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Four Takeaways From WHO's Recent Resolution and What It Shows

Resolution 1.3 shows the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s dedication to solve the problem, but it also exposes the agency's true colours

By Erin Alisya Setiawan

Al-Jazeera

12 June 2019

All information provided in this article has been provided by the resolution presented by the sponsors of said resolution.

It is the third day of WHO council sessions and the situation is still heated. With two resolutions already introduced, Resolution 1.3 was released to the delegates, who wait patiently to either praise or criticize the new resolution.

Resolution 1.3 was introduced by the Delegate of Australia, who seemed to have been leading the conversation regarding its content. The other sponsors, the Delegates of Singapore, Pakistan, the United States of America and the United Kingdom, supported the introduction with pride. The following is a list of key takeaways from this intelligent, yet complicated resolution—all from the start to the end.

WHO is on a win-win basis now

Who would have thought that an official United Nations (UN) agency would resort to the whole tactic of “you do something, we will give you a reward.” This is something best employed by parents who require their children to perform certain chores in return for a prize. One of WHO's strategies is the incentive mechanism, which will bridge the technology gap between countries. The idea is this: if a country participates in international collaborations dedicated to this issue, they will be given “recognition and publication of their dedication”.

By giving countries a reward, they will theoretically be motivated even further. However, in actuality, it is simply just a testament to narcissism. This just goes to prove that countries care more about doing things for praise, than doing things out of their goodwill. It is unclear if this will actually work and how it will play out but regardless, the incentive mechanism proposed will only encourage self-righteousness. Is WHO not considering how countries, especially MEDCs, might be offended if they are not awarded?

The focus is on ethics more than ever

For the longest time, ethics have always lingered in the medical world - typically as an afterthought of “should we actually be doing this?”. This resolution puts the spotlight on making sure that ethics are in place before any procedure. Listed as “putting forth social ethic fulfilment”, the sponsors propose to create policies on the scope of ethics, which includes autonomy, beneficence, non-

maleficence and justice.

The issue of ethics is complicated at best, but it is not hard to see why the sponsors wanted to highlight it. A lot of the resolution's content circles around the matter of consent, having dedicated a whole mechanism to it. The mechanism is said to include the fulfilment of individual right to choose, the fulfilment of consent obligations, the enforcement of legal procedures of consent as well as the validity of consent. It is a matter that is unavoidable in current times - which leads to the next takeaway.

Consent is complicated

Consent is a term popping up a lot in our screens and in our conversations and it can be applied to pretty much any situation. However, with more applications, the term gets more and more complicated.

Resolution 1.3 is proof of this. The resolution listed three different types of consent: dynamic, direct and informed. A commoner would scoff and ask, "what is this?". Surely, the sponsors want to accommodate and support as many individuals as they can, however, is it really necessary to complicate the matter of consent and break it down to different types when consent is simply just one's permission? Perhaps, WHO is just scared of any backlash. Going online would allow one to witness people being "cancelled" for allegedly offending people with their "misinterpretation" of sensitive matters such as consent. With that, WHO is playing it safe. It's taking tiny steps to ensure that they will not get attacked.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is not going away

When the discussion of AI first started going around, it was more towards the likes of "stop the development of AI now before it gets out of hand". Now, WHO is saying "let's eliminate its risks, not AI itself." The resolution includes plans to tackle the dangers of AI that they wish to encourage in countries, including an accountability system, a user-friendly translation as well as the requirement for doctor's analysis.

One thing is clear: AI is here to stay. At this point WHO has simply accepted the fact that AI is not going anywhere and that instead of wasting time stopping it, the focus should be on limiting it. It is a sad presentation on what WHO - and the rest of the world - failed to do. Everyone failed to protect our world against AI and now WHO has seemingly given up on trying to stop it. It is an unfortunate, yet necessary showcase of what would happen if actions are not taken early. In the case that this resolution is not passed, one cannot assume that the problem will not escalate to the point of no return.

