



NMUN • LATIN AMERICA

GALAPAGOS 2013

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
BACKGROUND GUIDE 2013

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NMUN • LATIN AMERICA

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Message from the Secretary-General Regarding Position Papers for the 2013 NMUN-LatAm Conference

At the 2013 NMUN-LatAm Conference, each delegation submits one position paper for each committee assignment. 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 NGOs. 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 position papers of countries. 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. NMUN/NCCA 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 incidents of plagiarism to the Secretariat.

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

- Length must not exceed two single-sided pages (use standard size for your home region: A4 or 8.5x11).
- Margins must be set at 1 inch for the whole paper.
- Font must be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Body of the paper must be single-spaced.
- Country/NGO name, school name, and committee name must be clearly labeled on the first page.
- Agenda topics must be clearly labeled in separate sections.
- National symbols (headers, flags, etc.) are deemed inappropriate for NMUN position papers.

To be considered for awards, position papers need to be submitted by e-mail in .pdf or .doc formats by 1 December 2012. As proof of submission, include yourself as an e-mail recipient. Please use the committee name, your assignment, and delegation/school name in both the e-mail subject line and in the filename (example: CSustD_Cuba_Mars College).

1. Send one complete set of all position papers for each of your country/NGO assignments to the Secretary-General at secgen.latam@nmun.org.
2. Send a copy of your position paper for each assigned committee to the corresponding committee e-mail address listed below. Please note, the e-mail addresses will be active on 1 October 2012.

Committee	E-mail Address (after 1 Octt.)
Commission on Population and Development (CPD)	cpd.latam@nmun.org
Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)	cstd.latam@nmun.org
Commission on Sustainable Development (CSustD)	csustd.latam@nmun.org
Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)	csw.latam@nmun.org
Security Council (SC)	sc.latam@nmun.org

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.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the Conference staff.

Sincerely,

Nicole Galindo
Secretary-General
NMUN-LatAm

Sample Position Paper

The following position paper is designed to be a sample of the standard format that an NMUN position paper should follow. Papers may be no longer than two single-sided pages. Only the first two pages of any submissions will be considered for awards.

Delegation from
Canada

Represented by
University of Jupiter

Position Paper for General Assembly Plenary

The topics before the General Assembly Plenary are: Breaking the Link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict; the Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy; and the Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa. Canada is dedicated to collaborative multilateral approaches to ensuring protection and promotion of human security and advancement of sustainable development.

I. Breaking the Link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict

Canada endorses the Kimberly Process in promoting accountability, transparency, and effective governmental regulation of trade in rough diamonds. We believe the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) is an essential international regulatory mechanism and encourage all Member States to contribute to market accountability by seeking membership, participation, and compliance with its mandate. Canada urges Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2007 Kimberley Process Communiqué to strengthen government oversight of rough diamond trading and manufacturing by developing domestic legal frameworks similar to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. We call upon participating States to act in accordance with the KPCS's comprehensive and credible systems of peer review to monitor the continued implementation of the Kimberley Process and ensure full transparency and self-examination of domestic diamond industries. We draw attention to our domestic programs for diamond regulation including Implementing the Export and Import of Rough Diamonds Act and urge Member States to consider these programs in developing the type of domestic regulatory frameworks called for in A/RES/55/56. Canada recognizes the crucial role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the review of rough diamond control measures developed through the Kimberly Process and encourages States to include NGOs, such as Global Witness and Partnership Africa Canada, in the review processes called for in A/RES/58/290. We urge Member States to act in accordance with A/RES/60/182 to optimize the beneficial development impact of artisanal and alluvial diamond miners by establishing a coordinating mechanism for financial and technical assistance through the Working Group of the Kimberly Process of Artisanal Alluvial Producers. Canada calls upon States and NGOs to provide basic educational material regarding diamond valuation and market prices for artisanal diggers, as recommended by the Diamond Development Initiative. Canada will continue to adhere to the 2007 Brussels Declaration on Internal Controls of Participants and is dedicated to ensuring accountability, transparency, and effective regulation of the rough diamond trade through the utilization of voluntary peer review systems and the promotion of increased measures of internal control within all diamond producing States.

II. The Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy

Canada is dedicated to integrating alternative energy sources into climate change frameworks by diversifying the energy market while improving competitiveness in a sustainable economy, as exemplified through our Turning Corners Report and Project Green climate strategies. We view the international commitment to the promotion of alternative sources of energy called for in the Kyoto Protocol and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Control (UNFCCC) as a catalyst to sustainable development and emission reduction. Canada fulfills its obligations to Article 4 of the UNFCCC by continuing to provide development assistance through the Climate Change Development Fund and calls upon Member States to commit substantial financial and technical investment toward the transfer of sustainable energy technologies and clean energy mechanisms to developing States. We emphasize the need for Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2005 Beijing International Renewable Energy Conference to strengthen domestic policy frameworks to promote clean energy technologies. Canada views dissemination of technology information called for in the 2007 Group of Eight Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy Declaration as a vital step in energy diversification from conventional energy generation. We call

upon Member States to integrate clean electricity from renewable sources into their domestic energy sector by employing investment campaigns similar to our \$1.48 billion initiative ecoENERGY for Renewable Power. Canada encourages States to develop domestic policies of energy efficiency, utilizing regulatory and financing frameworks to accelerate the deployment of clean low-emitting technologies. We call upon Member States to provide knowledge-based advisory services for expanding access to energy in order to fulfill their commitments to Goal 1 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Canada urges States to address the concerns of the 2007 Human Development Report by promoting tax incentives, similar to the Capital Cost Allowances and Canadian Renewable and Conservation Expenses, to encourage private sector development of energy conservation and renewable energy projects. As a member of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership, Canada is committed to accelerating the development of renewable energy projects, information sharing mechanisms, and energy efficient systems through the voluntary carbon offset system. We are dedicated to leading international efforts toward the development and sharing of best practices on clean energy technologies and highlight our release of the Renewable Energy Technologies Screen software for public and private stakeholders developing projects in energy efficiency, cogeneration, and renewable energy. Canada believes the integration of clean energy into State specific strategies called for in A/62/419/Add.9 will strengthen energy diversification, promote the use of cogeneration, and achieve a synergy between promoting alternative energy while allowing for competitiveness in a sustainable economy.

III. Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

Canada views the full implementation of the treatment and prevention targets of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Especially in Africa, as essential to eradicating malaria and assisting African States to achieve Target 8 of Goal 6 of the MDGs by 2015. We recommend Member States cooperate with the World Health Organization to ensure transparency in the collection of statistical information for Indicators 21 and 22 of the MDGs. Canada reaffirms the targets of the Abuja Declaration Plan of Action stressing regional cooperation in the implementation, monitoring, and management of malaria prevention and treatment initiatives in Africa. To fully implement A/RES/61/228, Canada believes developed States must balance trade and intellectual property obligations with the humanitarian objective of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health. We continue to implement Paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health into our compulsory licensing framework through the Jean Chrétien Pledge to Africa Act. We urge Member States to support compulsory licensing for essential generic medicines by including anti-malarial vaccines and initiating domestic provisions to permit export-only compulsory licenses to domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers, similar to Canada's Access to Medicines Regime. Canada calls upon Member States to establish advanced market commitments on the distribution of pneumococcal vaccines to developing States in cooperation with PATH and the Malaria Vaccine Initiative. We emphasize the need for greater membership in the Roll Back Malaria initiative to strengthen malaria control planning, funding, implementation, and evaluation by promoting increased investment in healthcare systems and greater incorporation of malaria control into all relevant multi-sector activities. Canada continues to implement the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) New Agenda for Action on Health to reduce malaria infection rates among marginalized populations in Africa, increase routine immunizations rates, and reduce infection rates of other neglected infections. Canada will achieve the goal of doubling aid to Africa by 2008-2009 by providing assistance to the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. We urge Member States to increase donations to intergovernmental organizations and NGOs that support malaria programming in Africa, exemplified by CIDA's contribution of \$26 million to the Canadian Red Cross. We continue our efforts to provide accessible and affordable vector control methods to African States through the Red Cross' Malaria Bed Net Campaign and the African Medical Research Foundation Canada by supplying insecticide-treated mosquito nets and Participatory Malaria Prevention and Treatment tool kits.



Dear Delegates,

It is our immense pleasure to welcome you to the 2013 National Model United Nations Latin America Conference. With an impressive roster of universities and institutions in attendance, an array of intriguing topics, and a unique location in the Galapagos Islands, this year promises to be truly memorable. You and your team are integral in making the 2013 NMUN LatAm Conference historic.

Your staffs for the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) are Director, David Toscano and Assistant Director, Lucía Villavicencio. David recently graduated of studies in Law and International Relations at Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador. This is his fifth year at NMUN and four on staff. Lucía is currently in her fourth year of Journalism and International Relations at Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador. This is her third year at NMUN and her first as staff.

The agenda topics for discussions this year are as follows:

1. Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability
2. The Impact of Population Distribution, Urbanization and Internal Migration on Environmental Sustainability

The Commission on Population and Development plays a major role in the follow-up to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. Consequently, is aware of most recent population issues and trends. As delegates simulating this body, your research, preparation, and writing should reflect the highest caliber of effort, teamwork and update information.

This background guide will serve as a brief introduction to the two topics. It is not meant to be the only source for your preparations, but should be used solely as the groundwork for your own analysis and research. To look deeper into the topics, please consult scholarly materials, including journals, international news, and the United Nations website. You will also need to familiarize yourself with the work and current agenda and latest resolutions of the CPD.

Each delegation must submit a position paper that identifies its viewpoints on the agenda topics. NMUN will accept position papers via e-mail by December 01, 2012. Please refer to the background guide for a message from your Secretary-General explaining the NMUN position paper requirements and restrictions. Delegates' adherence to these guidelines is crucial. NMUN can be one of the most rewarding academic experiences of your college career. We hope that this year's Conference will not only intrigue you to participate again, but also that you find it as beneficial as we have.

If you have any questions regarding your preparation, please feel free to contact any of the Commission on Population and Development substantive staff or the Secretary-General, Nicole Galindo. Good luck in your preparation for the conference. We look forward to seeing you in January!

