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**MATRIC NO.: 18/SMS09/084**

**COURSE CODE: IRD 202**

**QUESTION**

Identify the roles of a specific international organization in responding to the coronavirus pandemic

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANAIZATION (WHO)

The World Health Organization is the sub-organization to the United Nations that specializes in health issues around the world. The Organizations Constitution establishes the governing structure or Hierarchy of the Agency, as well as its principles.

The WHO Constitution states its main objective as ensuring "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health”, advocating for universal healthcare, monitoring public health risks, coordinating responses to health emergencies, and promoting human health and well-being. The WHO also provides technical assistance to countries, sets international health standards and guidelines, and collects data on global health issues through the World Health Survey. The WHO also serves as a forum for summits and discussions on health issues.

The current coronavirus pandemic is the latest large scale health crisis the world has faced, and finding solutions to these sorts of health emergencies is one of the main reasons for the organizations’ establishment. some of the roles the world health organization has played so far include:

**DEPLOYMENT OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL**

The World health organization Employs a large number of doctors, Nurses and other needed medical personnel for dealing with health crises in all parts of the world, the case has not been different during the coronavirus pandemic

On 20-21 January 2020, a World Health Organization (WHO) delegation conducted a field visit to Wuhan to learn about the response to 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCOV). The mission was part of the on-going close collaboration between WHO and Chinese national, provincial, and Wuhan health authorities in responding to Covid\_19.

The delegation visited the Wuhan Tianhe Airport, Zhongnan hospital, Hubei provincial CDC, including the BSL3 laboratory in China’s Center for Disease Control (CDC). The delegation observed and discussed active surveillance processes, temperature screening at the airport, laboratory facilities, infection prevention and control measures at the hospital and its associated fever clinics, and the deployment of the rRT-PCR test kit to detect the virus.

Several WHO health workers were deployed in Wuhan to combat the virus while it was still seeing thousands of cases. Italy, Spain, Iran and other countries that have been severely affected by the virus have also seen WHO involvement.

**DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION**

Information is an extremely vital resource during health Crises like the coronavirus pandemic, people need to know the various steps to be taken, things to avoid, etc. during a time like this. this is one of the core responsibilities of the world health organization, and they have been doing so for months.

The official WHO website publishes coronavirus related information on a daily basis, mainly involving the figures such as the number of cases, number of deaths and also the number of recoveries that have occurred.

**CARRYING OUT TESTS**

The World Health Organization has also made it its responsibility to assist countries in conducting tests for the virus to keep track of its spread. The WHO test is also more affordable and easily accessible than getting one at an ordinary hospital or Lab.

For instance, an average test in the United States would cost at the very least 500 dollars while the WHO test only costs 17 dollars, as the World health organization tries to make these tests easily available to people all over the world.

**RESOURCE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

The WHO also helps provide all sorts of assistance to third world countries. Aside from the deployment of personnel to their countries, they also provide medical equipment to these countries as well as technical assistance on how to properly handle these situations in their countries.