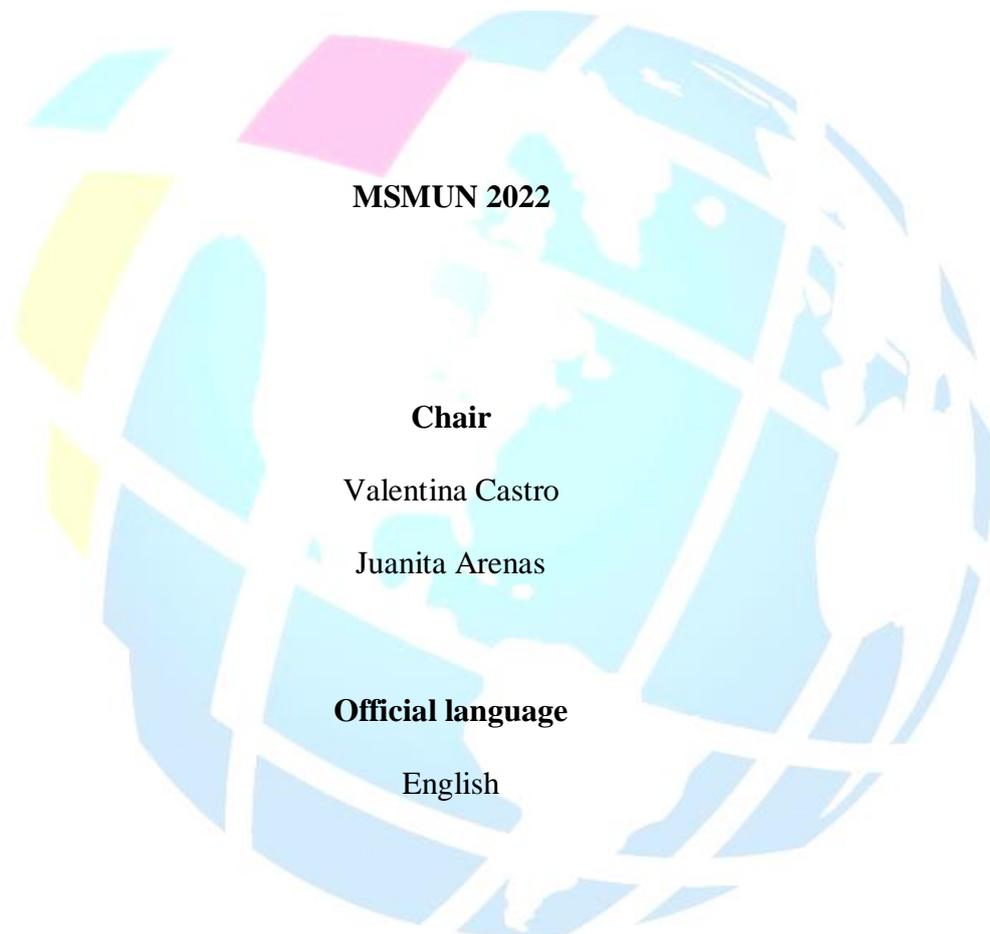


# UNODC

THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF DRUGS AND CRIME



**MSMUN 2022**

**Chair**

Valentina Castro

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**Official language**

English

**Topic A**

Aerial application in illicit drug crops.

**Topic B**

International cooperation for the eradication of forced child labor in South Asia and the Pacific.

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## 1. Welcoming Letter

Dear delegates,

Welcome to MSMUN 2022 External Model! It is an honor for us, Juanita Arenas and Valentina Castro to be your presidents in this version of our model for the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime. We are delighted and thrilled to have you in our committee.

Unfortunately, problems and conflicts have become something “normal” for the international community nowadays. So many of them have arisen that society does not even know where to start to act. Well delegates, what if we begin making the change and taking the step forward? Our purpose is to find viable solutions to both of the problematics that will be addressed in the committee. These topics are demanding, and they both approach different situations that are of great interest and importance to the international community. This is why we need to look for innovative, ingenious, and pertinent solutions in order to significantly reduce crime against children and illicit drug crops.

