Dear Ambassador Craft,

My name is Drew I. and I am writing to you because while a challenge, the UN’s sustainable development goals must stay active during this COVID-19 pandemic. While I, like many other students across the world, are taking online classes, I go to Chestnut Ridge Middle School in New Jersey. That school is where I learned what the Model UN is all about. Model UN is an academic activity that enables and encourages students to learn and develop a greater understanding of current real-world issues. As you know, for this activity groups of students are given a country and a topic about their country. My country is Rwanda and my topic is aiding refugees and displaced people. So far I have done extensive research about my topic and how it correlates to my country, my class and I have been to two UN field trips, one to Temple University and the other to Penn Museum, as well as having many thorough conversations with my teacher and classmates when school was still in session. Sadly, this is all I have been able to do, due to the COVID-19 virus abruptly shutting down school’s mid-year. This cancelled any further real-life class discussions that were to occur, and my third-class UN field trip, as well as disrupting the overall working experience for a little bit. Despite the multiple impacts currently caused by the Covid-19 global pandemic, the United States government should continue to financially and diplomatically support the UN’s efforts to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

The topic that I focused on is aiding refugees and displaced people which correlates to sustainable development goal number three, good health and well-being. This issue that is present is wars and other terrible conditions that force a person, in countries with these issues, to become refugees. Being a refugee or displaced person has been a problem for over hundreds of years starting with WWI when civilians were forced to flee their home or sometimes their country for safety. However, the word refugee was officially given to people who fled their country’s in the nineteenth century. Refugees and displaced people are expected to have an even bigger crisis very soon due to the rise of the coronavirus. Refugees are more susceptible to becoming sick due to them not being in a safe and environmentally isolated. The issue of refugees is currently
having its biggest impact in the middle east. I can see this having a ripple impact with parts of Europe. I see this because refugees from the middle east are fleeing to Europe, and if too many refugees go there, over crowding issues could rise. There are programs in the middle east to help with the refugee issues such as Carnegie Endowment for international peace. That NGO helps with the refugee crisis in the Arab world. The people affected by this crisis are people in these countries with high war rates that are soon to become fellow refugees. The people that are contributing to the issue are the governments from neighboring countries with opposing views that are forcing wars. These wars cause normal people to flee their homes and become refugees. This issue is of global importance because refugees can cause many problems. These problems consist of over population and people entering the country illegally. The issue can be solved by enforcing more laws against war and protect civilians in war-ridden countries.

Despite the multiple impacts currently caused by the Covid-19 global pandemic, the United States government should continue to diplomatically and financially support the UN’s efforts to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. First, wars are causing people to flee their homes despite the virus. Second, the virus is causing deaths and illness’ in refugees. Lastly, refugees are still illegally entering countries which fluctuates the population. In conclusion I think it would not only be in the UN’s best interest but the worlds if despite the coronavirus that the US government continue to support the UN.

Sincerely,

Drew I.