IoMT and VPN might not be a good couple

Solving one cybersecurity issue with another possible cyber-threat

By Radyani Prasasya

Mothership.sg

12 June 2019



*“[...] 3. Proposes the following to heighten cybersecurity and prevent cyberattacks:
[...] c. Use Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) [...]”
– Draft of Resolutions I.I Article II: Cybersecurity.*

The WHO chamber meeting produced four draft resolutions. The first draft sponsored by the Delegates of Ecuador, Iraq, France, Finland, and New Zealand briefly mentioned the use of Virtual Private Networks (VPN) as an effort to prevent cyber attacks on digital healthcare and IoMT.

IoMT: Connects your body to the internet

The use of the Internet of Things (IoT) in general has already been viral for the concept to control devices remotely. Modernization lures many people to connect everything with the internet. We then end up waiting when there is no need to move to do anything.

The Internet of Medical Things (IoMT) is a healthcare technology that can be a device, application, or system that is connected to an online computer network.¹ In addition to reducing the frequency

¹ Moorthie, Sowmiya. 2017. What next for the internet of medical things. IO12. Accessed 06/12, 2019. <http://www.phgfoundation.org/blog/internet-of-medical-things>.

of wasting time by seeing a doctor and less spending, IoMT also has more specific goals in its efforts to deal with various challenges in the development of chronic diseases. IoMT is also expected to become one solution to the ageing population with the demands for better healthcare systems. According to Forbes, in less than half a decade, 1.2 billion people will be considered elderly.²

These devices practically connect the human body to the internet. Everything can be set and monitored via a WiFi connection. It works not only on smartphones, TVs, or regular computers anymore but also on living things that are not composed of cables and motherboards.

Cybersecurity issue on the table

There have been many accidents that occurred on IoT. Even recently, an individual managed to hack a baby surveillance system and showed an image of the child in danger.³ This incident then became a concern in the development of IoMT. What if a heart pacemaker implanted in someone's body can be stopped by someone else, even from a distance of half a mile? Or how terrible would it be if an automatic insulin injector is being manipulated to give excessive doses?

VPN might be good to your browser, not your body

The Oxford Dictionary defines a Virtual Private Network as a system that is set to create secure and private internet connections through existing network encryption.⁴

Some people use this system to protect their identity and security when connected to the public internet network. However, in some cases, some less credible VPN applications are then vulnerable to data theft crime attempts.

When data needs to be collectively protected, for example, in a company, the existence of a VPN is very useful. This is especially so if the use of VPN is done only on internet access that is in a certain location or certain network that is clear, so that the administrator can maintain the security of the connection.

This does not apply to IoT and IoMT.

Devices are controlled remotely by someone who may be active or mobile. Controls on a smartphone or tablet can be lost or stolen. At least it doesn't matter if the "remote" only controls the rice cooker, not our body.

WHO to propose VPN

The WHO resolution is not mature enough to put a VPN as a recommendation to prevent cyberattack threats against IoMT. Mentioning VPN is the same as adding responsibilities for managing VPN companies in maintaining network security. A credible mechanism and standardization of VPN must be a separate mechanism while cooperating with IoMT companies

2 Marr, Bernard. 2018. Why The Internet Of Medical Things (IoMT) Will Start To Transform Healthcare In 2018.01 25. Accessed 06 12, 2019. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2018/01/25/why-the-internet-of-medical-things-iomt-will-start-to-transform-healthcare-in-2018/#600b5324a3ca>.

3 Sin, Gregory. 2019. Texas Family's Baby Monitor Hacked - Careful of IoT Devices.02 06. Accessed 06 12, 2019. <https://www.iomichigan.org/texas-family-s-baby-monitor-hacked-careful-of-iot-devices/>.

4 Oxford Dictionary. n.d. Definition of VPN. Accessed 06 12, 2019. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/vpn>.

that produce the tool.

UNESCO: What Are The Chances?

By Arya B Vijay
The New York Times
12 June 2019

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) commenced their fifth session of debate with regards to preventing the spread of digital misinformation. With only seven sessions of debate in the entire conference, and one more topic left to debate, a question must be asked. What will UNESCO do from this point on in order to finish discussions?

This article will analyse the possible pathways taken by UNESCO in the coming committee sessions and will analyse whether or not UNESCO will manage to solve their topics of discussion.



