



THE 2006 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2006 National Model United Nations Conference. My name is Sara Williams and I will direct this year's African Union (AU) simulation.

My past NMUN roles include Director of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Assistant Director of UNAIDS. I have a Bachelor's degree in philosophy with a focus on media and political science, and I work as a writer. I would also like to introduce our Assistant Director, Emefa Gbedemah. Emefa holds an undergraduate degree in international relations and has NMUN experience in the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Food Program (WFP).

Over the coming months, your task is to learn as much as possible about the AU and how your State interacts with other Member States of the AU. The three topics to be discussed at the 2006 NMUN Conference in the AU simulation are:

1. Economic and Environmental Burdens in AU Member States with Massive Migration;
2. Re-evaluation of AU Programs to Fight the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in Africa; and
3. Cultural Preservation in a Rapidly Urbanizing World

Our committee is fortunate in that the AU is not only a diverse, dynamic organization currently actively debating a wide range of issues, but also that it is one of the world's newer IGOs. As would-be members of the African Union, our past is fresh, our desire to bring about positive change is genuine and our future is promising.

Everything you can do to prepare for our week in session will add to the value of your individual experience as well as the collective experience. While the research and writing process is often daunting, it is a critical element of the NMUN experience and is directly linked to delegate performance and satisfaction. The knowledge you gather now will better enable you to take part and take action in our sessions in April. We encourage you to make full use of a variety of sources – books, journals, films, web and other publications – from a variety of perspectives, as they will be a necessary complement to the information in this background guide.

Each delegation is required to submit a position paper. Similar to last year, NMUN is accepting papers via email. All papers are due by **March 10, 2006**. An important message from the Director-General regarding where papers should be submitted, expectations for their content and format, and inquiring about alternatives to email submission is included on pages 1-2 of this guide. It is vital that all delegates adhere closely to these instructions.

Participation in the NMUN conference is a fascinating and broadly useful experience. If either of us can help you in your preparations or provide some insight or advice, please contact us. You have a challenging task ahead of you but it will come to fruition quickly and its rewards will be immense.

On behalf of Emefa and myself, please let me wish you the best of luck with what I hope will be a worthwhile and enlightening process.

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Message from the Director General Regarding Position Papers for the 2006 NMUN Conference

Position papers are submitted for each committee in which a State/NGO participates at the NMUN Conference. Position papers should provide a concise review of each delegation's foreign 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/NGO should be identified and addressed. Position papers also serve as a blueprint for individual delegates to remember their country's position throughout the course of the Conference.

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

An important component of the awards consideration process is the format of the position papers. Please refer to the sample paper on the following page for a visual example of what your work should look like at its completion. The following format specifications are **required** for all papers:

- All papers must be typed and formatted according to the example in the background guides (following the specifications below will ensure this)
- Length must **not** exceed one double-sided page (two single-sided pages is **not** acceptable)
- Font **must** be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Country/NGO name, School name and committee name clearly labeled on the first page
- Agenda topics clearly labeled in separate sections
- No binding, staples, paper clips, or cover sheets should be used on any of the papers

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

1. A file of the position paper (.doc or .pdf) for each assigned committee should be sent to the committee e-mail address listed below. (Each address is also listed in individual background guides who will be mailed in November.) These e-mail addresses will be active after 30 November. Delegates should carbon copy (cc:) themselves as confirmation of receipt.
2. Each delegation should send one set of all position papers to: *positionpapers@nmun.org*. This set (held by the Director-General) will serve as a back-up copy in case individual committee directors cannot open attachments. *NOTE: This e-mail should only be used as a repository for position papers.*

Each of the above listed tasks needs to be completed no later than **March 10, 2006**. *E-mailed files should be in Microsoft Word (.doc), Rich Text (.rtf), or Adobe (.pdf) formats.*

PLEASE TITLE EACH E-MAIL/DOCUMENT WITH THE NAME OF THE COUNTRY & COMMITTEE

A matrix of received papers will be posted online for delegations to check by March 20, 2006. If you need to make other arrangements for submission, please contact Kevin Grisham, Director General, at dirgen@nmun.org or at 909-991-5506.

Additionally, each delegation should submit a copy of their position paper to the permanent mission of the country you are representing along with an explanation of the Conference. Those delegations representing NGOs do not have to send their position paper to their NGO headquarters, although it is encouraged. This will assist them in preparing your mission briefing in New York.

Finally, please consider that over 1,000 papers will be handled and read by the Secretariat for the Conference. Your patience and cooperation in strictly adhering to the above guidelines will make this process more efficient and is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the conference staff, though as we do not operate out of a central office or location your consideration for time zone differences is appreciated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Grisham', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kevin E. Grisham
Director-General

Sample Position Paper

The following position paper is designed to be a sample of the standard format that an NMUN position paper should follow. While delegates are encouraged to use the front and back of a single page in order to fully address all topics before the committee, please remember that only a maximum of one double-sided page (or two pages total in an electronic file) will be accepted. Only the first double-sided page of any submissions (or two pages of an electronic file) will be considered for awards. Visit the downloads section at www.nmun.org to find an example of an award-winning position paper. When using these sources, please be mindful of the NMUN's policy against plagiarism.

Delegation from
The State of Tranquility

Represented by the
University of Bohemia

Position Paper for the General Assembly Plenary

The issues before the General Assembly Plenary are: The Situation in Sub-Saharan Africa; Racism and Racial Discrimination, and A Comprehensive Review of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. The State of Tranquility a proud member of the Regional Alliance of Peaceful Countries and a fully supports other regional groups in their efforts to coordinated a regional plan for sustained and sustainable development. In that regard, the State of Tranquility recognizes the necessity of ensuring the full realization of the Right to Development as declared in the Declaration on the Right to Development and the Final Report of the Working Group on the Right to Development. Tranquility fully supports the implementation of national development plans with the cooperation of regional organizations, the United Nations, and the international community. Tranquility is firmly committed to addressing the underlying factors

I. The Situation in Sub-Saharan Africa

The State of Tranquility believes that the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and economic security lend themselves to the pacific settlement of disputes in Sub-Saharan Africa, the most ethnically diverse region in the world. The lack of development in the region constitutes the root cause of political instability and conflict. The report of the Secretary-General, *An Agenda for Peace: Recommendations*, if implemented, could enhance the work of the Organization in its efforts to bring about sustainable development in Africa. Tranquility also believes that the use of preventive development in Africa could ensure that conflicts such as those in Liberia, Rwanda, Angola, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo can be avoided before they erupt. While obstacles to be overcome are many, international support for effective national programs to ensure the relief to rehabilitation to development continuum through post-conflict peace-building, can enable Sub-Saharan Africa and the entire developing world to achieve the sustainable development which alone will guarantee regional peace and stability. The State of Tranquility fully supports the increased cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations in all aspects of dispute settlement and peace-keeping. Increased support for such regional efforts, when combined with measures to eliminate the root causes of regional conflict, serves to further enhance the prospects for lasting peace, security and development in Sub-Saharan Africa and throughout the entire international community.

II. Racism and Racial Discrimination

The State of Tranquility believes that the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance offers the global community an opportunity to establish an updated plan of action to completely eradicate racism and racial discrimination throughout the world. The necessity for all Member States to sign, accede to and ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination is an integral part of this plan, as policies and practices based on racism and racial discrimination remain devastating to regional social, economic and infrastructure development. Tranquility encourage all States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to increase their efforts to combat racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and to provide assistance to those affected by such practices. The lack of financial resources that prevented the international community from realizing its objectives in the three previous United Nations Decades to

Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination must not continue to hinder the international community in guaranteeing the fundamental human rights of all peoples.

III. A Comprehensive Review of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations

The State of Tranquility remains firmly committed in support of the continued role of the United Nations Security Council as the primary agent for the maintenance of international peace and security, as mandated under Chapters IV and V of the UN Charter. We strongly recommend the authorization, determination, composition and financing of peacekeeping operations should be determined by the Council, as authorized by Articles 24, 25 and 26 of the Charter and in conjunction with the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. Additionally, the State of Tranquility endorses the current role of the Secretary-General as administrator of the Operations established by the Council. The State of Tranquility remains a central contributor for both financial and logistical support of the United Nations Peacekeeping forces and will continue to contribute to the United Nations Peacekeeping Budget throughout the duration of the current year.

The State of Tranquility is firmly committed to addressing all threats to international peace and security through regional arrangements and multilateral forums. The international community must address the underlying causes of these conflicts and the destabilizing effects of such conflicts on entire regions. Tranquility is convinced that increased utilization of regional and sub-regional peacekeeping mechanisms can enhance the ability of peacekeeping missions to take into account historical, social, and cultural values and traditions within areas of conflict.

As operation costs continue to escalate, however, our nation strongly urges all Member States and the Secretary-General to devote greater attention to the monetary and management aspects of peacekeeping operations and provide serious consideration for the establishment of operation termination dates. The State of Tranquility further supports the proposal endorsed within A/Res/44/49, calling for Member States to develop and maintain an inventory of supplies and equipment to be made available for Operations on short-notice. In addition, the State of Tranquility calls upon Member States to recognize the need to maintain voluntary contributions for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations to reduce the continuing problems incurred by funding deficits.

Resolution Writing and Report Writing at the NMUN Conference

The substantive output of committees at the NMUN conference generally takes the form of either resolutions or reports. At the 2006 NMUN Conference, the ICJ and the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Meeting, will adopt variations on these forms. The ICJ will create judgments and the WTO Ministerial Meeting will produce a declaration.

Please refer to the chart below which designates whether delegates will be writing resolutions or reports in the committee they are participating in at the 2006 NMUN Conference:

- | <u>Resolution Writing Committees</u> | <u>Report Writing Committees</u> |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GA Plenary; GA First; GA Second; GA Third; and ILC• All Security Council Committees• ECOSOC Plenary; ECA; UNICEF; UNEP; and UNDP• G-77; OIC; AU; and NATO | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CSTD; CESCR; WCDR; CSW• UNAIDS and UNHCR• IADB and APEC |

Resolution Writing

A resolution is the most appropriate means of applying political pressure on Member States, expressing an opinion on an important issue, or recommending action to be taken by the United Nations or some other agency. Most UN resolutions are not binding “law”; the only body which may produce resolutions that are binding upon the Member States of the United Nations is the Security Council. (In most cases, the resolutions and reports produced by the IGO committees simulated at the NMUN Conference are binding upon its individual Member States.)

Under UN rules of procedure, unlike other more generalized rules of procedure, the topic on the floor is debated in its entirety. This means that during debate, delegates should discuss the whole issue and all of the resolutions regarding that issue. When debate is exhausted, or is ended, the body then votes on each resolution and amendment and the issue are considered closed.

The National Model United Nations does not allow pre-written resolutions on any agenda topic. For this reason, delegations are not allowed to contact each other before the conference to begin caucusing. The NMUN process of writing resolutions during committee sessions is designed to teach delegates the concepts of negotiation and concession; pre-written resolutions hinder that learning process.

The goal of formal debate and caucusing is to persuade enough countries in the committee to support a particular solution to the topic under discussion. Resolutions formally state the agreed-upon solution by outlining the relevant precedents and describing the proposed actions. The committee is not limited to one resolution per topic; often the committee will pass multiple resolutions dealing with different aspects of a topic.

Report Writing

Some committees at the conference will draft reports during the course of negotiations, instead of resolutions. These reports represent the full work of the committee in question. These reports should not be confused with the summary reports of a committee’s work which are presented at the Saturday Plenary Sessions of either the General Assembly or ECOSOC. Directors of report writing committees will elaborate on the process used in reporting writing committees on opening night (Tuesday night). Prior to the NMUN Conference in April 2006, a handout with a lengthier sample report for delegates to use as a model will be posted on the NMUN Conference website at www.nmun.org.

Reports are similar in nature to resolutions, with only a few key differences. Reports represent the formal recommendations and/or decisions of the committee on the agenda topics at hand, in the same manner as resolutions, but in the form of one document. Committees that write resolutions typically produce a number of draft resolutions for each topic, and each one is subject to a substantive vote by the body. In a similar manner, committees that write

reports produce several draft report segments and then vote on each one. The final report of these committees will combine the adopted draft reports into one comprehensive report at the end of the simulation.

Another key difference is the format of reports. While resolutions consist of one long sentence, reports are a series of complete sentences. Thus, where the clauses of a resolution each contain one whole concept, a report is composed of paragraphs, each constituted by a sentence or a few sentences which contain one whole concept.

What to Expect at the Simulation of Your Committee

Opening session: After a brief introduction of the dais and some announcements, delegates will discuss the order in which the committee will address agenda topics while in formal and caucus sessions. The committee will then vote on a motion from the floor to set the agenda in a proposed order, and will continue to vote on such motions until one passes by a majority vote. If the committee fails to reach agreement on the agenda order by the conclusion of the first evening, the director and assistant director reserve the right to set the agenda. After the agenda has been set, the chair will entertain motions for the opening of the speakers' list to address the first agenda topic. (It should be noted due to the special procedures used by the International Court of Justice [ICJ] a variety on this process will be used. Delegates participating in the ICJ should carefully follow the delegate preparation section of the Background Guide of the ICJ.)

Rules of procedure: The simulation is conducted through the use of the committee rules of procedure, which are included in this background guide. The rules of procedure for this committee – located at the back of this background guide – are the rules of procedure that are only accepted during the simulation of this committee. Interpretation of these rules is left to the sole discretion of the Director-General or her/his designate. It is extremely important to develop a thorough working knowledge of the rules, including when they should be introduced, and in what capacity. The rules of procedure are enforced to facilitate the efficient workings of the committee, not to hinder them. Therefore, the director, assistant director and chair (with the approval of the director) reserve the right to rule motions out of order which may be considered dilatory or disruptive to the committee proceedings. In this respect, one of the quickest ways for a delegate to alienate him/herself within a committee is to be labeled a “rules hound,” or someone who attempts to disrupt committee proceedings with the introduction of redundant, inappropriate or time-consuming motions.

Decorum: Decorum is a *de facto* rule throughout the week of the simulation. In both large and small committees, the ability to conduct normal business while in formal session is an arduous task when decorum is not maintained; delegates will be asked for their assistance in this endeavor. Please see the Delegate Preparation Manual for a specific discussion of delegate decorum in committee and also, delegate behavior while at the Conference.

Caucusing: Caucusing is an important and logistically difficult component of the United Nations simulation. These informal meetings between voting blocs, as well as between States with positions that are diametrically opposed, often produce compromises acceptable to all parties. However, delegates are required to address issues within a week's time which, in many cases, the international community has failed resolve after years of debate and negotiation. Further, delegates to the NMUN do not have individual offices in which to convene informal meetings. As a result, the bulk of informal negotiation and the construction of working papers will occur within, or in the close proximity of, the committee chambers. In consideration for the other Conference participants, delegates are asked to respect the formal proceedings occurring both within and between all committees participating at the Conference. Finally, given the importance of decorum within committee chambers, all caucusing should occur outside of the committee chambers while committee is in session.

Chairs and Rapporteurs: Delegates should also take note that the director and assistant director (with the approval of the Director-General) will select a committee chair and rapporteur (committee administrative assistant) following the conclusion of interviews on the first evening of the Conference (Tuesday evening). For those interested in the opportunity to serve the committee as a chairperson or rapporteur, an application is available online at www.nmun.org. The application should be completed and submitted to the director no later than the opening night of the Conference. The successful candidate for chair will demonstrate an excellent working-knowledge of the rules of procedure through a series of situations presented to her or him and exhibit qualities of leadership, patience and

humility. The rapporteur will assist the chair, the director and the assistant director with the abundance of paperwork and record keeping required in the efficient workings of the committee, as well as provide logistical support for the chair while in voting procedures. Multiple years of attendance at the NMUN Conference is preferred in candidates for the committee chair and rapporteur, but it is not the only defining characteristic used by the Directors and Assistant Directors to select chairs and rapporteur for committees.

Delegates selected to serve in these positions must forfeit their rights to participate in substantive debate within the committee. Although the chair and rapporteur continue to serve as representatives of their assigned State, their primary duty is to assist the director and assistant director in facilitating the professional operation of the committee. Additionally, delegates selected as committee chairs and rapporteurs do retain an equal eligibility for awards consideration. All delegates are encouraged to apply for these challenging and rewarding positions. Many individuals who serve as chairs and rapporteurs have in later years served as members of the NMUN Volunteer Staff.

