

KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY United Nations Proposal

Proposal # 13

Proposed by Costa Rica

Authors: Emma Pagni, Patrick Scheen, William Weis, Henry Wilmes	Committee: C
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School: Holy Trinity

Action on Proposal
____ □ Passed ____ □ Defeated

City: Louisville

 An act to create designated emergency shelters for natural disasters such as tornadoes, volcano eruptions and hurricanes

Be it hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the United Nations

Justification Clause: Costa Rica has a diverse network of micro-climates. The country is host to 60 volcanoes and miles of beach with oceans to the east and west. Like many countries in the world, it can suffer natural disasters. Worldwide, 357 natural disasters were documented in 2012 affecting 124.5 million people as victims and 9,655 people were killed as a result of these disasters. Although there are many disaster relief organizations that come on board AFTER these natural disasters, we propose the United Nations designate emergency shelter sites well IN ADVANCE of the occurring disasters. Furthermore, we propose developing standardized signage that would be visible in all countries identifying an emergency shelter for a disaster caused by a tornado, hurricane or volcano.

Section I: A committee will be formed by members of WHO, the World Health Organization of the U.N. that were involved in the formulation of the Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness six year strategy written in 2007, UNDRO, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief coordinator and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization to select 10 countries each year that would be priorities for instituting the standardized signage for the designated emergency shelters. These are preemptive measures, so the residents would be aware of the shelters BEFORE disaster hits. Disasters in middle and low income countries are often more devastating because emergency preparedness is often insufficient.

Section II: The signs could be understood in all languages and could be easily recognizable by children, as well as adults.

Section III: The funding for this proposal would would come from the Central Emergency Response Fund, which collects funds year-round to help ensure funds are on-hand to be able to saves lives quickly. These existing funds can provide a range of technical support to the chosen Member States. Some activities will promote awareness through publications directed at school-age students in the classrooms. Also, public service announcements made by the chosen countries could increase public awareness of the program and these would be funded by the member countries themselves.

Section IV: This proposal would go into effect 90 days after passage