What Is The Current State?

The committee has introduced eight working papers thus far, the latest of which was introduced this morning by the delegates of New Zealand and Yemen. In this paper, the nations have discussed the main point about digital literacy. They have identified some key causes of digital misinformation with regards to literacy, and encouraged partnerships with various stakeholder. One reason for this was to allow for greater amount of fact-checking. They have also included possible solutions to better digital literacy by creating education systems to raise awareness of misinformation, especially among the youth.

However, the paper has its flaws. In a moderated caucus, an official discussion, many delegates voiced uncertainty about certain points in the working paper. One such point was that the proposal of education systems was not feasible since there are so many countries involved and each country had a unique system. Integrating an education system into the existing one would therefore be extremely difficult. UNESCO has a long way to go.

UNESCO discusses their problems as quickly as possible.

UNESCO still needs to arrive at a resolution for the first topic. The committee will discuss solutions (which they have not completely discussed yet) to combat the problems faced by the committee members, which has been discussed for the most part. They then craft a draft resolution with suitable points that satisfy most, if not all delegates' interest. This would ensure that they then move on to their second topic.

The Ideal Path

With one session left, UNESCO scrambles to recover and discuss their agenda, problems, national interests and possible solutions. However, they only manage to discuss their agenda and a few problems that stakeholders have due to time constraint. UNESCO fails to pass a resolution for their second topic.

The Expected Path

UNESCO manages to solve their current topic for discussion since they are currently already in the process of crafting solutions. The committee consolidates solutions in the coming few hours and puts the solutions into a draft resolution. This takes them a while, because there are conflicting views over the best course of action. For example, in the fifth session, Russia said Artificial Intelligence (AI) could "go crazy" while others looked favourably upon AI. Despite this, they manage to come to a resolution by the sixth session, leaving them with only one session to discuss the second issue.

After they solve the first issue, they will need to solve the problem of finishing their discussions on one whole topic.

To do this, they will discuss their national interests and problems in an open nature, and all delegates participate in order to ensure that all national interests and problems faced are made known to the committee. The committee then moves on to solutions, which are creative and effectively combat the problems faced by the respective nations. They then draft a resolution, and since the majority of national interests are met, the resolution is passed and the impossible happens- UNESCO finishes discussions successfully.

Ideal or Expected?

Based on the current situation, it seems unlikely that UNESCO will follow the ideal path simply due to time constraints. It seems very likely that UNESCO will solve the problems posed by their first topic, but not that posed by the second.



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A Controversial and Ground-Breaking Title

Don't hope that there will be any more critics in the near future

By Fransiskus Gabriel

Al-Jazeera

12 June 2019



The discussions on the prevention of digital misinformation in the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) are still in progress.

These delegates of Member States intend to control the spread of information due to the high amount of digital misinformation.

It is acceptable that the contentions of fake news and misinformation are still a hot topic and a loose cannon. But when you read working papers, which show the progress they have made, what is revealed is far more frightening.

It is frightening to know that some delegates from democratic countries are proposing a vague solution for every state — actions that may result in the possibility of legalizing unlimited governmental control over criticism.

For example, the most recent working paper, proposed by the Delegates of New Zealand and Yemen, stated that they encourage partnership with relevant stakeholders with the means to protect the professional journalism community from misinformation through the use of a database and track record of journalists.

Al Jazeera acknowledges that this proposed solution is meant to decrease the possibility of fake news distribution.

However, its wording is not adequately detailed, which makes its clauses vague. If such a resolution passes and is implemented, the possibilities of the clause being misinterpreted and misused by the government are undoubtedly high.

The phrase “means to protect and direct the professional journalism community from misinformation” is vaguely phrased and has a high chance of being misused by the government to shut criticism as “misinformation by the journalist” or ruling that “the journalists’ track record is not eligible”. With such a clause, such incidents may occur even in democratic and free countries like New Zealand, which possesses a strong record of protecting fundamental freedom.¹ And in centralized states like Russia that control almost every aspect of their citizens,² this might legitimize their legislation that recently passed regarding restrictions over online media and penalties towards whoever insults the state, by means of “directing professional journalism from ‘misinformation’”.

