



THE 2006 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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Distinguished Delegates:

My name is Michael Gaspar and it is my honor to be your Director for the General Assembly Plenary at the 2006 National Model United Nations Conference (NMUN). To let you know a little about myself, I am from, live and work in the New York City area and graduated in 2001 with my combined BBA/MBA in public accounting and minor in political science from Pace University. I am currently working as a project manager for a construction firm. This is my third year on staff; but eighth overall at the conference. I have vast experience with Model United Nations Conferences, as I have been involved extensively as a delegate and as a staff member on both high school and collegiate conferences throughout North America. Our Assistant Director is Sarah Tulley, who will have the opportunity to introduce fully herself with the committee update.

An advantage that the General Assembly Plenary provides is the wide arena of issues that can be discussed and worked on during discussions. The topics that have been selected are challenging but cover a broad range of issues affecting people throughout the world. At the conference, you will be asked to create resolutions dealing with the issues being discussed. The topics before the 2006 General Assembly Plenary are:

1. The Use of Economic Sanctions for Political and Economic Compulsion;
2. Democracy and Human Rights in Post-Conflict Regions;
3. The Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa.

The following guide that Sarah and I have put together will further assist you in your preparation but should be, by no means, your only source of research. As you will see, the guide has been restructured from previous years to provide delegates with a more succinct background to the issues while providing even greater depth of resources for you to pursue. Delegates should pay special attention to the annotated bibliographies because of the large quantity of additional sources listed.

Each delegation is required to submit a position paper. Similar to last year, NMUN is accepting papers via e-mail. 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 e-mail submissions is included on page 1-2 of this guide. It is vital that all delegates adhere closely to these instructions. Additional information on the conference and the General Assembly Plenary Committee will also be posted at the NMUN conference website at <http://www.nmun.org>. You are encouraged to access this website to review the latest updates on the conference and your committee.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sarah, Jacob, or myself at the e-mail addresses listed below. Good luck with your research!

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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 be '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 download 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 _____

Represented by the
State University

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; CESC; WCD; 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 variation of 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 will be available online at www.nmun.org after 1 January 2006. 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, a working paper/working draft report which has not been approved by the committee director will not be copied by the dais. It is the responsibility of the delegates to copy their own working paper/working draft report if they choose to share copies of the document which has not been submitted for approval. 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 General Assembly Plenary

Under Article 7 of the *Charter of the United Nations*, six main organizational bodies of the United Nations were formed to deal with world concerns, including the General Assembly.¹ Furthermore, the Charter provides that subsidiary bodies within each main organ may be formed as necessary in accordance with the spirit of the United Nations to promote further discussions.²

The General Assembly Plenary plays an important role in the United Nations, as it is the main forum in which issues that encompass a wide range are debated. Within this medium, all 191 Member States are represented and more importantly, each state has an equal vote.³ Actions that have passed through the General Assembly start an important chain of events, as it is here a large portion of the agenda for the entire United Nations system is determined.⁴ Since every Member State is represented and has equal voting rights, a passing resolution means the majority of the world's governments are behind it.

In general, a majority vote is necessary to pass a resolution in the General Assembly; unless it is a decision on an important question which then requires a two-thirds majority to pass.⁵ Any resolution that the General Assembly passes, either through majority vote or through consensus, is non-binding to Member States.⁶ This is because the United Nations is "...not an independent, homogeneous organization; it is made up of states, so actions by the UN depend on the will of member states, to accept, fund or carry them out."⁷ Furthermore, even though a simple majority can pass agreements that have been formed in the General Assembly, Member States work strongly to build consensus.⁸ The President of the General Assembly will even request that the body adopt a potential resolution by acclamation to demonstrate strong support.⁹

Powers and Functions

Under the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly Plenary's functions and powers include the following. First, to consider and make recommendations on the general principles of cooperation for maintaining international peace and security, including disarmament.¹⁰ Another function of the Plenary is to discuss any question relating to international peace and security and, except where a dispute or situation is currently being discussed by the Security Council, to make recommendations on such questions.¹¹ Finally, the Plenary discusses, with the same exception, and makes recommendations on any questions within the scope of the Charter or affecting the powers and functions of any organ of the United Nations.¹² The body also initiates studies and makes recommendations to promote international political cooperation, the development and codification of international law, the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms and international collaboration in the economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, educational and health fields.¹³ The Plenary makes recommendations for the peaceful settlement of any situation which might impair friendly relations among nations.¹⁴ The body receives and considers reports from the Security Council and other United Nations organs and considers and approves the United Nations

¹ United Nations. (1945, June 26). *Charter of the United Nations*. San Francisco: Author. Article 7.

The other five bodies are the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.

² *Ibid.*

³ United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *59th General Assembly Session: Press Kit*. Retrieved July 17, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/ga/59/presskit/geninfo.htm>

⁴ United Nations Publications. (1995). *Basic Facts About the United Nations*. New York: Author, p. 9.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ United Nations Cyber School Bus. (n.d.). *Introduction to the United Nations*. Retrieved July 17, 2005, from <http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/unintro/unintro5.htm>

⁸ United Nations Publications, *supra*, note 4.

⁹ United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.), *59th General Assembly Session: Press Kit*, *supra*, note 4.