Sincerely,

David Toscano
Director

Lucía Villavicencio
Assistant Director

Committee History

Introduction and General Background

The Commission on Population and Development (CPD) finds its background on the Population Commission that was created by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1946 through its resolution *E/III*.¹ This body was created in order to advise the ECOSOC on issues relating to population.² The advisory nature of this Commission included the study of factors associated with demographic change and the development of policies that could influence these factors.³ Furthermore, the Commission's agenda included the investigation of the relation between changes in population and socio-economic conditions.⁴ Finally, its mandate included the examination of factors associated with migratory movements.⁵

It was only after the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), which was held in 1994 that the Population Commission was renamed to the Commission on Population and Development.⁶ In order to implement the relevant work of the ICPD, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution *A/RES/49/128* in 1995.⁷ This resolution established that, in order "to emphasize the new and comprehensive approach to population and development embodied in the Programme of Action, the revitalized Population Commission shall be renamed the Commission on Population and Development."⁸

Although The *ICPD Programme of Action* was adopted in the early 90's, this document was the result of an intergovernmental comprehensive round of discussions carried out from 1946 to 1994. During this time, three Intergovernmental World Population Conferences were held in order to discuss population issues. The first conference was held in 1974 in Bucharest and resulted in the adoption of the *World Population Plan of Action*.⁹ The main objective of this document was to expand the capacities of states for dealing with population problems by promoting international activity in research, the exchange of information, and the provision of assistance.¹⁰ The second conference was held in Mexico in 1984 and its relevant work resulted in the reaffirmation and expansion of the *World Population Plan of Action*, emphasizing that social and economic development is a central factor in the solution of population and interrelated problems.¹¹ Ten years later, the city of El Cairo hosted the International Conference on Population and Development.¹² This conference resulted in the adoption of the *ICPD Programme of Action*, which unified the World Population Plan of Action, the recommendations of the 1984 International Conference on Population, the World Summit for Children of 1990, the UN Conference on Environment and Development of 1992, and the World Conference on Human Rights of 1993.¹³

Mandate and functions: The ICPD Programme of Action

As it was requested General Assembly resolution *A/RES/49/128*, the mandate of the CPD was expanded by ECOSOC in resolution *E/1995/55* of 1995.¹⁴ In general terms, the CPD has currently three main functions. The first one consists on arranging studies and advising the Council on population and development issues.¹⁵ Additionally, the CPD is in charge of monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the *ICPD Programme of*

¹ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Resolution III*, 1946, clause 1.

² International Conference on Population and Development. *Background Document on the Population Programme of the UN*. 1994, para. 2.

³ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Resolution III*, 1946, clause 1.

⁴ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Resolution III*, 1946, clause 1.

⁵ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Resolution III*, 1946, clause 1.

⁶ Earth Summit, *Commission on Population and Development*, 2002.

⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *A/RES/49/128*, 1995.

⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *A/RES/49/128*, 1995.

⁹ Mertens, *The 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD): Context and Characteristics*, 1995.

¹⁰ The World Population Conference, *World Population Plan of Action*, 1975, p.168, para. 15.

¹¹ Mertens, *The 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD): Context and Characteristics*, 1995.

¹² United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Meetings and Events of ECOSOC and its Subsidiary Bodies: United Nations Commission on Population and Development-44th Session*, 2011.

¹³ United Nations Population Fund, *ICPD-International Conference on Population and Development*, N.D.

¹⁴ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *RES E/1995/55*, 1995.

¹⁵ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *About the Commission*, N.A.

*Action.*¹⁶ Finally, it has the responsibility to provide recommendations to the ECOSOC related to the implementation of this programme.¹⁷

Since 1994, the CPD has held annual meetings dealing with a number of issues. Among others, these include internal migration and development, health and mortality, population growth and distribution, development and HIV/AIDS, fertility and reproductive health, population distribution and urbanization, etc.¹⁸ In 2004, the CPD held its 37th meeting entitled Review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*.¹⁹ Although the Commission qualified the progress on the first ten year as a success, it was also recognized that the progress was not universal.²⁰ In order to continue with its functions, it further recommended the implementation of initiatives for the increase of financial resources, the strengthening of institutional capacities, and the creation of partnerships among governments and other international actors.²¹ More recently, the General Assembly acknowledged the necessity of extending the CPD mandate. Recognizing that the *ICPD Programme of Action* is supposed to formally come to an end in 2014, there are still remaining challenges to overcome, which made the General Assembly decide “to extend the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation beyond 2014 and ensure its follow-up in order to fully meet its goals and objectives.”²²

CPD Membership and Structure

Currently, the CPD is composed of 47 Member States elected by the ECOSOC among members of the United Nations and its specialized agencies.²³ The distribution corresponds to a geographic regional basis including 12 representatives from the African States, 11 from Asian States, 5 from Eastern European States, 9 for Latin American and Caribbean States, and 10 from Western European States.²⁴ Each member is elected for a period of four years.²⁵ By the end of 2012, the Member States which terms are going to expire are Kenya, Tunisia, Uganda, Croatia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Colombia, Finland, and the Netherlands.²⁶ For being part of the CPD, states must have a relevant background in population and development issues in order to ensure the fulfillment of the Commission’s mandate.²⁷ Since the adoption of resolution *A/RES/49/128* by the General Assembly, the Commission celebrates annual meetings instead of the previous biannual reunion system that ruled the extinct Population Commission.²⁸

The CPD and the United Nations System on Population and Development

The CPD besides monitoring *ICPD Programme of Action* has the responsibility to assist the Economic and Social Council with studies relating population issues and trends, population and development strategies and population and related development policies and programmes.²⁹ The CPD works with other United Nations bodies, principally the United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA) and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: Population Division, in order to coordinate efforts relating population trends and issues.³⁰ On the 44th session of the CPD held in New York, April 2011, the commission discussed the importance of fertility, reproductive health and

¹⁶ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *About the Commission*, N.A.

¹⁷ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *About the Commission*, N.A.

¹⁸ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Commission Sessions: Official Documents of the Past Sessions of the Commission*, N.A.

¹⁹ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the Thirty-Seventh Session*, 2004, p. 5.

²⁰ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the Thirty-Seventh Session*, 2004, p. 5.

²¹ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the Thirty-Seventh Session*, 2004, p. 5.

²² United Nations General Assembly, *A/RES/65/234*, 2011, clause 2.

²³ United Nations Department of Public Information, *Basic Facts About the United Nations*, 2004, p. 188.

²⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *A/RES/50/124. Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1996, clause 5.

²⁵ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *About the Commission*, N.A.

²⁶ Commission on Population and Development, *Membership of the Commission on Population and Development: Forty-Fifth Session (2012)*, 2011.

²⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *A/RES/50/124. Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1996, clause 5.

²⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *A/RES/49/128*, 1995.

²⁹ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *About the Commission*, N.A.

³⁰ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Report on the Forty-Fourth Session 2011*, N.A.

development.³¹ The output of the session was resolution *E/CN.9/2011/8* that urges governments to redouble efforts to eliminate preventable maternal morbidity and mortality by ensuring that universal access to reproductive health, including family planning.³² The last session on the CPD treated adolescents and youth and counted with the participation of Secretary General Ban-Ki moon who highlighted the importance of “youth as [...] more than a demographic force – but as a force for progress.”³³

Conclusions

In accordance with CPD Decision *2006/1*, the Commission adopts a multi-year programme of work limited to a two-year planning horizon, with a special theme for each year based on the Programme of Action of the ICPD.³⁴ The Commission on Population and Development has long worked with governmental representatives of Member States and representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations in order to achieve goals stated in the *ICPD Programme of Action*. Through CPD recommendations in reward to topics such as young people to decide on all matters of their sexuality; fertility, reproductive health and development; HIV and AIDS plans and strategies; government support for methods of contraception has been steadily increasing during the last quarter of the twentieth century.³⁵ Although relevant progress has been achieved on the implementation of the *ICPD Programme of Action*, stronger efforts are still needed to perform. More than two-thirds of the governments of the world’s least developed countries have expressed major concerns with high population growth, high fertility and rapid urbanization.³⁶ Aware of the international status concerning population delegates must perform on what can Member States do to improve the Commission’s actions? Which topics should be given priority? How can the role of youth be enhanced in relation to population and distribution concerns?

Annotated Bibliography

Committee History

Commission on Population and Development. (2011). Report on the Forty-Fourth Session. In: (N.A.). *Official Records*. New York: United Nations Economic and Social Council. Retrieved on August 24, 2012, from <http://www.un.org/esa/population/cpd/cpd2011/cpd44.htm>

This report details the participation of NGO’s, Member States representatives and the representatives from different United Nations bodies such as the United Nations Population Fund and the Population Division. The 44th session of the CPD deals with fertility, reproductive health and development. The report on this session presents different papers of United Nations bodies that concern with the main topic. As well, it states the different position from Member States relating to with fertility, reproductive health and development.

Commission on Population and Development. (2012). Report on the Forty-Fifth Session. In: (N.A.). *Official Records*. New York: United Nations Economic and Social Council. Retrieved on August 24, 2012, from <http://www.un.org/esa/population/cpd/cpd2012/cpd45.htm>

This report details the participation of NGO’s, Member States representatives and the representatives from different United Nations bodies such as the General Assembly, the United Nations Population Fund, the Department Economic and Social Affairs and the statement of Secretary General Ban-Ki moon. The 45th session of the CPD deals with adolescents and youth and their sexual and reproductive rights. The report on this session presents different papers of United Nations bodies that concern with the main topic. As well, it states the different position from Member States relating to with adolescents and youth and their sexual and reproductive rights.

³¹ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Report on the Forty-Fourth Session 2011*, N.A.

³² United Nations Commission on Population and Development, *E/CN.9/2011/8. Fertility, reproductive health and development*, 2011, clause 11.

³³ United Nations News Center, *Remarks to the Commission on Population and Development*, 2012.

³⁴ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Report on the Forty-Fifth Session 2011*, N.A.

³⁵ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs *Fertility, Contraception and Population Policies*, 2003, p. 7.

³⁶ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 4.

Earth Summit. (2002). *Commission on Population and Development*. Retrieved on July 18, 2012, from <http://www.earthsummit2002.org/toolkits/women/un-doku/un-comm/cpop/commissi4.html#mem>

This article explains the background and the work programme of the Commission on Population and Development. It highlights the importance of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), and the ICPD Programme of Action for the CPD. The work programme of the CPD, is based on multi-year work programmes. These programmes are assessed via a 5 yearly review of the ICPD Programme of Action and its progress on national and regional levels.

Mertens, W. (1995). The 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD): Context and Characteristics. *Policy and Research Paper of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population*, 7 (N.A.): 1-23. Retrieved on July 28, 2012, from http://www.iussp.org/Publications_on_site/PRP/prp7.php

This research paper analyzes the background of the International Conference on Population and Development. It provides chronological and organized information of the previous Conferences on Population and Development. Furthermore, the research paper presents which where the steps follow by the United Nations in order to have the final paper of the ICPD in 1994. This document will provide delegates with proper information on how the ICPD report was constructed. As well, it will provide the information on the important participation of NGO's.

United Nations Population Fund. (2012). *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from <http://www.unfpa.org/public/cache/offonce/home/publications>

This report lectures the linkage between population and sustainable development. It analyses population implication for sustainable development and how policy makers should address population dynamics. As well, it exemplifies how the Laxenburg Declaration had an impact in demographic changes and sustainable development. Furthermore, it grants current information on population demographics, resource scarcity and matters on how achieve sustainable development through population policies and sustainable practices of production.

