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Climate change refers to the gradual shifts in temperature and weather patterns over long periods. While natural occurrences like variations in the sun's activity or volcanic eruptions can influence climate, human activities since the 1800s have become the primary drivers of these changes. In the 19th century, scientific exploration into climate phenomena gained momentum, with researchers like Joseph Fourier and John Tyndall uncovering the mechanisms underlying the greenhouse effect. The onset of the industrial revolution marked a significant turning point as the widespread combustion of fossil fuels escalated the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Throughout the 20th century, there was a growing consensus among scientists attributing climate change primarily to human activities. International initiatives such as the establishment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the adoption of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) underscored global acknowledgment of the issue. Presently, the escalating impacts of climate change emphasize the critical need for unified international efforts to mitigate its effects and promote sustainable adaptation strategies. In recent years, countries like the United States, China, India, and Germany have emerged as key players in combating climate change. While climate policies may vary between administrations, many states, cities, and businesses within the U.S. are dedicated to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning to renewable energy sources. China, as the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases, plays a pivotal role in global climate action. The country has significantly invested in renewable energy, set ambitious targets for emission reduction, and committed to reducing carbon emissions by 2030. India's transition to clean energy is also critical given its rapid economic growth and population expansion. The country has set ambitious targets for renewable energy adoption and is investing in solar and wind power projects to reduce reliance on coal. Germany has been a frontrunner in renewable energy adoption, particularly in solar and wind power. Its energy transition plan aims to phase out nuclear power and fossil fuels while increasing the proportion of renewable energy sources in its energy mix. We as the delegation of The Portuguese Republic, think that the coordination between countries would be the hardest challenge while fighting this climate crisis. However, we are ready to help any country to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Cities face a multitude of environmental challenges, stemming from factors such as rapid population growth, urbanization, and unsustainable development practices. The historical roots of these problems can be traced back to the industrialization period of the 18th and 19th centuries, characterized by rapid urbanization, population expansion, and the concentration of industries in urban centers. The industrial revolution brought about widespread pollution from factories, coal-fired power plants, and inadequate waste management systems, resulting in air and water contamination. Throughout the 20th century, urbanization continued to accelerate, exacerbating environmental issues like air and water pollution, as well as the loss of green spaces. Often, industrialization and urban development occurred without adequate environmental regulations or planning, leading to environmental degradation, public health crises, and social disparities. Today, many cities still grapple with the legacy of historical environmental problems, highlighting the pressing need for sustainable urban planning, pollution mitigation measures, and community engagement to address contemporary environmental challenges and foster healthier, more resilient urban environments. Countries like Sweden, Denmark, and Germany have emerged as leaders in combating environmental issues in cities. Sweden, known for its commitment to sustainability, has implemented innovative solutions in cities like Stockholm, focusing on waste management, renewable energy production, and sustainable transportation. Danish cities like Copenhagen prioritize cycling infrastructure, public transportation, and green spaces to create livable, environmentally friendly urban environments. Denmark's emphasis on renewable energy and energy efficiency further contributes to its efforts in addressing environmental challenges in cities. Germany has also made significant progress in promoting sustainable urban development and environmental protection, with cities like Berlin and Munich implementing green building standards, renewable energy initiatives, and extensive public transportation networks to reduce emissions and enhance air quality. While fighting this problem we as the delegation of Portugal think that the complexity of urban systems are the main chalenge to overcome while fighting against this problem. Although, Portugal has already started designing and planning urban systems. Portugal invests in public transportation systems, including buses, trams, and metro networks, to provide efficient and affordable mobility options for urban residents.

The global concern over climate change stems from its profound impacts on ecosystems, economies, and societies worldwide. Scientific evidence overwhelmingly attributes global warming to human activities, prompting a growing urgency to address it as one of the most critical challenges of our era. The consequences of climate change, including rising temperatures, altered weather patterns, sea-level rise, and extreme weather events, pose significant threats to food security, water resources, public health, and infrastructure, disproportionately affecting vulnerable communities. Multilateral agreements such as the Paris Agreement serve as crucial frameworks for fostering global cooperation in mitigating emissions and building resilience. Additionally, initiatives, partnerships, and public mobilization efforts reflect a collective commitment to transitioning towards a sustainable future. Organizations like the United Nations (UN) and its sub-bodies, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), play pivotal roles in addressing climate change through various actions and documents. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a comprehensive framework for integrating climate action with broader sustainable development efforts. Intergovernmental organizations like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) support climate finance and capacity-building initiatives to assist developing countries in transitioning to low-carbon economies. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) contribute significantly to climate advocacy, research, and grassroots initiatives, amplifying the voices of affected communities and promoting public awareness and engagement on climate change issues. Various resolutions, declarations, and agreements, both bilateral and multilateral, have been established to comprehensively address climate change. Key conferences like the Conference of the Parties (COP) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) provide crucial platforms for global dialogue, negotiation, and cooperation. These gatherings convene representatives from governments, international organizations, civil society, and other stakeholders to assess progress, negotiate agreements, and set ambitious targets for climate action. Additionally, other international conferences and forums facilitate collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and mobilization at various levels to address climate change comprehensively. The landmark Paris Agreement, resulting from COP21 in 2015, reflects the global commitment to limit global warming and underscores the importance of collective action in addressing this pressing issue

