



NMUN · DC

2010 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SECOND COMMITTEE



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NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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Director General: Michael Aguilar; Under-Secretary-General: Amanda D'Amico
Co-Director: Kristina Getty; Co-Director: Cara Wagner

Message from the Director-General Regarding Position Papers for the 2010 NMUN-DC Conference

At the 2010 NMUN-DC Conference, each delegation submits one position paper for each committee it is assigned to. Delegates should be aware that their role in each committee impacts the way a position paper should be written. While most delegates will serve as representatives of Member States, some may also serve as observers, NGOs or judicial experts. To understand these fine differences, please refer to the Delegate Preparation Guide.

Position papers should provide a concise review of each delegation's policy regarding the topic areas under discussion and establish precise policies and recommendations in regard to the topics before the committee. International and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action of relevance to the policy of your State should be identified and addressed. Making recommendations for action by your committee should also be considered. Position papers also serve as a blueprint for individual delegates to remember their country's position throughout the course of the Conference. NGO position papers should be constructed in the same fashion as traditional position papers. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned NGO. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee. It will be judged using the same criteria as all country position papers, and is held to the same standard of timeliness.

Please be forewarned, delegates must turn in material that is entirely original. The NMUN Conference will not tolerate the occurrence of plagiarism. In this regard, the NMUN Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind delegates that although United Nations documentation is considered within the public domain, the Conference does not allow the verbatim re-creation of these documents. This plagiarism policy also extends to the written work of the Secretariat contained within the Committee Background Guides. Violation of this policy will be immediately reported to faculty advisors and may result in dismissal from Conference participation. Delegates should report any incident of plagiarism to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

Delegation's position papers can be awarded as recognition of outstanding pre-Conference preparation. In order to be considered for a Position Paper Award, however, delegations must have met the formal requirements listed below. Please refer to the sample paper on the following page for a visual example of what your work should look like at its completion. The following format specifications are required for all papers:

- All papers must be typed and formatted according to the example in the Background Guides
- Length must not exceed two single spaced pages (one double sided paper, if printed)
- Font must be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Margins must be set at 1 inch for whole paper
- Country/NGO name, School name and committee name clearly labeled on the first page; the use of national symbols is highly discouraged
- Agenda topics clearly labeled in separate sections

To be considered timely for awards, please read and follow these directions:

1. A file of the position paper (.doc or .pdf) for each assigned committee should be sent to dirgen.dc@nmun.org.

Each of the above listed tasks needs to be completed no later than October 15, 2010.

PLEASE TITLE EACH E-MAIL/DOCUMENT WITH THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE, ASSIGNMENT AND DELEGATION NAME (Example: SC_Central_University)

Once the formal requirements outlined above are met, Conference staff use the following criteria to evaluate Position Papers:

- Overall quality of writing, proper style, grammar, etc.
- Citation of relevant resolutions/documents
- General consistency with bloc/geopolitical constraints
- Consistency with the constraints of the United Nations
- Analysis of issues, rather than reiteration of the Committee Background Guide
- Outline of (official) policy aims within the committee's mandate

Sincerely yours,

Michael Aguilar
Director-General
dirgen.dc@nmun.org

Official Welcome

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the 2010 National Model United Nations-DC Conference staff, especially your committee Co-Directors Cara Wagner and Kristina Getty, we would like to officially welcome you to the General Assembly Second Committee. Everyone at NMUN-DC has worked diligently throughout the year to prepare for this conference because we all firmly believe in the goals and objectives of the program. We hope that you will conclude the weekend at this conference with real world conflict resolution skills, well-developed negotiation skills, and awareness for how policies are formed and play out in global politics.

We have prepared this background guide to help you start research on your country's policies and to understand the committee topics. The contentious relationship between the developed and developing world is largely explored in the Committee's topics: Promoting Development within Globalization and Interdependence; The Needs of Landlocked Countries; and Renewable Development, Deforestation, and Desertification.

As a delegate in this Committee, you are responsible for representing the interests and unique opinions of your country, but we also charge you with a responsibility to act in keeping with the general spirit of the United Nations in favor of collaboration, cooperation, and peace.

We are privileged to play a role in your education experience here at NMUN-DC and look forward to working with all of you.

