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WORLD AFFAIRS**



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Position Papers for:

World Health Organization - WHO

*Delegation from: The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Represented by: North Royalton High School*

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Discussing Medical Tourism and Addressing the issue of Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is committed to improving the country in these global issues and expresses their expectations upon these improvements.

I. Discussing the Topic of Medical Tourism

Medical tourism is the way in which foreigners seek medical treatment internationally in order to receive greater treatment than in their own country. The primary advantage of medical tourism is the cost. According to Jennifer Whitlock, medical treatment in foreign countries is comparatively lower to the cost of medical treatment in one's own country. Whitlock states, "...the cost of some procedures can be 90 percent less in foreign countries than it would be in the United States." Many patients also seek the luxury of having a private medical treatment in order to have the doctor's complete focus over them. Medical tourism is becoming increasingly popular globally, but certain countries are unable to treat incoming foreigners which is an issue that needs to be addressed. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan seeks assistance to establish and develop more hospitals in order to take part in treating immigrant patients medically within the country.

Currently in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, medical tourists have been traveling to India for treatment and healthcare, straying away from more neighboring countries such as Pakistan. Confirmations have been established amongst health ministers that a need for an expansion of health ministries is necessary for a more sufficient economy. Topics discussing the spread of hospitals in more remote areas of the country and being more people-friendly rather than focusing primarily on central cities in Afghanistan have been under inspection, further increasing not only the amount of hospitals for Afghans, but for medical tourists being able to travel to Afghanistan for treatment. Medical advisors serving in the government wish to have better healthcare in Afghanistan to have a basis of Afghans receiving health in Afghanistan rather than travel to remote areas to get basic healthcare. The government strives to append more equipment and medical staff to more modern facilities with additional assistance in foreign aid to achieve these goals. Dr. Hisham, a member of the health administration in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, states, "We have finalised a draft of the new health policy which has seen assistance from 14 international donors to form, apart from being assisted by a survey which we conducted at the district level. This policy will serve as a guideline for the governments to come." Because Afghanistan doesn't have the proper sanitation and facilities to promote quality healthcare, a big goal is to make the economy flourish with better healthcare to not only to serve for sick Afghans, but to have a safe establishment for people from neighboring countries to obtain the medicines and quality of health they need.

The lack of basic human needs along with extensive levels of poverty and insanitation have taken a huge toll on health of Afghans and have contributed to the spreading of easily curable diseases, but the lack of medical treatment in Afghanistan causes fatalities amongst citizens, especially children, in this nation. According the the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), "Preventable diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, dysentery and pneumonia kill about 600 under-five Afghan children every day." The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is in need for an increase in hospitals and medical staff with help from foreign aid to accomplish this and have safe drinking water and medicines for Afghans and other incoming immigrants. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan would like to see further assistance in the establishment of hospitals and medical facilities from the United Nations in order to treat Afghans and foreigners.

II. Addressing the Issue of Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

One of the largest and most significant threats to global health is antibiotic resistance, which is when bacteria goes through a change when it has exposure to certain medicines. Bacteria resistant to medicine can cause difficult-to-treat infections, such as pneumonia, tuberculosis, blood poisoning, gonorrhoea, and foodborne diseases – are becoming increasingly more difficult to treat as antibiotics become less effective for the body. Throughout the world, medical costs and mortality increased dramatically as antibiotic resistance increased along with it. In countries without standard treatment guidelines, antibiotics are being overused by patients along with the contribution of spreading to an extension of people. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan seeks assistance to solve this critical issue imposing as a threat to the citizens of Afghanistan.

While antibiotic resistance to bacteria has becoming an increasingly global issue, it has also become an enormous issue in Afghanistan. With Afghanistan already being a medically poor country, the issue of antibiotic resistance makes treatment more difficult and challenging for medical professionals. The Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) evidence suggests that this issue of antibiotic resistance is a critical dilemma to Afghanistan. Medical staff at a local Afghan hospital have identified over one hundred cases of antibiotic resistant bacteria in their treatment. Many doctors predict that over-prescriptions and unfinished intake of antibiotics by patients are causes of antibiotic resistance. Pertaining to Afghanistan, along with these causes, many medical professionals suspect that illegal importation of medicines into the country worsen the quality of these medicines; this cause results in the growing issue of antibiotic resistance. Although the appearance of illegally imported medicines look to be in good condition, they are low quality and lack vital essentials which makes them more resistant in the human body. According to the leader of Avicina Pharmaceutical Institute in Kabul, Abdul Khalil Khakzad, he states that, “Nearly 60 percent of medicine in Afghanistan enters through illegal channels, possibly contributing to what doctors suspect is a glut of ineffective drugs on the market, including antibiotics.” Afghanistan’s health administration officials accuse their country’s weak border control with Pakistan and Iran for the importation of illegal antibiotics and medicines. According to the leader of the General Directorate of Pharmaceutical Affairs, Abdul Hafiz Quraishi, “We can control drug stores, but we can’t control the highways,” supporting and emphasizing the fact that Afghanistan’s border control contributes to this critical issue. Currently, the government of Afghanistan is working on improving and strengthening their borders as well as improving drugs and antibiotics within their facilities as best as they can.

The resistance to antibiotics serves as a fatal threat to global health in Afghanistan. Antibiotic resistance has made treatment harder in medical facilities, and it is currently causing more and more fatalities. Although not a primary role, sanitation within the community plays a minor role in antibiotic resistance. Researchers claim that Afghans treat so many open wounds that the resistant bugs could live within the community. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan wishes to see greater and expansive aid and support from the United Nations to strengthen the country’s border control, improve upon sanitation within its community as well as the quality of antibiotic drugs and medicines within medical facilities to prevent the issue of antibiotic resistance.

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Cara Finnegan & Isabella Kulacz - World Health Organization Brazil 2019

Topic A

A Medical Tourist is a person who elects to travel across international borders in order to receive medical care equal or greater than what they were entitled to in their home country. Many find themselves in this position in order to receive better quality healthcare, monetary assistance, or access and availability for their care. Medical Tourism has come about due to advanced technology, better quality care, quicker access, and lower costs for medical procedures. Shockingly, roughly 35-45% of patients who receive healthcare are medical travellers. However, medical tourism still may not be obtainable for some due to fees, though lesser than what they would typically pay for their healthcare. Many countries include healthcare as a basic human right, but others do not. This issue raises many concerns in terms of human rights.

Brazil has many constitutional rights, one of which is healthcare for all citizens. We believe that healthcare is a right, not a privilege. Healthcare is of high concern in the Brazilian government. It can be provided by either private or public institutions. However, private institutions are highly regarded and provide care for many Brazilians as well as medical tourists. This has created options for medical tourists searching for reasonable, quality healthcare. Brazil prides itself in providing quality care for those who seek it.

One pressing issue in regards to medical tourism is for United States Citizens. Many citizens seek care outside of the U.S. due to high costs for procedures. In addition, the increase in available technology and decrease in travelling costs also enables medical tourists.

However, though medical travel poses many positives for tourists, it can have devastating effects on the locals of that given area. Ethically, medical tourism poses issues for locals who cannot seek care to its fiscal effects.

Quality of care is also a factor for medical tourists. Quality can vary by country, so this can pose risks for the patient. The patient chooses where to seek treatment, so, they should be wary of the care that they receive and how it may seem too good to be true for what they pay. Many patients do not know the total effects of their choice of country, so, one may advise that patients should research the type of care that they will receive in their given country. Patients should also consider their medical provider and how reliable their institution is. Many barriers can keep medical tourists from gaining knowledge of the full effects of their choices, so literacy should be enforced in regards to medical tourism.

To conclude, medical tourists should be educated fully about the procedures that they are seeking, the effects of their choice in care, and seek quality care in a safe, healthy environment. However, we must consider that healthcare should be a right for all and that we, the WHO, should prioritize the welfare of our citizens.

Topic B

As a country, Brazil strongly believes that antibiotic resistance poses as a severe threat to global health. To begin, the resistance of antibiotics extends far past simply putting the lives of humans in danger, but is beginning to put animals in danger as well. Because of the severity of this issue, we encourage other countries to help us spread the word of the dangers and negative effects of the denying of antibiotics and certain medications. On top of spreading the word of negative effects, we must all cooperate to begin or continue research of new medications in our countries. With new discoveries, we can try to fight the worldly diseases that spread so easily, killing off our populations of both humans and animals. Finally, we would like to promote the idea of providing equal access to high quality medications and antibiotics to people of all members of society; with this being said, the use and distribution of these products will also be highly supervised to ensure the safety of people during the use of these products.

Since we, the country of Brazil, have already stated most of the resolutions to antibiotic resistance, we shall now explain just exactly why we, as a country, are so against it. First, the

resistance of antibiotics and certain medications poses a threat to the overall health of society because diseases and illnesses spread so quickly, making antibiotics a quick-response to these widespread issues. Without the use of antibiotics in our society, we are set back in the process of advancing because we are not using all of the resources possible to better society as a whole. By denying the advancement of antibiotics, we are refusing the modernization of humanity because we are stopping the process of what could turn out to be significant scientific and medical breakthrough. The use of antibiotics has brought safety upon society due to the outrageous number of lives they have saved and the amount of illnesses and outbreaks of diseases that they have prevented or stopped. As observed and recorded by the MUN WHO Conference of 2013, many different factors go into the use of antibiotics, such as economy and agriculture.

The complete view of the use and development of antibiotics is all positive, considering that the bringing of these medical substances into society have helped advance society as a whole due to the destroying of common illnesses. Rather than considering the use of antibiotics as 100 percent positive, however, Brazil has taken into account that certain people and farmers abuse the power of these medications on themselves and animals as a form of drug abuse. The development of addicts from the use of antibiotics today is a severe issue that is definitely on the radar at the moment, but that is why we need the cooperation of the government to help keep an eye on those who are in use of basic and/or complex substances. Also, by including the government in the use of antibiotics and medications, we can receive funding for research and an easy and successful way to inform the people of the use, benefits, and consequences of the medications. Certainly, we must use all of the help that we can get because the more that word spreads positively, the more advanced that we can get as a society.

Concluding our final resolutions, Brazil would like to encourage the cooperation of as many countries as possible in order to conduct research to advance the use and discoveries of new antibiotics and medications so that we can build the foundation for a healthier society. In addition to this, we will need wealthier countries to join our resolution so that we may get the necessary funds so that we can afford all research and publicity of the medications, positive effects, and negative effects. Slowly but surely, we will gain back the use of antibiotics and shut down the negligence of the use; antibiotics are one of the most advanced parts of society during this time, being one of the most important ways to modernize our society. We must all come together to better society and gain back the use of antibiotics without resistance.

The Delegation of Canada

World Health Organization

Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

Antibiotics are used to slow the growth of or kill off bacteria that causes infection or illness. When antibiotic resistance is developed, antibiotics may fail to work effectively which can cause devastating impacts on an organism. The problem of antibiotic resistance occurs when antibiotics are used inappropriately on animals, plants, and humans. The Delegation of Canada would like to work with other countries to solve the issue at hand. The Canadian delegation sees the threat of antibiotic resistance as a prevalent issue in today's society and believes that it needs to be solved as efficiently and effectively as possible in order to prevent this from spreading and preventing the cure of illnesses that would otherwise be easily treated. The delegation of Canada sees the cause of antibiotic resistance to be directly related to the inappropriate or overuse of antibiotics in preventing or treating illnesses. Person-to-person, contaminated surfaces, food, water, soil, international travel, and animals are the primary ways in which antibiotic resistance occurs. We, as a delegation, would like to work with other countries to pass a resolution which entails reducing the risk of antibiotic resistance through using the correct treatment, using antibiotics responsibly, and attempt to prevent the resistance from making its way through the food chain from the spread of animals to people. In regard to the spread from animals to people, direct contact with animals and eating undercooked meat are ways in which antibiotic resistance is spread. Not only this, but farm animal with exposure to antibiotics can have their urine and manure leak into groundwater, and something should be done to prevent this runoff. The delegation of Canada sees the impacts that antibiotic resistance has on global health, which includes the increased suffering, death, and illness of people as well as increased treatment cost and duration and increased side effects from the use of multiple medications as well as those that are more powerful.

Delegation from: Republic of Colombia
Represented by: Beachwood High School
Committee: World Health Organization

Position Paper For World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism and Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria. The Republic of Colombia hopes to achieve effective and fast-acting solutions within the committee.