The discussion from the recent working paper by the Delegate of New Zealand and Yemen is otherwise going smoothly, with several countries supporting it and several criticizing its vagueness. Of course the Delegate of Russia views this working paper as an insightful one, since it is in alignment with their interests.

But the delegate of Germany highlights several clauses that are still vague, as a lack of definitions and details may invite diverse interpretations of the clauses.

Discussions are still ongoing, but it would likely not progress any further, since the Delegate of Japan mentioned that North Korea does not believe that there is misinformations in North Korea, which created tension between both delegates. The Delegate of North Korea refuted the statement from the Delegate of Japan, claiming that it is a breach to their national sovereignty since it is never shown officially before.

The Internet of Medical Things (IoMT) is a healthcare technology that can be a device, application, or system that is connected to an online computer network. In addition to reducing the frequency of wasting time by seeing a doctor and less spending, IoMT also has more specific goals in its efforts to deal with various challenges in the development of chronic diseases. IoMT is also expected to become one solution to the ageing population with the demands for better healthcare systems. According to Forbes, in less than half a decade, 1.2 billion people will be considered elderly.

1 “New Zealand,” January 24, 2017. <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2017/new-zealand>.

2 “Russia Passes Legislation Banning State Criticism, Fake News.” Accessed June 12, 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/03/russia-passes-legislation-banning-state-criticism-fake-news-190307194308089.html>.

These devices practically connect the human body to the internet. Everything can be set and monitored via a WiFi connection. It works not only on smartphones, TVs, or regular computers anymore but also on living things that are not composed of cables and motherboards.

Cybersecurity issue on the table

There have been many accidents that occurred on IoT. Even recently, an individual managed to hack a baby surveillance system and showed an image of the child in danger. This incident then became a concern in the development of IoMT. What if a heart pacemaker implanted in someone's body can be stopped by someone else, even from a distance of half a mile? Or how terrible would it be if an automatic insulin injector is being manipulated to give excessive doses?

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Walking Out Of The Council Full of Hungry Crocodiles

By Fransiskus Gabriel

Al-Jazeera

12 June 2019



With much disappointment, the Journalist of Al Jazeera exited the chamber of UNESCO after seeing that discussions were going to discredit news agencies and increase the authorities of the government.

At first, the discussion of preventing digital misinformation moved forward with such progressive debate regarding journalists, social media, and confirmation bias.

It turns out that all the discussions were merely a formality of common knowledge, where in this discussion, these delegates acknowledge the 'Echo Chamber' as a serious factor towards digital misinformation.

Both prominent delegates, the Delegate of Russia and the Delegate of China actively demonstrate their strict-controls towards social media.

Both of their countries enforce social media restrictions and strict censorship to manage the flow of information inside the country.

While these delegates celebrate their reign on information control, there are some critics that see this as an act to tighten the freedom of their people.

For instance, Russia's legislation banning any fake news and critic that would disrupt the 'public security' could become an abuse of power to discredit opponents of the government.¹

In China, the government conducts social media restrictions with strict controls via monitoring systems and firewalls, shutting down 'inappropriate websites', and jailing journalists, bloggers, and activists that criticise the government.²

Reflecting on these states, it is possible that such misguided solution from this council's discussion may lead more countries to fall into the same circumstance, discrediting the rights of their own people.

Delegates in UNESCO need to bear in mind that freedom of expression is a fundamental human right, which is protected by Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.³

In regards to that, any resolutions that is provided by these delegates needs to protect the interest of humanity and cooperation, not national interest.

But the council instead shows how each delegates' ideas on preventing digital misinformation actually increases the government's authority and reduces the freedom for the people, especially journalists.

Al Jazeera perceives that the discussion views journalists or news agencies as clients rather than a partner for governments in societies to fight digital misinformation.

For instance, the Delegate of Norway plans to conduct some sort of 'Bias Identification' to tackle confirmation bias.

Someone's bias or an agency's bias is not be the main factor resulting in the spreading of fake news and creation of misinformation in public.

But a lack of education creates ignorance when people only receive filtered information from governments.