History of the General Assembly Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)

The General Assembly (GA) was founded in 1945 under the Charter of the United Nations (UN). It is comprised of 192 Member States and acts as the primary organ for debate in the UN. Due to the vast amount of issues presented before the GA, six main committees were also established under the UN Charter. Chapter IV Article 22 states, "The General Assembly may establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions." These committees are: GA First Committee (Disarmament and International Security Committee), GA Second Committee (Economic and Financial), GA Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee), GA Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization Committee), GA Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary Committee), and GA Sixth Committee (Legal Committee). The 65th Session of the GA will open on September 14, 2010.

The GA Second Committee mirrors the GA in its member composition with His Excellency Mr. Park In-kook of the Republic of Korea currently chairing the Committee. The work of the Second Committee is non-binding, and resolutions are presented to the GA Plenary for approval. In addition to support from the GA, the Committee receives support on various issues from the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the UN Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination. In addition to its focus on economic and financial issues, the Second Committee is charged with specifically analyzing those issues in the context of developed. In a letter dated September 18, 2009, *A/C.2/64/1*, the Second Committee was allocated its agenda items for the 64th session, which range from macroeconomic questions to maintaining peace and security issues. Specifically, the Second Committee is discussing policies and financing for development, sustainable development, human settlements, poverty eradication, globalization and interdependence, operational activities for development, and information and communication technologies for development.

On December 21, 2009, the GA adopted a number of resolutions to stimulate recovery from the financial crisis based primarily on 38 actions recommended by the Second Committee. These actions include recommendations on eliminating unilateral measures towards developing countries and expediting the Doha Development Round by 2010. The issues discussed by the Second Committee directly affect the world's population and because of this wide-spread impact, conflict in debate often occurs. However, in the spirit of the United Nations, the Committee always strives to achieve consensus. This is often validated by well-received resolutions often leading to landmark decisions in the GA Plenary.

I. Promoting Development within Globalization and Interdependence

- What effect has globalization had on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015? How can interdependence, which is often characterized negatively, be used positively to combat corrupt policies and weaknesses in development policy on both the national and international level?
- What can the international community do to ensure equality, sustainability, and prosperity in development? How should the international community pursue development in light of recent events in the international economic climate? How can multilateralism and international cooperation be increased and be used to benefit development?

The topic of “Globalization and Interdependence” has been on the agenda of the General Assembly Second Committee since 1999 and has served as a forum for Member States to provide insight and policy suggestions on development, especially regarding how developing countries can become more financially stable, achieve higher levels of economic growth, and work to eradicate poverty. With the 2015 deadline to achieve the MDGs only five years away, it is crucial to establish common ground on the content and implementation of development policy. Globalization, defined as the increasing connection between countries in economics, politics, labor, and culture, affects all areas of development and is fostering the growth of an interdependent world. An interdependent world implies many things. It means that increasingly the politics of one country may greatly affect the politics of another country and that, for example, increasingly environmental policies may also be issues of politics and culture. Because of this, in an interdependent and globalized world there is a greater need for actions to be national, regional, and international in nature to be both coherent and comprehensive. This is especially true in terms of development policy and sustainable development initiatives and it is, therefore, important to consider how globalization and interdependence affect these issues as well as how the international community can create effective policies in spite of the challenges posed by globalization.

Globalization and interdependence are much-debated subjects both academically and politically. Several types of globalization, including economic or cultural, are debated, as well as the extent of globalization and the nature of its rewards. Some argue that globalization allows developing countries to produce cheaper goods and increase economic growth, while others argue that this is simply the developed world exploiting an economic race to the bottom in which workers in developing countries are willing to work for less, thus exacerbating preexisting inequalities between developed and developing nations. According to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the costs and benefits of globalization are unevenly shared, most often to the detriment of developing countries. In addition, as stated in GA resolution A/RES/62/199, “...the least developed countries have remained marginalized in the globalizing world economy...” and are more greatly affected by negative shifts in the international economic climate. Considering the scale of the recent financial crisis, this has become a serious concern. Evidence shows, however, that globalization, in spite of challenges, can have a notably positive effect. Currently, more than one billion people still subsist on less than \$1 per day, yet with the increasing reach of globalization, 40% of the world which was previously isolated has entered the global market of production and consumption. Such changes are what the international community strives for but must be carefully monitored to ensure continued progress. Additionally, food insecurity, diminishing of the agricultural sector due to changes in climate, population fluxes, and energy crises, all of which impact developing countries more severely, are at risk of worsening from macro-economic system failures.