¹⁰ *Charter of the United Nations*, *supra*, note 1, Article 11.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, Article 12.

¹² *Ibid.*, Article 10.

¹³ *Ibid.*, Article 13.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, Article 14.

budget, as well as establishing the financial assessments of Member States.¹⁵ Finally, the Plenary elects the non-permanent members of the Security Council, the members of the Economic and Social Council, members of the Trusteeship Council, and elects jointly with the Security Council the Judges of the International Court of Justice.¹⁶

Sessions and Procedures

The General Assembly has three sessions, regular, special, and emergency special.¹⁷ The General Assembly's regular session begins on the third Tuesday of every September and runs into mid December.¹⁸ The first item on the agenda is to elect the President, 21 Vice-Presidents, and the Chairmen of the General Assembly's seven main committees.¹⁹ "To ensure equitable geographical representation, the presidency of the Assembly rotates each year among five groups of States: African, Asian, Eastern Europe, Latin American, and Western European and other States."²⁰ The start of the General Assembly starts with general debate in which heads of states address their peers and give their views on wide range of international topics.²¹ Since the magnitude of the numerous topics is overwhelming, the General Assembly Plenary allocates most of the issues to its six subsidiary bodies.²²

Outside of the regular meeting schedule, there are three other instances that the General Assembly can hold special sessions. The Security Council, Member States' majority, or one Member State with an approval of the majority can call the General Assembly to hold meetings to discuss pertinent issues at any time.²³

Conference Participation and Voting

As previously stated, all Member States have full rights and privileges within the General Assembly Plenary with each vote being measured the same. All procedural and substantive motions pass by simple majority unless considered an important question by the President of the General Assembly Plenary. An important question needs a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote to pass and that it qualifies under the criterion. For an item of debate to be considered an important question under Article 18 of the Charter it has to deal with recommendations with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security; the election of the non-permanent members of the Security Council; the election of the members of the Economic and Social Council; the election of members to the Trusteeship Council; the admission of new Members to the United Nations; the suspension of the rights and privileges of membership; the expulsion of Members; the questions relating to the operation of the trusteeship system; and budgetary questions.²⁴

The Member and Observer States of the 2006 NMUN General Assembly Plenary are all 191 Member States who currently sit in the United Nations and the Observer States of the Holy See and Palestine. The Delegations from the Holy See and Palestine have been invited to participate in the General Assembly activities. These Observer States are invited in order to participate in its deliberations on questions that are relevant to the bodies' activities, as well as the individual Observer States. Within the real UN General Assembly Plenary, the delegation of the Holy See may co-sponsor any resolution that "...makes reference to the Holy See."²⁵ In the case of Palestine, the delegation has "the right to co-sponsor draft resolutions and decisions on Palestinian and Middle East resolution issues."²⁶ At the 2006 NMUN Conference, the delegations from the Holy See and Palestine will be allowed to be signatories on draft resolutions before the body, but they will not be allowed to sponsor draft resolutions. Further, under the individual

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, Article 17.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, Article 97.

¹⁷ United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *General Assembly Frequently Asked Questions*. Retrieved August 2, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/gafaq.htm#rules>

¹⁸ United Nations Publications, *supra*, note 4, p 7.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹ United Nations Publications, *supra*, note 4, p 8.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *59th General Assembly Session: Background* Retrieved August 2, 2005 from http://www.un.org/ga/59/ga_background.html

²⁴ *Charter of the United Nations*. *supra*, note 1, Article 18.

²⁵ United Nations General Assembly (2004, July 16). *Participation of the Holy See in the work of the United Nations*. (A/RES/58/314). New York: Author.

²⁶ United Nations General Assembly. (1998, July 13). *Participation of Palestine in the work of the United Nations*. (A/RES/52/250). New York: Author.

resolutions and agreements between the Observer States and the United Nations that grant participation, they are not afforded substantive voting rights. Both Observer States may make and vote on procedural motions but cannot vote on substantive matters.

An important aspect of any debate involving the global community is the active participation of civil society. The work of Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) has long represented these interests. Even though delegations representing NGOs will not be active during the simulation, delegates are expected to learn what work they have done and incorporate it into debate.

I. The Use of Economic Sanctions for Political and Economic Compulsion

*The Security Council may decide what measures not involving the use of armed force are to be employed to give effect to its decisions..., [which] may include complete or partial interruption of economic relations and...the severance of diplomatic relations.*²⁷

Introducing Economic Sanctions

The issue of economic sanctions is a difficult one to debate due to lack of a specific definition that is accepted by the global community. Generally speaking, “[e]conomic sanctions are economic measures directed to political objectives.”²⁸ Governments and international organizations are hoping to achieve their goals by imposing their will through utilizing their economic strengths while taking advantage of the economic disadvantages of other states. The general thinking by the nation, or nations, implementing sanctions is basic. “... sanctions interrupt normal economic intercourse, and in so doing, they deprive political communities of the good things necessary to sustain life and community; faced with such disruptions in the supply of good things, rational governors of a sanctioned community will do whatever is necessary to continue to have access to those good things, and will alter their behavior in such a way to stop the sanctions.”²⁹ Economic sanctions have become a valuable alternative to when diplomacy has failed and the use of military force is not a desirable option.³⁰ Governments also regard economic sanctions as a potential gain in political standing. An example of this would be that some observers will view economic sanctions not as an act of aggression, as they would a military strike, but more of a sort of punishment that is necessary.³¹