At first, it was hoped that the council would discuss a partnership with the news agencies as providers of reliable and responsible sources, but instead they only mentioned partnership with news agencies in passing, with no further details in the working papers, which tend to create ambiguousness and multiple interpretations of the proposed resolution.

1 "Russia Passes Legislation Banning State Criticism, Fake News." Accessed June 12, 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/03/russia-passes-legislation-banning-state-criticism-fake-news-190307194308089.html>.

2 "Media Censorship in China." Council on Foreign Relations. Accessed June 12, 2019. <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/media-censorship-china>.

3 "Freedom of Expression: A Fundamental Human Right Underpinning All Civil Liberties." UNESCO, April 14, 2015. https://en.unesco.org/70years/freedom_of_expression.

As a news broadcaster, Al Jazeera is deeply responsible for every story that we publish. Each story has made it through a long process of editing and screening, with high standards, in the hopes that such a thing as misinformation will never happen.⁴

It is a disrespect that the Delegate of Yemen stated that news corporations profit on information, making most published news while prioritizing the 'quantity over quality'.

Not all news agencies are like that, it just represents a minority of all news agencies in the world. Al Jazeera, as part of the civil society, is also actively participating in the war against fake news, and it would be easier if the government cooperated with news agencies on providing immediate transparency and response towards every issue. This way, news agencies may publish facts to the public far earlier than the spread of fake news regarding the issue.

Instead of increasing controls that may limit the movement of press, this kind of partnership ideally brings benefit to both sides.

4 "Editorial Standards." Al Jazeera Media Network. Accessed June 12, 2019. <http://network.aljazeera.com/about-us/our-values/standards>.

UNESCO: Mistake After Mistake

By Arya B Vijay

The New York Times

12 June 2019

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) began their sixth session of discussions on preventing the spread of digital misinformation. UNESCO was supposed to discuss two topics over the course of seven sessions, but blunder after blunder has seen them stuck on their first topic, with one session left to go.

Take a look at the urgent nature of this topic. According to the World Economic Forum, in the three months prior to the 2016 United States of America (USA) Elections, the top 20 fake news stories outdid the top 20 stories from largely recognised and reputable news sources in terms of shares, reactions and comments.¹

This should be enough to motivate UNESCO to solve this problem as soon as possible, right? Well, apparently not. It has been three days, six sessions, and UNESCO is still discussing the solutions to solve problems regarding journalism and social media companies. They have yet to pass a resolution. At this rate, we may need to be prepared for the seemingly impossible. Debate had essentially stalled until the fifth session this morning when some meaningful proposals with regards to the subtopics of journalism and social media companies were introduced. These could combat digital misinformation. Blocs of delegates have also started work on their draft resolutions. However, it seems too late. Imagine how long it would take to craft a resolution that considers suitable solutions proposed by all delegates, to introduce the resolution, then giving delegates time to review it and propose amendments, and then further obtaining a two-thirds majority vote to pass the motion. It takes too long.

UNESCO's downfall has been in the time spent on discussion of the stakeholders responsible for digital misinformation, the various national interests and previously implemented solutions by governments. Let us think about it. UNESCO has come together to discuss solutions to prevent the spread of digital misinformation. This evidently shows that previously implemented solutions are simply not good enough. Yet, in the sixth committee session, delegates are still discussing their country's previous implementations. Delegates are still discussing their interests and the responsibilities of social media, journalists and other stakeholders in spreading digital misinformation. Yes, discussing these points early on will set the foundation for future implementations, but in the sixth session? Come on. This slow progress makes it extremely difficult to come to a resolution in good time, and delegates have, putting it plain and simply, wasted away their time.

Adding fuel to the fire, delegates seem more interested in their personal feuds. For example, the delegate of Yemen commented, "Russia should refrain from it," with regards to adding irrelevant content to the discussion. This prompted the delegate of Russia to respond in his speech. Delegates are, yet again, proving to waste time. For some reason, delegates sometimes forget

¹ "Digital Wildfires," Hindsight, World Economic Forum, accessed June 12, 2019, <http://reports.weforum.org/global-risks-2018/digital-wildfires/>.

their main topic for discussion and descend into insignificant back-and-forths. Why? Just to feel good if you 'win' the back-and-forth? This just proves to waste time, and delegates will end up having to rush through the things that actually matter- helping the digital community from being misinformed. Another mistake.