Globalization encourages the international community to look at such long-term consequences. For instance, the events occurring in Europe’s economic system, such as the faltering economy in Greece, affect many other States. Declining trade also poses a serious threat to developing countries as nearly 50% of their gross domestic product comes from exports. Likewise, it is crucial to monitor the flow of aid as many developing countries rely heavily on such aid programs as Aid for Trade, a program that supports developing countries ability to compete in global markets. A July 2010 report by the World Bank projected developing countries as the forerunners to lead the international economy forward from 2010-2012. The report estimated the economic growth of developing countries will be between 5.7% and 6.2% between 2010 and 2012, while growth in developed countries will be between 2% and 2.7%. Thus, it is to the benefit of the entire international community to dynamically include developing countries in the continued debate about global financial reform and globalization and interdependence. The international community must examine new possibilities in development strategies in order to hamper degenerating aftermaths of crises. One new possibility of particular importance is encouraging developing countries to not only participate in the debate, but allowing these countries to become leaders and to shape the issue into the future;

developing countries can act as global leaders and the international community can benefit from their experience and knowledge.

Outside of the financial crisis, there are infrastructure issues facing globalization and development. In the July 2010 World Bank report, Andrew Burns, manager of global macroeconomics at the World Bank said "...we expect many economies to continue to do well if they focus on growth strategies, make it easier to do business, or make spending more efficient." In spite of these emerging growth strategies, developing countries, specifically those on the list of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), are still finding it difficult to compete in a globalized economy, making it even harder to grow and strengthen their potential contributions to the international economy. Because of this, a number of questions in recent discussions have been raised on how to reform out-dated institutional policies, such as those of the Bretton Woods Institutions, to reflect the new global world order and better prevent future crises. Countries need to question loan and aid structures as well as the basic policies developing countries ought to take. For example, is it really best that developing countries focus their attention on flexibility and resources for small businesses, or should they focus more on physical infrastructure? Reforming policies towards LDCs and development is imperative to preventing corrupt policies and actors as well as weak policies which will not be efficient or sustainable.

Lastly, issues have arisen in the debate when discussing the jurisdiction of international policy versus national policy. It is unclear if the policies and practices that worked for developed countries are applicable to developing countries, as the international system has changed so drastically. Additionally, developing countries stress that they need time to mature their policies and markets in order to compete in the global market. What then, is the best balance between respecting sovereignty and utilizing lessons learned from the international community to create a stable international policy on development? The UN provides a unique opportunity to cultivate international cooperation and serves as a central forum for managing the sensitive balance between international and national politics.

On this issue, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon wrote report A/64/310 on globalization and interdependence, in which he stressed the importance and strength of increased multilateralism. He calls for increasing the inclusion of developing countries in decision-making processes and integrating the social and environmental dimensions of development into economic and financial systems. Furthermore, he calls for Member States to implement domestic policies which will strengthen economies-in-transit in order to improve policy coherence and enhance cooperation at all governmental levels. Lastly, he stresses the need for a global consensus to promote trade and guard protectionism. The international community is now charged with determining how to successfully carry out the Secretary-General's words. Considering all aspects of the topic, the UN has the opportunity to be truly innovative while establishing sustainable economic patterns, fostering development, and positively employing the power of interdependence.

II. The Needs of Landlocked Countries

- In light of the Almaty Programme for Action's Midterm review, how much has been accomplished? How can the international community help to continue progress for Landlocked Developing Countries through increased financing and international aid? To what extent can the private sector play an increased role?
- What is the role of regional integration in providing for the needs of Landlocked Developing Countries? How can greater coordination occur with the World Trade Organization and within the UN to better meet the needs of Landlocked Developing Countries? How can the UN and other organizations better support coordination between Landlocked Developing Countries and transit countries or reform the current legal system?

As part of the Committee's mandate to consider issues of groups of countries in special situations, the Second Committee has often evaluated the needs of Landlocked Countries (LLC), especially focusing on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs). All landlocked countries face unique problems and constraints. Landlocked countries have no direct access to sea for trading and must rely on the infrastructure and stability of surrounding countries. Transportation through neighboring countries often increases bureaucracy and leads to additional taxes

and increased fees such that even landlocked countries in relatively developed regions like Europe are still less developed and disadvantaged compared to other regional actors.

