JBCN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

OSHIWARA MUN 2026

IMF

International Monetary Fund

Official Study Guide

AGENDA

Adressing the Growing Effects of Oil Price Fluctuations and Debt Dependence on Import-Dependent

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from the EB

Esteemed Delegates,
Welcome to the International Monetary fUND committee at JBCN Oshiwara MUN 2026. We are genuinely excited to have you with us this year as we take on an agenda that sits right at the heart of some of the most pressing economic challenges of our time: the effects of oil price fluctuations and growing debt dependence on import resiliant developing nations.

Oil prices are among the most unpredictable forces in the global economy. For developing nations that rely heavily on imports, even a single price surge can set back years of financial progress. Fovernments are often left choosing between paying off external debt and meeting the basic needs of their people. It is a challenge thaat calls for careful deliberation, and tht is exactly what we hope this committee delivers.

What we would like to see during this comittee is healthy, substansive debate. Bring a genuine insight into the state of you country's economy, come prepared to negotiate, and work towards policies that are practical and impactful in the long run. The best deillberations always come from delegates who did their homework well ahead of time.

The study guide can be used as a good introduction to the topic and provide some useful background knowledge. However, remember that bringing research to the commitee is key to sucess.

We expect to see an excellent commitee. See you there!

Director
Shreyas Shinde

Assistant Director
Ananya Nire

Introduction to the Committee

<u>The IMF: Mandate and Architecture</u>

The International Monetary Fund is a central institution in the global financial system. It was founded in December 1945 after the Bretton Woods Conference of 1944, partly to prevent the competitive devaluations and protectionist policies that had destabilised the world economy in the 1930s. Today, the IMF has 191 member countries and works through three main areas: economic surveillance, financial assistance, and capacity development.

<u>Economic Surveillance</u>

Economic Surveillance is one of the IMF's core functions. Through annual Article IV consultations, the Fund reviews the fiscal and monetary policies of member countries. It also publishes major reports such as the World Economic Outlook, the Global Financial Stability Report, and the Fiscal Monitor. These reports strongly influence how governments and markets understand the global economy.

<u>Financial Assistance</u>

Financial assistance is the part of the IMF most familiar to the public. When a country faces a balance-of-payments crisis, it may request IMF financing in return for following an agreed economic programme. Different facilities are used for different kinds of pressure:

- <u>Extended Credit Facility (ECF)</u>: Offers concessional long-term support to low-income countries facing persistent balance of payments problems.

- <u>Extended Fund Facility (EFF)</u>: Support countries facing medium-term structural payments problems, typically involving broader programme of economic reform.

- <u>Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF)</u>: Introduced in 2022, this provides longer-term financing for structural risks such as climate change and energy dependence. Rapid Financing Instruments: allow the IMF to disburse emergency funds quickly without requiring a full programme, were extensively using during COVID-19 pandemic.

Conditionality:

