SEMMUNA

Southeast Michigan Model United Nations Association

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, DISEC

Delegation Guide

Ensuring Fair and Sustainable Access to Critical Resources

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How to Use This Guide

This guide gives you a starting point for understanding your delegation's position in this committee. It is not a script. It is not a checklist. It is not telling you exactly what to say or how to vote.

What you will find for each country is a brief overview of where that country stands in the global critical resource system, followed by three categories of guidance:

- **Things to Consider**: background context and factors that are worth keeping in mind as you prepare.
- **Questions to Think About**: open questions that do not have single right answers, but that are worth wrestling with before you walk in the room.
- **Possibilities Worth Exploring**: directions you might take your delegation's strategy, not instructions for what you must do.

None of these categories are exhaustive, and you are encouraged to go beyond them. The delegates who do the most interesting work in committee are usually the ones who come in with a genuine understanding of their country's situation and then respond creatively to what actually happens in the room.

> **A note on playing your role:** *Every country in this committee has a legitimate perspective and real interests. Some countries have more leverage than others, but that does not mean smaller delegations are less important. Some of the most consequential moments in real diplomacy come from unexpected voices. Find your angle, and use it.*

Countries in This Committee

The following 28 delegations are represented in this committee, listed in alphabetical order:

Argentina	Australia	Brazil	Canada
Chile	China	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Egypt
France	Germany	India	Indonesia
Japan	Kenya	Mexico	Morocco
Nigeria	Peru	Philippines	Poland
Saudi Arabia	South Africa	South Korea	Thailand
Türkiye	United Kingdom	United States	Vietnam

Argentina

Argentina sits on some of the largest lithium reserves in the world, concentrated in the high-altitude salt flats of the Andes. That gives Argentina real economic leverage, but turning geological wealth into lasting prosperity is not automatic. It requires investment, infrastructure, and smart negotiation. Argentina is at a crossroads: it can export raw ore and let others capture most of the value, or it can push to process and manufacture domestically. How Argentina navigates that choice will shape its role in this committee.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
How to attract foreign investment without giving away too much control	Who benefits most from the current system, and is Argentina one of them?	Coordinating with Chile and Bolivia, your lithium-triangle neighbors, to speak with a stronger collective voice
The difference between exporting raw lithium and exporting processed materials	What does a fair deal between a resource producer and a major consumer economy actually look like?	Negotiating investment agreements that include technology transfer or domestic processing requirements
How much economic sovereignty your country is willing to trade for access to capital and technology	How do you build influence in a room where larger economies have more leverage?	Pushing for international pricing frameworks that give producers more stability
The relationship between Argentina's resource wealth and its bargaining power at this table	What would it take for Argentina to move up the supply chain?	Exploring what regional cooperation among Latin American resource producers could look like

Australia

Australia is one of the world's most important suppliers of critical minerals, particularly lithium and rare earth elements. It is politically stable, geographically vast, and already deeply integrated into supply chains serving the United States, Japan, and South Korea. Australia has the rare combination of resource wealth and institutional credibility, which gives it real influence in this committee. The question is how to use that influence, to maximize short-term export revenue, to push for more equitable global systems, or to shape the rules of the game before others do.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Australia's position as both a producer and a close ally of major consumer economies	Does Australia benefit more from bilateral relationships or from multilateral frameworks?	Building on existing partnerships with Japan, South Korea, and the U.S. to shape supply chain norms
How to balance the interests of your export markets with your own long-term economic development	How do you maintain strong partnerships with both the U.S. and other allies while remaining a credible voice for fairness?	Advocating for environmental and labor standards that Australia can already meet, raising the bar for others
The role environmental standards play in Australia's reputation as a responsible supplier	What responsibilities come with being a stable, trusted supplier in an unstable world?	Exploring what leadership among resource-producing democracies could look like
What a stable global market is actually worth to a country that depends on exports	How should Australia think about value-added processing on its own soil?	Proposing transparency frameworks that build trust across the system

Brazil

Brazil occupies an interesting position in this committee: it is both a producer and a consumer of critical resources, which gives it a perspective that fewer countries share. Brazil has significant reserves and a growing industrial base, but it also understands what it feels like to be on the receiving end of unfair trade terms. That dual experience can be a real asset in committee, because Brazil can credibly speak to both sides of the producer-consumer dynamic. How Brazil uses that position is up to you.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Brazil's dual identity as both a resource producer and a developing economy with industrial needs	What does Brazil gain from aligning with producer nations? What does it gain from aligning with consumers?	Acting as a bridge-builder between producer coalitions and major industrial economies
The tension between attracting foreign investment and maintaining control over national resources	How do you advocate for fair systems without alienating the major economies your country depends on for trade?	Proposing development frameworks that connect resource access to economic growth for emerging economies
Brazil's relationships within Latin America and with the broader Global South	What role should Brazil play in shaping standards for sustainable resource development?	Partnering with other large developing economies like India and South Africa on shared priorities
The environmental dimensions of development in a country that is also home to the Amazon	How do you balance domestic economic needs with international cooperation?	Advocating for fair trade terms while also positioning Brazil as a responsible, long-term supplier

