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# STUDY GUIDE

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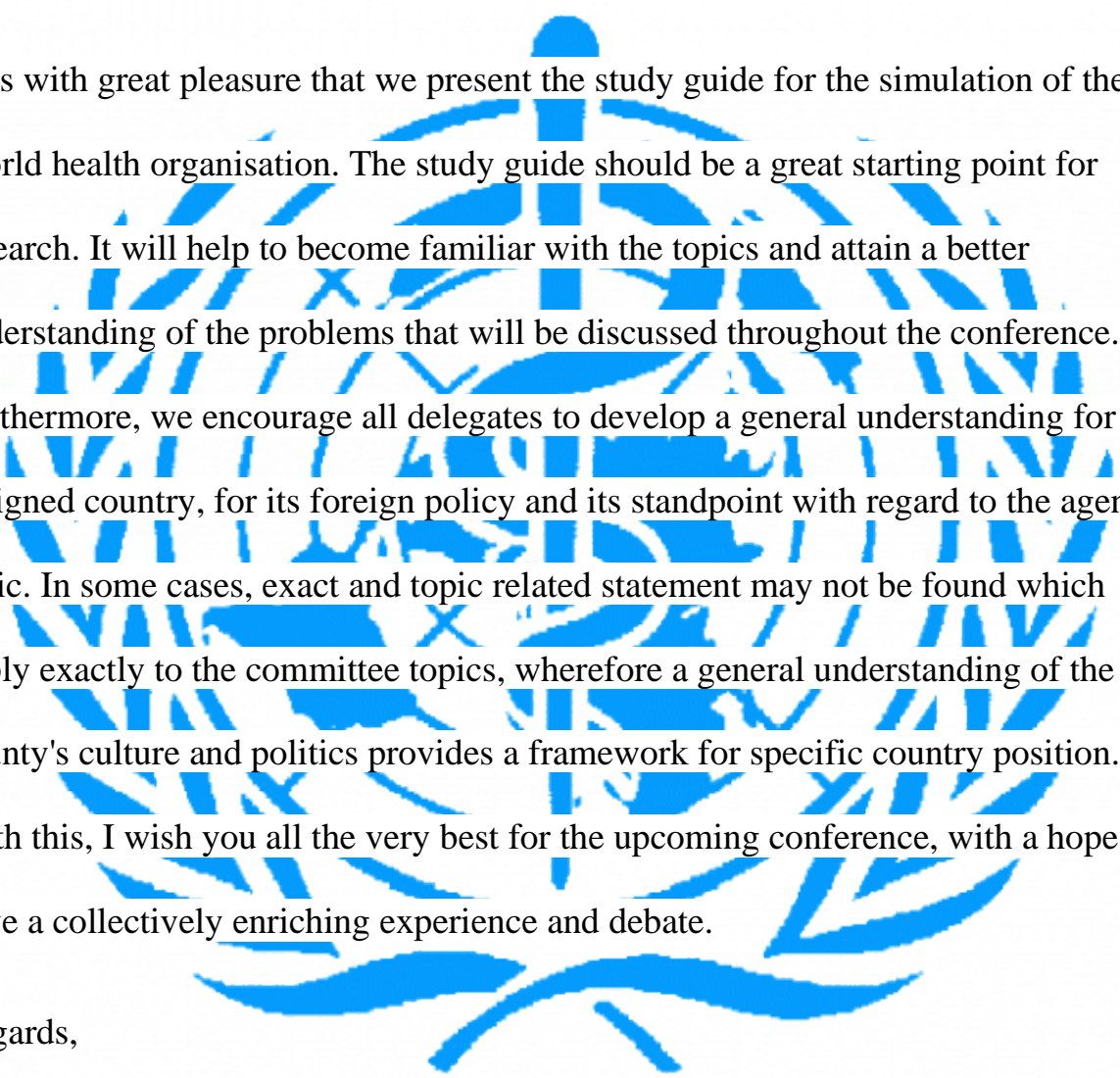
WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION



AUDACIOUS INDIAN MODEL UNITED NATIONS

# Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,



It is with great pleasure that we present the study guide for the simulation of the World health organisation. The study guide should be a great starting point for research. It will help to become familiar with the topics and attain a better understanding of the problems that will be discussed throughout the conference. Furthermore, we encourage all delegates to develop a general understanding for the assigned country, for its foreign policy and its standpoint with regard to the agenda topic. In some cases, exact and topic related statement may not be found which apply exactly to the committee topics, wherefore a general understanding of the county's culture and politics provides a framework for specific country position. With this, I wish you all the very best for the upcoming conference, with a hope to have a collectively enriching experience and debate.