United Nations General Assembly. (1995). Report of the International Conference on Population and Development. In: N.A. A/RES/49/128. New York: United Nations. Retrieved on July 28, 2012, from <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N95/766/03/PDF/N9576603.pdf?OpenElement>

The International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo is noted as one of the most important events in the field of reproductive health, population and development. The report on the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action is the most important document for Commission on Population and Development. It's the commission responsibility to monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the national, regional and global levels. The ICPD is the cornerstone for population policies. The ICPD Programme of Action endorses a new strategy, which emphasizes the numerous linkages between population and development and focuses on meeting the needs of individual women and men instead on focusing in achieving demographic targets.

United Nations General Assembly. (2011). A/RES/65/234: *Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014*. Retrieved on July 29, 2012, from <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N10/526/58/PDF/N1052658.pdf?OpenElement>

Resolution A/RES/65/234 was approved at the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly. This resolution examines the process for the review of the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action. Resolution A/RES/65/234 calls upon governments to commit at the highest level to achieve the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. The highlight of this resolution is the decision to extend Programme of Action and its key actions for its further implementation beyond 2014. This resolution will provide delegates a higher understanding on the relation between the ICPD Programme of Action and the Commission.

I. Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability

“With more than seven billion people now inhabiting the planet, we face ever greater demands on shared resources and significant challenges to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals.”³⁷

Introduction

Population and socio-economic changes are interlinked. A society depends upon the distribution of resources and the production of goods. In a world with limited resources, a growing population in a society that does not have the appropriate population policies can become a challenge. In fact, an increase of world population results in the increment of the demand for natural resources such as food, water, land, and oil.³⁸ The growth of world population and production combined with unsustainable consumption patterns places increasingly severe stress on the life-supporting capacities of our planet.³⁹ In addition, it triggers an intensifying competition over scarce resources.⁴⁰

Aware of the potential threat that unsustainable population growth represents for environmental sustainability, the United Nations (UN) held the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The outcome of this conference was *Agenda 21*, which recognizes that demographic trends have an important impact on sustainable development.⁴¹ Furthermore, it recognizes the role that population policies play in relation to environmental and development concerns.⁴² In 1994, the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) was held in Cairo, Egypt, setting the basis for population policy development worldwide. The outcome of the conference was the *ICPD Programme of Action*, which establishes a twenty-year program to provide universal access to family planning, sexual and reproductive health rights; deliver gender equality and empowerment of women; and support sustainable development and environmental issues associated with population changes.⁴³ Additionally, the *ICPD Programme of Action* recognizes population policies, in the context of sustainable development, as based on sexual and reproductive health, family planning and gender equality for the empowerment of women.⁴⁴ Moreover, it recommends that all population policies should require new forms of participation by various actors at all levels in the policy-making process.⁴⁵

Almost 20 years after the adoption of *Agenda 21* and the *ICPD Programme of Action*, by the end of 2011 world population surpassed seven billion inhabitants.⁴⁶ With an uncontrolled growing population that shares limited resources, different problems such as food insecurity, climate change, and extreme poverty continue to threaten sustainable development.⁴⁷ These concerns have called the attention of governments in order to find solutions based on the control of population growth. By doing so, States expect to reduce the pressure on fragile ecosystems and limited natural resources, to facilitate the management of land and water, and to improve the chances of achieving a more equitable distribution of energy.⁴⁸

Defining population policy and its role in achieving sustainability

Population policies can be defined as institutional arrangements or specific programmes through which governments influence, directly or indirectly, demographic change.⁴⁹ These are mechanisms through which

³⁷ Ban Ki-Moon, *Secretary General in the World Population Day*, 2012.

³⁸ Evans, *Resource Scarcity, Climate Change and the Risk of Violent Conflict*, 2010, World Development Report 2011, p. 2.

³⁹ United Nations Conference on Environment & Development, *Agenda 21*, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3 to 14 June 1992. Art. 5.3.

⁴⁰ Evans, *Resource Scarcity, Climate Change and the Risk of Violent Conflict*, 2010, World Development Report 2011, p. 2.

⁴¹ United Nations Conference on Environment & Development, *Agenda 21*, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3 to 14 June 1992. Art. 5.2.

⁴² United Nations Conference on Environment & Development, *Agenda 21*, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3 to 14 June 1992. Art. 5.2.

⁴³ United Nations, *Report on the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action*, Cairo 1994.

⁴⁴ United Nations, *Report on the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action*, Cairo 1994.

⁴⁵ United Nations, *Report on the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action*, Cairo 1994.

⁴⁶ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability*, 2011. p. 1.

⁴⁷ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012.

⁴⁸ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability*, 2011. p. 33.

⁴⁹ Demeny, *Population Policy: A Conscience Summary*, 2003, Policy Research Division, p.4.

governments influence childbearing or migration.⁵⁰ According to the ICPD Programme of Action, population policies, in the context of sustainable development, include reproductive and sexual health, family-planning programmes, and the empowerment of women, as they are central actor in population policies.⁵¹

Reproductive and Sexual Health

One of the many aspects of population policies focuses on the reduction of women fertility. In this regard, the United Nations Population Division has state that efforts to reduce fertility should be based on the recognition that reproductive rights are an integral aspect of basic human rights, which is the reason why it works with governments promoting awareness on reproductive trends.⁵² In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, for example, there are 56 youth clubs and centers, which distribute information on reproductive and sexual health. Moreover, there are other 50 centers under construction, with a range of government programs supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), among others.⁵³ Similarly, UNFPA works with population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and sponsors population-trends programmes.⁵⁴ Furthermore, the World Health Organization (WHO) works with several Ministries of Health in the improvement of reproductive and sexual health services in low-income countries.⁵⁵ An example of this a Cervical Cancer Prevention and Control Project that took place the African countries of Malawi, Madagascar, Nigeria, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia.⁵⁶

Family Planning

According to the *ICPD Programme of Action*, all countries should assess the extent of national unmet needs for good-quality family-planning services and their integration in the reproductive health context, paying particular attention to the most vulnerable groups in the population.⁵⁷ Family planning, as a population policy, is a tool for people to attain their desired number of children and determine the spacing of pregnancies.⁵⁸ Moreover, some family planning methods help people prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.⁵⁹ In addition, it also reduces the need for unsafe abortions.⁶⁰ Family planning is essential to securing the well-being and autonomy of women, while supporting the health and development of communities.⁶¹ In this context, the United Nations Population Division compiles information in several countries in order to present updated profiles of the family planning programs in these countries.⁶² Similarly, the World Health Organization works to promote family planning by producing evidence-based guidelines on safe delivery of contraceptive methods, developing quality standards and providing pre-qualification of contraceptive commodities, and helping countries introduce, adapt and implement these tools to meet their needs.⁶³

Sexual Education and Empowerment of Women

Another important aspect of population policies includes sexual education to help prevent sexually transmitted infections as well as unwanted pregnancies, especially among young people. Sexual education also promotes

⁵⁰ Demeny, *Population Policy: A Conscience Summary*, 2003, Policy Research Division, p.4.

⁵¹ International Conference on Population and Development. *Report of the ICPD*. 1994, clause 3.27.

⁵² United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability*, 2011. p. 31.

⁵³ United Nations Population Fund, *The State of World Population 2011: People and possibilities in a world of 7 billion*, 2012, p. 18.

⁵⁴ United Nations Population Fund, *The State of World Population 2011: People and possibilities in a world of 7 billion*, 2012.

⁵⁵ World Health Organization, *Prevention of cervical cancer through screening using visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA) and treatment with cryotherapy*, 2012.

⁵⁶ World Health Organization, *Prevention of cervical cancer through screening using visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA) and treatment with cryotherapy*, 2012.

⁵⁷ United Nations, *Report on the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action*, Cairo 1994.

⁵⁸ World Health Organization, *Family Planning Fact Sheet N°351*, 2012.

⁵⁹ World Health Organization, *Family Planning Fact Sheet N°351*, 2012.

⁶⁰ World Health Organization, *Family Planning Fact Sheet N°351*, 2012.

⁶¹ World Health Organization, *Family Planning Fact Sheet N°351*, 2012.

⁶² United Nations Population Division, *Unmet Need for Family Planning*, 2012.

⁶³ World Health Organization, *Family Planning Fact Sheet N°351*, 2012.

equitable gender norms and the empowerment of young women.⁶⁴ At the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994, nations agreed that progress in addressing population issues could be better achieved through empowering women and girls to participate in their societies and economies on equal footing with men and boys. In fact, when women have equal rights and opportunities in their societies and when girls are educated and healthy, fertility rates fall.⁶⁵ Furthermore, reproductive health programmes are more effective when they address the educational opportunities, status and empowerment of women.⁶⁶ In this regard, UNFPA supports a variety of educational programs, from literacy projects to curricula development with a focus on reproductive and sexual health, that are currently held in countries like Bolivia, Mali and Mauritania.⁶⁷

Population Policies, Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Population policies are an important aspect of the socio-economic development of every country. The United Nations has taken an active role in stimulating Member States to improve and apply population policies within the context of development policies. As an outcome of the relevance of population policies Member States, at the United Nations World Summit in 2000 agreed that, by 2015, they would achieve eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women was translated into MDG number 3 and universal access to reproductive health by improving maternal health became MDG number 5. By incorporating gender equality, women empowerment and universal reproductive health as MDGs targets, the international community has recognized the relevance of population trends for development.⁶⁸

Nevertheless, when population growth is not in harmony with social and economic development, negative consequences are likely to increase.⁶⁹ Around the world, many of the basic resources on which future generations will depend for their survival and well-being are being depleted due to the intensifying environmental degradation. This reality is driven by unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, unprecedented growth in population, widespread and persistent poverty, and social and economic inequality.⁷⁰

One of the negative consequences of unsustainable population growth is the uncontrolled exploitation of resources. In order to survive, people consume goods and natural resources. Improvements in human well-being and population adequate consumption are dependent on higher levels of production, which are based on the exploitation natural resources – land, forests, ground water, oceans and the climate.⁷¹ The massive exploitation of resources for population consumption leads to irresponsible and unsustainable practices that threaten sustainability of resources for future generations.⁷² It is important to highlight that along with population needs to produce more, proper practices of production become harder when more and more countries are suffering from a rapid degradation of land, a high rate of deforestation, water shortages, among others.⁷³ Deforestation and degradation of land influence climate change which further contributes to an increasing intensity and frequency of natural disasters, changes in precipitation and droughts, which finally affect the well-being of population.⁷⁴

Sustainability, which is based on long-term environmental, economic, political, social security and prosperity for all⁷⁵ can be achieved, on a general basis, by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and implementing environmentally friendly policies such as reducing the use of plastic bags, setting emission targets for vehicles, among others.⁷⁶

⁶⁴ United Nations Population Fund, *The State of World Population 2011: People and possibilities in a world of 7 billion*, 2012, p. 22.

⁶⁵ United Nations Population Fund, *The State of World Population 2011: People and possibilities in a world of 7 billion*, 2012, p. 6-7.

⁶⁶ United Nations Population Fund, *Gender Equality, Empowering Women*, 2012.