Canada

Canada is one of the few countries in this committee that can credibly claim to be both a major resource producer and a strong advocate for environmental protection and ethical sourcing. That combination gives Canada a distinctive voice. Canada is a trusted partner to the United States and many European allies, a significant exporter of critical minerals, and a country with real experience managing the tension between economic development and environmental responsibility. How Canada uses that credibility in committee is worth thinking carefully about.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
How Canada's values around sustainability and human rights shape its approach to resource policy	Can Canada be both a major resource exporter and a credible champion of sustainability? How?	Proposing environmental and labor standards that are ambitious but achievable
The relationship between Canada's resource sector and its alliances with the U.S. and European partners	What standards should Canada push for internationally, and can it meet them at home?	Working with European allies like France and Germany on multilateral frameworks
What it means to advocate for ethical sourcing standards when your own mining industry is under scrutiny	How do you build coalitions with countries that share your values but have very different economic circumstances?	Using Canada's trusted-partner status with the U.S. to push for fairer systems within allied supply chains
Canada's relationship with Indigenous communities affected by resource extraction on their lands	What is Canada's unique contribution to this committee that no other country can quite replicate?	Advocating for meaningful community consultation requirements in international resource agreements

Chile

Chile is one of the world's leading lithium producers and a central player in the so-called Lithium Triangle with Argentina and Bolivia. Chile's copper reserves are also among the largest on earth. This is a country with genuine geological leverage, but leverage only matters if you know how to use it. Chile has experience with both the benefits and the risks of resource dependence, and its decisions in this committee about how to manage its exports, attract investment, and coordinate with neighbors will have real consequences for how the global lithium market develops.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Chile's position as a leading producer and what that means for its bargaining power	Does Chile benefit more from competing with neighboring producers or from coordinating with them?	Building a producer coalition with Argentina, Bolivia, and other lithium-rich nations
The relationship between resource exports and broader economic development	How do you attract investment without giving away the value that belongs to Chilean people?	Pushing for international pricing transparency that reduces the leverage of large buyers
How coordination with Argentina and Bolivia could amplify Chile's influence	What would fair pricing for Chilean lithium actually look like, and who gets to decide?	Negotiating investment terms that include requirements for domestic processing or technology transfer
The environmental impact of lithium extraction in Chile's Atacama Desert and what that means politically	How do you speak for producer nations without being dismissed as self-interested?	Advocating for environmental standards that protect the Atacama while allowing responsible development

China

China's position in this committee is unlike any other country's. China does not just consume critical resources, it processes a dominant share of the world's supply, including minerals mined in other countries. That gives China structural leverage across multiple stages of the supply chain simultaneously. At the same time, China is aware that other countries are actively trying to reduce their dependence on Chinese processing capacity. How China navigates that tension, whether through cooperation, competition, or some combination, is one of the most consequential choices in this committee.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
China's dominance in mineral processing and what that means for its negotiating position	How does China build credibility as a cooperative partner when others see its market position as a vulnerability?	Proposing long-term supply agreements that offer predictability in exchange for market access
The difference between being seen as an essential partner versus being seen as a strategic risk	What does China genuinely gain from a more stable and transparent global system?	Engaging with developing country producers as genuine partners rather than just suppliers
How China's relationships in Africa and Latin America affect its role in this committee	How do you maintain your strategic advantages while also engaging constructively in multilateral frameworks?	Advocating for frameworks that protect existing processing relationships while allowing for diversification
The tension between China's economic interests and the concerns other countries have about over-dependence	What relationships in this committee are most important to protect and develop?	Finding areas where Chinese interests actually align with broader global stability goals

