



UNEP

Nations Environment Program

President: Allegra Arce Aguilar.

Moderator: Ana Sofía Morales Maldonado

Conference Officer: Alejandra Ramírez Vázquez.



WELCOME LETTER TO DELEGATES

Dear Delegates,

We are truly honored to welcome you to the 2025 MUNMX conference. We look forward to embarking on this journey of learning and discovery alongside each of you.

The core mission of this model is to cultivate friendship, mutual respect, and tolerance among diverse perspectives. It is a forum for vigorous debate, empathetic understanding, and the absorption of new knowledge. We are confident that you will find this experience immensely rewarding and valuable for your future endeavors. We encourage you to fully leverage your talents, share them generously, and be open to acquiring new ones. Please know that our entire team is dedicated to ensuring this event is both enjoyable and enriching.

As your committee president, I am committed to guiding you through this process and making this an unforgettable chapter in your lives. The greatest gift of this model is the chance to learn from different cultures, connect with passionate individuals, address complex global issues, hone your critical thinking, and make decisions that matter. These classrooms belong to you, the critical thinkers and future leaders of our time.

Our entire staff pledges its full support to help you maximize your potential as a delegate. Together, we will work to understand problems deeply, develop thoughtful solutions, and strive to create a positive impact that honors the people and principles we represent.

We sincerely thank you for your initiative in attending this event and for selecting this committee. As we stated, our utmost priority is to ensure you feel welcomed, engaged, and inspired throughout your participation.

Sincerely,

President: Allegra Arce Aguilar.

Moderator: Ana Sofia Morales Maldonado

Conference Officer: Alejandra Ramírez Vázquez.



ABOUT THE COMITEE:

The United Nation Environmental Program “(UNEP)” is the UN organization directed to ecological issues, sets the global environmental agenda and is the leading authority in environmental topics. The mission for us is to bring solutions to the natural crisis and enhance the people’s quality of life without compromising future generations.

UNEP was founded in 1972 during the UN Conference of Human Environment, in Stockholm, Sweden. In response to the necessity of a worldwide organization that coordinates environmental problems solutions and advises nation’s politics based in ecology science.

One of UNEP's key initiatives is its scientific reports, such as the Global Environment Outlook (GEO), which provide a comprehensive assessment of the state of the world's environment. Furthermore, UNEP is the driving force behind major global environmental agreements, such as the Montreal Protocol on Substances that drain the Ozone Layer and the Conventions on Biological Diversity (CBD) and Migratory Species (CMS). It also administers the "Champions of the Earth" award, the UN's highest environmental honor, which recognizes outstanding leaders from government, civil society, and the private sector.

UNEP is governed by the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), which meets every two years to set priorities for global environmental policies and develop international environmental law. The Assembly is made up of all 193 UN Member States. An elected Committee of Permanent Representatives supervises the implementation of these policies, while the Executive Director, currently Inger Andersen, manages the organization's day-to-day operations and leads its strategic direction.

With official offices located in Nigeria, and branch offices in many other parts of the world UNEP plays a vital role in coordinating international responses to environmental challenges, in providing the data and tools needed to maintain a healthier, more sustainable planet for all.

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3. United Nations. (1972, December 15). *Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental cooperation* (Resolution 2997 (XXVII)).

4. Environment, U. (2017). *Why does UN Environment Programme matter?* UNEP - UN Environment Programme. <https://www.unep.org/about-un-environment/why-does-un-environment-matter>



TOPIC A: PROTECTING PACIFIC ISLAND STATES FROM SEA LEVEL RISE THROUGH ADAPTATION, FINANCING AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Pacific Island States, including nations like Fiji, Tuvalu, Kiribati, and the Marshall Islands, face an existential threat from sea level rise driven by climate change. These low-lying nations, many with elevations barely above sea level, are experiencing accelerated coastal erosion, flooding, and salinization of freshwater resources. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) projects global sea levels could rise by 0.3–1.1 meters by 2100, with Pacific regions facing even higher local increases due to ocean currents and thermal expansion. This crisis threatens not only physical land but also cultural heritage, economic stability, and the sovereignty of these nations. Despite contributing negligibly to global greenhouse gas emissions, Pacific Island States are on the frontlines of climate impacts, making this a critical issue of global justice. Key Challenges Environmental Impacts: Rising seas are submerging coastlines, with some atolls losing 20–40% of their land by 2050, per regional studies. Salinization is reducing arable land, threatening food security, while intensified storms exacerbate infrastructure damage.