As your presidents, we will be available at all times to guide and help you with everything you need to make the committee a great success and for you to give your best. Let us know how we can help, and we will be happy to do so.

We hope you enjoy MSMUN 2022 External Model and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime committee. Remember to always give your greatest effort and how this model is here for making *the Impossible Possible*.

Sincerely your chair,

Juanita Arenas

&

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## **2. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

### **2.1 History**

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) established in 1997 is the United Nations lead committee that seeks to deal with the complex issues of drug abuse and crime. Having said this, it is the one responsible for carrying out the UN's main program against terrorism. With the help of NGOs, charitable organizations, labor unions, and other civil societies the committee has been carrying out its global mandates.

UNODC has 2,400 staff members around the world and 115 national and regional offices which are fundamental to work closely with governments on issues that affect the state's stability. It is composed of 53 members with one seat that rotates between the Asian, Latin American, and Caribbean States every four years. In addition to this, the committee has developed strong drug control and crime prevention programs and since 2002 the General Assembly has approved an expanded program of activities for the *Terrorism Prevention Branch*.

### **2.2 Objective**

As it was said before, the committee's main objective is to combat drugs as well as national and international crime. In order to do so, three main functions are applied: research, persuasion, and technical assistance; these in order to convince the governments of implementing the treaties proposed by the committee and providing them assistance to make sure they follow the initiatives.

It also supports member states in fulfilling the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* which resolves to achieve the global goals of gender equality, ending poverty and hunger, and the preservation of the planet and natural resources. This is due to the relation

between sustainable development and the fight against terrorism, drugs, and corruption, which considers the negative effects of psychoactive substances in a person's health, and the consequences of the actions with the authorities. This is why it is important to create favorable solutions for the international community especially for those countries with varying income; this can be done through partnerships and coherent policies in order for countries to progress and take a large step forward.

### **3. Topic A: Aerial application in illicit drug crops.**

#### **3.1 Theoretical framework**

##### **1. Drug crops**

Illicit plants or crops considered illegal by the government. They are usually cultivated in rural areas due to the fact that they are affected by poverty, lack of access to land, insecure rights over it, and conflicts regarding natural resources.

##### **2. Narcotics**

In the context of International Drug Control, narcotics or drugs are considered illegal, lethal, and addictive substances that may affect a human's behavior in a dangerous way leading to terrible consequences in the person's health and actions.

##### **3. Opium Poppy**

Flowering plant which comes from the family of the *Papaveraceae* species which contains a substance used to produce morphine, heroin, and codeine; all considered illicit drugs.

##### **4. Cannabis**

Also called Marijuana. It is a plant used to produce psychoactive drugs derived from its stem, seeds, and dried leaves. Drugs extracted from this plant can be either used for

medical or recreational purposes; medical purposes being to control the pain for chronic diseases and recreational purposes to altering a person's mood and perception.

**5. Coca Bush**

Plant used to manufacture the illegal drug of Cocaine. It is one of the most menacing narcotics with a powerful stimulant and anesthetic extracted from the coca leaves.

**6. Crop Cultivation**

Process which consists of the growing and taking care of plants to later harvest them for one's consumption or for-profit use.

**7. Drug Traffickin**

Global illicit trade that consists of the transportation, distribution, and sale of narcotics usually across countries' borders (Noureldin, 2020).

**8. Herbicide**

Chemical substance used to inhibit the growth of unwanted plants such as weeds or invasive species (those that disrupt the ecosystem processes). Most herbicides are considered nontoxic for humans and species; however, non-target plants can easily get affected (Britannica, 2019).

**3.2 Topic's History**

Illicit drug cultivation has been an initiative that has caused a huge socio-economic impact worldwide. One of its major roles is being an accessible source that facilitates drug dealers to obtain their products. Drug trafficking is thought to lead to economic growth (and indeed it does at first), but dependence on illicit crops is by no means sustainable in the long term for any nation.

Rural areas are more susceptible to illicit drug cultivation due to the abundance of available land in the area; however, these are characterized by being landless which means that

the majority of the rural population does not own any land. In addition, these areas tend to have a high rate of poverty, insecure land rights, and conflicts over natural resources making the rural population vulnerable.

