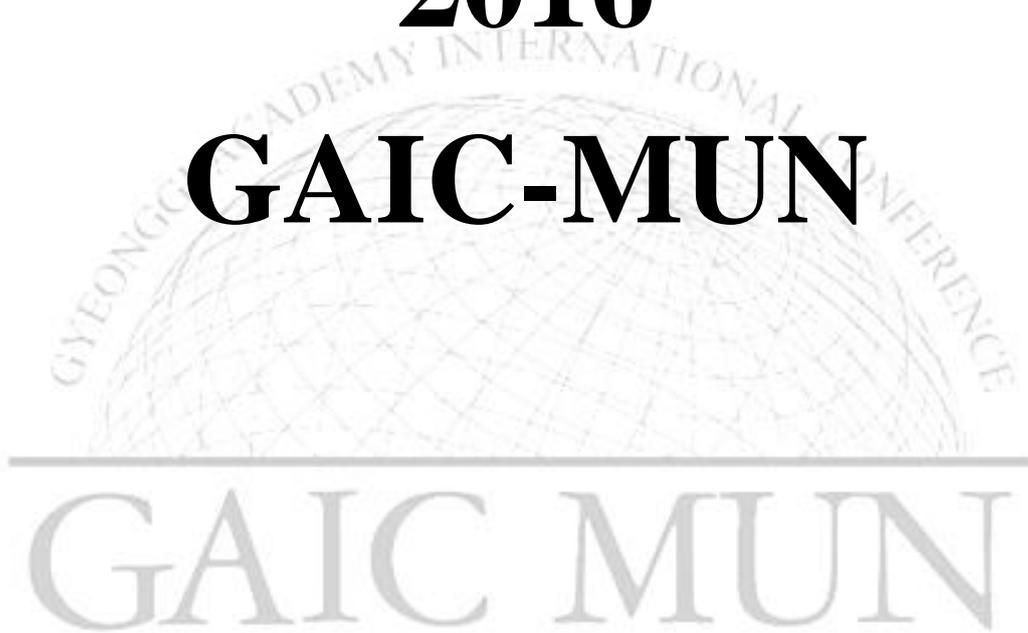


2016
GAIC-MUN



**Economic and
Social Council
Chair report**

Committee: Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Agenda 1: Ways to provide financial aid for refugees

Agenda 2: Ensuring productive and full employment of youth

Student Officers: Ji Hyun Lee, Do Yun Kim

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Agenda 1: Ways to provide financial aid for refugees

I . Committee Introduction



The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, responsible for coordinating the economic, social and related work of 14 UN specialized agencies, their functional commissions and five regional commissions. The ECOSOC has 54 members. It holds one four-week session each year in July, and since 1998, it has also held a meeting of April with finance ministers heading key committees of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The ECOSOC serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to member states and the United Nations system. A number of non-governmental organizations have been granted consultative status to the Council to participate in the work of the United Nations.

II . Agenda introduction



Figure 1. Refugee population by country or territory of origin

Since 2011, the number of refugees skyrocketed due to the civil war in Syria and the emergence of ISIS, a militaristic jihadist group in Syria and Iraq. After couple of incidents in Syria, the number of Syrian refugees reached 4 million.

However, as middle-east countries around Syria such as Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE do not accommodate Syrian refugees, many of them moved to Europe. Once Germany stated that they will actively accommodate refugees, but after some terror attacks, they changed their mind. Many other European nations are also reluctant to accommodating refugees.

In this situation, refugees are living in very harsh environment. Since the number of refugees is so big, European nations cannot provide housing to all of them, so they build refugee camp. However, many refugee camps have sanitation problems and there are not many refugee camps that reach the international standard. For example, in France, only one refugee camp meets the standard. Many of refugee camps do not have water supply or electricity.

But only a few nations such as Germany are spending a great deal of tax to provide financial aid and any other support to refugees. While Germany accommodated more than a million refugees and is going to spend more than 10 million euro, the USA, the richest nation only accommodated 1500 refugees and Canada only accommodated about a thousand refugees. It also means these nations did not spend a lot of money or tax to solve refugee problem.

