

Model UN at McMurry University

Conference Delegate Guide



*Meeting World Leaders...
Being World Leaders.*



22nd Annual
Conference

November 1-2, 2008

Model UN at McMurry University would like to welcome you to our 22nd annual conference. The staff is looking forward to seeing all of you November 1-2, 2007, at McMurry University.

We are very pleased to offer you some preliminary information on your topics, and encourage each of you to use this *Delegate Guide* as an introduction to the topics to be discussed in committee in November. Whether this is your first conference, or your fourth, I hope you will enjoy the learning process, and will walk away from the conference in November with a deeper insight and understanding of the inner workings of the UN and of the larger world. Finally, this conference will help prepare you not only for other competitions, but also deepen your understanding of different world views.

If you have any additional questions or requests, please do not hesitate to contact us via e-mail at: mun@mcm.edu, or via phone at: (325) 793-4952.

We look forward to seeing you in a few weeks!

THE STRUCTURE OF MODEL UN

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the main deliberative body of the United Nations, and is comprised of all member states, with each member having one vote. The General Assembly addresses issues concerning the maintenance of international peace and security (except when those issues are before the Security Council), admission of new members, budgetary matters, human rights, international law, and other issues that fall within the scope of the Charter.

For this year's conference, Model UN will convene a session of the 1st Committee of the General Assembly (GA1): Disarmament and International Security, and the 3rd Committee of the General Assembly (GA3): Social, Humanitarian and Cultural.¹

The Security Council

The Security Council is the primary organ responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security of the United Nations. The Security Council is comprised of fifteen members: five permanent, and ten non-permanent members. Each of the non-permanent members serves a two-year term. Passage of any substantive resolution requires an affirmative vote (or abstention) of the permanent members and the affirmative vote of four other members. If a permanent member votes against a resolution, it is considered vetoed. Security Council resolutions are binding on all member states.²

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

The Economic and Social Council coordinates the work of the 14 UN specialized agencies, 10 functional commissions and five regional commissions; receives reports from 11 UN funds and programs; and issues policy recommendations to the UN system and to Member States. Under the UN charter, the Economic and Social Council is responsible for:

- Promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress
- Identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems; facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation, and
- Encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.³

The World Summit for Children

The World Summit for Children (WSC), first held in 1990, was an unprecedented gathering of world leaders to promote the well-being of children. The high point of the summit was the joint signing of a World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and a Plan of Action comprising a detailed set of child-related human development goals for the year 2000. The purpose of this committee is to assess the progress made since 2000 on the following issue areas:

- Child Labor
- Child Soldiers
- Children as Victims in Armed Conflict.

1 The official website for the GA committees is: <http://www.un.org/ga/maincommittees.shtml>.

2 The official website for the SC is: <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/>.

3 The official website for the ECOSOC is: <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/>.

ROLE PLAYING

Model UN is designed to be an educational experience for all participants. Model UN's primary purpose is to facilitate understanding of the structure and functions of the United Nations, as well as the different perspectives brought to the UN that impact the global community. By working within this model, delegates are given the opportunity to gain a more comprehensive understanding of how diplomacy, bloc politics, and caucuses operate. Model UN also provides delegates with a series of simulations from which they can practice creative diplomacy. It is from within this framework that delegates truly experience the complexities of international politics.

There is a popular misconception that any deviation from the espoused policy of a country is wrong. While adhering strictly to the published policies is certainly easier, it is not true to all realities, even for delegates within the actual UN. Countries often create new policy, or modify existing policy, based on changing circumstances. This is the norm, not the exception. The challenge for the delegates at a Model UN conference therefore, is to anticipate these changing circumstances, and to respond creatively. We encourage delegates to use the policies and philosophies of their country as *GUIDELINES* only when developing solutions to the issues addressed at the conference.

Another prevailing misconception is that this conference is a Mock UN, and that Model UN should duplicate the real United Nations exactly, in both procedure and substance. While this would give the delegates an understanding of what the UN has done in the past, it defeats the purpose of allowing the delegates to learn how and why the UN operates as it does. When considering topics, delegates will be asked to debate the agenda item as an *extension* of their country's policy.

With creative diplomacy in mind, delegates should use debate and proposals to convey their views on international issues, comment on other views, and to offer innovative solutions. While the majority of the policy debates are held at the beginning of the session, exceptions often are made. Most of the debates within UN organs focus on a limited number of, oftentimes, inter-related agenda items, and thus, resultant resolutions should reflect this.

Debate within the UN differs drastically from formal debate at the MUN at McM conference. The most notable difference is multi-polarity. The distinction between pro and con is usually very blurred, given that countries may support resolutions for a variety of reasons and with different levels of intensity. Propaganda and bloc voting therefore are common, and not solely reliant on facts and/or an appeal to reason and logic.

TOPICS

Security Council

Post-Conflict Peace Building

The United Nations has made significant progress in ending many conflicts across the globe. However, many of these conflicts either restart or emerge in neighboring countries, which suggests that the conflict resolution process is incomplete. Looking at armed conflicts around the world, the numbers are encouraging. From 1990 to 1995 there were approximately 50 armed conflicts around the world, but from 1995 to 1999 that number was cut almost in half to an estimated 25 armed conflicts.⁴ With this encouraging reduction in armed conflicts, peace-building must become a top priority of the United Nations. In a world full of war-torn societies, it is of utmost importance that, once conflicts have concluded, this is not the end of attention given to these societies, but rather that reconstruction of these societies into peaceful, functional communities is the focus. In Somalia the United Nations peace-building efforts have been threatened by drought, flooding, food security issues, large numbers of displaced persons and political turmoil.⁵ Even with the presence of the United Nations, in Uganda peace is unstable due to the expansion of the Lord's Resistance Army's (LRA), its negative effects on farming, a large number of displaced persons and refugees, along with severe drought.⁶ Although wars may have ended and peace may have been made between two sides, the deeper question is whether or not the conditions which brought these countries to war in the first place have been resolved. A holistic approach must be taken to prevent these same kinds of conflicts from reoccurring.

The United Nations has very recently begun to view peace building as an important world issue. The UN has recognized that resolution of conflict and reconstruction of countries after resolution are two different, but equally important aspects of sustainable peace. Although conflict resolution has been a primary responsibility of the UN Security Council, the UN was not fully addressing post-war restoration, thus the need for a Peace Building Commission. The creation of the United Nations Peace Building Commission in 2006 shows the recent focus which has been placed on this important issue. The Commission has four main purposes, one of them being to "propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery".⁷ The Peace Building Commission also serves to bring together resources and experienced professionals in the field of peace building.⁸ Another unique job of the commission is to identify and analyze countries that are at risk for falling back into armed conflict situations, regardless of whether or not the UN was directly involved in the initial conflict resolution.⁹ The United Nations Peace Building Commission works under the supervision of the Security Council and the General Assembly. The Security Council has passed two resolutions specifically addressing the important issue of post-conflict peace building, S/RES/1645 (2005) and S/REC/1646 (2005) both of which discuss the creation, leadership and details of the United Nations Peace Building Commission. One of the unique aspects of the commission, set out in S/RES/1645, is that the

4 Armed Conflict Events Data Project <http://www.onwar.com/aced/index.htm>.

5 Consolidated Appeal for Somalia 2007 <http://ochaonline.un.org/cap2005/webpage.asp?MenuID=9434&Page=1565>.

6 Uganda Consolidated Appeal Summary <http://www.un.org/depts/ocha/cap/uganda.html>.

7 United Nations Peace Building Commission <http://www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding/index.html>.

8 It is important to note here the difference between peacekeeping and peace building. According to the General Assembly's 2005 World Summit Outcome peacekeeping is the prevention of armed conflict whereas peace building refers specifically to the creation and containment of peace, along with overall recovery in post-conflict societies.

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/487/60/PDF/N0548760.pdf?OpenElement>.

9 A more secure world: Our shared responsibility, Report of the High-level Panel on Threats (p. 96, paragraphs 261-269) <http://www.un.org/secureworld/report2.pdf>.

commission reports to both the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), making it the only UN body to do so.¹⁰

The United Nations' first peace building operation was located in Cambodia. A 1999 report of the Secretary-General on post-conflict peace building noted that 1999 had held much anticipated developments in Cambodia, including the fall of the Khmer Rouge movement and the creation and rise of a new government. The report also established that the country was finally able to focus its resources and attention on reconstruction now that it was at peace. The Secretary General assured that the United Nations agencies in the country continued to be dedicated to helping the Cambodian government in its peace-building and reconstruction efforts, which included a focus on the growth of democratic entities and the support and defense of human rights.¹¹ Another country that has been assisted by the United Nations post-conflict peace building work is Sierra Leone. In 2002, the Secretary-General reported that the substantial resources which had been invested in Sierra Leone had brought the UN operation "to the verge of success", and thus, the global society must "stay the course" and make available the resources required for the reintegration of ex-combatants, the improvement of local police faculty, and a successful changeover to peace-building.¹² These two examples show the ability for post-conflict peace building to make huge differences in countries, but they also show the huge amount of support, time and resources needed for successful post-conflict peace building.

It is important for countries to consider their individual roles in post-conflict peace-building. Successful post-conflict peace-building requires collaboration between those countries who are not directly affected by armed conflicts and those who are. For those countries that are more developed and may not be directly affected by these war-torn societies, it is of great significance that they recognize their responsibility to assist, support, encourage and teach these war torn areas how to create and sustain true, genuine peace following great conflict. For those countries that are directly involved in armed conflicts and its aftermath, it is of utmost importance for their leadership and people to recognize the absolute necessity of focusing time, energy and resources on quality post-conflict peace-building. It can be argued that armed conflicts are like a cultural, societal cycle in that, when conflict is what surrounds and consumes a society, it is the pattern they will always follow. The only way to stop this cycle is to put into place strong, lengthy and cooperative post-conflict peace building organizations and operations.

The United Nations Peace Building Commission was launched on October 11, 2006 showing the young nature of the focus on this issue. With only two Security Council resolutions being passed on this issue, both being so very recently in 2005, it is of utmost importance that this issue continues to be pushed and brought into the public eye. Many tough questions need to be asked about the world's policies and guidelines on peace-building operations, and as these questions are answered, countries must take the appropriate steps to ensure successful peace building in their own or neighboring countries. From the already mentioned Somalia, Uganda, Cambodia and Sierra Leone to Haiti, Burundi and Kosovo the need for successful, relevant post-conflict peace building is evident across regions. In a 2004 Security Council press release, the failed peace building mission in Haiti, along with the need for the sustainment of peace support operations in Burundi and Kosovo are discussed in great detail.¹³ Kosovo is a prime example of the simple actions which may be put into action by peace-building operations that have long-term, positive impacts on countries. In Kosovo, the presence of the UN peace-building operations allowed the country to have its first ever democratic elections.

One of the largest, unanswered questions in regards to post-conflict peace building is what happens if one of the previously conflicting sides or countries decides to pull out of the peace process. What can the United

¹⁰ Security Council resolution 1645 <http://www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding/res1645.pdf> and Security Council Resolution 1646 <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/654/05/PDF/N0565405.pdf?OpenElement>.

¹¹ Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization <http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/Report99/postconf.htm>.

¹² 2002 UN Peace Operations- Year in Review <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/yir/english/page3.html>.

¹³ Press Release SC/8193 <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/sc8193.doc.htm>.

Nations do? What power do they have to help, protect, and assist the country who wants to remain actively involved in the peace process? What power do they have to reprimand, punish or compel the country who has withdrawn from the peace process? Although the United Nations completed its first peace building mission in Cambodia, how successful was that mission? Why did the United Nations feel it was necessary to create a Peace Building Commission? All of these questions along with many more need to be considered when looking at the promotion and extension of post-conflict peace building.

United Nations Security Council Focus on “Failed States”

What is a failed state? According to the United Nations, a state must include the authority to control civil society, so once that authority is compromised it is then a failed state. A failed state no longer has the ability to achieve necessary security and basic developmental functions. Also, failed states have no control over their borders or territories and have otherwise been victim to a condition of “state collapse.” In contrast, an enduring state is one who still holds all of these characteristics. Although it seems like every fundamental part of a state might be absent within a failed state, some elements may continue to exist such as local state organizations. Failed states are dangerous on many different levels. These states can become exports of international terrorists, weapon arsenals, and drug tycoons. The threat of intra-state conflict within a failed state has the chance to spill over and infect surrounding countries in violence. Internationally, the lack of authority in failed states may cause public services to not be properly instituted, other countries may fail to pay taxes, or they may choose not to be involved in addressing large-scale civil disobedience. So how prevalent is the presence of failed states within the international community? It has been determined that almost 2 billion people live in countries that are either failed or in danger of collapsing. There are 2014 currently failed states and 60 other states that are in danger or borderline.¹⁵ These countries are not specifically from a certain region of the world, but rather are found in almost every major continent. Because of all this, it is obvious that this is a significant issue and one that the United Nations Security Council is going to be constantly attempting to address in the future.

What is the United Nations Security Council doing to help solve the problem of failed states? The Security Council has generally three basic roles in dealing with failed states and similar situations: conflict prevention, peacemaking, and peacebuilding. Over time, the process of conflict prevention has evolved beyond traditional diplomacy and now includes the involvement of numerous U.N. entities in hopes to eliminate some of the factors that contribute to failed states. Current efforts involve providing weaker states the support needed to manage their natural resources to prevent future conflicts.¹⁶ The U.N. Security Council has taken parts in monitoring political developments around the world and tried to spot potential crises before they blow up. They also use look to promote preventive diplomacy with the help of the Secretary General and his political missions in the field. Lastly, they play their role in inter-departmental workings and constantly get aid from other U.N. departments, regional organizations, and social cultures.¹⁷

In the process of peacemaking, recent changes involving the expansion of peacemaking activities have caused an impressive 40% decline in armed conflict since the 1990s.¹⁸ There has been a recent hope to strengthen the capacity of U.N. peacemaking personnel. This increase will be filled with the best possible

14 The 20 Failed States are the Ivory Coast, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Sudan, Iraq, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Chad, Yemen, Liberia, Haiti, Afghanistan, Rwanda, North Korea, Columbia, Zimbabwe, Guinea, Bangladesh, Burundi, Dominican Republic, and the Central African Republic.

15 “The Failed State Index,” http://www.foreignpolicy.com/story/cms.php?story_id=3098.

16 “UN Report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change,” pg 35, http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/docs/gaA.59.565_En.pdf.

17 “Conflict Prevention,” <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/conflict.html>.

18 “Peacemaking,” <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/peace.html>.

mediators and will allow a better understanding of political, cultural, and geographic realities. Peacemaking efforts also call upon various regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, and numerous member states to participate when possible. Through this process of peacemaking, there will be a strengthened effort to combat those factors that cause conflict and respond adequately to hostile opposition.¹⁹ The next step in guaranteeing the continuation of peace and prosperity is taken in the form of peacebuilding, to prevent anything from starting up again. Current peacebuilding efforts by the U.N. Security Council are focused on ensuring human rights protection, organizing and monitoring elections, lending aid to refugees and displaced persons, and supervising active ceasefires.²⁰ The main task of peacebuilding to build public institutions that can establish an effective framework for government within the rule of law.²¹ U.N. Security Council also reports on the situation within each failed state that it has deemed as worthy of addressing. These reports tell how recent activities have performed, what changes have been made in the efforts to promote and maintain peace, and any recommendations for the future²².

