MEMORANDUM FOR STUDENT CONFERENCE ON US AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Tackling Human Distress Through Innovation

1. **Issue:** The purpose of this memorandum is to recommend policy that improves global quality of life and mitigates human distress through innovation.

2. **Strategic Analysis:** Human distress impacts global markets and political stability, which jeopardizes the United States’ relationships with other countries and non-state actors. This memorandum explores pertinent issues facing the world, namely industry and innovation; women, peace, and security (WPS); and climate change. Failing to adequately address these issues would negatively impact other actors, endanger the United States’ position within the international community, and make the United States susceptible to adversarial encroachment on vital partnerships.

3. **Relevant National Interests:** Climate change is a transnational issue that requires international cooperation. Development of sustainable infrastructure decreases conflict involving US resources and increases viability of trade partners. World Bank reform increases US loan competitiveness. Domestic WPS measures promote democratic values which reaffirms US soft power and credibility.

4. **Strategic Options:**
   a. Mitigate economic, social, and political disruptions caused by climate crisis.
   b. Ensure sustainable infrastructure development by integration of local civil society organizations.
   c. Model democratic values through improvement on WPS action plan.

5. **Recommendation:**
   a. The US should identify solutions to improve quality of life and prepare countries for the future. Plans for potential disruptions to global stability mitigates the financial tool climate change poses internationally. Analysis on endangered polluted communities mitigates future risk to public health. Measures of climate crises impacts helps future policymakers address climate disruptions. Equitable distribution of grants to climate refuges contributes to local economies and provides economic and social stability. Refugee integration combats stigmatization which ensures political, social, and economic security for all.
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b. The US should propose reform in the World Bank to include local NGOs and leaders from affected areas of development projects in the planning process. This promotes sustainable development through increased success rate of infrastructure projects.

c. The US should incentivize other countries to create a national action plan (NAP) to address WPS to promote gender equality. The US should implement the Rome Statute to join the International Criminal Court to pioneer prosecution of sexual and gender-based violence globally.

6. **Implementation:**

a. The support of local non-state actors and representatives is required to evaluate pollution levels across regions and create individualized community plans that will be shared globally. Making grants accessible directly to climate refugees, allows for effective contribution to local economies by providing financial and social stability. This requires approval from Congress and contributions from international allies to ensure effective collaboration and sustainable funding. Non-state actors such as NGO’s are essential in distributing grants at a local level to promote the solidity and longevity of these grants.

b. To implement the desired World Bank reforms, the US Alternate Executive Board member can present the issue to the World Bank Board of Governors for consideration. The United States position as the global leader of funding for the International Development Association, a funding arm of the World Bank, increases the potential influence over policy reform with the World Bank.

c. Action items for NAPs include reproductive health, family planning, and sexual education. Federal and state governments will work to create partnerships with non-state actors and corporations to find and address technological gender-based violence. The federal government will implement national subsidized childcare in the US to promote and model inclusion of women in the labor force internationally.

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