While all landlocked countries therefore face similar problems, LLDCs are especially of concern to both the United Nations (UN) and the General Assembly Second Committee. LLDCs are of concern because they not only face constraints from being landlocked but also must deal with development issues and are more likely to be surrounded by other developing countries. Additionally, many LLDCs are not only developing, but are some of the least developed countries in the world. For example, of the 31 countries considered to be LLDCs, 16 are also part of the group of least developed countries and 10 out of the 20 lowest-ranked countries on the Human Development Index are LLDCs. The average the annual growth rate for the LLDCs is at 1.7%. In comparison, transit developing countries have experienced annual growth rates of 8.2%. The slower rate of development for LLDCs and LLCs is most directly attributed to the added costs of transportation through transit countries (TCs). However, LLDCs often lag behind for other reasons as well, including dependence on foreign infrastructure and administrative practices, the political relationship between the LLDCs and TCs, and the political situation of the TC. These factors are more likely to affect LLDCs as opposed to LLCs as often the country is already weak and in debt. LLDCs in eastern Africa are particularly left to rely on TC infrastructure, western Africa countries have been greatly affected by the internal conflicts of neighboring TCs, and countries in the South Caucasus and Central Asia are largely affected by cross-border disputes between LLDCS and TCs.

In 2003, to address the needs of LLDCs, many governments met at an international ministerial conference in Almaty, Kazakhstan. There the Almaty Declaration was developed along with the accompanying Almaty Programme of Action. The Almaty Programme of Action's goal is to create partnerships and develop strategies that overcome the problems LLDCs face. Above all else, in order to create these partnerships, the Almaty Programme for action stresses that the concerns of LLDCs and transit developing countries "should be considered complementary and mutually reinforcing" and that regional and sub-regional integration and cooperation is desired. Specifically, the Programme of Action has five main priorities which are policy improvements, improved infrastructure, international trade measures, technical and financial international assistance, and to monitor and follow-up on agreements. Since its creation, the Almaty Programme of Action has directed all work on the issue of LLDCs and recently completed its midterm review in 2008. Building on the Almaty Programme of Action and resolutions from the General Assembly's 64th Session, there are several methods currently in discussion to further assist LLDCs.

In order to help better meet the needs of LLDCs, the international community can focus its efforts on a range of activities centered on trade facilitation. More work can be directed towards improving relations between countries and to establish permanent and stable trade routes so that conflict or changed situations affect countries relying on these routes to a lesser extent. Also, regional integration has helped to create better infrastructure between countries, lessen conflict between countries, and helped countries standardize and improve upon administrative processes. Regional integration to do as such has been especially successful in southern Africa by both the Southern African Development Community and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa. No matter what type of integration or collaboration occurs, the simplest way to aid LLDCs is to guarantee permanent transportation routes.

Aside from regional and sub-regional integration, the international community may also assist LLDCs with specific financial and legal measures. Trade can be made easier by increased official development assistance (ODA) to large infrastructure projects. If LLDCs are able to improve their own internal roads and logistical infrastructures, this may be able to reduce additional transportation costs and help lessen the strain on LLDCs under-funded social sectors. Focus, however, needs to be given not simply on building projects such as roads and railways but on giving ODA and other support to ensure that LLDCs are able to keep up operations and maintenance. Additionally, the international community needs to work towards efforts directed at helping LLDCs become less dependent on transportation and less affected by transportation-associated costs. Private industry support, which still largely goes to Information Communication Technology for Development, can be shifted to help producers in LLDCs move away from primary commodities, which normally cost more to ship and have a smaller profit margin, to other industries. Foreign direct investment can also be better directed towards these issues. The issue of providing assistance to help countries develop their trading capacities is also a strong focus of the World Trade Organization's Aid for Trade initiative which may be able to lend additional ideas and support to aid for LLDCs. The Aid for Trade initiative was discussed at the Doha Ministerial meeting when technical assistance and capacity building became key issues of development and focuses on providing aid to expand the exporting capacities of developing countries.

Despite the various avenues available for action and progress to address the needs of LLCs and LLDCs, it can also not be overlooked that the issue still remains one of legal concern. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea acknowledges the right of landlocked transit, but the access to trade routes and transit itself must still be negotiated between countries. Even though LLDCs may have a right to transportation and trade of goods through a transit country, the actuality of the situation is often quite different.