Evidently, narcotics cultivation provides plenty of jobs in the agricultural sector for people with limited skills and education. In the desperate need of finding a job for survival, people decide to join the illicit drug farming industry even though it takes farmers to work for unscrupulous middlemen. The unlawful drug cultivation also provides employment for distributors, laboratory operators (to process each narcotic), and money launderers. Taking this into account, the narcotic illegal industry impacts society in several ways ranging from positive aspects such as the provision of jobs to negative aspects like addiction.

Getting back to the year of 2001, an estimate income generated through drug cultivation and trafficking in that time was 1,100 million dollars; nevertheless, this was an insignificant quantity compared to the whole cultivation area and farm production, for it produced 86 billion dollars in total. It is important to note that this data corresponds to developed countries. In developing countries, on the other hand, the amount of money taken from the drug production industry contributing to the nation's growth would be way more significant as these countries tend to have a less varied economy.

This means that nations in the process of development are most likely to depend completely on a specific industry generally being the exploitation of minerals or fossil fuels, in this case, the drug crops and trafficking. If by any reason the industry in which a country is leaning on collapses, the economy going hand in hand with production and trade will collapse. Nevertheless, its success will definitely lead to a tremendous lucrative growth in the nation. Having said this, it does not mean that developing countries will actually become economically stable from the illegitimate drug production as this business is likely to stop blooming in the long-term.

According to the National Narcotics Control Board, “Available evidence shows that the countries in which illicit drugs have been produced have suffered a decline in economic growth.” (INCB) (n.d.). Take Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia as examples of countries that increased their coca bush cultivation in the 1980-1990s but had a negative turn in their economic growth. Currently, these are not fully developed nations, and their economic upswing remained above the average for Latin American countries. This leads to the conclusion that illicit drug production will not make a country prosper at all.

The same pattern was seen in South-East Asia with Thailand and Myanmar. Additionally, “Since 2003, Afghanistan has been the main opium poppy grower in the world and accounted for the bulk of cultivation, around 74% of global illicit opium production in 2012” (UNODC, n.d). This nation continues to be one of the main producers of said narcotic.

Why would not this industry contribute to a country’s economy in the long term? Even though drug trafficking is a rentable business, the international community opposes this practice as it is considered illegal and brings massive effects on public health. Any unauthorized business has no chance of surviving. As it was mentioned before, it is a rentable business since it does make a good amount of income for a nation and its workers, but that does not make it a sustainable form of economic growth.

Regarding aerial application, it has been used as a supply-reduction strategy in order to fumigate crops through aerial movement using pesticides. Small aircrafts release the herbicide from tanks or deposits and get as close as possible to their objective. This process does help with the culmination of drug crops, but it has also been proven that it is not an effective method if carried out in the wrong way when using toxic pesticides. It can actually contribute to regular crops destruction, pollution, deforestation, and may lead to a war structure as it did in Colombia. “Spraying craft tend to be accompanied by helicopters and at times this involves

firing machine guns on areas adjacent to crops, causing panic among the communities.” (TNI, 2001).

Moreover, the herbicides are very likely to end in the wrong objective. These may reach water sources or legal farming crops that were never the object of this policy. Glyphosate for example, is the least harmful pesticide for plants and weeds, but the frequent use of it leads to an accumulation and toxicity in grounds and water sources. To add up, Glyphosate may produce negative health effects such as eye and skin irritation, and asthma (especially seen in people who work with the herbicide). Animals are also affected with growth problems, lower weight, and issues regarding organs and bones development. In any case, Glyphosate continues to be used due to the herbicide’s effectiveness by preventing the growing of weeds that compete for sunlight and water with plants in regular crops, and of course, to eliminate the illicit narcotic plants. This is why the eradication of the aerial application in crops is an important topic to discuss and has caused controversy around the globe between different nations.