I. Medical Tourism

The medical tourism industry has been prominent within the global community for a considerable amount of time. Costa Rica alone has attracted 50,000 trips in 2012 alone, while Australia drew over 26 million dollars in capital from medical tourism. The practice provides patients with quality care at low costs and is easily accessible. Medical procedures in Asian and Latin American countries cost a fraction of what American or European hospitals charge, while viable transplant organs are readily available with short waiting lists. Even though medical tourism provides patients with many benefits, there are many other problems that medical tourism proposes which needs to be addressed, such as infection, travel issues, legal issues, and medication dangers. The alarming lack of international regulation is an immediate problem to thousands of patients seeking treatment abroad. They face potential scams and lifelong disabilities in the case of faulty medical practices. However, many are forced to turn to cheaper alternatives: many countries don't give patients easy access to healthcare and usually give patients low-quality treatment. In response, WHO has released resolution WHA59.26, encouraging member states to coordinate international dialogue and establish policies and laws to regulate the medical industry. The Declaration of Istanbul provides guidelines for the regulation of transplant tourism, organ sales, and organ trafficking. As members of the global community, all nations should be treating patients with high quality, accessible, and affordable healthcare.

Recently, medical tourism has become very important aspect of Colombia. The World Health Organization has established Colombia as the 22nd most efficient healthcare systems, ahead of prominent nations such as the US or Canada. Additionally, América Economiam includes a large amount of Colombian hospitals in its list of top hospitals in Latin America, and five of these hospitals are Joint Commission International accredited, the gold standard in world health. Furthermore, all around Colombia are several brilliant hospitals which offer a variety of services from routine office visits and testing, to complex procedures such as joint replacements, organ transplants, and cancer treatment. Furthermore, It is estimated that patients visiting the country for medical purposes have spent about \$216 million in 2014, which is an increase of 61% from the previous year. With an increasing amount of medical tourists, Colombia supports the proliferation of international travel for medical care. Moreover, in Colombia, the medical procedures are offered at very low costs and are carried out in high professional standards. For instance, a heart bypass operation costs \$80,000 USD in the US, whereas it costs only \$26,000 in Colombia. Likewise, costs remain low in the case of patients without health insurance. Consultations with specialists only costs about \$50 and can be made within a span of weeks and not many months, which is the case in several other countries. In addition, Colombian pharmacists provide patients with a far greater service than prescriptions: pharmacists are instructed to listen to the problems of their patients and make recommendations. Prescription charges for many medicines are not required in Colombia and can be bought for a very low price over the counter.

As the delegation of Colombia enters committee, Colombia hopes to see the establishment of laws and policies that promote low prices and attractive opportunities for treatment abroad, while ensuring regulation and management of medical facilities to prevent fraud, criminal activity, or serious injury with potential collaboration with the UNODC. With the economic circulation brought on by medical tourism, Colombia hopes to see the strengthening and formation of mutually beneficial international relationships in regards to international trade while promoting medical infrastructure and insurance in order to prevent the exploitation of smaller countries. With this, Colombia encourages the continuous surveillance and monitoring of cases of illness and death of foreign patients and calls for legal and ethical action considering the collected data. Overall, Colombia hopes to see member states cooperating together on effective long-term solutions that ensure the safety of medical tourists while maximizing on the circulation of capital.

II. Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria

Antibiotic-resistant infectious diseases have been identifiable as early as 1940. With the ongoing spread and evolution of germs that develop resistance to even the most recently developed antibiotics, antibiotic resistant bacteria pose a serious health risk to people across the world. 33,000 people die from these bacteria alone, while spending on antibiotics totals \$58 billion USD over the course of six years. A major cause of the problem is the overuse of unnecessary antibiotics. The excess of antibiotics and the failure to complete prescriptions allows for bacteria to mutate at a faster rate. Additionally, lack of medical infrastructure in underdeveloped countries allow for infectious antibiotic-resistant bacteria to spread at faster rates and increase the scope of the problem. Previously, the UN has stated the urgency of the antibiotic resistance crisis and how it cannot be ignored, while calling for responsible use of these medicines. Additionally, the UN has met multiple times to find solutions regarding combating antimicrobial resistance worldwide, while establishing the Global Antimicrobial Surveillance System (GLASS) to collect data on such diseases.

Recently, in Colombia there was an emergence of a gene responsible for producing carbapenemases, which are enzymes that negatively affect the strongest antibiotics, which are used against life threatening and multi drug resistant bacterial infections. This with the emergence of a bacterial clone that spread between various patients created the modern antibiotic resistance epidemic in Colombia. As Colombia battles such problems, progress is being made. Infrastructure has dramatically increased in efficiency, and the spread of safe medical practices within hospitals has proliferated. Increasing regulation and management of hospitals helps prevent infections overall, and Colombia's healthcare system ensures patients have adequate treatment.

The antibiotic crisis is a very crucial and is taking lives of innocent people across the world. The Republic of Colombia proposes a few solutions which might help reduce the spread of antibiotic resistance and help save many lives. These solutions include decreased use of excessive antibiotics, and following the advice of a qualified health professional when taking antibiotics. Furthermore, misuse and overuse of antibiotics and poor infection prevention and control can possibly accelerate the rate at which the antibiotic resistance is spread. To fix this issue, Colombia calls for the advocacy of safe health practices. Additionally, Colombia calls for the spread of healthcare for all people and the improvement of infrastructure within smaller countries.

Delegation: Cuba

Represented by Hawken School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

I. Medical Tourism

Cuba as a country is a huge supporter of medical tourism and looks to increase the number of people who travel to Cuba in search of medical attention. With the invention of commercial air ambulance services, the availability of medical tourism has increased and with it the international interest. Medical tourism is necessary for patients who need treatment that they could not otherwise receive in their residing country due to cost or time. It also provides an opportunity for patients, mainly from lesser-developed countries, to receive new groundbreaking procedures that are not available in their countries. Even in large places like the United States health care is simply unaffordable for many citizens. Fifty-four percent of Americans have reported delaying seeking medical attention due to price and twenty-three percent have reported delaying for over a year for the same reason.

Increasing the amount of medical tourism directly affects Cuba because an influx of foreign money would help boost our economy. According to Cuba's ministry of foreign trade, "medical products and services, including physicians practicing abroad, pharmaceuticals, and medical tourism, account for 70 percent of Cuba's export revenues". Cuba is prepared to offer other countries modern, high-quality health care for affordable prices. Our socialist government focuses funds on health care providing us with excess amounts of pharmaceuticals, qualified doctors who specialize in a variety of medical fields, as well as facilities dedicated to those specific fields. In Cuba, we have one doctor for every 170 inhabitants as well as constant research to develop revolutionary techniques and medications including a drug to treat lung cancer called CIMAvax. Cuba also operates a closed-loop system where medications go through the same process as they would in any other country but at a fraction of the time.

Cuba recognizes that medical tourism is a vital industry that will only continue to increase in popularity. We believe that because it is so integral to our country's economy, it is important to make compromises regarding implementing a few safeguards to ensure the future of medical tourism into our country. We recognize that medical complications are inevitable and happen even with high-quality health care. Cuba does not want other countries to restrict medical tourism due to lack of safeguards for its citizens, and therefore we are willing to enforce any necessary safeguards.

II. Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria

In the 75 years since penicillin first became available for public use, hundreds of millions of lives are estimated to have been saved by antibiotics. However, as society has grown increasingly dependent on the use of antibiotics for protection, the rise of resistant strains of bacteria, many of which are resistant to multiple treatments, is quickly becoming an ever more pressing issue. The rise in these “super bugs” is closely correlated to increased mortality rates, time needed to heal, and cost of care for infections. Increases in resistant bacteria mainly stem from over and unnecessary prescription of antibiotics as well as the use of antibiotics in agriculture. Additionally, an over reliance on the development of new antibiotics for treatment has been perpetuating this issue as this only buys time until more resistant bacteria arises and feeds back into the cycle.

Cuba is closely related to the topic of antibiotic resistant bacteria because of its agriculture, training for doctors, and economic situation. Currently, 30% of Cuba’s land is used for agriculture and Cuba does not have the financial means to use more expensive alternatives to antibiotics for crop production and animal agriculture. Use of antibiotics to treat such a large mass of produce could have detrimental effects on the resistance of some bacteria, yet there is limited knowledge available in this area. Therefore, Cuba was glad to that when the Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance was established in 2016, it was a collaboration between the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the World Organization for Animal Health. Furthermore, the issue of antibiotics is prevalent in Cuba as training for doctors here is different than in most of the world. As the Cuban education system is fully run by the state, *all* medical students are very quickly assigned to shadow at a primary care station where they deal mostly with preventative medicine. Due to this, Cuban doctors do not receive the training needed to know how to correctly prescribe antibiotics. They lack the knowledge need to know when to prescribe, how much to give and over what period of time, and what antibiotics specifically target the bacteria strain being treated. However, this does partially come from Cuba’s economic situation, as hospitals lack the resources to test bacteria strains or to carry a large variety of specialized antibiotics. Further coming from Cuba’s economics, the Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (GLASS) has not been very helpful with the analysis and tracking of data, as we lack the funding to set up proper surveillance systems.

Cuba hopes to see concrete actions taken by the committee to combat antibiotic resistance. Cuba hopes that international standards for the appropriate use of antibiotics are created and that guidelines -along with mandated, significant doctor training- become the primary focus of discussion. Additionally, Cuba believes that GLASS needs to be replaced, not refined, in order to make it more accessible. Finally, Cuba also plans to bring up the issue of antibiotics in agriculture and propose for research to be done to look into its significance.

The Kingdom of Denmark
Elyria Catholic

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The Kingdom of Denmark is dedicated to the advancement of global health and improving the lives of afflicted persons in all states and territories.

I. Medical Tourism

Medical tourism is the migration or traveling between country borders to receive or benefit from a healthcare service or system provided by that country. In the most recent years, medical tourism has increased due to greater transportation between countries and political chaos observed in other countries. Most notably, the flood of immigrants from Middle Eastern countries to Europe in periods of terrorism and political unrest. The Medical Tourism Association estimates that anywhere from 15 - 30 million persons will travel annually to receive better treatment. Nearly 900 billion dollars annually are spent to support medical tourists (This is typically due to usage of local healthcare systems to provide for needed treatments.). In 1948, the United Nations declared in *The Universal Declaration on Human Rights* that any person had the right to freely move between countries and be given humane treatment while in those countries.

The Kingdom of Denmark remains one country that has experienced lesser impact by the issue of medical tourism. Even with its easy to use universal healthcare system, which can apply to any European Union citizen and or immigrant in “dire need”, the Kingdom of Denmark has only seen recent medical tourism. Upon the migrant crisis of 2016, the Kingdom of Denmark experienced nearly twice the normal amount of medical tourism from new migrants. The Kingdom of Denmark’s healthcare costs increased from 10.56 - 15.8 percent of the GDP. While several factors may explain this change, medical tourism under a system with fully paid treatment in the case of emergency (which has been vaguely defined as to be more accessible to migrants and refugees).

The Kingdom of Denmark’s recent stance for the topic of medical tourism can most easily be observed through recent actions involving the migrant crisis. In wake of the large amount of refugees seeking asylum and medical care, the Kingdom of Denmark has begun to move populations of unwanted migrants to previously unpopulated islands further away from the mainland. Criticized internationally for this aggressive policy on “unwanted immigrants”, the Kingdom of Denmark has continued to tighten restrictions to prolonged stay and asylum in access to the mainland. This restriction moves those seeking long-term care away from facilities where they might seek medical care. In addition to this, the Kingdom of Denmark has shortened the allowed insurance period for students and migrants to stay in country to less than 3 months, decreasing the window for treatment. Citizens of the Kingdom of Denmark are noted to travel outside the country only for dental or specialized healthcare as the national treatment is rated highly. The European Union agreed upon the directive that all patients are allowed to cross

borders to seek healthcare in 2011. However, recent actions by the Kingdom of Denmark have pointed to a shifting in this belief, especially in wake of the migrant crisis. The delegation from the Kingdom of Denmark will uphold the policy that treatment can be sought across any border, but access to national healthcare- most notably free treatment- will not be supported. The delegate asserts that all have a right to travel for treatment. The delegation also asserts that those who travel for treatment must be at least partially financially responsible for the medical costs they accrue during travel.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

Antibiotics have seen active use in medical care for centuries to prevent and treat bacterial infections worldwide. However, in recent years bacteria have begun to adapt to common forms of antibiotics to be resistant or immune to their cleansing effects. The rise of antibiotic resistance has allowed bacteria to flourish in produce and livestock which had once been free due to antibiotic measures. This, combined with the over-prescription of antibiotics, has led to global outbreaks of infections of pneumonia, tuberculosis, and gonorrhea amongst other diseases. As disease becomes immune to antibiotic drugs, more expensive cures are needed, making treatment harder and less common. Unless checked, infections will continue to grow antibiotic resistant, especially in the poorest of countries.