What should be changed in order to have a better chance at making an impact in the world? Current efforts by the U.N. Security Council, and all other U.N. entities lending aid, seem to be providing some success but there may be more beneficial and effective options. One thing that would help out tremendously when dealing with failed states is that there must be a sustained and constant effort from international governments and organizations. Governments from states who are not failing or in danger of collapse should be willing to offer more aid in order to prevent the problem growing so large that it would infect others. This also means that efforts should not be abandoned if a collapsing state eventually falls, but it does mean that we may have to increase efforts if that actually takes place. Specifically within a failed state's borders, there should be a constant effort to strengthen the police force to help guarantee security, which could include disarming native populations in the process. Also, more focus should be shifted to the civil society of a failed state and efforts made to benefit the most number of those who may be affected. With an increase in welfare programs and similar activities, it could help establish prosperity within the state's people. Once the people no longer feel threatened or scared, it will be less likely that situations will become worse. The U.N. Security Council could also try and address the issue with global gun control and realize that actions taken within this scope could help prevent any escalations within failed states or collapsing states. Also, the U.N. has valuable expertise from various peace agreements and the interaction with post-conflict peace operations, which could also be very helpful when dealing with failed states. The U.N. Security Council should be willing to provide even more calculated political analysis of the conditions of every state within the international community. Once we can understand what situation every state is in, it will be easier to work cooperatively to solve the problems.

How should we go about making the best changes to current U.N. Security Council policy regarding failed states? It is important to understand the condition of the state in which you will be representing and knowing how that may affect your attitudes regarding this issue. Keep an open mind when considering all the possibilities and courses of action. Effective measures could include urging the international community, including private sectors, to establish regular procedures when managing natural resources involved with failed states and surrounding conflicts. The UN should persuade those member states who have advanced military capacities to be more willing to work with the United Nations in employing similar personnel. The possibility to establish a stronger and larger peacekeeping force, including more financial resources, that is focused on rehabilitation and reintegration could be significantly useful. Try and choose which option will be most beneficial to your represented state and also to the international community. Failed states are becoming a bigger problem almost every day, so no matter what, at least something should be done to try and solve the

19 "UN Report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change," pg 58, http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/docs/gaA.59.565_En.pdf.

20 "Peacebuilding," <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/peacebuilding.html>.

21 "UN Report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change," pg 62, http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/docs/gaA.59.565_En.pdf.

22 Examples can be found at: http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_resolutions07.htm .

problem.

The Role of Natural Resources in Beginning/Continuing Intrastate Conflicts

A current issue that is relevant in the world today is intrastate conflicts, which are conflicts that occur within a country. Over 50 countries have been involved in major protracted intrastate conflicts since 1980 with over 35 million people displaced as a result of conflict. More than 90 percent of casualties in these conflicts have been civilians, and more than 100 million land mines have been laid, causing further casualties and preventing economic development long after the guns are silent.²³ Intrastate conflicts need to be addressed due to their significant negative effects. One aspect of intrastate conflicts that should be examined more closely is the role of natural resources in initiating and continuing intrastate conflicts. Natural resources, such as oil, diamonds, iron ore, and timber, are often used as a way to fund and thereby prolong intrastate conflicts.

The use of 'conflict diamonds' to fund intrastate conflicts can be seen repeatedly. The decade long conflict in Sierra Leone where diamonds were used to fund both sides of the intrastate conflict is a prime example of the allocation of resources to fund unnecessary conflicts. Another example is the illegal export of diamonds from northern Côte d'Ivoire to help fund arms purchases. Oil is also used to fund and prolong intrastate conflicts in states, such as Nigeria, because factions fight for control of the fields and the military resources such a commodity can purchase.²⁴

The United Nations has issued certain initiatives in an effort to aid in the prevention and cessation of intrastate conflicts that are funded by natural resources. One 'well-known example is the Kimberley Process for so called conflict diamonds, a joint initiative of Governments, the international diamond industry and civil society that imposes extensive requirements on participants to certify that shipments of rough diamonds are free of conflict diamonds.'²⁵ This program is useful in helping to filter out the use of diamonds that fund intrastate conflicts. The United Nations is working with other organizations and governments world-wide to search for ways to alleviate the problem of natural resources being used to fund intrastate conflicts. Donor-initiative programmes are being established by the United Nations in an effort to ensure that natural resources are being used for poverty alleviation and development programmes rather than procured to fund intrastate conflict and other such corruption. The Chad-Cameroon oil pipeline and the Governance and Economic Management Assistance Programme (GEMAP) established in Liberia are two examples of such donor-initiative programmes.²⁶

The United Nations has begun to address the problem of natural resources funding intrastate conflicts, with the establishment of certain initiatives. However, there are some significant weaknesses in the initiatives and programmes they have in place. A weakness in the Kimberley Process, which is the most effective tool they have for managing the illicit use of diamonds to fund conflicts, is that it does not ensure that governments, companies, and diamond dealers will comply with the certification procedures. It also does not give the governments enough clout to deal with those who do not comply with the set procedures.²⁷ A

²³Presentation of Margaret C. Dabor, Speaker, 56th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, *Human Security and Dignity: Fulfilling the Promise of the United Nations* Tuesday, 9 September 2003, United Nations Headquarters, New York.
<http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection/annualconfs/56/dabor.pdf>

²⁴ Ernest Harsch. *Conflict resources: from 'curse' to blessing*.
<http://www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/vol20no4/204-conflict-resources.html> (website that will aid in the understanding of the severity of the issue presented.)

²⁵ Report of the Secretary General. *Progress report on the prevention of armed conflict*. A/60/891.
<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/docs/Prevention%20Report.pdf>

²⁶ Harsch.

²⁷ *Ibid*.

monitoring system might be useful in determining if nations are in compliance of procedures already established. Such a system would be useful in all of the programmes and initiatives that are already established.

One thing to consider when establishing new initiatives that focus on the legitimate use of natural resources is to ensure that governments involved are able to supervise and regulate their countries' natural wealth effectively. A recommendation to see this consideration met is to ask the UN, donor agencies, and other international institutions provide more aid to African countries to strengthen capacities for natural-resources management.²⁸ Another issue that the United Nations has recognized as problematic is the role of extractive industries in the continuing of intrastate conflicts. Extractive industries involve companies that are focused on the extraction of natural resources from certain locations, which is how these types of companies make their profits. When conflicts erupt in an area where natural resources are being removed by industries, extractive companies rarely divest or relocate because of the potential profits. The companies will simply calculate the risk factor and continue to do business which is problematic because other industries, such as manufacturing or other secondary and tertiary industries, relocate when faced with unpredictable or dangerous situations. This leaves only extractive industries in countries where intrastate conflicts are occurring and research shows that the extractive companies in unstable countries has several conflict promoting aspects.²⁹ The potential problem of extractive companies has been recognized by the United Nations and procedures addressing the problem should be established.

The United Nations also has sanctions that are in place that condemn the movement and trade of natural resources that will fund intrastate conflicts.³⁰ These sanctions should be maintained and enforced and a proper method should be established to ensure that they are upheld. These sanctions should be specific in what they order and maintain to be accomplished. Consideration should also be given to the peacebuilding initiatives that the United Nations has established for countries after intrastate conflicts have ended.³¹ Every single program or organization that deals with the problem of natural resources in intrastate conflicts should bear in mind these initiatives and attempt to incorporate them in the procedures that are established. Different organizations and governments should come together and establish a working agreeable framework for procedures that can be used to address the issue at hand. The United Nations Peacebuilding initiatives should be an important part of the reconstruction process in countries after intrastate conflict had subsided.

A few important things to consider for researching this particular issue is the already implemented programmes and procedures that are established in regions where there are problems and difficulties with natural resources being allocated to fund intrastate conflicts. One should consider how the resources are used, the locations they are being smuggled to, and ways to control such illegal actions. Prolonging conflict is not something that is necessary or beneficial, therefore finding uses other than the funding of intrastate conflicts for natural resources would be practical. An example of such a use is encouraging governments to use natural resources to help fund programmes that encourage the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs.)

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²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ Karen Ballentine. **Natural Resources, Governance, Development and Conflict** Discussion Paper.

http://www.un.org/esa/peacebuilding/Action/DesaTaskForce/papers_egm20041115/Natural_Resources_KBallentine.pdf

³⁰ A/55/PV.37. General Assembly.

<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/docs/55/pv/a55pv37.pdf>

³¹ *Multidimensionality of Peace and Development: a DESA perspective*

http://www.un.org/esa/peacebuilding/Library/05_Article_Goi_F_27_July.pdf

Illegal Arms Trade

Small arms and light weapons (guns, rifles, mortars, rocket launchers, hand grenades, machine guns) availability is increasingly recognized as a global problem.³² Since well before the technology arrived for global communication, trading of illegal arms has occurred in one form or another. The continuing of this form of trading has led to an innumerable amount of innocent and unnecessary deaths throughout the world. *The Small Arms Survey* reports that approximately 200,000 non-conflict-related small arms deaths occur each year³³. The amount mentioned is, however, not enough for anything thoroughly conclusive to be done, nor is it enough to remain on the UN agenda long enough to be properly discussed. In that it is especially prevalent today, Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) are continuing to threaten the lives of many due to its inability to sustain relevance among other issues within the United Nations. Treaty on

Now, more than ever before, there must be something done to not only stop but also punish those who feel it necessary to engage in the trade of SALWs. There are many organizational forums in which the United Nations have created in order to deal with the issue of SALWs, most of which have not been able to come to a conclusive solution in which to extinguish this never-ending problem. One of the organizations is the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) that have held a convention hoping to find one solution in which to slowly eliminate this problem. The UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (Firearms Protocol)³⁴, promotes cooperation to prevent and combat transnational organized crime more effectively³⁵; through this convention, the combating of transnational organized crime will further influence the elimination of illicit arms trade by forcing out those who are buying and dealing in SALWs. More can be learned about the function of this convention and the sub-committee(s) in which it represents by reading A/Res/55/25.

In regards to another committee that deals with the issue of SALWs, the Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA)³⁶. There is one of a more direct approach in dealing with the disarmament/non-proliferation of SALW's throughout the world. They contain the individual member states that have voluntarily provided information, which will then allow for a more unified legislation, instead of the multiple overlaps that separate legislations would create providing even more loop-holes for arms dealers to slip. In an amazing comparison, there are twenty readily identifiable treaties or conventions dealing with disarmament³⁷, of which only four directly deal with those containing some form of SALWs. The foremost document dealing with any form of weaponry is the 1925 Geneva Protocol, providing guidelines for the use, collection and destruction of those weapons by both military and personnel. The Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), contains the restrictions and limitations thereof within countries of Europe of which the signatory members must comply. The Inter-American Convention along with the Inter-American Convention on Transparency contain guidelines, restrictions and compliance mandates discussed within these conventions and of which those member states who participated agreed upon their relevance to the world community at large.

In considering the above mentioned treaties, conventions and resolutions produced by the UN, there has yet to be any substantial effect to the issue of SALW's and the illegal arms trade conducted. In that the UN has been continuously unsuccessful in combating this increasingly alarming issue, there have been many more sub-committee institutions/programs/departments created in dealing with the issue on disarmament as a whole. In stating this the UN Programme of Action (PoA), have allowed for several contentious issues to be left out, including the prohibition of weapons transfers to non-state armed groups (rebel groups, militias,

32 <http://www.hdcentre.org/Background>

33 http://www.un.org/events/smallarms2006/pdf/press_release.pdf

34 <http://www.un.org/issues/docs/d-disarm.html>

35 http://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/a_res_55/res5525e.pdf

36 <http://disarmament.un.org/cab/salw-legislation.htm>

37 <http://disarmament.un.org/TreatyStatus.nsf>

private armies)³⁸. This issue is among the highest in which offenders need to be sought out for their crimes. There have been many clear recommendations for global harmonized legal export controls; and agreement on the need to control civilian possession of weapons. The PoA makes minimal reference to the humanitarian impacts of weapons availability. It contains passing reference to the respect for international humanitarian laws and avoids any reference to human rights laws. It also regrettably avoids any mention of the need to end the misuse of small arms including the abuse of these weapons by state forces such as police and military.³⁹

In regards to human rights, the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) generally meets three times yearly in order to fulfill their duty in respects to human rights obligations and commitments⁴⁰. The fact that the UNHRC meets barely three times yearly, actually quite a considerable amount, is in no possible way the necessary amount of time needed or that this issue demands. If the UNHRC lived up to its obligations then it would see that basic human rights and the disregard thereof are what comprise the fundamental need to address this issue.

The humanitarian portion of this issue is yet another fragment of this puzzle of disarmament. In that the General Assembly Plenary (GA Plen), are the committee dealing primarily in humanitarian conditions, the issue of SALWs should sit highly on their agenda. It is the necessity of this issue to be answered that will finally open the eyes of the UN as a unified body, whether or not they are prepared to produce a solution is yet to be seen.

What is your country's position on this issue? What has your country done in order to fight this issue? Has your country any involvement in the myriad of organizational forums? What will your country be willing to do to bring an end to this issue in which we can no longer ignore? These are the questions needing to be asked in order for willing delegates and their delegations to come up with some form of resolution, which will partially rid the world of unnecessary violence. Another, more important question is, without weapons how can we defend ourselves? Thus, without weapons how can there be any logical way of sustaining any form of government? Are SALWs a necessary evil or not, and in which way? Finally, how are we supposed to attempt change when the permanent five of the UN Security Council (SC) continue to be the foremost produce of SALWs?

Nuclear, Radiological, Chemical, and Biological Threats

These threats are important today because current events are being headlined by actual events that pertain to Weapons of Mass Destruction. These threats must be addressed because it deals with the possibility of mass amounts of people dying in one given attack. This threat affects all people as it can range from domestic terrorism such as the Subway Sarin Attacks in Japan, to the national level in the example of Saddam Hussein attacking the Kurdish people in Northern Iraq, and finally to the global level in current threats in the states of North Korea and Iran. The importance of this issue relies mostly within states as each state now has either prevented terrorists from acquiring such materials or the states themselves trying to use them in a form of matter that violates peace and security to other states.

Nuclear proliferation is good for a country that is developing energy for peaceful purposes. Nuclear power when used for war has devastating effects as seen in the only 2 nuclear attacks ever to happen in Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II. With advancements in nuclear weaponry, it is possible for states using nuclear power for other than energy, to develop a bomb with even greater and more dangerous consequences. The U.N first started looking into this issue in 1955 with resolution 913 X (the effects of Atomic Radiation)

³⁸ <http://www.hdcentre.org/Background>

³⁹ <http://www.hdcentre.org/Background>

⁴⁰ <http://www.hdcentre.org/UN+Human+Rights+Council>

which led to the eventual creation of the International Atomic and Energy Agency. This agency works with member states and other organizations worldwide to promote safe, secure peaceful technologies. The U.N intervention on the issue of Nuclear Proliferation has been consistent since the end of World War II with the U.N recognizing the Treaty of Tlatelolco which made South America free of nuclear weapons. The U.N established another region that is free of nuclear weapons in resolution 53/77 that established Central Asia as a nuclear weapon free zone. Other zones free of nuclear weapons are the South Pacific, and South East Asia. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)⁴¹ is important because it was the first multilateral effort to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. A recent resolution concerning the nuclear threat was resolution A/RES/61/104 which is the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty⁴². This treaty made it harder for countries to obtain nuclear material and harder for states that have nuclear capability to test their weapons.

