

## United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly. The UNHCR coordinates international action to protect refugees and acts as a global leader in resolving refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees and to work to make sure that citizens of all nations can exercise the right to seek asylum and to find safety in another country if the need arises. Under international law, refugees have the right to return to their home nation, become a part of the community to which they have fled, or move to another country. UNHCR encourages voluntary repatriation, or return, as the best solution for displaced people. The agency often provides transportation and other assistance, such as money, tools and seeds. Occasionally, UNHCR helps rebuild homes, schools and roads.

Because so many Rubits (10,000) left Budan so suddenly, the government of Gilbia was not able to respond adequately. Therefore the UNHCR and its partners moved life-saving emergency assistance such as clean water, health care resources, as well as shelter materials (tents), into the west of Gilbia near the border with Budan. Among the relief items are blankets, sleeping mattresses, household goods and food. The UNHCR can provide refugee registration, assistance and advice on asylum applications, education and counseling. Conditions, however, are far from ideal. Supplies are limited; the rain and other extreme weather never stop; and the refugees remain in miserable living conditions.

### Opening Position

The UNHCR will state its concerns about the refugees currently in Gilbia, note that it has brought in only 2,000 tents and emergency supplies and inform all parties that its resources are at capacity. It will remind all stakeholders that refugees continue to cross the Gilbian-Budanese border in large numbers and that the UNHCR cannot resolve this crisis alone. The UNHCR will therefore ask the countries of the world, and especially UN Security Council members, to make additional pledges of donations, emergency supplies, personnel, equipment, and vaccines to enable the UNHCR to respond effectively to this humanitarian crisis.

### Negotiation Strategy

- How can you convince other nations to contribute their resources in resolving this crisis? What are the objectives of the other stakeholders? How can you use those objectives to achieve your own goals?
- In what ways can you act as a neutral party to resolve conflicts between rival stakeholders while



### FAST FACTS

Established in

**1950**

2019 budget:

**\$8.6B**

achieving your primary goal of protecting the refugees?

- Your primary objective in the early rounds of negotiation should be to provide immediate care and relief supplies for those refugees currently in Gilbia.
- In later rounds, determine if your more long-term priorities can be negotiated: where can refugees in Gilbia be relocated; how to stop the flow of refugees; can protection for the Rubits within Budan be achieved.
- Remember that a partial solution, however seemingly unsatisfactory, is preferable to no solution at all.