The Kingdom of Denmark has taken a strong stance in fighting against antibiotic resistance. In 2018, the Kingdom of Denmark established The International Centre for Interdisciplinary Solutions on Antimicrobial Resistance to provide critical information on alternative methods to cure disease so that antibiotic resistance might decrease. After a strain of MRSA bacteria was spotted in Danish pigs in 2011, Danish officials sought to reduce antibiotic usage amongst livestock. After 8 years, only four percent of all hogs contained this strain of antibiotic resistant bacteria. Researchers at Danish centers for antibiotic resistance have begun tackling what makes bacteria resistant to antibiotics in attempt to destabilize any further evolution that provides resistance. In the past 30 years, the Kingdom of Denmark has decreased usage of antibiotic drugs by 33 percent, slowing further growth of resistance.

The Delegation of Denmark will take a firm stance on applying a global plan to the usage of antibiotics. First, the delegation will affirm the principle that antibiotic usage to promote growth of livestock is problematic and should be ended. Second, the delegation acknowledges that antibiotics are important in treating infections cheaply. Third, the delegation wants to instate the principle of health measures such as proper food preparation, routine washing, and sanitary measures in all countries so that infections requiring antibiotics are reduced. Fourth, the delegation will reiterate the idea that antibiotics should still be used, yet all countries should pursue a way to prevent bacteria from properly evolving. Fifth, the delegation invites all other countries to join in their international effort to find alternative, cheap measures to curing bacterial infections. Lastly, the delegation will pursue tighter worldwide restrictions on antibiotic prescription and monitoring so that antibiotic resistance will not further grow.

Delegation of: France

Represented by: Westlake High School

Committee: World Health Organization

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization includes discussing Medical Tourism and Addressing antibiotic resistant bacteria. The delegation of the French Republic is eager to discuss these imperative topics with fellow nations at this meeting of the World Health Organization and is hopeful of the prospects that they will bring in resolving the issues set before the United Nations World Health Organization.

I. Medical Tourism

As the global population grows it is necessary to acknowledge the rise of Medical Tourism and its causes, consequences and benefits. A 2013 MTA Medical Tourism Patient Survey found that Latin America and Asia are the two leading regions for medical travel however other countries from different regions, like France, have also been seeing a large increase in the amount of people coming into the country for healthcare. 16 million people went abroad to receive medical care this year and that figure looks set to increase by another 15 - 20% in the coming years.

Medical tourism is attractive to many people because it can often save a lot of money, especially in France. There is a large gap in surgery costs between the United States, Singapore and France. As a matter of fact, France was the least expensive country for a prosthetic hip replacement, at around \$10,000.

Though it could be beneficial it is important to acknowledge the very real risks of Medical Tourism that could put people in danger such as the inability to communicate fully with the medical staff that will be caring for someone due to language barriers, lack of technology causing poor quality medication in some countries as well as the use of counterfeit medication and higher rates of antibiotic resistance in certain countries. In addition to that, there is a higher risk of infection associated with Medical tourism because of the extra exposure that accompanies traveling.

The delegation of the Republic of France believes that medical tourism, as long as it is weary of these risks, could be something very beneficial to certain countries' revenues and economy. France has already opened its country up to medical tourism and has begun to implement programs to reduce the risks of a foreigner receiving health care outside their country. The Assistance publique-Hôpitaux de Paris public hospital group in Paris has launched an English online course for its staff, from front desk agents to nurses, and is seeking to develop concierge services for all patients, whether foreign or French. AP-HP is also working on improving its billing system and drawing up competitive packages.

The healthcare system in France is strictly controlled and regulated by the government and for that reason is one of the safest in the world. Medical teams require government authorization to ensure that they are fully qualified and all facilities must be certified by the High Authority of Health every three years. The delegation of France believes that in aiding other countries in securing their medical system,

the WHO would be able to greatly decrease the risks of medical tourism and allow it to aid in countries' economies.

II. Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria

Communicable diseases is unarguably one of the World Health Organization's biggest priorities and for that reason, the delegation of the French Republic believes that the issue of antibiotic resistant bacteria is one that is globally significant in every sense. Antibiotic resistance is one thing that could truly threaten every single person on this earth regardless of nationality, race, political standing or any other affiliation. It is undeniable that health care is something that is a right and that as the World Health Organization it is necessary to take precautions against the increasing amount of antibiotic resistant bacteria.

Currently the scope of antibiotic resistance is very unknown and unrecorded. Many citizens do not even recognize antibiotic resistance as a problem and for that reason people should be educated in the causes of antibiotic resistance. In addition to that many developing countries' health care also do not see antibiotic resistance as a threat. It should be common knowledge that over prescribing antibiotics, not taking them as prescribed, antibiotics used in agriculture, poor infection control in hospitals and even poor hygiene all can contribute greatly to the growing health care threat of antibiotic resistant bacteria.

This is a global health threat that impacts both developed and developing nations greatly with tens of thousands of deaths each year, respectively, as a result of this problem. The most major contributing factor is the country's level of antibiotic consumption. On April 30, 2014, the World Health Organization (WHO) published its first global report on antimicrobial resistance – including antibiotic resistance – that emphasizes "this serious threat is no longer a prediction for the future, it is happening right now in every region of the world and has the potential to affect anyone, of any age, in any country." It is no doubt that antibiotic resistance is an emergency.

In the early 2000s in France, the national plan to preserve the efficacy of antibiotics provided for surveillance of bacterial resistance to antibiotics under the aegis of Santé Publique France. In a report on the surveillance data published in November 2015, the French health authorities emphasized that "over time, the widespread, repeated use of antibiotics in human and animal healthcare is leading to an increase in bacterial resistance. Most antibiotics do not only act on their specific target, the bacterium responsible for the infection that needs to be treated, but also on other targets such as the commensal bacteria in the digestive tract, which are useful, non-pathogenic bacteria." Despite this plan, the level of antibiotic consumption in France remains particularly high, twice as many as prescribed in Germany and the UK, countries that both have a very similar socio-economic climate as France.

For these reasons the delegation of the French Republic believes that regulation of antibiotics as a global incentive is something that would be very beneficial to tackling the problem and believes that through unity, the World Health Organization must be able to find a way to encourage more developed countries with lower prescription rates to aid developed countries in regulating antibiotics. In addition the delegation of France firmly believes that investing in more research and development of stronger antibiotics and their distributions is something that every country should be encouraged to pursue for the sake of its population's safety and the safety of the world.

Delegation from: Germany

Represented by: Vermilion High School

Position paper for the World Health Organization

The issues of concern are antibiotic resistance and medical tourism. Germany does not feel that medical tourism is a threat, we firmly believe that putting restrictions on a patient for where they can receive treatment is a threat. However, we have unshakable believe that antibiotic resistance is a threat. Germany wishes to come to an agreement over these issues with the other nations so that we can preserve the world for a better tomorrow.

Topic I Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

Germany, along with many other advanced nations have been using antibiotics for decades. However, we see the problems of antibiotic resistance. Recent studies show that microorganisms are beginning, if not already becoming immune to antibiotics. If this happens than the diseases caused by these organisms will be incurable. This is a problem that needs to be addressed now rather than later if we are to insure the longevity of not only our nation but the world. Germany implores its fellow nations to address this problem and put forth the research necessary to solve this crisis. Germany's chancellor Angela Merkel and minister of health Hermann Gröhe agree that this issue must be dealt with now rather than later.

We wish to contribute to any research by either donating funds our other resources, Germany will do whatever it takes to stop this crisis. We will be launching a Research and Development Collaboration Hub which will be stationed in Berlin. This facility will be used for intensive research on microorganisms and their resistance to antibiotics in addition to finding new cures to replace the antibiotics. Our faculty will not be closed off to the rest of the world, we invite scientists and medical researchers from other nations to collaborate with our leaders in the field, it is our hope that through collaboration we will not only find a solution but strengthen our relationship with the other nations.

Germany acknowledges that this epidemic reaches farther than the realms of our own species, humans. Other animals are affected by it as well. Animals raised for the meat industry are injected with

vaccinations in the hopes of preventing diseases in our food sources. However, this is causing for the microorganisms that cause sicknesses in these animals to become immune to the antibiotics as well. Humans then eat the infected meat making our problem even worse. If we are to ensure the health of our own species then we must insure the health of all species. Germany proposes that we extend our research to the animal kingdom and highly monitor the health of our livestock. Not only should microorganisms that affect livestock be monitored, but microorganisms that affect pets and wildlife as well. As this problem extends to the entire ecosystem. Our Research and Development Collaboration Hub will not only focus on microorganism that directly attack humans but all microorganisms that are a threat to life.

Germany strongly believes that the best strategy is to research, plan and, prevent. This practically summarizes our DART 2020 strategy. We urge the other nations to join us in the use of this effective and efficient plan because, in order to stop the epidemic of antibiotic resistance all countries will need to participate. As we have stated before, Germany intends to do whatever is necessary in the solving of this crisis. This plan is strongly supported by our chancellor and minister of health. We wish to ensure the future of not only a strong healthy Germany but a strong and healthy world.

Topic II Medical Tourism

Germany sees many benefits in keeping medical tourism available to as many people as possible. The main treatments people come to Germany for are Treatment for cancer, Fertility treatment, Cardiology and cardiac surgery, Orthopedic surgery, Neurology and neurosurgery, Obesity treatment, Treatment of kidney ailments, Alternative treatment for many maladies and ophthalmology. The main reason people come to Germany is because we have the best, cheapest and highest success rates.

The German government sees medical tourism not only as a major economic force but as a great way of helping save as many lives as possible.

The German government wants to help save as many people as possible for that reason we need to support and make medical tourism as available and affordable for everyone. However due to the major influx of people coming to Germany we ask the United Nations to allocate as much money as they see fit to assist in the national fund for medications. This is purely just to save as many lives as possible. It's not a political issue as numerous other countries believe it is.

By saying that Germany just wants money that is putting money over citizens lives.

As we define the early twenty first century let us not put our own greed in front of the countless lives that we can help save with medical tourism. We simply ask for support in the medical field and continued funding for Germany's medical supplies used to save countless members of our planet. For the betterment of our earth the german government see that we should save lives by any means necessary even if that means allowing people to go wherever they need to do so it isn't about politics it's about lives

Delegation: Republic of India
Represented by: Westlake High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues brought before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism and the need to address Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The Republic of India is committed to creating new solutions as well as modifying current ones to better combat the issues.

I. Medical Tourism

Unfortunately, as far as medical research has come in the past years, many countries are still far behind in terms of technological and economic advances. In order to meet their healthcare demands, many patients will travel to more developed nations to seek better-quality treatment, or cheaper treatment. Medical tourism is not an activity that should cause conflict between countries, but should rather strengthen relationships and improve the overall wellbeing of all citizens. Medical tourism is an issue that needs to be recognized by all countries, no matter what their individual healthcare situation may be. Any solution to this issue would have to consider national sovereignty, foreign industry, economic status, and personal freedoms of citizens. Countries need to realize that medical tourism is neither unpreventable nor a negative trend, and the focus should be on communication between countries and regulation of medical procedures. The Republic of India would like to propose CISoR, also known as the Communicating and Implementing Standards of Regulation.

Countries should focus on communicating their concerns in order to reach a universal compromise. Global standards need to be made on drug and organ trafficking to ensure safe medical tourism and prevent fraud or further medical problems. To elaborate, a strong relationship needs to be established between each host and home country, and funds need to be dedicated to providing translators and securing medical connections through embassies. Each tourist patient needs to be guaranteed protections and insurance from malpractice, as well as detailed descriptions of their treatments and costs. As a committee, we need to bring an end to false advertising and illegal trafficking of organs and drugs that are to be used in procedures. 40% of medical tourists travel due to the fact that better procedures are offered outside of their home country. Lower cost treatment is not necessarily the driving factor of medical tourism. Countries with a large sector of illegal trade need to crack down on these activities, and countries with a simplistic healthcare system need to ensure affordable healthcare for all of their citizens. Countries a part of our proposed plan would connect with INTERPOL in order to regulate any activities that may cause poor effects of medical tourism. In order to further streamline medical tourism, it is recommended that countries pledge funds to provide for translators and necessary resources to ensure safe connection between the patient, home country, and host country. It is important that language and culture barriers are addressed in order to establish positive international relationships and maintain tourism. Promoting medical tourism will incite

competition between local hospitals, resulting in an overall decrease of medical costs and an exchange of ideas and information between developed and underdeveloped countries.