Chemical weapons also possess the capability of large scales attacks on people. Chemicals such as Sarin, ricin, and botulinum toxin have been acquired by terrorist groups to inflict harm on populations of people. Chemical weapons have been used before such as in World War I with the usage of mustard gas and most recently in the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980's. Other times chemical weapons have been used were in 1988 in Halabja, Iraq that resulted in the deaths of 5,000 Iraqis. Another Chemical attack happened in Japan with the Subway Sarin attack that left 5 dead and 5,000 injured. The U.N has stepped up its effort to combat the chemical threat by creating the resolution that made possible the Convention on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling, and the use of chemical weapons⁴³. This convention outlawed stockpiling, production, and use of chemical weapons and created punishments for those caught with chemical weapons. This convention provided insight to this threat and was another step in preventing the spread of chemical weapons.

The Radiological threat is important to address because of the severity of the weapon. Although the weapon has not been used as often as other weapons of mass destruction, if used the effect of the weapon would bring immense casualties. A radiological weapon is designed to spread radioactive material with intentions to kill vast amounts of people over a period of time. Known as a "Dirty Bomb" throughout the world, this weapon would be highly effective in contaminating a water table that people use for everyday needs. It would be difficult to treat victims and reverse the effects if such an attack were to happen. The U.N hasn't passed a resolution that directly focuses on the radiological threat but has included it in resolution 61/86 which is the prevention of terrorists groups from acquiring weapons of mass destruction⁴⁴. This is a small step in preventing a radiological attack but is crucial in defeating the radiological threat.

The biological threat is serious because it is easy to execute an attack that can result with tremendous amounts of victims over a long period of time. A biological weapon is the use of bacteria, virus, or any disease causing agent intended to kill a grand number of the population. Recent examples of this threat was the climbing issue of Anthrax being used in the postal system of the United States and disease-ridden suicide bombers exploding themselves in public places and affecting that area with their diseases and germs. The U.N has passed resolutions to hold conventions such as the convention on the prohibition of the development, production, and stockpiling of Bacteriological and Toxin Weapons⁴⁵. This convention publicized this growing threat and was able to outlaw the production and stockpiling of biological agents which would follow by strict punishment.

Although the U.N has made strides to collectively downplay or prevent any threat of nuclear, radiological, chemical, and biological weapons, there is still a need for further intervention by the U.N to neutralize and

41 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_Non-Proliferation_Treaty.

42 A/RES/61/104- December 19, 2006 -- <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r61.htm>

43 A/RES/61/68/ January 8, 2007-- <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r61.htm>

44 A/RES/61//86—December 18, 2006-- <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r61.htm>

45 A/RES/61/102 – December 19, 2006-- <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r61.htm>

defeat those in mind of using these types of weapons completely. What the U.N has done is pass resolutions and those have mainly come from the General Assembly. With resolutions have also come conventions and basically just talks about issues and aspects that need to be dealt with. There needs to be action executed by the U.N.

To fully deal with this issue and be effective with it, implementation of the Security Council is crucial for further action to be effective. The General Assembly has written several resolutions and the Security Council as of recent has only passed two resolutions that pertain to this issue and that is S/RES/673 and S/RES/1540 (2004) which was the resolution of Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. If the muscle of the United Nations fully embraces this issue as dear to them than talks will lead to action and these threats would diminish.

As a delegate you must present and deal with issues that are best of interest to your particular country. Weapons of Mass Destruction is an issue that is important to most states because it can affect the general well being and security of your state. Focus on the importance of this issue and how relevant it is to your country. It's important to grasp this idea because politics and diplomatic actions move slowly and if this issue is important to your state than you must address it properly with swift arguments that can propel this issue to the top of the agenda. By doing this, the Security Council will take notice and the muscle of the U.N will promptly go to work and these threats will be assessed with.

Researching this issue will raise important questions such as Who is the issue going to affect the most in my countries region? Is our region on the same position on the threat of Nuclear, Radiological, Chemical, and Biological threat? How can my country fully get the attention of the U.N to do something about this threat? And finally, if there is a problem with this threat, will my country receive aid from the U.N and how much?

Human Smuggling in the Age of Terrorism

With up to 200,000 children abducted in West and Central Africa every year, and 45,000 to 50,000 women and children smuggled into the United States annually⁴⁶, the smuggling of human beings has become an ever-growing problem throughout the world. However, this used to be, more often than not, just a problem concerning organized crime and the trafficking of children and women for sex trade or meager employment. But now that organized terrorism has become such a viable threat to global development and cooperation, the threat of human smuggling in the age of terrorism must be addressed. Presently in the Philippines, there is no law on the smuggling of human beings; in addition, resources for the investigation and prosecution of criminal cases related to trafficking in human beings are very meager⁴⁷. This applies clearly enough to the United States, as the lack of enforcing illegal human trafficking laws by South America, Latin America, Mexico, and Canada has caused the United States to increase funds and action to combat the threat to security that illegal human smuggling in an age of terrorism brings. With states such as the Philippines that have no laws to stop terrorists from smuggling persons into countries, it is increasingly difficult to maintain security individually, regionally, and globally.

An advisable route to explore would be to focus on the implications of terrorism to human smuggling because other avenues of human smuggling will be attacked by other committees. The world in general has long viewed human trafficking and smuggling as merely a problem of organized crime. For a long time,

46 U.N. O.D.C. (2006) *Fact Sheet on Human Trafficking*. Retrieved April 15, 2007. From http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/trafficking_victim_consent.html#how.

47 U.N. O.D.C.C.P (2000) *Trafficking in Human Beings*. Retrieved April 16, 2007, from http://www.unodc.org/pdf/newsletter_2000-01-31_1.pdf.

human smuggling and trafficking has been viewed as illegal sex trade and illegal immigration for work or, simply, for a better life. The traditional outlook of human trafficking can be evidenced in the illegal smuggling of Chinese workers into the United States, Asian women and children stolen from their homes and put into sexual slavery in Europe and the United States, and the illegal movement of Eastern Europeans to Western Europe before the fall of the Berlin Wall. Since the events of 9/11, terrorism has had a profound impact on many dilemmas faced by the United Nations. Human trafficking and smuggling definitely is one of the topics altered. While human trafficking and smuggling was originally a problem because of its lack of morality, its harsh economic consequences, and its effect on the innocent victims that were smuggled; in the age of terrorism, it has also become a question of security. Illegal human trafficking and smuggling is a very viable tool to terrorist groups. If generic, non-terrorists are able to smuggle mass numbers of individuals into numerous states, highly skilled and organized terrorist cells will certainly have no problem completing the same task. But, the consequences of missing individuals who are smuggled by terrorists into a state will be much worse than the repercussions of simply omitting generic individuals who have been smuggled. Through smuggling, terrorists could theoretically infiltrate any region of any state that they want, and this is a scenario that is unacceptable.

This is a fairly new topic of concern for the United Nations. Therefore, there are still many facets of this topic that have not been brought to light. As evidenced by treaties and resolutions pertaining to this topic, the policing of human trafficking and smuggling, as a whole, has already been delved into and action is already well underway through intergovernmental coordination and communication. One key to addressing human smuggling in the age of terrorism is how to distinguish this topic from traditional human trafficking. The difference is small but crucial; human smuggling has to be transnational. In other words, human smuggling must be smuggling from one state to another, in this case, terrorists smuggling humans from one state to another. Human trafficking, on the other hand, does not have to be intergovernmental; human trafficking is simply the illegal movement of people.

A/Res/61/180, improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons, is also very pertinent to this topic⁴⁸. While this resolution does not specify trafficking for the purposes of terrorist activities, it does specify that individual, member states must coordinate with other member states, NGO's, and IGO's to combat the illegal smuggling of individuals. Another worthy resolution to coincide with 61/180 is A/Res/58/137, strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking⁴⁹. Whether discussing the fear of terrorists smuggling illegal individuals into the United States for terrorist attacks from the U.S./Mexico border or the actual smuggling of terrorists from state to state in the Middle East to avoid persecution, these are viable resolutions.

These resolutions are certainly beneficial; a resolution is implementation of actions where there is, presumably, a problem. But, the original effort exerted by the United Nations to undertake the problem can be seen in protocols, conventions, and programs. The U.N. has determined that human smuggling in the age of terrorism is a problem; therefore, conventions and committees are allocated to repair the problem. The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children from the U.N. Convention against Transnational Organized Crime might be the best tool against human smuggling in the age of terrorism. This protocol details a three-pronged approach to combating the problem: 1) To prevent and combat trafficking in persons, paying particular attention to women and children, 2) To protect and assist victims of trafficking, with full respect for their human rights, and 3) To promote cooperation among States in order to meet these objectives⁵⁰.

⁴⁸ United Nations General Assembly. A/Res/61/180. Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons.

⁴⁹ United Nations General Assembly. A/Res/58/137. Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking.

⁵⁰ U.N.O.D.C. (2000). *Trafficking in Persons: the New Protocol*. Retrieved April, 17, 2006. http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/trafficking_protocol_background.html.

While both human smuggling and terrorism are age-old quandaries, the idea of linking the dilemmas of human smuggling or trafficking with terrorism is a relatively new topic. In order to systematically collect and relate open information on trafficking in persons publicly, a global database on trafficking trends was established under the Global Program Against Trafficking in Human Beings (GPAT)⁵¹. With this database, created by the United Nations Office of Drug Control and Crime Prevention, governments and individuals will be able to monitor where humans are smuggled anywhere in the world, and in the case of terrorists, halt their movement and their operations.

Human smuggling in an age of terrorism is a very exciting topic and is one that must certainly be remedied before the evils of terrorism can be extinguished. However there are keys to this problem that must be addressed. How does the U.N. even more closely monitor the smuggling of human beings? How does one distinguish generic human smuggling from that which is caused by terrorists? Who or what will be in control and responsible for whatever plan is installed? What entity will be responsible for trial and punishment of those who are caught and punished for their role in this particular type of human smuggling? One cannot solve a topic without first examining every part of it; therefore, these, and other questions not examined or discovered in this guide, are the questions that must be addressed to come to any sort of a completion on the topic. Remember that while many different regions have their own unique problems with human smuggling, human smuggling in the age of terrorism is a global problem, which will take a global effort to resolve.

General Assembly 3: Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural

Assessing Global Response to War Crimes, Crimes against Humanity, and Genocide

Assessing the global response to extreme human rights violations is vital to achieve the UN's purpose of attempting to maintain peaceful relations and protect people worldwide. These crimes are ongoing issues that threaten the lives and security of people on a global scale. Because these crimes are so massive, and affect so many, the global community has had a difficult time responding and acting. It is extremely important to note that the UN is operating under the High Level Panel on Threats. A major step under this panel is the Responsibility to Protect- the idea that it is the goal of the UN and all states to protect the rights and lives of all citizens. Most recently, the situation in Darfur, Sudan where armed militias are targeting and slaughtering various ethnic groups in the region is one instance of a need for global response. It has not been defined genocide because the killing has been performed by Janjaweed militias that the government supposedly does not support. The UN has labeled it as a crime against humanity, with an estimate of at least 400,000 deaths, and 2 million refugees. In Rwanda in the early 1990s, there was genocide when Hutus slaughtered an estimated 800,000-1,000,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus. Genocide was also an issue in Cambodia in the late 1970s when the Khmer Rouge, under the leadership of Pol Pot, slaughtered up to 2 million Cambodians.

The first step in assessing the global response to these crimes is being able to differentiate between each one, and seeing what actions constitute each crime. These differences and definitions can be found in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, articles 5-9.⁵² The UN first started its work on genocide in response to the Jewish Holocaust in Europe during World War II, with Resolution 260(III), the Convention

51 U.N. O.D.C. (1999). Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings. Retrieved April, 15, 2007, from http://www.uncjin.org/CICP/traff_e.pdf.

52 The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (U.N. Doc. A/CONF.183/9*) For text defining Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes against Humanity, see articles 5-9 under part 2: <http://www.un.org/law/icc/statute/rome.htm>.

on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.⁵³ Despite this Convention several other cases of Genocide have occurred without the global community stepping in. This continued lack of global response sparked former Secretary General Kofi Annan to launch an Action Plan to Prevent Genocide⁵⁴ in 2004, 10 years after the Rwandan genocide. The main focuses of this action plan are preventing armed conflict, and if that fails protecting civilians in armed conflict. It also involves ending impunity and acting swiftly and decisively should a crime occur.

Preventing genocide, or stopping it before it starts, would be the ideal situation. However, that is not always possible, and those responsible for committing these crimes should be held liable. The UN focus on punishment comes in the form of tribunals. This was done through the Nuremberg trials for the Jewish Holocaust. Currently there are Tribunals both for the Former Yugoslavia, and Rwanda. The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)⁵⁵ was established in May 1993 to bring those responsible to justice, and to give justice to the victims of the grave violations of international humanitarian law. The tribunal was established by Security Council Resolution 827.⁵⁶ The tribunal has indicted 161 people, and proceedings are still being conducted for 61 individuals

The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR)⁵⁷ was established to prosecute those responsible for the grave humanitarian violations in Rwanda and surrounding states between the years 1991-1994. This tribunal was established by Security Council Resolution 955⁵⁸ in November 1994. The prosecutor of the ICTR is divided into two sections, one responsible for gathering data on those being prosecuted, one responsible for doing the actual prosecution. At this point 21 trials have been conducted and 28 people have been convicted. Eleven more trials are in progress, and 14 individuals are awaiting trial.

While the UN has in the past mostly focused on punishment, prevention is crucial. Prevention has been discussed, and work has begun (See footnotes 2 and 3) but there is still a lot of work to be done. These atrocities continue to occur- and the only way to keep even more people from dying and suffering, is to come up with more powerful methods of prevention. The United Nations has worked to punish those responsible for committing these crimes. Is the threat of punishment an effective deterrent to committing the crimes? What signs or signals can be recognized to tip off a possible Crime against Humanity, War Crime, or Genocide before it occurs? What steps can be taken to diffuse a situation? What can the UN do to would be aggressors before these crimes actually occur?

Despite all the prevention tactics, not everything can be prevented, not all situations can be diffused. Because of this, another important aspect of this topic is addressing what happens, and how to respond after Genocide, War Crimes, or Crimes against Humanity have occurred. Has the global community done enough to help the people of Darfur, Sudan? What else needs to be done to end the atrocities occurring in Sudan? After the crimes occur- how does the global community diffuse anger and the seeking of revenge? The Rwandan genocide has ended, but with the Tutsis now in control tensions are still running high. How can the global community help prevent retaliation? Can reconciliation be reached in these countries that have been torn apart? The people that committed these crimes need to be held responsible, seen in the criminal tribunals for former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. Are these tribunals doing a sufficient job? Are there more people that

53 Resolution 260 (III) A of the United Nations General Assembly on 9 December 1948: Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide <http://www.hrweb.org/legal/genocide.html>.

54 Press Release of former Secretary General Kofi Annan's speech addressed to the UN Human Rights Commission: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/sgt2405.doc.htm>.

55 For general information on the ICTY, including cases and recent developments: <http://www.un.org/icty/>.

56 Security Council Resolution 827.

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N93/306/28/IMG/N9330628.pdf?OpenElement>.

57 For general information on ICTR, <http://69.94.11.53/default.htm>.

58 Security Council Resolution 955

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N95/140/97/PDF/N9514097.pdf?OpenElement>.

need to be held accountable that are currently not?

