



## Press corps/Libya Herald

---

### Press Corps

**Reporter:** Eli Davis

**Topic: ECOFIN ENV/ Protection of climate for present and future generations of humankind**

The Libya Herald had the opportunity to visit the ECOFIN Environment Committee during the MMUN conference. The topic today was the protection of the climate.

Climate change is a huge problem if not taken as a serious threat it 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. Moreover, it made sense for Colombia because they could use the scrubbers and solar panels regularly, but now they don't need to buy 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 that the US and Japan would manufacture solar panels and distribute them across Africa and South America; Australia would provide the funding for them and they would sell them to nations in order for them to use fewer fossil fuels. This made Financial sense for Australia since a lot of their economy is based on 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. However, 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: the 1<sup>st</sup> was composed by the US, Colombia, Greece, and others, while the 2nd by 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 and Group 1 covered a broader range of solutions. In an interview with the US, I asked them what their group thought was important, and they said 3 main ideas, which were education, renewable energy, and cleaning gas emissions. On the other side, the delegates representing Belize, from the 2nd group, 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 change from fossil fuels slowly. 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.