working within each country to distribute the LifeStraws ® as they fit.

Section V: Countries can remain in the program for up to five years. Once countries are out of the program, if they still need aid, they can reapply after six months.

Section VI: Upon passage, this program would go into effect on January 1, 2012.

Introduced by: Todd Street School, representing Burundi

Author(s): Beth Gillig

Subject: A proposal to fine companies that sell products made with child labor.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS:

Justification Clause: Over 200 million children in the world today are involved in child labor, doing work that is damaging to their mental, physical, and emotional development. All countries except two in the U.N. have signed the Convention on the Rights of the Child, but the reality is that many countries have difficulty enforcing their own standards. This proposal allows nations another option to eliminate child labor.

Section 1: The nations which ratify this proposal shall require companies to be fined if it is officially determined they are selling to consumers products made with child labor.

Section 2: These products shall be determined to be in violation by the United Nations International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) in cooperation with the nation's government.

Section 3: The fines for companies in violation will be determined by each nation after it ratifies this proposal.

Section 4: The funds produced from the fines will be used as follows: 20% to the country in which the product was made to be used only for the elimination and prevention of child labor, 40% to IPEC to be used for the monitoring of child labor, and for identifying companies in violation, and 40% to UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) to be used in the Education for All Movement, which works for the education of children throughout the world.

Section 5: Companies that import goods from nations with a history of child labor can join with IPEC to monitor specific manufacturers and agricultural operations.

Section 6: For the purpose of this proposal the term "child" shall apply to all persons under the age of 14.

Section 7: This proposal will go into effect 90 days after passage and shall apply to all manufactured goods. It shall also apply to agricultural products grown on farms with more than one hundred workers.

Section 8: Two years after passage of this proposal IPEC shall release a report to the U.N. on its effectiveness and shall make recommendations to improve this proposal.

Introduced by: duPont Manual High School, representing Australia

EUROPE

Author(s): Emma Trawick, Andrew Goff, Libby Marsh, Matthew Burnett

Subject: A proposal to create a tax on member countries within the United Nations to be calculated by their amount of greenhouse gas emissions.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Justification clause: While the United Nations' budget is by no means small, at only about \$4.19 billion (U.S. Currency), it is meager in comparison to other major and even minor world powers. Most of the contributions they do receive come from the most powerful and wealthy countries in the world such as the United States, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom. The primary financial backers generally gain more sway in the decision making of the U.N. and consequently results in a heavy dependency on the most wealthy countries (the U.S. currently supplies 22.0% of the budget, the current ceiling on contributions).

While some contributions are assessed in terms of the country's ability to pay, the most significant contributions are voluntary. Imposing a tax would not only filter more revenue into the United Nations. It would also reduce dependency on major world powers, as the tax on greenhouse gas emissions would be objective. This proposal addresses two separate issues: revenue and the climate crisis. It would encourage nations to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions while simultaneously increasing the budget of the United Nations.

Section I: The equation the U.N. Would use to calculate the total tax would be:

Total TgCO₂ Eq.* divided by 100 x (emission fluctuation) x .35% of total GDP of Member Country

Whatever percentage fluctuation directly equals the fluctuation of the tax. More simply the equation:

1. Takes the total emission of a country's teragrams of Carbon Dioxide equivalents (the United States, for example, emits about 7000 TgCO₂ Eq.) , divided by
2. 100 multiplied by the emission fluctuation (for example if the emissions rose 1%, then this number would be 1.01, if emissions decreased 1%, the number would be .99)
3. Multiplied by .35% of the total GDP of the taxable Member Country

Section II: The gas emissions inventory and other data necessary for the equation are already annually collected by departments and affiliates of the United Nations, including Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank.

Section III: The collection and allocation of funding will be placed under jurisdiction of UN department of Economic and Social Affairs under the Financing for Development sector.

Section IV: The consequence for noncompliance will be temporary revocation of UN membership until taxes are paid in entirety.

Section V: This proposal would take effect 1 year after its ratification.