The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court⁵⁹ has thoroughly defined War Crimes, Crimes against Humanity, and Genocide. Assessing the global situation- are these definitions adequate or do changes need to be made? Currently in Darfur, Sudan hundreds of thousands of people have died and more are dying. Yet, because these killings are the activity of Janjaweed militias, and not the government, it cannot be called genocide under the Rome Statute. The world's power no longer is solely divided up by state governments. As more nongovernmental organizations gain power, do the definitions in the Rome Statute need to be revised?

Nearly everyone agrees that these human rights violations are atrocities, and need to be prevented or stopped. Yet, it is easier to agree that something is bad, than to agree on what needs to be done about the matter. Where does your country stand on these topics? What have they done to address and assist in current and past problems? Do they have prevention plans, and plans to follow the responsibility to protect? Has your country signed onto the Rome Statute? What does your country see as the main focal point for solving the problems of Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes against Humanity?

Protection and Promotion of Human Rights for Refugees and IDPS

Assisting refugees and other displaced persons first became a UN agenda topic during and after World War II.⁶⁰ Many were displaced by and sought refuge from the Nazi regime of Germany. The major organization that handles this growing problem, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), was established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly.⁶¹ This topic is still a major issue in the world today. From Africa to the Middle East, many people are currently living in Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps. The difference between IDPS and Refugees is whether or not they cross international borders to seek refuge. Refugees do cross international borders and seek refuge from conflict by the international community. IDPS are often unable or unwilling to cross borders and seek refuge within their own state at camps set up by the Red Cross or other humanitarian organizations.⁶² There are an estimated 50 million IDPS worldwide and an estimated 11-12 million refugees worldwide.⁶³

The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, list the rights and obligations of refugees.⁶⁴ The 1967 Protocol removed location and temporal restrictions from the 1951 Convention, this allows for protection for those fleeing conflict that are unable to cross international borders.⁶⁵ These are the key documents concerning refugees and other displaced persons. Conventions, organizations and resolutions have been created for specific areas concerning refugees. For example the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was established in December of 1949 by the General Assembly. The UNRWA has contributed assistance and humanitarian aid to four generations of Palestinian Refugees. The UNRWA has been renewed by the General Assembly various times and is still

⁵⁹ The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (U.N. Doc. A/CONF.183/9*) For text defining Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes against Humanity, see articles 5-9 under part 2: <http://www.un.org/law/icc/statute/rome.htm>.

⁶⁰ Humanitarian Action, Basic Facts About the UN, p 245-256, <http://www.un.org/ha/moreha.htm> April 17, 2007.

⁶¹ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, <http://www.unhcr.org/basics.html> April 17, 2007.

⁶² The International Committee of the Red Cross, http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/refugees_displaced_persons?OpenDocument April 17, 2007.

⁶³ The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, <http://ochaonline.un.org/webpage.asp?Page=525> April 17, 2004

⁶⁴ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/o_c_ref.htm April 17, 2007

⁶⁵ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, <http://www.unhcr.org/protect/3c0762ea4.html> April 17, 2007

in existence and action today. Currently there are over 4.3 million refugees being helped by UNRWA.⁶⁶ The UN General Assembly has supported these efforts by passing resolutions A/RES/61/11267 and A/RES/61/115.68

Other parts of the world, like Africa, are suffering from internal displacement. To address this problem the African Union held a convention the OAU Refugee Convention. At this Convention, which was held September of 1969, the African states signed a treaty for Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa. This treaty defines refugee, asylum seekers, and voluntary repatriation for the African states.⁶⁹ Even with this treaty and the resolutions that followed, refugees and internally displaced persons continue to be a big problem in Africa. By the end of 2004 1.4 million refugees from Sudan were of concern to UNHCR.⁷⁰ This is a low estimate due to the vast number of IDPS who are not counted and the number of refugees and IDPS who are not living in camps. The General Assembly has recently addressed these problems in A/RES/61/139.⁷¹ While the problems in Africa have been more publicized, according to the UNHCR the highest number of refugees at the end of 2004 was from Afghanistan—with 19% of the worldwide refugee population totaling 3,660,000 at the end of 2004.⁷² All of these refugees are currently being helped by the UNHCR.

One of the problems currently facing the UN is the internally displaced populations across the world. These populations are hard to reach with humanitarian aid. Protecting these populations presents an even bigger problem. Sending protection and aid into states that do not want it could be considered a violation of those states' sovereignty. Some delegations in the UN have proposed to rewrite the UN charter so that sovereignty is moot point when human rights are being violated by the government or when that government cannot protect its citizens against other faction violating their human rights. Others have proposed that there needs to be more of a focus on internally displaced persons than refugees because internally displaced persons make up a larger population of displaced persons than the current population of refugees.

Another issue facing the UN is repatriation. Many displaced persons want to return to their homes after the conflict is over or sometimes when it has temporarily subsided or lessened. It is a challenge to help people start their new lives and reintroduce into a society. This is not only an adjustment for those refugees wanting to return home, but it is also an adjustment for the society to which they are returning. This can be a financial and political burden for states that have to reopen their boundaries for hundreds of thousands of refugees that previously fled. The UNHCR is currently struggling with this issue in regions of the Middle East.

The political and financial burden is shared by those states who receive refugees. Currently Asia, a continent with population constraints already, hosts one third of the world's population of refugees, or 7.2 million

66 United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees, <http://www.un.org/unrwa/overview/index.html> April 17, 2007

67 United Nations General Assembly, <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/501/33/PDF/N0650133.pdf?OpenElement> April 17 2007

68 United Nations General Assembly, <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/501/15/PDF/N0650115.pdf?OpenElement> April 17, 2007

69 African Union, http://www.africa-union.org/Official_documents/Treaties_%20Conventions_%20Protocols/Refugee_Convention.pdf April 17, 2007

70 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.pdf?id=44eb1c602&tbl=STATISTICS> April 17, 2007

71 United Nations General Assembly, <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/502/77/PDF/N0650277.pdf?OpenElement> April 17 2007

72 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.pdf?id=44eb1c602&tbl=STATISTICS> April 17, 2007

displaced persons.⁷³ The UNHCR and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) share much of the financial responsibility for refugees all over the world. Still, the issues of space and political pressure need to be addressed in certain regions of Asia and other areas that host large numbers of refugees.

Refugees and IDPS are a large group of people whose needs must be addressed. These needs include protection, humanitarian promotion, and humanitarian aid. Some of the main issues that need to be considered: When concerning IDPS, is it worth potentially sacrificing the sovereignty of states that are not able or willing to protect their own civilians from internal conflict? Should more actions be taken to define the rights of IDPS, seeing as how they make up a larger population than that of refugees? If states will not allow UN or NATO troops to protect their citizens and humanitarian workers from warring factions, whose responsibility is it and which international organization can protect these civilians? States with tendencies towards internal conflict or issues will most likely not agree that sovereignty can be violated for the sake of impeding human rights violations. All states are affected by the problem of refugees, whether they are hosts of refugees, hosts of IDPS or they may be experiencing refugees returning into their societies.

Collective versus Individual Human Rights

Human rights are defined as “freedom from unlawful imprisonment, torture, and execution, and considered as belonging essentially to all persons⁷⁴”. Human rights are rights that belong to an individual or group of individuals as a consequence of being human. They refer to a wide range of values or potential thought to improve human society and acknowledged to be worldwide in character. “It is a common observation that human beings everywhere demand the understanding of diverse values or ability to ensure their individual and collective well-being. It also is a common observation that this demand is often painfully frustrated by social as well as natural forces, resulting in exploitation, oppression, persecution, and other forms of deprivation. Deeply rooted in these twin observations are the beginnings of what today are called “human rights” and the national and international legal processes that are associated with them⁷⁵”. Although this definition may seem simple there is much more to these two words, “human” and “rights”. For example, on dealing with indigenous issues one must respect their rituals and ceremonies. One example that can be used is the Sioux Sundown Ceremony. To the Sioux this self-inflicted torture symbolize rebirth. However, the conflict which arises is that other cultures see this self-inflicted torture as inhumane.

There is a major tension in human rights; between collective and individual human rights. Collective rights protect a group of people while individual rights protect the individual. As stated in a Draft report of Commission on Human Rights resolution (1995/32). The participants addressed the crucial issues of the indigenous right to self-determination; lands, territories and resources; are considered to be equal in importance to individual rights, especially regarding the right to self determine locaters. In relation to self-determination, representatives affirmed their support for the overwhelming “emerging consensus” indigenous proposal. In regard to lands, territories and resources, they emphasized the fundamental right to restitution. Finally, their discussion on general provisions stressed the importance of indigenous peoples’ collective human rights being affirmed in the declaration and to safeguard against the undermining of such distinct rights by State proposals⁷⁶”.

It is important to be acquainted with both collective and individual rights when accusing certain so called “violations” of human rights. For example, an issue was present in July of 2004 dealing with “Working

⁷³ UNHCR, <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.pdf?id=44eb1c602&tbl=STATISTICS> April 17, 2007

⁷⁴ Webster online (<http://www.webster.com/dictionary/human%20rights>)

⁷⁵ Britannica Encyclopedia online (<http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-9106289/human-rights>)

⁷⁶ Indigenous Issues (www.ohchr.org/english/issues/indigenous/docs/wgdd11/ecn42005wg15crp6.doc)

Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, Human Rights and Indigenous Issues (E/2004/INF/2/Add.2) 77.” Other such resolutions and treaties have been adopted by the United Nations. “The universal implementation of international human rights treaties (E/2004/INF/2/Add.2) was adopted on 22 July 2004 by the Economic and Social Council. This endorsed the Commission's decision that the first meeting of the Commission would be held on the third Monday in January with the sole purpose of electing its (the committee's) officers, and that the sixty-first session of the Commission would be held from 14 March to 22 April 2005 78.” This is a start in order to help the people with issues faced against in collective versus individual rights.

In the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, the General Assembly created a charter that promotes higher standards of living, full time employment, social progress, and development. This Declaration also states that international peace and security, social progress, and economic development are interdependent and influence each other. The United Nations is aware of the conflicts that result from the denial of the freedom of people which constitutes a major threat to world peace. The United Nations considers their role in supporting the movements for independence in Non-Self-Governing Territories. All people have a right to absolute freedom in sovereignty of their national territory. The United Nations continues to state that all people have the right to self-determination, and that insufficient political, economical, social, or educational attentiveness should never hindrance independence. The last line of the Declaration states, “ All States shall observe faithfully and strictly the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the present Declaration on the basis of equality, non-interference in the internal affairs of all States, and respect for the sovereign rights of all peoples and their territorial integrity.”⁷⁹

Another aspect of the United Nations is that they are “Reaffirming that one of the basic aims of the United Nations, as proclaimed in the Charter, is to promote and encourage respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.” Although this may seem hard it is United Nations duty to have faith in human rights for each individual has dignity and worth, and equal rights for all humans. The United Nations plays a major role in protecting the rights of the minority as well as non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations. Also, the United Nations is “Recognizing the need to ensure even more effective implementation of international human rights instruments with regard to the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities.” The Declaration states that people belonging to a national, ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities have a right to peruse their own culture, practice their own religions, and use their own language weather it is in private and/ or in public. Moreover, they are able to do so freely without any form of discrimination.⁸⁰

Resolution (A/Res/53/144) states that it is important to recognize the relationship between international peace and security, as well as human rights and fundamental freedom. Also, it states that the absence of international peace and security does not pardon disobedience. Individuals have the right to know, gain, and hold on to information on all human rights freedoms even if they are given through domestic legislative, judicial, and/or administrative systems. Furthermore, “shall be subject only to such limitations as are in accordance with applicable international obligations and are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.” It is the state's duty

77 Human Rights and indigenous issues (<http://www.un.org/docs/ecosoc/documents/2004/decisions/edec2004-267.pdf>)

78The universal implementation of international human rights treaties
(<http://www.un.org/docs/ecosoc/documents/2004/decisions/edec2004-281.pdf>)

79 Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and People:
(http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/c_coloni.htm)

80 Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities:
(http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/d_minori.htm)

to promote and protect human rights, and the individuals' responsibility to promote respect and knowledge of human rights and their freedoms at all levels.⁸¹

The main purpose of solving problems with Individual versus Collective Human Rights is to come up with negotiation methods to solve the problems presented without discriminating against any state. In order to do so one must respect all cultures, nationalities, and religions. Human Rights are universal, inter-reliant, indivisible, and unified, and should be promoted with fairness in a reasonable manner without discrimination. To conclude, how can one make a decision that respects the culture and beliefs of all states without discriminating against anyone? Does your country support individual rights, collective rights, or both? Does your country have significant properties that could seek self-determination?

ECOSOC: Economic and Social Council

The Trafficking in Illegal Narcotics

The trafficking of illegal narcotics plays an instrumental role in many national and transnational conflicts in the international community. The trafficking of illegal narcotics⁸² is an international problem that calls for timely consideration and action amongst the member states of the United Nations. The most influential international realization of the drug trafficking problem was strenuously investigated during the 20th special session of the General Assembly held in 1998, which produced the *Political Declaration (A/RES/S-20/2)*.⁸³ The *Political Declaration* defined illicit drugs as detrimental to people, democracy, and society as a whole. The *Political Declaration* emphasized the need for multilateral cooperation between states, regional, and international groups to prevent the spread of cross national drug trafficking; and addressed the links between drug trafficking and terrorism, human trafficking, and organized crime. The trafficking of narcotics is a multifaceted international dilemma that encompasses many threats to global security. The trafficking of illegal narcotics also has been linked to other high threats to global security such as terrorism, human trafficking, and transnational organized crime. Due to the detrimental consequences of the trafficking of illegal narcotics, timely consideration and action must be taken by the member states of the United Nations.

The United Nations has made great strides recently in analyzing the problem of trafficking in illegal narcotics. The *Political Declaration* played an instrumental role in the adoption of resolutions once the detrimental consequences of drug trafficking were addressed. Nevertheless, there are a few regions that have a monumental influence on drug trafficking despite the work that the UN has done to decrease the problem. The member states of Afghanistan and Guatemala play a key role in the global illegal narcotics problem. Afghanistan produces around 90% of the world's yearly opium production. As a result of the high rate of production, Afghanistan plays a central role in the illegal trafficking of opiates to the Middle East, Europe, Africa and the rest of the world. Guatemala is a member state that is influential in drug trafficking and deals mainly with cocaine that is largely produced in other member states on the Latin American continent. Guatemala is a central point for trafficking of narcotics to the United States.

Due to the problems that exist at the regional level, as they pertain to drug trafficking, the UN has passed many resolutions in an effort to alleviate some of the detrimental side effects that occur because of them. The

⁸¹ Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect, Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms:

([http://www.unhchr.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf/\(Symbol\)/A.RES.53.144.En?OpenDocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf/(Symbol)/A.RES.53.144.En?OpenDocument))

⁸² Illicit Narcotics include: Cannabis (Marijuana), Opiates, Coca, and fast-advancing amphetamine-type drugs.

⁸³ 20th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly. *Political Declaration A/RES/S-20/2*.

http://www.unodc.org/unodc/resolution_1998-06-10_1.html.