At present, the current economic situation continues to negatively and disproportionately affect LLDCs. As the human welfare of individuals living in LLDCs continues to be threatened and worsen, the UN and its Member States have the ability to move forward on previous programs and agreements to help.

III. Renewable Development, Deforestation, and Desertification

- How can we conceive of renewable development, especially in relation to sustainable development? What are key components of renewable development? How does supporting renewable development also serve to prevent deforestation and desertification?
- In light of the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December of 2009, how can agreed upon measures and proposals from this conference specifically on renewable energy be used to achieve renewable development and be utilized by the UN and Member States at large? How can we ensure that these proposals do not negatively affect farmers, indigenous groups, and food security?

At its 64th Session, the Second Committee discussed the issue of protecting the environment for present and future generations. This issue is of particular importance to the United Nations as Millennium Development Goal 7 is to ensure environmental sustainability, and the fruition of this goal relies on the environmentally sustainable practices of businesses and Member States. It is in these practices where the GA Second's jurisdiction lies.

Despite UN documents on the combating of desertification, such as the Convention to Combat Desertification, and the need to prevent deforestation, environmental degradation still occurs at dangerous rates. Desertification occurs at alarming rates and threatens more than 1 billion people in more than 100 countries and each year an area the size of Costa Rica is destroyed due to deforestation. In many parts of the world, especially in developing countries, citizens and governments alike turn to environmental exploitation such as over farming, which leads to desertification, and logging to accommodate more farming or for direct sell. These are attempts to create quick economic success, but they often fail to provide for long-term economic vitality and for sustainable development. Efforts to combat these issues of desertification and deforestation, such as massive tree planting and land management programs have provided some environmental relief, but they also fail to provide long-term and sustainable alternatives or changes to previous practices.

The Second Committee has always focused on the issue of sustainable development, specifically related to financing and feasible measures to achieve this goal, and in recent years it has also been focusing on renewable energy sources to ensure economic productivity and environmental responsibility. While much progress has been done specifically to invest in and encourage renewable energy and also to combat deforestation and desertification, faced with mounting climate concerns and economic realities, the international community needs to evaluate and develop policies that allow for development and prosperity as well as environmental protection. Ultimately, in light of the economic recession, the world must focus on the triple bottom line of energy security, climate change, and recession. Previous focus on sustainable development no longer seems sufficient, and it is becoming necessary to approach this problem in terms of renewable development instead of simple sustainable development.

While sustainable development is about ensuring resources are allocated so they can be used in the present and the future, renewable development is about using resources in order to allow for clean and sustainable options for development that are economically viable. A renewable energy approach calls for the international community to evaluate whether a policy is both sustainable and economically feasible; ideal programs have the ability both to lessen environmental burdens and to provide jobs and livelihoods to individuals. The hope is that by encouraging renewable development approaches, such as renewable energy programs that also created jobs and prevented

deforestation in Brazil and recently in many Eastern European countries, human development may occur. This is a common accepted belief within the UN. For example, A/RES/64/206 recognizes that:

“The development of new and renewable sources of energy plays a significant role in the diversification of the energy mix, achieving greater energy efficiency, supporting and accelerating economic growth and social development, creating employment opportunities, ensuring energy access and availability, promoting energy cooperation and rendering environmental benefits, thus contributing to achieving sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals.”

While the UN has never formally referred to this concept as renewable development, it has always supported the idea that being environmentally conscious can and should also create jobs and aid economies. Addressing this issue now as the Second Committee allows for mainstreaming of this important topic.

Renewable development is not just a paradigm approach for the developing world, but all regions and levels of development. The European Union, for example, is pioneering databases for researching best practices for renewable energy and development. In order to better work towards renewable development, the main thing that must occur is an increased focus on linking environmental protection and economic progress or job creation programs. There are many different places in which these issues can be combined. The Copenhagen Climate Change Conference of December 2009, for example, highlighted the role that Nationally Appropriated Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) can play in assisting countries to develop their own policies, specifically focused on developing renewable energy. Many of which include a focus on the link between renewable energy and job creation. This conference also encouraged regional action plans. Additionally, national action plans, sub-regional action plans, and regional action plans have been developed by countries with help from the UN department on the Convention on Combating Desertification in order to develop programs and share policies. This is one way that the United Nations can help support renewable development. On a larger scale still, the United Nations has developed the Marrakech Process that assists countries in their efforts to green their economics and to develop greener business models.

