

CSW - THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

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Topic A – Maternal Mortality

Topic B - Crisis

COMMITTEE BACKGROUND:

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The CSW is instrumental in promoting women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards concerning such ideals. During a commission session delegates will discuss established laws as well as new concerns pertaining to gender equality and women's empowerment: delegates are expected to agree on further actions to accelerate progress and promote women's enjoyment of their rights in political, economic, and social fields.

1.INTRODUCTION:

According to the World Health Organization, 358,000 maternal fatalities (about 800 per day) occurred worldwide in 2008 as a result of pregnancy or childbirth complications, down 34% from 1990. Despite the decline and the fact that high-income countries, such as OECD countries, are able to put in place the necessary healthcare interventions, low-income and development countries have long struggled to create the proper health care women require, particularly for maternal specific treatments.

1. Topic A explanation:

In the coming committee meetings maternal mortality will be a significant point of discussion: pertaining to the ongoing discourse around the rights pregnant women have to certain treatments in society, in certain countries being almost completely deprived of some of these rights to their proper health and wellbeing; bringing forward moral/ethical dilemmas to be spoken about by each delegate.

Economically challenged countries will seek financial aid from those countries willing to contribute. Acquire medical knowledge and financial aid in order to address the women's health crisis plaguing low development countries. Laws may be put in place which often put restraints on women seeking specific treatment (abortion, vasectomies, physical contraception) and in addition, the proper education to prevent an unwanted pregnancy in the first instance.

Nations will also discuss social issues such as gender inequality, as it is usually the key contributor to negative health outcomes, especially among women. Support for women's involvement in judgements about their own health during pregnancy and maternal progression become more widespread in traditional patriarchal societies.



DELEGATIONS:

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|----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | 11. India | 21. Russia |
| 2. Algeria | 12. Iraq | 22. Saudi Arabia |
| 3. Argentina | 13. Israel | 23. Syria |
| 4. Bangladesh | 14. Japan | 24. South Africa |
| 5. Brazil | 15. Kenya | 25. Sudan |
| 6. Colombia | 16. Mexico | 26. Switzerland |
| 7. Cuba | 17. Morocco | 27. United Kingdom |
| 8. China | 18. Nigeria | 28. Unites states |
| 9. Egypt | 19. Korea (n&s) | 29. Venezuela |
| 10. Germany | 20. Philippines. | 30. Yemen |

KEY QUESTIONS FOR POSITION PAPER:

What is maternal mortality?

What are the causes of maternal mortality?

How badly is your country affected by maternal mortality?

What measures is your country taking regarding maternal mortality?

What are the rights of women?

What is gender inequality?

How can gender inequality affect the rate of maternal mortality in your country?