General Assembly in 1973 passed resolution 314784 that stressed the importance of multilateral cooperation for international drug control. This document is instrumental in stressing the severity of the international drug control problem. One of the largest obstacles of the UN in its efforts is funding. The Commission on Narcotic drugs adopted the resolution (E/CN.7/2005/8, Resolution 48/3)⁸⁵, which lays the foundation for funding the UN's efforts to decrease the existence of drug trafficking. The UN has also passed resolutions that attempt to alleviate some of the consequences of drug trafficking that affect communities and the populations of states as a whole. The Commission on Narcotic drugs adopted the resolution (E/CN.7/2005/L.30, Resolution 48/12)⁸⁶, which expressed the inherent interest of protecting the world's population as a whole from the diseases that result from drug abuse. The Commission on Narcotic drugs further indicated a strong concern for public welfare when it passed a resolution (E/CN.7/2005/L.16/Rev.1, Resolution 48/4)⁸⁷, which encouraged; public awareness programs on the detrimental side effects of narcotics use, and the promotion of drug free lifestyles within member states.

The United Nations has made several special provisions in resolutions to protect states affected by illegal drug trafficking as well as protecting the scientific and medicinal nature of certain plants derived from the cultivation of narcotics. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs approved the draft resolution for adoption (E/CN.7/2005/L.26)⁸⁸, which addresses the need for assistance to developing states that need international participation to reduce the illicit drug trafficking problem. The Commission also approved the draft resolution for adoption (E/CN.7/2005/L.11/Rev.1)⁸⁹, which recognized the need to balance the production of illicit drugs to meet the demand for medical and scientific needs. While these drafts are possible avenues to explore the problem, many other avenues exist and must still be addressed.

There are certain avenues involved with the trafficking of illegal narcotics that have been overlooked by the UN as a whole and not adequately addressed. One of the key problems with the trafficking of illegal narcotics are the states in the international community that do very little to reduce the occurrences of trafficking within their borders. The international community has not put enough pressure on these states that more or less allow for the free flow of all sorts of illegal trafficking. Illegal narcotics' trafficking has been linked to human trafficking, terrorism, and transnational organized crime. Many terrorist organizations use the profits they attain from illegal trafficking to fund their terrorist networks. If the uninhibited flow of illegal narcotics is a reality in areas one is likely to find the occurrence of human trafficking as well and is often for sexual exploitation. The illegal trafficking markets have proven to be very lucrative in the international system. This is very attractive for persons in developing countries who need an income and have little or no opposition from their government in illegal trafficking.

Alternative development is a fairly recent approach for the elimination of drug supplies in the international community. Essentially, Alternative development is cultivating a licit plant rather than an illicit plant. One example would be the elimination of coca cultivation in Columbia and instead cultivating and producing coffee. The coffee is then sold around the region and many outsiders are banned from trade so that trade

84 United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515, p. 151.

85 Commission on Narcotic Drugs report on the forty-eighth session, "Securing assured and predictable voluntary funding for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme,"

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/V05/826/64/PDF/V0582664.pdf?OpenElement> pg. 15-16.

86"Expanding the capacity of communities to provide information, treatment, health care and social services to people living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases in the context of drug abuse and strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems,"

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/V05/826/64/PDF/V0582664.pdf?OpenElement> pg. 30-32.

87"Promotion of policies for the prevention of illicit drug use,"

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/V05/826/64/PDF/V0582664.pdf?OpenElement> pg. 17.

88"International assistance to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs,"

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/V05/826/64/PDF/V0582664.pdf?OpenElement> pg. 7-9.

89"Demand for and supply of opiates used to meet medical and scientific needs,"

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/V05/826/64/PDF/V0582664.pdf?OpenElement> pg. 5-7.

directly benefits the countries participating in alternative development. Coupled with a common market economy at the regional level, alternative development has shown to have unlimited potential in the international community. Many individuals have few choices but to enter into the production of illicit drugs as a means of income in their developing or economically weak states. Alternative Development can be invaluable in reducing the amounts of drug supplies globally by providing a means of sustainable livelihood and an alternative means of income for many individuals in developing or economically weak states.

The history of alternative development has a largely mixed success rate and much can be learned from the 1998 special session on drugs in which the General Assembly voted on the resolution (E/CN.7/1998/PC/7)90. Alternative development was defined and recognized as a viable solution to eliminating drug supplies. Alternative development used in a regional perspective can provide a system of crop substitution as well as marketability and financial benefits from the sale of crops. In working together in a regional partnership all members could play a vital role in the success of the region and the elimination of drug supplies. The most significant movement towards alternative development offered in 2002 when the Commission on Narcotic drugs held its 45th annual session and held a thematic debate on *Follow-up to the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development*. Alternative development was thoroughly researched and found have unlimited possibilities when focused in a regional perspective. By forming a common market among regional states in which the free flow of goods, services and resources (such as labor and capital) is not hindered by the government and allows for regional economic growth as an alternative to the economy that the drug market plagues. A lowering of hindrances to trade, such as taxes between regional states, and economic discrimination of other international states seeking to enter the regional market, could be instrumental in the elimination of the need for the economy that narcotics produce.

There are many avenues that have been explored when dealing with the global drug trafficking problem and many more that have not been addressed thoroughly if at all. When deciding how to effectively reduce drug trafficking, look at your country's history and stance on drug trafficking. Address the impact that the trafficking of narcotics has on your country. Is your country involved in cultivation (supply), trafficking, or demand (large numbers of your country's population using illicit drugs)? Address the possible solutions your country can effectively facilitate, such as alternative development. Investigate the means that your country has available to detain and prosecute persons involved with drug trafficking. What programs does your country have in place to reduce trafficking in and around its borders? Are there any regional ties that can be used to strengthen borders? If trafficking in illegal narcotics occurs in and out of your country's borders, the countries who share borders with you are likely allies in a cooperative elimination effort. Are there any possible alternatives for income to members of your population who rely on the drug trade as their only form of income? There are many avenues to explore possible solutions to consider. Look to the solutions that best benefit not only your country but global security as well.

Environmental Crime

Environmental crimes cause more than just brutal effects on the environment. They have a negative impact as well. Toxic waste dumping harms the environment on many different levels, and degrades human health. The illegal trafficking of animal parts also impacts human lives and affects biodiversity in many negative ways. Toxic waste dumping into waterways, the air and ground can significantly damage an entire community's livelihood by destroying jobs, causing health problems, lowering property values, etc. The effects of dumping are magnified in developing countries. Toxic waste is shipped to developing countries

90Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development
http://www.unodc.org/unodc/document_1998-01-14_1.html.

and listed under the intention of recycling and reclamation. This is a major problem because developing countries do not have capacities to recycle and reclaim toxic waste. In addition, many of the toxic wastes are not disposable and most developing countries do not have the means to safely contain the waste. For example, in 2005 after a tsunami hit Somalia, toxic wastes were found in broken barrels scattered on the beaches. Hundreds of people began suffering from mouth and abdominal bleeding, skin infections, and other ailments. Many people died from what was believed to be radioactive waste poisoning. It was believed that this dumping was from Italian companies, the Mafia, and Somali warlords. Similarly, an illegal dump in Côte d'Ivoire last summer harmed thousands and resulted in at least ten deaths, with the suspected company shipping the waste located in the developed part of Europe.

Animal trafficking is the third largest illegal trade in the world, after drugs and arms. Estimates place illegal animal trafficking profits at US\$20 billion annually. Brazil is estimated to account for up to 15% of this illicit global trade. In Brazil alone approximately 38 million animals are poached every year, posing a deep threat to regional and global biodiversity⁹¹. Trafficking of illegal animal parts has become a major environmental crime concern. It has more consequences than just slaughtering rare animals; these crimes are putting large profits in the hands of criminals, and the death of the animal causes grave effects on the biodiversity in its region. Asia, Latin America, and Africa are just a few regions that are having problems with illegal trafficking of animal parts. They are facing extreme changes in their region's biodiversity because of the large amount of animals being removed for trafficking. The results are cycling back to affect the human population in health, food supplies, and etc. Estimates for current marine stocks alone in 2007 suggest that as much as 47% of marine fish stocks or species groups are fully exploited, 18 % overexploited and 10 % significantly depleted or recovering from depletion.⁹²

Efforts to address toxic dumping began at the regional level with the Basel Convention in 1992 to initiate international regulations of toxic waste. It identifies the problems developing countries are faced with: "Recognizing that the long-term solution to the stockpiling of hazardous wastes is a reduction in the generation of those wastes - both in terms of quantity and hazardousness"⁹³. The Basel Convention has been known to enforce the banning of industrialized countries dumping their hazardous waste into developing countries. The convention thus began to promote cleaner technologies, further reduction of the movement of hazardous and other wastes; prevent and monitor illegal traffic; improve institutional and technical capabilities especially for developing countries and countries with economies in transition; and further develop regional and sub regional centers for training and technology transfer. The convention currently is supported by 169 Parties to implement safer forms of trans-boundary movements and disposal of toxic waste. The Green Customs Project is another organization that has been able to greatly impact the trade of toxic wastes⁹⁴. This program has done so by teaching training methods to customs officers, and working with other organizations to combat against illegal trade. Another recently new program is the Johannesburg plan which implements an air quality management plan as well as enforcing the guidelines in the treaty⁹⁵. Many countries have signed on to this plan, but big polluters such as China and India still refuse.

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) of Wild Fauna and Flora was a resolution adopted in 1963. Today CITES provides protection to more than 30,000 species of animals and

91 http://www.cites.org/eng/news/cuttings/2001/brazil_11-14.shtml *Smugglers steal 38 mln animals from Brazil's forests*

92 See www.fao.org/docrep/007/y5600e/y5600e04.htm.

93 <http://www.basel.int/convention/basics.html> *Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal*

94 <http://www.greencustoms.org/about/background.htm> Green Customs

95 http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/WSSD_PlanImpl.pdf
Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

plants, whether they are traded as live specimens, animal parts, or dried herbs⁹⁶. This international agreement was signed by 80 different countries to insure the international protection from over-exploitation of plants and animals.

Currently the UN has a working paper to further the review of chemical management in reducing the risks of human health and the environment from mercury, cadmium, and lead⁹⁷. The effects of toxic waste on human health are a subject that has been barely skimmed. Although, the UN has had much progress in the enforcement in training programs and slowly developing these; there are still existing problems with toxic waste dumping in developing countries.

The problem of air, water and land dumping is an international problem that affects every country.⁹⁸ Just last year Canadian was found dumping pollutants into a large river system. This same river system traveled down to United States thus causing ecological and health issues in the United States from Canadian pollutants. This was a major problem, even though Canada was the source of pollutants dumped they refused to claim responsibility for the cleanup of the chemicals in the U.S., because it was not their land that was being affected. Border legality has also become a problem with identifying air pollution problems. For example the large amounts emissions of air pollution from China have affected other regions of the world⁹⁹. While other leading countries have signed the Johannesburg Plan and restricted and adopted cleaner emissions technology China has not. This issue has been addressed but further progress needed to improve the air quality for all regions.

Although there have been regulations implemented to provide protection of animals and plants from animal trafficking; the problem continues to exist. “Hundreds of thousands of exotic species are trafficked from Latin America to Europe. Three out of four animals die before they reach their destination in this illegal business, which in terms of money flows is surpassed only by drugs and arms trafficking¹⁰⁰” The trafficking of wildlife has greatly affected regions in Africa by devastating the regions biodiversity¹⁰¹. Asia has experienced great difficulties with illegal logging which is destructing the forests and biodiversity¹⁰².

The issues of toxic dumping and illegal animal trafficking reach all corners of the world. What is your country’s current policy on these issues? What has your country done to show support (or not) for improving the disposal of toxic wastes? What has your country done (or not done) to stop trafficking of illegal animal parts? How can we combat these problems when most developing countries do not have the

96 <http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/how.shtml> Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

97 <http://www.unep.org/en/hilites/infocus/gc24.htm> Chemicals management report of the Executive Director: UNEP/GC/24/7

98 <http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cescr/docs/info-ngos/CanadaCorps.pdf> Report on Effects of Canadian Corporate Behavior on the Western Shoshone People Located in the United States.

99 http://www.unescap.org/esd/rim/documents/Review_document_on_Air_Pollution_and_Atmosphere.pdf REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT-AN ASIA-PACIFIC PERSPECTIVE.

100 <http://www.unep.org/cpi/briefs/Brief04Sept.doc> Animal Trafficking - A Cruel Billion-Dollar Business By Francesca Colombo.

101 <http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=327&ArticleID=4056&l=en> Succulent Somali Plants New Targets of Illegal African Wildlife Trade.

102 <http://www.unep.org/cpi/briefs/Brief04Sept.doc> Enforcement Vital to Stop Illegal Timber from Singapore: Environmentalists call for Crackdown as Bush Signs Free Trade Agreement.

means to enforce the current solutions? If continued will these issues greatly affect just the developing countries or the world as a whole, and in what ways should we go about deciding this?

Human Trafficking for the Purpose of Sexual Exploitation

In today's world, human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation has reached wide spread proportions. 600,000 to 800,000 men, women, and children are trafficked on an annual basis. Of the estimated number of trafficked persons, 80% are said to be women and children.¹⁰³ On occasion, the persons in question knowingly go into sexual slavery for purposes of eventual advancement in life, but generally speaking most are duped into it thinking that they will be used for labor or any other non-sexual purpose. Whatever the case may be exploitation is deplorable no matter what the person's level of knowledge is, especially in consideration of children. The fact of the matter is that sexual exploitation is extremely lucrative yielding billions of dollars a year to powerful criminal organizations and individuals.¹⁰⁴

Currently the UN's main goal is to more or less establish an international unified front to address the issue. Unified cooperation is needed particularly in the realms of conducting investigations, prosecutions, and the extradition of known offenders. It is obviously a problem that needs to be dealt with in a consistent fashion so as to prevent the possibility of safe haven for violators. If one state enforces international laws against human trafficking of any kind but another does not the system fails to be effective. It is the UN's goal with any of its tasks to come to international consensus for international cooperation. Success depends upon that cooperation for the solution to any trans-state quandary.¹⁰⁵

Specifically in regards to trafficking of human beings for sexual exploitation the UN has taken steps to combat the problem. Resolutions such as A/RES/61/144, A/RES/61/180, etc. were drafted and adopted to help attack the problem.¹⁰⁶ Even earlier than the stated resolutions came 1989's Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was drafted and adopted by the General Assembly in order to establish the rights of children.¹⁰⁷ In November of the year 2000, the General Assembly adopted several mechanisms to combat transnational organized crime, including the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children. The mechanisms directly deal with, and work toward, the unification of the fight against human trafficking, and they are a good step in the right direction. In spirit with the discussed adopted mechanisms and the anniversary of the end of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, the UNODC has launched The Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking. Furthermore, in 2001 the General Assembly again sought after the protection of women in cases of sexual exploitation with the drafting and adopting of A/RES/55/67¹⁰⁸

¹⁰³ The United States State Department of State. Trafficking in Persons Report. Retrieved April 17, 2007, from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65983.htm>.

¹⁰⁴ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Trafficking on Persons: the New Protocol. Retrieved April 9, 2007, from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/trafficking_protocol_background.html.

¹⁰⁵ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Trafficking on Persons: the New Protocol. Retrieved April 9, 2007, from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/trafficking_protocol_background.html; United Nations Habitat. Commission on the Status of Women. Report on the 42nd Session. Retrieved April, 13 2007, from http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/1379_68753_WR12.htm

¹⁰⁶ United Nations. United Nations Documentation: Research Guide. Retrieved April 11, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r61.htm>.

¹⁰⁷ Office of the UN's High Commissioner for Human Rights. Convention on the Rights of the Child. Retrieved April 22, 2007, from <http://www.ohchr.org/english/law/crc.htm>.