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The DRC sits at the center of this entire conversation in ways that no other country does. Approximately 70% of the world's cobalt supply comes from Congolese mines, making the DRC indispensable to the global battery industry. And yet the DRC remains one of the poorest countries in the world, with a long history of its resource wealth flowing outward while its people bear the environmental and social costs. That history, of extraction without benefit, of dependence without power, is not background context. It is the moral center of this committee. The DRC's delegation has both a right and a responsibility to make that heard.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
The gap between the DRC's geological wealth and its actual economic development	What does the DRC need from this committee, and what is the minimum that would represent real progress?	Building coalitions with other resource-rich developing countries who share the experience of extraction without benefit
The history of exploitation by foreign corporations and what that means for future negotiations	How do you negotiate from a position of genuine resource leverage while also acknowledging political and economic vulnerability?	Demanding that international frameworks include specific protections for producing communities, not just producing countries
The human rights and labor conditions in Congolese cobalt mining and how to address them	Who in this room has interests that actually align with the DRC's, and who is primarily here to protect their own supply?	Pushing for fair trade standards and pricing mechanisms that give the DRC more control over its own resources
What genuine economic sovereignty would look like for a country in the DRC's position	What would it take for the DRC to benefit fairly from the cobalt that fuels the global economy?	Calling attention to the contradiction between global demand for ethical batteries and conditions in Congolese mines

Egypt

Egypt is a regional leader in North Africa and the Middle East with a large and growing economy that depends on stable access to critical resources for industrial development. Egypt also sits at one of the world's most important geographic chokepoints, the Suez Canal, which means that what happens to global shipping routes is not just an abstract concern. Egypt has both practical economic interests in this committee and the potential to play a meaningful diplomatic role as a bridge between African nations, the Arab world, and broader global partners.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Egypt's role as a regional leader and what that means for its responsibilities in committee	What does Egypt's regional leadership role ask of it in a committee about global resource equity?	Building partnerships with other African nations around shared development goals
The practical impact of supply chain disruptions on Egypt's manufacturing and industrial sectors	How do you represent the interests of a large developing economy without being dismissed as a smaller player?	Advocating for access and affordability frameworks that reflect the needs of large, industrializing economies
Egypt's geographic position and how that shapes its perspective on global trade and logistics	Which coalitions would give Egypt the most influence, regional blocs, the Global South, or cross-regional partnerships?	Using Egypt's regional influence to amplify the voices of smaller African and Arab nations
The relationship between Egypt's development goals and fair access to critical resources	What is the connection between Egypt's economic development ambitions and the issues on the table here?	Connecting global resource equity issues to Egypt's own infrastructure and industrial development priorities

France

France brings a particular combination of priorities to this committee: a strong commitment to multilateralism and international law, significant concerns about environmental sustainability, and real economic stakes as a major industrial economy within the European Union. France also has a complicated history with resource-rich nations in Africa, which is relevant context for any conversation about fair and equitable systems. How France reconciles its values with its interests, and how honestly it engages with that tension, will shape its credibility in committee

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Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
France's commitment to multilateral frameworks and what that means in practice	How does France advocate for strong environmental standards without being seen as imposing its values on developing nations?	Working with Germany and other EU partners on coordinated positions around sustainability and multilateralism
The tension between France's sustainability values and its economic dependence on imported resources	What does genuine partnership with African resource producers look like, and how is it different from what has come before?	Proposing frameworks that include both environmental protections and meaningful development benefits for producing nations
France's historical relationships with African resource-producing nations	How do you balance France's interests as a consumer economy with its stated commitment to global equity?	Engaging honestly with France's historical role in Africa as part of building more credible partnerships
France's role within the EU and how that shapes its diplomatic approach	What can France uniquely contribute to this committee that reflects both its strengths and its responsibilities?	Advocating for binding international standards while also supporting capacity-building for developing nations

Germany

Germany is Europe's largest economy and one of the world's great manufacturing powerhouses. German industry, from automotive to chemicals to advanced machinery, depends heavily on stable access to critical resources, almost all of which must be imported. Germany has deep experience with international cooperation, strong environmental credentials, and a genuine commitment to multilateral institutions. At the same time, Germany is navigating real pressure to secure its own supply chains as global competition intensifies. How Germany uses its economic weight and institutional credibility in this committee matters.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Germany's deep dependence on imported critical resources and what that means for its vulnerability	How do you advocate for the global rules-based system when your own supply chain needs sometimes push you toward bilateral deals?	Proposing multilateral coordination frameworks that reflect Germany's strengths in international institution-building
The relationship between Germany's manufacturing strength and its need for stable, predictable supply	What does Germany owe to resource-producing nations whose materials power German industry?	Working with France, Japan, and other industrial allies on shared supply chain security approaches
Germany's commitment to environmental standards and how that shapes its approach to sourcing	How do you build coalitions that include both allied industrial economies and developing country producers?	Pushing for global environmental standards that match what Germany already practices domestically
Germany's role as a leading voice for multilateralism within the European Union	What does genuine long-term sustainability mean for a country with Germany's industrial footprint?	Exploring what fair partnerships with resource-rich developing countries could look like from Germany's position