### **3.3 Previously implemented solutions**

The United Nations Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, and committees on world food security and agriculture have discussed the issue and will ensure important guidance to solve the problem. Also, the following are examples of solutions that have been carried out by The Antinarcotics Directorate (DIRAN) project along with the INL (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs) in Colombia:

#### **a) Aerial eradication**

As mentioned before, it consists of a spray drift of pesticides through aircrafts that release these substances in order to destroy the crops. Glyphosate is the most common herbicide used in this process, and it was approved and

demonstrated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that there is no indication of any human health concern; nevertheless, that does not mean that the herbicide has no negative effects. Pure glyphosate is low in toxicity, but it is usually mixed with other products that make the actual product more toxic.

**b) Manual eradication**

It has the same objective as the aerial eradication strategy, but what changes is the method being used. In this case, workers paid by the government remove the drug plants from the root to prevent them from growing again. It is important to mention that this method takes more time, but it is more effective than the aerial, for it doesn't have collateral effects.

**c) Environmental safeguards**

National Government agencies are in charge of sending environmental safeguards to monitor the spray program in the drug crop eradication. making sure these processes are having minimal negative impacts within society and the environment (U.S Embassy in Colombia, n.d.).

**d) Substitution of crops**

It focuses on substituting the illegal crops for sustainable alternatives improving livelihood. The PNIS (Peacebuilding program to substitute crops used for illegal purposes in Colombia) is contributing to this process; it has been convincing farmers to work on legal and prosperous crops through subsidies for their families. These are of around one million COP (Colombian pesos) during the first year to give them alimentary assistance.

Unfortunately, this project has been held for more than three years and it has not shown such good results. From the 99.097 families involved with the program, 74.366 of them have received the subsidy and less than 2% of them

have achieved the objective of the program. This, even though 97% of the families made their part in terms of eradication of the former crops (Naranjo, 2021).

### **3.4 Current situation**

Nowadays, illicit drug cultivation is still present around the globe especially in developing countries (those that are in process of development and have a lower Gross Domestic Product than developed nations) such as Colombia. Since 2015, the Colombian government decided to ban the process of aerial application to eradicate unlawful crops; this is because of the negative consequences it had on society and in the environment since the process was not properly carried out. More importantly, the Colombian president from that time, Juan Manuel Santos, made part of this decision in exchange for the approval of the Peace Treaty with the FARC Guerrilla. Most of the current candidates for presidency in the nation are in favor of restarting aerial sprayings.

Current president of Colombia, Iván Duque, is also considering the retaking of this practice especially because of the pressure being placed by the US government for reducing coca plantings. Duque is also considering resuming the practice to fight drug trafficking in any form. He believes that the discussion should not be about the herbicide, but about the threats and risks that Colombia faces for the vertiginous increase in drug plants. A decree was signed by president Iván Duque in April 2021, in which he agreed to carry this method in a responsible way and following specific regulations. Some of these are the continuous revision of the process and scientific investigations to check the collateral effects, the environment and health preservation, and that entities responsible for regulating the process are different from those in charge of it.

As demonstrated by a report from the United Nations (2021), The Republic of Colombia is the world's major producer of coca bush along with Peru. Even though the cultivated areas have been reduced, there is a higher productivity per hectare due to technological advancements and expertise on the producers.

### **3.5 Nation's pronouncements towards the topic**

The international community is all looking forward to the same objective which is putting an end to the illicit drug production. In Latin American countries, the Colombian government plans on stepping up forced eradication as it was mentioned before. It proposes to reinforce manual eradication by tearing drug plants out of the ground or by spraying glyphosate by hand along with renewed aerial application. The Constitutional Court is not convinced about this solution yet.

In Bolivia, there was a destruction of 84% of the country's cocaine base (equivalent to 9.2 tons), 80% of marijuana for sale (7.7 tons), and 92% of cocaine hydrochloride (6.7 tons). This was all done with the help of UNODC which stated that was "the highest percentage of drugs validation since the beginning of this activity in mid-2013." (UNODC, 2021).

For Peru, the COVID-19 pandemic increased the drug cultivation by giving a long-month pause on eradication efforts. "During this time, coca cultivation and cocaine production reached a record level of 88,200 hectares." (The White House, 2021). As this was a recent situation, the number of coca crops continues to be pretty high.