Medical tourism is a positive form of cultural and technological exchange, and any negative effects can easily be counteracted through the implementation of regulations and standards between all countries involved.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

Antibiotic resistance is a multifaceted issue that affects humans from all corners of the earth. The issue primarily affects underdeveloped nations who do not have the financial resources to invest in the research and development of new antibiotics to combat modern versions of infections that are unaffected by old and current antibiotics. The Republic of India is proposing that we need to combat the overprescription of antibiotics, know further as the COPOA initiative.

The CDC estimates that as of 2015, 30% of all antibiotic prescriptions issued to patients were deemed “unnecessary”. Research has also found that between 50-70% of all antibiotics prescribed to acute respiratory conditions were also unnecessary. There needs to be a unilateral approach to combating over prescriptions. Some have suggested that placing restrictions on the sale of over the counter (OTC) antibiotics will help to combat the problem, however in order for this to be effective the international community needs to take a unified stance and collectively ban the sale of OTC antibiotics in order for this to become effective.

Over-prescription of antibiotics is also a leading cause in the uselessness of antibiotics. Countries need to place regulations on how higher-strength antibiotics are prescribed, as the need for them will increase as an infection gets worse or a certain strain becomes resistant to antibiotics. A set of recommendations needs to be placed that will be low-cost for countries to implement so that an uniform standard can be created without the need to worry about underdeveloped nations selecting not to implement them because of the high cost.

Overall the global threat of antibiotic resistance poses an imminent danger to the world health community. As we continue to over-prescribe and over-use antibiotics, the problem will continue to grow worse exponentially. Regulations and restrictions need to be placed on the sale of antibiotics, because without them, countless people will continue to die from infections and the growing uselessness of antibiotics.

Delegation from: Ireland

Represented by: Gilmour Academy

Position Paper for World Health Organization

Medical tourism is a modern day practice exercised by individuals seeking better accessibility, affordability and quality under various fields of care in many countries. Due to recent globalization across the globe, such trips and practice are utilized to the fullest of ability by numerous individuals of varying backgrounds. While its exercise is aimed to provide cheaper and better medical components and supports certain national economies, medical tourism is also vulnerable to mismanagement. Loose regulations set in place can often lead to instances of financial fraud and other manipulation that leaves patients susceptible to being victimized. In addition to this, no global certification or standard is held for hospitals to ensure crimes against patients can be prevented.

The delegation of Ireland is an avid supporter of rights to all humans for proper treatment and care within medical facilities in any corner of the globe, and knows medical tourism is right granted to the human person. Ireland is a relative newcomer to the medical tourism sector, and it is typical of foreign patients to generally seek cosmetic surgery and dental treatments from our facilities. In addition to having many services, Ireland also maintains some of the cleanest facilities across the world making it a popular destination. Ireland believes that a necessity for strict oversight and approved locations across the globe would better help to prevent issues of financial fraud and illegal organ trafficking to name a few. Little has historically been accomplished on the issues of medical tourism, and Ireland believes that the time has come for global nations to take a stand to prevent further ignorance. Ireland is extremely open to individuals seeking treatment within our borders, but would also like to discourage the opening medical tourism gives for the immoral practice of abortion among other treatments that violate human life. Ireland wishes to form a resolution that maintains proper oversight over facilities used for medical tourism, and that by completing this, major steps in quality and safety of care will be acquired. Medical tourism should not be a scapegoat for both illegal and immoral procedures either, and Ireland firmly hopes such a practice is discouraged from further use. By attaining oversight, further data can be collected to help clarify the problematic issues for facilities involved with medical tourism, creating strong foundations to build from.

The relationship between antibiotics and bacteria has been one spanning nearly a century, and the use of medicine has been attributed with saving the lives of millions if not more individuals globally. Since penicillin was placed on the market, numerous antibiotics have been commercialized in order to treat the ever expanding strains of bacteria developing from the resistances placed on them. As a result of this inevitable increase, individuals are being prescribed on more antibiotics than ever paving the way for mistreatment and misdiagnosis of patients seeking to better their health. According to studies in 2015, over 30% of drugs were unnecessarily prescribed to patients while the remaining antibiotics could be adjusted for better distribution. While past resolutions have been made within the United Nations to help prevent this global health crisis, little effect has resulted. The time for addressing the use of antibiotics globally has become to far of an issue to ignore, and it is time to act in order to save the lives and general welfare of mankind.

Ireland is proud of its globally ranked hospitals that provide and prescribe the necessary care for both domestic and foreign individuals alike. While stating this, the nation of Ireland recognizes the need for change among all governments with antibiotics and bacteria and believes more affirmative action should be taken to create a significant difference. The problem lies in the overuse and misdiagnosis by patients and doctors alike due to inexperience addiction and other factors that are difficult to completely eradicate. The delegation of Ireland believes that the past tactics employed by this conference are of both noble and right intention, and that a new plan should derive from similar ideas first originated. But in order to properly ensure change, this conference must pass a resolution that builds off prior acts. First, the reduction of antibiotic usage among care facilities and patients must be drastically reduced as the first foundation of preventing this issue. Multiple factors lay within this concept, including the the importance of public education and establishment of standards clarifying what is a correct prognosis. Next, global efforts should be made to advance research that seeks to understand the problematic areas of abuse with antibiotics so valuable time and financial welfare are saved. The third topic that should be enacted in order to prevent further abuse of antibiotics is additional research into varying treatment options that replace the constant use of antibiotics. By discovering different pathways of treatment, global health will be one step further to being attainable for all individuals of different background and character.

Delegation from: Israel

Represented by: St. Vincent-St. Mary High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism; and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. Israel is devoted to the promotion of health and well-being among the general public and expresses its hope for further cooperation among member states and nonstate agents in the future.

I. Medical Tourism

Medical tourism is seen as a very beneficial way of boosting a country's economy. This means is very unconventional, but it is utilized by the Israeli government. Much of the economy of Israel is composed of this. Medical tourism by definition is traveling to a foreign country to receive medical attention. This could be because of cost, but in the case of Israel, it is usually to receive medical help from the highly trained specialist doctors and therapists. This practice is very helpful to many patients, especially cancer patients who can't find such specific care. Israel has an estimated \$140 million revenue from medical tourism. This number may seem like a large amount, but it is only rising.

Patients come to Israel for procedures such as bone marrow transplants, heart surgery and catheterization, oncological and neurological treatments, car accident rehabilitation, orthopedic procedures, and IFV treatment. These are treated in many different ways that cannot be found in other places around the world. One of the new ways is known as "Dead Sea Treatment". The mineral content in the water is very high, the pollen content is abnormally low, allergens in the environment are very low, and the atmospheric pressure is very low, which helps cure certain diseases.

If other countries utilized and researched different treatment options for the specific region they are in, this could greatly bolster the economies. This would definitely boost the economy and be a useful thing for many countries. The UN should look at this when they are looking to help boost economies of countries that are not as stable.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

The innovation of antibiotics has improved the health and wellness of the overall population immeasurably. Antibiotics regularly save lives, and that is an indisputable fact. However, the

proficiency of antibiotics against evolving bacteria is waning quickly. Antibiotic-resistant infections pose a serious threat to public health and safety, especially those bacterial strains that have proved resistant to more than one form of antimicrobial treatment, dubbed “superbugs” or MDR(Multi-drug Resistant). This places an especially severe risk on patients affected by “superbugs” and those around them as well. A major contributing factor to antibiotic resistance is the overuse and overprescription of antibiotics. There is a direct relationship between antibiotic use and bacterial resistance. Another component that may negatively affect the potency of antibiotics against infection is the practice of using antibiotics for agricultural purposes. It is possible that adapted antibiotic resistance in livestock is passed onto a bacterial strain, which acts as a human vector.

In Israel, healthcare is universal, and participation in a medical insurance plan is compulsory. All Israeli residents are entitled to basic healthcare as a fundamental right. Additionally, Israel is a medical powerhouse. Recent Israeli developments in cancer treatment are truly revolutionary. However, the delegation of Israel agrees that the rapidly declining effectiveness of antibiotics against commonplace infections has the potential to be detrimental to public health and wellness. Israel has done extensive research into the epidemiology of carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae. The research demonstrates how findings from the surveillance of bacteria such as CRE can lead to the prevention and control of antibiotic resistance. This nationwide intervention also included post-acute care facilities where enhancement of infection control measures led to a reduction in the prevalence of CRE. This initiative shows that the translation of research into public health objectives has the potential to improve the safety of hospitalized patients in affected nations.

Given the past efforts of Israel to resolve this issue, the delegation of Israel believes that the implementation of epidemiological research on a much larger, international scale. This can be done in the form of multilateral coalitions and worldwide databases. The delegation of Israel additionally feels that there should be a committee dedicated to the conversion of medical research to formal regulations. Israel looks forward to the discussion of this pertinent topic with the other delegations in the World Health Organization and would like to encourage benevolent collaboration between each and every delegate.

Delegation from: Mexico
Represented by: Mentor High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The matters in question presented before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism; and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. Mexico is devoted to the protection of the health of all people and expresses its hope for a further advancement in the cooperation between state and nonstate actors in the resolution of these issues.

I. Medical Tourism

Though it has been present for thousands of years, medical tourism has become a very pressing matter in recent years. Having no global, universal definition, Mexico defines medical tourism as the traveling across borders in order to receive medical treatment at a lower cost. Treatments that result from medical tourism span a full range of medical services, the most common being dental care, cosmetic surgery, elective surgery, and fertility treatment. Additionally, as of 2013, an approximated 35-45% of all foreign inpatients were partaking in medical tourism. The rise of globalization, however, has aided in the inflation of this issue. People now have much more access to mediums of receiving medical care abroad than ever before, which is giving a rise to transplant tourism and organ trafficking. Nevertheless, Mexico supports the endeavors of medical tourism due to the benefits it provides economically.

Mexico has always been a very common destination for medical tourism, especially from the United States, which lies above its northern border. In fact, a 2013 MTA Medical Tourism Patient Survey observed that Mexico respectively has one of the highest-ranking demands for medical tourism. Furthermore, Mexico's Secretary of Tourism declared that an estimated 12 million international visitors arrived in Mexico in 2013, with 6.5 million of those visitors being from the United States. The subjectively low cost of medical treatment, along with high quality medical treatment has made Mexico a very sought-after destination for medical tourists seeking to avoid high medical costs in the United States. Medical tourism, nonetheless, has served as an immensely beneficial aspect to the GDP growth of Mexico with 5 billion USD being brought into Mexico during 2017 through medical tourism. Some United States board-certified medical doctors have filed malpractice suits on Mexican doctors on the grounds of uncertified treatment and negligence. The delegation of Mexico, however, negates these claims, as all practicing doctors within the Mexican border are entirely capable of treating a patient correctly, and with the proper procedural techniques. Mexico does not aim to take any action that dissolves or disbands the use of medical tourism, but rather sees a positive economic impact provided by such a policy and hopes to continue utilizing it.

Though Mexico does not wish to bring an end to medical tourism, it still believes that action should be taken to calm the issue at hand and make it less problematic. Mexico is open to creating a quality control program that ensures that the patient will not be exploited, nor neglected in the event of an overseas medical procedure. Mexico believes that a policy of international customary law should be create that outlines very specific legal requirements and medical certifications for doctors that perform both invasive and noninvasive treatments on tourists. Additionally, Mexico requests that nations create an organized system of data collection that tracks tourist treatments from preoperative to postoperative procedures in an attempt to track the health and legal outcomes of certain procedures on a case-by-case basis. Mexico looks forward to working with all delegates of the World Health Organization and hopes to come to a peaceful solution on the topic of medical tourism.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

As antibiotic use has become increasingly common in developing countries, bacteria have been adaptive and increasingly resilient toward multiple types of antibiotics such as penicillin and amoxicillin. In developing countries common issues due to public health conditions and a lack of regulation for antibiotic prescription have led to the development of similar bacteria. These resistant strains of bacteria are highest in Latin American countries, however with international travel they have the ability to spread to any region of the world. Mexico is working to combat this issue domestically through education and regulation with minimal success. In a study done by WHO in 2018 among patients with suspected bloodstream infection, the proportion that had bacteria resistant to at least one of the most commonly used antibiotics ranged tremendously between different countries – from zero to 82%.

