



MUNUM XXXIV // General Assembly Position Paper Example

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee--Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian

Topic A: Addressing Overpopulation

Country: Togolese Republic

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Overpopulation provides an immense burden on the African economy, infrastructure, and on social welfare. The Togolese Republic has been dedicated to instituting various state-endorsed family planning policies. Togo has publicly funded the distribution of contraceptives since the early 2000's as a preliminary measure to combat population growth. In 2013, Togo ratified the Addis Ababa resolution on overpopulation in Africa. Since, Togo has improved access to healthcare, education, potable water, and electricity and has emphasized that curbing overpopulation is critical to raising living conditions, ending pandemics such as Ebola, and improving conditions for the working class.

Togo has continued to achieve the goals outlined in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and those in the Addis Ababa resolution. Across all policies, there exists a strategy to end rapid population growth. Currently, Togo's population growth rate is 2.9% and will triple by 2050. To lower the rate, Togo continues to increase access to free contraceptives, expand the number of health facilities, and increase access to work and education for women. Most policies focus on rural populations which remain significantly less developed than urban sectors. Furthermore, Togo has many policies focusing on the epidemic of teen pregnancy. To lower teen pregnancy, the government has drastically increased the quality and role of sex education in schools and has bombarded airwaves with public service announcements regarding the costs and risks of teen pregnancy. Togo also recognizes that humans have many children when they have low-confidence in the child's ability to survive. As such, Togo has increased healthcare expenditures and increased the presence of doctors and nurses in rural areas. Despite massive strides and extraordinary government intervention, birth rates remain high and living conditions remain poor. The United Nations and the African Union's Regional Conference on Population and Development fully understand the causes of overpopulation and, consequently, have implemented pertinent policies. Education, healthcare, female empowerment, and government redress are all improving, yet Togo still suffers. Togo is unable to proceed in demographic transition. The Togolese Republic is without the natural resources and wealth that are required to industrialize and modernize like the West. Without an infusion of capital from the United Nations and the World Bank, Togo's economy, like much of Africa, will remain agricultural and underdeveloped; diseases will spread, economies will devolve, and an entire continent will be tormented by the remnants of imperialist occupation.



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Works Cited

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