Regarding Mexico, there is a program financed by the Mexican government called "Illicit Crop Monitoring System in the Mexican Territory" which is part of the UNODC Global Illicit Crop Monitoring Program. This demonstrated through reliable methodology that the country's poppy cultivation has reduced about 9% compared to past years (2017-2018).

For South Asia, Afghanistan would be the most relevant country in the topic. After the Taliban victory, this group of Islamic extremists promised to end the narcotics production in the country; however, experts believe it will be a hard process since Afghanistan produces more than the 80% of Heroin and Poppy trafficked around the world.

The United States of America truly believes that the eradication of unauthorized crops using glyphosate is an effective strategy. “EPA continues to find that there are no risks of concern to human health when glyphosate is used in accordance with its current label. EPA also found that glyphosate is unlikely to be a human carcinogen.” (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2021). Nevertheless, it is said that this country is not considering the lack of evidence regarding drug crop fumigation long-term effectiveness and the responsibility needed to restart this process in countries such as Colombia.

### **3.6 Future situation**

What is projected for the future is the possible legalization of drug consumption and selling. Clearly, the demand for narcotics will still be seen which makes the drug production still present as well; nonetheless, legalizing drugs would eradicate criminality and black markets. It would also reduce stigmatization regarding addictive users by incentivizing these people to look for special treatment.

Illegal businesses lead to high profits for those people in charge of them. The government, on the other hand does not benefit from them as it is not considered an industry that contributes to a nation’s GDP and taxation system. Legalizing drugs would result in a way to move a country’s economy; thus, it would not be the ideal business taking into account the effects on the population.

To add up, illicit businesses are more appealing for the community. Let’s take as an example the alcohol industry, which was formerly illegal. Once most of the governments

decided to legalize it, the consumption of said substance did not increase, but it just made each person responsible for their utilization with alcohol.

On November 4th, 2020, the state of Oregon became the first in the United States of America to decriminalize the possession of small amounts of hard drugs as recreational products. This is definitely a step into this new reality of drug decriminalization which would allow the trading of these products overseas. Important to note that drug overdoses and addiction used to be a serious problem in Oregon. Even though punishments were imposed over people with narcotics dependency (who were in fact considered criminals for doing so), this strategy was rather ineffective. It ruins people's lives, and it actually makes access to recovery and treatment more difficult.

On the other hand, the legalization of drugs could be an effective solution permitting consumers to possess small amounts of narcotics instead of punishing them. According to Windell (2014), "Punishment more often leads to resentment and oppositional behavior." Additionally, it is often associated with aggression, which is undoubtedly not what the government would want from consumers.

Regarding the aerial and manual eradication of drug crops, this strategy will probably be conducted in the future as the United States of America has a strong influence in the international community and this country claims in the application of this method; hence, eradication in drug crops would be restarted in Colombia using glyphosate. It is likely that new herbicides and non-toxic pesticides for the human population will be invented considering the every-day evolution around the globe.

There is no doubt that new alternatives will be found in order to solve the problematic, but in any way or another the illicit drug crops will have an end or at least an immense reduction. There would be no need to use the aerial application method if the drug industry

became legal. In this case, there would be a specific number of hectares permitted for drug cultivation to control the production.

#### **4. Topic B: International cooperation for the eradication of forced child labor in South Asia and the Pacific.**

##### **4.1 Theoretical framework**

##### **1. Child labor**

Work done to a child's harm and endangering him or her in violation of international and national laws. It either denies youngsters the opportunity to attend school or forces them to shoulder the twin burden of school and job (United Nations, n.d).

##### **2. Forced labor**

It is defined as the work that is done against one's will and under threat of punishment. It refers to situations in which people are forced to work by the use of violence or coercion as well as more subtle methods such as manipulative debt, the detention of identity papers, or threats of deportation (International Labour Organization, n.d).

##### **3. Child Exploitation**

Domestic child labor, child soldiers, the recruitment and involvement of children in armed conflict, sexual exploitation, and pornography as well as the use of children for criminal activities such as the sale and distribution of narcotics, and the involvement of children in harmful or hazardous work (Terre des Hommes, n.d).