The threat of antibiotic resistance bacteria within Mexico is most attributable to the living conditions within overpopulated cities and misuse or self-medication of antibiotics. Diseases such as tuberculosis are common within Mexico and are beginning to show resistance to bacteria. Pneumococcal bacteria in particular has been found to be resilient to multiple antibiotics such as penicillin. As of 2017, antibiotics were among medicines most commonly sold in private pharmacies (approximately 40% without prescription), and their use in Mexico for many years exceeded that of other Latin American countries. In 2010, the Mexican government announced the enforcement of antibiotic sales regulations. However, the claim was not enforced or followed through. This was viewed as a missed opportunity to publicly discuss and to develop a comprehensive national strategy on antibiotic use in Mexico. In addition, it was discovered in 2016 that antibiotic resistance may be related to genetic factors. It has been suggested that drugs that are frequently used in Latin America promote genes associated with antimicrobial resistance. The CDC has also recognized that surgeries in Mexico have allegedly been linked to antibiotic-resistant bacteria as several travelers returned from Mexico with such bacteria following surgery, most commonly weight reduction surgery. Mexico, however, denies all claims of medical malpractice, especially those stated by the CDC.

Mexico shares similar conditions to other less developed when dealing with antibiotic-resistant bacteria. It would be most favorable to look into increasing the quality of living conditions in overcrowded cities in regards to sanitation. Other efforts should be taken to decrease the need for antibiotic prescription. There is also a lack of regulation or surveillance involved in antibiotic use in both medical and agricultural fields. Treatment guidelines must be updated and education regarding the use of such treatments should be more widespread. The types of antibiotics issues is a concern that is equally as vital as the amount and usage of such antibiotics. Antibiotic-resistant bacteria must be addressed as an issue of the global community. It should not be combated as separate issues between developed and less developed nations. Mexico would like to work with both underdeveloped and developed nations to address the global concerns regarding antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Delegation from: The Netherlands
Represented: Elyria Catholic High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are Medical Tourism and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The Netherlands realizes that medical tourism has been around for a prolonged time now, and are now looking to promote and expand our use of medical tourism. The Netherlands is working to promote more healthy living. And in doing this the Netherlands is prepared to address and find solutions for the issues surrounding antibiotic resistance.

I. Medical Tourism

Medical Tourism has been prominent in European countries for a long time now. The Netherlands is prepared to start working with other countries to expand this industry. The healthcare system in the Netherlands is one of the strongest in Europe. The Netherlands believes in a world where countries can work together to treat people without heavy costs. The biggest issue the Netherlands faces is the high costs that can accompany medical tourism and the need for care of the elderly in the population. The Netherlands is willing and prepared to keep developing and improving upon medical tourism

The Dutch people do not typically go on medical tours. However, many people of Europe come to the Netherlands. We understand the importance of medical tourism, so to help satisfy this need we have the International Patient Center (IPC) program, which helps those who need medical care and cannot obtain it in their native country. It provides assistance with travel arrangements, residence, and access to Dutch healthcare providers.

The Netherlands would like to see that the committee rules in favor of medical tourism, so that not only the health and well being of people come first, but that the expansion of medical practices reaches everyone. With new practices reaching new areas the Netherlands believes it can help lower costs and increase wellness. It also makes the possibility to lessen antibiotic resistance. With the expansion of medical tourism and the help from other countries more and more medical practices can become a possibility rather than just a thought.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

Antibiotic resistance is a growing global issue that threatens to burden the entire field of medicine. Bacterial resistance to antibiotics occurs when said bacteria is treated with an antibiotic too often and it develops a resistance to the treatment. With an increase in healthcare costs and the increase in the abuse of antibiotics, more and more bacteria are becoming what is called a superbug, a bacteria that is resistant to most if not all antibiotics. The people of the Netherlands do not suffer significantly from the problem of antibiotic resistant bugs. People that are infected with resistant bacteria are isolated and cared for with extreme care. The staff take extreme hygienic precautions to avoid spread. It is the opinion of the Dutch government that

antibiotic resistance is a growing global problem that has the possibility to damage the global health system.

The Dutch people do not suffer strongly from antibiotic resistant bacteria. We recognize that this is a growing problem and requires attention and care to avoid this problem. The Netherlands requires all of its doctors to only prescribe prescriptions to patients only when necessary. This is to lessen the chance that a certain bacteria develops a resistant to a certain antibiotic. In order to prevent our food supply from developing these resistant bacteria, the Netherlands has lessened the amount of antibiotics veterinarians prescribe to livestock. Our strong policies on antibiotics has helped our neighboring countries to experience less of these super bugs.

The Netherlands would like to see that the committee decides that antibiotic resistant bugs are on the rise and threaten the health of the world population. To see the decline in this issue the Netherlands suggests the committee rules on developing stricter laws around antibiotics to stop the rapid growth of these issues. The strict laws will also lessen the costs on what countries are currently spending in order to combat the issue. The Netherlands believes that if the committee rules in favor of these stricter laws that other countries will soon not have as much of a problem with antibiotic resistance and that it will cut down on expenses.

Delegations from: Nigeria

Represented by: Elyria Catholic High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are Medical Tourism and Antibiotic Resistance as a threat to Global Health. Nigeria loses gross amounts of money to medical tourism in the past years. This lack of faith in the Nigerian health care system results in worrisome patients that then evacuate the country in search of more developed medical care. Nigeria, therefore, would like to use the money lost in medical tourism to larger countries and allow it to build up the current healthcare system. Nigeria hopes that in the future, the population will feel more comfortable in being treated domestically instead of internationally as many do now. Nigeria also hopes that the world will become more aware of antibiotic resistance and begin to only administer drugs up to standard and only when needed to optimize success.

I. Medical Tourism

Medical tourism in Nigeria is a more recent development. This tourism has been taken on by larger countries to help aid those in less developed areas including Nigeria. The term medical tourism is used to describe the action of leaving a homeplace seeking to find medical care that may not exist where one may live. This often means traveling to countries like the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada for the necessary care less developed countries may lack. For Nigeria, medical tourism does not mean wellness. Instead, the country spends up to one billion dollars in funding medical tourism. This money is spent and ends up in the hands of the larger, more developed countries instead of back in Nigeria. Medical tourism is spurred by the lack of trust for the healthcare system that is found in Nigeria. Because of this, the population would rather travel for treatment than depend on the domestic healthcare plan found where they live. As a result, Nigeria loses revenue and cannot build up the growing need for a stronger and more reliable healthcare system. With a stronger system, Nigeria may be able to keep many of the local medical cases while only sending those with severe medical infringements out to medical tourism. Simply stated, Nigeria does not have the funding it needs with the current amount of medical tourism to create a strong healthcare system that instills more confidence unless medical tourism is slowed.

Nigeria went through the measures of agreeing with a policy called PPP, the New Public-Private Partnership Policy, to find a way to resolve medical tourism and make it reasonable for other countries. The way the policy works is that they want to open up more opportunities to many different people so they can afford it. They did not just want to keep the amount of care between the private sectors, they wanted to spread it out to the public. The reason they wanted to spread it out to the public because they thought it would benefit more people. By going along with this policy they believed that it would have very easy access and affordable for the people who are ill but can not afford the medicine or are too far from the treatment. In conclusion, the way this policy would help the private and public are leaving the country would not be as big of a deal anymore. If they see the help that they need is right in front of their face, they will not have to search and find it. By the help being right in the country it slows down medical tourism causing people to stay in their country and not leaving.

Nigeria hopes that in this conference, it can be established that the majority of medical tourism is hurtful to the country and creates a "cash-cow" like industry. This hurt the smaller countries of the world while helping the stronger nations. It is clear that medical attention to civilians cannot and should not be denied. Nigeria is equipped to deal with the majority of issues and should be

able to. For this reason, it is imperative that the World Health Organization impose a ban on medical tourism as a means of protecting countries and saving them from an eventual economic wasteland. With this ban, Nigeria hopes to create a better healthcare system, educate more on medical needs, and create better treatment facilities for the public.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a threat to Global Health

In Nigeria, antibiotics have been used to successfully treat many cases of illness. The use of antibiotics has saved millions of people worldwide including those from Nigeria. Antibiotics becoming more resistant to illness presents many issues with the health and safety of the general public in Nigeria. Nigeria believes that the resistance shown by more and more antibiotics creates a Global problem and it jeopardizes the safety of humankind. The antibiotics that are commonly used to fight infection or illness weaken at alarming rates causing new views to be taken on what actually needs treated with an antibiotic. The term antibiotic resistance is used to describe how over-prescribed drugs used to treat common illness are becoming less effective as a result. Nigeria believes that in order to stop the resistance, antibiotics must stop being overprescribed and medicine should only be administered when needed instead of just in case.

Nigeria has created many different plans of attack to overcome this epidemic of antibiotic resistance. For national purposes, Nigeria has created a communication program to make the public aware of the current danger of antibiotic resistance. The National Behavior Change Communication Consultant Group (NBCCCG) has established this program in order to educate Nigerians about the medicine and antibiotics they take to have the best working success at recovering. Nigeria has also been a part in starting a "One Health" AMR Surveillance System. This system will detect the change in AMR so that Nigeria is better able to distribute medication that will properly treat illness without risking resistance. This new research endeavor lets Nigeria monitor the changes in antibiotics and creates a way to regulate medicine being distributed to the people that works to help heal the best.

Nigeria is hopeful that the future will bring an end to the resistance and over administration of antibiotics. Nigeria believes that the World Health Organization should take a larger role in making sure that the administration of antibiotics is within reasonable limits to avoid resistance to the drugs. It is pertinent that the use of antibiotics is preserves so that it may continue to save as many lives as possible. The committee must ensure that programs and means of tracking the global success rate of antibiotics are put into place. These programs will help spread awareness of antibiotic resistance and further knowledge of the threatening nature of over prescribed medicine.

Delegation from: Nigeria

Represented by: North Olmsted High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization (WHO)

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The delegation of Nigeria strongly supports efforts made to increase access to safe and equal healthcare to all.

I. Medical Tourism

Though it benefits the people, the country of Nigeria itself is at a great loss because of medical tourism. Nigeria loses an annual amount of \$1.35 billion in medical tourism itself. The definition isn't always clear, but medical tourism can be summed up as traveling abroad and seeking medical attention in countries other than your own. In Africa alone, 650,000 people travelled outbound from Africa for medical tourism. Even if their condition can be treated in their country, Nigerians and people from countries all around still prefer to travel abroad for their medical needs, India and The Middle East being their main destinations. Nigeria has revealed certain measures they plan on putting in place to decrease the amount of medical tourists among Nigerians.

The Minister of Health, Professor Isaac Adewole, has released plans made by the Federal Government, on reducing the spate of medical tourism among Nigerians. According to him, Nigeria will be updating eight of their hospitals with a variety of specialization. Adewole has said "We are already reversing medical tourism. We have been able to observe that more people are returning from India and the Middle East to continue their treatments at home because they are beginning to realise it is cheaper to have their medical procedures in Nigeria." Annually around 9,000 Nigerians leave the county looking for medical services and usually go back monthly for checkups and sometimes even corrective surgeries. He also says that cancer is one of the main reasons people use medical tourism, and the specialization at some of the eight newer hospitals will be a big help. Two of the hospitals are already up and on stream. Adewole also describes a larger decrease of medical tourism once all eight hospitals are up. Nigeria hopes that their future plans will be successful.

Nigeria's plans are already well on their way. Other countries across the globe who are faced with problems due to medical tourism should follow in the close steps of Nigeria and should focus on themselves and think about why their citizens are leaving to other countries for their medical needs. They should work on benefits for the people in the country itself. If countries would try to improve the quality and price of health care, more citizens will be seeking medical care within their borders and not in other countries.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

Antibiotic resistance is a widespread threat to global health. Doctors have been engaged in a continuous arms race with bacteria, developing new antibiotics to combat developing disease. However, an increasing amount of antibiotic resistant bacteria, attributed to antibiotic overuse, is currently creating a global health crisis and putting civilian lives at risk. The CDC estimated, as of 2015, that at least 30 percent of all antibiotic prescriptions issued to patients were unnecessary, and of the remaining 70 percent, efforts could still be made to improve the proper selection of drug, dosage, and length of treatment. As this is a harm to society as a whole, it is imperative that antibiotic resistance is addressed by the UN at this time.