Refugee problem is not the problem of Middle East Asia and also not the problem of Europe. It is the problem that international society has to burden together. Through the discussion, international society should reach an agreement about how to efficiently provide financial aid and what kind of financial aid it should be.

i) Definition of Key Terms

● Refugee

Refugee is a person who is outside their country of citizenship because they have well-founded grounds for fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, and is unable to obtain sanctuary from their home country or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country.

● Financial aid

Financial aid stated on the agenda means helping refugees by giving money to them or giving any other financial support. Example of financial aid can be one-time household start-up allowance or monthly income support payment, which is already implemented in Canada.

ii) Urgency and Importance of Agenda

● The number of refugees

According to refugee report reported by UNHCR, at the end of 2015 the number of refugees around the world including refugees outside their own country, displaced people, and asylum applicants was 65.3 million, and the number is similar to the population of France, and is bigger than the population of Korea. The number is 5.8million bigger than the previous year and it means 1/113 of world population is refugee. The number is biggest ever, and the number is anticipated to increase. As the number of refugees is rapidly growing, the burden is also rapidly growing. To provide financial aid to as many people as possible, global society should cooperate together and have to find out the most efficient way.

● Severity of refugee problem

As stated in the introduction, most refugees' living condition is very harsh. There are many problems in food supply, water supply, and sanitation. First of all, many refugees suffer from malnutrition. According to report of the year of 2006, the daily amount of distributed food in Tanzanian refugee camp was only about 1460 kilocalories while the recommended amount was 2100. Also, many refugees sell their food to others to get non-food goods, and even if they get enough calories, food is not diverse, so they cannot intake some essential nutrients. Furthermore, it is reported that more than half of the refugee camps in the world are unable to provide the recommended daily water minimum of 20 liters of water per person per day, and 30% of refugee camps do not have adequate waste disposal services or latrines, and this means many refugees are suffering from water and sanitation problem.

● **Advantage of supporting and accommodating refugees**

It is the long-run reason why all the countries have to actively participate in supporting and accommodating refugees. Many people misunderstand that accommodating refugee only has problem and disadvantage such as a great deal of tax to support them, Islamization, criminal and unemployment problem. But there are some expected advantages of accommodating refugees. First, this can solve ongoing aging population problem and low birth rate problem in many developed nation. Also, most Syrian people were well educated before Syrian civil war, so after they are well-settled, they will provide labor force, pay tax, or possibly start new business and create job places, and this will be great help to developed nation. To make them well settle, it is important to provide them proper financial aid.

III. Status Quo

Total funding for UN Syria appeals

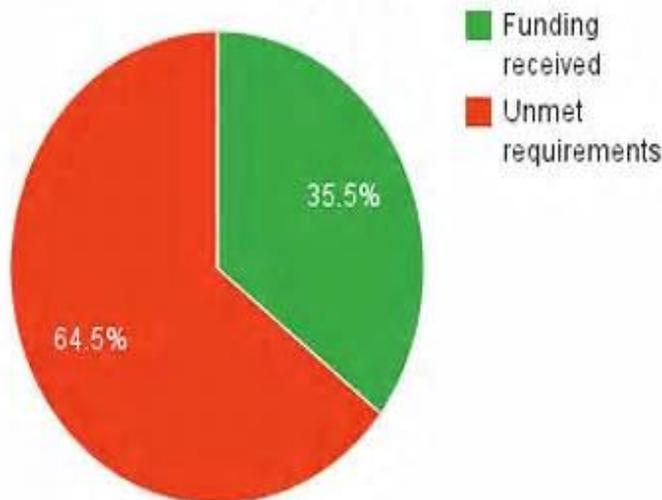


Figure 2. Total funding for UN Syria appeals

As conditions never seem to get better for Syrian refugees in the Middle East,

the appeal for humanitarian funding seems to be urgent. The appeals from the 2015 UN-coordinated inter-agency were only 56% accomplished, which indicates that international support is not going well as it was planned. Despite efforts from organizations such as UNHCR, WPF and UNICEF, the refugee crisis has never left the list of problems to solve.

