

Writing Position Papers

A Position Paper is your country's official opinion on a topic being addressed by the Model United Nations during its session. (Be sure to check and see if your country is already assigned to one or more committees). **Your country must submit a position paper for each topic in each committee in which you are represented.** Delegates of the ECOSOC and Security Council will prepare papers on all three topics in their organ.

The Position papers must be typed on the official form available on the website, from your Delegation Director or the State Office. One page is all that is required. Keep the Position Paper short, concise and thoughtful. Be accurate in your presentation. You should be presenting the official opinion of the country you are representing, not your personal opinion or an opinion that may be unrealistic or unduly controversial. You have some freedom to state the position of your country as you wish. It could be helpful to include statistics and give possible solutions to problems. Position Papers will be used as a lead-in to resolutions in committee, in ECOSOC and Security Council. Make sure that it focuses on the topic at hand.

During the session, copies of the position papers will be available to all the delegates in the committee. These papers will aid in finding out who your allies or enemies are and what compromises might be reached with them.

MINNESOTA YMCA MODEL UNITED NATIONS

SAMPLE POSITION PAPER

Author(s): Aron Moses Committee: Economic and Social Council

Country: People's Republic of China Topic: Immunization Programs

The People's Republic of China believes that immunization programs should be administered in every country no matter the cost. China's immunization program has seen great success since the introduction of the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) in 1978. In 1982 the EACIP was founded to coordinate the immunization programs in China. The China EACIP carries out its role to provide technical advice relevant to immunization under the leadership of the MOH. The Department of National Immunization programs (NIP) of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CCDC) is responsible for the routine secretarial work of the EACIP. At that time, all children in China were offered vaccines against six diseases. They are now offering vaccines against a total of twelve diseases, free of charge, while three other vaccines are offered to high-risk groups.

In 2000, China, along with the rest of the Western Pacific Region, was declared polio-free. Despite polio circulating on man of its borders, China has been able to maintain polio-free status. China has also seen a dramatic fall in hepatitis B infection among children aged less than five years, thanks to an aggressive vaccination program. Finally, China has recently seek a marked decrease in measles cases, and is working hard to achieve measles elimination by 2012. Nonetheless, China's EPI continues to face challenges. These include reaching hard-to-reach populations such as migrant children and those in remote locations, ensuring that eligible adults have access to vaccines (as was done during the H1N1 pandemic), and avoiding complacency in the face of a highly successful program which has led to great reductions in death and disability from vaccine-preventable diseases. The EACIP has played and will continue to play an increasingly important role in the progress and development of immunization in China. Based on EACIP recommendations to enhance immunization activities, Chinas has witnessed remarkable improvements in health outcomes. It is envisaged that the China EACIP will continue to evolve with its members contributing through their expertise, diligence and commitment to the health of the population.