

# ETHIOPIA

The Federal Republic of Ethiopia is situated in Africa, with its capital city being Addis Ababa. The total population of Ethiopia is approximately 120 million people. According to UNHCR, there are approximately 823,000 refugees in the country, which constitutes around 0.7% of the total population. Ethiopia has one of the largest numbers of refugees and asylum seekers in Africa.

## Negotiation guidelines

In the negotiations, it can be emphasized that Ethiopia is a very poor country compared to the other countries in the MUN. Therefore, you may suggest that the richer countries should financially assist the poorer countries to better cope with the arrival of refugees. As Ethiopia, it is advisable to collaborate with Tanzania to push the issue of richer countries providing financial assistance to the poorer countries for the arrival of refugees. Regarding the issue of SRHR for youth, Ethiopia shares similar viewpoints with Thailand, Russia, and Lebanon. In the matter of the right to complain to the UN, Ethiopia may preferably work with the USA and Venezuela.

## Family reunification

Ethiopia believes that families should be reunited if they have been separated due to displacement. In 2019, the country adopted a new law to facilitate family reunification by allowing a family member

of an asylum seeker to come to the country and be granted the rights and privileges offered by the law. The Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) has a special department that assists unaccompanied children with family tracing and reunification in collaboration with various civil society organizations.

## Sexual and reproductive health and rights

Ethiopia is working towards improving the implementation of SRHR in the country, but it will take time. For example, Ethiopia has adopted a strategy to reduce sexual violence against girls in schools but does not have a comprehensive law prohibiting gender-based violence. Contraceptives should primarily be available to married couples and not to unmarried children or women since they should not engage in sexual activities according to Ethiopian beliefs. Abortions should only be allowed if the pregnancy can harm the woman's mental or



physical health, if the pregnancy is non-viable, or if the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest. It should not be approved solely on the basis of the woman's desire. Ethiopia believes that women who are displaced should not be discriminated against and should be protected from violence.

#### **The right to complain to the UN**

Ethiopia has not ratified the Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which allows children to complain if their rights under the Convention have been violated. Ethiopia does not have a standing invitation to the UN special rapporteurs, and no special rapporteur has visited the country since 2006. Additionally, Ethiopia does not believe that there should be a special rapporteur on the rights of children in displacement.