The involvement of the global community in addressing environmental issues within cities is significant. International organizations like the United Nations (UN), the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) play pivotal roles by providing support, resources, and expertise to help cities combat environmental challenges. They offer financial assistance, technical guidance, and capacity-building programs aimed at promoting sustainable urban development, enhancing infrastructure, and improving environmental governance. Moreover, intergovernmental agreements such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda provide overarching frameworks and targets for fostering sustainable urbanization and managing environmental concerns. Through partnerships, collaborative projects, and platforms for knowledge exchange, the international community facilitates cooperation among cities, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders to address shared environmental issues and implement innovative solutions. This collective effort aims to create more resilient, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable urban environments globally. A range of initiatives and documents have been put forth by entities like the United Nations (UN), its subsidiary bodies, various intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to tackle environmental concerns within urban areas. The UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outline targets for sustainable urban development, including specific objectives related to environmental sustainability in cities. Furthermore, the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) plays a pivotal role in advocating for sustainable urbanization and enhancing living standards in urban locales through initiatives like the Urban Agenda and the World Urban Forum. Intergovernmental organizations such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) extend financial aid and technical support to cities, aiding in the implementation of environmental initiatives and policies. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) contribute significantly through advocacy, research, and community involvement in addressing environmental issues within cities, often collaborating with local governments and international bodies to combat challenges like pollution, waste management, and the preservation of urban green spaces. This collective effort aims to foster healthier and more sustainable urban environments for the benefit of present and future generations.

Portugal has been actively involved in addressing climate change through a range of initiatives and policies. The nation has set ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning towards renewable energy sources. Investments in renewable energy infrastructure, such as wind and solar power, underscore Portugal's commitment to decreasing reliance on fossil fuels. Moreover, the country prioritizes sustainable practices across various sectors, including transportation, agriculture, and urban planning, aiming to mitigate climate change impacts and enhance resilience. Portugal's dedication to climate action is evident in its participation in international agreements like the Paris Agreement, alongside efforts to integrate climate considerations into national policies and strategies. Portugal has been actively engaged in addressing the climate crisis on both domestic and international fronts. The country has implemented a range of policies and initiatives aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting renewable energy sources, and improving energy efficiency. Portugal's participation in international agreements. By sharing knowledge, technology, and best practices, Portugal contributes to collective efforts aimed at mitigating the impacts of climate change. Through its proactive approach, Portugal continues to demonstrate leadership in the global fight against the climate crisis. Portugal has been actively engaged in addressing the climate crisis through a variety of means, including sponsoring resolutions, attending conferences, signing conventions, adopting policies, making agreements, establishing legal frameworks, and developing action plans. Internationally, Portugal has supported resolutions in forums like the United Nations, advocating for more robust climate action and assistance for vulnerable regions. Portugal regularly participates in global climate conferences such as the Conference of the Parties (COP) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), contributing to discussions and decision-making processes. Moreover, Portugal has committed to significant international agreements like the Paris Agreement, pledging ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. On the domestic front, Portugal has implemented comprehensive climate policies focused on transitioning to renewable energy, improving energy efficiency, and promoting sustainable development. The country has also engaged in partnerships and agreements with other nations to collaborate on climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. Additionally, Portugal has established legal frameworks and action plans to guide its climate initiatives effectively. Through these multifaceted efforts, Portugal remains actively involved in the global fight against climate change.

Portugal takes proactive steps to address environmental challenges within its cities. The nation emphasizes sustainable urban development, prioritizing initiatives to enhance green spaces, improve air quality, and promote eco-friendly transportation solutions. Portugal advocates for the adoption of renewable energy sources and energy-efficient technologies to reduce urban carbon emissions. Moreover, the government supports waste management programs that emphasize recycling and circular economy principles. Collaborating with local authorities, civil society, and international partners, Portugal fosters knowledge exchange and best practice sharing to tackle urban environmental issues effectively. These efforts underscore Portugal's commitment to fostering healthier and more sustainable urban environments for its citizens and future generations. Portugal has a history of proactive measures to tackle environmental issues within its cities. The nation has implemented various initiatives aimed at enhancing air and water quality, minimizing pollution, and fostering sustainable urban development. These actions encompass investments in green infrastructure like parks and urban green spaces, along with policies targeting emissions reduction from vehicles and industries. Portugal also promotes sustainable transportation alternatives such as public transit and cycling networks to reduce reliance on private cars. Moreover, the country prioritizes waste management through recycling and waste reduction programs. In urban planning, Portugal emphasizes environmental sustainability by prioritizing pedestrian-friendly streets and promoting energy-efficient building practices. Through these endeavors, Portugal continues its commitment to creating healthier and more sustainable urban environments for its people.

As the delegation of The Portuguese Republic, we think that we can overcome the climate crisis by reducing down our usage of energy, since it is the most carbon emitter. Portugal has already started to shut down coal-fired factories. Also with coordinating with other countries. For the environmental problems regarding cities, we think that we must do more investments to parks, forest to enhance biodiversity and improving the air quality.

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