Attire: In keeping with the spirit of the simulation, delegates are *required* to wear professional business attire. Further, national symbols of any kind are forbidden in committee chambers, in accordance with practices of the UN. Symbols associated specifically with the United Nations (e.g., the seal of the UN) are allowed in committee chambers.

Your Role as a Delegate at the 2006 NMUN Conference

Taking on the Role of a Diplomat

The most important aspect of participating as a delegate to the NMUN is your assumption of the role of a foreign diplomat. In this role, you are acting as a representative of the government and the peoples of the Member State or NGO to which you have been assigned. The only exception is those delegates who are serving as justices on the International Court of Justice [ICJ]. In their capacities, those delegates serving as justices are serving as independent technical experts.

While in preparation for and throughout the duration of the Conference, you may find personal disagreement with the foreign policy of the country you are representing or with the policy of the NGO you are representing. Your personal opinions are entirely inapplicable during the course of the simulation. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance for all delegates to arrive well-versed in the dynamics of their State's foreign policy or in that of their NGO, and anticipate possible obstacles their State or NGO may encounter during the simulation. The simulation's quality depends on the collective preparation of its participants.

As a delegate, you should be able to demonstrate thorough knowledge of your assigned country's policies, specific issues to be discussed, and the procedures, activities, and history of your committee. Delegates should also exhibit the ability to negotiate and compromise, demonstrate leadership, and the ability to influence by gaining the professional respect of fellow delegates. States and NGOs maintain specific and adaptive foreign policy methods and goals to allow delegates to function in the negotiation process. As a representative of the NGO or State to which you have been assigned, you will be expected to work within the historical confines of your NGO or country's foreign policy at the UN. Even though many Member States and Observer States do not assume strong leadership roles in the UN, the reality of the NMUN is that each delegation will be judged on its ability to provide leadership to other delegates throughout the Conference.

Delegates are reminded that professional diplomats conduct themselves, and regard one another, with the utmost dignity and respect, regardless of foreign policy affiliation or personal feelings. Even States and NGOs who observe severely conflicting ideological perspectives will work closely together, within the UN, on diplomatic matters of mutual concern. Likewise many delegates are forced to work together despite personal conflicts.

The Preparation and Introduction of Resolutions and Reports

Resolutions and reports adopted within respective committees represent Member States' decisions and recommended courses of action with respect to the topics under discussion. Clauses within the preamble of

resolutions should provide a brief outline of historical and current perspectives and endeavors regarding the issues to be addressed within the operative clauses of the document. The operative clauses of resolutions provide the objectives and potential actions that Members designed to address the issues outlined within the preamble. More simply, the preamble states the problems before the committee in relation to the topic under deliberation and operative clauses outline the decisions of the committee for the solution of these problems.

Although delegates are encouraged to develop resolution and report writing skills, both in classroom scenarios and at regional MUN simulations, the NMUN will not accept any pre-written resolutions or reports, and which have not been developed by a plurality of the committee. This determination is at the sole discretion of the Secretariat. Due to the goal of creating an environment where the skill of compromise and conflict resolution skills can be learned, delegates may be asked to merge working documents with other individuals working on the same issue in a committee. In addition, *any delegates found to be submitting plagiarized material within resolutions will be subject to dismissal from further participation within the Conference.* Although UN documents are within the public domain, the verbatim exploitation of these documents will not be permitted at the Conference.

Resolutions and reports are developed in three stages. In the initial stage, a resolution or report is referred to as a working paper (in resolution writing committees) or a working draft report segment (in report writing committees). It is generally developed by States or experts that share common perspectives on the issues to be addressed. The working paper/working draft report segment is shared with other delegates in the committee for their input and support. Once the working paper/working draft report segment gathers the required signatories, it is to be submitted to the committee director for approval. On the approval of the director, the working paper/working draft report segment will be copied by Conference Services and introduced by the chair to the committee as a draft resolution or report.

Once the working paper/working draft report has been approved by the committee director, it will be copied by a member of the dais. Delegates in the committee are not required to copy approved working paper/working draft report. Yet, working paper/working draft report which have not been approved by the committee director will not be copied by the dais and it is the responsibility of the delegates to copy their own working paper/working draft report if they choose to share copies of the pre-approved document. Any questions concerning this issue should be directed to the committee director or the assistant director. Also, questions concerning this rule can be directed to members of the NMUN Conference Service Staff.

Once the working paper/working draft report has been introduced as a draft resolution or draft report segment, it becomes the property of the committee and all references to sponsorship, with the exception of identifying the status of amendments while in voting procedure, are formally removed. The central contributors to the contents of the draft resolution or report will continue to enlist the advice and support of as many States or experts as possible to expand upon the substance of the draft and, thereby, gain as much input and support as possible prior to the closure of debate. Once the committee moves to closure on a given topic, all draft resolutions and draft report segment will be voted upon and when adopted, it will thereafter be recognized as formal resolutions or reports.

Adopted resolutions and reports represent recommendations for States and the international community. The legal status of each document depends on which committee the resolution or report is coming from within the organization. For instance, the General Assembly's resolutions are not legally binding political treaties, but the decisions of the Security Council are binding on all Member States. Most countries avoid the embarrassing political position of failing to promote and implement the recommendations they publicly endorsed within the UN. In regard to the IGO committees simulated at the 2006 NMUN Conference (G-77; OIC; AU; APEC; IADB, and NATO), many of the documents passed by the committee are only binding on the Member States of that particular IGO. For example, decisions made by the Organizations of the Islamic Conference (OIC) are only binding on those states which belong to this body. (The decisions by these IGOs will be reported to the General Assembly at the Saturday meeting on the General Assembly.)

It is highly recommended that delegates introduce their ideas to the committee in the form of working papers/working draft report segments as soon as possible in order to contribute to the potential development and adoption of resolutions and reports which characterize the united representative strength and will of regional blocs or, ultimately, the committee as a whole. Typically, a number of working papers/working draft segments before any

committee will overlap in content, style, and substance. In this event, the director will request delegates to integrate their individual endeavors into a single and, thus, more comprehensive and internationally representative document.

The Executive Bureau, the General Committee and Saturday Plenary Sessions

By the conclusion of Tuesday night sessions, the Economic and Social Council Plenary will select four vice-presidents to assist the president (chair) as members of the Council Executive Bureau. Likewise the General Assembly will select 21 of its Members to the General Committee by Tuesday evening. The members of the Bureau and the General Committee are to be selected with regard for equitable geographic representation from: African States, Asian and Pacific States, Eastern European States, Latin American States and Western European and other States. The Bureau will meet on Friday evening, following the conclusion of regular sessions. The General Committee will be composed somewhat differently than the Bureau. It will be comprised of each committee chair from the General Assembly department. They will also meet at the end of regular sessions on Friday evening.

On Friday, the Bureau and General Committee will be briefed by a representative from each relevant committee regarding the work accomplished by their body throughout the week. After reviewing the reports and resolutions submitted by the committee representatives, the Bureau and General Committee will set the agenda for Saturday sessions to deliberate upon each committee's recommendations to the Plenary.

ECOSOC Executive Bureau: The Saturday ECOSOC Plenary Session will deliberate upon the work of all the committees within the ECOSOC Department, as well as other relevant bodies, including most of the specialized agencies. During the Friday evening meeting, the Bureau will set an agenda order for the review of these reports for deliberation and potential adoption during Saturday sessions. Additionally, the Saturday session of ECOSOC Plenary will be deliberating upon a fourth topic to be prepared and introduced by the director and assistant director. This topic will be made available to delegates on Friday afternoon and will encompass a broad theme that relates, as much as is possible, to issues discussed by each of the committees within ECOSOC and the specialized agencies.

GA General Committee: On Saturday the General Assembly Plenary will deliberate upon the work submitted by each of the committees in the GA and Security Council department, as well as relevant inter-governmental organizations and other bodies. Following the conclusion of regular sessions on Friday, the General Committee will set the agenda order for the review of these reports and resolutions and for their potential adoption during Saturday sessions.

Saturday Sessions: On Saturday, the final day of the Conference, the ECOSOC Plenary, General Assembly Plenary, and Security Council will convene at United Nations Headquarters. Plenary deliberations will encompass the work of all Conference committees; and all delegates are advised to participate in the Saturday sessions in order to assist Plenary representatives with their broad scope of work. Minimally, Member State representatives to the Plenary should be briefed in regard to the work of the committees that report to their respective departments. Ideally, the representatives of the committee whose work is being considered will sit with Plenary representatives as expert advisors to the State. The agenda for Saturday sessions will be made available outside Delegate Resources by 9:00 p.m. on Friday.

The Role of Non-governmental Organizations in the Simulation

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are recognized in Article 71 of the *UN Charter* as consultative bodies in relationship to ECOSOC. These organizations also maintain a close working relationship with almost all ECOSOC funds and programs, specialized agencies, General Assembly committees, and regional organizations. In this role, NGOs are an invaluable resource to the UN system because they provide information on political, economic, social, humanitarian, and cultural developments in all parts of the world. Their recommendations may address potential solutions to global problems, speak to specific country or regional needs, or call attention to an emerging crisis.

NGOs are a crucial link between policy-makers and the individuals directly affected by those policies. They represent civil society and its impact on the UN system. There are two primary advantages NGOs have over the UN in terms of information gathering and program implementation. First, NGOs are often locally based and have better

knowledge of regional conditions, needs, and constraints. Second, NGOs may find it easier to gain the acceptance, trust and cooperation of the communities in which they work because they are more aware of the indigenous cultural climate than many intergovernmental organizations. If the UN attempted to gather independently all of the information available to NGOs, it would consume vast amounts of time and scarce financial resources that are better applied to actual programs.

The global summit process that characterizes much of the UN's work in the 1990s has brought new attention to NGOs. At the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, participation in the NGO forum surpassed all previous records. Although they were not invited to formally participate in negotiations, the massive NGO presence indicated recognition of their importance by conference organizers. In 1993, at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, the NGO forum took place in the same building as the official meetings. This increased access to the proceedings brought NGOs to a new level of integration in global summits. At later conferences, such as the Cairo Conference on Population and Development, the Copenhagen World Summit on Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, and Habitat II in Istanbul, NGO forums grew in numbers as well as in their abilities to contribute substantively. As the international community continues to review Conferences of the past ten years, it is apparent that the influence of NGOs will set a new precedent for the incorporation of civil society into UN activity at the global level.

NGOs at the National Model United Nations Conference

Over the past several years, the NMUN has integrated the presence of NGOs into committees at the conference. It is an ongoing project that improves the educational quality of the simulation and mirrors developments in the UN itself, where NGOs are gaining both visibility and respect as a resource for program design and implementation. A large number of delegates will take on the challenging task of representing NGO delegations this year.

NGO delegations maintain all of the privileges accorded to traditional country delegations, and are required to exhibit the same level of preparedness. NGO delegations are eligible for awards, based on the same criteria as country delegations, and may select head delegates to attend the Head Delegate Meetings each night. NGO representatives are also required to submit position papers reflecting the perspectives and priorities of their assigned NGO on the agenda topics at hand.

All delegates should take the role of NGOs very seriously. NGO representatives must be prepared to fully participate in all committee activities, including formal debate, caucusing and drafting working papers. In turn, Member State delegates must be prepared to engage NGO delegates in these activities. Mutual recognition and respect between NGO and country delegates is necessary to a successful conference experience.

NGO delegates maintain the following privileges in each committee to which they are assigned:

1. the right to make any procedural motion;
2. the right to vote on all procedural motions;
3. the right to speak before all assigned committees; and
4. the right to act as a signatory on working papers.

Please note that NGO delegates do not have substantive voting rights, and may not sponsor working papers. In order to ensure a positive educational experience for all delegates, these rights and privileges may not exactly reflect those granted by ECOSOC. Any alterations made by the Director General gave due consideration to existing realities and the need to provide a learning environment that encourages active participation. *Please note: Those individuals representing NGOs in the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) will be afforded the right to speak for a maximum of two minutes at the beginning of the discussion of a topic from the agenda and a maximum of two minutes prior to moving into voting procedures on a given topic. This alteration to the normal rules has been made by the Director General to better simulate the true workings of this particular committee.*

Country delegates are fully expected to work with NGO delegates in the spirit of collaboration upon which the UN was founded. The exclusion of NGOs from committee work simply because they do not have substantive voting rights is both unrealistic and unprofessional. In almost all cases, actions denigrating the participation of NGOs will

be considered extraordinarily out of character and be noted in awards consideration. NGOs are expert organizations in their respective fields that possess specialized knowledge of the subject matter at hand. The recommendations of NGO delegates maintain the same validity as those of Member States, and it is incumbent upon country delegates to ensure that those perspectives are recognized.

How to Prepare as an NGO Delegation

As an NGO delegation, your preparation should be structured in the same way as a typical country delegation. The most basic pieces of this process include fundamental knowledge of the organization and of the agenda topics. Based on your research, you will decide how your assigned NGO will approach each topic, and the recommendations you will make for potential solutions. This includes identifying blocs of countries and other NGOs that may share the same perspectives and priorities and collaborate with you in committee sessions.

NMUN Resources: In this background guide, each agenda topic contains a section specific to NGO action. This will provide you with basic information on the general role of NGOs in that topic area. These sections may not specifically address your assigned NGO, but will provide a broad discussion of relevant NGO activities. You should not hesitate to contact the main office of your assigned NGO during the course of your preparations. In addition, you should arrange a mission briefing with the UN Liaison Office in New York City of the NGO you are representing. If you need assistance in arranging this briefing, visit the NMUN Web site at www.nmun.org or contact Tracy Kingsley, Assistant Secretary-General for Internal Affairs at asg.internal@nmun.org or the Director-General, Kevin Grisham at dirgen@nmun.org.

Doing Research: A large portion of your research will likely rely on Internet resources. Because most NGOs do not have expansive budgets that allow for the widespread reproduction and dissemination of their written materials and reports, they choose to publish such documents on their Web sites. If you have difficulty obtaining materials from these electronic sources, please contact your director, assistant director, departmental USG, or the Director General for assistance. The UN Web site, as well as the sites for many of the specialized agencies, also contains valuable information about NGO activity. Finally, do not exclude traditional resources from your preparations. Newspapers, scholarly journals, and books will provide differing perspectives on your agenda topics, and may give interesting insight into the evolving role of NGOs. In particular, there is an increasing amount of sources on the issue of civil society and its role in the UN. It is recommended that this literature be consulted as needed for your preparation.

Position Papers: NGO position papers should be constructed in the same fashion as traditional position papers. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned NGO. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee. It will be judged using the same criteria as all country position papers, and is held to the same standard of timeliness.

The most critical part of a successful NGO delegate experience at the NMUN Conference is active participation in committee sessions. This includes utilizing the rules of procedure, speaking in formal debate and contributing during caucus sessions. Although you may not sponsor working papers or vote on draft resolutions/draft report segments, you have both the right and the obligation to participate in their composition and refinement. You may act as a signatory to any working paper on the floor of your committee if you wish to illustrate your support for continued development of the document. Getting involved in the simulation is the best way to enhance your own educational experience and that of your fellow delegates.

The Role of Inter-Governmental Organizations in the Simulation

IGOs are invaluable resources to the UN because they facilitate the coordination of issues and allow for the UN system to function with more relevant tools for understanding and guiding economic, political, and social policy.

IGOs, along with NGOs, are crucial links between policy-makers and the individuals directly affected by those policies. They represent civil society and its impact on the UN system. There are two primary advantages IGOs have over the UN in terms of information gathering and program implementation. First, IGOs are often regionally

based and have better knowledge of the regional conditions, needs, and constraints. Second, the UN depends on the work of IGOs to gain information that its limited time and financial resources do not allow.

IGOs allow Member States to use their organization as a tool to achieve policy objectives and push their own interests and development agendas. Being part of an IGO also helps to develop countries' infrastructure by gaining knowledge and skills from other representatives they interact with. Many IGOs are actual UN subsidiary bodies, while other is independent entities with ties to the UN system. Their decisions are regarded as decisions of the organization and not of individual member countries. IGOs continue to help set and create international rules and policies within the economic, social, and political forums, which help to bridge the divide between regions and individual countries as they aim to help countries help themselves.

IGOs at the National Model United Nations Conference

Since 2005, IGOs have been invited to participate at the NMUN Conference. (This is separate from the simulation of IGOs as committees at the NMUN Conference which has occurred for many years.) This is part of the Conference's ongoing efforts to improve the educational quality of the simulation by mirroring developments in the UN itself, where IGOs have increasing visibility and respect as a resource for program design and implementation.

