

American Model United Nations General Assembly Third Committee

GA Third/II/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Third Committee

The General Assembly Third Committee,

1 Concerned by the continuing impacts of climate change on the African continent and the anticipated increase 2 of displaced persons as a result,

Realizing many of the root causes of climate change can increase the risk of future pandemics which will further exacerbate the current refugee crisis on the African continent and around the world,

5 Recognizing the disproportionate and devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on African refugee 6 camps and the lack of safety measures such as :

- 7 1. Social distancing,
- 8 2. Sanitation practices,
- 9 3. Testing accessibility,
- 10 4. Vaccination accessibility,
- 11 5. COVID-19 treatments,

12 Emphasizing the intersection between the crisis of displaced Africans and racism and xenophobia and the 13 need to address these issues as a whole,

14 Welcomes community contributions to solving these challenges and the further integration of refugees in 15 society to combat intolerance,

16 Emphasizing the responsibility African Member States have taken in assisting displaced persons and the 17 honorable burden this holds,

18 Guided by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, which serves as the standard of the inter-19 national refugee protection regime in Africa,

20 Reaffirms the 2018 Global Compact on Refugees and the framework it provides for equitable responsibility 21 sharing and support for refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and considers other measures at the discretion of Member States to further environmental development and clean energy infrastructure;

24 2. Considers an optional and temporary placement program for displaced persons in partnership with 25 individual citizens, housing businesses, and their participating Member States to provide temporary housing on 26 the African continent, thus providing more social distancing standards and reducing overcrowding in refugee camps 27 during the COVID-19 pandemic;

3. *Notes* this voluntary program would also serve to integrate displaced persons into local communities within the neighboring Member States and alike Member States of which these displaced peoples are native to, decreasing the stress of transitory periods for displaced persons;

4. Urges the international community to recognize national sovereignty and allow Member States to set their own programs and priorities for accepting and supporting refugees;

5. *Recommends* the General Assembly Third Committee partner with the International Red Cross, UNHCR, and UNICEF, to delegate and oversee funding for assistance, including healthcare, vaccinations, education, and food to displaced persons;

- 36 6. Calls upon Member States with a surplus of COVID-19 vaccine doses to continue their distribution of
- 37 vaccines to countries with a dearth of vaccine doses, especially on the African continent and in refugee camps through
- 38 the International Red Cross, UNHCR and UNICEF oversight.

Passed, Yes: 43 / No: 1 / Abstain: 5