⁶⁷ United Nations Population Fund, *Gender Equality, Empowering Women*, 2012.

⁶⁸ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability*, 2011. p. 33.

⁶⁹ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Population Plan of Action*, 1974.

⁷⁰ United Nations, *Report on the International Conference on Population and Development*, Cairo 1994. P. 6.

⁷¹ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 3.

⁷² United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 3.

⁷³ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 4.

⁷⁴ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 4.

⁷⁵ United Nations, International Conference: *Gender Mainstreaming and the MDGs*, Islamabad, Pakistan, 2005.

⁷⁶ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 4.

Nevertheless, these measures are not enough. Parallel to these initiatives, other measures that can be taken to contribute to sustainability are related to lowering fertility, through population policies. This can be a tool used to facilitate efforts to combat poverty, improve educational levels, generate sufficient jobs for young people, spur economic growth and achieve sustainability.⁷⁷ Moreover, slower population growth can facilitate adaptation to the future consequences of climate change.⁷⁸ Furthermore, achieving global food security may be feasible only if population growth slows significantly by mid-century.⁷⁹ Population policies are the path to a controlled population growth that can allow sustainable practices. Current and projected population trends, as well as different possible scenarios of population change, must be taken into account in rural, urban and national development strategies, as well as sectorial development strategies for infrastructure and services.⁸⁰ Population policies properly addressed, respecting human rights and the personal decisions of individuals to reproduce, can ease earth pressure on resource exploitation, which might to achieving sustainability and the prosperous survival of future generations.⁸¹

Case Study: The Situation in India

Chronic poverty is interrelated with uncontrolled population growth. Out of the 7 billion people that currently inhabit the world, more than 1 billion continue to live in extreme poverty.⁸² About as many suffer from food insecurity and live in slums, and millions are unable to find productive and remunerative employment.⁸³ Proper nutrition, access to basic services, adequate clothing and housing, and the enjoyment of health and education are dependent on the proper administration of resources.⁸⁴

India, with 1 220 200 000 (1.22 billion) people, is the second most populated country in the world.⁸⁵ Figures show that India represents almost 17.31% of the world's population, which means that one out of six people on this planet live in India.⁸⁶ In 1952, it was the first country in the world to launch a national program emphasizing family planning to the extent necessary for reducing birth rates to stabilize the population at a level consistent with the requirement of the national economy.⁸⁷ After 1952, sharp declines in death rates were met, however, not accompanied by a similar drop in birth rates.⁸⁸ The Indian government has struggled to administrate a growing population but the rapid increase in India's city population (currently around 28%) has resulted in the growth of what are called slums or squatter settlements resulting in serious social, economic, and environmental problems.⁸⁹ Poverty, health risk, food insecurity and water scarcity are some of the problems the Indian population is facing.⁹⁰ The exploitation of resources in India to fulfill the wellbeing of its citizens is threatening forests, nature reserves, and general ecology. The abuse of massive production and resource exploitation is not only a threat to India's sustainable development but to world's environment. Moreover, some of the reasons for India's rapidly growing population are poverty, illiteracy, and high fertility rate.⁹¹

Aware of the need for stronger population policies that will comply with India's national economic development, the *National Population Policy* was released in 2000. It affirmed the commitment of the government towards voluntary and informed choice and consent of citizens while availing of reproductive health care services, and continuation of the target free approach in administering family planning services.⁹² Nevertheless, population policies addressing sexual and reproductive health and family planning have not been enough. Sexual and reproductive education and

⁷⁷ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability*, 2011. p. 34.

⁷⁸ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 6.

⁷⁹ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability*, 2011. p. 33.

⁸⁰ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 12.

⁸¹ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 4.

⁸² United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 4.

⁸³ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 4.

⁸⁴ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 3.

⁸⁵ India Defense Forum, *India's Population 2012*, 2012.

⁸⁶ India Defense Forum, *India's Population 2012*, 2012.

⁸⁷ National Commission on Population, Government of India, *National Population Policy 2000*, 2000.

⁸⁸ National Commission on Population, Government of India, *National Population Policy 2000*, 2000.

⁸⁹ South Asian Voice, *India and a One-Child-Policy*, 2003.

⁹⁰ South Asian Voice, *India and a One-Child-Policy*, 2003.

⁹¹ India Defense Forum, *India's Population 2012*, 2012.

⁹² National Commission on Population, Government of India, *National Population Policy 2000*, 2000.

gender equality for the empowerment of women programs and campaigns need to be enhanced. Currently, the United Nations Population fund works in India, with the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) promoting gender equality to enhance women's decision-making capability, to promote equal opportunity.⁹³ UNFPA and UNDAF have strengthened the design and implementation of national programmes and policies on poverty reduction for women and girls.⁹⁴ Despite these efforts, India's population continues to grow: the population of India (1.22 billion) is expected to be larger than the population of all the more developed countries combined (that is, all the countries of Europe (including Russia), Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Canada and the United States).⁹⁵ Faster and more efficient actions regarding population growth are required.

Future Challenges on Population Policies

The CPD has a key role in the development of population policies. Population issues and trends, as well as provision of population strategies, upon request, to developing countries and, on a temporary basis, to countries with economies in transition are being provided by the CPD.⁹⁶ The Commission works along with other United Nations organisms such as the United Nations Population Fund and the World Health Organization in order to provide information and an improvement in reproductive and sexual health. Despite efforts of the international community, a survey of countries found that, although there is a clear desire to provide integrated reproductive health services, major obstacles—especially management arrangements, financial constraints, training of service providers and logistic systems—have hindered progress in this regard.⁹⁷ The African continent is one of the most challenged regions concerning population policies. Despite efforts at all levels to improve reproductive health and eradicate HIV/AIDS, Africa still faces a number of challenges not found in many other regions, including the spreading HIV/AIDS pandemic, conflict, food insecurity, poverty and a substantial burden of debt.⁹⁸

During the past 50 years, the world experienced the highest rates of population growth and the largest annual population increases ever recorded in history.⁹⁹ Some 222 million women who would like to avoid or delay pregnancy lack access to effective family planning, while nearly 800 women die every day in the process of giving birth.¹⁰⁰ High population growth remains a prominent concern in the developing countries. Many governments in the developing world have realized the importance of reducing high rates of population growth in order to ease mounting pressure on renewable and non-renewable resources, combat climate change, prevent food shortages and provide decent employment and basic social services to all their inhabitants.¹⁰¹ With a growing population and limited resources population policies are urgently required. The international community must organize logistic systems, administration arrangements, and training of service providers that will guarantee sexual and reproductive health, family planning and gender equality for the empowerment of women.

Conclusions

As stated by Vice Minister Mr. CHEN Li from The People's Republic of China in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), "in addition to rapid population growth, substantial changes are occurring or will soon occur in other specific areas of demography: migration, urbanization, population aging, and shifts in geographic distribution."¹⁰² Population growth affects not only geographical distribution but also resource exploitation, which lead to unsustainable practices and climate change. Human activity has already affected every

⁹³ United Nations Population Fund, *Gender Equality, Empowering Women*, 2012.

⁹⁴ United Nations, *INDIA United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2008-2012*, 2012.

⁹⁵ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *India Becomes a Billionaire: World's Largest Democracy to Reach One Billion Persons on Independence Day*, 6.

⁹⁶ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Resolution III*, 1946, clause 1.

⁹⁷ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs *Fertility, Contraception and Population Policies*, 2003, p. 18.

⁹⁸ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs *Fertility, Contraception and Population Policies*, 2003, p. 18.

⁹⁹ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs *Fertility, Contraception and Population Policies*, 2003, p. 27.

¹⁰⁰ United Nations News Center, *World Population Day: UN highlights key role of access to reproductive health care*, 2012.

¹⁰¹ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Population Policies 2009*, 2010, p. 8.

¹⁰² Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Population Prospect and Sustainable Development*, 2012.

country, every species and every eco-system of the planet, altering the world's climate.¹⁰³ Younger generations have a longer life expectancy, and a natural interest in the long-term environmental sustainability.¹⁰⁴ They not only determine the future trends in fertility and population growth, they are also amongst the foremost advocates of more sustainable patterns of consumption and production.¹⁰⁵

Whether the world population will indeed grow to over 9 billion by mid-century and level off at about 10 billion by the end of the century, or grow instead to over 10 billion by mid-century and to about 16 billion by the end of the century depends on policies that countries pursue today.¹⁰⁶ Population policies and education help countries reduce fertility and slow the growth population. Therefore governments will be able to increase investment in human, physical and natural capital and promote higher and more sustainable economic growth.¹⁰⁷ Stronger population policies are need especially in developing countries.

Taking into consideration individuals' human rights and independence in the decision over the way they conduct their lives as well as the level of involvement that governments have and should have regarding population policies, delegates should attempt to address governments' needs to endorse population policies taking into consideration the role of individuals' self-sovereignty and independent decision-making regarding their reproductive and sexual lives. Governments can influence the future growth of the world population through policies that increase human well-being and ensure that people can exercise their reproductive rights, thus expanding individual choices and opportunities.¹⁰⁸ When researching for this topic delegates should attempt to understand how can governments endorse population polices without violating human rights? How can population policies be effectively applied in countries were there's a lack of basic needs such as potable water? Which is the role that developed countries should play in helping developing countries with high fertility rates to endorse population policies? How population policies should be address in highly religious countries? These are just few of a wide range of questions that delegates will have and that, by the time they have done a comprehensive research, should be able to answer.

Annotated Bibliography

I. Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability

Biello, D. (2009). *Another Inconvenient Truth: The World's Growing Population Poses a Malthusian Dilemma*. Retrieved July 26, 2012, from <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=growing-population-poses-malthusian-dilemma>

Graduated from Columbia University Journalism's School, David Biello is an environmental journalist. He works as associated editor for the Scientific American website and contributes articles to Earth 3.0 magazine. Currently he is working on a book exploring China's impact on environmental sustainability. This report addresses the negative [environmental impact massive population has brought to earth. Focusing on agriculture and resource exploitation, Biello questions how the earth will continue to feed a growing and demanding population.](#)

Demeny, P. (2003). Population Policy: A Conscience Summary. *Policy Research Division*. Population Council. No. 173.

Paul Demeny, a distinguished scholar for the Population Council, New York. On his report Population Policy: A Conscience Summary defines population policies, discusses how individual and collective interests were reconciled in traditional societies and considers international population policies after World War II and contemporary population policy responses to below-replacement fertility. This document will provide delegates with the background of population policies and their development since World War II.

¹⁰³ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 7.

¹⁰⁴ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 11.

¹⁰⁵ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 11.

¹⁰⁶ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 5.

¹⁰⁷ United Nations Population Fund, *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*, 2012, p. 23.

¹⁰⁸ United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability*, 2011. p. 33.

Evans, A. (2010). Resource Scarcity, Climate Change and the Risk of Violent Conflict. *World Development Report 2011*, World Bank.

