

**Committee:** Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)

**Topic:** Enhancing Access to Educational Opportunities for Children Globally

Kenya has made significant progress in improving access to education over the years. Since introducing free primary education in 2003, Kenya has worked to ensure that more children can attend school and build a better future. Over the past five years, Kenya has seen progress in primary education, with 10.4 million students enrolled in 2022. However, challenges such as poverty, lack of resources, and rural-urban inequalities still limit access to education for many children in Kenya and around the world.

Education is a basic human right and the key to ending poverty and achieving sustainable development. Yet, millions of children around the world still face barriers to accessing quality education. Some of the main challenges include:

- **Poverty:** Families in poor communities cannot afford school fees, uniforms, or books, forcing children to drop out.
- **Lack of Schools:** In rural areas, there are not enough schools, and children must walk long distances to attend classes.
- **Teacher Shortages:** Many schools lack trained teachers, which affects the quality of education.
- **Gender Inequality:** In some regions, girls face cultural or social barriers that prevent them from attending school.
- **Conflict and Natural Disasters:** Wars, conflicts, and droughts disrupt education systems and force children to leave school.

In Kenya, the government is working to solve these problems by building better schools, helping rural communities, and making sure boys and girls have equal chances to learn. Programs like "School Feeding Initiatives" give children meals at school, which helps them stay in class. Partnerships with organizations have also provided books and trained teachers. But we need to do more around the world to make sure every child, no matter where they live, can go to school. To enhance access to educational opportunities for children worldwide, Kenya suggests the following solutions:

1. **Increase Funding for Education:** Governments and international organizations should allocate more funds to build schools, provide books, and train teachers.
2. **Support Rural and Poor Communities:** Focus on building schools in rural areas and creating programs to help families with school costs.
3. **Promote Gender Equality:** Encourage education for all children, especially girls, through awareness programs and scholarships.
4. **Improve School Infrastructure:** Build safe and accessible schools with clean water, electricity, and proper classrooms.
5. **Global Cooperation:** Work together to provide resources and share solutions to support education in conflict-affected and disaster-prone areas.

Kenya believes that education is the foundation for a better world. By working together, we can break down barriers and give every child the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed.

Thank you.