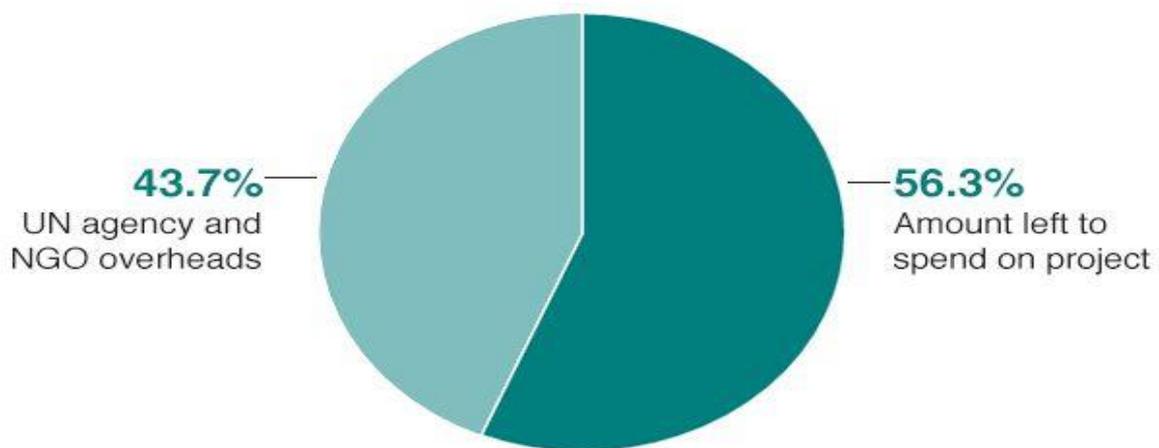


Figure 3. Ratio of what has been accomplished and what has not been

Indeed, there has been decisions for financial aid from numerous countries. In February 2016, the leaders of Germany, Kuwait, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United Nations decided to donate 10,000 million dollars for the refugee crisis. Other countries including USA, Canada and Russia are also implementing their own ways to provide support for Syrian refugees. U.S. organizations responsible for aid have spent \$114 million dollars on aid in Syria for humanitarian funding, and international agencies, governments, relief groups spent \$1.2 billion dollars. Canada is using its own refugee assistance program to help them resettle, and Russia has recently changed its stance from ignoring the situation to taking part in supporting Syrian refugees.

However, despite these funds the refugees are still in vain, and from here we can sense the fact that simple aid is not enough.

A professional, systematic approach that nurtures self-reliance and livelihoods seems to be necessary. Countries are encouraged to focus on helping refugees earn a living for themselves, and for host communities to flourish while doing so.

IV. History

The Syria refugee crisis first started with the conflict between the Syrian government and anti-government forces. Due to various social problems such as unemployment, the rapidly increasing gap between the rich and the poor, and the long-lasting dictatorship of the government, Syrians began to rise up demanding democracy and freedom. This revolt led to the uprising of minorities who had suppressed their anger and complaints. This ember transferred into a huge flame when the government of Syria started to put crackdown into action, with the conflicts between two different categories of Islam sweeping the whole nation.

Millions of Syrians have been displaced ever since, and those people who suddenly lost their habitat began to look elsewhere to settle. The countries these people migrated were surrounding nations such as Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt. At first these countries were partly reluctant and partly welcoming toward the Syrians. However as time passed, they were no longer capable of accommodating the huge number of people that was swiftly increasing. That is when these refugees had no other choice but to migrate to

European countries including Germany, Australia, UK, France, Italy, Greece, and Sweden. However, not all of these countries were willing to accept the migrants, and this situation has continued until today.

Financial aid for solving the Syrian refugee crisis has been requested since it became a global issue, and since then a lot of organizations and countries have cooperated to lend a hand to the struggling countries. The top 10 country donors were US, UK, Kuwait, Canada, Australia, Russia, Japan, Norway, Italy, and Finland, according to OCHA(United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs). Especially the U.S. has spent more than \$4 billion for food security and health of the migrants since 2012. Kuwait was the runner-up in the regional response, surpassed only by the U.S. The European commission, Japan, and the U.K. were the follow-ups.

V. Stance of involved nations

● Russia

Russia is one of the Syria government's crucial international supporters and has been highly blamed for constantly supplying weapons to the Syrian military. Its President Vladimir Putin announced a few months ago that he has no thoughts about joining any scheme to support refugees and attributed the refugee migration crisis to other European countries. However, the Russian government recently proclaimed to participate in solving the crisis.