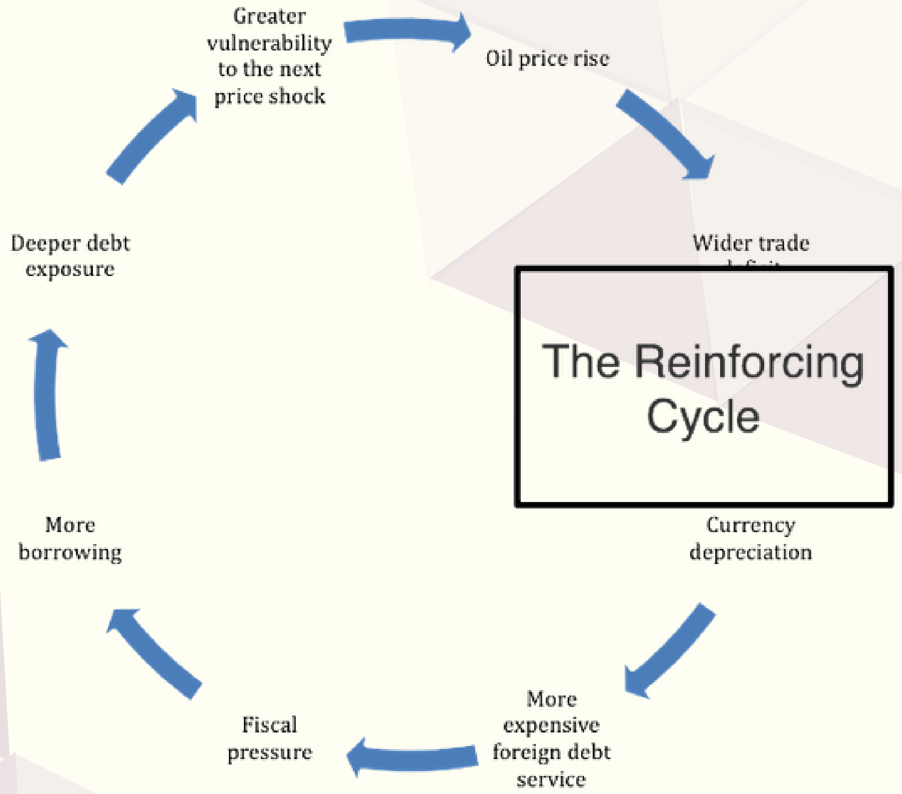
Its Evolution and Controversies Conditionality is the term refers to the policy commitments attached to IMF lending. In the past, conditions often centred on austerity, trade liberalisation, and structural reform, and were widely criticised for causing avoidable social harm. After decades of policy criticism the IMF now says its programmes are more growth-friendly and include safeguards for essential social spending. Whether those changes are strong enough to be implemented in practice remains an important question for this committee.

Governance and Voting:

Decision-making in IMF is linked to each member's financial contribution, known as its quota. The Board of Governors is the highest authority, while the 25- member Executive Board handles day-to-day business decisions. Because voting power is weighted by quota, the largest economies have the greatest and at times disproportionate influence. The five largest shareholders are the United States, Japan, China, Germany, and France. Major decisions require an 85% majority, which gives the United States an effective veto.

Introduction to the Agenda

The agenda focuses on a major weakness in the global economy: oil-import dependent developing countries are highly exposed to volatile energy prices, and repeated shocks can push them into long-term debt dependence. Understanding these pressures and their related impact is essential to effective debate in this committee.



The Reinforcing Cycle

This cycle does not require extraordinary circumstances to activate. It operates continuously in dozens of economies and has been documented across five decades of IMF engagement. The IMF is involved in agenda in two ways. It is often the main multilateral lender to countries trapped in this cycle, and its research and surveillance shape how the international community identifies debt distress and commodity-related risk.

The countries most directly affected tend to share similar structural characteristics: limited domestic energy production, narrow export bases, thin foreign exchange reserves, and limited access to international capital markets with otherwise unaffordable interest rates. Sub-Saharan African nations, small island developing states, and several South Asian economies fit this profile, and their delegates will be among the most important voices in this room.

Importance of the agenda

No matter where in the world one stands, the combination of unstable oil prices and crushing debt weighs heavily on them. As politicians continue to think about these problems on the purely theoretical level of macroeconomics, the effects of such issues are devastating. They lead to hunger, the destruction of healthcare, loss of employment, and political turmoil. For more than two billion individuals residing in oil-importing developing countries, this issue is not something that can be debated in theory. To them, the problem means struggle to survive from day to day.

Being comprised of 191 member states and possessing extraordinary economic power, the International Monetary Fund finds itself right in the middle of this hurricane. The models discussed in this committee today mirror discussions that are currently going on within the US capital and finance ministries around the world. The situation becomes critical when the problem creates a self-reinforcing system, impossible to resolve using national measures only.