India

India is one of the most consequential voices in this committee, even if it is not always treated that way. With a population of 1.4 billion and one of the world's fastest-growing economies, India's demand for critical resources is enormous and rising rapidly. India also represents a huge constituency of developing nations that need affordable access to these materials to pursue legitimate economic growth. India is not a major resource producer, so it must navigate from a position of demand, but that demand is significant enough to give India real leverage if it chooses to use it.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
India's status as both a developing economy and a major emerging power	What does India need from this committee, not just rhetorically, but in concrete terms?	Building a broad coalition of developing nations around affordability and equitable access
The tension between India's need for affordable resource access and the interests of producer nations	How do you build influence in a system where major powers control most of the supply?	Proposing pricing frameworks or development mechanisms that address the needs of large, growing economies
India's relationships across the Global South and what those relationships mean for coalition-building	What is India's relationship with China in this context, partner, competitor, or something more complicated?	Using India's scale and economic trajectory as leverage in negotiations with major suppliers
The difference between advocating for developing country interests and simply opposing the positions of wealthy nations	What would a fair global resource system actually look like from India's perspective?	Bridging the gap between producer nations and consumer nations who share development goals

Indonesia

Indonesia has done something remarkable in recent years: it has used its position as the world's largest nickel producer to assert real economic sovereignty. By restricting raw nickel exports, Indonesia forced foreign companies to invest in domestic processing, capturing more value within its own economy. That is a bold strategy that carries real risks, it disrupted global markets and created tension with major trading partners, but it has also given Indonesia a new kind of influence. Indonesia's experience is directly relevant to the issues this committee is here to address.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Indonesia's real-world experience with resource nationalism and what it has actually produced	What has Indonesia actually gained from its export restriction policy, and what has it cost?	Sharing Indonesia's experience as a practical example of what resource sovereignty looks like in action
The tension between asserting economic sovereignty and maintaining relationships with major trading partners	How do you advocate for producer sovereignty without alienating the consumer markets your country depends on?	Building coalitions with other producer nations who are exploring similar strategies
How Indonesia's model might be adapted, replicated, or challenged by other producer nations	What responsibilities come with being a model that other resource-producing nations are watching closely?	Proposing international frameworks that protect the right of producer nations to add value domestically
The domestic political dimensions of Indonesia's resource policy	How does Indonesia's position in this committee connect to its broader development goals?	Engaging with major consumer economies on terms that reflect Indonesia's new leverage

Japan

Japan is almost entirely dependent on imported critical resources. The country has essentially no domestic production of its own and has been managing that vulnerability through supply chain diversification, strategic stockpiling, and strong bilateral relationships for decades. Japan is extraordinarily good at what it does, efficient, technologically advanced, deeply networked, but it is also acutely aware of how exposed it is to disruptions it cannot control. Japan's approach to this committee is likely shaped by that awareness. Stability and diversification are not just policy preferences. They are existential priorities.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Japan's near-total dependence on imported resources and what that means for its negotiating position	What does Japan offer to resource-producing countries that other consumer economies cannot?	Proposing supply diversification frameworks that serve multiple consumer economies simultaneously
The strengths Japan brings despite lacking resource wealth, technology, capital, relationships, credibility	How do you advocate for your own supply security without being seen as simply trying to lock in favorable terms?	Partnering with Australia, Canada, and other stable producers to develop alternative supply networks
Japan's existing supply chain partnerships and how to build on them	What role should Japan play in shaping international frameworks versus pursuing bilateral agreements?	Offering Japanese technology and investment as part of fair deals with resource-rich developing countries
The tension between Japan's need for stability and its concern about over-dependence on any single supplier	How does Japan build the kind of trust with producer nations that translates into long-term supply reliability?	Advocating for transparency and early-warning systems that give consumer nations more time to respond to disruptions

Kenya

Kenya's voice in this committee represents something important: the perspective of a developing nation that is neither a major resource producer nor a major industrial power, but that is deeply affected by how the global resource system is structured. Kenya's economic development depends on affordable access to the technologies that critical resources make possible, clean energy, digital infrastructure, transportation. When prices spike or supply chains fracture, countries like Kenya pay a price they did not cause. That is a powerful argument to make, and Kenya should make it clearly.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
What it means to be a country whose development is shaped by decisions made by others	What specific outcomes from this committee would genuinely improve Kenya's situation?	Building a coalition of smaller developing nations around shared equity and access concerns
How to represent the interests of developing nations without being dismissed as a minor player	How do you build influence when you lack the economic or resource leverage of larger players?	Proposing specific mechanisms, development funds, access guarantees, pricing protections, that address real needs
The connection between fair resource access and Kenya's own economic aspirations	Which coalitions would give Kenya the strongest platform, African nations, the broader Global South, or something else?	Connecting Kenya's voice to the broader moral case for a fairer global resource system
Kenya's potential role as a voice for African nations across this committee	How do you keep the conversation focused on equity and fairness when powerful actors want to talk about other things?	Finding unexpected allies among producer nations who share an interest in challenging the current distribution of benefits

