MODEL UNITED NATIONS, Samarth School

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Position Paper

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Committee - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Country - Argentina

Agenda - Climate change adaptation

INTRODUCTION

Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns. These

Shift may be natural, such as through variations in the solar cycle. But since the 1800s,

human activities have been the main driver of climate change, primarily due to burning

fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas.

Generating electricity and heat by burning fossil fuels causes a large chunk of global

emissions. Mining and other industrial processes also release gas, as does the

construction industry. Cutting down forests to create farms or pastures, or for other

reasons, cause emissions, since trees, when they are cut, release the carbon they have

been storing. Each year, approximately 12 million hectares of forest are destroyed. Most

cars, trucks, ships, and planes run on fossil fuels. That makes transportation a major.

contributor of greenhouse gasses, especially carbon-dioxide emissions, and many more

things that affect the climate in a very harmful and destructive way.

As greenhouse gas concentrations rise, so does the global surface temperature. The

The last decade, 2011-2020, is the warmest on record. Since the 1980s, each decade has

been warmer than the previous one. Nearly all land areas are seeing more hot days and

heat waves. Higher temperatures increase heat-related illnesses and make work

Outside is more difficult. Wildfires start more easily and spread more rapidly when

conditions are more alluring. Temperatures in the Arctic have warmed at least twice as

as fast as the global average.

Where Argentina Stands

 Argentina is already establishing the basis for its adaptation

strategy, which includes tools for decision making and planning of the NAP process, and mechanisms to include

local stakeholders, community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations as well as the private sector.

Once finalized, Argentina’s NAP will facilitate integration of climate change adaptation into the country’s existing

strategies, policies and programs and in this way facilitate the assessment and reduction of vulnerability to the

adverse effects of climate change. The Argentinian government will advance adaptation planning across levels and

will raise awareness on adaptation potential and needs as well as disseminate adaptation initiatives being out.

out in the country and their respective impact.Argentina has made significant steps towards establishing a nationwide plan to deal with its water-related risks as

part of a long-term vision. The National Water Plan (NWP) (2016) sets ambitious objectives to place water in the

core of economic and social development. By 2023, the national government aims to achieve universal access for

drinking water supply and 75% for sewage connections.

Throughout history, people and societies have adjusted to and coped with changes in

climate and extremes with varying degrees of success. Climate change (drought in

In particular) has been at least partly responsible for the rise and fall of civilisations.

Earth’s climate has been relatively stable for the past 10,000 years, which has allowed

for the development of our modern civilization and agriculture. Our modern life is

tailored to that stable climate and not the much warmer climate of the next

thousand-plus years. As our climate changes, we will need to adapt. The faster the

climate changes, the more difficult it will be.

While climate change is a global issue, it is felt on a local scale. Local governments are

Therefore, at the frontline of adaptation. Cities and local communities around the world

have been focusing on solving their climate problems. They are working to build a flood

defences, plan for heat waves and higher temperatures, install better-draining

pavements to deal with floods and stormwater, and improve water storage and use.

According to the 2014 report on Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability

(page 8) from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Governments at various levels are also getting better at adaptation. Climate change is

being included in development plans: how to manage increasingly extreme disasters

We are seeing, how to protect coastlines and deal with sea-level rise, how to best

manage land and forests, how to deal with and plan for drought, how to develop new

crop varieties, and how to protect energy and public infrastructure.