<u>The Debt Cycle</u>

Prices go up, increasing the deficit significantly in a short time. This results in the devaluation of the national currency and makes foreign debt extremely difficult to service. As a result, the authorities find themselves between a rock and a hard place having to cut their budget or accumulate more debts. This makes them extremely vulnerable to another external price fluctuation. This cycle is not onetime only but tends to repeat itself year after year. The IMF finds itself in a special position in all of this. It acts as an intermediary that is contacted by the indebted states as the very last resort. In case of the economic collapse of Sri Lanka in 2022 or the devaluation of Pakistani currency, the IMF became the first organization to be contacted.

The convening power of the IMF allows it to bring all interested parties to the negotiation table. Those include the Chinese authorities and the US stock market. The consequences of the IMF's failures are deadly and lead to economic depression in the country.

Institutional and Geopolitical Contexts

committee is not just about addressing the issue externally but also about changing the institution. One cannot discuss this agenda without the context of the changing geopolitical reality. The rise of China as a powerful global financier and the rise of influence by private investment managers means that traditional methods used in debt restructuring no longer work as effectively because they do not have the same coordination ability.

On another note, the process of moving away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energies will change the economics of oil dependency. Not being dependent on oil solves all issues related to the vulnerability, but developing sustainable infrastructure is costly.

The Task of the Committee

Let's get real for a second here. Yes, you are participating in an exercise in model diplomacy. There is no actual rewriting of the laws governing international finance taking place here right now. Nonetheless, the level of analysis that you perform during this debate and the nature of the mechanics of your proposed solutions do have very practical implications. The solution developed by your committee cannot be overly abstract and based on ideals. The specifics of the reforms are essential and you need to establish these mechanics.

Which facilities of the IMF are we talking about in terms of reform and how exactly are we going to carry them out? At what percentage of emergency aid will these changes apply? How much time does the agreement on the restructuring of the country's debt need to cover? These are difficult questions. It is not easy to work through these specific issues but this is precisely what the future requires of the next generation of negotiators

Timeline of Events

Year	Event	Relevance
1944	Bretton Woods Conference	Established the IMF and World Bank. Its fixed exchange-rate system, centred on the US dollar, shaped global finance for the next three decades.
1945	IMF Founded	IMF began operating with 29 member countries. Its initial task is to prevent competitive devaluations and address balance-of-payments imbalances, though its role expands greatly over
1969	SDRs Created	The IMF creates Special Drawing Rights to supplement official reserves. SDRs later become an important source of emergency liquidity for developing countries.
1973	First Oil Shock (OPEC Embargo)	Arab members of OPEC impose an embargo after the Yom Kippur War. Oil prices quadruple within months, sharply widening the current-account deficits of oil-importing developing

Year	Event	Relevance
1974-1979	Petrodollar Recycling Era	Oil exporters deposit large surpluses in Western banks, which then lend heavily to developing countries. This petrodollar recycling helps build the dollar-denominated debt that fuels the 1980s crisis.
1979	Second Oil Shock & Volcker Shock	The Iranian Revolution triggers another oilprice surge. At the same time, US interest rates rise sharply under Federal Reserve Chair Paul Volcker, making dollar debt far more expensive to repay.
1982	Mexico Debt Default	Mexico announces that it cannot service its external debt, setting off a wider Latin American debt crisis. The IMF responds with Structural Adjustment Programmes centred on austerity, devaluation, and trade liberalisation.
1980s	Latin America's Lost Decade	Adjustment programmes help stabilise some exchange rates, but unemployment rises, public services are cut, and real wages fall. The period becomes known as Latin America's lost decade.

Year	Event	Relevance
1996	HIPC Initiative Launched	The IMF and World Bank launch the HIPC Initiative, the first coordinated system for deep debt relief. It is expanded in 1999 after criticism that the original rules were too restrictive; more than 37 countries eventually qualify
1997-1998	Asian Financial Crisis	Currency collapses spread across Thailand, Indonesia, South Korea, and other Asian economies. The IMF later accepts that insisting on austerity at the height of the crisis worsened the downturn, prompting a wider reassessment of conditionality.
2000 - 2008	Commodity Supercycle	A long commodity boom lifts oil from about $20 to $147 per barrel. Exporters gain temporary revenue, while importers face much larger energy bills; easy global finance also encourages new borrowing.
2008 - 2009	Global Financial Crisis	Oil briefly falls below $40 during the global financial crisis, easing import costs. However, developing economies are hit by lower remittances, weaker investment, and reduced export demand at the same time.