##### **4. Bonded labor**

Also known as Debt Bondage and Peonage, occurs when people sell themselves as collateral for a loan or inherit a debt from a family member (End Slavery Now Organization, n.d).

## **5. Poverty**

The state of one who lacks a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions (Encyclopædia Britannica, n.d).

### **4.2 Topic's history**

Child labor or the use of children as servants and apprentices, has been a part of human history for most of it although it peaked during the Industrial Revolution. Working conditions were appalling with overcrowded and dirty workplaces, no safety standards or legislation and long working hours as the norm.

Additionally, children could be paid less, were less likely to form unions, and their diminutive stature allowed them to perform jobs in factories or mines that adults found difficult. Child laborers could not go to school, perpetuating a cycle of poverty that was difficult to break. (History.com Editors, 2009). There is not much information on how forced child labor in South Asia and the Pacific started or about historical events taking regarding this issue; however, this has been an ongoing problem for a very long time and testimonies can prove this.

For instance, the testimony of Thao, a girl in Jakarta. When Thao was 11 years old, she began working as a child domestic worker. She moved to Jakarta with her mother after her father died to look for work as a child domestic helper. She quickly found work in the city's Bekasi suburbs. Thao was first treated well, but her boss got increasingly harsh with her over time. The girl was harassed and verbally abused on a regular basis. She hadn't been paid in over a year and a half when she learned about the Indonesian Children's Welfare Foundation's center for child domestic workers (YKAI). (International Labour Organization, 2006).

### **4.3 Previously implemented solutions**

Given the human and poverty dimensions of child labor around the zone, the World Bank's South Asia Region launched a series of initiatives in 1997 with the goal of assisting its client countries to address more effectively child labor. It appointed a Regional Coordinator for Child Labor and established a child labor working team of staff in its Washington, Dhaka, Delhi, Kathmandu, Islamabad, and Colombo offices. “The long-term solution to child labor problems lies in reducing poverty, improving the quality of education, and expanding access from schooling to disadvantaged social groups”. These are central objectives of the Bank’s assistance programs in the South Asian countries. (The World Bank Group, 2000).

The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children and the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, as well as the ILO conventions (Nos. 138, 146, and 182) and the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, which supplements the Convention on Transnational Crime, provide a solid international legal framework for dealing with child labor and exploitation. The universal approval of the SDGs, notably Target 8.7, demonstrates a worldwide acknowledgment of the need to cease the use of children in armed conflict by 2025 and all kinds of child labor by 2030. UNICEF works with governments and for-profit organizations to develop the policy framework needed to end child labor. It works with companies to examine supply chains and find long-term solutions to business practices that result in child labor. It also works with families to help end bonded and indentured labor. UNICEF works with governments to integrate programs to prevent underage recruitment into the police or armed forces, such as age assessment procedures. It also works with communities to change their attitudes toward child labor, while providing families with alternative sources of income, access to childcare, high-quality education and protective services. (UNICEF, n.d.).

IPEC aims to integrate child labor policies, strategies, plans and budgets into government policies, strategies, plans and budgets. In Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal and Pakistan, child labor issues have been incorporated into national poverty reduction strategy papers, and mainstreaming is being attempted in other countries such as the Philippines and Vietnam. In Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam, efforts are being made to incorporate child labor and trafficking issues into Education for All projects. (International Labor Organization, 2006).

#### **4.4 Current situation**

According to the World Bank Group, South Asia has been one of the world's fastest expanding regions for the past decade. Despite this, it is still one of the poorest. Poverty is both a cause and a result of the region's poor educational, literacy, maternal mortality, and child malnutrition statistics. In response to the demand for low-cost labor, families are sending their children to work rather than to school to have an education. (The World Bank Group, 2000).

Furthermore, the number of working children in Asia Pacific is by far the highest in the world accounting for 18.8% of the region's 650 million children aged 5 to 14. Many of the worst kinds of child labor such as child trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, bonded child labor, child domestic work, hazardous child labor, and the recruitment and use of children for armed conflict or drug trafficking, are still major challenges. In many nations, a high tolerance for child labor as well as political instability and violence in others exacerbates the problem and makes it more difficult to address. Furthermore, many children in places devastated by natural catastrophes are at risk of being forced into child labor. (International Labour Organization, 2006).

