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VALUES / AL JAZEERA

## Allegations

A Message from Al Jazeera's Editor in Chief

By **Sonia Grewal**

Al Jazeera English is continuously committed to report with integrity. It is our responsibility to have a respectable conduct so we can continue to strive for excellence in our work. As such, any allegations of fake news attempts to undermine our credibility and our value as a news source. Please understand that we are that we are always with the people to tell each story. Thank you.

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NEWS / UNITED NATIONS

## Security Council 2050: Supervirus breaks out in Nigeria 10% of population affected

10% of Nigerian population affected by lethal super virus

By **Mary Frank and Grayson Paquet**

Debate over long-versus short-term solutions to water scarcity is interrupted as a lethal virus crisis in Nigeria demands attention from Security Council 2050.

Tensions continue to rise between Brazil and China as the future security council 2050 resumes discussion on water scarcity. Additionally, debate continues on which country's tech is "made cheaper", or "a rip-off." Discussion commences on the prioritization of short term or long-term water solutions. Although Canada dismisses infrastructure as a short-term solution, Nigeria responds by stating that "infrastructure can be built quickly in countries that are not Canada."

In an interview with the delegation of Canada, states that they look strongly upon the division of long-term and short-term solutions between countries, stating that short-term solutions are absolutely necessary, but self-sufficiency is the goal. The delegation of Canada notes that the council "must teach Nigerians how to fish."

Debate over solutions are set aside as the delegates confront a crisis. The UN Secretary General interjects the committee with breaking news of a lethal super virus circulating in Nigeria, spreading through water contamination. While sipping bottled water in front of his luxurious, personal pool, the President of Nigeria makes a plea for international aid in the form of monetary support. Sanitation technology is not currently developed regarding the unnamed virus.

During a Q&A, Brazil attests to foregoing current plans of technology, marketing solely to Nigeria, in hopes of obtaining more fresh water.

Little medical research surrounding the virus is available as of yet, but it is known that it has a mortality rate of two days. If accessible, a cure is only effective within 24 hours. After a statement from Syria that 10% of Nigeria's population is currently affected, the delegation of Nigeria reacts, reminding that the population of their country is 500 million: "500 million people will be dead if you don't do anything."

NEWS / UNITED NATIONS

## WHO: Humanity's need shines through diplomatic quibble as WHO committee reaches consensus

Diplomacy shines through conflicting perspectives as draft resolutions begin to be put on the table.

By Yuyang Yan and Jannah Rambaran

“If they have similar perspectives, we will gladly step over,” says the UK in a private discussion with Portugal. Through several meetings consisting of key players involved in the issue, it is evident that delegates are working towards the common goal of worldwide health.

On the morning of February 23, 2018, Slovenia, Portugal, Uruguay, the United States, and other persistent countries congregate outside the caucus to compose practical procedures for implementing worldwide vaccination. Within a matter of minutes, key players reach common ground in their heartfelt wishes to increase the accessibility of vaccination.

Previously, those against mandatory vaccination suggest educating the public in place of a law, while those for mandatory vaccination wish for vaccines to be available. With this renewed understanding, it is confirmed that education alone is not enough to ensure herd immunity while providing vaccines without educating the public does not serve long-term needs.

As Nigeria concisely puts it, “Vaccines save lives, not the law,” voicing the priority that practical implementation precedes regulation. Third-world countries, Nigeria included, are concerned with the distribution of funding and resources to install mass vaccination. To this effect, the United States, Italy, France, and South Korea are willing to sponsor the WHO's endeavour to fund vaccination for third-world countries.

In addition, countries understand that developed and developing countries must be treated differently in policy, as their situations are vastly different.

For first-world countries, mandatory vaccination will be required for workplace safety in childcare, food services, and other critical public services. Third-world countries, especially those in the continent of Africa, will be subject to a rigorous program consisting of mandatory vaccination for children the ages 6-10. Doctors will be provided from sponsoring countries to vaccinate, as well as educate, the public. Economic considerations call for the implementation to begin with densely-populated areas and slowly expand to rural areas.