¹⁰⁸ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Trafficking on Persons: the New Protocol. Retrieved April 9, 2007, from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/trafficking_protocol_background.html; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. UNODC Launches Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking. Retrieved on April, 9 2007, from

Areas of specific concern where trafficking rates are at their highest include Eastern European states where borders were opened to such activity following the collapse of the Soviet Union. Also the problem has reached pandemic proportions all across Asia and Africa. However, it cannot be stressed enough that the problem is one of and on a global scale. In many of these cases, women and children are literally sold out of catalogues sometimes by family members and/or friends.¹⁰⁹

Despite efforts by the UN to combat the problem of human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, not enough progress has been made. The UN has produced plenty of resolutions, protocols, conventions, initiatives, etc. meant to denounce the problem, but actual implementation of said solutions is lacking. For example, in the year 2000 the UNDOC adopted several mechanisms to combat human trafficking. However, despite adopting the mechanisms the implementation never really developed. Consequently, seven years later the UNDOC had to launch The Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking to help accomplish what had not been accomplished by the mechanisms from the year 2000. In fact, as evident by UNESCO's Trafficking Project between 2000 and 2003 the reported flow of trafficked persons did not drop at all. If anything it increased.¹¹⁰

Some questions that should be answered through preparation for the Model UN process include: What kind of stance does my state take in the fight against human trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation? Does my state have a significant internal problem with human trafficking? Do bordering states have significant internal problems with human trafficking? What can be done to make implementation of solutions to the problem more practical and efficient? etc. Through research and careful consideration of these questions, solutions will not likely be easily found, but the process will hopefully lead to possible successful outcomes for the future.

World Summit for Children

Child Labor¹¹¹

While many children across the world attend school, play outside, and develop through interactions with adults and other children, there are places in this world where children do not have that type of luxury. In some areas of this globe, children are forced to go to work, to raise money for their families, forced by governments to create military items such as guns or ammunition or to be packed into tiny sweat camps to make items of export for their countries. Due to extreme poverty in many countries, children are sent to work to get money so that they and their family could have something to eat. In many areas, attending school would be a privilege compared to the hard labor suffered by many children in parts of the world. In this global community, 217,700 million children from 5 to 17 years are engaged in child labor in the world today. 126,300 million are caught in the worst form of child labor such as prostitution and military service.¹¹² In Sub-Saharan Africa alone, 26.4 percent of children ages 5 to 14 in the region go to work. In the entire

http://www.unodc.org/unodc/press_release_2007_03_26.html; United Nations. United Nations Documentation: Research Guide. Retrieved April 11, 2007, from <http://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/2569434.html>.

109. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Trafficking on Persons: the New Protocol. Retrieved April 9, 2007, from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/trafficking_protocol_background.html.

110 UNESCO Trafficking Project. Data Comparison Sheet #1: Worldwide Trafficking Estimates by Organizations. Retrieved April 22, 2007, from

http://www.unescobkk.org/fileadmin/user_upload/culture/Trafficking/project/Graph_Worldwide_Sept_2004.pdf.

111 When looking for Child labor on United Nations websites, use the European spelling for labor- Labour

112 Child Labour in Africa-

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=6189

continent of Africa, 50,000 children are in prostitution and pornography.¹¹³ However, the issue at hand is strictly child labor. It is estimated that about half of the world's victims of forced labor or about 5.7 million children are trapped in forced or bonded labor.¹¹⁴ This issue has been discussed numerous times by the International Labour Organization and is often covered under other organizations such as the Committee on the Rights of the Child.¹¹⁵ There is also the Global Task Force on Child Labour and Education for All which make the elimination of child labor one of its top goals.¹¹⁶

In 1919, the ILO held the first international convention against child labor.¹¹⁷ The ILO believes since children do not have the physical and mental capabilities that adults do and should therefore have distinct rights against economic exploitation and dangerous and immoral work that could hinder the child and their development.¹¹⁸ The ILO believes that child workers should not be banished, just the cruel treatment and jobs that many of these children have to deal with.¹¹⁹ In fact, the ILO does not want to banish child work, especially if it's work for their family's business, farm, etc. Child work or "light work" is defined as under the age of twelve and does not interfere with education.¹²⁰

At the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention held in 1999 created resolution 182 in which it outlines the Convention under the ILO and discusses how child labor is still a current issue.¹²¹ It calls for each member states to take necessary measures when child labor laws are broken. The Convention states that education is the key to diminishing this problem and that children should be taken out of situations where child labor is reported.¹²² The Economic Community of West African States held a meeting in February 12-14 2007 calls for alliances against child labor to eliminate it in the shortest time possible.¹²³ The Convention of the Rights of the Child gives children the basic rights to life and protection for abuse and other form of harm. In GA Resolution 44/25, Article 32 claims that children should be protected from any kind of labor that restricts development and education.¹²⁴

113 Child Labour in Africa-

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=6189

114 Child Protection Information Sheet- Child Labour- http://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Child_Labour.pdf

115 <http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/index.htm>

116 International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour,

http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?sessionId=0a038009cf07fa278dfa1a04289bf5eac16e4169428.hkzFngTDp6WImQuUaNaLaxD3IN4K-xaIah8S-xyIn3uKmAiN-AnwbQbxaNvzaAml-huKa30xgx95fjWta3eIpkzFngTDp6WImQuxahySc3yPaxmNcgb48OX3b4DtGj15eMbyknvrkLOIQzNp65In0_?productId=3744

117 Facts on Child Labour-

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=6215

118 The Issues-Effective Abolition of Child Labour-

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.static_jump?var_language=EN&var_pagename=ISSUESCHILD LABOUR

119 The Issues-Effective Abolition of Child Labour-

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.static_jump?var_language=EN&var_pagename=ISSUESCHILD LABOUR

120 C138 Minimum Age Convention- <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C138>.

121 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), adopted on 17 June 1999;

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/law/childlabour.htm>

122 Article 7; Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), adopted on 17 June 1999;

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/law/childlabour.htm>

123 International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour,

http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?sessionId=0a038009cf07fa278dfa1a04289bf5eac16e4169428.hkzFngTDp6WImQuUaNaLaxD3IN4K-xaIah8S-xyIn3uKmAiN-AnwbQbxaNvzaAml-huKa30xgx95fjWta3eIpkzFngTDp6WImQuxahySc3yPaxmNcgb48OX3b4DtGj15eMbyknvrkLOIQzNp65In0_?productId=3744

124 Convention on the Right of the Child- <http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu2/6/crc/treaties/crc.htm>

The United Nations should establish better ways of monitoring child labor, in that many cases of child workers occur in developing countries, many with little infrastructure and technology. Also, by educating people and children about acceptable and unacceptable work where child labor is used would reduce the number of worse case child labor. The UN also faces difficulty in unity among member states on this issue. Obviously there are efforts on eliminating child labor with laws set in place, however not every member state has joined in on the effort. Either more united effort should be focused on or adapt the laws already in place to get everyone in agreement.

Some questions to ask yourself would be what, if any, types of child labor there is in your country? If yes, what kind of child labor is it? What types of protective laws or child labor laws are available? What has been done already to help eliminate child labor? What kind of resolutions or conventions has your country signed on to? What economic issues does your country face? Is child labor a big issue? What other countries have the same child labor issues as you do?

Child Soldiers

Ever since there have been wars, child soldiers have played an active role in combat as well as in support roles tracing all the way back to the Bible days with David defeating Goliath and even during the civil war. Child soldiers are very adequate soldiers in modern times with the creation of light weight easy to use weapons such as the AK-47. Since 2001 there have been 21 reports of child soldiers in armed conflict in countries such as Sierra Leone, Uganda, and Afghanistan¹²⁵. Many children become soldiers due to the lack of education, poor economic status, and the lure of food medical attention and security¹²⁶. Children's immaturity helps to make them effective killers these children are manipulated into thinking that what they are doing is perfectly acceptable¹²⁷. The most notable uses of child soldiers takes place in Africa but most notably Uganda and Sierra Leone. The use of child soldiers by the Lord's Resistance Army is part of an increasing worldwide problem by states and guerilla groups on underage combatants at least 300,000 children are currently involved in active combat child soldiers are often used to clear mine fields for older more experienced troops^{128 129}.

The UN has been actively working on this problem through the Convention on the Rights of the Child the convention defines a child as any person under the age of 18 unless a younger age is recognized by a country's law¹³⁰. The Convention acknowledges that every child has certain rights, including the right to life, own name and identity, to be raised by their parents within a family or cultural grouping and have a relationship with both parents even if they are separated. The convention urges states to allow parents to exercise their parental responsibilities in an attempt to prevent the use of child soldiers. The convention also acknowledges that children have the right to express their opinions and to have those opinions heard and acted upon when appropriate, to be protected from abuse or exploitation, to have their privacy protected and requires that their lives not be subject to excessive interference. Another important document is the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict this document stresses age requirements of 18 years of age to be involved in conflicts¹³¹. Another document is

¹²⁵ http://hrw.org/campaigns/crp/fact_sheet.html

¹²⁶ <http://www.child-soldiers.org/childsoldiers/why-children-join>

¹²⁷ <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/childsoldiers-index-eng>

¹²⁸ http://hrw.org/campaigns/crp/fact_sheet.html

¹²⁹ <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/childsoldiers-index-eng>

¹³⁰ <http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu3/b/k2crc.htm>

¹³¹ <http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu2/6/protocolchild.htm>

the ILO Convention 182 which specifies child soldier as the worst form of child labor¹³².

The UN has created organizations to overlook the use of children as soldiers and also to protect the rights of children. One organization is the International Labor Organization the purpose of this organization is to promote opportunities for decent employment and also to promote workers rights¹³³. Another important organization is UNICEF this UN organization is a voice for children all over the world. UNICEF's main objectives are to protect children from violence, provide education, and to provide healthcare¹³⁴.

The UN still has a lot of work to be done on the issue of child soldiers for instance the availability of lightweight weapons that are easy for these children to use. The UN needs to do more to halt the flow of weapons into countries that use child soldiers. The UN has not done enough to prohibit the sale and use of landmines around the world. Even with the Ottawa treaty better known as the Mine Ban Treaty which bans the use of mines has been signed by 155 countries but has failed to be signed by the United States, Russian Federation, and China to name a few¹³⁵. The UN needs to take a stronger stance against the use of child soldiers especially when atrocities are being committed with the use of peace keepers in conflict areas the UN needs to decrease the amount of time it takes to deploy peacekeepers.

The biggest area that the UN needs to work on when dealing with child soldiers is the program known as DDR in order for this program to be completely successful there must be an end to violence in the area. Disarmament- the removal of weapons and ammunition from former soldiers, Demobilization- disbanding of the different groups, and Reintegration- mixing former combatants into society (DDR)¹³⁶ during this process these former soldiers must be in a way reprogrammed from believing that the ruthless acts they commit are perfectly fine. The problem with DDR in current situations especially in Africa is the ability for former soldiers to be able to fall back into the former groups of which they belonged. Some child soldiers after completing DDR return to the areas that they originally came from only to be forced to fight again. Another main problem with DDR is that there is a lack of jobs for the former soldiers this makes it easier for them to fall back into their old habits.

The UN has done a lot of good things on the subject of child soldiers but there is a lot of work still left to be done. What does your country think a good plan of action is when dealing with child soldiers? How should countries address child soldiers? What types of punishments should there be for countries such as Sierra Leon and Uganda who account for many of the things child soldiers are forced to endure?

Children as Victims in Armed Conflict

Children in armed conflict need help to develop their lives after their involvement in armed conflict because they suffer the most in conflict situations. They are deprived of an education, exploited and abducted, scarred and used as child soldiers as a result of war. Two million children have been killed in armed conflict, six million are permanently disabled, and 250,000 are being forced to become child soldiers¹³⁷. Children are also being used as sex slaves which lead to infections and other children that come to life in conflict situations they are not aware of. Schools and hospitals, which are supposed to be safe for children, are becoming targets by conflict. Not only are children physically scarred, but emotionally and mentally as well.

132 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/keydocuments/english/iloconvention1828.html>

133 <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/index.htm>

134 <http://www.unicef.org/whatwedo/index.html>

135 http://www.un.org/Depts/mine/UNDocs/ban_trty.htm

136 <http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/ddr>

137 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/conflicts2.html>

Afghanistan schools are being targeted from conflict; sexual abuse is a huge concern in Haiti, and the Philippines force children into becoming child soldiers¹³⁸. In Uganda, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) are abducting children to become child soldiers and sexual slaves. They are also used as defense mechanisms in the Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF)¹³⁹. Lebanon and Israel conflict has resulted in the killing of innocent civilians, which include about one third being children. Children are also being denied humanitarian relief to better their lives¹⁴⁰ There are different dimensions that are under children as victims of armed conflict including sexual violence especially against girls that are part of armed conflict. Girls involved in war are forced to stay home from school because they feel unsafe in school and are deprived of an education. Girls are also targeted by men because they think that young girls will not be infected with HIV and/or AIDS not considering the possibility that the men that do such violence might infect the young girls and eventually lead to death. Girls in war are in the first place not willing to say that they have been brutalized or raped also left with the responsibility of having children after they are raped¹⁴¹. Apart from the violence, families of the children are killed in conflict and are left to be orphaned and are not able to partake in society like they should because they have no other generation to teach them. With all the problems with children as victims of armed conflict, the United Nations have established several resolutions.

The United Nations with the General Assembly has passed solutions and made statements to taking care of children when affected by armed conflict. Children are protected in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (2000)¹⁴². The Optional Protocol found 13 articles to protect with involvement of children in armed conflict. The first articles include the minimum age limit of recruiting in the armed conflicts to be 18 years old. Article eight writes about the reporting of the rights of the child.¹⁴³ The United Nations has supported a strategic plan to enforce better treatment of children.¹⁴⁴ The United Nations also established a program that reviews the progress of the protection of children.¹⁴⁵ The Committee on the Rights of the Child is an implementation of a group that asks every party to report every two years on how the rights of the child are being carried out¹⁴⁶.

The United Nations is working on all member states and non-member states to ratify the resolutions passed and international laws from the United Nations to protect children from armed conflict. The General Assembly's children and armed conflict (CAAC) agenda has tried to protect children with the establishment of the Mandate of the Special Representative for Children in Armed Conflict¹⁴⁷. Recently, the mandate has had the privilege to have the same budget as the United Nations in order for it to achieve the important goals it must to protect children as victims in armed conflict. The mandate has achieved much progress from states in they help keep the world informed of the issues at hand that involve children in armed conflict. The best interest of the child should always be first in determining the well being children.

The only problem with protection of the child in armed conflict is in the 'era of application' campaign. The campaign has had problems with the standards and norms for the protection of the child. States are called to establish the standards and norms of the children on the ground and make sure the world has the opportunity

138 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/conflicts2.html>

Other countries with similar problems: Burundi, Chad, Haiti, Iraq, Liberia, Somalia, Nepal, Philippines, etc.

139 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/uganda85.html>

140 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/lebanonandisrael158.html>

141 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/girlsinwar101.html>

142 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/keydocuments88.html>

143 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/keydocuments/english/crcoptionalproto19.html>

144 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/agendaforaction5.html>

145 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/workinggrouponca103.html>

146 <http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/index.htm>

147 <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/french/14oct2005general147.html>

All mandate and era of application are a part of this footnote.

to be aware of the issues children face during war. Their own communities have been suffering under conflict for many years. The physical, emotional, and mental trauma caused by conflict are a threat to peace and development of the communities children live in and are supposed to carry on at adult age¹⁴⁸.