Some will argue that there is a distinction between economic sanctions and other types of penalties for economic disagreements. It is important for one to identify the difference between an economic sanction and an economic policy initiative such as a tariff increase. One scholar, Kim Richard Nossal, argues that economic sanctions possess very specific traits that differentiate it from other items of trade politics.³² One being that the economic sanctions are being placed on a nation because it has committed some act of wrongdoing deemed immoral.³³ Even the word sanction contributes to this idea. Sanction originated from the Latin word *sanctio* which means “... the penalty specified for a transgression of a law or decree and particularly for a violation of a sacredness.”³⁴ In this context, economic sanctions do not mean to just only assist in a nations or a regions economic growth. They mean to denounce publicly a country that has been perceived to commit a moral violation and needs to be punished.³⁵

²⁷ Charter of the United Nations (opened for signature June 26, 1945). U.S.T.S. No. 993 (1945), Article 41.

²⁸ Barber, James. (1979, July). Economic Sanctions as a Policy Instrument. *International Affairs*, 55(3), 367.

²⁹ Nossal, Kim Richard. (1999). Liberal-democratic regimes, international sanctions, and global governance. *Globalization and Global Governance*, 127.

³⁰ Baldwin, David A. & Robert A. Pape. Evaluating Economic Sanctions. *International Security*, 23(2), 189.

³¹ Gordon, Joy. (1999, Fall/Winter). Economic Sanctions, Just War Doctrine, and the “Fearful Spectacle of Civilian Dead.” *Cross Currents*, 49(3), 387.

³² Nossal, Kim Richard. (1989, Spring). *International Sanctions as International Punishment*, 43(2), 305.

³³ *Ibid.*

³⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁵ *Ibid.*

The methods that economic sanctions can be utilized are numerous. The aim of an economic sanction is to place an enormous amount of cost and economic, social, and political pressure on the target economy.³⁶ The hope of the nation(s) imposing the sanctions is as previously mentioned to directly have the target government realize that the cost is too great and will have to succumb.³⁷ In addition, the sanctions might reach a critical point that the citizens of the country will force the government into change.³⁸

There are other instruments of economic pressure, of which, may or may not necessarily constitute a form of economic sanction in and of itself. However, one of particular import is the trade war.³⁹ A trade war can be defined as “when a state threatens to inflict economic harm or actually inflicts it in order to persuade the target state to agree to terms of trade more favorable to the coercing state.”⁴⁰ In general, this type of economic struggle is between two long-term trading partners and is strictly for economic gains with the intent of reestablishing and furthering the relationship after the trade war.

The Increase in Economic Sanctions in the 1990s

Under the auspices of the United Nations, the Security Council has enacted Article 41 of the UN Charter to impose economic sanctions in sixteen occasions.⁴¹ A large majority of these, fourteen, have occurred after 1990 and their intent has changed dramatically.⁴² Before the Cold War, multilateral economic sanctions were used as a tool to maintain international peace and security.⁴³ Since then, a wide myriad of reasons have been the purpose of enacting Article 41. As an observer stated “The new pattern distinguishes itself from the old not only by the frequency with which sanctions have been imposed, but also by the wide range of purposes that they serve, the centerpiece of efforts to repel aggression, restore democracy, condemn human rights abuse, and punish regimes harboring terrorists and international war criminals.”⁴⁴

There are several explanations to describe the global community’s increase in economic sanctions in the 1990s. First, the decade demonstrated an increase by nations to “intrude in issues that were once off-limits.”⁴⁵ This can also be attributed to the respect of a state’s sovereignty is no longer an absolute sacred.⁴⁶ Next, in 1992, former United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali wrote his *An Agenda for Peace*, which described the threats to society that goes beyond military including environmental and humanitarian.⁴⁷ Nations saw a possibility of preventing damage from these threats using sanctions and other non-military forces. Lastly, the global community saw economic sanctions as a mechanism to intercede in areas in that need outside intervention, such as in the case of Rwanda, but without the economic and military loss that would occur if their forces were ordered.⁴⁸

The Effectiveness of Economic Sanctions

Determining the effectiveness of economic sanctions is difficult because of its wide-ranging descriptions. A simple answer to the effectiveness is if the political objectives were gained (i.e. if the present leadership was removed or the

³⁶ Pape, Robert A. (1997, Autumn). Why Economics Sanctions Do Not Work. *International Security*, 22(2), 93.

³⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ Note: The sixteen cases are Afghanistan, Angola, Cote d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia and Eritrea, Haiti, Iraq, Liberia, Libya, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Sudan and the former Yugoslavia. The sanctions have been lifted on Angola, Ethiopia and Eritrea, Haiti, Libya, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Sudan and the former Yugoslavia; Office of the Spokesman for the Secretary-General. (2005 January). *Use of Sanctions under Chapter VII of the UN Charter*. Retrieved July 14, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/news/ocsg/sanction.htm>

⁴² Weiss, Thomas G. (1999, September). Sanctions as a Foreign Policy Tool: Weighing Humanitarian Impulses. *Journal of Peace Research*, 36(5), 499.

