IRD 202: PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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INTERANTIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

QUESTION: IDENTIFY THE ROLES OF SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IN RESPONDING TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC GLOBALLY.

Answer

Coronavirus (COVID-19) was first discovered in Wuhan, China in December 2019, and has spread like wild fire over the following months throughout the globe. Many governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and even families down to individuals have taken precautionary measures against the continuous spread of the disease. International organizations such as the United Nations, World Health Organizations, European Union, and other well- to-do regional governments like the USAID, ICC, EBRD, ECOWAS and a number of individual philanthropists have also made available facilities with the aim of reducing and eliminating the spread and existence of coronavirus.

The USAID is of particular interest to me however because of the high and continuously increasing mortality rate in the US as seen in the rankings of mortality rates globally. The US had made several efforts to curb the spread of the virus but it seems that the effect is ten times faster. The USAID addressed the global the threat of the pandemic plunging large funds as a commitment to address the pandemic. The agency had committed to help developing countries affected or are at high risk of being affected by the pandemic. The efforts include increased communications, prevention and control of infections, increased laboratory, rapid response capacity case managing and most importantly screening at points of entrance into states and global and regional coordination.

On the 10th April, 2020, It was announced that the efforts are being made to provide personal protective equipment to countries particularly the affected ones and also boost the capacity of labs worldwide stating that “An infectious disease threat anywhere can be a threat everywhere.” The pandemic has devastated Italy, one of the United States closest and oldest allies, the US. Agency for International Development (USAID), will provide critically needed assistance to mitigate the overwhelming disruption the pandemic has had on the delivery of health care in communities throughout Italy and country’s economic stability.

With the support, USAID will support supplement, and non-governmental organizations and faith-based groups that are responding directly to the pandemic in Italy and mitigating its social and community impact. They also purchased health supplies that are not required for the US domestic response to the pandemic. In addition, they will support Italian businesses that are engaged in the research, development, or manufacture of therapeutics, vaccines and medical equipment and supplies for covid-19; including to assist Italian factories and supply chains to adapt to needs of health care personnel and patients.