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# MUNFW 2019



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## *A Common Humanity: Back to the Principles of the UN Charter*

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### **Refugee Crisis in SC**

**By: Corey Hurley, French Republic**

The security council of the Model United Nations of the Far West has been focused on the massive amount of immigration coming from Myanmar, which is seen as a refugee crisis. The Rohingya Muslims are viewed as a minority group in Myanmar that is being targeted for abuse and extortion. The Security Council called Myanmar to discuss issues and potential solutions that would resolve the substandard conditions that the Rohingya people are facing.

Myanmar entered the Security Council with a hard line to exclude direct aid from international relations. The demand to handle conflicts internally created a disadvantage in terms of direct solutions. However, Myanmar was not opposed to identifying and alleviating the issues in connection with increasing human rights violations and ensure that the Rohingya Muslim population has security and peace. For the Security Council, options that would assist the refugees in present time focused on Bangladesh. Many of the Rohingya refugees

have migrated to Bangladesh and are now being collected into refugee camps with substandard conditions. Disease and famine are issues that Bangladesh is not equipped to handle.

The Security Council hosted the Bangladesh delegate to discuss what the United Nations can provide that would assist the refugees. Bangladesh, was open to negotiations on matters of providing aid in forms of food and medical assistance that are necessary for a more stable environment. Discussions were also centered around the possibility of having the Rohingya return home; this requires internal conflicts to be resolved. This includes conflict between the Buddhists and Muslims residing in Myanmar.

The conflict driving the Rohingya of Myanmar involves human rights violations of ethnic cleansing of those who follow the Koran. However, China stated that there is no ethnic cleansing taking place in Myanmar. The mass movement of refugees makes a conclusion to the conflict difficult to address.

The Republic of Kuwait and the Republic of the Netherlands have drafted a

resolution that addresses the demand to resolve conflicts internally and to provide aid to Bangladesh. This includes a possible 28 million in aid to provide medical assistance and sanitation to refugee camps. Bangladesh has also requested 900 million that would provide programs and incentives to have the refugees return to their home country. To ensure there is no further crisis and violation of human rights, countries including France, Ethiopia and other security council members, insisted on investigative missions which would reveal issues causing the refugee crisis.

As working papers are being decided on, the Trilateral Agreement between China, Bangladesh, and Myanmar is a potential avenue for conflict resolution. Issues addressed are internal conflicts as well as the demand for a second fact finding mission. This also includes the possibility of United Nations aid to countries affected and work towards rehabilitation of the people and nation.

**Differing Views of Importance on NGOs**

**By: Diana Adi, Ethiopia**

Yesterday in the Human Rights Council Ethiopia addressed the importance of non-governmental organizations in the international communities. Ethiopia was against Australia's motion against non-governmental organizations. Ethiopia fully supports Non-governmental organizations and the important role they play among the international communities. A lot of delegates present during the committee seemed to support Ethiopia's view on non-governmental organizations. The delegate for Nepal thanked Ethiopia for recognizing how important non-governmental organizations are among the international communities.

Australia seemed to disagree with other delegates in the committee about non-governmental organizations playing an important role among the international communities. Australia stressed on the issue of the meaning of non-governmental organizations, Australia believes that non-governmental organizations does not represent what the country wants them to represent. Ethiopia believes that Australia wants to control the position on human rights council in order to gain power as a western country,

against African and Asian countries.

The delegate from Ethiopia on the Human Rights Council stated that, "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights should be modified to reflect more members of the Human Rights Council perspectives. One of the big difference in perspective with African nations is the promotion of non-governmental organizations are crucial in ensuring human rights are protected within our countries, meanwhile larger nations like France, England, and Austria wants to be the ones in charge of human rights." Ethiopia believes that the United Nation should allocate more resources to non-governmental organization to ensure human rights are protected.