These proposals are tentative, but are nonetheless a sure sign of effective cooperation between all members of the United Nations.

The committee is nearing a close as delegates polish their draft resolutions. The positive interaction from this morning allows for increased hope towards the advancement of healthcare worldwide.

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NEWS / UNITED NATIONS

## HRC: Religion and Ethics Restrict the HRC from Finding a Resolution

The heated debate continues while a secret meeting is held to find a conclusion

By Chloe Koh and Lawrence Martinez

As the HRC continues to debate the topic of euthanasia, assisted death and suicide, the discussion on moral ethics and religion begin to reach a conclusion.

Many countries clashed on their religious beliefs and about how their religion interferes with the act of euthanizing a terminally ill person. Ethical values were also a point of concern.

During the debate, Chile and Spain and more countries brings up the “divine right” and how their God chooses the end of terminally ill patients. Switzerland states that everyone is created equal and has equal rights.

Luxembourg and Slovakia create opposition by quantifying human life as being inferior to dogs. Luxembourg says that dogs are allowed to die when terminally ill while humans are left to natural death and suffering. Slovakia compares the human race to “seven billion ants”.

During the heat of the argument, a secret meeting gathers. Russia, America, UK, The Republic of Korea, and eventually China join this group.

Upon being invited by Russia, Democratic People's Republic Korea states "As you know, Russia and the DPRK are allies and have similar suicide and assisted dying...Unfortunately, I [DPRK] won't be sponsoring or signing this paper due to the fact that America and The Republic of Korea will be sponsoring the paper. Their paper is still in the works but the focus is on sovereignty and religious beliefs."

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NEWS / UNITED NATIONS

## UNEP: Countries Divided and Aligned

UNEP looks towards Emission Trading System and Carbon Tax to combat Climate Change

By Calais Irwin and Jenny Lee

Key countries begin to make a stand during the UNEP council, sparking intriguing alliances between countries of various development. A division of power is expressing itself in the UNEP Council as two notable alliances form: the first being France, Sweden, Turkey, Denmark, and Slovakia, and the second consisting of Russia, Indonesia, Philippines, Nepal and China.

Working papers are being scripted by each alliance, and despite similarity of goals, they continue to drive as separate forces. France proposes a "carbon tax in developed countries, and an ETS for underdeveloped countries" on the basis that all nations should be given the ability to implement a Global Carbon tax. An ETS, or Emission Trading System, sets a cap on the amount of Carbon a country may produce, measured in 'credits' which may be exchanged between nations should a country wish to expand their allotted carbon limit. In relation, Russia, Indonesia, Philippines, Nepal and China P.R.'s temporary alliance suggests using "tax[es] received for carbon neutral projects."

Overlooked is that France's proposition of allowing underdeveloped countries to apply a carbon tax could allow a larger contribution to "carbon neutral projects" suggested by Russia and their comrades. Hindering the formation of a "super alliance" within the committee is disagreement regarding an ETS verse a carbon tax. While France believes in a Carbon Tax for developed countries, and use of the ETS in developing countries, the opposing alliance seems to believe that France is strictly focused on the use of the ETS. An offhand comment suggests that Russia would consider merging papers with France, but they are tentative moving forward due to their thought that France is largely fixated on an ETS

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NEWS / UNITED NATIONS

## Security Council 2018: Oh, Ship

Council panics as delegates are intercepted

By Sarah Phillips

Security Council 2018 has been presented a very time sensitive crisis; a ship carrying multiple delegates from many different countries has possibly been captured by extremist groups from the Horn of Africa. The lives of these missing delegates are in danger, and are depending on this council's decisions.