● United States of America

The United States of America backs up the anti-government force, the National Coalition. The President has promised to accommodate at least 10,000 refugees,

and is being highly criticized by other countries for postponing his plans. Regarding financial aid, the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services has been utilizing the 'Refugee Cash Assistance' through its Economic Services Administration, which helps refugees by providing cash and medical assistance during their first eight months in USA.

- **Canada**

The government of Canada is making its effort to accommodate 25,000 Syrian refugees to its nation. It has implemented a Resettlement Assistance Program for refugees who are willing to settle both in and out of Canada, and is also executing Immigration Loans Program which covers expenses of medical checkups abroad and transportation to Canada.

- **Turkey**

Turkey stands by the Syrian opposition and is the country that accommodated the largest amount of refugees in the Middle East. Turkey has been putting a lot of effort to be a member of the European Union, and is being criticized by the public for planning to accept more refugees in trade of joining the EU. Turkey is provided with financial aids from the EU, and has been promised an additional 3 million euros until the end of 2018.

- **United Kingdom**

The United Kingdom's Department for International Development is spending over 1 billion pounds on aid for Syria.

- **Syrian American Medical Society**

Syrian American Medical Society provides medical treatment in southern Syria as well as for refugees in Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan.

- **International Rescue Committee(IRC)**

The International Rescue Committee helps people whose lives and livelihoods are shattered by conflict and disaster to survive, recover and regain control of their future. It provides lifesaving support to more than 1 million people across Syria by providing long-term services to displaced Syrian refugees.

VI. Future Outlook

The financial burden that some nations which actively accommodate refugees have to bear seems to increase. It is estimated that Germany has to spend up to 21 billion euro, which is 0.7% of GDP of Germany, to support refugees. Greece also got much economic damage due to refugees. The result is, nations that once actively supported refugees no more want to accommodate refugees. Also, due to several terror attacks in Europe and Turkey, people's view point toward refugees and Islamic is getting worse. As a result providing financial aid to refugees is becoming more and more difficult.

VII. Possible Solutions

- **Refugee quota system**

One of the most efficient ways of solving refugee problem is refugee quota system. The reason why proper financial aid for refugee is currently impossible is that there are too many refugees in some nations. But all countries in global society are responsible for refugee problem, and therefore they all have to take

charge of some refugees. Refugee quota system is to set the number of refugees that certain nations have to accommodate. The number is determined according to the wealth of each nation. Refugee quota system is already discussed within European Union. It can be much more effective if countries outside European Union also participate in refugee quota system. If the system is expanded to the whole global society, refugee problem, especially problem of providing financial aid to refugees will be solved effectively.

- **Provide job opportunity to refugees**

Most Syrian refugees are educated people, and therefore they can be good human resources. Rather than permanently providing them financial aids, it is important to make them resettle in one country and have a job there. If they get a job after they successfully resettle, they can earn money, no more need financial aid, and they even can pay tax and can economically help the government. Showing that refugees successfully got a job in resettled area and become a member of new society will also change the negative view point toward refugees.

Many people are worrying about the unemployment problem that can be occurred due to refugees, but the number of refugees going to each nation is not that big, so there will be no big change in unemployment rate, and it rather will solve a lot of problems related to refugees. Therefore, providing job opportunity to refugees can be good solution and to successfully provide job opportunity to refugees, proper education and economic incentive should be provided.

VIII. Conclusion

Currently, refugee problem is one of the biggest problems in global society. Many people feel sad about this tragedy, but in fact, there are not many nations eager to accommodate and support refugees. They do not spend a lot of money on providing financial aid for refugees or supporting refugees. They rather spend money on protecting their border. So many refugees are living in harsh environment and cannot resettle. Some refugees even cannot get basic food supply and water supply.

Some nations, such as Germany are actively participating in supporting refugees, but they are spending so much money and their citizens are turning to go against supporting refugees. European Union keep spending money on supporting refugees and finding ways to alleviate the problem, but the problem does not seem to improve. Since the number of refugees is so big, the problem cannot be solved by only some nations' support. Global society should cooperate to cope with the problem. Financial aid is the core of support, and proper financial aid can make refugees successfully resettle in one area and live as a member of one society. ECOSOC should look for long run solution to the refugee problem and find the way to efficiently provide financial aids to refugees.