IGO delegations maintain all of the privileges accorded to traditional country delegations, and are required to exhibit the same level of preparedness. IGO delegations are eligible for awards, based on the same criteria as country delegations, and may select head delegates to attend the Head Delegate Meetings each night. IGO representatives are also required to submit position papers reflecting the perspectives and priorities of their assigned IGO on the agenda topics at hand.

All delegates should take the role of IGOs seriously. IGO representatives must be fully prepared to participate in all Committee activities, including formal debate, caucusing, and drafting working papers. In turn, Member State delegates must be prepared to engage IGO delegates in these activities. Mutual recognition and respect between IGOs, NGOs, and country delegates is necessary for having a successful Conference experience.

IGO delegates maintain the following privileges in each Committee to which they are assigned:

1. The right to make any procedural motion;
2. The right to vote on all procedural motions;
3. The right to speak before all assigned Committees; and
4. The right to act as a signatory on working papers.

Please note that IGO delegates do not have substantive voting rights, and may not sponsor working papers.

In order to ensure a positive educational experience for all delegates, these rights and privileges may not exactly reflect those granted by ECOSOC. Any alterations made by the Director-General were given due consideration to existing realities and the need to provide a learning environment that encourages active participation.

Country delegates are fully expected to work with IGO delegates in the spirit of collaboration upon which the UN was founded. The exclusion of IGOs from Committee work simply because they do not have substantive voting rights is both unrealistic and unprofessional. In almost all cases, actions denigrating the participation of IGOs will be considered extraordinarily out of character and be noted in awards consideration. IGOs have specialized knowledge on the subject matter at hand as well as important regional perspectives and experiences that could be applied more broadly. The recommendations of IGO delegates maintain the same validity as those of Member States, and it is incumbent upon country delegates to ensure that those perspectives are recognized.

How to Prepare as an IGO Delegation

As an IGO delegation, your preparation should be structured in the same way as a typical country delegation, but always remembering that you are representatives of a specific organization and what they stand for, not representatives of their individual members' perspectives. The most basic pieces of this process include fundamental knowledge of the organization and the agenda topics. Based on your research, you will decide how your assigned IGO will approach each topic, and the recommendations you will make for potential solutions. This includes identifying blocs of countries, NGOs, and other IGOs that may share the same perspectives and priorities and collaborate with you in Committee sessions.

NMUN Resources: In the background guide, each agenda topic contains a specific section on NGO action. While not fully relevant to IGOs, it can be used to provide basic information on the general role of non-country participation in that topic area. You should not hesitate to contact the main office of your assigned IGO during the course of your preparations. In addition, you should arrange a mission briefing with the UN Liaison Office in New York City of the IGO you are representing. If you need assistance in arranging this briefing, visit the NMUN Web site at www.nmun.org or contact Tracy Kingsley, Assistant Secretary-General for Internal Affairs at asg.internal@nmun.org or the Director-General, Kevin Grisham at dirgen@nmun.org.

Doing Research: Most of your research will likely rely on Internet resources. Because most IGOs do not have expansive budgets that allow for the widespread reproduction and dissemination of their written materials and reports, they choose to publish such documents on their Web sites. If you have difficulty obtaining materials from these electronic sources, please contact your Director, Assistant Director, departmental USG, ASG-Internal, or the Director-General for assistance. Finally, do not exclude traditional resources from your preparations. Newspapers, scholarly journals, and books will provide differing perspectives on your agenda topics, and may give interesting insight into the role of IGOs.

As an initial point of reference, listed below are the Web sites for the IGOs being represented at NMUN 2005.

Inter-Governmental Organization

African Development Bank
Asian Development Bank
Caribbean Community
Council of Europe
European Community
Institute for Media, Peace and Security
Inter-Parliamentary Union
League of Arab States
Non-Aligned Movement
Pan-American Health Organization
The Commonwealth
World Bank

Web Site

<http://www.afdb.org>
<http://www.adb.org>
<http://caricom.org>
<http://www.coe.int>
<http://europa.eu.int>
<http://www.mediapeace.org>
<http://www.ipu.org/>
<http://www.arableagueonline.org>
<http://www.nam.gov.za>
<http://www.paho.org>
<http://www.thecommonwealth.org>
<http://www.worldbank.org/>

Position Papers: IGO position papers should be constructed in the same fashion as traditional position papers. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned IGO. 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.

The most critical part of a successful IGO delegate experience at the NMUN Conference is active participation in Committee sessions. This includes utilizing the rules of procedure, speaking in formal debate, and contributing during caucus sessions. Although you may not sponsor working papers or vote on draft resolutions, you have both the right and the obligation to participate in their composition and refinement. You may act as a signatory to any working paper on the floor of your Committee if you wish to illustrate your support for continued development of the document. Getting involved in the simulation is the best way to enhance your own educational experience and that of your fellow delegates.

The Roles of State Delegates, Technical Experts & Independent Technical Experts at the 2006 National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference

The Variety of Roles That Delegates Simulate at the NMUN Conference

At the National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference, delegates assume one of three roles when they participate in committee proceedings. They serve as a delegate representing the national interest of their state (state delegate), a technical expert, or an independent technical expert. At the 2006 NMUN Conference, only the justices of the International Court of Justice will serve in this capacity. Due to independent technical experts only serving in the ICJ, this role will specifically be addressed in the ICJ Background Guide.

The United Nations, particularly the General Assembly, is essentially a political organization. However, there is also a significant role within the system for technical experts in many areas. Because the UN, its subsidiary bodies, related programs, and affiliated organizations speak to such a broad range of issues, experts are often needed to properly address complex problems and make informed recommendations to the General Assembly and Member States. Several ECOSOC committees and almost all of the Specialized Agencies consist of technical experts in the field, as opposed to political representatives. It is critical that delegates representing technical experts understand the complex nature of the expert role.

The following committees at the 2006 NMUN Conference consist of technical experts: *International Law Commission (ILC)*, the *Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)* and the *Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)*.

Technical Experts within the United Nations System

The most important distinction between technical experts and political representatives is the relevance of global objectives, as opposed to national priorities. While the political needs and limitations of your individual countries and regions are important, and must be considered in the appropriate context, you are charged with serving as experts in the fields addressed by your respective committees. In other words, the top priority of a technical expert is to assess challenges and propose solutions to relevant issue areas, not to present or promote the political agenda of one particular country.

As you prepare your position papers, please keep in mind your status as technical experts. Instead of traditional, country-specific policy statements, position papers should reflect your expert opinions and recommendations on your committee's topics. This should also be kept in mind when working on documents for the committee during the NMUN Conference in April 2006.

History of the African Union

The African Union (AU) was inaugurated on July 9, 2002, in Durban, South Africa.¹ The inauguration followed the dissolution of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and consisted of the same 53 members.² These members are all African countries except Morocco.³ In order to understand the AU, it is necessary to consider the AU's precursor, the OAU, which was established on May 25, 1963 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.⁴ The main objectives of the OAU were "to rid the continent of the remaining vestiges of colonization and apartheid; to promote unity and solidarity among African States; to coordinate and intensify cooperation for development; to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States and to promote international cooperation within the framework of the United Nations."⁵ By the time of the demise of the OAU, these objectives had been reached or were in need of restructuring, and the popular opinion was that the OAU had done all that it could do.⁶

On September 9, 1999, at the Extraordinary Summit in Sirte, Libya, the leaders of the OAU issued the *Sirte Declaration*, which called for the establishment of an African Union.⁷ The newly created African Union would "[accelerate] the process of integration in the continent to enable it play its rightful role in the global economy while addressing multifaceted social, economic, and political problems compounded as they are by certain negative aspects of globalization."⁸ The AU aims to improve on the OAU model by employing a less State-centric character and actively encouraging civic participation, and by promoting objectives that are more comprehensive than those of the OAU.⁹ While the OAU was once a political organization that primarily addressed matters of economic and social concern, the AU has since become an organization aimed at economic integration and social development as components of and precursors for political unity.¹⁰ The AU also benefits from the participation of African non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil societies, labor unions, and business organizations.¹¹

At the 2001 OAU Summit in Lusaka, Zambia, members and Heads of State turned their attention to the real steps of implementation of the African Union.¹² This involved mandating a Secretary General to clarify steps and processes regarding the organs of the AU and rules of procedure.¹³ The priority organs of the AU are the Assembly, which is the uppermost organ and is made up of Heads of State and Government; the Executive Council, which is comprised of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and whose findings are fed back into the Assembly; the Commission, based at the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa and headed by a Chairperson of the AU; and the Permanent Representative Committee, composed of Permanent Representatives of Member States and responsible for preparing the Executive Council's work.¹⁴ Other AU organs include Specialized Technical Committees, Ministerial level committees that address sector-based issues such as culture, economics, technology, health and transport, and the high-profile Peace and Security Council, created at the Summit of Lusaka in July 2001.¹⁵ There is also a Pan-African Parliament with unique rules of procedure.¹⁶ It has been designed to ensure the full participation of all AU members in all governmental, developmental, and economic integration related issues affecting the African continent, though it has consultative and advisory powers only.¹⁷ The other organs of the AU are an Economic, Social and Cultural Council

¹ Commey, Pusch. (2002, September). African Union: What next?. *New African*. Issue 410, 12.

² Park, Ken (Ed.). (2005). *The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2005*. New York: World Almanac Books, p. 852.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ African Union. (n.d.). *Introduction*. Retrieved August 2, 2005, from <http://www.africa-union.org/home/Welcome.htm>

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ African Union, *Introduction*, *supra*, note 3.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

(ECOSOCC), a Court of Justice, and three financial institutions: the African Bank, the African Monetary Fund, and the African Investment Bank.¹⁸

The AU faces a number of challenges both from within Africa and from the broader international community. In a February 2003 letter to the Canadian Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien, South African President Thabo Mbeki contended that

*Some misunderstanding has arisen about what the governments and peoples of Africa are doing to achieve peace, democracy, development and prosperity... [We] are deeply appreciative of the support of the G8 as reflected in its Africa Action Plan.... [Nevertheless], both sides, Africa and the G8, will have to continue to engage in a common endeavor to define the meaning of partnership so that we do, indeed, achieve a real and meaningful partnership.*¹⁹

Mbeki asserts that the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), which is not an exclusively African venture, must not be allowed to govern or somehow dictate the actions, freedoms, or responsibilities of the AU.²⁰ Specifically, a G8-Africa partnership must not take precedence over Africa itself.²¹ The priority is for Africa to shape its own future and meet its own challenges in a way it decides, through the AU, and to ensure that partnerships are balanced.²² The G8 has been slow to follow through on a number of commitments made to NEPAD.²³ While it has expounded a great deal of energy emphasizing the need for African partners to fulfill promises, many of those partners say they are experiencing difficulty with non-complying G8 members.²⁴

Another enormous challenge to the AU is member debt.²⁵ In April 2004, an AU Permanent Representative Committee (PRC) report calculated that member arrears for 41 out of 53 member countries total close to US\$ 45.4m.²⁶ With so much debt hindering action, the AU faces a very real sense of powerlessness. Alpha Omar Konate, former president of Mali and current AU Commission chairman, contends that “We are facing challenges of inadequate financial resources which are hampering the activities of the Commission to execute its responsibilities due to being able to recruit more staff.”²⁷ Some members with large arrears are under sanctions and have lost their privilege of speaking at AU meetings, which has led to bitterness and resentment.²⁸

In addition to untying and rebalancing aid and aid-based development partnerships, the AU also faces a rather unique internal challenge in sabotage.²⁹ In 2002, the still-developing AU was threatened by a group claiming loyalty to former OAU Secretary General Salim Salim, who, when their mentor failed to win a fourth term, tried to damage the AU in an act of angry revenge.³⁰ There is concern that bitterness such as this rarely dissipates, but rather, nurtures similar sentiment that leads to more violence.³¹ To date, such behavior has not recurred.³² However, in the past year and a half alone, between Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe’s widely condemned mass relocations and political opacity and fatal violence in post-election Ethiopia, the AU has garnered international criticism for inconsistency in its response, and lack of response to ‘domestic issues’.³³ Whether this criticism was warranted is debatable.³⁴ It is clear that, in the coming years, Africa controls its own destiny, regardless of whether

¹⁸ *Ibid*

¹⁹ Mbeki, Thabo. (2003, February). Mbeki: African Union is the mother, NEPAD is her baby. *New African*, Issue 415, p 44.

²⁰ *Ibid*.

²¹ *Ibid*.

²² *Ibid*.

²³ *Ibid*.

²⁴ Asante, S.K.B. (2003, June). A partnership of unequal partners. *New African* Issue 419, 14.

²⁵ No Author. (2004, April). \$45m member debt slows AU progress. *New African* Issue 428, p. 21.

²⁶ *Ibid*.

²⁷ *Ibid*

²⁸ *Ibid*

²⁹ Ankomah, Baffour. (2002, June). African Union in danger of being stillborn. *New African* Issue 408, p. 16.

³⁰ *Ibid*.

³¹ *Ibid*.

³² No Author. (2005, July 7). Africa acknowledges it must help itself. (2005, July 7). *Economist*, Vol. 376, Issue 8434, 38.

³³ *Ibid*.

³⁴ Soderberg, Nancy. (February 2005). The African Union moves a quiet revolution. *Christian Science Monitor*, 97, p. 9.

the West opts to avoid or abdicate responsibility.³⁵ At the 5th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the AU, held July 4-5, 2005, statements were made and decisions and resolutions passed on topics ranging from a possible restructuring of the UN Security Council to Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks at Darfur, to seeds and sickle-cell anemia.³⁶ Whether these will take effect as the members of the AU hope, and indeed, how the AU will hold itself together and strengthen its resolve to make good on the aims which brought about its very existence, are yet, uncertain.

The 53 Member States of the 2006 African Union simulation are:

Algeria	Ethiopia	Nigeria
Angola	Gabon	Rwanda
Benin	Gambia	Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic
Botswana	Ghana	Sao Tome & Principe
Burkina Faso	Guinea Bissau	Senegal
Burundi	Guinea Conakry	Seychelles
Cameroon	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Cape Verde	Lesotho, Kingdom of	Somalia
Central African Republic	Liberia	South Africa
Chad	Libya	Sudan
Comoros	Madagascar	Swaziland, Kingdom of
Congo	Malawi	Tanzania
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mali	Togo
Cote D'Ivoire	Mauritania	Tunisia
Djibouti	Mauritius	Uganda
Egypt	Mozambique	Zambia
Equatorial Guinea	Namibia	Zimbabwe
Eritrea	Niger	

I. Alleviating Economic and Environmental Burdens on AU Member States with Massive Migration

“For millions living in regions with chronically weak resources or adverse geography, there may be only one option to living on aid or remittances: migration.”³⁷

In many AU Member States, and across Africa itself, massive shifts in population can be directly linked to ensuing large-scale economic and environmental difficulties.³⁸ These problems ultimately become incredible burdens not just on individuals and communities but on entire States and regions.³⁹ Such population shifts are closely linked to weakened security, the third spike in the triumvirate of what can go wrong when migration is poorly or insufficiently managed.⁴⁰ Population movement and change are not linked to problems that are going to disappear.⁴¹ It is a simple, basic fact that populations shift as economies develop and change.⁴² Though migration is seen as a means to betterment, it is often the case that problems move with people.⁴³ Worse, the movement of people creates a new and crippling set of economic, environmental and security problems for recipient States and their inhabitants.⁴⁴

³⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁶ African Union, *Introduction*, supra, note 3.

³⁷ Goldin, Ian. (2001, December 17). The Escape Route. *Newsweek* (Atlantic Edition), 138, p. 50.

³⁸ Miller, Mark. (1997, May). Migration and security are interrelated. *USA Today Magazine*, 125, p. 37.

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴ Throughout the literature, the term “recipient States” is used interchangeably with the terms “destination States” and “receiving States”. For the purposes of this document, the term “recipient State” alone shall be used.