Alex Evans in the 2011 World Development Report for the World Bank addresses how natural resource scarcity and global climate change increase the risk of violent conflict in the future. He focuses on how basic resources such as food, land and water are becoming scarce. Furthermore, he focuses on resource availability as the result of poor governance and limitations. Poor resource administration and exploitation have posed a risk by climate change. Exploitation of resource has affected the vulnerability of populations, ecosystems, economies and institutions as on the magnitude of climate or scarcity impacts. These documents will help delegates understand not only the role of population policies for achieving sustainability but their role in preventing future conflicts over resources.

Kumar, R. South Asian Voice. (2003). *India and a One-Child-Policy*. Retrieved August 24, 2012, from http://india_resource.tripod.com/one-child-policy.html

This article written by Dr. A.V. Ramana Kuma analyzes India's population problems. Rapid population growth and internal migration to cities creating slums and sub marginal neighborhoods and their impact on environment are addressed. India's population policies are analyzed and various suggestions are made by Dr. A.V. Ramana Kumar, principally suggesting the adoption of China's One Child Policy in order to control India's growing demographics.

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division. (2011). *Seven Billion and Growing: The Role of Population Policy in Achieving Sustainability*. Technical Paper No. 2011/3. *Population Policy: A Concise Summary*.

The report of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division gives a wide view on the importance of population policies for sustainable development. It addresses today's population situation and presents demographics on how population is supposed to keep growing. As well, it presents how future population growth depends mostly on fertility trends, the implications of population growth and how it is related with economic development and poverty. Furthermore, this report discusses the importance of increasing education and health services. Finally, the report highlights the importance of human reproductive rights as the basis for population policies. This document will enlarge delegates' understanding on the relation between population policies and sustainability.

United Nations International Conference on Population and Development. (1994). *Report on the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action*, Cairo.

The report on the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action is the most important document for Commission on Population and Development. It's the commission responsibility to monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the national, regional and global levels. The ICPD is the cornerstone for population policies. The ICPD Programme of Action endorses a new strategy, which emphasizes the numerous linkages between population and development and focuses on meeting the needs of individual women and men instead on focusing in achieving demographic targets.

United Nations Population Fund. (2012). *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from <http://www.unfpa.org/public/cache/offonce/home/publications>

This report lectures the linkage between population and sustainable development. It analyzes population implication for sustainable development and how policy-makers should address population dynamics. As well, it exemplifies how the Laxenburg Declaration had an impact in demographic changes and sustainable development. Furthermore, it grants current information on population demographics, resource scarcity and matters on how achieve sustainable development through population policies and sustainable practices of production. This document will provide delegates with the information necessary to understand the equilibrium between population and sustainable development.

United Nations Population Fund. (2011). *The State of World Population 2011: People and possibilities in a world of 7 billion*. United Nations, New York. Retrieved July 17, 2012 from <http://foweb.unfpa.org/SWP2011/reports/EN-SWOP2011-FINAL.pdf>

This report focuses on what can be done in a world with 7 billion people. Youth plays a mayor role in family planning and how youth are being prepared and capacitated for the future is one on the central

topics of this report. It also exemplifies how different United Nations bodies, such as the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund work in developing countries in order to inform the younger population. It explains the trends that are defining the world of 7 billion and documents actions that people in different countries and circumstances are making in their communities to improve world populations' wellbeing. This report will grant delegates a perspective of how the United Nations works in order to secure the role of population policies in achieving sustainability.

II. The Impact of Population Distribution, Urbanization and Internal Migration on Environmental Sustainability

“A suitable total for the number of citizens cannot be fixed without considering the land...”¹⁰⁹

Introduction

Traditionally, the expansion of cities has been accompanied by natural degradation.¹¹⁰ In most cases, rapid urbanization brings environmental concerns such as air contamination, inadequate disposal systems, high rates of water pollution, excessive land consumption, etc.¹¹¹ Additionally, the rapid growth of urbanization levels challenges the capacity of Governments to adequately plan and meet the needs of the growing number of urban residents.¹¹² Although urban areas normally offer better life conditions such as access to sanitation, education, health care, and other basic services, the uncontrolled increment of people might cause several problems.¹¹³

Developing countries are more likely to be affected by these effects due to the high increase of population and the inability to meet people's needs.¹¹⁴ In effect, the increase of low-income population in developing countries is characterized by inadequate living conditions.¹¹⁵ This brings social and environmental problems such as uncontrolled resources consumption, disproportionate waste production, damage to fresh water supplies, and the development of diseases.¹¹⁶ With a total of 6.3 billion people on earth by 2002, numbers showed the existence of three billion malnourished people, more than 2.4 billion infected by malaria, and 2 billion with TB and helminthes.¹¹⁷ This group of problems has raised the attention of policy makers to concentrate on the impact of population distribution on environmental sustainability.¹¹⁸ Population distribution may be determined by several factors which include the rapid increase of urban areas and internal migration.¹¹⁹

Urbanization and Environmental Sustainability

By the year 2010, more than 50% of the world's population lived in urban zones.¹²⁰ Moreover, it is projected that global urban population will increase from 3.5 to 6.3 billion by 2050.¹²¹ Additionally, the increase of population will

¹⁰⁹ Plato in Desvaux, *The Sustainability of Human Populations: How Many People can Live on Earth*, 2007, p. 1.

¹¹⁰ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities?: Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, p. 297.

¹¹¹ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, p.4.

¹¹² United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development: An International Perspective*, 2011.

¹¹³ Population Action International, *Why Population Matters*, 2011, p. 31.

¹¹⁴ Cassils, *Overpopulation, Sustainable Development, and Security: Developing an Integrated Strategy*, 2004, p. 177.

¹¹⁵ Cassils, *Overpopulation, Sustainable Development, and Security: Developing an Integrated Strategy*, 2004, p. 177.

¹¹⁶ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities?: Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, p. 298; Cassils, *Overpopulation, Sustainable Development, and Security: Developing an Integrated Strategy*, 2004, p. 177.

¹¹⁷ Cassils, *Overpopulation, Sustainable Development, and Security: Developing an Integrated Strategy*, 2004, p. 176.

¹¹⁸ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, para. 8.

¹¹⁹ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, para. 26.

¹²⁰ Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division, *Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development: An International Perspective*, 2011.

¹²¹ Population Action International, *Why Population Matters*, 2011, p. 31.

principally occur in developing countries by reaching 5.2 billion in 2050.¹²² Within these states, urban poor population is expected to highly increment.¹²³ In Africa for example, urban poor is expected to reach 500 million by 2015.¹²⁴ This represents an increase of 260 million compared to 1990.¹²⁵ Another example is Shanghai's population which increased "from just over 6 million in 1970 to over 16 million in 2010 and is expected to rise to just over 20 million in 2025."¹²⁶ These two examples are part of the expectation that both Africa and Asia will represent four-fifths of all urban growth by 2030.¹²⁷ These statistics are directly related to the fact that the continuing increase of residents in urban areas affects environmental sustainability.¹²⁸

Effectively, around 150 million people currently live in cities with significant water shortages.¹²⁹ More specifically, 45 countries in the world are already facing water scarcity.¹³⁰ Furthermore, the increase of urban population is directly linked with more greenhouse gas emissions.¹³¹ On this respect, statistics show that an increase of 1% on population in OECD countries increased carbon emissions by 1.3% in 2011.¹³² In the same line, population growth directly results in deforestation due to the increment of food demand.¹³³ In order to supply the necessary amount of food, forests are normally transformed into agricultural land.¹³⁴ Especially in East Africa and South Asia, the demand for fuel wood is another primary cause of deforestation.¹³⁵

Internal Migration and Environmental Sustainability

There are several factors that motivate internal migration such as environmental, political, demographic, social and economic reasons.¹³⁶ Being an important factor of population increase in urban areas, migration within national boundaries contributes to the impact of urbanization on environmental degradation.¹³⁷ Although the most common type of migration is rural-urban mobilization, other forms such as rural-rural, urban-urban, and urban-rural migration are also important in the discussion on population distribution.¹³⁸ In fact, migratory movements to rural forest frontiers areas are the main cause of deforestation due to the expansion of land destined for agriculture.¹³⁹ This has caused the reduction of forest areas, soil erosion, salinity of the soil, and desertification.¹⁴⁰

Environmental Change and Migration

Although migration may contribute to environmental degradation, environmental change may also be the cause of migratory mobilization. In fact, past experiences show that coastal areas are highly affected by natural disasters caused by changes on the environment.¹⁴¹ After the events caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, a decline of 25.4%

¹²² Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division, *Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development: An International Perspective*, 2011, p.1.

¹²³ Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division, *Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development: An International Perspective*, 2011, p.2.

¹²⁴ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 15; Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008.

¹²⁵ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 15.

¹²⁶ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 19.

¹²⁷ Martine, *Preparing for Sustainable Urban Growth in Developing Areas*, 2011, p. 6.

¹²⁸ Cassils, *Overpopulation, Sustainable Development, and Security: Developing an Integrated Strategy*, 2004, p. 173.

¹²⁹ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 19.

¹³⁰ Population Action International, *Why Population Matters*, 2011, p.50.

¹³¹ Population Action International, *Why Population Matters*, 2011, p.50.

¹³² Mason, *The Environmental Consequences of Demographic Change*, 2011, p. 1.

¹³³ Population Action International, *Why Population Matters*, 2011, p.59.

¹³⁴ Population Action International, *Why Population Matters*, 2011, p.59.

¹³⁵ Population Action International, *Why Population Matters*, 2011, p.59.

¹³⁶ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 12.

¹³⁷ Bilsborrow, *Population Growth, Internal Migration, and Environmental Degradation in Rural Areas of Developing Countries*, 1992, p. 125.

¹³⁸ Carr, *Proximate Population Factors and Deforestation in Tropical Agricultural Frontiers*, 2004, p. 587.

¹³⁹ Carr, *Proximate Population Factors and Deforestation in Tropical Agricultural Frontiers*, 2004, pp. 588-589.

¹⁴⁰ Desvaux, *The Sustainability of Human Populations: How Many People can Live on Earth*, 2007, p. 2; Carr, *Proximate Population Factors and Deforestation in Tropical Agricultural Frontiers*, 2004, pp. 588-589.