IX. Questions to consider

- To what extent does global society have to provide financial aid to refugees?
- To what extent can ECOSOC force other nations to take action?
- How can the global society reduce the number of refugee?

- Which is more important between peace of international society and their countries' own benefit?
- How can UN improve the environment of refugee?
- What is efficient way to allocate refugees to each nation?
- What has to be done to countries that are not active toward solving current problem?
- What is efficient way to provide financial aid to refugees?
- How can other nations get economic benefit by accommodating refugee?

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Agenda 2: Ensuring productive and full employment of Youth

I . Committee Introduction



The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, responsible for coordinating the economic, social and related work of 14 UN specialized agencies, their functional commissions and five regional commissions.

The ECOSOC has 54 members. It holds one four-week session each year in July, and since 1998, it has also held a meeting of April with finance ministers heading key committees of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The ECOSOC serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to member states and the United Nations system. A number of non-governmental organizations have been granted consultative status to the Council to participate in the work of the United Nations.

II. Agenda introduction

Ban Ki-moon, UN secretary-general, expressed youth unemployment problem as “a great test of our time.” As he said, many countries are having trouble with youth unemployment and this problem within nation often influences other countries nearby.

Youth unemployment problem is caused by multiple factors. First, it can be

caused by unstable economy. As a country or the whole world economy is in recession, firms have to minimize their cost, and therefore they reduce job places. They fire more, and hire less. But economic recession is not the only reason why youth unemployment problem occurs. Another main reason is the disparity between education and real job. Germany, which has a relatively low level of youth unemployment, places a lot of emphasis on high-quality vocational courses. However, it is not tried in every country. Therefore countries which lack proper vocational course have no choice but to have a high level of unemployment rate. Above this, youth unemployment problem is also caused by social atmosphere, cultural factor, and weak infrastructure and so on, so the problem is very complicated.

Youth unemployment problem can cause a lot of problems. Youth population the pillar of our society, and the fact that they are unemployed and they cannot earn money is very detrimental to society. Youth unemployment can worsen the economy, lower birth rate, increase public expenses, cause economic inequality problem and cause many other problems. Unemployment problem of rich nations such as the United States of America or China even can affect other nations which depend a lot on those countries. (Those problems will be elaborated in Status Quo.)

Unemployment problem is so complicated, so it is not easy to solve. But the problem should be eliminated as it brings a lot of negative consequences. As economy is globalized, economic problem of one country is not the problem only for them. Moreover, unemployment problem is a trouble of almost every nation. Now the Global society has to cooperate together to solve the problem.

i) Definition of Key Terms

● Youth unemployment

Youth unemployment is the unemployment of young people, defined by the United Nations as 14-28 years old. An unemployed person is defined as someone who does not have a job but is actively seeking work. In order to qualify as unemployed for official and statistical measurement, the individual must be without employment, willing and able to work, of the officially designated 'working age' and actively searching for a position. Youth unemployment rates are historically four to five times more than the adult rates in every country in the world.

● Full employment

Full employment, in macroeconomics, is the level of employment rates where there is no cyclical or deficient-demand unemployment. It is defined by the majority of mainstream economists as being an acceptable level of unemployment somewhere above 0%. The discrepancy from 0% arises due to non-cyclical types of unemployment, such as frictional unemployment (there will always be people who have quit or have lost a seasonal job and are in the process of getting a new job) and structural unemployment (mismatch between worker skills and job requirements).

ii) Urgency and Importance of Agenda

● The number of unemployed people

The number of the total unemployed people in the year of 2015 was about 197 million, and according to the report of International Labor Organization (ILO),

it is estimated that the number will reach 200 million in 2017. The report also shows that many of the employed people still do not have stable and productive job as it shows that 300 million employed people are suffering from extreme poverty. Another statistics of ILO shows that there are 75 million unemployed youth whose age is between 15 and 24. However, the number is underestimated because unemployment only involves people who actively looking for job. Therefore, the number of people who do not have job is much bigger than reported. It is estimated that there are 26 million youths not in education, employment or training (NEETs) among the 34 members of the OECD, and also there are about 262 million NEETs in developing nations, so in real, there are about 290 million youths who are not participating in the labor market.