Mexico

Mexico sits at an interesting intersection in this committee: it is a manufacturing hub deeply integrated into North American supply chains, a country with its own resource potential, and a nation with strong economic interests in both stability and growth. Mexico's geographic proximity to the United States creates both opportunity and dependency. Mexico knows what it means to be economically integrated with a much larger partner, and it has learned some hard lessons about how to negotiate in that context. Those lessons could be valuable here.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Mexico's role as a manufacturing hub and its dependence on stable resource supply	How does Mexico balance its North American partnerships with its relationships in Latin America and the Global South?	Advocating for regional supply chain frameworks that reflect Mexico's integration into North American manufacturing
The relationship between Mexico's economic interests and its partnership with the United States	What does Mexico need from this committee that its existing bilateral relationships cannot provide?	Building partnerships with other Latin American nations around shared development priorities
Mexico's own resource potential and how it fits into its overall position	How do you use Mexico's position as a manufacturing hub to make a case for stable and fair resource access?	Using Mexico's manufacturing perspective to make a concrete case for supply stability and affordability
The perspectives Mexico can offer as a country that understands both development challenges and industrial integration	What kind of regional cooperation framework would actually serve Mexico's interests?	Proposing frameworks that connect resource access to industrial development opportunities for countries like Mexico

Morocco

Morocco plays a more important role in global resource systems than its size might suggest. Morocco holds the world's largest reserves of phosphate rock, a critical input for global agriculture, and is increasingly positioning itself as a logistics and trade hub for Africa. Morocco's relationships span Europe, Africa, and the Arab world, giving it genuine diplomatic reach. In a committee about fair and sustainable resource access, Morocco has both practical interests and a platform to represent the concerns of smaller import-dependent nations.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Morocco's resource assets and how they translate into influence in this specific committee	How does Morocco use its diplomatic reach to amplify its voice beyond what its size alone would allow?	Building partnerships with other North African and Arab nations around shared access and affordability goals
Morocco's geographic and diplomatic position as a bridge between regions	What specific mechanisms would address the challenges that Morocco and similar countries face?	Using Morocco's relationships with Europe to advocate for frameworks that include rather than exclude smaller economies
The practical impact of resource price instability on Morocco's economy and planning	How do you build coalitions that are broad enough to be effective but focused enough to produce real outcomes?	Proposing predictability and pricing stability mechanisms that serve import-dependent nations
How Morocco represents a category of country, import-dependent, regionally connected, development-oriented, that has real stakes here	What is Morocco's unique contribution to the conversation, what can it say that others cannot?	Connecting Morocco's regional leadership role to broader advocacy for fairer global resource governance

Nigeria

Nigeria is Africa's largest economy and a country with significant resource potential, not primarily in the critical minerals at the center of this committee, but in the economic ambitions and development challenges that make this conversation matter. Nigeria has experienced firsthand how resource wealth can be both a blessing and a curse, and it brings that experience to this table. Nigeria also has the scale and regional weight to be a genuine leader among African nations in this committee, if it chooses to play that role.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Nigeria's experience with resource wealth and what that history means for how it approaches this committee	What does Nigeria's experience with oil wealth teach it about how critical mineral wealth should be managed differently?	Leading a coalition of African nations around fair development and equitable resource access
The development challenges Nigeria faces and how fair resource access connects to those challenges	How do you exercise regional leadership in a way that actually serves the countries you claim to speak for?	Drawing on Nigeria's oil sector experience to propose frameworks that prevent the same mistakes in critical minerals
Nigeria's potential role as a leader and advocate for African nations in this committee	What specific outcomes from this committee would make a real difference for Nigeria's development trajectory?	Advocating for investment partnerships that genuinely build local capacity rather than just extracting value
The tension between Nigeria's own economic interests and the broader interests it might represent	How does Nigeria build the coalitions it needs to be effective here?	Using Nigeria's economic scale to make arguments that command attention from major powers