Year	Event	Relevance
2010 - 2014	Post-Crisis Recovery & Debt Accumulation	Commodity prices recover and developing countries borrow at unusually low global interest rates. Chinese bilateral lending expands rapidly and becomes closely associated with the Belt and Road Initiative.
2014 - 2016	Oil Price Collapse	Oil falls from roughly $115 to below $30 per barrel. Importers benefit, but exporters such as Nigeria, Angola, and Venezuela face severe fiscal pressure, showing that commodity dependence creates risk in either direction.
2020	COVID-19 Pandemic	The pandemic damages government finances, tourism, exports, and remittances across the developing world. The IMF expands rapid emergency lending, while the G20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative temporarily pauses some payments for the poorest countries.
Nov 2020	G20 Common Framework	The G20 creates the Common Framework to coordinate debt treatments beyond the DSSI. China joins a multilateral creditor process for the first time, but implementation soon proves slow and disputed.

Year	Event	Relevance
Aug 2021	Post-Crisis Recovery & Debt Accumulation	The IMF approves a record allocation of 456 billion SDRs, worth about $650 billion. Because distribution follows quota shares, advanced economies receive around 58% despite the urgent needs of poorer countries.
Feb 2022	Russia's Invasion of Ukraine	Russia's invasion of Ukraine sends oil, gas, and food prices higher. Countries already weakened by the pandemic, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, face renewed balance-of-payments pressure.
2022	COVID-19 Pandemic	The pandemic damages government finances, tourism, exports, and remittances across the developing world. The IMF expands rapid emergency lending, while the G20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative temporarily pauses some payments for the poorest countries.
2022–2023	G20 Common Framework	The G20 creates the Common Framework to coordinate debt treatments beyond the DSSI. China joins a multilateral creditor process for the first time, but implementation soon proves slow and disputed.

Year	Event	Relevance
Jun 2023	Zambia Debt Deal	Zambia reaches an agreement with official creditors three years after defaulting. Disputes between China and Western creditors over debt treatment reveal the weaknesses of existing coordination mechanisms.
2023–2024	Middle East Tensions & Oil Volatility	Implementation of the IMF's 16th General Review of Quotas begins. Many low-income countries argue that the changes still do not reflect the modern global economy or give developing countries enough influence.
2024	IMF Quota Reform Discussions	The pandemic damages government finances, tourism, exports, and remittances across the developing world. The IMF expands rapid emergency lending, while the G20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative temporarily pauses some payments for the poorest countries.
2025-Present	Present Day: Committee Convenes	As the committee meets, about 60% of lowincome countries face a high risk of debt distress. The RSF has approved programmes for more than 20 countries, but concerns remain about its size, access rules, and ability

Past Solutions

Before proposing new solutions, delegates need to understand what has already been tried and why the results were mixed. This section reviews the main policies that have been implemented, what they achieved, and where they fell short.

Solutions That Have Been Implemented

1. Structural Adjustment Programmes (1980s–1990s)

For nearly two decades, Structural Adjustment Programmes were the IMF's main response to debt crises in developing countries. They usually combined spending cuts and tax increases with tighter monetary policy, trade liberalisation, financial deregulation, currency devaluation, and the privatisation of state-owned enterprises.

- **What Worked: In the majority of the cases exchange rates stabilizes which led to the narrowing of immediate fiscal deficits. In some countries (Chile, Ghana over time), growth resumed after adjustment period.**

- **What Failed: The programmes were often the cause for the deep recessions, unemployment, and cuts to essential services. They also did little to reduce dependence on imported energy. Over a decade in Latin America showed that short-term stabilisation is fragile when the underlying vulnerability remains.**

2. HIPC Initiative (1996, Enhanced 1999)

The Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, launched by the IMF and World Bank in 1996 and expanded in 1999, was the first coordinated framework for deep debt relief. Eligible countries could receive reductions from several creditors at the same time, with the aim of bringing debt back to levels considered sustainable under the DSA framework.