● **World's economic situation**

Since the global economic situation is very bad, ECOSOC should cooperate together to alleviate the problem of youth unemployment. Doing so, economic situation getting worse can be prevented and decrease in youth unemployment rate even can improve current economic situation.

Here are economic situations of some major countries. USA, whose economic situation is better than some of other nations, still could not raise its interest rate in June because of its bad job market signals. Even though the situation is better than expected, Britain is also experiencing depression after Brexit. Middle East nations once suffered a lot from low oil price. China lowered its target economic growth due to recession, and suffered from low exports. Abe declared to spend more than 300 trillion won to boost its economy.

III. Status Quo

In May 2016, an average percentage of unemployment among European Union countries were reported to be 12, 5%, which was the highest in 6 years. The country with the highest percentage was Greece with 24.1%, followed by Spain with 19.8% and Croatia with 13.3%. Due to high unemployment rates, the number of youth who are depressed with their own lives is in a rapid increase.

Currently a lot of companies have changed the system of their business, and this might be one of the causes of recent unemployment. While there were roughly 40 employees necessary for one project in the past, only about 2 employees are required for business these days. Moreover, advancements in computers and automation also contributed to unemployment. While robots with various abilities are invested into the business world, conglomerates are losing competence. It would be helpful for companies to utilize robots instead of hiring humans for making same accomplishments. Thus in the companies' stance, undeniably it is surely beneficial for them to reduce the number of employees they hired as less as possible, as it is best for them to decrease the salary. However, the interests they save through these transitions in the business system would be much less than what the country could lose through unemployment.

IV. History

When there is a lot of economic development going on, there are also a lot of occupations. However, when a certain country gets settled, employment diminishes. This is because industries that need huge personnel such as fiber or wig move over to countries where workforce is guaranteed. This partly is what happened to most countries struggling with unemployment. Economic recession,

such as the Great Depression in the case of the U.S, and the IMF crisis in the case of South Korea was also a factor to unemployment.

Another cause for some countries is the industrial transition from protective trade and self-sufficiency to international trade. In the past, countries over the world mostly had an economic structure that put a strong emphasis on protective trade. At that time, if domestic products were less competent compared to products overseas, countries were able to impose high taxes on imports or put a limit to the amount of foreign products. By doing such, they could protect their employment, however unfavorable that field of industry was. Also, the ratio of trade industries was not that large compared to other business in the nation, so they did not receive much impact. However, after the 1980s and in the 1990s, due to rapid internationalization, countries had no choice but to join global trade. Thus small and medium sized enterprises could not avoid hardships.

The inverse proportion of resources and competence of applicants also has been a considerable factor. People are putting more effort to stand up in the huge crowd of people whereas resources are declining every second. Competition between employees is an inevitable part in this business-based world, but it is quite excessive for the youth.

V. Stance of related countries

● Syria

Unemployment rates in Syria witnessed an increase due to current crisis in the nation. In the past it was 10% in 2010, rose to 48.8% in 2012, currently it is

about 14.90%. Its youth unemployment rate is 30.10%. Number of people without jobs is known to be approximately 3,032 million.

- **Jordan**

The number of people unemployed has been rising rapidly in Jordan since 2010 and hit the apex in 2015. The rate is assumed to increase steadily as long as the nation continues to keep its economic stance. The importance of market administration is regarded high in Jordan to bring its situation under control. Its current youth unemployment rate is 28.80%.

- **Republic of Korea**

The nation's youth unemployment is currently 12.9%, which is the highest since the IMF (International Monetary Fund) crisis. In a poll conducted in South Korea, a considerable number of youth answered that they were in a situation of giving their lives up, with the reason being unemployment. Korea has been working on a countermeasure against unemployment such as promoting new growth power.

- **United States of America**

Youth unemployment rate in the United States increased from 10.40% in May to 10.70% in June this year, 2016. It is growing on a regular basis. A majority of American citizens are struggling to find full-time jobs that could allow them to be well-paid. Most gains in the U.S. economy are seized by the always-rich.