Although the involvement of the mandate has made progress to help with protection of the child in armed conflict, there is still much work to be done in the future for the well being of the child in armed conflict. Also, the monitoring and reporting of children as victims in armed conflict is not monitored in the best way. It is the job of the delegate to follow through with the problems the mandate has been issued. They need the help to set standards and norms of ground conflict and the help of expressing the awareness to the world. Children as victims in armed conflict is a serious problem that everyone should be aware of in the world. We should not live our lives in oblivion when the future of our world is in harm's way. Now, it is your turn.

What can be done to help states establish standards and norms for ground conflicts and spread the awareness of these issues to the world? Is your country doing anything to address the issues revolving around children in armed conflict? Has your country signed onto the relevant treaties that help protect children from armed conflict? How does the United Nations know if the reporting and monitoring of the well-being of the child is being implemented? How should we enforce this to be true from every state? What can be done to better protect our children? What can be done to make the world aware of children as victims in armed conflict?

GUIDE TO RESEARCHING MODEL UN

Introduction

Information on your assigned country's history, ideology, policies, alignments and diplomatic character is the single most important item a delegation can possess. Diplomatic success or failure hangs in the balance of the information that you, as a delegate, have gathered and have at your disposal. Therefore it is important to realize that amount and quality of research has a direct impact on your experience at Model UN.

In this section, Model UN offers some suggestions to help you and your delegation reap the most from your time spent researching. These are suggestions that Model UN has found to be the most effective.

Research Goals

1. **Quality Representation.** Your first and foremost goal should be to represent your assigned country as well as your country's mission to the United Nations, New York.
2. **Gain Confidence.** A delegation that has not completely researched the policies of its country will demonstrate a tentativeness and weakness that will be exploited by other delegations. Conversely, a delegation that has researched the policies and attitudes of its assigned country will be confident in its policy positions, and will be able to defend its interests in the simulated international arena.
3. **Effective Negotiation.** A delegation that has thoroughly researched its country understands both policies and the logic underpinning those policies, and thus becomes adept at creative diplomacy.
4. **Transformation.** Role playing is the central theme upon which the entire Model UN experience is built. It is only through complete and thorough research that a delegate will be able to become a true representative of his/her assigned country. Thus, each delegate should develop a sense the culture, character, and viewpoint of his/her assigned country. This transformation will make the entire experience richer, and ultimately more satisfying.

Research Tactics

1. **Read!** By reading, delegates are able to more fully absorb information, and to understand both content and context. In addition, by constantly reading, delegates are more likely to discover new ways of thinking about agenda items, or new avenues to explore later.
2. **Start Early.** Begin as soon as feasible. Starting early will allow delegates to fully understand country policies. Spend several hours per week from here on out. By working in this way, you will be able to completely understand the topics and integrate more of your research into you arguments, thus making your job easier at the conference.
3. **Use Your Librarian.** Use the librarian at your institution. He/she often is able to give you helpful tips that could ultimately save you hours of time wasted on researching less reliable sources.
4. **Divide the Load.** Your delegation should try to divide the assignments as evenly as possible among the whole group. Remember you are one member of a team. Many delegations try to divide the work along the lines of the committee assignments.
5. **Begin with the Most Recent Sources.** When you run a search on any computerized database, (or in a card-catalog for that matter) you will undoubtedly find a large number of responses, usually without respect to the timeliness of the information. A very useful rule is to begin with the most recent information and then work backwards chronologically. By adopting this approach, you will avoid spending time gathering outdated information. This is not to say that older publications are invalid, but delegates should be cognizant of

changing events and circumstances.

6. Take Notes, Make Copies, & List Sources. Taking notes is useful. Make copies of relevant speeches, state documents and other important information according to US Copyright laws. Always note where you obtained your information, as this will help you defend your position in debates, as well as facilitate future research.

7. Note Weaknesses. As you research, be aware of weaknesses in your assigned country's policies, especially with regard to inconsistencies in or deviations from official policy. Knowing these weaknesses (every country has them) will make your delegation stronger. As a corollary, each delegate should also make note of the weaknesses of other countries, as such information may be useful in debate.

8. Share Information. Always be willing to share information with other members of your delegation. You may run across information that may be useful in another committee, so be sure to pass that along. Not only will you save your colleagues time, but you will strengthen your team. Also, get into the habit of letting other committees know what your country's policies are for *your* topics. By doing this, team members are equipped with a more complete understanding of their country's policies, and thus will become more proficient in creative diplomacy simulations.

Resources

1. Materials From the Mission. The first place you should search for information about your country is the permanent mission to the United Nations. Most missions will be willing to assist you in finding information. If you do not know the address of the mission of your country you can easily find it on the UN web site.

2. United States Documents. Documents published by the UN can be a gold mine for the researching delegate. Among the most useful are: (a) Official Committee Records; (b) Resolutions and Decisions; (c) General Assembly Annexes; (d) Official Records of Plenary Meetings; and (e) Specialized Reports, such as *Report of the Secretary-General*.

3. Other Materials. (a) US Government Documents; (b) State Department Background Notes; (c) Department of Defense Area Handbooks; (d) Foreign Broadcast Information Sources (FBIS); (e) Periodicals, such as *African Report, Asian Recorder, Department of State Bulletin, Economist, Foreign Policy, Middle East Journal, and Vital Speeches of the Day*; (f) Newspapers; and (g) Online Sources, such as www.un.org, www.cnn.com, www.bbc.org, and Lexis-Nexis.

RESOLUTIONS

Purpose of Resolutions

Resolutions are the basic decisions or statements of the various organs of the United Nations. They, together with amendments, form the basis of discussion and substantive debate. Although prepared by individual states, or groups of states, they declare the official policy of the organ once passed.

Resolutions are binding on all member states only if they are passed in the Security Council. Other UN resolutions are advisory, but they do still hold a lot of weight in the international community. Most states abide by these non-binding resolutions, as evidenced in the relatively few rogue states in the international system today. As a result, resolutions are still the most appropriate way to apply international political pressure on member countries, express the opinions of the body, or recommend a course of action to be taken by the United Nations or another agency.

When drafting a resolution, keep in mind that the wording will directly influence its support (or lack thereof). Resolutions should be kept clear, concise, and specific.

Composition of Resolutions

Each resolution is a single sentence, with the different sections separated by semi-colons, or commas. There is a single period at the end of the resolution. All resolutions should consist of:

1. Preambulatory Clauses. The purpose of the preamble is to provide historical background for the agenda item, as well as to justify the action. Preambulatory clauses usually begin with a participle, and cite appropriate sections of the UN Charter, past UN resolutions, and precedents of international law. The preamble should include specific incidents and examples. Examples of preambulatory clause participles are:

Affirming	Emphasizing	Having received
Alarmed by	Expecting	Having studied
Aware of	Fulfilling	Keeping in mind
Believing	Fully aware	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Fully alarmed	Noting with regret
Confident	Fully believing	Noting with satisfaction
Contemplating	Further deploring	Noting with deep concern
Convinced	Having adopted	Realizing
Declaring	Having considered	Recalling
Deeply concerned	Having considered further	Recognizing
Deeply conscious	Having devoted attention	Referring
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Seeking
Deeply disturbed	Having heard	Taking note
Desiring		Welcoming

2. Operative Clauses. Operative clauses are clauses that state the suggested solution to the agenda item. Operative clauses should state the solution in a clear, logical progression. Operative clauses may give a solution that is as vague as expressing concern about a certain situation, or it may be as specific as calling for a cease fire or economic sanctions. Keep in mind that resolutions coming from ECOSOC and the General Assembly are only suggestions, while the resolutions coming from the Security Council are binding on all members. Examples of operative clause words are:

Accepts	Emphasize[s]	Proclaims
Affirms	Encourages	Regrets
Approves	Endorses	Reaffirms

Authorizes	Expresses its hope	Recommends
Calls upon	Further invites	Regrets
Condemns	Further proclaims	Reminds
Confirms	Further recommends	Requests
Considers	Further reminds	Resolves
Declares accordingly	Further requests	Solemnly Affirms
Deplores	Further resolves	Supports
Designate[s]	Have resolved	Takes note of
Draws attention to	Notes	Urges

3. Tone. When writing a resolution, keep in mind its tone. A mild, conciliatory tone may simply call for parties involved to seek a settlement to a dispute, while a strongly worded resolution may openly condemn specific countries for actions, and outline a specific course of action for settlement of the dispute.

4. Wording. The wording of the resolution will have a tremendous impact on the support it receives from other delegations. Some resolutions are intentionally vague in order to garner consensus as a first step, while others include specific details that are meant to guide present and future action.

Guidelines for Writing Resolutions

1. Write all resolutions in English.
2. List the committee, topic, date and submitting country in the top right hand corner.
3. Begin the resolution with the name of the body, followed by a colon (e.g., The Security Council:).
4. Number each line, following the address. Number sequentially throughout the document. DO NOT restart numbering on following pages.
5. Underline the first word (Preambulatory/operative) of each clause.
6. Separate clauses with commas or semi-colon.
7. Place one period at the end of the resolution.

See example resolution below.

Amendments

The purpose of amendments is to allow the bodies of the United States to make small changes, or adjustments to the resolutions brought before them. Amendments are not intended to change the meaning of the original resolution. MUN at McM recognizes two types of amendments: friendly and unfriendly.

1. Friendly Amendments: those amendments that are introduced by the sponsoring state[s], and are usually used to correct punctuation and typographical errors.
2. Unfriendly Amendments: those amendments that are introduced by states other than the sponsor[s], and typically seek to change some aspect of the resolution, whether it is adding a line, deleting a line, or making small changes in the wording.

Sample Resolution

DISTRIBUTION: Security Council

DATE: 18 February 1999

SUBJECT: Iraq

SUBMITTED BY: The United States of America

THE SECURITY COUNCIL:

Recalling all previous relevant resolutions and reaffirming all previous resolutions,

Recalling Iraq's acceptance of resolution 687 (1991) adopted pursuant to chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Concerned by Iraq's pattern of violation of agreed upon resolutions,

Disturbed by Iraq's desire to obtain additional weapons of mass destruction,

Deeply Disturbed by Iraq's pattern of use of those said weapons of mass destruction in war, and operations other than war,

Determined to prevent Iraq from using intimidation and threats against its neighbors and the United Nations,

Understanding that the Security Council holds Iraq fully responsible for all consequences of failure to comply with any part of this and all previous resolutions;

Let it be resolved, The Security Council:

1. Demands that Iraq immediately come into full compliance with all previous relevant resolutions,
2. Demands that Iraq immediately readmit all weapons inspectors that are connected with UNSCOM, regardless of nationality or political views,
3. Demands that Iraq immediately allow UNSCOM to destroy, or render useless all parts of its weapons of mass destruction program, including but not limited to:
 - a. all current stock piles of chemical and biological weapons
 - b. all existing parts for the manufacture of nuclear weapons
 - c. all documents relevant to the manufacture of the above mentioned weapons
 - d. all material used exclusively in the production of nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons
 - e. all plants, and machinery related to the production of the above weapons,
4. Resolves to hold all current sanctions in place until the Security Council is sufficiently satisfied that all elements of section 3 have been complete,
5. Decides to remain actively seized to this matter.

POSITION PAPERS

Position papers rather than resolutions are required in the Security Council. Position papers should have the following elements:

1. An introductory paragraph stating the topics under consideration and a general policy of the country writing the paper
2. A beginning sentence for each topic that summarizes the country's position clearly
3. Several sentences explaining what the UN has done regarding this topic to date
4. Several sentences explaining what kind of work the country wishes to see done in the future. For example if country A believes that little attention has been paid to the microcredits on the topic of financing for development, then microcredits should be the substance of these sentences
5. A conclusion indicating why country A's call for more action on microcredits would benefit the entire international community rather than simply benefiting country A, or a small number of countries

Delegations are encouraged to use both the front and back of one single page in order to fully address all topics before the committee. A maximum of one double-sided page will be accepted. The following is an example of a position paper:

Delegation From: The Republic of Palau

Represented by: McMurry University

Position Paper for the ACP Group

The issues before the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) Group are: the Role of Good Governance in Promoting Democracy and Human Rights, Building Financial Solidarity Amongst ACP Member States, and there will be an Examination of the Agreements and Goals of the ACP Group. Because these topics are interrelated, the accomplishment of a single goal will increase the likelihood that another goal will be met. By dealing with governmental problems such as graft and corruption, the ACP will help to alleviate human rights violations and promote democracy, financial solidarity, and external trade agreements with other member states. This will help to promote a more peaceful and secure tomorrow for all states.

1. The Role of Good Governance in Promoting Democracy and Human Rights

The Republic of Palau recognizes that the role of good governance is crucial to promoting democracy and human rights within the member states of the ACP. One of the greatest obstacles to promoting democracy and human rights is corruption and graft within the governing bodies, which, if not addressed, may seriously compromise international peace and security. Only through continued multilateral action between the ACP member states and continuing aid from other outside sources can ACP member states properly address the issues of graft and corruption afflicting fellow member states.

The Republic of Palau also recognizes that a strong economy is essential to promoting and maintaining a healthy democracy and therefore supports the efforts of the international community to promote a healthy relationship between world powers and developing nations. Thus, the Republic of Palau is a supporter of the fourth pillar of the *Cotonou Agreement* which concerns creating a new framework for economic and trade cooperation.

The need for humanitarian intervention emanates from the need to perfect the country's current institutions of governance. The Republic of Palau acknowledges that the *Cotonou Agreement* will be instrumental in pressuring the resolution of conflicts (through the enforcement of the *Cotonou Agreement*) which in turn will help to further stabilize the ACP member states and other states in crisis. However, without all of the ACP member states observing the rule of law, the ACP cannot hope to govern well as a collective entity, and thus cannot collectively promote both democracy and human rights. Thus, it is the

Republic of Palau's opinion that the EU should, at all costs, resist the urge to sanction Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs) which might be at higher risk of violating the humanitarian aspects of *Cotonou Agreement*. The full enforcement of the *Cotonou Agreement* may lead to an escalation in violation and even worse, may produce anti-EU sentiments within the failing states, which would hinder any further aid and/or trade efforts, and thus severely undermine the intent of the agreement.

2. Building Financial Solidarity Amongst ACP Member States

The Republic of Palau recognizes that the European Union's (EU) European free trade agreement has the potential to be effective in principle; however, Palau is certain that without the advantages of selling a tariff free product, disadvantaged countries will lose the ability to sell their products at competitive prices. When combined with the already decreasing revenue produced by ACP exports, some ACP member states may never fully meet the UN Millennium Development Goals.

In addition, given the devastation caused by the 24 December 2004 tsunami, trade among many ACP member states has been seriously disrupted, and in some instances halted, between many member states, thereby nullifying progress that might have been benefited ACP economies. In particular, degraded or unhealthy coastlines may render resumption of ecotourism in many ACP states difficult for many years, thereby placing additional, unexpected economic burdens on ACP member states that *Cotonou* cannot ameliorate in the short-term. Therefore, international trade in this region requires extra competitive edges in the world market that will maximize revenues while at the same time allowing for a free and fairer international market.