Economic Constraints: Pacific Island States have limited fiscal capacity to fund adaptation measures like seawalls or relocation programs. For example, Kiribati's GDP is approximately \$200 million, while adaptation costs could exceed \$100 million annually.

Displacement Risks: Without intervention, hundreds of thousands may become climate refugees, facing uncertain legal protections and cultural loss.

Global Inequity: Industrialized nations, responsible for most historical emissions, have been slow to deliver promised climate finance, leaving small island states vulnerable.

There are three pillars to address this crisis:

Adaptation: Strategies to help Pacific Island States cope with sea level rise, such as coastal defenses, climate-resilient agriculture, and planned relocations. should consider the balance between hard infrastructure and nature-based solutions.



Financing: Mechanisms to fund adaptation and loss and damage, including international climate finance, debt relief, and innovative funding models like green bonds. Delegates must address how to ensure equitable and accessible funding for small states.

International Cooperation: Frameworks to enhance global and regional collaboration, including technology transfers, legal protections for climate refugees, and amplifying Pacific voices in climate negotiations.

Guiding Questions:

- How can the international community ensure sufficient and timely climate finance reaches Pacific Island States?
- What adaptation measures are most feasible and sustainable for low-lying atolls?
- How can we balance the sovereignty of Pacific nations with the need for international support in relocation efforts?
- Should there be legally binding commitments for industrialized nations to fund loss and damage?
- How can regional organizations like the Pacific Islands Forum drive effective cooperation?

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2. Chapter 4: Sea Level Rise and Implications for Low-Lying Islands, Coasts and Communities — Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate. (s. f.). Special Report On The Ocean And Cryosphere In A Changing Climate. <https://www.ipcc.ch/srocc/chapter/chapter-4-sea-level-rise-and-implications-for-low-lyin>

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3. Climate change transforms Pacific Islands. (2024, 2 septiembre). World Meteorological Organization.

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TOPIC B: STRATEGIES FOR THE RECOVERY OF ECOSYSTEMS AFTER THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ARMED CONFLICTS

Environmental damage caused by armed conflicts can be very long-lasting and severe. Armed conflicts destroy ecosystems, waste natural resources, cause pollution and put at risk the health of our planet.

The impact of conflict on natural resources include deforestation as a military tactic, while pollution of vital water resources and fertile lands due to the destruction of cities and use of hazardous materials contaminates vital water resources and fertile lands. Wetlands are drained and unexploded ordnance that contaminate the soil, which not only harms the environment but also facilitates the spread of contagious diseases. Over exploitation of natural resources is another consequence, driven by the economic interests that fuel conflicts.

Also building military forces requires enormous amounts of resources, including common metals, rare earth elements, and hydrocarbons, all of which put further strain on the environment. Additionally sensitive landscapes and geodiversity are severely damaged, exacerbating the long-term ecological consequences of armed conflicts.

Conflict causing emissions and pollution:

-“According to a study by Scientists for Global Responsibility and the Conflict and Environment Observatory, militaries account for an estimated 5.5 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.” (UN, Peace and Security)

-Air, water and soil pollution from chemicals of attacked industrial sites.

-Munitions cause impact in the environment by releasing heavy metal, toxic chemicals and even radioactive elements.

-CO₂ emissions from the military are high.

-Military vehicles, buildings and infrastructure all require energy and more often than not that energy is oil.



-The loss of energy can lead to the use of more polluting fuels.

The damage caused by conflicts can delay progress in pollution control, resource and protected area management, climate change adaptation, and biodiversity protection.

Guiding questions:

-What is the country's current commitment to environmental protection and the restoration of damaged areas?

-What role does the country play in international cooperation for post-conflict environmental recovery?

-The country is willing to cooperate with other countries and international organizations in possible solutions to this?

-Does the country consider international cooperation necessary in this process? In what specific area?

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1. United Nations. (s. f.). How conflict impacts our environment | United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/peace-and-security/how-conflict-impacts-our-environment#:~:text=Warfare%20disrupts%20the%20delicate%20balance,water%20resources%20can%20be%20contaminated>
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Upload your position paper via the following link. Deadline: October 8th
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13I6flkvsgpaT1HZwzO-UXYTcEsx1TaR3>

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