⁴³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 500.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ Boutros, Boutros-Ghali. (1992). *An Agenda for Peace, Preventive Diplomacy, Peacemaking and Peace-keeping*. Retrieved July 14, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/agpeace.html>

⁴⁸ Weiss, *supra*, note 43, p. 500.

hardships of its citizens have ended). In many different cases, the question if economic sanctions achieved its goal seems to be a mixed one. Where the intent of the economic sanctions was to place pressure on the leaders of the nation to change its ways, in many different occasions, the opposite has been founded. The leaders have been able to rekindle strong national pride and have the citizens view the sanctions as a punishment against them and not the leadership.⁴⁹ In addition, the intense pressure that sanctions place on a domestic economy has forced citizens to find other ways to gain monetary resources. Large black markets in nations stricken by sanctions have risen which in turn becomes a large profit maker for the leaders and elite who are in power.⁵⁰ This is in turn giving more funds and ultimately increased power back to the current leadership. In addition, the effectiveness of economic unilateral and multilateral sanctions is even cloudier. One of the first and most influential studies on the effectiveness of economic sanctions shows that there was a 34% success rate with the 116 separate instances of economic sanctions (both unilateral and multilateral) between 1914 and 1990 as determined by the researchers.⁵¹ Another scholar also conducted an in depth analysis on the same 116 cases, and determined that there were only five examples of economic sanctions having been successful.⁵²

Critics contribute several factors to why economic sanctions are not sound instruments of international mediation. In many occasions, sanctions have been graded on and studied with enthusiasm on an “end justifies the means” philosophy. An example of this can be found in the former Yugoslavia. The United States suspended both economic and military sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro three years after they were instilled in 1995.⁵³ The unilateral sanctions were in conjunction with sanctions placed by the Security Council during the same periods.⁵⁴ The United States stated that the reasoning behind the lifting was that it reached its stated goal of bringing the parties to the negotiating table to broker peace.⁵⁵ However, were the sanctions “...a success because they avoided a wider conflict in Europe, or a failure because member states did not stand up to aggression, the forced movement of peoples, and ethnic cleaning?”⁵⁶

The rapidly increasing interdependence of the world’s economy becomes an important aspect in determining when to impose economic sanctions. Nations have to be careful to consider how much of a factor will economic sanctions not only have on the targeted country’s economy but also the potential bottleneck it can have for the rest of the global economy.⁵⁷ Business interest groups within sanctioning nations’ might have strong opposition to sanctions against an important country and will cause the doubt of the objectives.⁵⁸

Another dynamic that makes economic sanctions difficult to implement fully is each targeted nation’s uniqueness. This combined with the often broad and vague language of sanction documents makes effectiveness hard to reach. As one observer states, “Sanctions have vastly differing impacts depending on the economic, geographic, and political profiles of targets. Countries depending on a single export or on massive imports of food are likely to be affected, while those with multiple boarders are able to engage in ‘sanctions busting.’”⁵⁹ Furthermore, there is unprecedented nationalism in many targeted countries. Nations in disputes with others will suffer to the greatest possible lengths to protect their interests in the government and the rest of the country.⁶⁰

⁴⁹ Reinish, August. (2001, Oct.). Developing Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Accountability of the Security Council for the Imposition of Economic Sanctions. *The American Journal of International Law*, 95(4), 851.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

⁵¹ Hufbauer, Gary Clyde, Schott, Jeffery J., Elliot, Kimberly Ann. (1990). *Economic Sanctions Reconsidered: History and Current Policy*. 2nd ed., 2 vols. Washington D.C.

⁵² Pape, *supra*, note 37, p. 105.

⁵³ Unknown Author. (1995). *Clinton Suspends Sanctions Against Serbia and Montenegro*. Associated Press. Retrieved July 25, 2005 from <http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/sanction/yugo5.htm>

⁵⁴ Note: Delegates can view the Security Council resolutions that dealt with sanctions against the former Yugoslavia as provided by the office of the UN Secretary-General at <http://www.un.org/News/oss/fy.htm>; *Ibid.*

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ Weiss, *supra*, note 43, p. 500.

⁵⁷ Elliott, Kimberly Ann & Gary Clyde Hufbauer. (1999, May). Same Song, Same Refrain? Economic Sanctions in the 1990s. *The American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings of the One Hundred Eleventh Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association*. 89(2), p. 403.

⁵⁸ Note: An example of this is the business group, USA*Engage, which is a coalition of United States’ segments of business aimed at the implementation of economic sanctions at the national, state and local levels. More information of the group can be found at <http://www.usaengage.org>; *Ibid.*, p. 406.

⁵⁹ Weiss, *supra*, note 43, p. 501.

⁶⁰ Pape, *supra*, note 37, p. 105.

Humanitarian Impact of Sanctions

As previously discussed, the intent of the nation implementing sanctions is in general to punish the current leadership and if need be remove them from power without utilizing military force. However, in many situations the people who are most effected are the citizens of the country in a negative way. When sanctioning countries are hoping that the citizens would put extreme duress on governments to change it policies, the opposite is true. Furthermore, in many cases, humanitarian agencies that are present to bring such vital items as water and medicine are unable to enter a sanctioned country because of the delay in being approved to enter or the lack of coordination between parties.⁶¹

A look into the former nation of Rhodesia can evaluate how even during times of sanctions the lower classes of workers will bear more suffering than the more powerful elites.⁶² Essentially, when economic sanctions are instilled, unpopular regimes will shift the burden of the financial decline towards the unskilled workers of the country. Without being specific on the exact exports and/or imports being sanctioned against, the general international trade economy will suffer considerably.⁶³ Typically, the holders of employment in these fields are the skilled powerful ones within a developing nation.⁶⁴ These workers will be compensated in most instances by the state but at the anguish of the lower classes.⁶⁵ This leads back to the example in Rhodesia. “Thus it was possible for economic sanctions to cause the incomes of blacks in Rhodesia to fall while the standard for living for whites rose.”⁶⁶

During the late 1990s, the United Nations started to see the harsh humanitarian impact on citizens that economic sanctions were creating. During his 1998 report to the United Nations, the honorable Secretary-General Kofi Annan stressed the need for sanctions that put the pressure on the regimes while still decreasing the social cost.⁶⁷ The emphasis of the Secretary-General to find better ways to implement economic sanctions started a trend by UN agencies to better assess the humanitarian impact. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has been one of the leading UN agencies in researching the impact of economic sanctions. In studying the humanitarian element of economic sanctions, the OCHA found several critical points that needed immediate assistance.

An area that needed attention was the coordination management within a sanctioned country.⁶⁸ The effective management of delivering vital goods and being certain that it is the regime that is suffering and not the citizens is critical.⁶⁹ As discussed previously, the pictures of the hardships of citizens will make a target country and its leadership seems to be the victim. “Therefore, the humanitarian impact of sanctions hardly can be seen as “collateral damage,” unavoidable under the circumstances and not relevant to the effectiveness of sanctions regime. On the contrary, the proper management of the humanitarian impact of sanctions appears central to an efficient management of sanctions and, therefore to their success.”⁷⁰ Furthermore, the leaders of the targeted regime might also become stronger because they have the opportunity to threaten opposing political parties and “reward corrupt supporters by allocating scares resources.”⁷¹

⁶¹ Bruderlein, Claude. (1998, December 2). *Coping with the Humanitarian Impact of Sanctions: An OCHA Perspective*. New York, NY: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Retrieved on July 25, 2005 from http://www.reliefweb.int/ocha_ol/pub/sanctions.html

⁶² Pape, *supra*, note 37, p. 107.

⁶³ *Ibid.*

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

⁶⁷ Secretary-General Kofi Annan. (1998). *Annual Report of the Secretary-General on the Work of the Organization*. (A/53/1), paragraph. 62, New York, NY: Author.

⁶⁸ Bruderlei, *supra*, note 59.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ Weiss, *supra*, note 43, p. 502.

Another area that has been identified as a determinant to proper sanction management is the “prolonged sanctions regime.”⁷² Sanctions on nations that run for an extended period will have great effects on the infrastructure that was most likely unforeseen when implemented. Critical public facilities like schools, hospitals, transportation hubs, power and water plants, and numerous other services, will over time deteriorate to points that it will need major rehabilitation to become effective for utilization.⁷³ There have even been occasions that the regime for whom the sanctions were intended for were responsible for the rapid deterioration because they were consuming the allocated funds for personal use.⁷⁴ Without proper sanction management within the country, it is almost impossible to supervise properly the allocation of humanitarian resources attended for the citizens.⁷⁵

Unilateral Economic Sanctions

The multilateral versus unilateral brings about another aspect of the economic sanctions debate. As previously discussed, many instances of economic sanctions occur between a single or small group of nations. The decade of the 1990s witnessed a sharp increase in the utilization of multilateral economic sanctions and mostly through international organizations such as the United Nations.⁷⁶ The belief of many proponents is that multilateral sanctions are more effective in achieving their goals because of the drastic decrease in the market for a targeted economy. Over a period, the targeted country will find it to be very difficult to find outside consumers that would accept their exported goods because of the sanctioning countries.⁷⁷ The number of countries who will enforce their responsibilities under a multilateral sanctioning agreement will determine the effectiveness on achieving their intended goal. The economical hardships that a targeted country will face are ultimately greater with the larger number of inaccessible economies.

Certain scholars will state that there are holes in the argument multilateral sanctions are more effective than unilateral sanctions. First, as previously mentioned economic sanctions, at times, will lead to a revival of nationalism in the target country. This comes about because multilateral agreements “...are characterized as much by which countries do not join the sanctioning coalition as by those that do. Refusal to cooperate with the sanctioning coalition in itself sends a signal to interest groups in the target country that might consolidate support for the objectionable policy of that country’s government.”⁷⁸ Next, multilateral sanctioning agreements cannot bind every single party that has an interest in the targeted country’s economy. The secondary market becomes a very lucrative one for the people who are able to evade any trade restrictions placed by the embargos.⁷⁹ Typically, a secondary or black market comes along because once a sanction is placed on an economy, a commodity that is no longer available or limited has its value increase exponentially.⁸⁰ The good’s value in the targeted country rises above the world’s rate. Any domestic producers of the good and/or smugglers can then sell the good for a large profit. The reverse is true for exporters of a good. Since the market for an exported good is limited or none, the value goes below the world price.⁸¹ Smugglers and intermediaries are able to buy at a sharp decrease in the targeted economy and then sell at the world price with a hefty profit margin.⁸² Thirdly, there are sanctioning countries that will economically be more affected than others in a multilateral agreement and will at times lead to dissention amongst the members because of equitable compensation.⁸³

In certain instances, the profits that are being created from the smuggling are heading towards the war chests of the regimes that the sanctions were meant to hurt.⁸⁴ This also sparks the debate between unilateral and multilateral

⁷² Bruderlei, *supra*, note 59.

⁷³ *Ibid.*

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

⁷⁶ Note: Prior to 1990, the United Nations had imposed sanctions only twice against the white minority regime in Rhodesia and an arms embargo against South Africa; Kaempfer, William H. & Anton D. Lowenberg. (1999 March) Unilateral Versus Multilateral International Sanctions: A Public Choice Perspective. *International Studies Quarterly*. 43(1), 37.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 38.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 55.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 44.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*

⁸¹ *Ibid.*

⁸² *Ibid.*

⁸³ *Ibid.*, p. 53.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 45.

sanctions and their effectiveness on economic and political objectives. While multilateral sanctions cause greater damage to the target country and might achieve the original economic goals, the political status of the nation might stay unchanged.⁸⁵ In certain instances, unilateral sanctions have been found to be successful because of their targets. Often, unilateral sanctions are formed from a group of nations that have close social, economic, and cultural ties to the targeted country.⁸⁶ Even such simple courses of actions as preventing international sporting competitions between neighboring nations or allowing the regime from traveling to a popular destination might cause tension between leaders to occur.⁸⁷ Furthermore, these allow sanctions to target leaders more than causing damage to the citizens of the target country.

Conclusion

The debate on the use of economic sanctions is one that has been on the floor for years now. The search for a non-violent method of action towards rogue leaders led the global community towards the acceleration of cases of economic sanctions in the 1990s. As discussed, many issues affect the continued utilization of this mechanism of diplomatic action. Much of the reactions towards economic sanctions have been negative because of the harsh humanitarian effects that it has had on citizens of targeted countries. However, there are cases in which it can be argued that economic sanctions were successful in obtaining economic and political compulsion. Delegates must realize that the aspects of the debate that have been touched upon here are just a starting point and that there are other areas within this topic that should be discussed. Delegates in the General Assembly should prepare to answer these questions, amongst others, during their research and debate:

- Has their nation ever been a sanctioning and/or a target country? If so, delegates should research the original causes behind the utilization of economic sanctions. What was the political situation in the country for the sanctions to be instilled? Were they supported with a large coalition of nations, an international organization, or just a few? How have economic sanctions affected regions in promoting political changes?
- Does the delegation believe that economic sanctions are an effective tool of non-violent diplomatic action? In light of other options, i.e. military strike, are economic sanctions the only effective option in threatening leaders that cause hardship towards their citizens. Should economic sanctions be used in only certain situations and if so, which ones? What are the alternatives to economic sanctions? How or can the effectiveness of economic sanctions be accurately measured? Should the effect of economic sanctions be judged on a yes or no standard when no other diplomatic instrument is?
- Even if the delegation thinks of economic sanctions as not being a viable solution at this point of time, is there belief that they can become a tool? If so, what needs to be changed? What can the body create to assure that the economic and political objectives are met? Are “smart sanctions” a road that should be considered taken further? How far do sanctions go to meeting their objective? Can human resource management be more efficient within a sanctioned country to assure that the citizens are not being hurt? Can NGOs and other members of civil society be an effective tool for resource management?
- Does the nation believe that unilateral economic sanctions to be a more effective tool in achieving their goals quicker and more efficiently? If so, why? How can the rest of the global community be assured that they did not arise from special interest groups within the sanctioning nation(s) who would benefit greatly from a sharp change in the economic terms of a region? Are there safeguards that can be put in place?
- What role does the General Assembly have in the debate of economic sanctions? The Security Council has been the main body to receive the majority of the attention because of its heavy utilization of economic sanctions. However, as the main deliberative body of the United Nations, the General Assembly has a responsibility to consider the future and offer guidance of the issues that affect Member States and their citizens. Ultimately, it is the obligation of this body to create resolutions that will offer plans of actions on whether economic sanctions should or should not continued to be utilized.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 46.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 55.

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 52.

