



SRMUN Charlotte
March 26-28, 2021
*Unity: Coming Together to
Address a Changing World*

Draft Resolution 1-1

Committee: World Health Organization Executive Board
Subject: Addressing Mental Health Needs of Populations in Crisis

The World Health Organization Executive Board,

Recognizing the stigmatization around mental health in the global conversation,

Deeply troubled by the exacerbating factors which conflict-ridden areas face while addressing mental health needs,

Realizing the need for educational and social media programs to reach young people who live with mental health conditions,

Keeping in mind that print media and radio are most accessible to populations in crisis,

Aware of the existing Global Health Observatory database that gives statistics on the mental health needs of Member States, while also advancing the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) agenda, with a particular focus on SDG 3, SDG 16, and SDG 17,

Considering the negative and impactful consequences of guerrilla warfare, internal displacement, economic crises, COVID-19, and armed insurrection, amongst other causes, many of which are particularly felt by nations such as Colombia, Mexico, Syria, and Yemen, amongst others,

1. *Focuses on* the importance of addressing the needs of crisis and conflict ridden territories by:
 - a. Cooperating with the WHO's Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse to provide professionals that will help determine existing methods available to facilitate on-the-ground efforts and detect which efforts require further assistance,
 - b. Implementing a three-prong approach to further supply assistance with investigative and mitigating efforts by:
 - i. Collaborating with the governments of Member States (particularly those of Developing Member States), and,
 - ii. Inviting voluntary assistance from both domestic and international enterprises and corporations,
 - c. Collaborating with Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings, co-chaired by the World Health Organization, to help provide on-the-ground-support such as deploying counselors to support an assigned area, and,
 - d. Planning international talks, following the example of the 2020 Big Event for Mental Health, between Member States experiencing the impacts of incoming refugees to specifically address mental health needs of such communities;
2. *Creates* a media campaign called "Mental Health for All" to destigmatize the discussion around mental health by:
 - a. Incorporating local leaders endorse the messages proposed by the campaign,
 - b. Partnering with the United Nations Committee on Information to execute the campaign,
 - c. Utilizing television (including local news channels), print media, radio, and social media (specifically Twitter, Instagram, Youtube, Twitch, Whisper, Weibo, and Facebook) in order to ensure all populations have access to this information, especially populations in crisis, and,

- d. Spreading the hashtag “#StopTheStigma” to encourage people to share their stories in order to destigmatize mental health in the global conversation;
3. *Implements* an education program to provide counselors with a tool box of resources to combat their struggles with mental illness by:
 - a. Providing counselors for schools, mental health programs and curriculums to educate teachers, students, and staff on how to handle youth with mental health conditions through,
 - i. Cooperation with World Federations for Mental Health to equip school counselors with the tools to aid their students in matters of mental health, and,
 - ii. Contribution of volunteer counselors from Sumiatri Voluntary Organization and mental health programs by promoting collaboration with government leaders to assist certain vulnerable communities,
 - b. Utilizing the United for Global Mental Health committee of the World Health Organization to provide Member States resources to help inform youth of the importance of expressing when they are dealing with mental health challenges, and,
 - c. Drawing from the United States’ Connect Program to foster a collaboration between government and communities to further educate the public on mental health;
4. *Recommends* that Member States participating in crisis intervention to send and support mental health professionals in said areas in need by:
 - a. Partnering with the International Committee of the Red Cross through the Red Crescent Movement, based on Resolution 33IC/19/R2 passed in 2019, to contribute to on-the-ground crisis counseling,
 - b. Modeling training after the United States’ Mental Health First Aid program to bring local individuals from the mental health field to ensure that local cultural sensitivities are respected, and,
 - c. Utilizing community-based programs, such as Kognito or Sources of Strength, to promote sustainable mentally-healthy communities;
5. *Further invites* the WHO to enhance the Global Health Observatory database to more diligently record the most prevalent mental health issues in each Member State to optimize mental health intervention effectiveness for each state and crisis; and,
6. *Supports* these endeavors with funding efforts backed by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, World Health Organization, Sanjivini Society for Mental Health, Sheni, and willing local governments and organizations.