**Position Paper**

**Committee:** United Nations General Assembly

**Agenda:** Consequences of the pandemic

**Country**: Germany

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a new yet deadly coronavirus that is said to be originated in Wuhan, China. Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment.  Older people and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness. The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it’s important that you also practice respiratory etiquette (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow).This Corona virus pandemic is a very terrifying situation as there is no treatment of vaccine available against it, all the treatments are experimental and may have unforeseen consequences

Germany totally stands by the statement issued by the UNSC Secretary General regarding the situation. He said on 31 march 2020 that “The new [coronavirus](https://www.un.org/coronavirus) disease is attacking societies at their core, claiming lives and people’s livelihoods”, pointing out “The new [coronavirus](https://www.un.org/coronavirus) disease is attacking societies at their core, claiming lives and people’s livelihoods”, also hinting that the potential longer-term effects on the global economy and individual countries are “dire”. Germany also acknowledges and appreciates the launch of a 2 billion dollar global humanitarian response to fight COVID-19 in 51 countries across South America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia. Also Germany emphasizes that that such measures by the United Nations and the efforts of the local governments and NGOs will be our most potent weapon against the virus.

**In Germany we have adopted the following policies:-**

**Social distancing measures:**

* Public gatherings of more than two people will be banned. There will be exceptions for families and those living together.
* General contact with others should be reduced to a minimum.
* A 1.5-meter (4.9 feet) distance should be kept at all times when in public.
* Gastronomy businesses must close. Businesses offering food delivery and collection will be allowed to remain open.
* Service providers such as hair-dressers, cosmetic, massage and tattoo studios where a 2-meter distance between people is not possible must also close. Businesses and centres offering medical treatments may remain open.
* Police and other law enforcement agencies will enforce any infractions of the new rules — Merkel did not state what the punishment would be for anyone not abiding by the new measures.
* Hygiene regulations must be implemented for staff in the workplace, or for visitors.
* Commuting to work, helping others and exercising alone outside will still be permissible, as long as the activities are carried out in abidance with the guidelines

**Economic measures:**

* A temporary VAT cut from 19% to 16%, from 1 July until 31 December
* A €300 one-off payment for every child in the country
* A €50bn fund to address climate change, innovation and digital technology›
* A €25bn loan support programme for small firms that have seen their sales drop by more than 60% for June to August. This could be a particular boost for bars, restaurants, hotels and other hospitality businesses.
* €10bn for municipalities struggling with lower tax receipts, with public spending on infrastructure and housing.
* Germany’s package of measures comes on top of a €750bn rescue package agreed in March. It included loan guarantees and direct spending measures such as furlough wage subsidies.

Germany would believes that with the help of local governments, countries, and through cumulative efforts by utilising shared resources; we as United Nations would be able to handle this pandemic ; and would be able to restore normalcy in the world that has been distrusted by the Covid 19 pandemic.