This committee has taken previous action on the issue with less success than desired. In 2015, the WHO sponsored a “global action plan” including The Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (GLASS). GLASS serves to collect and analyze data concerning antibiotic resistance and also serves as a system for sharing discoveries and data internationally. While GLASS was a respectable first step to solve this global crisis, some less fortunate countries do not have the resources available to adequately implement it. In addition, the WHO sponsored The Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP), a joint program whose plan aims towards research and development for alternative treatment for antibiotic resistant infection. This includes research into options for pediatrics, neonatal sepsis, and sexually transmitted infections. The WHO also established the Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (IACG), made up of high level UN representatives and other experts. This group is meant to provide guidance on research and development, as well as advice on improving international coordination.

The delegation of Nigeria is familiar with the issue of antibiotic resistance and supports efforts made to effectively eradicate the problem. There are a range of options available to replace antibiotic use including immunotherapy or bacteriophage therapy. Increased research on these alternatives could lead to medical breakthroughs as well as decreasing the harm of antibiotic resistance. However, this research is time consuming and costly, so a temporary solution could include better education for doctors about appropriate antibiotic prescription and other related topics. Furthermore, the majority of annual antibiotic usage goes towards agriculture, so a better understanding of this issue and immediate steps to address it may be vital to addressing the problem of antibiotic resistance as a whole.

Delegation From: Republic of the Philippines

Represented by: Westlake High School

Committee: World Health Organization

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The topics faced by the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The Philippines would like to voice its concern and support for these issues and would like to establish strong diplomatic relations with fellow delegates in order to further address and find solutions to these pressing issues.

I. Medical Tourism

Medical tourism can be defined as traveling to another country outside of your country of residence for the purpose of receiving medically related care, it is also known as health tourism or global healthcare. Patients travel internationally for medical tourism because of the affordability, access to care, the high quality of healthcare, and better availability. Medical tourism can save patients up to 90% in cost savings. Medical tourism has undergone massive growth in the past decade, and up to 150,000 citizens from the US went abroad for medical treatment in 2006. These numbers grew and got to as high as 6 million in 2010. While many medical professionals viewed medical tourism from a horrifying light, countries such as Cuba saw it as an opportunity. Cuba began to encourage foreigners from other countries for medical care and surgeries such as eye surgeries, heart procedures, and cosmetic procedures. Many other countries took medical tourism up as an opportunity and began to promote their own medical talents, but in the eyes of the medical professionals, medical tourism was still a risk that people should not be taking. The Republic of the Philippines was recently ranked eighth in the top medical tourism destinations in the world, it was ranked ahead of Japan and France. Many of the clients that travel to the Philippines for medical tourism include many countries from East Asia including China, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. To this date, five Philippine medical institutions have been certified as having excellent medical care, certified by the Joint Commission International. The JCI is the only quality healthcare accreditation and certification body with membership in 100 countries or more worldwide. Through medical tourism, the Republic of the Philippines had been able to generate 66 million US dollars and up to 145 million by 2014. The Philippines is clearly one of the countries that have taken advantages of medical tourism and used it to become more wealthy. The Philippines has world-class facilities that consist of state-of-the-art hospitals and high-tech equipment as well as intensive care facilities. The Philippines has also begun a six-month medical as the agency will advertise the country as a travel destination as

well as a medical wellness area, and the agency is also working to promote Philippine's medical tourism. The agency has aimed to improve the quality in life and contribute a quantifiable and noticeable amount to the economy of the Philippines. The Delegation of the Republic of the Philippines would like the committee to address the topic in a way that medical tourism is continued and promoted as it has many positive effects on countries economies and health of patients worldwide.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

Antibiotic resistance is the ability of bacteria and other microorganisms to resist the effects of an antibiotic to which they were once sensitive to, it is a major concern of overuse of antibiotics and is also known as drug resistance. With the support of current scientific data and analyzations, a correlation between antibiotic use and the development of some resistance has been shown, and unnecessary antibiotic use has been a concern for contributing to antibiotic resistance. In 2015, it was estimated that 30% of all antibiotic prescriptions were unnecessary, and 50 percent of all prescriptions for respiratory conditions were found unnecessary and could rise to 70 percent as patients aged. Antibiotic resistance has not only adapted in humans but also animals, but there is currently little funding and interest in studying livestock's affiliation with antibiotics.

Antibiotic resistance has become a rising problem in the Philippines and these drug-resisting organisms have been on the rise. To help fight this increase in antibiotic resistance in the Philippines, CLMMRH started a programme so that antimicrobials would continue to be useful for human health. This programme was launched in 2015 and is used to put policies in place. The most obvious solution would be reducing the use of antibiotics, and that would significantly lower the development of antibiotic resistance. This would include not feeding or using antibiotics on animals, livestock, and other farm animals. This solution would be much harder to accomplish than the simple idea of reducing usage. The delegation of the Republic of the Philippines would like to propose the idea of considering new or alternative treatments instead of antibiotics. Experts could research and thoroughly explore these new ideas and options and could potentially reduce the need for antibiotics. Though the delegation of the Republic of the Philippines does recognize that investing in new technologies may not be able to yield results that would further help, and could take up to many decades for results to be provided. But with determination and hard work antibiotic alternatives could play a huge role in the future of the health of patients worldwide.

Delegation from: Russian Federation

Represented by: Westlake High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues brought before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism; and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The Russian Federation looks forward to working alongside other nations in order to create safe, effective, and efficient solutions that diminish and alleviate global threats to public health and make the highest possible level of health attainable to all people.

I. Medical Tourism

The Russian Federation has experienced a surge in medical tourism over the past years due to the accessibility and affordability of care due to the weakened status of the ruble. As Medical Tourism continues to grow a high percentage of medical tourists travel to Russia seeking In-vitro Fertilization(IVF), considering that it is about 2.5 times more affordable in Russia as opposed to the United States and European Union, along with that many tourists come seeking orthopedic or dental treatment.

The Russian Federation would look favorably upon improving the relationship between host countries and tourists, along with encouraging people to travel to wherever they feel they have access to the best treatment. Currently in Crimea, a thirty day visa free entry is offered to those seeking medical treatment. It is suggested that countries who seek to encourage safe Medical Tourism institute something similar. Medical Tourism allows nation states to showcase their health care systems while improving their economy. That being said the Russian Federation seeks to improve and encourage education of different healthcare options internationally.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

The Russian Federation is alarmed by the global resistance to antibiotics and seeks to expand education upon the prudent use of antibiotics. Resistance in the Russian Federation alone has led to the spread of multidrug resistant ESBL-producing organisms and MRSA. An identified cause of these resistant bacteria is the unregulated use of antibiotics in agriculture.

The Russian Federation believes that education against the excessive use of vaccines and encouraging using the appropriate amount of antibiotics. While acknowledging the expansion of new and alternate treatments, the Russian Federation feels strongly that this is an issue better resolved sooner rather than later. Alternative treatment and research can not ensure a clear deadline or result. Along with time consuming experiments smaller countries may have a difficulty accessing and implanting newly developed treatments. Contrary to this, education can be implemented globally whether through the World Health Organization or the sovereign nations themselves. As

for creating a regulated use of antibiotics, the Russian Federation suggests and wishes to see a group of selected medical professionals representing their countries data and dilemma to reach a consensus on a safe dosage of antibiotics.

*The Delegation From: Republic of South Africa
Representing: Strongsville High School*

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

As the delegation from The Republic of South Africa we look forward to discussing and coming to new and creative solution to some of the largest issues that plague the world stage. We hope to discuss any issues foreign nations find with medical tourism, as well as growing concerns over the issues that arise from new bacterial strains that are immune to traditional vaccines.

I. Medical Tourism

The traveling of people to get medical procedures done to help their well being. Traveling to get a medical tourism can occur because of a waiting list, expenses, or even having it illegal in their home country. Patients can even receive the same or greater forms of help after the operation is completed. Some countries may see this development as a danger and might lead to negative reasons to travel and the spread of diseases, but it can also help gain research and information for medical data.

People have been traveling to The Republic of South Africa to get medical procedures done that are cheaper or even illegal in their country of origin. People have even played the high expense just to skip the waiting list at a more convenient location. The Republic of South Africa have more people visit than any other African country. Most political leaders are worried about the misconduct and the travel for illegal procedures.

The Republic of South Africa see's no issue with people traveling to the country to have tested and safe medical procedures done. Even the President has done research on traveling to Los Angeles California and London to get procedures done for his health that are not offered in South Africa. As long as the procedures done are safe and are done by reliable doctors South Africa has no issue with it.

We hope to extend research and investigation of the medical operation being completed and have background information. We hope to increase the tourists to our country and to help expand our health care opportunities. The desire for stronger health care within The Republic of South Africa is a major concern and we hope to bring attention to the need for it. This is a great opportunity and we hope to bring awareness to the desire for it. Increasing our medical tourism will help increase how many people visit our country. This will help South Africa gain medical information we need and require to help further the development of our research.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

The Republic of South Africa offers free vaccines through community health centers and local clinics. This treatment given at an early age offers many benefits to both the receipt and the community around them, one of the often overlooked benefits of vaccines though is its use to slow the creation of new strains of antibiotic-resistant diseases, an issue that often arises from the overuse of antibiotics.

South Africa has begun to see a growing tide of illness that a normal response of antibiotics seems to have little to no positive effect. Sadly the medical community has failed to respond properly and has instead responded with larger doses of the mostly useless antibiotics. This leads to what has been called a rising epidemic of so-called super bacteria by many medical experts and government officials. As a nation and a global community, we need to face this issue head on to attempt to stop this problem from spreading and affecting the lives of any more communities.

The first step to solving any issue is to identify the source because any solution that treats the symptoms and not the disease will lead to ineffective government spending and little to no change in the true problem. So-called super bacteria form when antibiotics fail to eradicate all parts of sickness, instead of creating a strand that is no longer affected by antibiotics. While this is an issue that is hard to solve, the chances of such a situation occurring should be small. It becomes a much larger issue when too many antibiotics flood into the system, increasing the probability of a normal bacteria mutating into a super bacteria.

One of the best ways to solve this issue has two major components. First increase vaccinations, if the need for antibiotics never arise the number of super bacteria created will sharply decrease. If the majority of the population is vaccinated the chance of any one citizen getting a bacterial infection is lowered and the chance of them also created a super bacteria through the use of antibiotics is also lower. The 2nd part comes from lowering the number of antibiotics handed out, too often patients are given antibiotics when they are not needed, a situation that is sadly more likely to lead to the creation of a super bacteria. If doctors accept that antibiotics should only be used cautiously and when there is no other viable solution, the epidemic of antibiotic-resistant bacteria should decrease and lead to a healthy community, locally and internationally.

We look forward to hearing other delegations proposed solution to this dire situation as we try and move towards a healthy future. International corruption is one of the few ways in which we can stop the spread of new disease that threatened to ruin the world around us, we must be ever looking for new and more effective ways to treat all illness, or else we will again face the risk of grave epidemics like the one we are currently facing.

Delegation from: Spain

Represented by: Fairport Harding High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization Committee

The issues for the United Nations World Organization Committee are: Medical Tourism; and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. Spain has a vested interest in both of these important topics and would like to see the world community come together to make sure that all citizens can acquire quality health care. Spain believes that no citizen should want for affordable, quality health care.

I. Medical Tourism

Medical tourism is when people travel to another country, rather than their own, for medical treatment. It has been around since the third millennium B.C., however medical tourism has been increasing as an alternative for patients worldwide in the 21st century. Patients are using foreign health care facilities either because they can't get the treatment they need in their own country or because they can't afford the high-priced doctors in their country. Spain believes that this is a problem that must be rectified. Citizens should not be denied quality health care based on where they live, or how much wealth they have.

Medical tourism has many benefits for both individual patients and their families, as well as, the nation that is hosting the medical tourists. One benefit is the care is easy to access. Spain has a large number of medical care facilities and many doctors with specializations in numerous treatments and care. Also, patients have the choice of where to travel for medical treatment, which ultimately makes it more affordable. Another major benefit is to the host country itself. Individuals coming to a host nation are not only bringing their medical funds but their tourist funds as well. Most medical tourism comes to Europe, so European nations, including Spain, benefit the most.