Even if UNESCO manages to pass a resolution, what happens to the second topic? Does it just become a topic for discussion next time UNESCO comes together for a meeting? Does its pertinence just become forgotten? Should UNESCO wrap up discussions on the first topic, they still need to discuss safeguarding and promoting scientific ethics, a topic that is arguably more time-consuming than the first topic. It is likely that UNESCO will only manage to discuss the problems in present-day society that threaten scientific ethics, and their nation's say in this topic. They most likely will not even get into discussions on solutions. This proves a reality that UNESCO would not like to admit; they are truly ineffective in managing their time and delegates disregard their collective aim for rather foolish priorities.

UNESCO only has itself to blame for the situation the committee is in. There is no means to redeem themselves- their mistakes have put the discussions far beyond salvation. These discussions teach delegates in UNESCO a concept that they should know by now: every second counts.

Only One Committee Session Left To The Future Of Global Mental Health-care

By Radyani Prasasya

Mothership.sg

12 June 2019

We've all been at our lowest point in life.

But we are still here and still have the spirit to live.

Mental illness is a medical condition that is difficult to explain. It is different from physical illness that can be proven directly, so it is vulnerable to being ignored and not being a top priority.

Even so, WHO classifies mental illness as one of the most widespread diseases in the world. Based on WHO data in 2001, worldwide, the number of people with mental or neurological disorders had reached 450 million.¹

With a fairly short time limit of only two committee sessions, the council is expected to be able to produce resolutions that can improve existing conditions. Various mechanisms and facilities have been provided by the WHO, but still, this problem persists.

There must be something wrong or lacking in the mental healthcare program that was previously given by WHO.

Agenda settings

WHO certainly understands the pressure to immediately finish the discussion and reach a decision quickly.

The agenda-setting that was carried out at the beginning of the discussion resulted in some information points which, unfortunately, were unable to satisfy the demands of most people listening.

But as expected, the delegates only focused on one topic and kept repeating the same conversations.

Social stigma is too broad to be discussed

There is nothing more problematic than social stigma for those who are different from others. Social stigma ends in pressure which only exacerbates the condition of those affected by

¹ World Health Organization. 2001. WHO Reports: Mental Disorders affect one in four people. https://www.who.int/whr/2001/media_centre/press_release/en. Accessed on 12 June 2019.

depression and anxiety

Of course, imagine if you fell on something that turned out to be fragile so it cracked and hurt your leg? You would only add to the pain and it would not solve the problem.

Social stigma is not only the one-sided point of view of people who cannot accept their conditions. Often those who seek support from medical practitioners see it as embarrassing and get pressured from those who are supposed to act professionally. Not to mention the background and pressure of religious groups who regard mental disorder as an indication of individual failure to reach religious standards.

What is expected by the community is not just socialization, WHO has done it often, there is no point in repeating the same thing again.

Accessibility in conflict zones

Medical treatment is indeed expensive.

A person with bipolar disorder can even consume up to 5 pills per day. This schedule must be adhered to regularly without being missed until certain healing stages are completed. If drugs are taken irregularly, it can cause conditions such as physical side effects and emotional disorders.

Then what about those who cannot afford to pay for the regular treatment? Of course, people no longer want to listen to political answers about the necessity for the government to provide financial support or free medicine. The mechanism is often unable to really reach everyone and only ends up as blanket guidelines without meaningful applications.

What about conflict zones? Several delegates have also mentioned how those who live in conflict zones are more vulnerable to depression and anxiety due to pressure and peaceful condition. Will WHO even try to solve this problem?