Despite the many ways that strategies for developing renewable development may be incorporated into national and regional action strategies, the largest concern remains to fund adequate funding and financial support. Developing renewable energy is a costly endeavor. Projects such as new solar panels or improved irrigation ditches require initial capital and continued investment. Also, individuals require new training and reeducation. Many must be shown that investing in costly projects and changing a way of life can benefit them in the long run. Farmers cannot simply be told that they should stop over-farming; they must be taught ways in which to be environmentally sustainable and produce better crops, create more jobs, and better benefit their communities. In order, therefore, to find new ways to develop renewable development, the UN has the ability to foster public private partnerships and foster greater levels of collaboration, both within the UN and between other actors. As the UN continues its work preventing deforestation and sets to launch its Decade for Deserts and the Fight Against Desertification, it ought to be the work of this Committee to ensure that future work and action towards these goals also is done with focus on the economy, both how economic demands compound and often desertification and deforestation, and how it has the ability to be used for good to drastically improve the environment.

Annotated Bibliography

History of the General Assembly Second Committee

United Nations. (1945, June 26). *Charter of the United Nations*. Retrieved July 8, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>.

This is the founding document of the UN. It established the bodies of the UN including the GA, the GA's subsidiary bodies, and the Security Council. It is useful in researching mandates of UN bodies and any restrictions they may have.

United Nations. General Assembly. (n.d.) *Allocation of Agenda Items to the General Assembly Second Committee (A/C.2/64/1)*. Retrieved July 7, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/ga/second/64/documentation.shtml>.

This resolution established the agenda items to be discussed by the Second Committee during its 64th session. This document serves as an example as to how a subsidiary committee of the GA receives its agenda. It also provides an explanation as to why those topics were chosen.

United Nations. General Assembly. (2009, December 21). Press Release on Landmark Resolutions in Bid to Promote Recovery from Global Economic Crisis. Retrieved July 8, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2009/ga10907.doc.htm>.

This press release discusses landmark resolutions made by the General Assembly during its 64th Session. The resolutions adopted by the GA reflected the recommendations and actions proposed in large part by the GA Second Committee. Included in the text by the GA were decisions on food security, climate change, and rights for the poor.

United Nations. General Assembly Second Committee. (n.d.). Home. Retrieved July 1, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/ga/second/index.shtml>.

The GA Second Committee's home page has basic information about the committee and its history. It is also a source for access to any GA Second documents not mentioned in the background guide. From here you can also access information about the GA and its other main committees.

I. Promoting Development within Globalization and Interdependence

Ban, K. (1999, September 15). *Report of the Secretary-General on the Role of the United Nations in Promoting Development in the Context of Globalization and Interdependence (A/54/358)*. Retrieved July 7, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/docs/54/plenary/a54-358.htm>.

This report examines the role the UN plays in the debate of the topic of Globalization and Interdependence. Furthermore, this report by the Secretary-General best tracks the evolution of the topic. Comparing recommendations in this report from 1999 with the most recent 2009 report by the Secretary-General will give delegates an idea of how the debate has change over the years as well as lessons learned from past actions of the international community.

Ban, K. (2008, August 26). *Report of the Secretary-General: Impact of Globalization on the Achievement of the Internationally Agreed Development Goals, Including the Millennium Development Goals (A/63/333)*. Retrieved July 7, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/ga/second/63/documentslist.shtml>

The Secretary-General wrote this report as a response to a request from the Second Committee in resolution 62/199. It specifically addresses the impact of globalization on international development with a direct look at the MDGs. This report serves as a good example of past debate on the topic as well as a way to look at the evolution of the debate so far.

Ban, K. General Assembly. (2009, August 19). *Report of the Secretary-General on Globalization and Interdependence: Role of the United Nations in Promoting Development in the Context of Globalization and Interdependence (A/64/310)*. Retrieved July 13, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/ga/second/64/documentslist.shtml>

This report is the most recent report by the Secretary-General on Globalization and Interdependence. It examines the impact of the recent financial crisis along with other crises such as food, energy, and climate on development. In this latest report, the Secretary-General calls for increased multilateralism within the international community and exposes opportunities to do so.

Becker, S. (2009, October 28). *EU Presidency Statement to the General Assembly Second Committee on Globalization and Interdependence*. Retrieved July 13, 2010, from http://www.europa-eu-un.org/articles/en/article_9173_en.htm.