¹⁴¹ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 13.

of New Orleans' population and an increase of 250,000 people in Texas was registered in 2010.¹⁴² While 17 million people were displaced globally by natural disasters in 2009, the number increased to 42 million in 2010.¹⁴³ Similarly, sea level raise, soil erosion, desertification, contamination of water supplies, and drought are other factors that influence internal migration.¹⁴⁴ Consequently, the different environmental factors that influence mobility directly affect population distribution.¹⁴⁵

Internal migration influenced by climate impacts is especially relevant for vulnerable populations.¹⁴⁶ People that have been forced to migrate because of environmental factors have been called Environmentally Displaced Persons (EDPs).¹⁴⁷ The vast majority of EDPs come from low-income populations who are also economically vulnerable.¹⁴⁸ For such reason, this people face a double risk which is caused by their lack of wealth.¹⁴⁹ At the initial stages of environmental hazards, EDPs do not have the resources to move immediately.¹⁵⁰ Therefore, they stay trapped in areas vulnerable to environmental threats.¹⁵¹ Those who emigrate from the affected places are likely to move into other areas of high environmental risks.¹⁵² These include dry lands, zones threatened by inundations, areas with a lack of water resources, or places affected with diseases.¹⁵³ Effectively, these destinations include vulnerable urban dwellers.¹⁵⁴ As a result, the environmental problems that urbanization presents increase. Consequently, internal migration motivated by environmental reasons creates a circle where internal migration affects environment while at the same time, environmental changes cause internal migration.¹⁵⁵

The International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action and the CPD

The Commission on Population and Development has addressed the issue of population distribution, urbanization and internal migration since its creation in 1994.¹⁵⁶ This is due to the mandate of the CPD consisting on monitoring the implementation of the *International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action (ICPD Programme of Action)*.¹⁵⁷ In effect, this document set this issue as one of the main problems of population growth and sustainable development.¹⁵⁸ Furthermore, the *ICPD Programme of Action* recognized the economic, social, and environmental implications of both urbanization and migration.¹⁵⁹ At the same time, it defined the concept of population distribution policies as "those that, while respecting the right of individuals to live and work in the community of their choice, take into account the effects of development strategies on population distribution."¹⁶⁰ At the same time, the Conference established a number of objectives in order to achieve sustainable development while confronting the challenges that urban population growth represents.

¹⁴² Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 13.

¹⁴³ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 15.

¹⁴⁴ Adamo and de Sherbinin, *The Impact of Climate Change on the Spatial Distribution of Population and Migration*, 2011, p. 179.

¹⁴⁵ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008.

¹⁴⁶ Adamo and de Sherbinin, *The Impact of Climate Change on the Spatial Distribution of Population and Migration*, 2011, p. 171.

¹⁴⁷ Adamo and de Sherbinin, *The Impact of Climate Change on the Spatial Distribution of Population and Migration*, 2011, p. 173.

¹⁴⁸ Adamo and de Sherbinin, *The Impact of Climate Change on the Spatial Distribution of Population and Migration*, 2011, p. 177.

¹⁴⁹ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 13-14.

¹⁵⁰ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 13-14.

¹⁵¹ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 13-14.

¹⁵² Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 13-14.

¹⁵³ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 13-14.

¹⁵⁴ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 13-14, 19.

¹⁵⁵ Foresight, *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*, 2011, p. 19, 30.

¹⁵⁶ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *About the Commission*, N.A.

¹⁵⁷ Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *About the Commission*, N.A.

¹⁵⁸ International Conference on Population and Development, *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1994.

¹⁵⁹ International Conference on Population and Development, *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1994, para.9.1.

¹⁶⁰ International Conference on Population and Development, *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1994, para.9.1.

Among these objectives, Member States agreed on the necessity to promote ecological sustainable development of the areas affected by migration.¹⁶¹ In addition, discussions included the reduction of the pushing factors that influence migration flows.¹⁶² Relating to the management of urban agglomerations, the *ICPD Programme of Action* enhanced the implementation of ‘‘participatory and resource-conscious planning and management’’ policies.¹⁶³ Moreover, the document set the goal of revising and reviewing policies that influence the agglomeration of population in large cities.¹⁶⁴ Finally, the *ICPD Programme of Action* considers the guarantee of the security and quality of life of residents in rural and urban areas as a priority.¹⁶⁵ These objectives have been subject of subsequent discussions and policy research done by the CPD.

Following-up the ICPD Programme of Action

Complying with the obligations established in General Assembly resolution *A/RES/49/128* of 1995, the CPD has held meetings dealing specifically with the implementation of the *ICPD Programme of Action*.¹⁶⁶ Concerning the topic of population distribution, urbanization and internal migration, the CPD discussed the issue on its thirty-second, thirty-seventh, and forty-first sessions.¹⁶⁷

The first of these meetings was held on 1999 and resulted in the adoption of report *E/1999/25 - E/CN.9/1999/8*.¹⁶⁸ During this session, the Commission discussed Secretary General *Concise Report on World Population Monitoring, 1999: Population Growth, Structure and Distribution*.¹⁶⁹ This report identified the main concerns relating to urbanization, migration, and distribution by presenting relevant data on population issues.¹⁷⁰ As a result, the Commission adopted draft resolution *E/CN.9/1999/L.4*.¹⁷¹ On this resolution, the CPD recommended the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to request the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat to prepare investigations on ‘‘population growth and distribution that include levels, trends, determinants, consequences and policies [...] on changing demographic circumstances.’’¹⁷²

During the second meeting held in 2004, the CPD adopted report *E/2004/25-E/CN.9/2004/9*.¹⁷³ After ten years of the adoption of the *ICPD Programme of Action*, this meeting was strategically special for the evaluation of the progress achieved. In fact, the special theme of the meeting was the *Review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*.¹⁷⁴ During the meeting, the CPD considered Secretary General Report *E/CN.9/2004/3*.¹⁷⁵ In general terms, the report concluded that the progress on the implementation of the *ICPD Programme of Action* was

¹⁶¹ International Conference on Population and Development, *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1994, para 9.2, a) and b).

¹⁶² International Conference on Population and Development, *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1994, para. 9.2, a) and b).

¹⁶³ International Conference on Population and Development, *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1994, para. 9.13.

¹⁶⁴ International Conference on Population and Development, *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1994, para. 9.13.

¹⁶⁵ International Conference on Population and Development, *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1994, para. 9.13.

¹⁶⁶ United Nations General Assembly, *A/RES/49/128*, 1995.

¹⁶⁷ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Commission Sessions: Official Documents of the Past Sessions of the Commission*, N.D.

¹⁶⁸ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the thirty-second session*, 1999.

¹⁶⁹ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *Concise Report on World Population Monitoring, 1999: Population Growth, Structure and Distribution*, 1999.

¹⁷⁰ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *Concise Report on World Population Monitoring, 1999: Population Growth, Structure and Distribution*, 1999, para. 35-45.

¹⁷¹ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *Concise Report on World Population Monitoring, 1999: Population Growth, Structure and Distribution*, 1999, Section A, 1.

¹⁷² Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *Concise Report on World Population Monitoring, 1999: Population Growth, Structure and Distribution*, 1999, Section A, 1.

¹⁷³ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the thirty-seventh session*, 2004.

¹⁷⁴ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the thirty-seventh session*, 2004.

¹⁷⁵ Commission on Population and Development, *Review and Appraisal of the Progress made in Achieving the Goals and Objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 2004.

successful.¹⁷⁶ However, the Secretary General recognized that population distribution is a remaining challenge especially in developing countries.¹⁷⁷ Furthermore, the report expressed its preoccupation on the expectation that urban areas in less developed regions would constitute the main source of global population growth during the period 2005-2015.¹⁷⁸

Finally, the CPD held a meeting with the special theme on *Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development* on 2008.¹⁷⁹ During the meeting, the CPD adopted draft resolution 2008/1.¹⁸⁰ This document called upon governments to implement population distribution policies that are in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals, the respect of human rights, environmental sustainability, the eradication of poverty, etc.¹⁸¹ Additionally, the Commission called the attention of governments to ensure that urban growth and internal migration have a positive impact on economic growth and the protection of environment.¹⁸² Moreover, the CPD encouraged governments to promote sustainable urbanization and the protection of low-income sectors of society on their vulnerability of the environmental impacts of climate change.¹⁸³ For proposing such recommendations, this draft resolution took into consideration report E/CN.9/2008/3 of the Secretary General.¹⁸⁴

Case study: Population, Migration, and Environment in Latin America

Latin America is the region, among developing countries, with the highest rates of urbanization.¹⁸⁵ In fact, Latin America has around 78% of its population located in urban dwellers.¹⁸⁶ Among other countries, by the year 2000 Argentina had 76.5 per cent of its population living in cities, Chile 75.4%, Brazil 64.5%, Mexico 60.7%, Colombia 60.2%, Ecuador 54.7%, and Guatemala 52.5%.¹⁸⁷ At the same time, internal migration was one factor of concentration in urban zones, being the search for better living conditions the primary cause of migratory movements.¹⁸⁸ In most countries, the two largest cities of each state were the center destination for internal migrants.¹⁸⁹ Consequently, rural-urban migration has been the most common type of migratory mobilization in the region.¹⁹⁰ Nevertheless, other causes of migration influenced by climate change have also been relevant.¹⁹¹ In Mexico for example, approximately 900,000 people have emigrated from areas affected by the reduction of precipitation levels.¹⁹² Effectively, this has affected their living conditions due to soil erosion and the impossibility of developing agriculture.¹⁹³ Urban-urban migration has also increased during the last decade.¹⁹⁴

¹⁷⁶ Commission on Population and Development, *Review and Appraisal of the Progress made in Achieving the Goals and Objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 2004.

¹⁷⁷ Commission on Population and Development, *Review and Appraisal of the Progress made in Achieving the Goals and Objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 2004, p. 34.

¹⁷⁸ Commission on Population and Development, *Review and Appraisal of the Progress made in Achieving the Goals and Objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 2004, p.34.

¹⁷⁹ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the Forty-First Session*, 2008.

¹⁸⁰ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the Forty-First Session*, 2008, p. 2.

¹⁸¹ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the Forty-First Session*, 2008, p. 2.

¹⁸² Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the Forty-First Session*, 2008, p. 2.

¹⁸³ Commission on Population and Development, *Report on the Forty-First Session*, 2008, p. 3.

¹⁸⁴ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008.

¹⁸⁵ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, p.4.

¹⁸⁶ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, p.4; Rodriguez, *Spatial Distribution of the Population, Internal Migration and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2011, p. 55.

¹⁸⁷ Rodriguez, *Spatial Distribution of the Population, Internal Migration and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2011, p. 55

¹⁸⁸ Rodriguez, *Spatial Distribution of the Population, Internal Migration and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2011, p. 55

¹⁸⁹ Rodriguez, *Spatial Distribution of the Population, Internal Migration and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2011, p. 72.

¹⁹⁰ Da Gama Torres, *Social and Environmental Aspects of Peri-Urban Growth in Latin American Mega Cities*, 2011, p. 123.

¹⁹¹ Deprez, *Climate Migration in Latin America: A Future 'Flood of Refugee' to the North?*, 2010.

¹⁹² Deprez, *Climate Migration in Latin America: A Future 'Flood of Refugee' to the North?*, 2010.

¹⁹³ Deprez, *Climate Migration in Latin America: A Future 'Flood of Refugee' to the North?*, 2010.