Mass Migration: Cause and Effect

Massive migration refers to almost all large-scale population shifts, including the movement of refugees.⁴⁵ It can have an enormous and resonating impact on the economic and environmental health, as well as political stability, of the recipient community or State.⁴⁶ There is also a tremendous effect on the State or community from which the exodus stemmed.⁴⁷ With them come the economic and environmental burdens that spur many people into leaving their homes and migrating to a place where they hope to experience fewer challenges and enjoy a higher quality of life.⁴⁸ According to Ian Goldin, Director of Development Policy at the World Bank, “excessive or poorly managed migration, whether internal or international, can threaten social, cultural and political relationships... [While] managed properly, migration offers the hope of a solution for hundreds of millions of people trapped in poverty.”⁴⁹ This applies particularly in Africa.⁵⁰ One of the greatest challenges of the AU is to implement such solutions for the millions of Africans living without the property, economic assets, and environmental resources they require in order to improve their own quality of life.⁵¹ Migration must be managed, or mapped, so that the mass movement of people does not threaten these relationships.⁵²

Within the thematic parameters of mass migration, there are several aspects to consider. The first of these regards the massive movement of people out of weaker States and into more economically and politically robust States. This affects the political, economic, and environmental health of the State being left and that of the recipient State.⁵³ This situation also affects the health and stability of the people involved in such an exodus.⁵⁴ A second aspect to consider in any discussion about migration is urbanization, whereby a population shift occurs from urban to rural. This is increasing in frequency such that Dr. Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, describes the phenomenon as “premature urbanization” and fears for the future of these migrants and their new urban communities.⁵⁵

Also worth considering are programs that aim to reverse the damage caused to the States and communities left drained of population. Many of these States and regions encountered their greatest population losses in the Diaspora.⁵⁶ A few are now enjoying development at the hands of programs designed to pay forward the gains earned and enjoyed by those who left.⁵⁷ Such programs work to alleviate burdens on recipient States by facilitating the highly structured, selective, and usually short-term migration of skilled individuals from more developed States into less-developed States.⁵⁸ There is also the issue of studying why people leave and addressing the situation before it swells into a large-scale international departure.⁵⁹ The AU has been charged with this role under the auspices of “African solutions to African problems.”⁶⁰ This program specifically deals with conflict and catastrophe prevention and neutralization.⁶¹ Applying order or management to mass migration is a difficult task, and not one that will be achieved easily.⁶² Given that in most cases, the solutions to mass migration lie not in governing or ordering the movement of the people, but in understanding and alleviating the cause for migration.⁶³

⁴⁵ Miller, *supra*, note 38.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴⁸ Goldin, *supra*, note 37.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ Adepoju, Aderanti. (2004, September 1). *Changing configurations of migration in Africa*. Retrieved 25 June 2005, from <http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?ID=251>

⁵¹ Mbeki, Thabo. (February 2003). Mbeki: African Union is the mother, NEPAD is her baby. *New African*, 415, p. 45.

⁵² Miller, *supra*, note 38.

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵⁵ The Brown Revolution. (2002, May 11). *Economist*, 363, p. 73.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*

⁵⁸ International Organization for Migration. (n.d.). *Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA)*. Retrieved 24 June, 2005, from <http://www.iom.int/MIDA/>

⁵⁹ Soderberg, Nancy. (February 2005). The African Union moves a quiet revolution. *Christian Science Monitor*, 97, p. 9.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

⁶¹ *Ibid.*

⁶² Goldin, *supra*, note 37.

⁶³ *Ibid.*

People, Place, Resources: Finding a Balance

The crux of the struggle facing States which have experienced either aspect of massive migration, movement from or movement to, is an imbalance between what is needed and what is available.⁶⁴ Many instances of migration are sparked by a resource imbalance.⁶⁵ When available food, arable and habitable land, water, and employment are not sufficient for the volume of population and its needs mass migration is likely to occur.⁶⁶ In addition to being a cause for mass migration, such paucities of resource can also be an effect of migration.⁶⁷ The imbalance between need and availability results in shortages that lead to a situation of economic atrophy and decay where markets are no longer able to compete on a large enough scale to effect economic change without great amounts of aid.⁶⁸ This ultimately restarts the cycle, and people move again.⁶⁹

In the case of mass migration where the impetus for exodus is widespread shortage of employment, resources, or both, such movement is unlikely to solve the problem.⁷⁰ Usually, the community left behind continues to flounder and the economy weakens further.⁷¹ Measures to address the missteps of mass migration can begin at this stage of imbalance.⁷² State or region sponsored programs designed to buoy flagging economies and kick-start economic change are invaluable in this instance.⁷³ This is because they include individuals in the economic processes.⁷⁴ For the AU, addressing the imbalance before the exodus is the necessary means to combating massive migration.⁷⁵ Without the capital and economic power to regain control of a floundering economy, this task is difficult.⁷⁶ Recalling a central aspect of the mandate of the AU and echoing Thabo Mbeki, the nexus of this solution will be an African solution to an African problem: one that does not rely heavily on international aid.⁷⁷

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), a partnership between the African leaders of the AU and the Group of 8 (G8), is one avenue of change for the economic woes that perpetuate mass migration and cripple many African countries.⁷⁸ The G8's Africa Action Plan, which incorporates NEPAD, pledges "direct development assistance."⁷⁹ This program, in exchange for compliance and an internal self-checking system, will go to supporting peace and security efforts, infrastructure improvements, economic development, more open trade policies, human investment, and poverty reduction.⁸⁰ Within the AU and the broader international community, there are those who are critical of NEPAD and hypothesize that it is a one-sided partnership.⁸¹ Others, among them UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, see it as a positive opportunity for Africa, through the AU, to find its own balance and prosperity.⁸²

Migration to the City: Premature Urbanization and Slums

In developing States, the movement of people from rural to urban environments is an eventuality, a foregone conclusion.⁸³ According to the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), rural areas have certain "carrying capacities" which are reached through population growth, industrialization, and

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

⁶⁵ Adepoju, *supra*, note 50.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

⁶⁸ Goldin, *supra*, note 37.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ International Organization for Migration, *Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA)*, *supra*, note 58.

⁷² *Ibid.*

⁷³ *Ibid.*

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷⁷ Soderberg, *supra*, note 59.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

⁷⁹ Asante, S.K.B. (June 2003). A partnership of unequal partners. *New African*, 419, p. 14.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*

⁸¹ *Ibid.*

⁸² *Ibid.*

⁸³ The Brown Revolution, *supra*, note 55.

improvements to agricultural practices.⁸⁴ This is evinced in the high ratio of urbanites to rural inhabitants in Western Europe and North and South America.⁸⁵ The processes of development yield a surplus of population that struggles for place in terms of labor, resources, or both.⁸⁶ The solution for many, as Africa is learning, is to move to the city.⁸⁷

Large-scale, premature urbanization carries a danger of overwhelming the infrastructure, the environment, and the economic thresholds of the destination, yet it is an unavoidable reality.⁸⁸ Based on figures from Europe, North and South America, rural-urban migration tends to stabilize at about 75-80% urban.⁸⁹ This means that the next decade will see an extra 100 million people in Africa migrate to cities.⁹⁰ Many small settlements are not yet prepared for the influx when it comes.⁹¹ The environmental and economic devastation, and its human cost, that result from a mass influx of population to an unprepared region or community are well-demonstrated in any number of refugee camps.⁹² Urban slums are an example of what can happen when people move and prosperity does not follow.⁹³ In addition to more resource needs like food, water and healthcare, people need space.⁹⁴ One need only to view a cramped and depressed urban settlement or refugee camp to see that migrants and refugees need more than just a destination, but a home, in order to best thrive.⁹⁵

The city of Huruma, in Nairobi, is an example of what happens when poorly managed mass migration results in premature urbanization.⁹⁶ Huruma is a city of slums.⁹⁷ With unpaved streets lined with refuse, few sources of fresh water, and even fewer toilets, Huruma is home to five slums containing about 6,500 people at densities of up to 2,300 per hectare.⁹⁸ Diseases, particularly waterborne diseases, run rampant.⁹⁹ Yet, due in part to mass migration, up to 60% of Nairobi's population of about 2.5 million live in slums like those in Huruma or in Kibera, Africa's largest slum outside those on the fringes of Johannesburg.¹⁰⁰ Nairobi is not unlike much of the developing world in that its population is growing (by about 5% annually) and as economic realities change, more people move into urban centres that are ill-prepared to house and support large populations.¹⁰¹

Alleviating the environmental and economic burdens caused by large-scale premature urbanization begins with accepting the reality of these settlements.¹⁰² Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's slum-clearing activities, which have left a reported 700,000 homeless and are drawing international condemnation as well as direct criticism by the UN, exemplify a failed attempt to address the problem.¹⁰³ While the transition from rural to urban and from urban slum to functioning urban centre is almost always awkward, it is unavoidable.¹⁰⁴ Managing the influx from rural to urban, even if simply by preparing urban centres for a population surge by creating additional low cost or free housing and installing the necessary infrastructure to keep hygiene up and disease down, is of critical import.¹⁰⁵

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

⁹¹ *Ibid.*

⁹² No Author. (2003, October 11). What to do about slums. *The Economist*, 369, p. 16.

⁹³ *Ibid.*

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*

⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

⁹⁷ The Brown Revolution, *supra*, note 55.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰² *Ibid.*

¹⁰³ Thompson, M. (Director General). (2005, August 22). *BBC News 24*. London, UK: British Broadcasting Corporation.

Retrieved September 28, 2005, from <http://www.bbc.co.uk>

¹⁰⁴ The Brown Revolution, *supra*, note 55.

¹⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

A practical solution for AU Member States experiencing mass urbanization is to implement urban development policies that function alongside the more ubiquitous rural development policies.¹⁰⁶ Additionally, NGOs might consider allocating more resources to ensuring developing cities are planned before they happen. Collectives such as Slumdweller International, a grassroots organization of different federations of people living in slums, are taking this task seriously.¹⁰⁷ They have begun pooling resources to build local savings and credit schemes and forge more productive ties with local authorities.¹⁰⁸ The goal is to upgrade slums and improve the quality of life for residents.¹⁰⁹ Housing improvement and ownership programmes, like the one started in South Africa by Housing Minister Sankie Mthembu-Mahanyele, have also been successful in improving the quality of life in urban slums by aligning the interests of the government, the private sector and slum residents themselves.¹¹⁰ According to Mrs. Mthembu-Mahanyele, governments can enable the improvement of slums by facilitating homebuilding when residents contribute what they can, whether in money or in helping to build the houses themselves.¹¹¹ While schemes such as this have only made small successes, the achievement itself is one that contributes to future success.¹¹² Cities with fewer burdens are able to industrialize faster and more efficiently and are ultimately able to meet their own needs and contribute to, rather than draw from, State resources.¹¹³

Migration, development and the Diaspora

One effect of migration at the behest of economic and environmental unravelling is the “brain drain”, or the movement of qualified professionals and experts away from Africa, and toward more developed countries, as members of the Diaspora.¹¹⁴ The IOM identifies a cycle whereby a State’s inability to achieve sustainable development leads to poverty, weak or corrupt governance, political instability, conflicts, unemployment, and general depression of resources and opportunity.¹¹⁵ This leads to a condition, whereby the best, the brightest, and the luckiest migrate either within or outside of Africa, taking their skills with them.¹¹⁶ Often these individuals manage to send money home.¹¹⁷ Remittances often keep entire communities afloat.¹¹⁸ But the AU’s stance on this issue is clear.¹¹⁹ While aid is gratefully received when needed, the ideal to which every State and community shall work towards is self-sufficiency.¹²⁰ The goal is to be economically robust and dynamic communities sustain themselves and are not sustained by aid in any form.¹²¹

The AU lends a great deal of support to capability building organizations such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), which works with the Diaspora to return, either temporarily or permanently, skilled individuals who choose to relocate to their countries of origin.¹²² Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA) is a series of capacity building programs run by the IOM that work with the Diaspora.¹²³ These programs work by creating pathways and programs for African migrants to return to their countries on a short-term basis to contribute their skills, directly alleviating the burdens faced by these States.¹²⁴ MIDA programs are supervised by the IOM and run in partnership between host countries and targeted African countries or regions.¹²⁵ MIDA Great Lakes, which began implementation in November 2001, employed the Belgian federal technical and financial backing to benefit the

¹⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹¹² *Ibid.*

¹¹³ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁴ International Organization for Migration. (2004). *MIDA: Mobilising the African Diasporas for the Development of Africa*. Retrieved 3 August, 2005, from http://www.iom.int/DOCUMENTS/PUBLICATION/EN/Mida_E.pdf

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷ Goldin, *supra*, note 37.

¹¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁹ Mbeki, Thabo, *supra*, note 51.

¹²⁰ *Ibid.*

¹²¹ *Ibid.*

¹²² International Organization for Migration, *Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA)*, *supra*, note 58.

¹²³ *Ibid.*

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*

¹²⁵ *Ibid.*

Great Lakes region, specifically Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Rwanda.¹²⁶ MIDA Great Lakes enabled professionals living in Belgium to return to their home countries for the short-term and offer expertise in various technical fields, specifically the highest-needs areas of education, medicine, and agriculture.¹²⁷ The IOM asserts that temporary returnees’ “cultural and linguistic affinities facilitate the transfer of skills and pave the way for more permanent relationships with national experts, as well as with their homeland. The programme... not only rectifies manpower imbalances, it also helps reverse the brain drain in the long run.”¹²⁸

A second IOM pilot programme, MIDA Italy, was launched following MIDA Great Lakes with the support of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.¹²⁹ Similarly, the goal of MIDA Italy is to use the interests and proficiencies of sub-Saharan immigrants in Italy to contribute to similar short and long-term social economic development in migrants’ countries of origin.¹³⁰ The IOM, under the auspices of MIDA programs and the Return and Reintegration of Qualified African Nationals (RRQAN) program, begun in 1983 and is aimed at long-term or permanent relocation.¹³¹ This program aims to take advantage of the Diaspora.¹³² Rather than working against it or trying to prevent further population dispersion, voluntary return-based programs such as these take a situation that is beneficial to some and add to it a new phase or aspect that is beneficial to many.¹³³

Conclusion and areas for further research

Ultimately, the best solutions to the problems created by mass migration are those that will prevent the situation from recurring. Addressing resource imbalances and conflicts before they push a population to migrate is a difficult task, especially for an organization with resources as limited as the AU, but it is a vital one.¹³⁴ Approaches that invest in people and communities are more likely to succeed in the long term, but even small scale, short term victories should not be overlooked. Programs that strengthen and invest in the bond between people and their homes, and do this in a way that is supportive of and supported by a people’s cultures and traditions are more likely to deter people from unplanned, poorly managed migration.¹³⁵ They are also conducive to increased security, as they are apt to encourage people to take steps to solving the problems that so often lead to unplanned and destructive instances of mass migration.¹³⁶

Further research into the impact of mass migration on people and place should include exploring the cause and effect between the massive movement of people and disaster management, conflict avoidance and management, and development efforts. Another approach can be made by looking at refugee communities as examples of the rapidly built population centres that result from unplanned migration. The AU can take steps, in some instances, to prevent massive migration by fostering greater productivity and prosperity among communities. It can also take other steps to manage mass migration when disaster and conflict render it inexorable. For neighbouring States and the AU itself, helping to solve a State’s problems before that State’s population flees is a desirable alternative to housing and supporting a displaced population and righting a depressed State further weakened by population loss.¹³⁷ Perhaps the greatest aim for the AU would be create an alternative to migration. Part of that aim would be to ensure that those who do migrate, face a migration that is more certain, safe and ordered. This is certainly an enormous task, but as MIDA’s programs and the causes of mass migration themselves indicate, small steps can yield great change. It is the responsibility of the AU to ensure that change is planned and productive.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*

¹²⁷ *Ibid.*

¹²⁸ *Ibid.*

¹²⁹ *Ibid.*

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*

¹³¹ *Ibid.*

¹³² *Ibid.*

¹³³ *Ibid.*

¹³⁴ Goldin, *supra*, note 37.

¹³⁵ *Ibid.*

¹³⁶ Miller, *supra*, note 38.

¹³⁷ Soderberg, *supra*, note 59.

II. Re-evaluation of African Union Programs to fight the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in Africa

*“Africa is a wonderful, diverse continent with extraordinary, energetic and resilient people. But it is also plagued with problems so serious that no continent could tackle them on its own.”*¹³⁸

Since its emergence in the early 1980's, HIV/AIDS has turned into a global pandemic affecting over 40 million people, 25 million of whom are living in Sub-Saharan Africa.¹³⁹ In 2004 alone, an estimated 3.1 million people in this region were infected.¹⁴⁰ HIV/AIDS has become a global issue, devastating whole regions, disrupting development initiatives, killing without discrimination against race, gender, or status and leaving in its wake a sense of shame and a stigma that is difficult to escape.¹⁴¹ Today, in Sub-Saharan Africa, 2.2 million adults and children have been killed by HIV/AIDS and 12 million children have been orphaned.¹⁴² The State with the highest infection rate is South Africa, with 5 million adults and 230,000 children infected.¹⁴³ Six other AU Member States also demonstrate high infection rates: the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.¹⁴⁴

AU Member States have begun to implement programs to combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic.¹⁴⁵ They have mobilized internal resources and taken bold leadership steps to confront HIV/AIDS and other related health issues.¹⁴⁶ These programs include the 1978 *Alma Ata Declaration on Health for All by 2000*; the *Declaration for Health as a Foundation for Development*; the *Abuja Declaration and Framework Plan of Action for the Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases*; and the *Declaration on the African Plan of Action Concerning the Situation of Women in Africa in the Context of Family Health*.¹⁴⁷ Many of these programs were created to help promote “advocacy and sensitization of leadership at national, regional and continental levels.”¹⁴⁸ Each aims to mobilize society as a whole to fight against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and other related infectious diseases.¹⁴⁹ They also aim to protect the human rights of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and provide a useful method of conveying information, education and communication about these diseases.¹⁵⁰

Existing AU Programs to Combat HIV/AIDS

In July 2003, in Maputo, Mozambique, the AU convened a special assembly to review the current debate surrounding the status of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and other health-related issues.¹⁵¹ The meeting concluded with the aforementioned AU Declarations, which cited new program initiatives such as AIDS Watch Africa (AWA), the Commission for HIV/AIDS and Governance in Africa (CHGA), and the Millennium Development Goals.¹⁵² AWA is an independent organization that donates humanitarian services in the form of medical supplies to hospitals and clinics across Africa.¹⁵³ The organization plans to open HIV testing centers for local populations with over 10,000

¹³⁸ Group of 8 Summit Gleneagles. (2005). *G8 Africa Action Plan*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.g8.gc.ca/2002Kananaskis/afraction-en.asp>

¹³⁹ Avert.org. (2005). *HIV/AIDS Statistics for Africa*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.avert.org/subadults.htm>

¹⁴⁰ Avert.org. (2004). *AIDS around the World*. Retrieved July 13, 2005, from <http://www.avert.org/aroundworld.htm>

¹⁴¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁴² Avert.org, *HIV/AIDS Statistics for Africa*, *supra*, note 139.

¹⁴³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁶ Assembly of the African Union. (2003, July 12). AU Declarations. (Assembly/AU/Decl.6). Maputo, Mozambique: Author.

¹⁴⁷ African Union. (2005). *Social Affairs Directorate*. Retrieved August 10, 2005, from <http://www.african-union.org/home/Welcome.htm>

¹⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁵¹ Assembly of the African Union, *supra*, note 146.

¹⁵² *Ibid.*

¹⁵³ AIDS Watch Africa. (2005). *About Africa AIDS Watch*. Retrieved August 10, 2005, from <http://www.africaaidswatch.org/about%20us.htm>

inhabitants across West Africa.¹⁵⁴ AWA aims to achieve HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness through mass literacy campaigns, community outreach programs, and hospice services for those infected by the disease.¹⁵⁵ Since its inception in 1995, AWA has made progress in the urban and rural communities of Africa.¹⁵⁶ In Zaire in 1996, the organization worked with Rwandan citizens to help orphans and provide other displaced victims of the Rwandan conflict with medical care and other resources.¹⁵⁷ The organization is also working alongside other UN-based and NGO-based HIV/AIDS initiatives to provide treatment and preventative measures to help fight this disease.¹⁵⁸

The CHGA is a United Nations (UN) initiative launched by Secretary-General Kofi Annan in February of 2003.¹⁵⁹ The CHGA was created to address some of the key HIV/AIDS challenges facing African Governments.¹⁶⁰ These challenges include helping African policymakers grasp the nature of the long-term development challenges HIV/AIDS poses to the constitution of their societies.¹⁶¹ The CHGA assists African policymakers to devise appropriate policies and programs to help treat the millions of Africans already living with HIV/AIDS.¹⁶² Finally, the CHGA helps policymakers understand both the fiscal and structural implications of up scaling HIV-related medication in resource-limited settings.¹⁶³ Even with the many challenges facing the organization, CHGA has continued to provide assistance to many AU countries.¹⁶⁴ For example, in July 2004, a second meeting held by the commission in Gaborone, Botswana was centered on the issue of preventing vertical, or mother-to-child, transmission of HIV in Africa.¹⁶⁵ Many of these programs recognized by the AU are used to help develop an open forum between HIV/AIDS-infected citizens, potential carriers, and policymakers.¹⁶⁶

In addition to the AWA and the CHGA, the AU has launched several of its own programs in the fight to help prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases.¹⁶⁷ The 1978 *Alma Ata Declaration on Health for All by 2000* was drafted at a meeting in Alma Ata, USSR on September 12th 1978.¹⁶⁸ The declaration was a means of “expressing the need for urgent action by all governments, health and development workers, and the world community to promote the health of all people of the world.”¹⁶⁹ Other programs implemented by the AU include the *Declaration for Health as a foundation for Development*; the *Abuja Declaration and Framework Plan of Action for the Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases*; and the *Declaration on the African Plan of Action Concerning the Situation of Women in Africa in the Context of Family Health*.¹⁷⁰ The *Declaration for Health as a Foundation for Development* is part of the UN *Millennium Declaration* which aims to establish peace across the world and focuses on the importance of meeting the special needs of Africa and strengthening the UN.¹⁷¹ In the *Abuja Declaration and Framework Plan of Action for the Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases* the heads of State and government of the AU attended a special summit in the capital of Abuja, Nigeria to address the exceptional challenges presented by HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases.¹⁷² During the summit, members of the AU agreed to place the fight against HIV/AIDS at the forefront and as the highest priority issue in respect to National Development Plans.¹⁷³

¹⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁹ The Commission for HIV/AIDS Governance in Africa. (n.d.). *What is the Commission on HIV/AIDS Governance in Africa?* Retrieved August 10, 2005, from <http://www.uneca.org/chga/about.htm>

¹⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁶¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁶² *Ibid.*

¹⁶³ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁸ World Health Organization. (1978). *Declaration of Alma Ata. International Conference on Primary Health care*. Alma Ata: USSR: Author.

¹⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁰ Assembly of The African Union, *supra*, note 146.

¹⁷¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁷² *Ibid.*

¹⁷³ African Union. (2001). *Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Other Related Infectious Diseases*. Abuja, Nigeria: Author.

As more die every day, the AU has vowed to take “personal responsibility and provide leadership for the activities of the National AIDS Commissions and Councils.”¹⁷⁴ It has also planned to set up a target of allocating at least 15% of its annual budget to improving the health sector.¹⁷⁵ These declarations and actions demonstrate the AU’s significant interest in helping to promote better health care and wrest control of widespread epidemics and infectious diseases in Africa.¹⁷⁶ Their success rates, however, as demonstrated by the ever-rising statistics of infection, death, and despair, indicate an immediate need for re-evaluation.¹⁷⁷ The AU needs to consider whether the programs it backs are accomplishing what they set out to do, and most critically, when they are not working, it must establish why they are not working. Many of these programs have been and continue to be utterly unsuccessful in preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS in severely infected countries.¹⁷⁸ In an effort to counter this, policymakers behind the *Declaration for Health as a Foundation for Development* are trying to broaden the way they address the issue and look at optional methods to help with prevention and the treatment of this disease.¹⁷⁹ The growing concern of many AU leaders is the lack of available treatment and access to treatment in areas of severe infection.¹⁸⁰ Further weakening the efforts of the AU is the fact that, due to a widespread lack of treatment, preventative and financial resources, many existing programs are currently at a standstill.¹⁸¹ Rather than abandon these programs, the AU is soliciting support through collaborative projects with other groups and other UN agencies.¹⁸²

Joint Initiatives between the AU and the UN

The AU recognizes the importance of collaborative support from UNAIDS, the Global Fund and other co-sponsoring UN agencies in its efforts to end the scourge of HIV/AIDS across the continent.¹⁸³ UNAIDS is the main source for comprehensive information on global action against the epidemic.¹⁸⁴ The organization’s mission is to strengthen the level of support to severely affected countries by providing care to those living with HIV/AIDS.¹⁸⁵ UNAIDS also seeks to minimize the vulnerability of individuals and communities impacted by the epidemic.¹⁸⁶ UNAIDS provides leadership and advocacy for effective action, information, and technical support by means of tracking, monitoring and evaluating responses to programs.¹⁸⁷ UNAIDS initiatives to engage civil society and develop related strategic partnerships are clear and deliberate signs to the AU of its commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS.¹⁸⁸ In July 2005, AU President Olusegun Obasanjo embraced this support by calling on UNAIDS to help families affected by HIV/AIDS.¹⁸⁹

The Global Fund has been integral to financing the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and other infectious diseases.¹⁹⁰ The fund provides the AU with a number of financial resources to be utilized towards HIV/AIDS programs across the continent.¹⁹¹ Richard Feachem, Executive Director of the Global Fund, mentioned at a Global Fund meeting in 2003, “African leaders at an AU Summit meeting in Mozambique were ready to implement the large-scale programs in Africa.”¹⁹² The large-scale programs referred to would aid the Global Fund in establishing

¹⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁶ Assembly of The African Union, *supra*, note 146.

¹⁷⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸² UNAIDS. (2005). *African Union President calls for support for families bearing the burden of HIV epidemic in Africa*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.unaids.org/en/default.asp>

¹⁸³ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁰ Global Fund. (2005). *What is the Global Fund?* Retrieved September 9, 2005, from http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/in_action/events/paris/transcripts/feachem/

¹⁹¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁹² *Ibid.*

an open relationship with AU leaders and other members of HIV/AIDS-affected communities.¹⁹³ A Global Trust Fund would also contribute to helping countries, especially African countries, purchase new lifesaving medicines and other forms of treatment.¹⁹⁴ UNAIDS and the Global Fund together applaud the determination of political leaders, various non-profit organizations and NGOs, citing the partnership and commitment demonstrated by these individuals and groups as encouraging and very useful.¹⁹⁵

Re-Evaluation of AU Programs

The AU has spent a significant amount of time discussing the issues that plague the African continent but continues to face severe hardships when it comes to implementing effective programs.¹⁹⁶ The organization argues that the lack of effectiveness is primarily due to certain external circumstances that occur because of national and regional concerns. For example, in AU States like Liberia, Sierra Leone, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, armed conflict has made implementation difficult for many HIV/AIDS programs.¹⁹⁷ Low literacy rates, increasing rates of poverty, civil conflict, the inability to lend care and support to displaced persons and refugees, and the failure to access and utilize affordable drugs when the population is constantly hungry or when the region faces periodic famines are just some of the challenges presented in these regions.¹⁹⁸ The AU argues that there are inadequate incentives to draw medical personnel from more developed countries and that there is a lack of adequate support for research on vaccines and drugs “in the context of poor economic performance.”¹⁹⁹ These challenges render it particularly difficult to educate and facilitate community involvement in health promotion and disease control.

The AU asserts that low literacy rates, increasing poverty, civil conflict, the challenges of lending care to displaced persons and refugees, the failure to access and utilize affordable pharmaceutical drugs and famine are the primary issues plaguing its HIV/AIDS programs.²⁰⁰ Until these issues are addressed, it is going to be difficult to meet the needs of every infected person.²⁰¹ Many, if not most, of the current AU programs need to be re-evaluated and modified in order to meet the standards set by various HIV/AIDS declarations. There is no good reason for the standard of care against a global pandemic to vary so wildly by continent, country, and region. While a comprehensive body of declarations to counterattack the disease has been signed by AU Member States, results have been minimal, as many declarations that seem effective in theory prove not to be so in implementation.²⁰² The reason for this appears to be a paucity of support.²⁰³ The common complaint among AU members is of a lack of pharmaceutical and financial resources.²⁰⁴ The lack of resources available to the AU continues to play a pivotal role in combating, or failing to combat HIV/AIDS.²⁰⁵

On numerous occasions, the continent has received humanitarian aid or funds for relief programs from developed countries.²⁰⁶ In many instances, the AU also relies on NGOs and Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGOs) to help combat growing social and health issues throughout the continent.²⁰⁷ Actions of UNAIDS and NGOs such as OXFAM, Amnesty International, and UNICEF have begun to change the outlook of the continent.²⁰⁸ With funding from developed States like the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United Kingdom, as well as and the European Union, the re-evaluation of AU programs and the development of newer and

¹⁹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁷ African Union, *Social Affairs Directorate, supra*, note 147.

¹⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁰¹ *Ibid.*

²⁰² *Ibid.*

²⁰³ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁷ Group of 8 Summit Gleneagles, *supra*, note 138.

²⁰⁸ *Ibid.*

more efficient programs will almost certainly improve Africa's chances against HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases.²⁰⁹

Even with the disappointment of current AU programs, some significant progress has been made against HIV/AIDS by individual nations.²¹⁰ For example, in Uganda, HIV prevalence rates have declined due to a timely and successful public education campaign.²¹¹ Ugandan policies are credited with lowering the prevalence rate from 15% in the early 1990s to 5% in 2001.²¹² According to the UN and the Ugandan government, at the end of 2003 only 4.1% of adults had the virus.²¹³ Other examples include countries such as Zimbabwe, where factories that implemented peer-based HIV/AIDS education programs have had a 34% lower rate of new infections than comparable workplaces with no such programs implemented.²¹⁴ The government of Cote d'Ivoire has called upon businesses with 50 or more employees to establish HIV/AIDS committees, while in a similar instance the government of Cameroon envisions that in 2005, 50% of all businesses will require HIV/AIDS education for their workers.²¹⁵

Conclusions and Suggestions for Further Research

Sufficient funding and resources are essential to the fight against HIV/AIDS.²¹⁶ Given the inconsistent records of so many programs designed to address and alleviate HIV/AIDS in Africa, it is evident that re-evaluating these programs is essential to ensuring the success of the broader fight against the pandemic.²¹⁷ At the AU summit in Maputo in 2003, leaders reaffirmed that they would increase health sector spending to 15% of all expenditures.²¹⁸ "However, the AU has yet to launch a continent-wide strategy to address the HIV/AIDS crisis, or to address the issue of affirming the right to health and access to treatment over patents/intellectual property rights of transnational drug companies."²¹⁹ Thus, in order for the HIV/AIDS programs implemented by the AU to be successful, there must be a continent wide-strategy to address the issue.²²⁰ This strategy must be closely connected to a collective implementation policy to which all countries can agree and must adhere, regardless of prevalence rates.²²¹ Once the AU stands with one voice, and one clear answer to the challenges posed by the disease, will programs like the *Declaration for Health as a Foundation for Development*, the *Abuja Declaration and Framework Plan of Action for the Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases* and the *Declaration on the African Plan of Action* concerning the situation of Women in Africa in the context of Family Health have the best chance of being truly and lastingly effective.²²²

In July 2005, at the annual AU summit prior to the conclusion of the G8 talks in Gleneagles, Scotland, AU heads of State called for a 100% debt cancellation for all African countries.²²³ The leaders claimed that at the time of the summit, African countries spent more money each year servicing old, illegitimate debts, than they spent on HIV/AIDS programs.²²⁴ Yet, as stated previously, much of the problem behind the ineffectiveness of HIV/AIDS programs lies with a clear lack of funding.²²⁵ For citizens to be treated, countries need to be able to afford the pharmaceuticals and treatments required. The lack of medical personnel to help with the distribution of drugs is also a common concern among AU heads of State.²²⁶ It is important that AU leaders begin talks with large

²⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

²¹⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹¹ Avert.org. (2005). *HIV/AIDS in Uganda*. Retrieved August 11, 2005, from <http://www.avert.org/aidsuganda.htm>

²¹² *Ibid.*

²¹³ Avert.org. (2005). *HIV/AIDS in Uganda*. *supra*, note 74.

²¹⁴ Global HIV Prevention Working Group. (2003, May). *Access to HIV Prevention: Closing the Gap*. New York: UNAIDS, p. 1-48

²¹⁵ *Ibid.*

²¹⁶ Global Fund, *supra*, note 190.

²¹⁷ *Ibid.*

²¹⁸ Assembly of The African Union, *supra*, note 146.

²¹⁹ Africa Action. (2005). *The African Union*. Retrieved September 12, 2005, from <http://www.africaaction.org/resources/issues/au.php>

²²⁰ *Ibid.*

²²¹ *Ibid.*

²²² Assembly of The African Union, *supra*, note 146.

²²³ Africa Action, *supra*, note 219.

²²⁴ *Ibid.*

²²⁵ *Ibid.*

²²⁶ *Ibid.*

pharmaceutical companies and various foreign leaders to find an uncomplicated way of obtaining Anti-Retrovirals (ARVs) and other drugs at a lower price.²²⁷ According to recent reports made by Global Fund Director Richard Feachem, the U.S. government and other G8 countries have increased funding to African countries.²²⁸ These increases in funding, specifically regarding ARVs and other medical supplies, are important achievements for the AU and for individual African States and may yield an affordable means for African countries to buy treatment drugs and better fight the challenge of HIV/AIDS.²²⁹

III. Cultural Preservation in an Increasingly Globalized World

“As Africans, like any other people in the world, we have the capacity to determine what is in our best interest.”²³⁰

“You can structurally adjust an economy in a matter of years, but it takes longer to destroy a culture.”²³¹

Cultural cohesion and preservation issues are the very fabric of the AU.²³² The AU was created to focus on “integrated continental participation in globalization,” a project of two phases, both of which happen at once. The first of these steps is to integrate Member States into full participation in the AU, which will strengthen both the AU as an organization and individual Member States themselves. The second step is to, as individual States and as an integrated group of States, integrate into global markets and participate fully and positively in the processes of globalization.²³³ Cultural cohesion and preservation issues fall on either end of this mandate.

Less than the full legal, political, and economic participation of AU Member States is a weakness that would have negative and even disastrous consequences for individual States, the continent, and the AU itself.²³⁴ Many Member States are so economically and politically depleted by conflict, famine, disease, and poverty that their best hope is to work with other Member States. Full integration of AU Member States into the AU is critical for cohesive action. The AU, as a common voice for Africa, is designed to protect the legal, economic, political rights, and cultural uniqueness, of Member States and of the African continent as a whole.²³⁵ This takes time, effort, and great amounts of support and organization. In one AU official’s words, “People are asking us for protection from the rain and we are not ready yet.”²³⁶ Readiness, and the power to protect and support individual Member States, will come with full Member State participation in the AU.²³⁷ This means paying dues, ratifying protocols and democratizing electoral processes, among other challenges.²³⁸ Each step taken towards strengthening the AU is a step closer to an AU that can help guide Member States into a pattern of participation in globalization that helps them develop and also respects and preserves their cultural uniqueness.²³⁹ A stronger and fully realized AU will also facilitate far more effective action directed at the items at the top of the organization’s agenda.²⁴⁰ These items include peace and security, economic issues, rule of law and development projects.²⁴¹ These are the challenges that stand between present day Africa, and an Africa that participates fully, purposefully, and profitably in global economic, political and cultural affairs.²⁴²

²²⁷ *Ibid.*

²²⁸ *Ibid.*

²²⁹ Global Fund, *supra*, note 190.

²³⁰ Mbeki, Thabo. (February 2003). Mbeki: African Union is the mother, NEPAD is her baby. *New African*, 415, 45.

²³¹ Thiessen, Heiner. (2002, November). Running on empty. *Ecologist* Vol 32, Issue 9, 39.

²³² Soderberg, Nancy. (February 2005). The African Union moves a quiet revolution. *Christian Science Monitor*, 97, 9.

²³³ Ruffin, Fayth A. (2004). The New African Union. *UN Chronicle* No. 2, 2004, 72.

²³⁴ Commey, Pusch. (June 2003). The Union takes shape. *New African*, 419, 9.

²³⁵ Ruffin, *supra*, note 233.

²³⁶ Soderberg, *supra*, note 232.

²³⁷ *Ibid.*

²³⁸ *Ibid.*

²³⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁴¹ *Ibid.*

²⁴² *Ibid.*

First Steps: Responsible Integration of AU Member States into a Fully-functioning AU

From within the AU, Member States have been urging each other and the organization to fully embrace a common African method of moving forward.²⁴³ Member States believe that it is only once this is done that Africa can start moving forward into participation in the processes of globalization.²⁴⁴ Fully integrating Member States into the AU requires that individual Member States adopt a more pragmatic and continental-minded development ethos.²⁴⁵ Rather than standing alone and participating in bilateral development projects (between African and Western partners), Member States could harness their collective capacity, work in cooperation, and stand firm as a united Africa.²⁴⁶ In addition, African countries must embrace their own identities and preserve their own cultures.²⁴⁷ Member States feel that they must do things differently than the West, where this suits them. The African Union stands behind the belief that they must integrate while recalling the aforementioned concerns.²⁴⁸ In a February 2003 letter to then-Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, South African President Thabo Mbeki emphasises the need for African States to work in cooperation to shape the African economic future, “otherwise be subject to the whims, dictates and agenda of the West.”²⁴⁹ The solution to Africa’s problems, Mbeki seems to say, must be an African one that is mindful and respectful of cultural uniqueness and not ready to blindly exchange that for any short-sighted developmental assistance.²⁵⁰

Alpha Oumar Konare, Chairman of the AU, supports Mbeki’s insistence that the African leaders look within African culture for the solutions to Africa’s problems.²⁵¹ He urges cooperation between intellectuals, both within and outside of Africa, and African leaders.²⁵² Konare suggests leaders “open their doors to African intellectuals and give them the attention they deserved so they could help in the transformation of our countries into lands of freedom and transparency,” another example of Africa using its own resources to tackle its own challenges.²⁵³ Promoting cultural preservation throughout globalization means a very delicate balancing act. Africa and the AU must preserve and embrace the strengths of African cultures and use these as assets in international relations and deal-brokering, but this is a complex process fraught with compromise. Alongside this process, Member States must work towards integration so that the AU can truly be one voice representing many cooperative States, rendering development efforts more efficient and giving them a greater chance at lasting success.²⁵⁴

The Globalization of Human Rights: International Law and Cultural Change

One of the first tasks before the AU is establishing the primacy of international law and internationally recognized human rights, across the continent.²⁵⁵ Incidents and practices that fail to comply with *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, for example, are being addressed by the AU and by compliant Member States.²⁵⁶ Up against very difficult odds, the AU is often compared to the UN in its earliest days, trying to coax cooperation and compromise from Member States which range from the very committed to the non-committed, and doing this without any real legislative power.²⁵⁷

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is an issue that exemplifies the difficulty the AU is facing in both policing certain quasi-culturally-sanctioned practices, and in integrating AU-wide cooperation on key issues.²⁵⁸ On July 11, 2003,

²⁴³ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁹ Mbeki, *supra*, note 230.

²⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁵¹ Secka, Momodou Musa. (December 2004). Leaders must work with academia. *New African*, 33

²⁵² *Ibid.*

²⁵³ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁴ Mbeki, *supra*, note 230.

²⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁶ Reuters. (2005, February 21). *Djibouti: Anti-FGM protocol ratified but huge challenges remain*. Retrieved August 22, 2005, from <http://www.fgmnetwork.org/html/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=109>

²⁵⁷ Soderberg, *supra*, note 232.

²⁵⁸ Reuters, *supra*, note 256.

the AU adopted the *Maputo Protocol* as an annex to the *African Charter on People's and Human Rights*.²⁵⁹ The *Maputo Protocol* covers a wide range of women's rights, but does not make specific reference to FGM.²⁶⁰ Article 5 of the Protocol requires all forms of FGM be "condemned and prohibited".²⁶¹ In order for the *Maputo Protocol* to be binding and enforceable, 15 countries must ratify it.²⁶² To date, only seven have done so: Libya, Comoros, Rwanda, Namibia, Lesotho, Kenya and Djibouti.²⁶³

The most recent country to ratify the *Maputo Protocol* was Djibouti, on February 21 2005.²⁶⁴ The Djibouti Declaration commits the country to ending the practice of FGM.²⁶⁵ Djibouti has a 98% prevalence rate of FGM.²⁶⁶ At the February summit, attendees, comprising political and religious leaders as well as representatives from NGOs and special interest groups, debated whether specific religions endorse or condemn FGM.²⁶⁷ One particularly well attended conference held at the summit was titled "Towards a Political and Religious Consensus on FGM," which in itself underlines the cultural dimensions of the issue.²⁶⁸ One of the two thematic sessions built into this discussion looked at how legal and political instruments are used "as means of change and intervention in cultures."²⁶⁹ Ultimately, human rights took precedence over assorted cultural and religious claims to the practice.²⁷⁰ After female delegates reacted strongly in opposition to initial reluctance by religious leaders to ban the practice, religious leaders spontaneously chose to ban one form of FGM during the closing ceremonies.²⁷¹ This led Djibouti to ratify, and brought the AU closer to being able to enforce the *Maputo Protocol* across the continent.

Cultural Clashes: Western Restructuring, African Traditions

Some Western ways of doing things are so unlike traditional African ways that even carefully planned and cautiously executed attempts at aided globalization fall far short of expected results.²⁷² Development efforts gone badly awry in Senegal illustrate the importance of linking development to cultural preservation by employing culturally aware development efforts.²⁷³ In Senegal, a traditional barter society has been pushed aside through aid-linked International Monetary Fund (IMF) restructuring efforts, leaving a population indebted and bereft.²⁷⁴ IMF-imposed structural adjustments designed to boost economic activity and lift Senegal out of debt damaged not only the local economy but the Senegalese culture as well.²⁷⁵ The IMF adjustments involved Senegal devoting much of its agricultural land to the production of cash crops, as designated exports.²⁷⁶ This was a major change for the local population that resulted in the emergence of a modern Western cash economy, where in the past there had been a traditional barter society.²⁷⁷

The intimate links between culture, economics, and behavior mean that many of the people of rural Senegal are now expected, by the rules of their new economy, to act in a way that is as foreign to them as the economy itself.²⁷⁸ For example, in Senegalese culture, family and kinship ties are of the greatest importance.²⁷⁹ They support a barter-based economy, where people tend to trade favors and employ more flexibility in transactions.²⁸⁰ A Western cash

²⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁶¹ *Ibid.*

²⁶² *Ibid.*

²⁶³ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁷¹ *Ibid.*

²⁷² Thiessen, *supra*, note 231.

²⁷³ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁶ Thiessen, *supra*, note 231, 40.

²⁷⁷ Thiessen, *supra*, note 231, 41.

²⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁰ *Ibid.*

economy that depends on best-value principles like performing transactions based on value for money above all else, is foreign and directly violates many cultural laws and principles.²⁸¹ This situation highlights the importance of culturally minded development efforts, and illustrates how the AU might take a role in shaping change and progress.²⁸² The AU can do this by easing communities into empowered participation in a way that incorporates, protects, and values their unique culture.²⁸³ Indeed, most communities in need of development want support and are willing to embrace the requirements of development initiatives.²⁸⁴ It would seem that a new wave of culturally minded development efforts might prove more successful than their predecessors have ever been. So many development efforts gone wrong make it clear that unless the transition from a traditional economy to a more globalized economy is approached differently than it is typically is, and a good deal of flexibility is employed, efforts that do not consider cultural uniqueness seem doomed to fail.²⁸⁵

Global Integration and Cultural Preservation: Striking a Balance

One successful example of Western-African participation under the auspices of globalization and increasing African participation comes from a project designed to help French-speaking Africans learn Web design.²⁸⁶ In March 2005, members of several European and Canadian unions shared their Web design skills with their African counterparts at a series of hands-on workshops in Dakar, Senegal.²⁸⁷ Twenty-five participants from nine French-speaking African countries attended the sessions, which were conducted with the goal of “underlining the importance of the web for African unions in organizing and recruiting new members.”²⁸⁸ The educational component of the project was supported by something Africa so vitally needs in order to participate fully in the processes and institutions of globalization: access.²⁸⁹ UNI, a skills and services union that works towards “online rights for online workers” enabled free Web hosting throughout 2005 for all participants.²⁹⁰ UNI, launched in January 2000, is currently aiming further efforts at recruiting the participation of call centers and mobile phone companies in its quest for worker rights.²⁹¹ This is something especially important to workers in developing countries who are performing jobs internationally outsourced by larger companies based in developed, usually Western countries.²⁹²

Conclusion: The Way Forward

Africa’s desire to globalize along with the rest of the world, in order to contend for a greater share of global economic power, is quite fierce.²⁹³ Africa and the AU are finding the odds heavily stacked out of their favor, with the rules of global economics set by the West.²⁹⁴ In the words of one African journalist:

*Africa is hostage to Western or ‘white’ capital, much of it taken from Africa, in human or material terms. Our spears, bows, and arrows have been child’s play... Our imported conventional weapons are obsolete, nothing against the threat of nuclear power, whose raw material is taken from Africa. A rich Africa has always pleaded poverty. It has been the cause of our undoing.*²⁹⁵

The solution, then, must be for the AU to enable Africa to preserve its own cultures and the unique strengths drawn from them, while taking the necessary steps for empowered African competition in an increasingly globalized economy. These are not easy challenges, but they are what stand between a continuation of current circumstances, with Africa drowning in globalization, losing its cultural uniqueness, and depending forever on aid, and an enabled

²⁸¹ *Ibid.*

²⁸² *Ibid.*

²⁸³ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁶ Labor Unions in French-speaking Africa Learn Web Design. (2005, March 17). *New York Amsterdam News*, 96, p. 2.

²⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁹¹ *Ibid.*

²⁹² *Ibid.*

²⁹³ Mbeki, *supra*, note 230.

²⁹⁴ Commey, *supra*, note 234.

²⁹⁵ *Ibid.*

Africa that is a functioning global player, strong in its uniqueness and certain of its abilities and itself. How can the AU continue to globalize while maintaining its cultural identities? Can AU Member States, many of which have very different cultures, work together to promote sustainable development throughout the African continent? What is the best way to preserve the important African cultures while discouraging practices that are not healthy, such as FGM? What is the role of the AU in the preservation of culture? All of these questions and many more are essential to the topic at hand. Only through the careful research of the culture uniqueness of each Member States and the consideration of the effects of globalization on Africa can the AU begin to address the issue of cultural preservation in the wake of intense globalization.

Annotated Bibliography

Committee History

African Union. (n.d.). *Member States and Introduction*. Retrieved August 2, 2005, from <http://www.africa-union.org/home/Welcome.htm>

The official African Union's Web site offers a list of members, complete with statistics. The 53-member list includes flags, currency, national statistics, and the names of Heads of State. Delegates will find this a good starting point in their research about AU members and history. Treaties and Summit results are featured on the home page, and the site offers a series of links. The site also includes updates on AU activities as well as news and information on related topics. This is an indispensable source for all delegates.

Ankomah, Baffour. (2002, June). African Union in danger of being stillborn. *New African*, Issue 408, 16-22.

A candid, if sometimes slanted and often colloquial, account of the dangers that faced the AU on the road to actualization is presented in this work. While the AU clearly survived the threats, none of them has disappeared completely. Ankomah mentions sabotage, member debt, NEPAD, and the proclivity some have or may have towards reconceiving or shaping the AU as a refuge of sorts for former and/or, as the author puts it, "burnt out" Heads of State. While the article is somewhat editorial more than once, it still offers a good deal of useful and clearly-stated information on the subject of challenges the AU has faced and continues to face.

Asante, S.K.B. (2003, June). A partnership of unequal partners. *New African*, 419, 14-16.

Asante's article is thorough in its research and deliberate in its claims. One such claim is that the partnerships between African nations and the G8, especially NEPAD, are based on dubious balances of power and trust. The article goes into detail about the various agreements reached at past conferences and summits and explores not only what was accomplished, but how equal partnerships were at the time of conception and how equal they turned out to be. The author features information from a number of academics and experts (UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan is cited) to put together a solid case for closer examination of all aid and development-based partnerships between Africa and the nations of the developed world, in particular members of the G8.

Commeey, Pusch. (2002, September). African Union: What next?. *New African*, 410, 12.

Commeey gives an overview of some of the issues facing the AU in its transition from the OAU. It describes some of the challenges and discusses how the body will continue to work throughout the change. It is a good place to start your research about the role of the AU in the 21st Century.

Mbeki, Thabo. (2003, February). Mbeki: African Union is the mother, NEPAD is her baby. *New African*, 415, 44-45.

Published as an article in New African magazine, this letter offers a first-person account of the dilemma facing AU members regarding developmental aid and hidden ties. Mbeki notes in his letter that the African continent is deeply grateful for developmental support, but carefully expresses a degree of recalcitrance to head into aid-based partnerships blindly. This letter is recommended reading for delegates unsure of or unclear on the downside, so to speak, of aid-based partnerships, and the very important distinctions between the AU and NEPAD.

- No Author. (2004, April). \$45m member debt slows AU progress. *New African*, Issue 428, 21.
This short article looks at the size of AU member arrears and names the members with the greatest debts. It also looks at who is paying off debt to the AU (and even debt as old as the OAU) and examines the new trend of advance payment. The article mentions the countries which have chosen to pay contributions in advance, and mentions that the AU is hoping other States manage to do this as well.
- No Author. (2005, July 7). Africa acknowledges it must help itself. *Economist*, 376, 37-38.
A very critical look at the AU as successor to the OAU is taken in this short article. It examines how, if at all, the AU has improved on the often damning legacy set by the OAU. It considers Nepal and several West African leaders, notably British Prime Minister Tony Blair, a major African supporter and a proponent of both the AU and Nepal, opinions on the AU's first few years. The article does not shy away from criticism, and as the Economist is known to do, supports each facet of the argument with facts and figures. Information on two of the AU's biggest criticisms, those having to do with Zimbabwe and Ethiopia, can be found here in a short, digestible form.
- Park, Ken (Ed.). (2005). *The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2005*. New York: World Almanac Books.
The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2005 offers basic, streamlined descriptions of such organizations and provides perspective on their histories as well as how they interact or fit together. This book is a useful point to begin research into not only the AU but all other IGOs and governmental structures. Delegates will also find this book a useful and current source for information on global events and economic and political trends, as well as statistics on a wide range of subjects.
- Soderberg, Nancy. (February 2005). The African Union moves a quiet revolution. *Christian Science Monitor*, 97, 9.
Soderberg's article explores how Africa is beginning to take full responsibility and "ownership" for its problems and challenges through the AU. Soderberg advances the view that the AU is a manifestation of a new point of view on the continent: "Africa's leaders now recognize that the era of non-intervention in internal conflicts is over – that the myriad conflicts on the continent drag the whole region down and that the world will not solve their problems for them." She also contests, somewhat contrastingly, that the West must not use the creation of a strong and capable AU to bow out of or otherwise "abdicate" its responsibilities to the African continent and its people.

Additional Sources

- African Union Summit. (n.d.). *Transition from the OAU to the African Union*. Retrieved August 2, 2005, from http://www.au2002.gov.za/docs/background/oau_to_au.htm#design
To find a thorough and factually correct account of the processes that shaped the transition from OAU to AU, consult this Web site. Delegates can learn about the history behind the OAU here, which will help to enrich their understanding of the AU. This site also provides a good listing of treaties and documents, and a brief yet effective account of AU organs and their roles. Like the official AU site, this is a highly useful resource for delegates.
- Arabic German Consulting. (n.d.). *Organisation of African Unity – OAU*. Retrieved August 2, 2005, from <http://www.arab.de/arabinfo/oau.htm>
Both English and Arabic information on the OAU, in brief, background-style format are on this Web site. It covers critical dates, mandates and important facts, and it also lists the members of the OAU by date of joining. This short and information page might be of use to delegates who wish for a quick history of the OAU and are also curious as to Morocco's status, or lack thereof, in both the OAU and AU, and how this came to be.

I. Alleviating economic and environmental burdens on AU Member States with massive migration

Adepoju, Aderanti. Changing configurations of migration in Africa. (2004, September 1). *Migration information source*. Retrieved 25 June 2005, from <http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?ID=251>

This is an academic article that looks at recent patterns in African migration, including moving from a brain drain to a pattern where more education people are moving in different directions. Many still choose to stay in Africa. It also looks at the culture of migration and attests that in recent years, migration has been politically feminised.

Asante, S.K.B. (June 2003). A partnership of unequal partners. *New African*, 419, 14-16.

Asante's article is thorough in its research and deliberate in its claims. Among these claims is one that the partnerships between African nations and the G8, especially NEPAD, are based on dubious balances of power and trust. The article goes into detail about the various agreements reached at past conferences and summits and explores not only what was accomplished, but how equal partnerships were at the time of conception and how equal they turned out to be. The author features information from a number of academics and experts (UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan is cited) to put together a solid case for closer examination of all aid and development-based partnerships between Africa and the nations of the developed world, in particular members of the G8.

The Brown Revolution. (2002, May 11). *Economist*, 363, 73-74.

This article looks at the new wave of slums in many African and Asian cities, and the causes for this phenomenon. Mass migration and waves of refugees are among the reasons mentioned. The article goes into great depth discussing Huruma, Nairobi, one of the more extreme examples of mid-sized cities recently hit by waves of mass migration and/or refugees. The information found here is useful for providing a perspective on how some moderately-developed and only moderately prepared cities cope with a massive influx of population.

Goldin, Ian. (2001, December 17). The Escape Route. *Newsweek* (Atlantic Edition), 138, 50.

Goldin, the Director of Development Policy at the World Bank, writes in his personal capacity when he argues that not only is migration the most viable way out of poverty for many individuals in less-developed or unravelling countries and communities, but also that migration is one of the chief methods of enriching the intellectual and cultural worth of a State. Goldin contends that properly managed migration, which he defines, combined with a more pragmatic approach to market trade, which he elaborates on, is beneficial for both the migrants themselves and the communities or States they migrate to. It is worth noting that Goldin does not go into detail on the effect mass migration, even well-managed mass migration, has on the communities or States migrants are moving from. This is very worthwhile reading for all delegates.

International Organisation for Migration. (2004). *MIDA: Mobilising the African Diasporas for the Development of Africa*. Retrieved 3 August, 2005, from

http://www.iom.int//DOCUMENTS/PUBLICATION/EN/Mida_E.pdf.

Produced by the IOM, this document examines the causes and effects of the Diaspora. It also studies how the Diasporas can be mobilized in a way that benefits the African States they originally came from, whilst also benefiting the individual members of the Diaspora. The document illustrates the cycle of the Diaspora, cause and effect, and provides precise information on who is going from where to where, along with numbers, trends and timelines. It also expounds on the 'brain drain' phenomenon. This is a good source for an expounded explanation of the Diaspora. It explains what it is, what it means, how it works, how it fits in with migration theory and practice.

International Organisation for Migration. (n.d.). *Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA)*. Retrieved 24 June, 2005, from <http://www.iom.int/MIDA/>

MIDA is "a capacity-building program, which helps to mobilize competencies acquired by African nationals abroad for the benefit of Africa's development." The MIDA site includes information on the thinking behind the program, as well as program details, statistics, specific country details and official MIDA documents.

Mbeki, Thabo. (February 2003). Mbeki: African Union is the mother, NEPAD is her baby. *New African*, 415, 45.

This letter, published as an article in New African magazine, offers a first-person account of the dilemma facing AU members regarding developmental aid and hidden ties. Mbeki notes in his letter that the African continent is deeply grateful for developmental support, but carefully expresses a degree of recalcitrance to head into aid-based partnerships blindly. This letter is recommended reading for delegates unsure of or unclear on the downside, so to speak, of aid-based partnerships, and the very important distinctions between the AU and NEPAD.

Miller, Mark. (1997, May). Migration and security are interrelated. *USA Today Magazine*, 125, 37.

Dr. Mark Miller, a professor of political science and international politics at the University of Delaware, offers a figure from the IOM. He posits that in 1994, roughly 2% of the world's population, or 120,000,000 people were international migrants. Dr. Miller's article examines what this fact means in terms of regional security, citing examples such as Bosnia-Herzegovina and Central Africa. His article aims to spark discussion on how the security burden that arises when a large segment of the regional population are displaced can be alleviated, and he presents several avenues of thought to this end. Dr. Miller contends that the common thread, as he says, in the conflict of the world is, in fact, migration, and that "migrant integration is a worldwide priority if civil and international order are going to be sustained in the coming years." This article is highly recommended reading.

No Author. (2003, October 11). What to do about slums. *The Economist*, 369, 16.

This Economist article gives a brief background on urban slums, tying them to mass and often disorganised population movement from rural to urban environments. The article is of use to delegates studying this topic as slums are one of the less-than-favourable outcomes of mass migration, and certainly an outcome included under the auspices of economic and environmental burdens. The article focuses on non-African regions, which may be of use for some delegates looking to contrast situations of particular AU States with a more international group of States.

Soderberg, Nancy. (February 2005). The African Union moves a quiet revolution. *Christian Science Monitor* 97, 9.

Soderberg's article explores how Africa is beginning to take full responsibility and "ownership" for its problems and challenges through the AU. Soderberg advances the view that the AU is a manifestation of a new point of view on the continent: "Africa's leaders now recognize that the era of non-intervention in internal conflicts is over. They recognize that the myriad conflicts on the continent drag the whole region down and that the world will not solve their problems for them." She also contests, somewhat contrastingly, that the West must not use the creation of a strong and capable AU to bow out of or otherwise "abdicate" its responsibilities to the African continent and its people.

Thompson, M. (Director General). (2005, August 22). *BBC News 24*. [Television broadcast]. London, UK: British Broadcasting Corporation.

BBC News 24 is, as its title indicates, a 24-hour televised newscast. The information gathered from BBC News 24 for this background guide came from a special report on how Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's land resettlement policies are affecting the region and its population. The article focused specifically on Mugabe's slum-clearing actions, contrasting their effects to the effects of his earlier actions transferring ownership of farmland from white to Black farmers. It also contrasts Mugabe's slum-clearing efforts to a variety of slum-clearing efforts in South Africa

and India, where different tactics have yielded a range of results. While BBC News 24 footage is not available widely or in any archived format, delegates may find similar information on the BBC's Web site, <http://www.bbc.co.uk>.

II. Evaluation of AU Programs to Fight the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in Africa

Africa Action. (2005). *The African Union*. Retrieved September 12, 2005, from

<http://www.africaaction.org/resources/issues/au.php>

The Web site gives pertinent information on AU Summit meetings and gatherings. It is also a great Web site to look up information about local HIV/AIDS programs currently in place throughout the continent and their effectiveness. Because Africa Action is the oldest advocacy group for Africa in the United States, much of its information deals with a vast array of issues, from social to political issues.

African Union: African Summit on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Other Related Infectious Diseases. (2001). *Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Other Related Infectious Diseases*. Abuja, Nigeria: Author.

The Abuja Declaration is a very important document concerning this topic. It focuses entirely on HIV/AIDS and other health issues. Even though it is a declaration it contains some statistics and important figures about HIV/AIDS. It also mentions briefly about programs the AU already funds and will fund in the future.

African Union. (2005). *Social Affairs Directorate*. Retrieved August 10, 2005, from

<http://www.africaunion.org/home/Welcome.htm>

This is the official Web site of the AU. It contains updated declarations and resolutions passed by the AU. The Social Affairs Directorate focuses mainly on the immediate social issues affected the AU. It also references many of the current health programs to help combat the HIV/AIDS epidemic and other infectious diseases. This Web site is the primary for information regarding the AU.

AIDS Watch Africa. (2005). *About Africa AIDS Watch*. Retrieved August 10, 2005, from

<http://www.africaaidswatch.org/about%20us.htm>

Dedicated to the humanitarian organization AIDS Watch Africa, this Web site is a very usual tool. It gives the reader first hand knowledge of the programs AWA plan to implement in many parts of Africa. The Web site also contains HIV/AIDS programs that have already been implemented in parts of Western Africa.

Assembly of the African Union. (2003 July 12). *AU Declarations*. (Assembly/AU/Decl.6).

Maputo, Mozambique: Author.

The Assembly of the AU in 2003, according to the AU Declarations, recognized that HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis should be at the top of African nation's agendas. The Declaration also noted importance of the creation of the New Partnership of Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the establishment of other health initiative groups. This paper is very informative because it gives a great insight into new initiatives taken on by the AU.

Avert.org. (2005). *HIV/AIDS Statistics for Africa*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from

<http://www.avert.org/subadults.htm>

Statistic and figures regarding the epidemic by country and region are provided on this Web site. It also provides information on HIV/AIDS and programs that have been implemented as preventative measures. As the Web site contains facts for many African States, it is a good place to research the facts for an individual Member State.

- Avert.org. (2004). *AIDS around the World*. Retrieved July 13, 2005, from <http://www.avert.org/aroundworld.htm>
Avert explores the HIV/AIDS epidemic from an activist perspective. It reviews the impact of AIDS throughout the various regions and gives current and accurate information. The information is divided by geographical region for convenience.
- Avert.org. (2005). *HIV/AIDS in Uganda*. Retrieved August 11, 2005, from <http://www.avert.org/aidsuganda.htm>
This is an exploration by Avert of the HIV/AIDS epidemic from an activist perspective. It explores the impact of AIDS throughout the various regions and gives current and accurate information. This Web site manages to focus specifically on the country Uganda, and the positive results of programs implemented by the government.
- Group of 8 Summit Gleneagles. (2005). *G8 Africa Action Plan*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.g8.gc.ca/2002Kananaskis/afraction-en.asp>
The G8 summit at Gleneagles brought together eight of the world's leading industrialized nations and at the top of their agenda was Africa. The G8 Africa Action Plan serves as a guideline for which the G8 will use as a response to combat the AIDS and poverty problems in Africa. The G8 Africa Action plan prepares to work effectively using other international initiatives already in place, such as the New Partnership of Africa's Development (NEPAD).
- The Global Fund. (2005). *What is the Global Fund?* Retrieved September 9, 2005, from http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/in_action/events/paris/transcripts/feachem/
Many of the comments made by Global Fund director Richard Feachem on the AU summit in Maputo can be found on this Web site. This is the official Web site of the Global Fund and much of the information on this Web site relates to combating HIV/AIDS in developing countries by means of financial funding. The Global Fund Web site is an area where an extensive search can be done on past programs that have been funded through the trust fund.
- Global HIV Prevention Working Group. (2003, May). *Access to HIV Prevention: Closing the Gap*. New York: UNAIDS.
This report by the Global HIV Prevention Working Group provides a region-by-region analysis of a resource gap widely recognized as one of the largest and significant troubles facing HIV prevention and treatment. This report gives examples of effective AIDS programs in Zimbabwe and Cote d'Ivoire. It also manages to give statistical information about programs that are positively affecting the workers in Southern Africa and some parts to West Africa.
- The Commission for HIV/AIDS Governance in Africa. (n.d.). *What is the Commission on HIV/AIDS? Governance in Africa?* Retrieved August 10, 2005, from <http://www.uneca.org/chga/about.htm>
The Commission for HIV/AIDS Governance in Africa (CHGA) Web site contains information about the organizations programs and documents from the United Nations on HIV/AIDS. This Web site gives accurate information on UN initiatives in Africa to help combat HIV/AIDS. It also gives insight on the relationship of the CHGA to the AU.
- UNAIDS. (2005). *African Union President calls for support for families bearing the burden of HIV epidemic in Africa*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.unaids.org/en/default.asp>
This document focuses on the AU's commitment to involve African families in talks about HIV/AIDS. It also provides pertinent information that AU president Olusegun Obasanjo considers important to discuss to African citizens and leaders at the International AIDS conference that is to be held in Nigeria in December of 2005. This summit will be used as a platform to review many of the HIV/AIDS programs already in place by the AU.
- World Health Organization. (1978). *The Declaration of Alma Ata. International Conference on Primary Health care*. Alma Ata, USSR: Author.
This Declaration was created by individual governments as a means to address the issues concerning primary health care across the globe. This Web site is relevant when discussing many of the programs used by the AU. It is one of the first major documents concerning health care.

Additional Sources

- Africa 2015. (2005). *UNDP marshals its resources throughout Continent*. Retrieved July 13, 2005, from http://www.africa2015.org/achieving_goals.html
Africa 2015 is a non-profit organization that supports the Millennium Goals set by Secretary General Kofi Annan. The document discusses the important of combating each goal in order to save the development of the African region. This document also lays out the plans for African Development and combating HIV/AIDS by the year 2015.
- Lewis, Stephan. (2005). *UN special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, speaks to a meeting of civil society organizations on the WHO report on access to treatment for AIDS*. Retrieved July 8, 2005, from http://www.who.int/3by5/june2005_nairobi.pdf
This report launched by the WHO and UNAIDS was created to update the international community "on where the world stands on the provision of treatment for AIDS." The report gives a second hand view on initiatives and programs that are being implemented to help combat HIV/AIDS in Africa. This report is launched by the WHO and the UN; it is accurate and tremendously helpful when looking for unbiased information.
- United Nations General Assembly. (2004 August 27). *Implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration*. (A/59/150). New York, NY: Author
The Implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration addresses three issues; peace and security, development, and protecting the vulnerable. It also contains millennium development goals, targets, and indicators from 2004. This document is very important because it discusses the processes leading up to the development of the millennium goals and the step-by-step issues as it is addressed.
- United Nations Children's Fund. (2005). *HIV/AIDS and armed Conflict*. Retrieved July 13, 2005, from http://www.unicef.org/aids/index_armedconflict.html
As an NGO participating to help prevent and treat the spread of AIDS, UNICEF serves as an unbiased actor in the fight against HIV. This Web site explains the severity of armed conflict and its correlation to the spread of HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- III. Cultural Preservation in an Increasingly Globalized World**
- Commey, Pusch. (June 2003). *The Union takes shape*. *New African* Issue 419, 8-11
Commey's article is somewhat casual in its tone, but reflects well the balance of excitement, pride and doubt voiced by New African. His perspective is more educated observer than academic, but as a news-editorial hybrid, the article is highly informative. Commey covers the some of the challenges facing the AU, and pays specific examples to how the AU can go about negotiating its future with the West in a way that will not lead down the same well-traveled and devastating roads. The article includes a number of quotes by African leaders, including South African President Thabo Mbeki.
- Labor Unions in French-speaking Africa Learn Web Design. (2005, March 17). *New York Amsterdam News*, 96, 2.
This short article explains how a group of unions from Canada, Belgium, Switzerland, and France held a series of workshops in Dakar, Senegal, to teach web design skills to their "African counterparts." The 25 participants, from nine French-speaking African countries, had hands-on practice and were able to learn a variety of Web design skills. This article is useful because, as short as it is, it is a success story, both of globalization and of its potential for win/win international partnerships. The article also includes information on the sponsors and supporters of the Web design workshops.

Mbeki, Thabo. (February 2003). Mbeki: African Union is the mother, NEPAD is her baby. *New African*, 415, 44-45.

Mbeki's letter, published as an article in New African magazine, offers a first-person account of the dilemma facing AU members regarding developmental aid and hidden ties. Mbeki notes in his letter that the African continent is deeply grateful for developmental support, but carefully expresses a degree of recalcitrance to head into aid-based partnerships blindly. This letter is recommended reading for delegates unsure of or unclear on the downside, so to speak, of aid-based partnerships, and the very important distinctions between the AU and NEPAD.

Ruffin, Fayth A. (2004). The New African Union. *UN Chronicle*, No. 2, 2004, 72.

This article is at once a history of the transition from OAU to AU, and a critical examination of how, in terms of motivation and mandate, the AU actually differs from the OAU. Ruffin notes a number of statistics illustrating the "Herculean" nature of the tasks the AU is meant to address and proceeds to quote AU Commission Chairperson Alpha Oumare Konare on the way these tasks will be approached. Ruffin notes three key documents will "chart the course" for the AU: Vision and Mission of the African Union, the 2004-2007 Strategic Framework of the AU Commission, and Action Plans of Commission Departments. Finally, Ruffin cites information on how women figure into Africa's future.

Secka, Momodou Musa. (2004, December). Leaders must work with academia. *New African*, 33.

Musa's short article recaps statements delivered by AU chairman Alpha Oumar Konare at the first Conference of Intellectuals from Africa and the Diaspora (CIAD). Konare contends not only that intellectuals should be involved in the development, integration and transformation processes occurring in Africa, but also that the slow rate of progress among many African countries as they work to achieve these ends, can be attributed to intellectuals not being allowed "their rightful role in national development." Konare's comments are useful to this discussion because they directly address another angle [of the AU integration aspect] of the AU's challenge of achieving cultural preservation whilst progressing towards full participation in globalization.

Soderberg, Nancy. (February 2005). The African Union moves a quiet revolution. *Christian Science Monitor*, 97, 9.

Soderberg's article explores how Africa is beginning to take full responsibility and "ownership" for its problems and challenges through the AU. Soderberg advances the view that the AU is a manifestation of a new point of view on the continent: "Africa's leaders now recognize that the era of non-intervention in internal conflicts is over – that the myriad conflicts on the continent drag the whole region down and that the world will not solve their problems for them." She also contests, somewhat contrastingly, that the West must not use the creation of a strong and capable AU to bow out of or otherwise "abdicate" its responsibilities to the African continent and its people.

Thiessen, Heiner. (2002, November). Running on empty. *Ecologist*, 32, 39-41.

Thiessen's article is about Senegal, and how the country is faring after two International Monetary Fund (IMF) Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) (in 1986 and 1995). He describes in some detail how moving from a traditional barter-based economy to a cash economy has affected the country and its people. Thiessen is highly critical of both the IMF and its globalization and aggressive pushing of Western-style economic structures on markets unused to them. His view is that in some circumstances IMF aid, through SAPs, does not help but further damages economies and livelihoods.

Reuters. (2005, February 21). *Djibouti: Anti-FGM protocol ratified but huge challenges remain*. Retrieved August 22, 2005, from <http://www.fgmnetwork.org/html/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=109>
This Reuters article provides a good outline of the circumstances surrounding Djibouti's ratification of anti-FGM protocols. Despite its high incidence of FGM, Djibouti is attempting to eradicate this practice. FGM is an example of a cultural tradition that is questionable in both legality and morality. The question of whether or not to condemn FGM is an important one and this article provides some good information on this conundrum.

Additional Sources

Commeey, Pusch. (September 2002). African Union: What next? *New African*, 410, 12-15.
This article, dated just months after the AU's inception, describes how the AU began, which organs were ready for launch and which were not, and what was at the top of the priority list. The article goes over the AU's biggest threats and challenges, and covers the former, in particular, in some detail. Commeey also includes the perspectives of a number of leaders and AU officials. This is a good resource for delegates who want a frank, basic idea of how chaotic the AU's first months really were, and how far the AU has come since them – as well as how far the AU still has to go.

The Female Genital Cutting Education and Networking Project. (n.d.). *FGC in Africa and the Middle East*. Retrieved August 22, 2005, from <http://www.fgmnetwork.org/html/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=37>
The Female Genital Cutting Education and Networking Project is an NGO based out of Tallahassee, Florida, dedicated to ending FGM through education and networking, specifically by enabling collaboration between governments, IGOs, NGOs and citizens. This page provides a snapshot of the current position on the issue for five countries, all members of the AU: Burkina Faso, Egypt, Ivory Coast, Kenya, and Sudan. At the time of writing this, Kenya is the only one of these countries that has ratified the Maputo Protocol, which seeks to outlaw FGM, but the information provided here factually notes that various forms of FGM are still practiced in Kenya. Of the other four countries listed, Burkina Faso constitutionally prohibits FGM, Egypt's position on the matter is unclear, provisions in the Ivory Coast's criminal code "could be used to prohibit [FGM]", and Sudan has passed laws that prohibit one form of FGM but allow another.

Ilesanmi, Simeon O. (2004). Leave no poor behind: Globalization and the Imperative of Socio-Economic and Development Rights from an African Perspective. *Journal of Religious Ethics*, 21, 71-92.
Like Rosemary Jane Jolly's and Hubert O. Quist's articles, Ilesanmi's approach to globalization – in an African, development-oriented context is predominantly academic. Ilesanmi examines the widely held view that globalization is a process that necessarily creates great amounts of wealth. He sets up juxtaposition between globally endorsed and widely recognized developmental, social and economic rights, and the processes and realities of globalization – especially globalization in Africa. Ilesanmi's view is that while globalization at least partially gave rise to these rights, and provides a means to them, and even usues them to check itself, it in no sense assures them. This is highly recommended background reading for delegates.

Jolly, Rosemary Jane. (2002). Desiring Good(s) in the Face of Marginalized Subjects: South Africa's Truth And Reconciliation Commission in a Global Context. *South Atlantic Quarterly*, 100, 693-715.
Jolly's article addresses South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission within the context of globalization, and specifically Western conceptions of justice and democracy. While her article is lengthy and very academic, it is recommended reading for delegates looking to broaden their understandings of the topic. Jolly highlights how the media in North America has tended to view the Commission as a fast-track half-effort at justice. The media has criticized the Commission for failing to do its job, when in fact, the job the Commission does is one very different than what the media think. This is due almost completely to what Jolly calls the "commodification of democracy" and the very Western idea that justice must be retributive, when in fact, the Commission is designed to enable forgiveness and peace, a different sort of justice than the West is used to in its own ideal of justice.

- Miles, William F. S. (2003). Shari'a as De-Africanization: Evidence from Hausaland. *Africa Today*, 50, 51-75.
This article compares Niger and Nigeria and looks at how differences in colonial approaches to Shari'a law – respectively, widespread intolerance and tolerance – have adapted, under the weight of national, continental and global pressures. Miles' subject, the Hausa, are "the largest ethno linguistic group in all of Africa". The Hausa are a unique group to study because the Niger-Nigeria border that divides one group into two nationalities has enabled a bit of an experiment in the effects of globalization – and its effects of national law – on cultural identity, and particularly on culturo-religious identity.
- Oguntimaju, Dele. (2002, November). On your bike?. *Ecologist*, 32, 38.
Dele Oguntimaju is the director of publicity for the Movement for National Reformation of Nigeria. His editorial addresses one of the predicaments globalization has given rise to, particularly for Africans: people in developing countries are sold the great Western dream, but due to immigration complexities and the near-impossibility of reversing personal circumstances against such odds, rarely have the capital to afford that dream. Oguntimaju criticizes tougher immigration and asylum policies as an ineffective panacea for the problem of "uprooted people" – rather, he posits that investment into the countries, regions and people who need it, thus preventing their "being sucked into the turbines of global trade" and hopefully revisiting economic growth on them. Specifically, Oguntimaju's criticisms on immigration and asylum policies are leveled at the UK, but the thrust of the argument is widely applicable to most Western countries, including those claiming to have doors more open than others – namely, Canada.
- Quist, Hubert O. (2001). Cultural Issues in Secondary Education Development in West Africa: away from colonial survivals, towards neo-colonial influences?. *Comparative Education*, 37, 297-314.
Quist's article looks at education as a way of measuring the effects of globalization and related shifts in cultural influence in the urban areas of Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire. He explores the "triple cultural heritage" of these regions – African, Euro-Christian and Islamic – and examines how these are changing the way people are being educated at a secondary level. He also looks at how this cultural heritage is changing itself, and how this can be framed within global influences.

Rules of Procedure African Union

INTRODUCTION

1. These rules shall be the only rules which apply to the African Union (hereinafter “the Committee”) and shall be considered adopted by the Committee prior to its first meeting.
2. For purposes of these rules, the Committee 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 his or her 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, “Chairperson” shall refer to the presiding officer, or acting presiding officer of the body.

I. SESSIONS

Dates of convening and adjournment

Rule 1

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

Place of sessions

Rule 2

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

II. AGENDA

Provisional agenda

Rule 3

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

Adoption of the agenda

Rule 4

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 in the body. Items on the agenda may be amended or deleted by the body 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 in the body” means those delegates, including observers, in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Explanatory memorandum

Rule 5

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

III. SECRETARIAT

Duties of the Secretary-General

Rule 6

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

Duties of the Secretariat

Rule 7

The Secretariat shall receive, print, and distribute documents, reports, and resolutions of the body, and shall distribute documents of the body to the members of the African Union and generally perform all other work which the body may require.

Statements by the Secretariat

Rule 8

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

Selection of the Chairperson

Rule 9

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

Replacement of the Chairperson

Rule 10

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

IV. LANGUAGES

Official and working language

Rule 11

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

Interpretation

Rule 12

Any representative wishing to address any United Nations body or submit a document in a language other than English shall provide 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 translation must be within the set time limit.

Quorum

Rule 13

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

For purposes of this rule, "members of the body" is based on the number of total members (not including observers) in attendance for the Tuesday night session.

General Powers of the Chairperson

Rule 14

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere by these rules, the Chairperson shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the body, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The Chairperson, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the body and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. She or he shall rule on points of order. She or he may propose to the body 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 Chairperson's power to assign speaking times for all speeches incidental to motions and amendment. Further, the Chairperson is to use his or her 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 NMUN Conference. For purposes of this rule, the Chairperson's power to "propose to the body" entails his or her power to "entertain" motions, and not to move the body on his or her own motion.

Rule 15

The Chairperson, in the exercise of his or her functions, remains under the authority of the body.

Points of order

Rule 16

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order, which shall be decided immediately by the Chairperson. Any appeal of the decision of the Chairperson shall be immediately put to a vote, and the ruling of the Chairperson 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 Chairperson, sua sponte, during the speech. For purposes of this rule, "the members present and voting" means those members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 17

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

Speeches

Rule 18

1. No one may address the body without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairperson. The Chairperson 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 body, and the Chairperson may call a speaker to order if her/his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
3. The body may limit the time allowed to speakers and all representatives. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the Chairperson shall call him or her 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 Chairperson determines that the body 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 Chairperson, in his or her 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.

Closing of list of speakers

Rule 19

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 Chairperson may announce the list of speakers and, with consent of the body, declare the list closed. When there are no more speakers, the Chairperson shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by decision of the body.

The decision to announce the list of speakers is within the discretion of the Chairperson and should not be the subject of a motion by the body. A motion to close the speaker's list is within the purview of the body and the Chairperson should not on his own motion the body.

Right of reply

Rule 20

If a remark impugns the integrity of a representative's State, the Chairperson may permit a 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 rights of reply shall be made in writing addressed to the Secretariat and shall not be raised as a point or motion. The reply shall be read to the body 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.

Suspension of the meeting

Rule 21

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.

Adjournment of the meeting

Rule 22

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 body shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

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

Adjournment of debate

Rule 23

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.

Closure of debate

Rule 24

A representative may at any time move the closure of debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his or her 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 body favors the closure of debate, the body shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

Order of motions

Rule 25

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.

Proposals and amendments

Rule 26

Proposals and substantive amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretariat, with the names of twenty percent of the members of the Assembly who would like the Assembly 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 body unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The Chairperson 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 body 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 body by the Secretariat. The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of that working paper. 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 body. These draft resolutions are the collective property of the body, 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.

Withdrawal of motions

Rule 27

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.

Reconsideration of a topic

Rule 28

When a topic has been adjourned, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the body, 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 session during which this motion comes to vote.

V. VOTING

Voting rights

Rule 29

Each member of the body shall have one vote.

This section 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 or NGOs, who are not permitted to cast votes on substantive matters.

Request for a vote

Rule 30

A proposal or motion before the body for decision shall be voted upon if any member so requests. Where no member requests a vote, the body 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 Chairperson 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 vote.

Majority required

Rule 31

1. Unless specified otherwise in these rules, all substantive decisions of the body 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 session during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain.

Method of voting

Rule 32

1. The body 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 Chairperson. 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 Chairperson 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 body votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by the show of placards and a recorded vote shall replace a roll call. A representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the body 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.

Explanation of vote

Rule 33

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 Chairperson 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 Chairperson in writing immediately after voting on the topic ends.

Conduct during voting

Rule 34

After the Chairperson 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.

Division of proposals and amendments

Rule 35

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 Chairperson 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.

Amendments

Rule 36

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 preambulatory clauses.

Order of voting on amendments

Rule 37

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.

Order of voting on proposals

Rule 38

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

The Chairperson shall not vote

Rule 39

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

VIII. MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION

Invitation to silent prayer or meditation

Rule 40

Immediately after the opening of the first plenary meeting of the General Assembly, representatives may request to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation. This is the only time this motion will be entertained and its approval is at the discretion of the Secretariat.

NMUN RULES OF PROCEDURE - SHORT FORM
LISTED IN ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

Motion	Purpose	Debate	Vote
Point of Order	Correct an error in procedure	None	None
Appeal of the Chair	Challenge a decision of the Chair	None	Majority
Suspension of the Meeting	Recess meeting	None	Majority
Adjournment of the Meeting	End meeting	None	Majority
Adjournment of Debate	End debate without a substantive vote	2 pro / 2 con	Majority
Decision of Competence	Declare committee unable to consider issue or resolution	None	Majority
Closure of Debate	Move to immediate vote	2 con	2/3
Declare an Important Question (applicable in GA Plen only)	Require all substantive actions to obtain a 2/3 majority to pass	2 pro / 2 con	Majority
Amendments and 1 st Vote on Divisions of the Question	Vote on sections separately, prior to voting on the entire resolution	2 pro / 2 con	Majority
Roll Call Vote	Vote by roll call, rather than show of placards	None	None
Reconsideration	Re-open debate on an issue	2 con	2/3
Set the Speakers time	Set or change the speakers time limit	2 pro / 2 con	Majority
Close the Speakers list (also applies to re-opening list)	No additional speakers added to speakers list on topic	None	Majority
Adoption of the Agenda	Approval of agenda order	None	Majority

DIVISION OF THE QUESTION DIAGRAM

