Committee: World Health Organization (WHO)

Topic:The impact of climate change on global health and mitigation strategies

Country: Australia

Australia is a continental country in the Southern Hemisphere, famous for its natural beauty and unique ecosystem. However, rising temperatures due to climate change, severe wildfires and drought threaten the country's nature and biodiversity. The Great Barrier Reef is being severely damaged by warming ocean waters, negatively affecting both tourism and the balance of the ecosystem.

The global health impacts of climate change have been attracting attention since the mid-20th century. Scientific studies in the 1970s demonstrated the negative consequences of climate change on food security, water resources and indirect health impacts. In the 1990s, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) highlighted problems such as heat waves, flooding and the spread of infectious diseases. Countries that have suffered the most from these impacts include Bangladesh, Somalia, the Philippines, India, Pacific Island States and Australia. In Bangladesh, for example, flooding and water-borne diseases are widespread, while in Somalia drought and famine are causing serious health problems. In Australia, forest fires and heat waves pose serious threats to both ecosystems and human health. While low-income countries are more vulnerable to these threats, the health impacts of climate change are a global problem that affects all countries.

To mitigate the impacts of climate change on global health, the transition to renewable energy sources should be accelerated and carbon emissions should be reduced. In addition, sustainable agricultural practices and infrastructure investments should be made to increase water and food security in order to adapt to climate change. To protect public health, climate-related diseases should be prevented, early warning systems should be developed and the resilience of health systems should be increased.

References

<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/climate-change-and-health>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/surveillance/early-warning-alert-and-response-system-ewars>