The high level of urbanization has brought both socio-economic and environmental problems.¹⁹⁵ This has been present in the suburb areas of cities where low-income population growth has significantly increased.¹⁹⁶ The lack of sanitation has resulted in the contamination of rivers and the increasing demand of transportation has caused air pollution.¹⁹⁷ Moreover, deforestation has resulted from the expansion of suburban areas.¹⁹⁸ During the period from 1961 to 2001, around 52 million hectares of forest were destroyed in South America.¹⁹⁹ “In 2002, approximately 47% of the Brazilian Amazon was under some type of human pressure, leading to land-use conversion, forest loss and degradation, and rapid changes to the regional landscape.”²⁰⁰

Policy Actions on Population Distribution

Traditionally, governments have focused on the implementation of policies that pursue the limitation of rural-urban migration patterns.²⁰¹ Among other measures, policy actions have included “internal migration controls, undertaking land redistribution, creating regional development zones and, more recently, promoting economic diversification and competitiveness in rural areas through the mobilization of investment and the improvement of livelihoods.”²⁰² Other policies such as promoting rural-urban migration have also been put into practice.²⁰³ Furthermore, urban-urban migration policies have been adopted in order to promote mobilization from larger to smaller cities.²⁰⁴

Although historic experience has shown that the development of cities bring negative environmental impacts, there might also be positive implications.²⁰⁵ In this sense, population distribution literature has suggested the development of policies that guarantee an effective and environmentally sustainable systematic growth of urban population.²⁰⁶ Improving social conditions such as access to basic services or developing strategies for territorial land use planning, have been options available for policy makers.²⁰⁷ In order to control natural increase of population in urban poor areas, family planning strategies are commonly used to reduce fertility rates.²⁰⁸ Finally, this has been accompanied by strategies that look for poverty reduction on urban poor population.²⁰⁹

Conclusions

The issue of population distribution, urbanization and internal migration is open for governmental discussion. Although each country is free to implement the policy action that better suits its needs, international cooperation is

¹⁹⁴ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, p.32.

¹⁹⁵ Da Gama Torres, *Social and Environmental Aspects of Peri-Urban Growth in Latin American Mega Cities*, 2011, p. 123.

¹⁹⁶ Da Gama Torres, *Social and Environmental Aspects of Peri-Urban Growth in Latin American Mega Cities*, 2011, p. 123.

¹⁹⁷ Da Gama Torres, *Social and Environmental Aspects of Peri-Urban Growth in Latin American Mega Cities*, 2011, p. 129.

¹⁹⁸ Da Gama Torres, *Social and Environmental Aspects of Peri-Urban Growth in Latin American Mega Cities*, 2011, p. 129.

¹⁹⁹ Carr, Bilborrow, and Barbieri, *Latin America at the Dawn of the 20th Century: Evidence of Change at the Regional, National, and Local Scales*, 2003, p.9.

²⁰⁰ Population Action International, *Why Population Matters*, 2011, p.61.

²⁰¹ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, para. 66.

²⁰² Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, para 66.

²⁰³ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, para. 68.

²⁰⁴ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, para. 69.

²⁰⁵ Martine, *Preparing for Sustainable Urban Growth in Developing Areas*, 2011, p. 8.

²⁰⁶ Martine, *Preparing for Sustainable Urban Growth in Developing Areas*, 2011, p. 8.

²⁰⁷ Rodriguez, *Spatial Distribution of the Population, Internal Migration and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2011, p. 73.; Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, para 71.

²⁰⁸ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, para 78.

²⁰⁹ Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development*, 2008, para 84.

essential. In this sense, the Commission on Population and Development has the primary task for determining the mechanisms for the implementation of policy actions that guarantee both environmental sustainability and a sustainable population growth in urban zones. It is essential that any action is focused on its main obligation of following up the implementation of the 1994 International Conference Programme of Action. For reaching such purpose, how could the CPD implement the objectives established in the ICPD? What additional policy actions could be implemented? What mechanisms could be adopted in order to stop the negative impact of the increasing urbanization? How should the needs of urban poor be attended while assuring sustainable development? How does Environmentally Displaced Persons affect population distribution and what actions should governments take to reduce their vulnerability? The answer to these inquiries constitutes the basis for the future work of the CPD.

Annotated Bibliography

II. The Impact of Population Distribution, Urbanization and Internal Migration on Environmental Sustainability

Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division. (2011). *Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development: An International Perspective*. Retrieved on July 2, 2012, from <http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/PopDistribUrbanization/PopulationDistributionUrbanization.pdf>

This document is the result of the relevant work done by the Expert Group Meeting on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the UN. This Report compile a series of papers related to this topic. It does not only incorporate a section of sustainable development and population distribution, but also explores the impact of environmental change on internal migration. It also analyzes the issue of health and poverty, and urban planning and governance.

Foresight. (2011). *Migration and Global Environmental Change: Future Challenges and Opportunities*. London: The Government Office for Science. Retrieved on July 29, 2012, from <http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/foresight/docs/migration/11-1116-migration-and-global-environmental-change.pdf>

This report deals with the issue of migration in the context of environmental sustainability. It provides the general discussion of the topic and at the same time it analyses the specific implication in the different regions of the world. Furthermore, it explores the impact that environmental change has on migration from places of high environment risk. Finally, it contains useful information related to the implementation of policy actions focused to reduce the influence of global environmental change on migration.

International Conference on Population and Development. (1994). Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. In: (N.A.). *A/CONF.171/13: Report of the ICPD*. Retrieved on July 29, 2012, from <http://www.un.org/popin/icpd/conference/offeng/poa.html>

This official document is the most important source that delegates should consider for their research on any issue related to the Commission on Population and Development. Since the CPD's mandate is to follow up the implementation of the ICPD, this document contains the basic structure of the current work of the commission. Special attention should be given to chapter IX which specifically deals with the issue of population distribution, urbanization and internal migration. Chapter III also is important in the context of environmental sustainability.

Martine, G. (2011). Preparing for Sustainable Urban Growth in Developing Areas. In: N.A. *Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development: An International Perspective*. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division. Retrieved on July 1, 2012, from <http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/PopDistribUrbanization/PopulationDistributionUrbanization.pdf>

This author presents an alternative point of view relating to the negative impact of urbanization on environment. Although he recognizes that there are several problems caused by the constant increase of population in urban areas, his main argument is that there are positive implications of urbanization. For this reason, this paper presents the way on which a sustainable increase of population can be performed.

Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat. (2008). World Population Monitoring, Focusing on Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development. In: (N.A.). *Economic and Social Council E/CN.9/2008/3*. Retrieved on July 29, 2012, from <http://www.un.org/esa/population/cpd/cpd2008/comm2008.htm>

This document is the Report presented by the Secretary General on the CPD's forty-first session. The Report contains all the information relevant to population distribution, urbanization and internal migration. Although the document was elaborated in 2008, the available data is currently valid. Levels and trends in population distribution, the implications of internal migration and statistic information are presented throughout the text. Additionally, delegates will understand the dynamics of the CPD while analyzing the way this body addresses this particular issue.

Population Action International. (2011). *Why Population Matters*. Retrieved on July, 29, 2012, from http://populationaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Why_Population_Matters.pdf

This Report does not only provide information related to urbanization, but also addresses related issues of international concern. There is information available on health, education, security, climate change, water resources, and deforestation. The author guarantees a direct link of these topics with the continuing increase of global population.

Da Gama Torres, H. (2011). *Social and Environmental Aspects of Peri-Urban Growth in Latin American Mega Cities*. In: N.A. *Population Distribution, Urbanization, Internal Migration and Development: An International Perspective*. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division. Retrieved on July 1, 2012, from

<http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/PopDistribUrbanization/PopulationDistributionUrbanization.pdf>

The author provides useful information on the growing population of Latin America. Specifically, he deals with the issue of growing suburbs or slums. The implications of the increase of urban poor are deeply analyzed. Additionally, he presents a formal study of the impact of migratory mobilization in population distribution.

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Rules of Procedure

Economic and Social Council Plenary

Introduction

1. These rules shall be the only rules which apply to the Economic and Social Council Plenary (hereinafter referred to as “the Council”) and shall be considered adopted by the Council prior to its first meeting.
2. For purposes of these rules, the Plenary Director, the Assistant Director(s), the Under-Secretaries-General, and the Assistant Secretaries-General, are designates and agents of the Secretary-General and Director-General, and are collectively referred to as the “Secretariat.”
3. Interpretation of the rules shall be reserved exclusively to the Director-General or her or his designate. Such interpretation shall be in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the National Model United Nations and in furtherance of the educational mission of that organization.
4. For the purposes of these rules, “President” shall refer to the chairperson or acting chairperson of the Council.

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1 - Dates of convening and adjournment

The Council shall meet every year in regular session, commencing and closing on the dates designated by the Secretary-General.

Rule 2 - Place of sessions

The Council shall meet at a location designated by the Secretary-General.

II. AGENDA

Rule 3 - Provisional agenda

The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to the Members of the Council at least sixty days before the opening of the session.

Rule 4 - Adoption of the agenda

The agenda provided by the Secretary-General shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the session. The order of the agenda items shall be determined by a majority vote of those present and voting. Items on the agenda may be amended or deleted by the Council by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

The vote described in this rule is a procedural vote and, as such, observers are permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, those present and voting means those delegates, including observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote.

Rule 5 - Revision of the agenda

During a session, the Council may revise the agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only important and urgent items shall be added to the agenda during a session. Permission to speak on a motion to revise the agenda shall be accorded only to three representatives in favor of, and three opposed to, the revision. Additional items of an important and urgent character, proposed for inclusion in the agenda less than thirty days before the opening of a session, may be placed on the agenda if the Council so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. No additional item may, unless the Council decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, be considered until a committee has reported on the question concerned.

For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item of an important and urgent character is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final. If an item is determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Council to be placed on the agenda. It will, however, not be considered by the Council until a committee has reported on the question. The votes described in this rule are substantive vote, and, as such, observers are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, the members present and voting means members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 6 - Explanatory memorandum

Any item proposed for inclusion in the agenda shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if

possible, by basic documents.

III. SECRETARIAT

Rule 7 - Duties of the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall act in this capacity in all meetings of the Council.
2. The Secretary-General shall provide and direct the staff required by the Council and be responsible for all the arrangements that may be necessary for its meetings.

Rule 8 - Duties of the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall receive, print, and distribute documents, reports, and resolutions of the Council, and shall distribute documents of the Council to the Members, and generally perform all other work which the Council may require.

Rule 9 - Statements by the Secretariat

The Secretary-General, or her/his representative, may make oral as well as written statements to the Council concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 10 - Selection of the President

The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall appoint, from applications received by the Secretariat, a President who shall hold office and, *inter alia*, chair the Council for the duration of the session, unless otherwise decided by the Secretary-General.

Rule 11 - Replacement of the President

If the President is unable to perform her/his functions, a new President shall be appointed for the unexpired term at the discretion of the Secretary-General.

IV. LANGUAGE

Rule 12 - Official and working language

English shall be the official and working language of the Council.

Rule 13 - Interpretation (oral) or translation (written)

Any representative wishing to address any body or submit a document in a language other than English shall provide interpretation or translation into English.

