



**Original Submission:** Delegate from Washtenaw International High School  
**Committee:** Economic & Financial Committee  
**Topic:** External Debt Sustainability and Development (18b)  
**Country Represented:** France

Sovereign debt has kept the global economy, to an extent, in harmony. The systems of checks and balances between regional hegemony and lower income countries is a deeply flawed, yet essential component of global politics. The main issues that the delegation of France has noticed within these transactions are predatory lending practices or controversial third party decisions. As France has been a strong hub of trade in Europe and beyond, we acknowledge the responsibilities that we have towards those in disadvantaged positions. We have established ourselves as an economy with potential, with a total of 1,323 foreign investments being placed in France in 2018. Furthermore, we acknowledge how egalitarianism is an important principle with our economic policies, and with the joint efforts of the United Nations, we can strive to implement it more across global markets and empower the Economic and Financial Committee.

To do so, we must first address corruption from lender to debtor countries; and find ways to hold countries accountable when developing the terms of loans. Reforms must be made with careful attention to the political climate and lending history of the borrower countries to ensure the deal is fair, while also keeping incentives for the lender countries. France believes that the resolution will have to examine the nature of both private and public sectors as well as unpayable interest in the form of physical collateral. There must be more transparency regarding developing governments' use of additional funds to make sure that they are responsibly generating wealth. The lending criteria for many bond transactions in this day and age are quite inequitable, and need to be amended. More work must be done between leaders and a country's federal financial institutions to gather data about the rapidly changing economy. We must mobilize independent researchers and think tanks to analyze the inner workings of loan corruption.

Beyond government bond systems, inter-governmental organizations like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund also have a duty to assist developing nations through aid packages that do not generate as much public controversy as they currently do. For example, the IMF has strict austerity measures in place for borrowers that often neglect the citizens' human rights. Though their bailout plans for countries ravaged by economic disaster can ultimately rescue the country, they forsake sovereignty and other types of wealth (education, human capital, etc.). This leads to distrust and further divides nations on the topic of third party creditors. The same methods from above as well as building on trust funds and existing rescue plans already offered by the IGOs can lead to a unified solution across the board.

The French delegation looks to work cordially with other nations and tie up all loose ends that our current system of loaning worldwide has created. We hope that by focusing on equity and holistic wealth creation, developing and developed nations alike will prosper.

Sources:

<https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/FRA>  
<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/>

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/10/government-debt-economy-bonds-loans/#:~:text=Countries%20can%20borrow%20from%20international,developing%20economies%20will%20be%20unsustainable.>

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**Original Submission:** Delegate from Clay High School

**Committee:** Economic & Financial Committee

**Topic:** Combating sand and dust storms (18j)

**Country Represented:** Norway

The meteorological hazards known as sand and dust storms (SDS) present a massive environmental issue that affects millions of people worldwide. The issues SDSs create vary, spanning from economic downturn to worsening air quality and the spread of several diseases. In several attempts to combat the issue, the UN has accomplished a fair amount in terms of encouraging international cooperation on this issue. In 2004, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Sand and Dust Storm Project was created, and in 2007, the Sand and Dust Storm Warning and Advisory Assessment System (SDS-WAS) was produced. Over time, various nodes for heavily affected areas were established and implemented into the system. There have also been resolutions recently passed in the UN, such as resolution 76/211, which recognizes that sand and dust storms “cause numerous human health problems in different regions around the world”, as well as many other issues.

Norway is committed to taking action against SDSs. In 2020, Norway financed the report made by the UN Environment Programme, titled Impacts of Sand and Dust Storms on Oceans. In this report, it highlights several sources and stemming issues of SDSs, especially their effects on the overall health of marine ecosystems worldwide. Norway is also interested in researching more of the varying sources of SDSs, shown as the Research Council of Norway funded an operation in Svalbard to identify high latitude dust (HLD) sources, which provided data to the European Geosciences Union (EGU), which subsequently published a study on December 17th, 2021, on “significant high latitude dust sources”. This study states that, “Dust produced in high latitude and cold climate environments... can have regional and global significance... Bullard et. al. (2016) summarized natural HLD sources to cover over 500,000 km<sup>2</sup> and to produce particulate matter of ca. 100 Mt. dust per year.” This study displays that HLD sources must be considered when discussing SDSs. The funding of these reports shows that Norway is willing to support any action that furthers research on SDSs and helps the international community better combat SDSs.

Norway has many proposals for resolutions on the topic of SDSs, such as reaffirming resolution 76/211, and restating that 11 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals are negatively affected due to this issue. Another idea Norway would like the committee to consider is not just “noting with concern” the results of Impacts on Sand and Dust Storms on Oceans, but instead urging member countries to consider the recommendations the report proposes. One more proposal would be for the committee to recognize HLD sources as a large source of dust when discussing SDSs as well as urge the WMO to establish another regional node centered in Svalbard to further observe the HDLs created around the Arctic region. With these proposed resolutions, Norway believes that future endeavors to combat SDS will be more efficient and effective.

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