

POSITION PAPER



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POSITION PAPER

What is a Position Paper?

A position paper is a document in which a delegate outlines their country's stance on the topic under discussion within a committee. The position paper typically comprises five key sections: Heading, International Perspective, National Perspective, Proposals, and References.

Position Paper Body

I. Heading

The heading contains information such as the topic, country, delegate's name, and school. It may also include flags or other optional symbols.

II. International Perspective

This section provides a brief overview of the international context related to the issue. It is essential to cover general aspects of the situation worldwide, including the actions taken by the United Nations to address the matter.

III. National Perspective

In this section, the delegate discusses the situation within their own country. It should encompass all relevant aspects and explain how the delegate's country has dealt with the issue.

IV. Proposals

The delegate summarizes the key points from the previous sections and presents at least three solutions. Each solution should be accompanied by additional information that enhances their credibility and realism.

V. References

The document must adhere to APA 7th generation style for referencing. It should include proper citations for all sources, such as websites, books, or any other information used during the document's preparation.

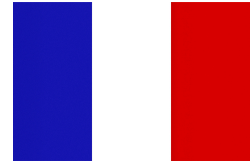
Delegates who do not submit their Position Paper by 11:59 PM on November 14, 2024 GMT-6, shall not be deemed eligible for any form of acknowledgment or recognition

EXAMPLE

Committee: World Health Organization

Topic: Pharmaceutical shortage in Latin America and United States

Country: France



Distinguished Delegates and Honorable Chair, Access to healthcare is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Fulfilling this right includes access to the necessary medications for individuals, although that is not always achieved. Pharmaceutical shortages are a critical issue in the United States and Latin America. According to a report by the World Health Organization (WHO), in Latin America, most of the financing for medications comes from household income, introducing a strong regressive effect, as low-income sectors allocate more than 70% of their health expenditures to purchasing medications (Tobar & Martiche, 2014). In the United States, the problem is similar, as the lack of regulation and high demand for generic drugs have led to chronic shortages of these products. Moreover, the lack of access to medications is a problem affecting millions of people on both continents, leading to increased mortality and morbidity. Factors such as poor infrastructure exacerbate the issue, highlighting the need to implement supply chains and improve resource management in the healthcare sector globally.

France has faced difficult situations regarding this issue; however, it has managed to find solutions. First, the nation's pharmaceutical supply was affected by the global situation of suppliers, as conflicts within these countries sometimes limited the production of medicines. To address this problem, France decided to diversify its supply sources and establish agreements with multiple manufacturers to have a broader range of drug producers (Thompson, 2023). A 2024 survey by France Assos Santé shows that 44% of French citizens perceive a shortage of medications in the country, prompting them to call on pharmaceutical companies to be more transparent and provide more affordable prices for the population (Chadwick, 2024). Even if the problem persists, efforts are being made to mitigate it, such as the plan by the Secretary of Health of the French Republic. In 2022, François Braun established a plan to reduce the national drug shortage. This plan includes maintaining a list of the medicines most needed by the French, identifying all points of drug production in France and the ingredients used, ensuring that essential medicines are always available, and equitably distributing medications with the European Union member countries (Thompson, 2023).

EXAMPLE

Considering the previous information, the delegation of France would like to share some viable solutions to this issue with the committee.

1. Maximizing the participation of the Pan American Health Organization, an organization born from an alliance between the World Health Organization and the Organization of American States, in addressing the issue. PAHO will manage and control the equitable production and distribution of medicines across the continent. To do this, constant communication with representatives from the countries involved will be necessary to increase the stock of medications for the continent. They will be distributed based on each country's needs and with the necessary measures. Additionally, a donation fund will be created, where the money raised will be used to obtain the necessary medications for those in need.
2. Making efforts to reduce medication prices. Dialogues will be held with executives of large pharmaceutical companies at national or continental levels, such as Abbot, Roche, Pfizer, Bayer, and Eurofarma, to try to reach an agreement that stipulates fairer prices.
3. Investing in the research and production of generic drugs, as they tend to be more affordable while still helping patients. The production and distribution of these drugs will be encouraged by working alongside manufacturers such as Novartis, Actavis, Mylan, and Laboratorios Best. Additionally, tax incentives will be granted to producing companies to encourage the production of these generic drugs.
4. Strengthening the healthcare system, especially its logistics. Without a functional system, patient health is at risk. Therefore, a comprehensive approach is crucial, addressing access, quality, technology, and policy. As much as possible, health insurance coverage should be expanded, and preventive care should be promoted, along with investing in infrastructure, medical staff training, and health information systems. Transparency throughout this process is necessary, so governments will be involved in ensuring it.
5. Raising awareness amongst the population about the proper care of medications, using tools such as social media or campaigns in clinics. The main message will be that since the available quantities of medicines in the area are not vast, the existing amounts must be appreciated and used correctly.

With nothing further to add, the delegation of France thanks you for your attention and is open to questions, comments, and suggestions. Thank you.

EXAMPLE

References

- Tobar, F & Martiche, E (2014), "Economic tools for security access to pharmaceuticals in Latin-American countries". *Pharmaceuticals Policy and Law* 16 (2014) 207-224.
- Chadwick, L. (2024, 16 may). French health groups put forward proposals to limit the damage of worsening drug shortages. Euronews. <https://www.euronews.com/health/2024/05/16/french-health-groups-put-forward-proposals-to-limit-the-damage-of-worsening-drug-shortages>
- Thompson, H. (2023, 9 April). How France plans to fix its medicine shortages and the drugs worst hit. *Connexionfrance*. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/news/how-france-plans-to-fix-its-medicine-shortages-and-the-drugs-worst-hit/176817>
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