Peru

Peru is an emerging producer with significant reserves of copper, lithium, and other critical minerals, and a growing awareness of what those reserves could mean for its economic future. Peru has also lived through cycles of resource dependence and knows the risks of an economy that rises and falls with commodity prices. Peru is in a position to learn from the experiences of other producer nations and to help shape the rules of the system before those rules harden into something that locks Peru into the lower rungs of the supply chain.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Peru's position as an emerging producer and what that means for its long-term interests	What does Peru need to do now to ensure its resource wealth translates into lasting development?	Building partnerships with Chile, Argentina, and other Latin American producers to coordinate positions
The lessons Peru can draw from other resource-rich nations about what to do, and what not to do	Who in this committee has interests that align with Peru's, and who might try to lock in terms that disadvantage producers?	Advocating for investment frameworks that include meaningful development benefits for producing communities
The tension between attracting investment now and capturing more value in the future	How do you build influence as a country that is important but not yet dominant in the resource system?	Pushing for international standards that protect producer nations' rights to add value domestically
How Peru balances its development needs with environmental and social responsibilities in mining communities	What role should Peru play in shaping international frameworks, active participant or cautious observer?	Connecting Peru's experience with mining and community relations to broader conversations about ethical sourcing

Philippines

The Philippines has both resource potential, significant nickel and other mineral reserves, and growing industrial and economic needs. The country is watching Indonesia's export restriction strategy closely and weighing what a similar approach might mean for Philippine development. At the same time, the Philippines operates in a complex geopolitical environment in Southeast Asia and must navigate relationships with China, the United States, and its ASEAN neighbors carefully. That balancing act shapes everything about how the Philippines engages in this committee.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
The Philippines' mineral resources and what they represent as an economic asset	What does the Philippines want to become in the global resource system, raw material supplier, processor, or something more?	Coordinating with Vietnam, Indonesia, and other Southeast Asian nations on shared resource priorities
The lessons of Indonesia's export restriction approach and whether a similar strategy makes sense for the Philippines	How does the Philippines navigate between powerful neighbors with competing interests?	Exploring what a graduated approach to domestic processing requirements might look like for the Philippines
The Philippines' geopolitical position and how that shapes its relationships in committee	What do other Southeast Asian nations offer as coalition partners, and what do they need in return?	Advocating for frameworks that protect smaller producer nations from being squeezed by larger buyers
The connection between resource policy and the Philippines' broader development goals	How do you build influence in a committee where larger economies tend to dominate?	Using the Philippines' position between major powers to play a constructive bridging role

Poland

Poland is a significant industrial economy within the European Union and a country with real stakes in stable critical resource supply chains. Poland has been through its own experience of economic dependence, particularly on Russian energy, and has spent recent years working to reduce that vulnerability. That experience shapes how Poland thinks about supply chain security and diversification. Within the EU, Poland sometimes occupies a distinct position, and in this committee it has an opportunity to represent the perspective of an industrial economy that understands both dependence and resilience.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Poland's experience with energy dependence and what that means for how it approaches resource security	How does Poland's experience with Russian energy dependence inform its approach to critical mineral supply chains?	Working within EU frameworks while also advocating for Poland's specific industrial interests
Poland's industrial base and the specific resources it depends on to remain competitive	What does Poland have to offer in this committee, and what does it need?	Drawing on Poland's diversification experience to propose practical supply security measures
Poland's position within the EU and how that shapes its diplomatic relationships in committee	How do you balance Poland's membership in EU frameworks with its own specific interests and perspective?	Building partnerships with other Central and Eastern European nations on shared priorities
The connection between Poland's development trajectory and the global resource issues on the table	What coalitions make the most sense for Poland, EU partners, other industrializing economies, or a mix?	Connecting Poland's energy security experience to broader conversations about critical resource resilience

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia is in the middle of one of the most consequential economic transitions of any country in the world. It has built enormous wealth on oil, and it is now working to diversify that wealth into new industries, including the very industries that depend on critical minerals. Saudi Arabia also has the capital to be a major investor in global resource development if it chooses that path. The question for this committee is how Saudi Arabia uses that capital and influence, to secure its own future, to shape global systems, or to build the kinds of partnerships that make it a central player in whatever comes next.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Saudi Arabia's economic transition and what critical resources mean to that process	What does Saudi Arabia need from the global critical resource system as it pursues economic diversification?	Positioning Saudi Arabia as a major investor in responsible resource development globally
The capital and investment capacity Saudi Arabia brings to any conversation about resource development	How do you use capital as diplomatic leverage in a committee about supply chains and fairness?	Building partnerships with countries seeking investment and with countries seeking supply security
How Saudi Arabia's relationships across Asia, the Arab world, and the West shape its options in committee	What partnerships would serve Saudi Arabia's long-term interests, and what would it offer in return?	Advocating for frameworks that create investment opportunities while also supporting development goals
The difference between Saudi Arabia as an oil power and Saudi Arabia as an emerging player in new energy systems	How does Saudi Arabia build a new kind of relevance in a world moving away from oil?	Using Saudi Arabia's financial resources to shape the terms of engagement in committee

