

## Martingrove Model United Nations

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### RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE HEALTH COUNCIL

#### **Regarding Anti-Vaxxers and Disease Resurgence**

*The Health Council,*

*Aware of* the resurgence of anti-vaxxers (individuals operating under the belief that vaccinations are extremely harmful and deny them for religious and philosophical mandates) during the global COVID-19 pandemic,

*Deeply concerned* by the ever-increasing frequency and severity of preventable diseases, in large part affecting children, in developed member nations due to a rejection of mandatory childhood vaccinations,

*Noting with deep concern* that in 2019, the United States reported 695 cases of measles from 22 states despite its elimination from U.S. soil in 2000 and that in the same year, the World Health Organization reported a 300% increase in the number of measles cases worldwide,

*Recognizing* that in the current bio-geopolitical climate, a vaccine for the COVID-19 virus will be a critical tool for helping curb the spread of the pandemic in addition to the effective testing tools and existing prevention measures,

*Alarmed* by the threat of COVID-19 to the worldwide community in 2020, affecting 115 million people worldwide and killing 2.6 million, with rapidly increasing case counts and mortalities,

*Noting with approval* the success of herd immunity in worldwide public health measures that have lent to the success of vaccinations such as the poliomyelitis vaccine, a disease affecting children under five years of age that has seen a decrease of 99% since 1988,

*Cognizant of* the difficulty of avoiding encroachment of personal freedoms and private life in the push for vaccinations, and the debatable violation of Article 12 in global inoculation efforts,

*Desiring* the initialization of an international or large-scale plan to increase public knowledge of vaccines and immunization and to prevent the devastating effects of anti-vaccination on global populations during the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Urges* member nations to develop public health information programmes emphasizing the importance of vaccinations in the midst of a pandemic through:
  - (a) The inclusion of the overall benefits to society in light of a highly implausible encroachment of personal privacy and philosophy;
  - (b) The recognition of medical exemptions to vaccinations that would render an individual unable to participate in mandatory inoculation;
2. *Urges* member nations to permanently halt previous exemptions to inoculation on the basis of philosophical and religious beliefs, and extend exemptions only to individuals that are medically incompatible to prevent further spread of the COVID-19 pandemic;
3. *Strongly recommends* for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, that all nations to allocate 5% of gross domestic product (GDP) to support the creation of, or updating of recognized public health extensions that specifically address the benefits and effects of vaccinations by the year 2022;
4. *Calls for* developed member nations to allocate 0.3% of GDP to support the creation of such a public health vaccination program in less developed nations and aid them in meeting the 5% goal;
5. *Mandates* that all potential vaccines undergo at least 3 full rounds of human trials before entering the market;
6. *Stresses* the ever-increasing need for all countries to address the anti-vaxxer population as a visible and influential minority in the global fight against disease spread;
7. *Designates* anti-maskers and anti-vaxxers as bioterrorists for their role in the intentional release of infectious agents, and urges governments to address the threat they pose accordingly.

**Submitter:** New Zealand

**Seconded:** Canada

**Negator:** Russia