- **Achieved: More than 37 countries received over $76 billion in debt relief. In several cases, the reduced debt burden created additional room for spending on health and education**

- **Limitation: The eligibility rules were narrow and the process was slow leaving many distressed countries outside the scheme. Middle-income countries such as Sri Lanka and Lebanon had no equivalent mechanism, even when their crises were severe. Full compliance with an IMF programme was also politically difficult for some governments to maintain.**

3. The 2021 SDR Allocation

In August 2021, the IMF approved roughly $650 billion in Special Drawing Rights, this was largest SDR allocation in the history of the IMF. The aim was to strengthen global reserves while also easing the financing pressure created by the COVID-19 pandemic

- **Achieved: The members of IMF received additional reserve assets. Not only did the addition of these assets helped many developing countries avoid immediate debt defaults, but they also allowed some nations to repay IMF obligations and maintain reserve adequacy.**

- **Critical limitation: SDRs were distributed by quota, this means that the richest countries that required the least liquidity were the ones that received the most. The United States alone received approximately $117 billion meanwhile, Sub Saharan Africa received about $34 billion. The rechannelling initiative, by which wealthy nations voluntarily redirect their SDR's to poorer countries, has moved at a slower pace than expected and has not yet reached the total sum of the $100 billion target initially discussed.**

4.G20 Common Framework for Debt Treatments (2020):

The G20 created the Common Framework in November 2020 to coordinate debt restructuring for low-income countries. Its most important achievement was to include China which was now a major bilateral creditor, in a multilateral restructuring process.

- Achieved: The framework helped complete restructuring for Chad (2022) and Zambia (2023) and established a precedent for Chinese participation as a creditor. Ethiopia's restricting is in progress.

- Critical limitation: Restructuring Progress has been slow. Zambia waited for about three years from default to an agreement, while creditors (Chinese creditors and Western Paris Club) disagreed over how comparable treatment should be measured. The framework covers only 73 low-income countries, excluding distressed middle-income countries such as Sri Lanka and Egypt, and participation from private creditors is not mandatory.

5. Resilience and Sustainability Facility (2022)

The Resilience and Sustainability Facility was created in 2022 to provide longer-term, lower-cost financing for structural risks, including climate change and the energy transition. By early 2025, more than 20 countries had active RSF programmes.

- Achieved: The RSF is the first IMF facility designed specifically around long-term structural vulnerability rather than only an immediate balance-of-payments gap. It also offers repayment periods of up to 20 years at lower rates than standard IMF lending.

- Limitation: Access to RSF is capped at 150% of a country's quota, which may be too small to finance a meaningful energy transition. A country must already have an ECF or EFF programme, creating an additional procedural barrier. Dependence on imported oil is also not yet recognised explicitly as a qualifying structural vulnerability.

Bloc Positions

G7 AND ADVANCED ECONOMY BLOC

Advanced economies hold the largest IMF quotas and therefore have the greatest voting power on the Executive Board. They generally support fiscal discipline, strong lending conditions, and market-based debt resolution, partly to limit moral hazard. Even so, the bloc is not uniform. European countries are often more open to climate-linked conditions and a larger RSF; the United States has been more cautious about broad debt relief; and Japan has tended to support growth-friendly adjustment. Delegates in this group must balance domestic creditor concerns with responsibilities to the IMF's most vulnerable members.

BRICS AND EMERGING ECONOMY BLOC

China is the most influential member of this bloc for the present agenda because it has become a major bilateral lender through the Belt and Road Initiative. Its role has also complicated restructuring talks, particularly over whether its claims should receive treatment comparable to institutions such as the IMF and World Bank. India is both a developing economy and an emerging creditor. Brazil has criticised the Common Framework for excluding middle-income countries, while South Africa often acts as a bridge between advanced economies and African borrowers. These differences give the bloc several possible negotiating positions rather than a single one.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN NATIONS

Sub-Saharan African countries are among those most exposed to the oil-price and debt cycle. Many import most of their fuel while relying on a narrow range of commodity exports, leaving them vulnerable to both higher import bills and unstable export earnings. They often call for larger concessional SDR support, less austerity-focused conditionality, and stronger representation in IMF governance. Ghana and Zambia show how quickly external shocks can turn existing debt problems into broader economic crises.

SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS

In South Asian countries Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka are examples of countries where oil-price and debt interaction is most visible. Sri Lanka's 2022 collapse, followed by an IMF programme and painful adjustment, captures many of the committee's central tensions. ASEAN countries often prefer regional or bilateral options when available and may be cautious about IMF conditions that narrow domestic policy choices. India's position is more complex because it is both a developing country and an emerging creditor.

SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS) AND PACIFIC NATIONS

Small island developing states face nearly every vulnerability addressed by this agenda. Most import fuel for their needs, hold limited foreign-exchange reserves, have restricted access to concessional finance, and face severe climate risks while carrying little weight and influence in IMF decision-making. They commonly support easier access to the RSF and ECF, simpler conditions, and explicit recognition of climate and energy vulnerability as qualifying criteria for concessional treatment. Their position is very important because these are the same countries that often face several shocks at the same time.

OIL-EXPORTING DEVELOPING NATIONS

Oil-exporting developing countries occupy a different but equally vulnerable position. High oil prices can strengthen governments revenue, while a sharp fall -as in 2014-16 or briefly in 2020 - can create a fiscal crisis. Gulf states as major IMF creditors and OPEC members have significant influence over both oil price levels and IMF resources. Whereas exporters such as Nigeria and Angola have still experienced serious debt pressure despite being oil exporters. Their experience shows that dependence on a single commodity can be risky whether a country is buying or selling oil

Key Terminology

Economic and Financial Terms

Balance of Payments (BoP):
A record of all economic transactions between a country and the rest of the world over a given period. A persistent deficit means the country is paying more abroad than it earns, a common starting point for IMF involvement.

Current Account Deficit:
A situation in which spending on imported goods, services, and income payments is greater than earnings from exports. For oil importers, higher fuel prices can widen this deficit very quickly.

External Debt:
Money owed by a government or private borrower to creditors outside the country. When that debt is denominated in a foreign currency, depreciation makes repayments more expensive in local-currency terms.

Debt-to-GDP Ratio:
A country's total debt expressed as a percentage of its annual economic output. The IMF uses this ratio, along with other indicators, to assess debt risk.

Debt Distress:
A condition in which a country cannot, or is likely to become unable to, meet its debt payments on time. The IMF classifies risk as low, moderate, high, or already in distress.

Debt Restructuring:
A renegotiation of existing debt, which may involve longer repayment periods, lower interest rates, or a reduction in the principal owed. The goal is to bring the debt burden back to a manageable level.

Conditionality:
The policy commitments a country must meet to receive each stage of IMF financing. How these conditions are designed, and who bears their social cost, is one of the most debated issues in development finance.

Fiscal Consolidation:
Steps taken by a government to reduce its budget deficit, usually through lower spending, higher revenue, or both. It is a common IMF requirement and is often criticised when cuts fall heavily on essential services.

Exchange Rate Depreciation:
A fall in the value of a country's currency relative to another currency. For oil importers, depreciation raises both the local price of fuel and the local-currency cost of servicing foreign debt.

Foreign Exchange Reserves:
Foreign currencies, gold, and SDRs held by a central bank. These reserves provide a buffer during external shocks; when they fall below roughly three months of import cover, the risk of crisis rises sharply.

Terms of Trade:
The relationship between the prices a country receives for exports and the prices it pays for imports. Rising oil prices worsen the terms of trade for oil importers because they must give up more exports to pay for the same amount of fuel.

IMF Instruments and Mechanisms

Special Drawing Rights (SDRs):
An international reserve asset created by the IMF in 1969. SDRs are not a currency, but they can be exchanged for freely usable currencies. Their value is based on a basket containing the US dollar, euro, Chinese renminbi, Japanese yen, and British pound.