South Africa

South Africa is a major mining economy and the regional anchor of southern Africa. The country has significant reserves of platinum, manganese, chrome, and other critical materials, and a long and complicated history with the mining industry that has shaped its politics, its economy, and its society. South Africa also has a strong tradition of multilateral engagement and a voice that carries weight in African and Global South contexts. How South Africa uses its mining experience and its diplomatic platform in this committee is an important question.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
South Africa's deep experience with mining and what that history, including its injustices, means for how it approaches this committee	What does South Africa's history with mining teach it about what fair resource development actually requires?	Leading advocacy for African nations around development, equity, and fair partnerships
The tension between South Africa's resource wealth and the persistent economic inequality within its borders	How do you speak with authority on resource justice when your own country's record is complicated?	Drawing on South Africa's domestic mining experience to propose practical international standards
South Africa's role as a regional leader and what other African nations look to it for	What does South Africa owe to other African nations in this committee, and what does it owe to its own people?	Building coalitions with Brazil, India, and other major developing economies on shared priorities
The connection between South Africa's domestic resource policies and the international frameworks it advocates for	How do you balance economic development goals with the human rights and environmental concerns that are central to this topic?	Connecting the history of resource exploitation to the present conversation in ways that reframe the debate

South Korea

South Korea is one of the world's great manufacturing success stories, a country that turned limited natural resources into a global industrial powerhouse through technology, investment, and sheer determination. But that success has made South Korea acutely dependent on stable access to imported critical materials. South Korean companies are at the leading edge of battery and semiconductor manufacturing, and those industries cannot function without reliable supply chains. South Korea has strong experience with supply chain management and deep relationships with key partners. The question is how to use that experience here.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
South Korea's dependence on imported critical resources and the specific vulnerabilities that creates	What does South Korea's manufacturing strength allow it to offer to resource-producing nations?	Offering technology partnerships or investment as part of fair supply agreements with producer nations
South Korea's technological leadership in batteries and semiconductors and what that means for its stakes	How do you advocate for supply stability without being seen as simply trying to lock in favorable terms for your own industry?	Working with Japan and other allied consumer economies on shared diversification strategies
The relationships South Korea has built with suppliers and how to leverage those in committee	What role should South Korea play in shaping international frameworks versus managing bilateral relationships?	Proposing transparency and early-warning mechanisms that give consumer nations more ability to plan
The balance between South Korea's own supply security needs and broader global fairness	How does South Korea build partnerships with producer nations in a way that is genuinely mutually beneficial?	Advocating for frameworks that connect stable supply with meaningful development benefits for producing countries

Thailand

Thailand is an industrializing economy in Southeast Asia that depends on steady access to imported resources to fuel its continued growth. Thailand is not a major producer or a dominant consumer, but it is a practical, pragmatic player that understands what industrial stability requires. Thailand operates in a complex regional environment and has relationships across Southeast Asia, with major powers, and with development-oriented institutions. In this committee, Thailand has an opportunity to represent the perspective of a country that is doing the hard work of development and needs the global system to be functional and fair.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Thailand's dependence on resource imports and the specific risks that creates for its industrial sectors	What does Thailand need from this committee, in concrete, practical terms?	Building partnerships with other Southeast Asian nations on shared supply stability goals
Thailand's relationships within ASEAN and how those shape its options in committee	How do you build influence without the leverage of a major producer or a dominant economy?	Advocating for price stabilization and affordability frameworks that serve industrializing economies
The connection between Thailand's development goals and the resource access issues on the table	Which coalitions and partnerships would serve Thailand's interests most effectively?	Using Thailand's ASEAN relationships to help coordinate regional positions
How Thailand balances its practical economic needs with its values around stability and cooperation	What can Thailand contribute to the conversation that reflects its specific experience and perspective?	Proposing practical, achievable cooperation mechanisms that address near-term supply challenges

Türkiye

Turkey occupies a genuinely unique geographic and political position. Sitting at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, Turkey is both a transit route for global trade and a regional power with relationships that span multiple blocs. Turkey is not a major critical resource producer, but it plays an important role in the logistics and trade networks that move materials around the world. Turkey has also shown a willingness to pursue an independent foreign policy path that does not simply align with one bloc or another. That independence can be a real asset in committee diplomacy.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Turkey's geographic position and what it means for its role in global trade and logistics networks	How does Turkey use its geographic and political position to play a constructive role in this committee?	Using Turkey's cross-regional relationships to build unexpected coalitions and find common ground
Turkey's independent foreign policy approach and how that shapes its options in committee	What does Turkey's independence from major blocs allow it to do that more aligned countries cannot?	Advocating for open trade routes and logistics stability as a global public good
The practical economic interests Turkey has in stable resource supply and trade routes	What specific mechanisms would address Turkey's interests in stable, open trade routes and affordable resources?	Proposing frameworks that connect resource access to regional connectivity and development
How Turkey's relationships across Europe, Asia, the Arab world, and beyond create diplomatic opportunities	How do you build the kind of credibility that allows Turkey to serve as a bridge-builder rather than just another voice?	Playing a mediating role between blocs that are otherwise unlikely to find common ground