**Opinion**

**Finland to Rise Above the Rest?**

**By: Autumn Dixon**

The third committee – which deals with human rights, humanitarian affairs and social matters – has been moving through their first agenda topic regarding religious freedom. Finland, a predominantly Christian country, does not have as high a stake in this issues as it does to others on the agenda. "We're still on Topic 1, which is the least important of the three to us," said the Finland representative. The other two topics include activism

women and girl empowerment, and elder rights.

While Finland did not start off by addressing topics that cover more of their beliefs and ideals, they're not backing away from collaboration. "We're supporting a lot that's happening and co signed a resolution, but [have taken] more of a back seat to nations that care more about it." Finland has been working with the European block, mainly with Scandinavia, France, Germany, and the Netherlands.

The third committee has since moved into the second agenda topic. "We have submitted resolutions and moved onto topic 2 speeches," said the representative. "We got resolutions for [Topic 1] back and went back to debating those when we broke for lunch." Finland will now shine in the committee as their key issues are being addressed. "When it roles around to women's and elder rights, we're going to become a lot more vocal because it matters a lot more to us," said the representative. Finland has aimed to keep professional relationships with other delegates, which will help in sponsorship and collaboration on resolutions. "We have good relationships with everyone else so far, so we aren't expecting a whole lot of pushback on those other issues."

**Opinion**

**Regarding Power Displacement**

**By: Jared Griffith, Ethiopia**

This morning in the United Nations Security Council, debate continued on the topic of Myanmar and Bangladesh. There was a pretty clear divide amongst the states. One side had mostly P5 nations, such as the United States, France, China, alongside the nations of Sweden and the Netherlands. This group sought to give support in the form of aid. Other nations such as Ethiopia, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea were pressing for a second fact finding mission, which had been discussed yesterday. Much strife was had over these topics and the room began to get increasingly loud as these divides grew further and further apart. As the delegate of Ethiopia put it “[we] find it strange that the body was in good will, but is not anymore.” It seemed at that time that no agreement would be made. Many non-P5 nations felt that their ideas and desires to pursue a second fact finding mission were being grossly misrepresented by the P5 nations. The delegate from Equatorial Guinea stated regarding that “each time we move forward, another delegate moves the finish line back.”

In the midst of frustration, delegates from many countries felt that other nations were abusing their status, and using it to hold power over them. Delegates such as those from Bolivia stated that the restrictive stance that the P5 nations took at the time was a “gross abuse of P5 power and stance” and that it was “greatly derailing the topics at hand.” This sentiment has been echoed over the past few days, with frustration building towards the P5 nations in the many African nations. This frustration is with regards to their ability to hold their aid based influences in each committee over the head of delegates who are attempting to support the

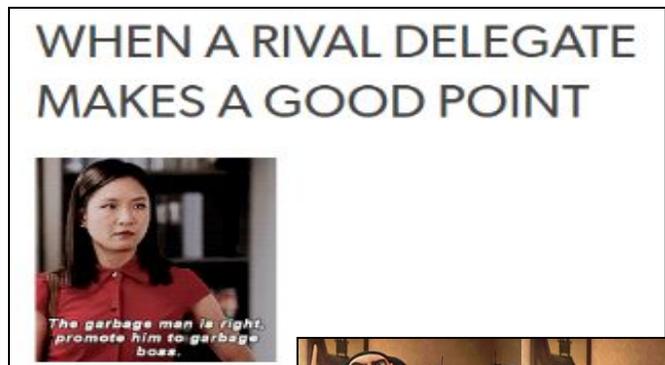
international community. According to the Delegate of Ethiopia in the Security Council “it seems some delegations feel that their specific interests are more important than those who are dying, who are riddled with disease, and who are in the hands of these committees.”

With any hope there will be a more calm approach by nations that hold massive influence in the international community, instead of the alleged manipulative standpoint that many of these nations have been accused of taking over the past few days. However, if there is not a calming we must fear the worst for these committees and their ability to resolve these desperate matters in a timely and helpful manner.

**Memes? Memes.**



Enjoy these funny Model UN memes in honor of a full day in



committees!