Extended Credit Facility (ECF):
Concessional medium-term IMF financing for low-income countries with persistent balance-of-payments problems. It offers long repayment periods and, under the terms described in this guide, a zero interest rate.

Extended Fund Facility (EFF):
IMF financing for countries facing medium- term structural balance-of-payments problems. It generally requires a broader reform programme than the ECF and is provided on non-concessional terms.

Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF):

A facility introduced in 2022 that offers affordable financing with maturities of up to 20 years. It currently focuses on climate change and pandemic preparedness, but could potentially be expanded to cover energy-price vulnerability.

Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSA):

The IMF-World Bank framework used to judge whether a country can manage its debt over the medium and long term. The result influences access to concessional finance and the scale of any restructuring.

Paris Club:

An informal group of major creditor governments that coordinates debt relief and restructuring. Its members include the United States, European countries, Japan, and Canada, but not China, which limits its reach in today's creditor landscape.

G20 Common Framework:

A debt-treatment mechanism created in November 2020 for low-income countries in distress. It is the first multilateral restructuring framework to include China as a participating official creditor.

Quota:

The amount each IMF member contributes to the Fund. A country's quota affects both how much it can borrow and how much voting power it holds, making quota central to both access and influence.

HIPC Initiative:

The Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, launched jointly by the IMF and World Bank in 1996 to provide deep debt relief to qualifying low-income countries. It was the main multilateral debt-relief framework before the Common Framework.

Energy and Trade Terms

Oil Price Volatility:

The extent to which crude-oil prices fluctuate over time. Sudden increases can strain importers, while sharp falls can damage exporters, so volatility creates planning and fiscal risk with increase or decrease in prices.

Net Oil Importer:
A country that uses more petroleum than it produces and must buy the difference from abroad. Around 90 developing countries fall into this category, making oil dependence a widespread source of vulnerability.

Petrodollar:
US dollars earned by oil-exporting countries from petroleum sales. In the 1970s, many of these dollars were deposited in Western banks and then lent to developing countries, contributing to the borrowing boom that preceded the 1980s debt crisis.

Energy Transition:
The shift from fossil fuels toward sources such as solar, wind, and hydropower. For oil importing developing countries, this transition could reduce long-term exposure to oil shocks, but it requires capital that may be difficult to obtain.

Commodity Dependence:
Heavy reliance on one or a small number of commodities for export earnings or government revenue. Countries that depend on commodity exports while also importing most of their oil face risk on both sides of the trade balance.

Questions a Resolution Must Answer

A credible resolution should not merely state intentions or concerns. It should able to answer the following questions clearly enough so that delegates can translate the ideas into workable operative clauses.

Conditionality Design:
How can the IMF protect essential spending on health, education, and social protection while still requiring credible fiscal adjustment? What mechanism would make those protections enforceable?

Eligibility Criteria:
Which measurable indicators should determine access to concessional IMF support after an oil-price shock? How should the rules reflect the different needs of island states, landlocked countries, and larger developing economies?

Common Framework Reform:
How can the G20 Common Framework be reformed to include private creditors and distressed middle-income countries? Given that voluntary participation is rare what incentives, deadlines, or penalties could secure timely creditor participation?

SDR Rechannelling:
What share of future SDR allocations, or unused SDRs held by surplus countries, should be directed toward oil-import- dependent developing economies? Which institution should manage that transfer in the face of limitations of the current voluntary approach?

RSF and Energy Transition:
Should RSF access or other IMF financing be linked to measurable energy-diversification plans? How can such conditions support progress while respecting national sovereignty and ensure measurable progress?

Governance Reform:
What changes to quotas or Executive Board representation will give developing countries larger influence over programmes that directly affect them? What trade-off offered to large quota countries might persuade them to support reform?

Asymmetric Impacts:
How should the international community respond when high oil prices hurt importers while low prices destabilise exporters? Can one framework address both risks without creating conflicting incentives?