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom is a major financial center, a significant trading economy, and a country with real historical weight in global institutions. Post-Brexit, the UK is navigating a new kind of international role, seeking bilateral relationships and demonstrating that it can be an effective global partner outside EU frameworks. The UK has strong financial services, deep institutional expertise, and relationships with countries across the Commonwealth. In this committee, the UK has an opportunity to demonstrate what kind of global actor it intends to be.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
The UK's strengths, financial expertise, institutional knowledge, Commonwealth relationships, and how to deploy them	What does the UK offer in this committee that reflects its genuine strengths rather than its historical status?	Using UK financial expertise to propose investment and development finance mechanisms
The UK's post-Brexit position and what it means for how the UK builds partnerships in committee	How does the UK use its Commonwealth relationships to build coalitions that span multiple regions?	Building on Commonwealth relationships to create coalitions that bridge producer and consumer nations
The UK's dependence on imported resources and the specific supply chain vulnerabilities that creates	What role should the UK play in shaping international frameworks, and what credibility does it bring to that role?	Advocating for transparency and governance standards that reflect UK institutional expertise
How the UK balances its relationship with the United States and European partners while also pursuing its own path	How do you demonstrate that the UK is a constructive global partner in a committee about resource equity?	Working with the U.S. and European partners while also carving out a distinctive UK contribution

United States

The United States is the world's largest economy and one of the largest consumers of critical resources. It is deeply integrated into global supply chains and, at the same time, increasingly concerned about dependence on other countries, particularly China, for materials essential to its technology, defense, and energy systems. The United States has enormous influence in this committee and real leverage: capital, technology, market access, and institutional weight. How the U.S. uses that influence, whether to shape a fairer system or to secure its own advantages, will be one of the defining choices of this committee.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
The tension between the U.S.'s stated commitment to open international systems and its desire to secure its own supply chains	What does genuine leadership look like for a country with the U.S.'s power and influence, and how is that different from simply advocating for U.S. interests?	Proposing shared supply chain frameworks with allied economies that are open to developing country participation
The U.S.'s relationships with allied consumer economies and with resource-producing nations	How do you build coalitions that are broad enough to produce real outcomes rather than just allied consensus?	Offering investment and technology as part of genuine partnerships with resource-rich developing nations
How the U.S. thinks about China's role in the global resource system and what it is willing to do about it	What is the U.S. willing to give up or offer in order to build the kind of system it says it wants?	Advocating for transparency and governance standards that apply to all countries, including the U.S.
The gap between U.S. rhetoric about fairness and equity and the actual terms it tends to negotiate	How does the U.S. engage constructively with countries that distrust its motives?	Finding areas where U.S. interests and Global South interests actually overlap, and building from there

Vietnam

Vietnam is one of Southeast Asia's economic success stories, a rapidly industrializing country that has built a significant manufacturing sector and is now increasingly aware of its own resource potential. Vietnam has rare earth deposits, growing critical mineral production, and a strategic location that makes it an important player in regional supply chains. Vietnam operates in a complex geopolitical environment, navigating relationships with China, the United States, and its Southeast Asian neighbors. That navigation requires skill, and the skills Vietnam has developed could be valuable in this committee.

Things to Consider	Questions to Think About	Possibilities Worth Exploring
Vietnam's growing resource potential and how it fits into the country's broader development strategy	How does Vietnam balance its relationships with China, the United States, and other partners in this committee?	Coordinating with Southeast Asian neighbors on shared supply chain and development priorities
Vietnam's experience managing relationships between major powers with competing interests	What does Vietnam's combination of producer potential and consumer needs mean for its negotiating position?	Using Vietnam's combination of producer potential and manufacturing needs to occupy a distinctive middle position
The connection between Vietnam's manufacturing growth and its need for stable resource access	How do you build influence in a committee where larger economies tend to set the agenda?	Advocating for frameworks that support industrializing economies at every stage of the supply chain
How Vietnam positions itself in ASEAN and in the broader Southeast Asian regional context	What does Vietnam want from the international resource system, and what is it willing to do to get it?	Building on Vietnam's experience navigating between major powers to play a bridging role in committee