This rule does not affect the total speaking time allotted to those representatives wishing to address the body in a language other than English. As such, both the speech and the interpretation must be within the set time limit.

V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 14 – Quorum

The President may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when representatives of at least one third of the members of the Council are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the Council shall be required for any decision to be taken.

For purposes of this rule, members of the Council means the total number of members (not including observers) in attendance at the first night's meeting.

Rule 15 - General powers of the President

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Council, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Council and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. He or she shall rule on points of order. He or she may propose to the Council the closure of the list of speakers, a

limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times the representative of each member may speak on an item, the adjournment or closure of the debate, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting.

Included in these enumerated powers is the President's power to assign speaking times for all speeches incidental to motions and amendment. Further, the President is to use her/his discretion, upon the advice and at the consent of the Secretariat, to determine whether to entertain a particular motion based on the philosophy and principles of the NMUN. Such discretion should be used on a limited basis and only under circumstances where it is necessary to advance the educational mission of the Conference. For purposes of this rule, the President's power to propose to the Council entails her/his power to entertain motions, and not to move the body on his or her own motion.

Rule 16

The President, in the exercise of her or his functions, remains under the authority of the Council.

Rule 17 - Points of order

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order, which shall be decided immediately by the President. Any appeal of the decision of the President shall be immediately put to a vote, and the ruling of the President shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting.

Such points of order should not under any circumstances interrupt the speech of a fellow representative. Any questions on order arising during a speech made by a representative should be raised at the conclusion of the speech, or can be addressed by the President, sua sponte, during the speech. For purposes of this rule, —the members present and voting mean those members (not including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 18

A representative may not, in rising to a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 19 - Speeches

1. No one may address the Council without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.
2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Council, and the President may call a speaker to order if her/his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
3. The Council may limit the time allowed to speakers and all representatives may speak on any question. Permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded only to two representatives favoring and two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call her or him to order without delay.

In line with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN, in furtherance of its educational mission, and for the purpose of facilitating debate, if the President determines that the Council in large part does not want to deviate from the limits to the speaker's time as it is then set, and that any additional motions will not be well received by the body, the President, in her/his discretion, and on the advice and consent of the Secretariat, may rule as dilatory any additional motions to change the limits of the speaker's time.

Rule 20 - Closing of list of speakers

Members may only be on the list of speakers once but may be added again after having spoken. During the course of a debate the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Council, declare the list closed. When there are no more speakers, the President shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by decision of the Council.

The decision to announce the list of speakers is within the discretion of the President and should not be the subject of a motion by the Council. A motion to close the speakers' list is within the purview of the Council and the President should not act on her/his own motion.

Rule 21 - Right of reply

If a remark impugns the integrity of a representative's State, the President may permit that representative to exercise

her/his right of reply following the conclusion of the controversial speech, and shall determine an appropriate time limit for the reply. No ruling on this question shall be subject to appeal.

For purposes of this rule, a remark that impugns the integrity of a representative's State is one directed at the governing authority of that State and/or one that puts into question that State's sovereignty or a portion thereof. All interventions in the exercise of the right of reply shall be addressed in writing to the Secretariat and shall not be raised as a point of order or motion. The reply shall be read to the Council by the representative only upon approval of the Secretariat, and in no case after voting has concluded on all matters relating to the agenda topic, during the discussion of which, the right arose.

Rule 22 - Suspension of the meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the suspension of the meeting, specifying a time for reconvening. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to a vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass.

Rule 23 - Adjournment of the meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to the vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. After adjournment, the Council shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

As this motion, if successful, would end the meeting until the Council's next regularly scheduled session the following year, and in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and in furtherance of its educational mission, the President will not entertain such a motion until the end of the last meeting of the Council.

Rule 24 - Adjournment of debate

A representative may at any time move the adjournment of debate on the topic under discussion. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to two representatives favoring and two opposing adjournment, after which the motion shall be put to a vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. If a motion for adjournment passes, the topic is considered dismissed and no action will be taken on it.

Rule 25 - Closure of debate

A representative may at any time move the closure of debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified her/his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. Closure of debate shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. If the Council favors the closure of debate, the Council shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

Rule 26 - Order of motions Subject to rule 23, the motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

- a) To suspend the meeting;
- b) To adjourn the meeting;
- c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
- d) To close the debate on the item under discussion.

Rule 27 - Proposals and amendments

Proposals and substantive amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretariat, with the names of twenty percent of the members of the Council would like the Council to consider the proposal or amendment. The Secretariat may, at its discretion, approve the proposal or amendment for circulation among the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be put to the vote at any meeting of the Council unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments or of motions as to procedure, even though such amendments and motions have not been circulated. If the sponsors agree to the adoption of a proposed amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the proposed amendment. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the Council for all purposes, including subsequent amendments.

For purposes of this rule, all proposals shall be in the form of working papers prior to their approval by the Secretariat. Working papers will not be copied, or in any other way distributed, to the Council by the Secretariat.

The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of the working papers. Along these lines, and in furtherance of the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and for the purpose of advancing its educational mission, representatives should not directly refer to the substance of a working paper that has not yet been accepted as a draft resolution. After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft resolution and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Council. These draft resolutions are the collective property of the Council and, as such, the names of the original sponsors will be removed. The copying and distribution of amendments is at the discretion of the Secretariat, but the substance of all such amendments will be made available to all representatives in some form.

Rule 28 - Withdrawal of motions

A proposal or a motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before voting has commenced, provided that it has not been amended. A motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative.

Rule 29 - Reconsideration of a topic

When a topic has been adjourned, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Council, by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, so decides. Reconsideration can only be moved by a representative who voted on the prevailing side of the original motion to adjourn. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall be put to the vote immediately.

For purposes of this rule, those present and voting means those representatives, including observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion is voted upon by the body.

VI. VOTING

Rule 30 - Voting rights

Each member of the Council shall have one vote.

This rule applies to substantive voting on amendments, draft resolutions, and portions of draft resolutions divided out by motion. As such, all references to member(s) do not include observers, who are not permitted to cast votes on substantive matters.

Rule 31 - Request for a vote

A proposal or motion before the Council for decision shall be voted upon if any member so requests. Where no member requests a vote, the Council may adopt proposals or motions without a vote.

For purposes of this rule, proposal means any draft resolution, an amendment thereto, or a portion of a draft resolution divided out by motion. Just prior to a vote on a particular proposal or motion, the President may ask if there are any objections to passing the proposal or motion by acclamation, or a member may move to accept the proposal or motion by acclamation. If there are no objections to the proposal or motion, then it is adopted without a vote.

Rule 32 - Majority required

1. Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Assembly shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.
2. For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase “members present and voting” means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

All members declaring their representative States as “present and voting” during the attendance roll call for the meeting during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain.

Rule 33 - Method of voting

1. The Council shall normally vote by a show of placards, except that a representative may request a roll call, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is randomly selected by the President. The name of each present member shall be called in any roll call, and one of its representatives shall reply “yes,” “no,” “abstention,” or “pass.”

Only those members who designate themselves as present or present and voting during the attendance roll

call, or in some other manner communicate their attendance to the President and/or Secretariat, are permitted to vote and, as such, no others will be called during a roll-call vote. Any representatives replying pass, must, on the second time through, respond with either yes or no. A pass cannot be followed by a second pass for the same proposal or amendment, nor can it be followed by an abstention on that same proposal or amendment.

2. When the Council votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of placards and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call vote. A representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Council shall dispense with the procedure of calling out the names of the members.
3. The vote of each member participating in a roll call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in the record.

Rule 34 - Explanations of vote

Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanation of their votes after the voting has been completed. The representatives of a member sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended, and the member has voted against the proposal or motion.

All explanations of vote must be submitted to the President in writing before debate on the topic is closed, except where the representative is of a member sponsoring the proposal, as described in the second clause, in which case the explanation of vote must be submitted to the President in writing immediately after voting on the topic ends.

Rule 35 - Conduct during voting

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representatives shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual process of voting.

Rule 36 - Division of proposals and amendments

Immediately before a proposal or amendment comes to a vote, a representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment should be voted on separately. If there are calls for multiple divisions, those shall be voted upon in an order to be set by the President where the most radical division will be voted upon first. If objection is made to the motion for division, the request for division shall be voted upon, requiring the support of a majority of those present and voting to pass. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given only to two speakers in favor and two speakers against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are involved shall then be put to a vote. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

For purposes of this rule, most radical division means the division that will remove the greatest substance from the draft resolution, but not necessarily the one that will remove the most words or clauses. The determination of which division is most radical is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 37 - Amendments

An amendment is a proposal that does no more than add to, delete from, or revise part of another proposal.

An amendment can add, amend, or delete operative clauses, but cannot in any manner add, amend, delete, or otherwise affect perambulatory clauses.

Rule 38 - Order of voting on amendments

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal shall be voted on first and then the amendment next furthest removed there from, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on.

For purposes of this rule, furthest removed in substance means the amendment that will have the most significant impact on the draft resolution. The determination of which amendment is furthest removed in substance is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 39 - Order of voting on proposals

If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Council decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted.

Rule 40 - The President shall not vote

The President shall not vote but may designate another member of her/his delegation to vote in her/his place.

VII. CREDENTIALS

Rule 41 - Credentials

The credentials of representatives and the names of members of a delegation shall be submitted to the Secretary-General prior to the opening of a session.

Rule 42

The Council shall be bound by the actions of the General Assembly in all credentials matters and shall take no action regarding the credentials of any member.

VII. PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Rule 43 - Participation of non-Member States

1. The Council shall invite any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Council and any other State, to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.
2. A committee or sessional body of the Council shall invite any State that is not one of its own members to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.
3. A State thus invited shall not have the right to vote, but may submit proposals which may be put to the vote on request of any member of the body concerned.

If the Council considers that the presence of a Member invited according to this rule is no longer necessary, it may withdraw the invitation again. Delegates invited to the Council according to this rule should also keep in mind their role and obligations in the committee that they were originally assigned to. For educational purposes of the NMUN Conference, the Secretariat may thus ask a delegate to return to his or her committee when his or her presence in the Council is no longer required.

Rule 45 - Participation of national liberation movements

The Council may invite any national liberation movement recognized by the General Assembly to participate, without the right to vote, in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that movement.

Rule 46 - Participation of and consultation with specialized agencies

In accordance with the agreements concluded between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the specialized agencies shall be entitled: a) To be represented at meetings of the Council and its subsidiary organs; b) To participate, without the right to vote, through their representatives, in deliberations with respect to items of concern to them and to submit proposals regarding such items, which may be put to the vote at the request of any member of the Council or of the subsidiary organ concerned.

Rule 47 - Participation of non-governmental organization and intergovernmental organizations

Representatives of non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations accorded consultative observer status by the General Assembly and other non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Council on the recommendation of the Bureau, may participate, with the procedural right to vote, but not the substantive right to vote, in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations.