HMDC Presents...

Position Paper Outline

World Health Organization (WHO)

Topic: Social Effects of Addiction

Harvard MUN Online, December 5-6, 2026

Delegate name:

Country:

Committee:

Date finished:

HOW TO USE THIS OUTLINE

A position paper tells the chairs what our country thinks about the topic and what our country wants the committee to do. It is short, usually about one page, and it has three parts: the problem, what has already been done, and our country's solutions.

This outline is a plan for that paper. Fill in each box in your own words, using the HMDC Report for this committee and your Country Guide. Write short notes first, then turn the notes into full sentences at the end.

WHAT THE CHAIRS WANT IN DECEMBER

In December, the chairs look at addiction from the social side: how drugs, alcohol and other substances hurt families, neighbourhoods and people who cannot protect themselves, such as children, poor families and people without homes. They want solutions that are backed by evidence and that make communities healthier and stronger.

Keep this in mind: Gambling, sports betting and gaming are background only, because Harvard does not name them for December.

THREE BIG QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

1. Which groups in our country are hurt most when people become addicted?
2. How many people who need treatment can actually get it?
3. Should drug use be treated mainly as a health matter or as a crime?

WHERE THE FACTS COME FROM

Every fact in your paper should come from the HMDC Report (HMDC-MUN-DEC-2026-WHO-REPORT-FULL-v6.pdf) or from a page you opened yourself. Write the source next to each fact, so you can show the chairs where it came from. The official committee page is here:

https://www.harvardmun.org/who-online

PART 1: THE PROBLEM

Explaining the problem

Start with what the problem is and who it hurts. Use one or two facts with their sources.

Our topic, Social Effects of Addiction, matters because...

The people who are hurt most are... because...

One fact that shows how serious this is: ... (Source: ...)

Connecting the problem to our country

Show the chairs why our country cares.

In our country, this problem looks like...

Our country cares about this because...

PART 2: WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE

Past action by the UN and other groups

Name one or two things the UN or other countries have already tried, and say whether they worked.

The UN (or another group) has already tried... (Source: ...)

This helped because... but it did not solve... because...

Past action by our country

Name a law, a program or a vote by our country. If you cannot find one, write what our country's friends and partners have done.

Our country has already...

This shows that our country believes...

PART 3: OUR COUNTRY'S SOLUTIONS

Choose one or two ideas that fit our country. These ideas come from the HMDC Report for this committee:

- Expanding treatment and overdose response
- Using health taxes to pay for treatment and family support
- Treating drug use as a health matter instead of a crime
- Community harm reduction services

Our main solution

Explain what should be done, who will do it, and how it will be paid for.

Our country proposes that the committee...

This will be done by... and paid for by...

This solution helps because...

Our second solution or a way to work with others

Show that our country is ready to work with other delegates.

Our country also suggests...

We hope to work with countries that...

FINAL CHECK

- ☐ My paper names our country and the committee at the top.
- ☐ Part 1 explains the problem and uses at least one fact with its source.
- ☐ Part 2 names something the UN and our country have already done.
- ☐ Part 3 gives at least one clear solution that fits our country.
- ☐ Every fact has its source written next to it.
- ☐ My paper fits on about one page and uses my own words.
- ☐ I read it aloud once and fixed anything that sounded unclear.

NOTES AND PRACTICE

Use this space for notes on speeches, partners and questions to ask in committee.