- **China**

China's youth unemployment rate has a lot of different statistics, which means it

is rather indirect compared to other nations. Thus the exact rate is controversial. However, the underlying issue regarding unemployment is not. According to the China Household Finance Survey, people in the age between 16 and 24 are known to be struggling particularly hard. China is working on export-driven manufacturing, construction, and large energy business to encourage these industries to produce occupations for youth.

- **France**

The current youth unemployment in France has a record of 23.30%. Experts point out the lack of abilities related to certain workplace is one of the main reasons of youth unemployment in France. In a poll, roughly 35% of French employers contended that they cannot find young ones who possess the accurate skills for a certain job. Thus the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research created an advisory group in order to educate the youth, helping them adapt to the business world.

- **International Labor Organization (ILO)**

The International Labor Organization (ILO) is a United Nations agency dealing with labor issues, particularly international labor standards, social protection, and work opportunities for all. The ILO has 187 member states: 186 of the 193 UN member states plus the Cook Islands are members of the ILO. The ILO registers complaints against entities that are violating international rules; however, it does not impose sanctions on governments.

International
Labour
Organization



VI. Future Outlook

Since it is an undeniable fact that youth unemployment has occurred due to numerous complicated factors, it also seems undeniable that it will probably take quite a long time before people find an efficient solution that can put everything in order.

The International Labor Organization(ILO) report states that under the premise of social inequality being continued, more than 212 million people will stay unemployed by 2019, which is a considerable number compared to the current 201 million. World Employment and Social Outlook (WESO) predicted that young people, particularly young women will be highly affected much severely than today.

Among various countries, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa have been attributed to playing a key role in the swift increase of youth unemployment rates, and that does not seem to change in the future as well. East Asia is also one of the regions that are likely to contribute to susceptible employment.

Thus, unless countries struggling with high youth unemployment take care of the underlying structural factors such as decline in labor supply, stagnation, and uncertainty regarding productive business, youth unemployment rate around the world is expected rise incessantly.

VII. Possible Solutions

Youth unemployment rate will be an immutable crisis, assumed to have a high

possibility of not being solved unless people come up with solutions that can target most countries effectively. Youth unemployment is generally caused by factors such as financial crisis, mismatch in skills, lack of education, etc. One possible solution could be giving career advice to youth in order to help them prepare for requirements and skills that are necessary in the rapidly changing business environment. Promoting training programs for young people will provide them with information about occupations and specific instruction about them.

Furthermore, there should be a governmental bedrock for such curriculums to thrive in. With the youth unemployment problem at the top of their to-do list, governments should implement measures that can help youth unemployment both in quantity and quality, such as bold restructuring and new growth engines that could alleviate the public's fear and shed off their uneasiness.

VIII. Conclusion

As time goes by, job prospects for youth are growing worse regardless of regions. Considering the fact that unemployment rates have been rather stable in other age groups, it is absolutely true that the job market has made life comparably difficult for the young generation. Most countries typically struggle with similar reasons and the most common reason is slow growth in economy with uncertainties that never seem to die down. Tardy progress in economy, diminishing competence in companies, higher standards and competition rates for applicants- these all happen simultaneously.

Therefore, in order for global society to reach possible solutions on curbing

further youth unemployment, countermeasures are indeed desirable, and they should be agreed upon all nations participating in the conference. It is believed to be particularly important to come up with rational solutions, not tilting to a certain aspect. The novel solutions should encompass not only immediate measures, but also solutions that can root out the fundamental matter regarding this issue. With the members of Economic and Social Council in 2016 GAIC MUN, we must devise highly effective countermeasures as soon and much as possible.

IX. Questions to consider

- What is the main difference between nations with low unemployment rate and high unemployment rate?
- What is the problem of current criteria of ‘unemployed’?
- Does the world unemployment rate seem to increase or decrease?
- What is the biggest cause of youth unemployment problem?
- What can be done to solve youth unemployment problem of developing nations?
- What can be done to solve youth unemployment problem of developed nations?
- What is the expected result of decreased youth unemployment rate?
- How does the unemployment problem of one country affect others’?
- How can UN contribute to solving the problem of youth unemployment?
- How can UN improve current economic situation?

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