

SOPHIA SCHUSTER | ETHAN PEMBERTON | JOHN ANTHONY



Millions of Children are Living in Urban Slums, How Can We Feed Them?

Introduction/ topic of debate

The UNICEF committee convened today to discuss the levels of malnutrition among children in urban slums. Millions of children live in urban slums and are malnourished. UNICEF met to figure out how to improve child nutrition. Lots of these kids don't understand nutrition or have access to nutritious food and some don't have access to enough food in general. UNICEF wants to find a solution to these problems and combat the epidemic of malnutrition all over the world but especially in undeveloped countries.

Proposed Solutions

There were a lot of proposed solutions that could potentially deal with malnutrition of children living in urban slums. The first proposed solution was from the Delegation of Cambodia, they wanted to fund and establish schools in Sub-Saharan countries to give the children living there education and free food. The Delegation of Canada offers foreign scholarships to children living in urban slums. The delegation claims that this would give the students enough education to help their country, mainly with malnutrition in children. A few delegations including Germany and Brazil aim towards giving enough food and supplies for the children to thrive. The Delegation of Iceland suggests a ready-to-use paste made of powdered milk, almonds, and vitamins to immediately improve child nutrition. A lot of delegations proposed solutions similar to Canada's and Germany's, but Iceland's seemed to be the most popular out of all other proposed solutions.

Interviews

An interview with the delegate from the Syrian Arab Republic revealed an emphasis on educating the children living in urban slums. The delegate suggested that teaching malnourished children the importance of nutrients and how to access them. The delegate described the education as a long-term solution, and educating teachers would further spread information, bringing economic infrastructure.

When questioned regarding whether getting support from other, more developed countries was a good solution, the delegate responded, "In terms of a short-term solution, working with and getting help from other countries is good. However, relying on other countries as a long-term solution creates unhealthy relationships and isn't beneficial." The representative reiterated the Syrian Arab Republic focus on the country's own government support.



Crisis Update:

Severe weather in the Middle East is causing lots of damage.

Breaking news rocked the committee as reports surfaced of severe weather causing major amounts of damage in the Middle East, especially around Yemen. The weather is acting very unusually for this time of year in this region with historic amounts of rain reaching up to 150 millimeters in a single day. Waterborne illnesses like cholera and malaria are rising. Health authorities have estimated that more than 5,000 cholera cases are expected in the coming week. This weather has prevented those trying to give aid to the victims of this extreme weather to get into the country. Over 2,500 km of roads along the Yemen coastline have been destroyed or severely damaged. Stay informed.