II. Promotion of Democracy and Human Rights in Post-Conflict Situations

*Democracy, development, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. The international community should support the strengthening and promoting of democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the entire world.*⁸⁸

Introduction

Since the end of the Cold War, there has been a renewed interest by the international community in promoting the mutually interchangeable and interdependent ideals of human rights and democracy. When the founders of the United Nations met in San Francisco more than half a century ago, they knew that no foundation of peace would be sturdier than democratic government and that ensuring the fulfillment of human rights requires democratic government, especially in post-conflict situations.⁸⁹

Human rights, on the most basic level, are the rights that one has for existing as a human being.⁹⁰ They should as such be considered equal rights because we are all equally human beings.⁹¹ They are also inalienable rights, because no matter how inhumanely we act or are treated we cannot become anything other than human beings.⁹² The United Nations has been a staunch promoter of human rights since its inception 60 years ago.⁹³ The drafting of the *Universal Declaration on Human Rights* (UDHR) in 1948 and in 1966 the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (ICCPR) and the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR) define the rights the UN believe all people need.⁹⁴ The UDHR was first adopted by the General Assembly in 1948, which has arguably given it the status of customary international law.⁹⁵ Similarly, the ICCPR and ICESCR have 144 and 141 states parties to it, respectively.⁹⁶ Together these three documents can be considered the most important documents defining human rights.

Since the drafting of the above documents, there have been numerous other international documents drafted that address human rights and democracy. The *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*, which was adopted by 171 states at the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993, recognized the interdependence between democracy, development, and human rights.⁹⁷ The *Millennium Declaration* reaffirmed the commitment to a just and lasting peace throughout the world, through among other things, the upholding of each states political independence, as well as remaining dedicated to the promotion of democracy and the strengthening of the rule of law as well as respect for internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms.⁹⁸ The General Assembly has passed numerous resolutions during its sessions that discuss the promotion of human rights and democracy in all different arenas.⁹⁹

⁸⁸ United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (1993). *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*, New York, NY: Author.

⁸⁹ Annan, Kofi. (2000). *UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's Closing Remarks at the Warsaw Conference of the Community of Democracies*. Retrieved August 29, 2005, from <http://www.ccd21.org/articles/annanwarsaw.htm>

⁹⁰ Donnelly, Jack. (1999). Human Rights, Democracy and Development. *Human Rights Quarterly*. 21.3, p. 608-632.

⁹¹ *Ibid*, p. 612.

⁹² *Ibid*.

⁹³ Hoffmann, Florian and Megret, Frederic. (2002). The UN as a Human Rights Violator? *Human Rights Quarterly*. 25.2. p. 314-342.

⁹⁴ *Ibid*, p. 316

⁹⁵ United Nations General Assembly. (10 December 1948). *International Bill of Human Rights*. (A/Res/3/217). New York: Author.

⁹⁶ United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (1966). *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*. New York, NY: Author.

⁹⁷ United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (n.d.). *World Conference on Human Rights*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu5/wchr.htm>

⁹⁸ United Nations General Assembly. (8 September 2000). *Millennium Declaration*. (A/Res/55/2). New York: Author.

⁹⁹ Note: The resolutions passed on this topic during the 59th session include Human rights and terrorism (A/RES/59/195), Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order (A/RES/59/193) and Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity (A/RES/59/190).

Besides the international conventions defining human rights, as well as democracy, there are numerous regional conventions outlining each regions specific principles and ideals in regards to human rights and democracy.¹⁰⁰ In Africa alone, a continent that has seen perhaps more than any other region, ongoing civil strife, lack of democracy and fulfillment of human rights, the new African Union has dedicated itself, among others, to the respect for democratic principles, human rights, the rule of law and good governance; coupled with condemnation and rejection of unconstitutional changes of governments.¹⁰¹

The word democracy itself does not appear in the *Charter*, nor was it mentioned in the *Covenant of the League of Nations*.¹⁰² However, with the opening words of the *Charter*, “We the Peoples of the United Nations,” the founders invoked the most fundamental principle of democracy, rooting the sovereign authority of the Member States.¹⁰³ In the UDHR, Article 21 states that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government and this has been understood as a major principle of a democratic government.¹⁰⁴ Defining what is democracy poses a difficult task because there is no international agreement that explicitly describes what democracy is. Generally, it is agreed that a democracy has:

- 1) Universal, adult suffrage;
- 2) Recurring, free, competitive, and fair elections;
- 3) More than one serious political party; and
- 4) Alternative sources of information.¹⁰⁵

While these characteristics form a solid foundation for the implementation of a democratic government, it is also recognized that there is no single model for democracy or democratic institutions.¹⁰⁶

Current Situation

Recovering from conflict for many states is a long, complicated, and drawn out process that is not remedied with the immediate end to the violence and strife. The General Assembly has upheld the idea that all Member States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and an international system based on the promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.¹⁰⁷ In the last decade, there has been a burgeoning interest in the question of how nations can recover from mass violence or gross human rights violations, focusing on the concept of transitional justice, wherein the states seek to redress the human rights violations of prior regimes.¹⁰⁸ For example, as dictatorships in Latin America fell in the 1980’s and 1990’s, human rights advocates pressed upon those states, such as Guatemala and El Salvador, to initiate domestic proceedings against “notorious intellectual authors” of mass terror.¹⁰⁹ However, the fragile democracies, weak judiciaries and amnesty laws made

¹⁰⁰ United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (n.d.). *Compilation of Documents*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from http://www.ohchr.org/english/law/compilation_democracy/index.htm; Note: Examples of these Conventions are the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights and the Charter of Fundamental Freedoms of the European Union, among many others.