Transparency and Accountability:
What information should be published during programme design, and how can independent evidence on social impact be incorporated rather than relying mainly on creditor priorities?

Debt Restructuring Timelines:
How can debt restructuring timelines and negotiations be accelerated so that uncertainty does not deepen the crisis? Who will exercise enforcement authority over creditor participation?

Institutional Mandate:
Where should the IMF's responsibility for monetary and financial stability end, and where should development institutions such as the World Bank take over? Does this agenda require a clearer division of roles?

Delegate Toolkit

This section provides practical guidance on research, position development, coalition building and research sources. Delegates with access to primary information – data, statistics and official data will be better prepared than those who rely on summaries.

<u>Researching Your Country</u>

As you prepare for a conference, build a one-page profile of your assigned country that will help answer the following questions:

- **Is the country a net oil importer or exporter, and how much of its import bill is spent on petroleum and secondary petroleum products?**
- **What is the country's current debt-to-GDP ratio, and how does the latest IMF Debt Sustainability Analysis classify the countries risk?**
- **What is the country's current-account balance as compared to the past five years?**
- **Has the country recently used an IMF programme? Which facilities were used, and what conditions were attached to use?**
- **Which negotiating groups or regional blocs does the country belong to, such as the G77, African Union, ASEAN, or SIDS?**
- **Any comments from the finance minister or central bank governor of the country that were recently made about debt relief, IMF policy, or energy security?**
- **What has been the country's position on quota reform, SDR rechannelling and eligibility under the Common Framework?**

The IMF's country pages provide Article IV Staff Reports, country programme documents, and press releases for almost every member country. Reading and understanding your country's most recent Article IV consultation report is one of the most effective way of preparation available.

Coalition Building Strategy

No delegation can achieve its desired goals by itself. Research and Identify the countries (two or three) whose economic interests overlap with yours - not just geographic neighbours, but countries facing similar debt, energy, or financing constraints - and speak to their delegates early.

Do not assume that countries in the same region will agree and align to your position. A Pacific island state and a landlocked African country may have more in common on RSF eligibility than two neighbouring countries with very different creditor relationships. Cross-regional coalitions are more influential because they demonstrate that certain issues are broader than regional politics.

Strong resolutions come from real negotiation. Be flexible to adjust your original proposal position such that it addresses the underlying concerns of potential partners. The ability to establish middle ground and agree on language that retains original idea while expanding support from other partners to the idea is an important skill that the committee tests.

Essential Primary Sources

IMF World Economic Outlook (published twice yearly, imf.org):
Get data about current global forecasts, oil-price assumptions, growth trends, and broad debt analysis. The April and October editions provide the primary reference data for delegates

IMF Global Financial Stability Report (published twice yearly):
Use for understanding financial system risks which includes capital flows in developing countries and sovereign-debt markets.

IMF Debt Sustainability Analysis country reports (imf.org country pages):
Review these reports to understand show how the Fund assesses a country's debt sustainability. Read the latest DSA report for your assigned country to prepare well.

UNCTAD Trade and Development Report (annual, unctad.org):
This report will offer an independent view of global trade and finance from a development perspective. This report often provides a useful counterpoint to IMF and World Bank analysis.

World Bank International Debt Report (annual, worldbank.org):
This report provides comprehensive data on external debt stocks and flows for developing countries. This report is essential for understanding creditor composition and debt structure.

IMF Factsheet: Special Drawing Rights (imf.org/en/About/Factsheets):
Provides introduction on how SDR's are valued, allocated and exchanged This information will be helpful to anyone who wants to propose SDR reform or rechannelling.

G20 Common Framework documents (g20.org):
Official documentation of the Common Framework's design, eligible countries, and case updates including those for Zambia, Chad, and Ethiopia.

Stiglitz, Joseph E., Globalization and Its Discontents (W.W. Norton, 2002):
Read this critique of IMF conditionality by a Nobel Prize-winning economist and former World Bank Chief Economist. It is useful for understanding the arguments behind conditionality reform.