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1. Introduction

1.1 Letter from the Secretary-General

1.2 Letter from the Under-Secretary-General

My name is Sarp Batu Uysal, and I am the responsible Under-Secretary-General for the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) at ITKMUN. Currently, I am studying Translation Studies at Yeditepe University. Having participated in numerous MUN conferences throughout my academic career, this conference focuses critically on disarmament, arms control, and international security, making DISEC a cornerstone of the United Nations General Assembly.

With this package, you are equipped with a detailed understanding of our agenda and how DISEC operates. Please contact me anytime for further questions or assistance.

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2. Introduction to the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)

Mandate and Function

DISEC, also known as the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, focuses on issues related to disarmament, arms control, and international security. Although its resolutions are non-binding, they often serve as a foundation for binding agreements and international treaties. DISEC provides a platform for multilateral diplomacy to address security threats and avoid military conflicts.

Key Contributions

- **Discussions on the proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons.**
- **Regulation of conventional arms.**

- Addressing challenges posed by non-state actors involved in terrorism, arms trafficking, and cybercrime.

Adapting to Contemporary Challenges

DISEC's agenda has expanded to include:

- Cybersecurity vulnerabilities
- Transnational terrorism
- Climate change implications on global stability

The Humanitarian-Security Nexus

DISEC prioritizes civilian protection and the reconstruction of conflict-affected societies, particularly in regions like the Sahel, plagued by armed insurgencies and climate-related crises.

Upholding Multilateral Diplomacy

DISEC emphasizes cooperation, dialogue, and international law to address global security challenges inclusively.

3. Overview of the Agenda Items

Agenda Focus: Addressing Humanitarian and Security Crises in Conflict Zones, with Special Emphasis on the Sahel Region

3.1 Background Information

The Sahel region spans over 10 countries, acting as a transition zone between the Sahara Desert and savannas. This region faces severe challenges such as poverty, weak governance, and conflict cycles. Its strategic position has made it a focal point

for trade, culture, and migration, but also a hotspot for foreign influences and transnational conflicts.

3.2 Main Drivers of Instability

Terrorism and Extremism

Groups like Al-Qaida, Boko Haram, and the Islamic State exploit local grievances to recruit and destabilize communities.

Climate Change

Erratic rainfall, droughts, and desertification reduce agricultural productivity, intensifying resource competition and displacement.

Human Trafficking and Corruption

Smuggling, trafficking, and corruption within governments erode trust and destabilize the region.

Governance Deficits

Poor governance and lack of basic services create resentment, often leading to uprisings or insurgencies.

3.3 Humanitarian Implications to Regional and Global Security

- Over 18 million people face food insecurity.
- Refugee movements create resource strains and heighten migration pressures globally, particularly in Europe.
- The Sahel's instability facilitates drug and arms trafficking, exacerbating global security concerns.

3.4 International Cooperation Efforts

United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel

The plan aligns with the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union's Agenda 2063. It addresses:

- 1. Cross-border collaboration.**
 - 2. Governance and justice.**
 - 3. Climate resilience.**
 - 4. Empowerment of women and youth.**
 - 5. Peacebuilding.**
 - 6. Economic development.**
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4. Climate Change Analysis and Contributions to the Sahel Region Conflict

4.1 Environmental Degradation and Resource Scarcity

Desertification and water scarcity force many rural communities to migrate, increasing poverty and dependence on aid.

4.2 Case Studies

- **Migration: Droughts in Niger displace thousands, overburdening urban infrastructure and services.**
 - **Extremism: Extremist groups in Mali exploit environmental grievances to recruit members.**
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5. Key Takeaways

- 1. Holistic Solutions Needed: Security, development, and environmental sustainability must be integrated.**
 - 2. Empowering Local Communities: Improved governance and community involvement are essential for resilience.**
 - 3. Sustained International Engagement: Long-term commitment is necessary for sustainable development and peace.**
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6. Questions to Ponder

- How can international actors balance immediate security needs with long-term development goals in the Sahel?**
- What role could renewable energy initiatives play in promoting stability and economic growth?**
- How can local and regional actors be more tightly integrated into international strategies for the Sahel?**