Globally, 152 million children – 64 million girls and 88 million boys – are projected to be working as children accounting for about one out of every 10 children. UNICEF estimates

that 12 percent of children aged 5 to 14 years in South Asia, or more than 41 million children are participating in child labor. The dynamic picture of child labor shows a one-third reduction since 2000, but improvement is far too slow. Bonded labor, child soldiers, and human trafficking are all examples of extreme kinds of child labor. Child workers from South Asia work in a wide range of industries including brick kilns, carpet weaving, garment manufacturing, domestic service, agriculture, fisheries, and mining (UNICEF, n.d).

Child labor and exploitation in South Asia are the result of a number of circumstances including poverty, social norms that condone it, a lack of appropriate employment possibilities for adults and adolescents, migration, and emergencies. These elements are both a cause and a result of social imbalances that are exacerbated by prejudice.

According to a recent UNICEF study, gender, age, socioeconomic level, caste/ethnicity, and other factors determine the likelihood of children engaging in child labor, the types of work they do, and the severity of exploitation. Child domestic workers, for example, are usually girls who are rarely visible and suffer numerous dangers. In crisis scenarios, children from lower castes or marginalized ethnic groups may be more likely to be recruited by armed groups. Migrant children are also at risk of forced labor and human trafficking. Furthermore, child labor and exploitation continue to be a threat to national economies with serious short and long-term implications for children including denial of education and deterioration of physical and mental health (UNICEF, n.d).

As a result of the coronavirus epidemic, millions of the world's poorest children have been forced to drop out of school and labor to support their families, for schools have shuttered and parents' earnings have decreased or vanished. The youngsters endure grueling, dirty, and frequently dangerous labor such as transporting bricks or stones, scavenging for recyclables, begging, or weeding plantations. A large portion of their work is illegal (Pérez-Peña, 2020).

#### **4.5 Nation's pronouncements towards the topic**

Child labor affects 5.8 million, 5 million, 3.4 million, and two million children aged 5 to 17 in India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Nepal, respectively. Children in Nepal are more exposed to child labor than children in other South Asian countries with more than 26% of children aged 5-17 years engaging in child labor. In addition, the level of risk associated with work supplied to children aged 5 to 17 in the region differs by country.

Hazardous work affects 75 percent, 72 percent, 41 percent, 30 percent, 20 percent, and six percent of children aged five to seventeen in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, India, and Bhutan, respectively. These figures may have been higher if children in Afghanistan were included in the poll as the region has 30 million children working in various jobs and 50 million children out of school (Ayertey, 2020).

Rural children's school attendance rates are more than 4% lower than urban children's in Bhutan, India, and Nepal, and rural youngsters are more likely to be inactive - absent from education and employment records in every country reporting data save Sri Lanka. "The largest number of child laborers is in the Asia and the Pacific region" (International Labour Organization, 2014).

Child labor has been addressed in India's and Nepal's Country Assistance Strategies, a poverty study on India, and education sector efforts in Bangladesh. Furthermore, child labor situation evaluations have been prepared for Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. These internal briefing notes outline the primary child labor challenges in each country and suggest a number of actions and directions that the Bank could take to assist its client nations in addressing the problem of child labor. (The World Bank Group, 2000).

## **4.6 Future situation**

Child work is linked to less years of education completed, according to research from several nations; laboring at a young age has been related to decreased school attendance and academic achievement. It has also been associated to a higher risk of injury, poor mental health, and verbal, physical, and sexual abuse, according to studies from around the world; furthermore, the health consequences of working at a young age enhance the chance of poor health outcomes as an adult (Denly, 2019).

Taking this into account, if the situation continues to worsen then global education would be affected majorly due to its relationship with child labor and exploitation. Also, there would be an even lower quality of life for children, especially, in the regions that are most likely to have child workers due to the fact this affects every aspect of their life including social relationships, mental health, physical health, among others. This is the reason why it is a very concerning topic for the international community.