Spain is a nation that benefits from medical tourism. Our country has the second most-satisfying health care. Spain's health care is ranked in the top 7 according to the World Health Organization (WHO). As a leading nation with health care, Spain would like to propose a plan to WHO that would benefit overall world health but also serve to benefit Spain's economy. Spain would like a program where nations lower the cost of living but keep living standards high and offer basic health care plus a private health sector for those who would like to upgrade. Health care prices will vary based on where someone lives. Spain would also like nations to have advanced courses for doctors. We know not all nations have the funds for advanced courses or for hospitals, which is why Spain wants a foundation to help aid countries who can't afford the funds.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

To start off, antibiotics are medicines used to treat or prevent infections caused by bacteria. They work by inhibiting the growth or destroying the bacteria. Sometimes this can lead to antibiotic resistance, which is when the bacteria develop a way to survive the antibiotics that were designed to kill or destroy them. These bacteria are then free to grow and spread throughout and make curing diseases a bigger obstacle. If the bacteria continue to survive in the body, the infection could potentially get worse and will increase recovery time, time spent in a hospital, and death rates. Antibiotic resistance occurs when there are changes or mutations to the DNA of the bacteria or the addition of antibiotic resistance genes from other bacterial species through horizontal gene transfer. The changes to the DNA enable the bacteria to survive the effects of antibiotics designed to kill them.

Antibiotic resistance has been an ongoing concern amongst many nations and modern medicine. It is said that Spain accounts for 10% of bacteria-related deaths across the European Union, where about 25,000 people pass away from antibiotic resistance. Overusing antibiotics in recent years has caused the increase of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) conducted meetings and visits to discuss antibiotic resistance issues in Spain. A council recommendation dated November 15, 2001, on the use of antibiotic agents in human medicine outlines the threat of antibiotic resistance poses to human health and advocates a range of actions to be taken for its prevention and control. Council conclusions on antibiotic resistance dated June 10, 2008, reiterate this call for action. A way the ECDC assisted member states in implementing the council recommendation is they developed a process for country visits, which are carried out at the invitation of national authorities. The visits they made were designed to figure out and discuss the situation on antibiotic resistance in the country regarding prevention and control through the prudent use of antibiotics and infection control. The visits also helped document how member states have approached implementation of council recommendation and deployed national resources in order to support the European Commission in evaluating implantation.

A report from ECDC that helped them to ensure the consistency of the visits and follow up on progress was the main output from the visits, and an assessment tool was then established. The assessment tool consisted of ten topics which are regarded as the core areas for prevention and control over Antibiotic Resistance. This was based on the council recommendation and council conclusions dated on June 10, 2008, and the assessment tool was used as a guide for the discussions at the visit.

After receiving an invitation from the Spanish Ministry of Health, and Social Services and Equality, an ECDC team created more visits and meetings to discuss the antibiotic resistance issues in Spain. Although recently, the Spanish National Research Council has made a breakthrough in the battle against antibiotic resistance. What they discovered and studied was the process of designing molecules that would block the cellular mechanisms that superbugs, which is a bacteria that is resistant to several antibiotics, use to become safe from antibiotics. The idea was to combine these molecules with methicillin to prevent the development of resistance. Although there are solutions being made, antibiotic resistance is still a huge issue and kills around 700,000 people each year and is predicted to overtake cancer by 2050.

Delegation from: Switzerland

Represented by: Westlake High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues brought before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism, as well as Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. As a developed country, Switzerland recognizes the dire need for the United Nations to come to a resolution on both of these issues for the good of both other developed countries and developing countries.

I. Medical Tourism

Medical tourists travel to alternative countries to receive medical care, while receiving equal care for a lower price because of affordability and convenience. Switzerland, carrying a vast majority of these tourists believes that it is beneficial for people who do not get access to affordable health care. Switzerland has one of the world's most advanced economies meaning public and private health care sectors are as advanced as well. Many countries such as Brazil, China, Russia, India, and the Middle East, ones that have a weaker economy and poor healthcare systems come to get treatments and are beneficial to the Swiss economy due to their high spendings. Medical tourism has increased by 5% in the last year opening up new sectors in the medical system such as dentistry and lasik eye surgery.

Despite of having one of the highest prices in the world, Switzerland's health care system is filled with a vast amount of advanced technology used to treat patients making it a reliable source and comfortable environment. Oppositions suggest that medical tourism does not grow public health stating that patients who travel do not contribute to taxes leaving it to citizens. Health and wellness tourism is one of Switzerland's most profitable and growing tourism it has ever experienced.

Doctors engaging in these programs are highly trained with years of experience providing a safe environment for patients. Switzerland has one of the biggest private hospitals globally, making it cheaper for some. Reports show that Switzerland's medical facility has the capability to treat 520,000 plus foreign patients including medical tourists from over 190 countries.

The Delegation of Switzerland strongly supports a resolution that will encourage medical tourism throughout the world. By utilizing highly trained professionals from developed countries to improve the medical care of citizens of developing countries, countless lives will be saved.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

Bacterial resistance to antibiotics has been a growing threat to global health in recent decades. The issue is most pronounced in the countries of India, Zambia, and Nigeria, according to medical research from 2017. While all three of these countries are considered developing nations, antibiotic resistance does not discriminate against developed countries; in first world

countries, the frequent usage of antibiotics for medical treatment and in livestock has led to bacteria mutating faster than scientists can keep up with. In the U.S. alone, over 2 million people are infected with antibiotic resistant bacteria, and at least 23,000 die. Usage in livestock and medical treatment are the two main causes of bacteria mutations that cause resistance to antibiotics. Innovative methods of killing bacteria are being developed by scientists, however they are still in early stages and nowhere near ready to be used on a scale as large as worldwide. The delegation of Switzerland recognizes that if high usage of antibiotics continues and new technology is not developed, the rates of death due to bacterial infections will only continue to grow.

The Delegation of Switzerland proposes a plan to slow bacterial mutation by lowering the amounts of antibiotics consumed by humans. At the base of the plan is lowering the use of antibiotics in livestock. In first world countries, people would be encouraged to consume less animal products overall. Antibiotics are used on animals to make them grow faster or help them survive unsanitary conditions in crowded farmhouses. In developed nations, a higher amount of citizens can afford-both financially and healthwise- to consume less meat. The other side of the livestock issue is citizens of underdeveloped and developing nations being unable to lower usage of antibiotics due to meat being a necessary part of their diet. Impoverished people in these countries physically cannot afford to cut down on the little amount of meat they consume, and using less antibiotics to keep their animals alive would mean their livestock dying in larger numbers and people starving. However, if NGOs were able to help set up community farms designated for production of livestock for consumption, developing communities could benefit from the specialization. The farms would provide jobs for citizens, help improve agricultural knowledge in the nations, and require less antibiotic use due to safety measures taken at the farms that provide animals with a clean environment.

The second half of the plan involves medical use of antibiotics in both developed and developing countries. This would involve NGOs reaching out to countries of the United Nations to inform their citizens of the dangers of inappropriate usage of antibiotics in hospitals. Inappropriate usage consists of administering antibiotics for anything other than bacterial infections. Antibiotics are ineffective against common illnesses such as influenza, the common cold, and fungal infections. In addition to preventing misuse, the United Nations should focus on researching innovating treatments and sharing results to be used throughout the world. NGOs should help fund research, which could be done in existing facilities to avoid costly new research locations. Representatives from each country should meet twice per year to discuss advances in technology and failures regarding experiments and antibiotics that are currently being used. By following this method of bacteria control, the delegation on Switzerland believes that the United Nations can lessen the effects of antibiotic resistance on a global scale.

Delegation from: Uganda
Represented by North Olmsted High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The topics of the issue for the United Nations World Health Organization: Medical tourism and Resistance to Antibiotics. The delegation of Uganda is dedicated to solving the global health issues and working towards a global action plan.

I. Medical Tourism

Medical tourism has been sought out by Uganda. Uganda has been searching for investors to invest into medical tourism which would benefit the native people and improve overall national health. Industrialized countries such as the United States and Great Britain have established medical institutions and Uganda has a need to establish medical institutions. In order to be an effective and healthy nation, Uganda advocates to address the issues of the health of the native people. Disease is rampant in Uganda and many other Eastern African countries and if it continues to run rampant people will continue to turn to illegal means to get cures which affects the medical industry then on pharmaceutical profits. Uganda's 2010-2014 National Development plan, has identified tourism as a priority sector to promote socio-economic development in the country, foster the creation of sustainable livelihoods, and generate greater dividends in foreign exchange earnings while contributing towards the protection of Uganda's valuable and diverse cultural and natural heritage.

Uganda, apart of the African Union, established to promote the unity and solidarity of African countries, defend the sovereignty of members, eradicate all forms of colonialism, promote international corporate with due regard for the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to coordinate Member States' economic, diplomatic, educational, health, welfare, scientific and defense policies. The Africa Union, through its NEPAD program has developed a Tourism Action Plan that was adopted in 2004. The Tourism Action Plan seeks to optimize the role of tourism as an engine and catalyst for regional integration, economic development and growth in Africa through the establishment of a conducive environment, regional cooperation, advocacy and stakeholder participation. The Action Plan identifies eight priority areas of intervention that can assist in filling this objectives, particularly through harmonisation of policies and standards at national, sub-regional and continental levels. Of the ongoing elaboration of the AU Agenda 2063, this would be the right time to put in place a continental policy and strategy that provides guidance to the short, medium and long term goals of the African Union Tourism sectors. The AUC would like to undertake this work by getting at the outset, appropriate high level guidance from key policy makers in the continent as well as their continued involvement throughout the process. For Uganda, the focus is on the elaboration of a Tourism Policy and Master Plan that provides a detailed overview of the tourism sector: defines the Government's development objectives in the area of the tourism; provides a vision for tourism in Uganda 2024; and guidance on how to achieve the vision and national development and diversification, infrastructure development, protection and preservation of natural and cultural heritage, tourism markets and financing of tourism actives.

The Master Plan project activities were launched in 2012 with complete review and evaluation of the status tourism is in the country. Based on this review, conclusions and recommendations were proposed for the further strengthening and diversification of Uganda's tourism sector through the formulation of a Tourism Policy followed by the Master Plan. The Tourism Policy, a visionary document which outlines the Government's goals for development through tourism while the Master Plan is the implementing arm through which the Government can achieve the visions and objectives set out in the Policy. Conclusions of both the Policy and Master Plan determine that tourism has indeed grown in Uganda with tremendous potential. But, there is a great need to diversify Uganda's tourism product which will also spread the socio-economic benefits of tourism to different parts of the country. By investing and going into the medical tourism it creates new opportunity for Uganda to industrialize and then aid nearby countries to industrialize and can contribute to the worldwide level.

II. Antibiotic Resistance

Since the discovery of the first antibiotics in 1928, millions of lives have been saved by the miracle drug antibiotics. Antibiotics are rather cheap and accessible by getting the correct prescriptions. In fact, they have become overused. Bacteria have been able to evolve to resist antibiotics, and antibiotics are unable to evolve to compete with these evolving bacteria. Little has been done in the country of Uganda and other southern African countries, and there is a lack of funding and political commitment which Uganda would like to establish in the UN. There is not just concern for bacteria becoming resistant. If the issues of antibiotic resistance is not solved, the treatment options will become limited and restrictive. Antibiotics like penicillin are useless now against streptococcus pneumoniae, which causes 34,000 deaths per year according to the Ministry of Health. Undeveloped countries like Uganda turns to industrialized countries to create a solution together to halt the issue of antibiotic resistance. Currently for Uganda, the issue of antibiotic resistant is becoming prevalent, many African countries suffer from immense numbers of infectious diseases while in other countries the issue has already bloomed. These solutions are within the original WHO Global Action Plan established by the UNAS created in 2000.

There are many underlying issues that have contributed to antibiotic resistance. One is the lack of understanding antibiotic resistance, many antibiotics are prescribed without provisions making sure if the prescription is correct or in unlicensed areas. Without education to the public and provisions to prevent pharmaceutical companies from over prescribing antibiotics, the path to antibiotic resistance will likely not change. There is little data collection in Uganda and many other countries regarding how often are prescribed and it is hard to determine the rates at which antibiotics are becoming resistant at. Creating a database for antibiotics prescribed along with public education base to educate the public, professionals, companies. Antibiotics are also not just being over prescribed within the human population but in livestock and agriculture as well. Agriculture that have antibiotics give us unnecessary antibiotics that bacteria can be exposed to and grow resistant too. Livestock face the same issues as peoples all around the world with antibiotics. Whether the use of antibiotics be to enlarge the size of meat, or 'stock watering' or use of antibiotics to dispel disease from the animals. Antibiotics pumped into livestock and the meat industry has no provisions to checking meat and the quality therefore the likelihood of getting ill from low grade meat will spread disease. If peoples (specifically from southern Africa) are getting ill from low grade meat, this creates a non terminating cycle of overuse of antibiotics in both livestock and in peoples. Establishing provisions to restrict use of antibiotics on animals will slow the antibiotic resistance that bacteria are gaining and perhaps in the future can even reverse it. So far, little has been done in Uganda. The constant use of antibiotics stem from unsanitary and unregulated hospitals that perform malpractices such as not changing needles. This is common in low income countries and it promotes the spread of disease. Establishing professional hospitals that perform sanitary practices can minimize the disease spread in hospitals. However, all of these provisions cannot be simply done without political and moral commitment of the peoples and governments. Pertaining political commitment from the UN and surrounding nations to create policies that advocate for these provisions to be instilled are essential.