3. Examining Agreements and Goals of the ACP Group

The Republic of Palau acknowledges that the *Cotonou agreement* is a step in the right direction. Some of the steps of most interest to the Republic of Palau deal with the refocusing of policies on poverty reduction strategies, enhancing cooperation in all areas important to trade, and improving the policy framework for trade and investment development. However, the Republic of Palau is disturbed by the *Cotonou Agreement's* ability to take away leverage from the ACP Group as a whole. Without the ability to remain steadfast as an entity, the ACP loses some of its bargaining power and prowess as an international entity. The Republic of Palau is confident that the regional dissection of ACP problems has led to and will lead to continued violations of the *Cotonou Agreement* and may eventually lead to the instability of several ACP member states. The Republic of Palau strongly supports the five year revision clause with the assumption that it will allow many ACP member states to continue to assess their financial interests and establish a stronger foundation for economic development under the *Cotonou Agreement* in the future.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Application of the Rules

The following rules concerning the conduct of business shall apply to all organs of Model UN unless otherwise noted in special rules for the General Assembly, Security Council, ECOSOC, or the various Committees.

1. The term "CHAIR" shall be used in the following rules to denote the presiding officer of the committee, assembly, etc.
2. The term "BODY" shall be used to denote the appropriate organ of Model UN.
3. The Legal Counsel has the authority to interpret and apply all rules concerning conduct of business, as well as hand out judgments as situations merit such actions.
4. All matters not clearly defined in these rules of procedure shall be conducted upon the interpretation of the Legal Counsel.

Order of Business

Upon convening, the order of business for each body shall be: (1) Call to order by the Chair; (2) Roll call; (3) One minute of silent meditation or reflection; (4) Determination or announcement of pending business (Orders of the Day); (5) Debate of amendments of pending business; (6) Vote on final passage of pending business; (7) Rise and report (Committees); and (8) Adjourn.

Speakers List

The Chair may establish a speaker's list, recognize speakers from such list, and close the list, rather than calling on speakers in regular order.

Obtaining the Floor

No delegate shall engage in debate or make any motion requiring recognition without having first been recognized by the Chair. The Chair shall equitably recognize delegates in the order in which they seek the floor.

Limitations and Rights of Speakers

1. A delegate, having obtained the floor, may engage in debate and/or offer any motion or amendment then in order. Motions not required to be made in timely fashion (e.g. appeals, objection to consideration) may be made at the conclusion of the speaker's remarks.
2. For the purpose of debate only, a speaker may yield all or a part of his allotted time to another delegate, but shall have the right to reclaim the floor upon demand.
3. No speaker may hold the floor for more than ten consecutive minutes.
4. No speaker may read from books or papers without first having obtained consent of the chair.
5. All debate shall be germane to the matter under consideration or its procedural status, and shall be conducted in diplomatic fashion.
6. The Chair, on his/her own initiative or point of order raised by any delegation, may call a speaker to order for undiplomatic remarks or other violation of the rules, and may either direct the

speaker to proceed in order or terminate recognition of the speaker.

Right of Reply

The Chair, upon request, may grant a two minute right of reply to any delegate, when that delegate or his country has been the subject of personally insulting or undiplomatic remarks. Delegates should request such rights by rising to a point of order in a timely fashion.

Points of Order

A delegate may rise to a point of order any time, and may do so without securing recognition. If necessary, a speaker may be interrupted. Such a point must pertain to a violation of the rules, charter, or the Code of Diplomatic Ethics. The Chair shall rule on the point raised. Abuse of this right constitutes undiplomatic conduct.

Points of Information

Without interrupting a speaker, a delegate may rise to inquire of the Chair as to the current parliamentary situation, to request the pending business be stated, or to obtain other information useful to the body. A delegate so rising should display a placard and call out "Point of Information," and wait for further recognition from the Chair. The Chair shall respond to all proper requests for information.

Points of Privilege

A delegate may rise at any time to a point of privilege, without securing recognition and interrupting a speaker if necessary. These items involve extreme personal discomfort, the dignity of the body, or an inability to proceed under existing circumstances. The most common points occur when delegates cannot hear a speaker due to disruption or noise. The Chair shall rule on and deal with such points as they arise.

Appeals

Any delegate may, without securing recognition and interrupting a speaker if necessary, appeal the decision of the Chair, except in cases where the Chair is given discretion in a ruling or if the rules specifically address the issue. Before a vote on an appeal is taken, the Chair shall recognize one delegate in favor of the decision of the Chair, and one in opposition, and the Chair may speak in explanation of the ruling. The question shall be put "Those in favor of sustaining the decision of the Chair shall vote Yea, and those opposed, No," and a majority shall decide the question. If the vote is equally divided, the decision of the Chair shall prevail.

Questions

If at any time before giving up the floor a speaker agrees to yield to questions, the Chair may recognize other delegates for the purpose of posing questions to the speaker. Such questions may continue until the speaker's time expires or the speaker refuses to entertain further questions.

Author's Explanation

The Chair shall, before recognizing others, afford the author of a resolution or amendment the first opportunity to speak on the debate of such resolution or amendment.

Recess

Any delegate may move that the body recess for no more than twenty minutes for the purpose of general caucus. The Chair may reject such motion, or reduce the time proposed, taking into consideration the time constraints of the conference and the number of previous recesses.

Dilatory Procedure

The Chair may rule out of order any motion or amendment that repeats a previous action of the body. In the event that a body becomes unable to make progress due to procedural impasse, the Legal Counsel may place

matters before the body, remove questions from consideration, limit debate, or declare specified motions or items of business out of order. No appeal shall be permitted under this rule.

Suspension of the Rules

Except for rules that permit discretionary action of the Chair or any member of the Secretariat, any body may, by a motion made by a delegate in regular order and approved by 2/3 majority, and no debate, suspend any procedural rule. Such a motion shall not create precedent, and shall be limited to a single purpose stated in such motion.

Closing, Limiting, or Extending Debate

Any delegate may move to close debate by moving the previous question. Such motions require an affirmative vote of 2/3 of those present and voting for adoption. If adopted, the body then votes forthwith on the pending business.

Example #1: If a resolution is being debated and no amendment is pending, a delegate desiring an immediate vote may, if he can obtain the floor, offer the following: "I move the previous question." If adopted, this has the effect of closing debate and causing an immediate vote on the resolution.

Example #2: If an amendment is on the floor, and a delegate moves the previous question, an immediate vote occurs on the pending amendment, following which, further amendments or debate on the resolution is in order.

Upon demand, the Chair shall have the intent of any amendments at the desk read before the vote on the previous question on the resolution.

Example: If the previous question is moved on a resolution, and amendments have been made in writing and properly seconded, but not yet offered, any delegate may demand that the intent of these amendments be read before voting to cut off further debate and amendments.

Any delegate may move to limit debate to a given time period, to a certain number of speakers, or to require a vote at a certain time. Such motions are not debatable, and must receive the affirmative vote of 2/3 of those present and voting to prevail.

After debate has been limited, any delegate may move to extend the period of debate. To prevail, such motions must receive the affirmative vote of 2/3 of those present and voting.

Lay on the Table

Any delegate may move to lay on the table any resolution, amendment, or motion on the floor. The motion to table is not debatable, and is decided by majority vote. Any item laid on the table may be taken from the table, by motion and majority vote when no other business is pending.

Reconsideration

Any delegate who voted on the prevailing side of any question, may move for reconsideration of that question. The Chair shall recognize one speaker in favor and one in opposition to the question. The affirmative vote of 2/3 of those present and voting shall be required to adopt the motion, and if adopted, the body shall return to the state of business as existed immediately before the vote on the question to be reconsidered.

Dividing the Question

Immediately before a vote on final passage, any delegate may move that separate activating clauses of a resolution be divided and voted on separately. The Chair shall accept one speaker in favor and one speaker in opposition before putting the question on division. If division is approved by the majority of the body,

voting on each divided portion of the resolution shall be conducted by placard vote, and all clauses approved shall then be put to a roll call vote as a whole.

Amendments

Friendly amendments may be proposed by any delegate, including the author of a resolution, or the Chair, and shall be limited to corrections of grammar, spelling, syntax, or other changes that do not change the substance of a question. Such friendly amendments are not debatable, and should be adopted by consent.

No amendment to a preambulatory clause shall be in order, except an amendment to strike such a clause, which shall be debated by one speaker in favor and one against, and the question shall then be put to vote. No amendment *adding* a preambulatory clause shall be in order.

Amendments, other than friendly amendments, shall be submitted in writing to the Rapporteur on the prescribed form before being called up by a delegate. All amendment forms must include a brief statement of the intent of the amendment.

Objection to Consideration and Question of Competence

Without obtaining recognition, and interrupting a speaker if necessary, a delegate may object to the consideration of any resolution or amendment. At any time before final vote on a question, a delegate may question the competence of the body to act on the matter.

Should either of the above motions be entered, the Chair, without entertaining debate, shall explain the motion and put the question in this matter. "Shall the body consider the question?" The question shall continue to be in order, unless the body by 2/3 vote in the negative, elects not to consider the matter or rules the body incompetent.

Motions Not in Order. The following motions shall *not* be in order:

1. To refer to committee
2. To postpone to a definite time
3. To postpone to an indefinite time
4. To strike the enacting clause
5. To rescind a motion

Voting Rights

Each member delegation shall have one vote in each body of which it is a member. No body shall have authority to restrict such rights, unless so approved by the Secretary-General.

Methods of Voting

1. Voting may be by voice, show of hands, placard, or roll call. Except for voting on final passage of a resolution, which shall always be by roll call, the Chair shall first determine the method of vote. Any delegate who disputes or objects to the announcement of the result of any vote by voice or show of hands, may demand a division which shall be by placard vote. The numerical division of all placard votes shall be announced by the Chair.

2. Notwithstanding the foregoing rules, any delegate may propose that a question be adopted by unanimous consent. For that purpose, a delegate may call out "CONSENT" as the Chair puts the question. The Chair shall then ask if there is any objection to the question then under consideration. If no delegation objects, the question shall be passed unanimously. If objection is made, the Chair will put the question as if consent had not been suggested.

3. Roll call votes shall be taken on the question of final passage of any resolution, at the request of a majority of all delegations represented in the body, or by order of the Chair. The vote shall begin by a delegation randomly selected by the Chair, and shall proceed in English alphabetical order. When called, each delegation shall vote either YEA, NO, ABSTAIN, or PASS.

When voting YEA or NO, a delegation may also reserve rights of explanation, but must reserve these rights at the time of their vote. After the roll shall have been called, those states previously voting PASS shall be called a second time, and shall either vote YEA, NO, or ABSTAIN. If a delegation fails to give a vote the second time, the vote shall be recorded as ABSTAIN.

Before tallying the vote, the Chair shall inquire if any delegation wishes to change its vote. After noting such changes, the final tally shall be prepared. Before announcing the vote, the Chair shall recognize any delegation desiring rights of explanation, for a period of time determined solely by the Chair.

4. Delegations may ABSTAIN or PASS only on substantive matters. All procedural votes **must** be either in the affirmative or negative.

5. From the time the calling of the roll has begun until the vote is announced, absolute decorum shall be maintained. No written or verbal communication shall be permitted, nor shall any delegate or observer enter or leave the chamber. No delegate shall address the Chair, except for a point of order or privilege pertaining to the conduct of the vote.

Results of Votes

Except for votes requiring 2/3 of member countries present and voting, questions in committee or the General Assembly shall be passed by the affirmative vote of a majority of delegation present and voting. "Present and Voting" shall mean a delegation voting Yea or No. Abstentions shall not affect the results. (Example: A question receiving 10 votes Yes, 8 votes No, with 32 abstentions would pass). If the vote is equally divided, the question fails.

The following questions require the affirmative votes of 2/3 of those present and voting for adoption:

(1) Suspension of the Rules; (2) To end debate (Previous Question); (3) and To close debate and move to immediate voting; and (4) To reconsider a vote.

The following questions, although put to the affirmative, require the negative votes of 2/3 of those present and voting for adoption: (1) To object to the consideration; and (2) Question the competence of the chair.

Adjournment

No motion for a committee to rise, or for the General Assembly to adjourn shall be in order until suggested by the Chair.

DIPLOMATIC CODE OF ETHICS

Participants in the Model UN experience are expected to be reasonable and responsible men and women who have organized for the purpose of learning and simulating the dynamics of the United Nations system in an orderly and professional environment. Toward that end, the Secretary-General of Model UN has formulated these statutes. A breach of these statutes is considered an offense against the sensibilities and respect of the other members of the organization, and may result in expulsion from the conference.

Statutes:

1. Every participant shall act and treat all other members with diplomatic courtesy, respect, and maintain diplomatic and professional decorum befitting his or her delegation or staff position.
2. Secretariat members shall carry out their duties within the limits established by the Secretary-General and the Secretariat of the organization.
3. Delegation members shall act within the limits established by their country's actions and foreign policy.
4. Every participant shall allow delegates and Secretariat members to execute their duties. This shall not prejudice the jurisdiction of the Secretariat in matters involving rights and privileges of membership.
5. No participant shall, in any way, misrepresent himself or herself as a member of the staff, another delegate, or as an outside observer.
6. No participant shall possess or utilize any material not pertaining to the direct and professional performance of his or her duties as a delegate.
7. No participant shall disrupt or conspire to disrupt any meeting of any body of the Model UN or intentionally violate its rules.
8. No participant shall possess unauthorized delegate or Secretariat materials other than that of their own.
9. Members of the Secretariat shall not improperly disclose confidential Secretariat information.
10. The sending of notes not directly pertaining to the Model UN constitutes undiplomatic behavior.
11. Conspiracy to commit any of the above constitutes undiplomatic behavior.
12. Any attempt to commit any of the above is a violation thereof.

RULES OF PERSONAL BEHAVIOR

Prohibited Behavior. The following behavior is prohibited during the meeting of any body of the Model UN at McMurry:

1. Caucusing on the floor
2. Misuse of pages
3. Possession of items not related to the conduct of the business of the MUN at McM
4. Credentials improperly displayed
5. Display of unauthorized national symbols
6. Harassing a speaker
7. Failure to follow Secretariat Instructions
8. Disruption of any meeting of the MUN at McM
9. Undiplomatic behavior

Any participant committing any of the above prohibited behaviors, or not following established codes, shall be noted by the committee Chair, along with the offense. The following sanctions shall apply for violations of these rules:

1. The first offense shall result in a verbal warning,
2. The second offense shall result in a written warning,
3. The third offense shall result in the loss of debating rights for one hour,
4. The fourth offense shall result in the loss of all rights, including voting rights, for two hours,
5. The fifth offense shall result in a copy of the violation and the record of the previous violations being sent to the Legal Council with a request for appropriate disciplinary steps to be taken.
6. The imposition of any sanction other than verbal warnings shall be communicated, in writing, to the sponsor of the delegation.

The following behavior also is prohibited during the meeting of any body of Model UN at McMurry, as well as prohibited on the campus of McMurry University:

1. Any form of tobacco use within the meeting facilities,
2. The possession of any of the following articles: (a) Alcoholic beverages; (b) Firearms or explosives of any type; (c) Pets, except with the approval of the Secretary-General.
3. Behavior that threatens the safety and health of another person, such as over-display of affection or violation of any federal, state, or municipal law.

Any such behavior demonstrated on campus shall result in immediate dismissal from the MUN at McM conference.

Model UN at McMurry and McMurry University cannot assume responsibility, at any time, for the private property of its students, or guests and is not liable for the loss or damage of any article of personal property placed anywhere on the premises of the campus.