Regards,

Chairperson

Hardik Goel

Vice-Chairperson

Paridhi



# Introduction

The response to the immediate crisis will rightly take priority now, but economic authorities must also play their part in ensuring the world finally takes decisive steps to prevent a repeat of Covid-19 in future.

The experience with SARS, H1N1 and Ebola shows that, while some progress is made after each outbreak, this is often not sustained. This epidemic shows that managing diseases is absolutely critical to the long-term health of global economy, and doubly so in circumstances where traditional central bank and finance ministry tools for dealing with major global economic shocks are limited.

Finance ministries and central banks therefore need to push hard within government to ensure sustained long-term funding of research on prevention and strengthening of public health systems. They also need to ensure that the right lessons are drawn by the private sector on making international supply chains more robust.

## Impact on trade:

World merchandise trade is set to plummet by between 13 and 32% in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A 2021 recovery in trade is expected, but dependent on the duration of the outbreak and the effectiveness of the policy responses.

Nearly all regions will suffer double-digit declines in trade volumes in 2020, with exports from North America and Asia hit hardest. Merchandise trade volume already fell by 0.1% in 2019, weighed down by trade tensions and slowing economic growth. The dollar value of world merchandise exports in 2019 fell by 3% to US\$ 18.89 trillion.

## Impact on private sector:

Post-lockdown, the world of work won't be what we used to know. For many, the uncertainty of livelihood would likely linger much longer, and be no less painful.

The private sector has faced a major setback due to the outbreak of covid19. More than millions of people are on the verge of losing their jobs.

Industries such as the automobile industry, food chains and all the other manufacturing outlets face immense scarcity of resources which has brought down the production levels of the economy.

Governments and central banks in the economies most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic have rapidly mobilized to keep their economies on "life support" while societies fight the most dramatic health crisis of our time.

## Impact on country's occupational structure:

The world economy is enduring a staggering downturn amidst the spread of COVID-19. Individuals are already suffering immediate losses in terms of income and employment.

Many people are already confined to their homes, some by choice and others by government order. While some workers see minor changes when switching to their home office, for many this means they cannot do their jobs.

75% of the self-employed report having earned less last week than in a typical week. In contrast, for salaried workers this number is less than a quarter.

While some workers experienced a decline in their earnings but were able to keep their jobs, others report already having lost their job as a result of the crisis.

Among all survey respondents who report having had a job four weeks ago, 28% people have lost their jobs now, globally.

## Vaccine production for covid19:

Gearing up for the much needed COVID-19 vaccines, the World Health Organization organized a meeting of vaccine manufacturers and national regulatory authorities from its South-East Asia Region.

"The manufacturing capacity that exists in our Region is of the quality and scale required to produce and roll-out a COVID-19 vaccine globally. This Region is a vaccine manufacturing powerhouse, and it must now also play a lead role in overcoming the ongoing pandemic," said Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South-East Asia.



At the virtual meeting, leading manufacturers from India, Indonesia and Thailand discussed timelines and production capacity, while regulatory bodies deliberated on adjustments that would be needed in processes to make COVID-19 vaccines available at the earliest.

## Impact on GDP due to covid19:

With more than 20 lakh people infected worldwide and 1.27 lakh dead, the Covid-19 pandemic shows no signs of abating. As vaccine is yet to be found, lockdowns remain the only way to slow its spread. However, the lockdowns are also pushing major economies to the brink.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has revised its global GDP growth estimate from 3.3% just 3 months ago to a contraction of 3%, something not seen since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

## Focusing questions:

- 1) As you all can see that all the topics above have been left incomplete. We expect you to get into deep discussions over those topics using moderated caucus.

- 2) What according to you can be the solution to these economic breakdowns in the near future?
- 3) Is COVID-19 the maximum what we could get? Is the peak yet to come?  
Can it get worse?