Uganda believes it is imperative for countries of all incomes and cultures to address the issue of antibiotic resistance which all countries face. This issue does not only affect low income countries like Uganda who have shifty regulations, in fact, higher income countries have poor regulation of antibiotics as well, and their income helps feed antibiotic resistance. If the UN moves into gear a six part plan, establish education of antibiotic resistance, decrease amount of use of antibiotics on agriculture and livestock, creating a database to record use of antibiotics, placing provisions to stop overuse of antibiotics, establishing hospitals and perform more sanitary practices, and ensuring political commitment. Overall health of all peoples will increase which increases productivity. Uganda looks at the issue of antibiotic resistance as a chance to create a healthier world while giving chances for low income countries to industrialize and contribute to the world market.

Delegation from: The United Arab Emirates
Represented by: Solon High School

Position Paper for World Health Organization

The matters being voted on by the United Nations World Health Organization(WHO) are: Medical Tourism; and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The delegation from the United Arab Emirates(UAE) recognizes the benefits from the advancements and modernizations in the field of medicine but is also disturbed by it's negative effects. On that note, the United Arab Emirates looks forward to working with the other delegations in order to procure all-encompassing resolutions that are best suited to combat the problems while protecting the advancing field's achievements.

I. Medical Tourism

The United Arab Emirates strongly believes that medical tourism is truly inevitable and necessary on a global scale for not only health improvement, but also for economic reasons. While the UAE is considered a host country for medical tourism, the UAE is not the only participating country that benefits from the practice of medical tourism, the patients' home country also benefits as its citizens remain healthy with quality medical care. However, the relationship between host and home country can only remain desirable if exploitation and abuse are avoided. The major treatments sought in medical tourism are organ donation and commercial surrogacy. Both of these treatments are associated with human and organ trafficking, causing them to be very controversial.

Recently, the United Arab Emirates has gradually become a popular medical tourism destination, especially in the major cities of Abu Dhabi and Dubai. In 2016 alone the UAE attracted over 326,000 international patients and made over 1 billion AED in the process. Because of this, medical tourism is one of the the many major economic centers of the UAE. The United Arab Emirates is increasingly aware of the fact the medical resources are not fully available in all countries due to lack if funds and natural resources. This being said, the UAE has been attempting to make itself more and more focused on the quality of medical care for foreigners to use for treatment. In 2015, Mubadala Healthcare, in the UAE, partnered with the reputable American healthcare company, Cleveland Clinic, to establish a large hospital in the UAE. Additionally, the United Arab Emirates' Dubai Healthcare City occupies over 20 million square feet, attracting many more American corporations. Furthermore, the United Arab Emirates fully believes that medical tourism is certainly worthwhile and should preserved through tighter regulation.

The United Arab Emirates notices that the industry of medical tourism has issues with human and organ trafficking. However, standardization of organ transplant practices through well regulated laws as well as quality control checks done by trusted medical persons can immensely

lower the frequency of these occurrences. The laws of standardization of transplant practices can be achieved through public elections to adopt health code laws. Moreover, the quality control checks can be accomplished by certifying only certain hospitals in specific countries for medical tourism in order to eliminate questionable facilities from malpractice cases. Finally, the UAE is thoroughly determined to find an agreement to solve the global issue of medical tourism.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

The United Arab Emirates is alarmed by the increasing threat antibiotic resistance has become to modern medical treatments globally. Due to unnecessary overuse of antibiotics, the UAE is well aware that certain bacterial strains have developed resistance genes that protect the bacteria from antibiotics, causing antibiotics to be ineffective in helping to cure diseases in humans. Due to this, the issue of global health is becoming increasingly prominent and pressing. No matter how well developed a country's medical infrastructure is the issue of antibiotic resistance will have great impact worldwide. If bacteria continue to develop more and more resistance genes, the global population will be in serious trouble and the effects of the resistance could lead to an epidemic that could wipe out a significant percentage of the world population.

In order to combat the medical threat, the United Emirates has organized the International Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance where action plans are developed nationally and regionally in order to combat antimicrobial resistance. Also, the UAE Ministry of Health has enforced the requirement that pharmacies can only provide antibiotics to patients with a prescription in an attempt to lower antibiotic usage and therefore decrease resistance. Along with that, th UAE has its own Antimicrobial Surveillance Program with not only researching purposes, but the sharing of data with other countries. The UAE committed to the implementation of a National Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plan in the 2015 World Health Assembly.

The United Arab Emirates believes the best approach to combating the exponentially growing problem of antibiotic resistance would be to form a new, or extend, the original Global Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plan by funding research facilities with a focus on new, non-antibiotic medical treatments such as therapies. Along with this, the UAE would encourage member nations to more strictly regulate the distributing of antibiotics in their own nation with legislations modeled under the UAE Ministry of Health codes. The UAE also supports the existing Surveillance Program and would recommend the increased participation and efforts of all countries in order to devise an effective treatment.

Delegation from: United Kingdom
Represented by: Vermilion High School

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The United Kingdom vehemently supports effective action and is exceptionally willing to work with all nations affected by the issues presented.

I. Medical Tourism

It is in the best interest of the United Kingdom along with the rest of the world to embrace medical tourism and to make sure it is done right. The United Kingdom has many foreign health care patients that have been treated to the same standards as the rest of the population. The only recorded problems have been with patients seeking the universal healthcare the Britain provides while not paying the same taxes as citizens. This however has already been addressed and similar practices can be done by other nations should they experience this same problem. The United Kingdom is and has been a strong member of the World Health Organization and would like to continue to promote the goals that are shared in this committee.

The United Kingdom has played an active role in the World Health Organization and the goals of the committee and the country are aligned. We would like to bring healthcare to as many people as possible. A large part of the global healthcare is medical tourism and the possibilities it brings. By embracing medical tourism we as a world can improve healthcare for everyone and make it more available for everyone. The United Kingdom has and will continue to support medical tourism.

The United Kingdom strongly urges it's fellow nations to give their full support to medical tourism. While problems will doubtlessly come they will be more easily fixed by the support of the entire committee. The United Kingdom urges nations to put forth resources and funding into this practice and allow patients into their nations for medical purposes. These efforts are necessary to increasing world health which helps not only the individual nation but the world as a whole.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

In past decades, the rise of antibiotics and antibiotic treatment has soared. This evolution of modern medicine has proved vital to saving countless lives. However, what antibiotics had sought to treat had become resistant. In the United Kingdom, the deaths stemming from this resistance has reached the thousands per year. Antimicrobial resistance, which is an organism's

capacity to fight off the effects of antibiotics, is not a problem relegated to just the United Kingdom. The scope of this issue has the potential to be a pandemic due to antibiotic practices.

The United Kingdom has taken initiative in fighting this threat. In the United Kingdom's 5 Year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy, implemented in 2013, focused on critical areas concerning domestic and global health: increasing the awareness of antimicrobial resistance, reducing the ineffectiveness of current antibiotic treatments, and finding new solutions to the emerging problem. In 2017, the United Kingdom's Department of Health launched a public awareness campaign, "*Keep Antibiotics Working*". Domestically, the United Kingdom has also instituted reductions in commercial antibiotics usage; this is seen in the reduced number of antibiotics used in fisheries and cattle farms. This is in thanks to the watch of the Veterinary Antimicrobial Resistance and Sales Surveillance. The United Kingdom has also found interest in treatments involving bacteriophages in the search for new options.

Additionally, the United Kingdom has invested 369 million pound to help fight against the emerging menace; some of the funding has gone into international research and other countries and organizations. The United Kingdom has recognized that this threat cannot be solved by one nation alone. This is why the United Kingdom has partnered with nations like China and India in research of the issue. The United Kingdom will continue support in doing what is necessary with other countries to make sure the threat of antibiotic resistance is contained and solved.

*Delegation from: The United States of America
Represented by: Strongsville High School*

Position Paper for the World Health Organization

The issues before the World Health Organization are: Medical Tourism and Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health. The United States of America is deeply involved in these issues and seeks to implement global policy in favor of the continuation of safe medical tourism and antibiotic development.

I. Medical Tourism

The practice of Medical Tourism is described as the act of traveling to other countries for the main purpose of receiving medical, dental, and surgical care. This has been a practice since as early as 3000 B.C., ancient Greeks and Egyptians would similarly travel to hot springs and bathe for therapeutic relief, now, Medical Tourism is viewed as a global giant that performs procedures far beyond therapeutic relief. Bringing in an estimated \$439 billion and 14-16 million patients, with services ranging from a simple MRI to invasive elective and non elective surgeries like implants and angioplasties, Medical Tourism has developed into a widespread industry that the general population widely engages in. As the practice of utilizing other countries medical expertise to circumvent one's own medical or financial limitations increases, the rate of globalization between developed and underdeveloped nations entwines further, subsequently connecting individual nations policies, politics, and economy.

Medical Tourism creates competition between medical firms within the global market and perpetuates innovation. The presence of this tourism between nations allows talented doctors to showcase their expertise and bring revenue into their country. Fueling a fierce competition through the best experience, results, and price for tourists. Encouraging this free market mentality among nations who are emerging democracies is important to the United States. A strong economy accompanied by free market tendencies will drive nations to more pro-business and pro-individual policies in order to strengthen their presence in the global market. While, competition is a cornerstone of democracy, setting health standards for individuals who receive this care is fundamental to create a sustainable industry.

The United States of America seeks to implement global healthcare standards that nations can adopt upon their own volition, to magnify said competition while still providing a safe experience for medical tourists. Adopting a program in which large and competitive foreign medical firms can register and communicate with WHO (while utilizing information already gathered from the MTI or Medical Tourism index), will diminish the rate of malpractice upon unknowing tourists and begin to collect specific data about medical programs per country, allowing for WHO to recognize underperforming or negligent institutions without taking legal action. The United States firmly believes that instituting health standards will allow this industry to continue to grow and begin to be integrated into insurance policies and more countries healthcare services. Subsequently improving the medical tourists experience, the nations revenue, and global health overall.

II. Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat to Global Health

Antibiotic resistance, when described as the ability of bacteria and other microorganisms to resist the effects of an antibiotic to which they were once sensitive, presents substantial threats to global health

through the major services provided by modern medicine. Due to the globalization of medicine in recent years, the emergence of a resistant strain of bacteria, can be found on all continents in as little as two decades. Many complex treatments only have a manageable risk today thanks to antibiotics minimizing the risk of infection postoperatively. There are more and more diseases resistant to multiple antibiotics, and in rare cases, all antibiotics. There are an estimated 2 million people in The United States of America alone that become infected by drug resistant bacteria, tens of thousands of which die every year.

Antibiotic resistance, while occurring naturally, is exacerbated by the overprescription of drugs in humans and animals since they were first marketed in the 1940's. The prescription of antibiotics in non life threatening cases results in, at best, a reduction of pain and suffering and, at worst, a failure of treatment and the isolation of a strain resistant to the prescribed drug. The case is even more dire in agriculture, where the prescription of antibiotics allows for living conditions that would normally wipe out a farmers flock due to rampant spread of disease. The increased prevalence of resistant bacteria decrease the effectiveness of medical centers as well. When a typical first stage treatment fails, more costly and complicated treatments must be explored; resulting in longer stays, increased discomfort, higher mortality rates, and ultimately higher prices. If continued unchecked, the post antibiotic era is fast approaching, where many diseases, such as the flu and Tuberculosis, will begin to be major killers again. Relatively routine surgeries, such as the tonsillectomy and appendicectomy will present too extreme a risk of postoperative infection for a surgeon to willingly perform the operation

The United states of America seeks to lesson global exposure to antibiotic resistance in order to ensure domestic tranquility and strong international health. The transitioning to a programme in which individuals are sufficiently educated on the effects of the unnecessary use of antibiotics, a unified standard on the conditions on when to prescribed antibiotics, and heavy investment in research and development within the antibiotic field is strongly recommended to insure world health. The United States wishes to establish a cohesive health index, in which the prescription and allocation of antibiotics to underdeveloped countries can be managed and utilized effectively. Within this programme, volunteer doctors can receive up-to-date research and guidelines in regards to the threat of antibiotic resistant and their prescriptions.