Eli Davis

Libyan Herald

ECOFIN Env/Topic 1: Protection Of Climate For Present And Future Generations Of Humankind

The Libyan Herald had the opportunity to visit ECOFIN Environmental committee during the MMUN conference. The topic today was the Protection of the Climate.

Climate Change is a huge problem, if not takes as a serious threat is could make the Earth uninhabitable. 1st world countries that have a lot of money need to step up and help 3rd world countries reduce their footprint on the environment. The problem is people use fossil fuels for a lot of things, and when you use those fossil fuels it sends stuff up into the atmosphere and that is changing the climate and it is not good. Some of the ways people use fossil fuels are for fueling cars. Another way people use them is in factories.

The US and Colombia lead the main block with the US’s manufacturing of scrubbers, which are machines that remove 98% of carbon emissions from the air. Colombia was bargaining with the US and they eventually came to a deal. The agreement was that Colombia would supply the US with oil and ethanol, which is basically a half substitute for gas. In Return, the US would supply Colombia with scrubbers and some solar panels. This was a win-win for both countries because the US produces the 2nd most carbon emissions out of any country and ethanol would help. And, it made sense for Colombia because they could use the scrubbers and Solar Panels regularly but now they don’t need to but them. There was some talk of putting TARIFFs on fossil fuels but that got shut down eventually.

The US, Japan, and Australia made an agreement of the start that the US and Japan would manufacture solar panels and distribute them across africa and south america. While Australia would provide the funding for them and they would sell them to nations in order for them to use less fossil fuels. This made Financial sense for Australia since a lot of their economy is based off of tourism and climate change hurts their tourism. This was very important in the main block and got put on the rough draft of the resolution and I think it will make it all the way to the final one.

This Idea was put under scrutiny by Greece because they asked about 3rd world countries and how they could afford this. Eventually the US, Australia, and Japan decided that they would reduce the price for developing nations that couldn’t afford it otherwise. But Greece still argued that education was still more important than scrubbers or solar panels, later asked in an interview greece said, “educating people about the dangers of climate change is the best way to prevent climate change.”

There were 2 main groups with the 1st being the US, Colombia, Greece and others. The Second being with Norway and New Zealand. Both groups thought that education was important and put it on their rough draft of the resolution. Group 2 focused mainly on education with Group 1 covering a more broad range of solutions. In an interview with the US I asked them what their block though was important and they said their block had 3 main ideas and they were education, renewable energy, and cleaning gas emissions. While interviewing Belize which was in block 2 they said that financial support was key to helping 3rd world countries.

In conclusion I hope that this committee’s resolution included these key details to help 3rd world nations that rely on fossil fuels for their economy. First education is key and should be implemented in any way possible. Second, Libya Herald believes that long term plans are the solution and there is no immediate fix to the problem of climate change. Third, it is crucial to have the help of solar and renewable energy resources to slowly change from fossil fuels. Finally, I think it is key for us all to act now and not wait for later because if we don’t act now there may not be a later.