In representation of the European Union, Ms. Sophie Belfrage Becker of Sweden discusses the impact that globalization has had especially on the international economy. Ms. Becker details the effects on development from globalization regionally. This source provides a current example of the discussions in the Second Committee on the topic.

- Daoud, A. (2009, October 21). *Statement on Behalf of the Group of 77 and China on Globalization and Interdependence to the General Assembly Second Committee*. Retrieved July 7, 2010, from <http://www.g77.org/statement/getstatement.php?id=091021>.
Mr. Amar Daoud represents the G77 in this speech on the role on the UN in promoting development. He discusses the importance of establishing sound development frameworks. In addition, he reminds the Committee of the importance of respecting sovereignty and the ability of developing countries to establish strong national development policy.
- United Nations. General Assembly. (2000, September 18). *Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2)*. Retrieved July 7, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.pdf>
This declaration thoroughly examines development and the challenges faced by developing countries. This analysis has been the basis for most development debate in the last decade. It ultimately established the UN Millennium Development Goals.
- United Nations. Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination. (n.d.). *Home*. Retrieved July 1, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/globalization.htm>
This is the home page for the Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination (OESC). The Second Committee receives support from this office especially regarding the topic of globalization and interdependence. This Web site is a good starting point for researching economic and financial aspects of the topic.
- World Bank. (2010, June 10). *Global Economic Prospects*. Vol. 1. Retrieved August 5, 2010, from <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGEP2010/Resources/FullReport-GEPSummer2010.pdf>
The World Bank details the future of the international economic climate. Specifically it details the repercussions which the international financial crisis had on the global economy. The situation of developing countries is examined and recommendations for pursuing economic growth are given.
- World Trade Organization. (n.d.). *Aid for Trade Web site*. Retrieved August 5, 2010, from http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/a4t_e/aid4trade_e.htm
This Web site details the Aid for Trade program. It is a program of the World Trade Organization and an example of current innovative policies being implemented. The Web site is also a good starting point for researching specific financial policies and current events in international trade.

II. The Needs of Landlocked Countries

- Ban, K. (2009, August 7). *Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries (A/64/268)*. Retrieved July 1, 2010, from <http://www.unohrrls.org/en/lldc/236/>.
Submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its 64th Session by request of the committee, this report summarizes the situation of landlocked developing countries with descriptive focus on many specific actions and programs currently in progress. It is also supplemented by detailed annexes such as official development assistance that provide data on various aspects of landlocked developing countries from 2003. More than other UN documents, this report stresses the financial situation faced by landlocked developing countries in light of the economic crisis.
- Faye, M., J. McArthur, J. Sachs, and T. Snow. (2004). *The Challenges Facing Landlocked Developing Countries*. *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*. Retrieved June 28, 2010, from <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/JHD051P003TP.pdf>.
This journal entry written as a collaboration between several well-respected economic and development specialists focuses on the needs of landlocked developing countries. This is one of the few comprehensive documents on landlocked developing countries not written or published by the United Nations. Additionally, the authors undertake broad analysis, as opposed to detailed case studies of one country, that details many different limitations on landlocked developing countries, not simply those related to increased transportation costs.