A solution to reach their needs

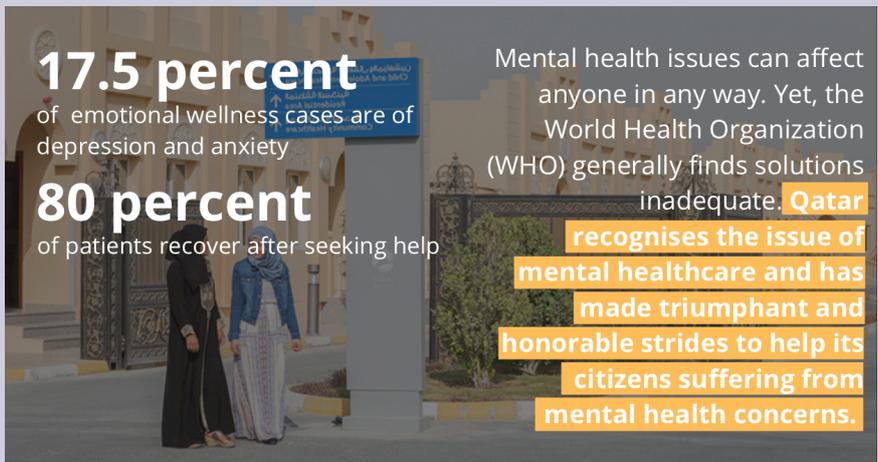
We've all been at the lowest point. About 450 million people in the world are on boats that are bobbing. What they need is a real solution.

Qatar's Take On Mental Health

By Erin Alisya Setiawan

Al-Jazeera

12 June 2019



Past Action

2008

QATAR'S MINISTRY OF HEALTH SHAPED A NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

THE COMMITTEE WORKED COOPERATIVELY IN IMPROVING PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLBEING ADMINISTRATIONS

FINISHED ON A REQUIREMENT FOR A TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE IN IMPROVING EMOTIONAL WELLNESS BENEFITS IN QATAR.

Proposed Solutions



Make resources widely available



Access to treatment



Raising public awareness



Develop specialist services that meet differing needs



Tailor treatment and care based on individuals



Develop a quality mental health workforce



Key Takeaways

Qatar's commendable strides to solving the issue of mental health is proof of their excellent care of their population. Their past actions show how advanced they are compared to other WHO nations who has not taken prior action. Their proposed activities only reflect on the country's intelligent strategies.



Provide a coordinated multi-sectoral approach



Usage of the mental health minimum data-set



Enact mental health laws



Ensure mental health research evidence translates into improvements in clinical practice and patient outcomes.

Is SOCHUM Necessary?

By Dilmin Bandaranayake

AFP News

12 June 2019

The Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Affairs Committee (SOCHUM) is one of the six specialized subcommittees of the United Nations General Assembly and generally referred to as the Third Committee. The committee lets the delegates of the house to think more logically. This will let the delegates to introduce a more logical resolution. When doing so, the delegates should consider the citizens' reaction to the resolution when introducing one. Although many issues regarding humanitarian issues are discussed here, it can be seen that no action plan is under procedure. This is within the proof of many issues which are still are being discussed but not put into an action plan.

²The wild fires on the U.S. have been burning since November and was not addressed or talked of in today's session. Is this the responsibility of SOCHUM or the delegates? The committee should take responsibility in not disregarding key concerns of countries. The fires in the U.S. is not the only issue in today's society: the Cyclone Idai in Africa, floods in Philippines, Cyclone Fani in India and ³the huge 7.5 magnitude earthquake in Papua New Guinea are some of the disasters which occurred this year. The impact of the disasters which occurred in 2013 still prevail to this day: untouched. Clearly relying on the SOCHUM committee is not a fail proof safe due the mentioned factor, it is the pure responsibility of the nation to take care of it under the prevailing situation as absolutely no one will take required action, the only solution is to be a lone wolf.

The situation in Philippines is worsening as we speak, this February, a massive malaria outbreak took place in the flood affected areas in the Philippines. The Philippines is basically sinking into the waters of the Pacific Ocean. There are over thousands of reported cases in the malaria outbreak in the Philippines. Amidst the malaria outbreak, a deadly dengue outbreak is spreading in glaring speed in the Philippines. There have been an incurable measles spread as well, over 10,000 reports and over 1,000 deaths have been reported this year. The numbers are increasing rapidly and the cure is not attainable due to transportation and economic factors of the nation. The government of Philippines should be more responsible in taking care of the population. The residents of the nation of Philippines are living in water at their feet. The threat is amplified by high tides and flooding brought by the roughly 20 storms that intrude the Philippine. The government is aided by various organizations: International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC), Office for the Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO) are few of the generous organizations that work tirelessly for the benefit of the general public. The unfortunate location of the Nation of Philippines in the Pacific Ocean is the root cause for the upcoming of such disastrous events.

The Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Affairs Committee has failed to address the countries in the African continent. The countries in this area are vulnerable in every sector and yet the fact that this committee has failed to adequately address the issues of the countries in the African continent is a disgrace to the United Nations. The United Nations was formulated to promote peace, equality and protection to all countries of the world and yet SOCHUM does not take into

consideration of such vulnerable countries has left the news agency speechless. The Nation of Mozambique being an African country is in the committee and the issues being addressed is a matter of biased nomination. Other African countries are under the same situation as the Nation of Mozambique and the question as to why SOCHUM has not recommended to nominate such countries in great risk remains untouched and unanswered.

SOCHUM for once must suggest the nomination of these countries. The true values of the United Nations must not be lost. The spirit which arose when World War 2 ended to build the UN must prevail. Equality must never be lost.

Top 10 Things That Annoy Chairs

By Press Editors

12 June 2019

Finally... a treat from your Press Chairs

1. Spamming the dais with working papers

"No, we have not reviewed the contents of the 5000 submitted working papers, please allow the dais some time."

2. Creating blocs in a consensus council



3. Speaking in 1st person



4. Always asking for unmoderated caucuses

"Just one more episode"



"Just one more page"



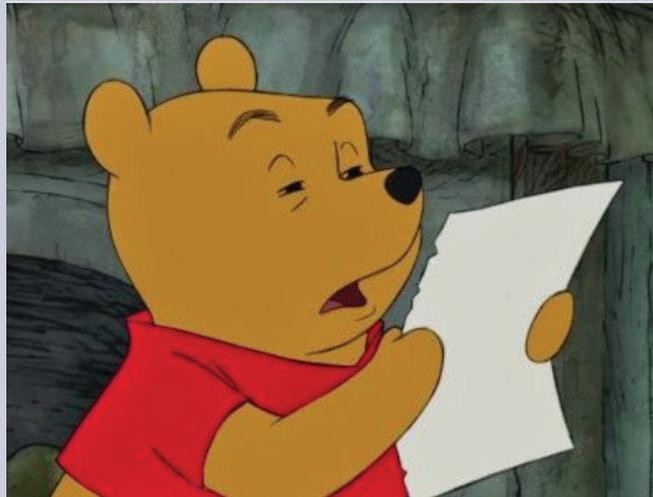
"Just one more piece"



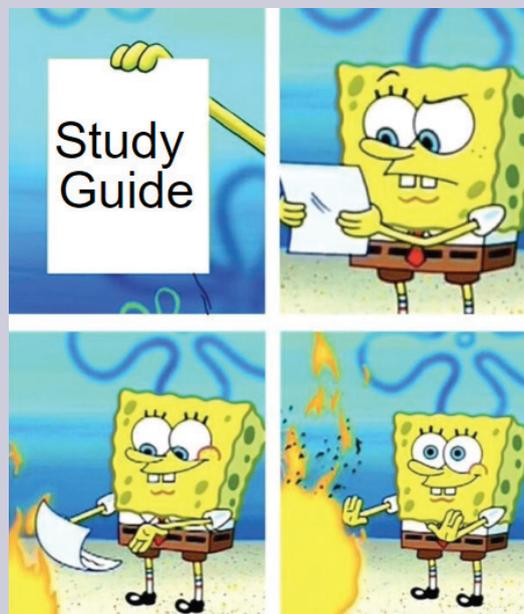
"Just one more unmoderated caucus"



5. Not knowing ROP



6. Not reading the study guide



7. Taking selfies during council session

Really?

8. Raising motions only to request to use the washroom



9. "Moderated concussion"



10. Press chairs walking into the room



*To delegates, with love,
Your chairs*