## **5. Useful questions for the delegate**

### **5.1 Topic A**

- 1.** Would drug legalization be a good alternative to end up or at least lighten the problematic over drug crops?
- 2.** How can developing countries, which do not have as much access to technology and other essential tools as developed ones, be included in a possible solution?
- 3.** Has the drug production and trafficking industry contributed to your country's economy? How?
- 4.** What could be done to improve the substitution of crops strategy considering that it has not been working successfully as expected?

5. Should pesticides, including glyphosate, be completely banned, or should they at least be prohibited in the process of aerial application for the eradication of illicit drug crops?

## **5.2 Topic B**

1. How can improving education in South Asia and The Pacific help solve this problem?
2. What are the reasons countries are not being able to control child labor in South Asia and The Pacific?
3. What could be done in order to improve the quality of life of families without the children having to work?
4. Does your delegation believe South Asia and The Pacific should implement more strict legislations?
5. What does your country believe could be a viable solution taking into account all the different aspects that this topic covers?

## **6. QARMAS**

### **6.1 Topic A**

1. Does your nation support the aerial application method considering its possible negative side effects in the population or the lack of evidence available to prove its effectiveness?
2. Should glyphosate be considered an effective herbicide for the process of aerial eradication?
3. Is your country well known for being a narcotic producer, consumer or trafficking nation? If so, which is the most common drug there?

4. Has your nation received help from the UNODC or any other organization or program for monitoring illicit drug crops?

5. Which are the PROs and CONs of the legalization of drug consumption and commercialization?

## **6.2 Topic B**

1. Does your delegation support child labor considering its effects on education?

2. Does your country makes part of the countries in South Asia and the Pacific that has or have had forced child labor?

3. Does your nation have legislations that take into account child labor?

4. Has your country had any history regarding child labor?

5. Has your country contributed to any of the organizations like UNICEF and ILO that are working against child labor and exploitation?

6. Has your country made part of any of the ILO conventions?

## **7. Useful links**

### **7.1 Topic A**

- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/briefing-room/2021/07/16/ondcp-releases-data-on-coca-cultivation-and-potential-cocaine-production-in-the-andean-region/>
- <https://www.wola.org/analysis/restarting-aerial-fumigation-of-drug-crops-in-colombia-is-a-mistake/>
- <https://www.wola.org/analysis/costs-restarting-aerial-spraying-coca-colombia/>
- <https://www.tni.org/es/node/6115>
- <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/alternative-development/illicit-crop-cultivation.html>
- [https://www.incb.org/documents/Publications/AnnualReports/Thematic\\_chapters/English/AR\\_2002\\_E\\_Chapter\\_I.pdf](https://www.incb.org/documents/Publications/AnnualReports/Thematic_chapters/English/AR_2002_E_Chapter_I.pdf)

- [https://www.unodc.org/pdf/technical\\_series\\_1998-01-01\\_1.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/pdf/technical_series_1998-01-01_1.pdf)
- <https://www.tni.org/en/article/forced-eradication-of-crops-for-illicit-use-and-human-rights>
- <https://www.wola.org/2020/03/usa-colombia-anti-drug-plan-failed-aerial-fumigation/>

## 7.2 Topic B

- [http://www.ilo.int/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS\\_069184/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.int/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_069184/lang--en/index.htm)
- <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-25947984>
- <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/27/world/asia/coronavirus-education-child-labor.html>
- <https://www.oecd.org/employment/emp/2955703.pdf>
- [https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS\\_713925/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_713925/lang--en/index.htm)
- <https://www.un.org/en/observances/world-day-against-child-labour/background>
- <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-57293167>
- [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/277308281\\_The\\_State\\_of\\_Child\\_Labor\\_in\\_South\\_Asia](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/277308281_The_State_of_Child_Labor_in_South_Asia)
- <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5984577fe5274a1707000067/105-Interventions-on-Child-Labour-in-South-Asia.pdf>
- <http://web.worldbank.org/archive/website00811/WEB/OTHER/6114C393.HTM?OpenDocument#:~:text=The%20long%2Dterm%20solution%20to,in%20the%20South%20Asian%20countries.>

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