

Committee: Indian Ocean Rim Association
Topic A: Managing Fisheries and Aquaculture
Country: Kenya
School: Auburn High School
Delegates: Name (Ex: John Smith)

The Indian Ocean Rim Association plays an integral role in the issue of Managing Fisheries and Aquaculture. Currently, overfishing in the Indian Ocean has led to loss of diversity of aquatic life and even extinction for certain species. Furthermore, the lack of regulations regarding aquaculture in the region has led to the increased malpractice of overfishing and irresponsible allocation of resources in the global fishing market. We the nation of Kenya are reliant on the agriculture sector for a majority of our GDP and are in favor of efforts and policies that move the country away from being a nation of subsistence fishing. Rather, we wish to be a global player in the international fish market. The nation of Kenya is a “coastal state with a marine coastline of 536 Kilometres and a well-developed marine fishing industry,” and promotes capitalizing on the exuberant resources the region has and the centralization of the market with the IORA (Kenya).

The nation of Kenya is disappointed with the recent state of overfishing done by the member states of the IORA. Member states have wasted opportunities to rejuvenate the high population density, developing nations. In addition to the problems within the IORA, Kenya is also concerned with its recent disputes with China over the tilapia trade, a major fish of Kenya. The booming China market undercuts the local fishing sector of Kenya, leaving the nation without any assistance from one of its major resources (Waruru). In order to re-configure the global market in favor of the Indian Ocean nations and establish proper regulations and practices that promote effective fishing and aquaculture, Kenya calls for the creation of a centralized committee within the IORA that will oversee the fishing practices being done by the member states, the allocation and management of the vast resources available to the region, and the global market practices.

As it stands now, each individual nation within the IORA is not capable of solving the problems presented on its own. However, a centralized committee that has representatives of each member state could better manage the future of the industry. The committee could better implement the Marine Spatial Planning initiatives, which require multilateral cooperation, development of productive aquaculture, an untapped industry in the region that could prove to be a GDP boost to the many developing nations in the organization, and oversee proper fishing regulations, leading to a rejuvenation and diversification of aquatic life in our precious oceans.

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Committee: Indian Ocean Rim Association

Topic B: Utilizing Ocean Energy and Resources

Country: Kenya

School: Auburn High School

Delegates: Name (Ex: John Smith)

With the esteemed ability and position of being in this body, the nation of Kenya is deeply conscious of the preparations we must make to address the growing problem at our hands. We find ourselves in a time of pressing matters and much required discussion and lay at the shores of one of this planet's most plentiful and precious oceans; this ocean that has and continues to provide resources that our nations, people, and thus our democratic institutions depend upon. Whether it be oil, minerals, wind, or simply water, these resources power our people's needs and let our nations prosper. Faced with the obstacles that those before us failed to address proactively, and with the grave consequences of time being against us, as our nation's grow and become larger, the demands of our citizenry must be met. Nonetheless, our growing needs must be balanced with responsible methods of procurement. The Republic of Kenya firmly believes that we must address our treatment of the Indian Ocean immediately to ensure the safekeeping of this ocean in providence.

Undoubtedly, there must be a discussion concerning the management of the very agriculture and fisheries present in the Indian Ocean, but if we as an association discuss the problems present with the management of those fisheries and agriculture with no regard to the methods of energy procurement, we bring into question the symbolic purpose of this body. Individual states are responsible to maintaining their fishing and agriculture practices in a friendly manner, and it is not under the authority of this body to dictate how other nations manage to match the food needs of their populations. By passing resolutions on how we can utilize our ocean's resources, however, we can guide nations in this association to use discretion in their methods. Not only will it yield in a discussion that doesn't threaten the sovereignty that this committee is not authorized to pervade, but it also yields a discussion that will inevitably touch on the other aforementioned topic. If we ignore this discussion and leave it to the future as we have done countless times before, the Indian Ocean Rim will undoubtedly find itself in tension and conflict, quarreling over proper partitioning of resources: meanwhile larger nations such as China take advantage of their placement and our neglect in discussing this topic.

By delegating the information on our predictable wind patterns and thermal vent system underwater to boards of various experts from around the world and providing them with the funds to properly form and suggest methods of energy procurement, fishing, and trade, we as a body of responsible nations can help strengthen our bonds in trade and communication. The task we face is one that has harsh implications in the future, and we as a body must realize this before it is too late to act on. We find it imperative to discuss this matter, and wish to see other nations

follow suit in providing a precedent of not only worrying about the present, but thinking larger and thinking proactively.

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