Throughout the earlier debate, the United States has had a strong position against military intervention. However, they are now looking towards their military in order to rescue the missing delegates. Countries are discussing possible search missions to rescue the delegates - they are all in agreement that these delegates are a top priority. The United States is looking to bring NATO allies into this situation.

This position has led other countries to question the United States' decisions, and NATO's relevance in this crisis. China maintains its firm position on unilateral action in order to solve this crisis, which many other countries have firmly agreed with. The United States appears to slowly be losing support, as many countries do not believe that military action is the course that should be taken. Yet the United States sees no other course of action, and continues to try to gain the support of countries in sending the military to rescue the delegates.

The question of what actions need to be taken is largely divided by countries that want to take immediate military action, and countries that want to cautiously find a diplomatic way to rescue the missing delegates.

Time is of the essence in this situation, and delegates trying to resolve this situation continue to disagree on the course of action to be taken. These missing delegates are dependant on the decision of this security council, and what decision is or is not made could affect these delegates' lives.

NEWS / UNITED NATIONS

## DISEC: Decision or a Drag

DISEC continues its long-standing tradition of not passing resolutions

By Apurwa Sharma and Sandhya Sapkota

DISEC starts its Friday morning by discussing incentive programs for nuclear-free countries and introducing sanctions for countries holding nuclear weapons. As usual, the resolution has not been achieved on either of these subtopics. The viewpoints are standard. The countries holding nuclear weapons are against sanctions, with superpowers such as United Kingdom raising points with questionable validity. Many countries that have nuclear weapons also have influential economies. Therefore, sanctioning them might be detrimental to the world economy. Furthermore, UK mentions that weapons are necessary to promote world security. India, a developing country holding on to nuclear weapons, believes that the sanctions should not apply to them due to their status as a developing country. Finally, the DPRK quotes that “South Korea is an illegitimate state” and nuclear testing should be supported. This stresses that the DPRK believes that sanctions should not apply to them either.

Currently, DISEC is progressing on four different working papers. The American and Russian delegates had trouble staying true to their foreign policy. The United Kingdom’s working paper proposes a nuclear free zone, and turns the funding for nuclear weapons into funding for nuclear energy. Australia presented a working paper that highlighted restricting lethal autonomous weapons system, recognizing that artificial intelligence could be utilized as “killer robots” which could potentially be disastrous, as robots are not capable of thinking logically, and cannot comprehend peace.

Due to time constraints, DISEC was not able to present all of its working papers. A resolution has yet to be reached.

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NEWS / UNITED NATIONS

## UNODC: Women in Terrorism

UNODC discusses the effects of terrorism and how to educate others

By Gursimran Chhina and Ishnoor Nahal

It is evident that there is a need to combat terrorism in many countries. Columbia defines terrorism as “...destroying the economy”, while Japan describes it as a “...specific type of political violence used by groups/individuals who lack [a] legitimate army”. One popular solution is to impose Western-style education, with the purpose of informing women about the dangers of terrorism. Regarding proposed solutions, the council has been mindful of the driven expression of developing countries and their right to nationalism.

This proposed education system implements various successful aspects of education systems abroad, such as the Western education system, while maintaining various countries’ nationalism.

Terrorism affects everyone, and it is imperative to realize the serious effects it imposes on women. With regards to implementing education systems to inform women about terrorism dangers, many developing countries are arguing that already developed nations need to keep in mind that “...[they] may not be compatible in all nations” (As stated by the delegation of Nigeria). Implementation of the Western-style education system may result in unintended effects, such as deterioration of the sovereignty of a nation. In order to balance a developed nation’s national sovereignty with the implementation of Western education ideologies, many delegations, including Venezuela and Niger agree that imposing education systems on developing nations would be a form of terrorism on the nation itself. Instead, the implementation should be adapted into already-modernized education systems, such as those in Nigeria, without imposing forces on the country’s national sovereignty and cultural norms. The precarious act of balancing national sovereignty as well as providing education training on the dangers of terrorism remains a difficult and controversial debate.