- Serieux, J. (2009). The Impact of the Global Financial and Economic Crisis on the Development Prospects of the Landlocked Developing Countries. *UN-OHRLLS*. Retrieved July 15, 2010, from <http://www.unohrlls.org/en/lldc/related/28/>.
As a consultant to UN-OHRLLS, John Serieux concludes in this article that landlocked developing countries will be significantly affected by the global financial and economic crisis, but that exactly how is difficult to assess because it is not clear what effect the international community's attempts to mitigate the problem will have and because all landlocked developing countries face many drastically different problems. Serieux provides a solid overview of the international community's attempts to mitigate the crisis and to protect development achievements by looking at global, regional, and domestic actions. The author adequately situates specific country case studies in the context of the issue at large and provides a direct conclusion that explains the uncertainty of the future situation for landlocked developing countries.
- Stiglitz, J. and A. Charlton. (2006). Aid for Trade: A Report for the Commonwealth Secretariat. Retrieved August 6, 2010, from http://works.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1008&context=joseph_stiglitz.
Prepared for the Commonwealth Secretariat, a collection of 54 independent states, this report provides a solid overview of the relationship between aid, trade, and development, specifically focusing on the Aid for Trade initiative. This article is exceptionally critical and detailed and provides for detailed analysis of the program in terms of both its future and its limitations. The authors admit the article does contain opinion and slight bias, but its authors ultimately provide good justification for its positive conclusion.
- United Nations. General Assembly. (2010, March 23). *Groups of Countries in Special Situations: Specific Actions Related to the Particular Needs and Problems of Landlocked Developing Countries: Outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation (A/RES/64/214)*. Retrieved June 30, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/ga/64/resolutions.shtml>.
This resolution passed by the General Assembly at the recommendation of the General Assembly Second Committee presents all of the work by the committee on the issue of landlocked developing countries at its 64th Session. Because of it is one of the most recent documents on this topic, it is especially of interest and importance. While it largely calls for previous actions and relies on the Almaty Programme of Action, it also importantly deals with foreign direct investment and specifically calls for work through Aid for Trade, stresses technical assistance, and recommends the creation of an international think tank on landlocked developing countries.
- United Nations. (n.d.). Landlocked Developing Countries. *The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)*. Retrieved June 30, 2010, from <http://www.unohrlls.org/en/lldc/31/>.
This Web site from UN-OHRLLS on landlocked developing countries is exceptionally comprehensive and an excellent first resource to understanding the issue. This Web site provides sections on a variety of issues and includes links to reports, resolutions, and key documents. Most usefully, this Web site provides all relevant information on the Almaty Declaration and the Almaty Programme of Action, including not only a summary of both documents, but also links to all follow-up documents such as those on the midterm review of the programme.
- United Nations. International Ministerial Conference. (2003). *Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries*. Retrieved June 30, 2010, from www.un.org/special-rep/ohrlls/lldc/Almaty_PoA.pdf.
The Almaty Programme of Action underwrites all work and understanding of landlocked developing countries. It is important specifically because of the partnership and level of detail it proposes. Explicit in the document, are its five priority issues of policy improvements, improved infrastructure, international trade measures, technical and financial international assistance, and to monitor and follow-up on agreements.

III. Renewable Development, Deforestation, and Desertification

Food and Agricultural Organization Media Centre. (2010, March 25). World Deforestation Decreases, but Remains

Alarming in Many Countries. Retrieved August 6, 2010, from <http://www.fao.org/news/story/pt/item/40893/icode/en/>

This short article summarizes a recent 2010 Food and Agricultural Organization report on deforestation. As the news article title states, this piece provides conclusions on recent reports concerning deforestation such as that the rate of deforestation has slowed. For those wishing to read more, this news piece also links to the complete report entitled The Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010.

Poole, L. (March 30, 2010). *Developing Nations Eye Renewable Energy*. Retrieved July 2, 2010, from <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/article/2010/03/developing-nations-eye-renewable-energy>

This article details the results of the 2009 Copenhagen Climate Change Conference. In general it outlines the role that renewable energy may play in development and more specifically it focuses on the development of National Appropriate Mitigation Actions. Importantly, this article also outlines dissenting options from regional banks and other actors.

United Nations. (n.d.). Convention to Combat Desertification Web site. Retrieved August 6, 2010, from <http://www.unccd.int/main.php>.

As the Web site dedicated to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, this Web site provides not only the document and text of the convention and other important documents, but it details the entire issue. The Web site links to regional and national profiles and plans as well as governmental actions. Additionally, this site is a great asset because it has a section focusing on the role of civil society and updates frequently with new material.

United Nations. General Assembly. (2010, March 11). *Promotion of New and Renewable Sources of Energy*. (A/RES/64/206). Retrieved July 2, 2010, from <http://www.un.org/ga/64/resolutions.shtml>.

In this resolution, the General Assembly affirms its support for renewable energy and its ability to create jobs, create better growth, provide environmental benefits, and overall help achieve the Millennium Development Goals. This resolution is also notable because it stresses the need for market-oriented strategies to best reduce costs and increase competitiveness in the renewable energy field. On this issue, this resolution calls on continued support from funding and financial institutions but asks how renewable energy can be made more economically feasible.

United Nations. (n.d.). The Marrakech Process. Retrieved July 16, 2010, from <http://esa.un.org/marrakechprocess/index.shtml>.

This Web site provides all resources and details relevant to the Marrakech Process. It is especially useful for its detailed breakdown of topics by issue and region. The Web site also has valuable links to additional resources.