¹⁰¹ Manby, Bronwen. (2004). The African Union, NEPAD and Human Rights: The Missing Agenda. *Human Rights Quarterly*. 26.4, p. 983-1027.

¹⁰² Rich, Roland. (2001). Bringing Democracy into International Law. *Journal of Democracy*. 12.3. p. 20-34.

¹⁰³ United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (n.d.). *Democracy*. Retrieved August 7, 2005, from <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/democracy/index.htm>

¹⁰⁴ United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (1948). *Universal Declaration on Human Rights*. New York City, NY.

¹⁰⁵ Diamond, Larry & Morlino, Leonardo. (2004). An Overview. *Journal of Democracy*. 15.4. p. 20-31.

¹⁰⁶ United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (2003). *Civil and Political Right: Continuing Dialogue on Measures to Promote and Consolidate Democracy*. (E/CN.4/2003/59). New York: Author. p. 17.

¹⁰⁷ United Nations General Assembly. (23 March 2004). *Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of human rights by all*. (A/Res/58/192). New York: Author.

¹⁰⁸ Fletcher, Laurel and Weinstein, Harvey. (2002). Violence and Social Repair: Rethinking the Contribution of Justice to Reconciliation. *Human Rights Quarterly*. 24.3. p. 573-639.

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid*, p. 575.

domestic trials difficult to institute.¹¹⁰ One reason for this difficulty is due to the sheer numbers of those who engaged in criminal acts overwhelms the capacity of domestic and international justice systems.¹¹¹ Addressing the abuses that were carried out in times of conflict is one of the major issues that must be dealt with by the international community, as it is necessary to begin the national healing process. Governments are often unable or unwilling to deal with widespread abuses during an actual conflict or a transitional phase given political and other constraints.¹¹² Typically, judicial review of atrocities takes place in a belated manner, if it occurs at all, while the international community has often ignored widespread violations of human rights and humanitarian law.¹¹³ This has begun to change with the Security Council establishing the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, as well as by treaty, the International Criminal Court.¹¹⁴ Also in place is the Special Court for Sierra Leone which is an international organization created by treaty between the government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations.¹¹⁵

Besides the establishments of Criminal Tribunals and Special Courts, many nations who have experienced prolonged violence have established truth commissions as a way to promote national healing.¹¹⁶ Truth commissions are temporary bodies, usually with an official status, set up to investigate a history of human rights violations that took place within a country during a specified period.¹¹⁷ In contrast with tribunals or courts, truth commissions do not have prosecutorial powers to bring cases to trial, nor do they act as judicial bodies to investigate individuals accused of crimes.¹¹⁸ Fourteen states that have experienced prolonged violence and human rights abuses have established truth commissions with assistance from the UN and Non-Governmental Organizations.¹¹⁹

Countries in the peace-building phase have the difficult task of fulfilling the basic human rights of their peoples, through not only the provision of basic essentials but through the achievement of development. The Declaration *on the Right to Development* recognizes that international peace and security are essential elements for the realization of the right to development.¹²⁰ The early recovery period is critical and often contains windows of opportunity for peace building and efforts to reduce the risk of disastrous deterioration of the peace, which lay the foundation for more sustainable recovery and longer-term development.¹²¹ Among the many problems that countries in post-conflict situations face are basic competition for political and economic resources, competition between ethnic, religious, or racial groups, low GNP per capital, limited international trade, and lack of suitable infrastructure.¹²² Effective peace-building requires concurrently and integrated action on many different fronts: military, diplomatic, political, economic, social, humanitarian and the many random factors that go to make up a coherent and stable social fabric.¹²³

It has been recognized by the international community that democracy and good governance are indispensable to the

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 579.

¹¹² Zoglin, Katie. (2005). The Future of War Crimes Prosecutions in the Former Yugoslavia: Accountability or Junk Justice? *Human Rights Quarterly*. 27.1. p. 41-77.

¹¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 42.

¹¹⁴ United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda*. Retrieved August 7, 2005, from <http://www.ictt.org/default.htm>

¹¹⁵ Schabas, William A. (2003). The Relationship between Truth Commissions and International Courts: The Case of Sierra Leone. *Human Rights Quarterly* 25.4. p. 1035-1066.

¹¹⁶ Ball, Patrick and Chapman Audrey. (2001). The Truth of Truth Commissions: Comparative Lessons from Haiti, South Africa, and Guatemala. *Human Rights Quarterly* 23.1. p. 1-43.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

¹¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁹ Ball and Chapman, *supra*, note 117.; Note: Truth commissions, or other mechanisms approximating a truth commission, have been set up in Uganda, Bolivia, Argentina, Zimbabwe, Germany, the Philippines, Uruguay, Chile, El Salvador, Rwanda, Brazil, Haiti, and Guatemala, as well as South Africa.

¹²⁰ United Nations General Assembly. (4 December 1986). *Declaration on the Right to Development*. (A/Res/41/128). New York: Author.

¹²¹ United Nations Development Programme. (n.d.). *Recovery: Transition Recovery*. Retrieved July 13, 2005, from <http://www.undp.org/bcpr/recovery/index.htm>

¹²² United Nations University. (December 2001). *Human Rights and Societies in Transition*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.unu.edu/p&g/humanrights-finalreport.html>

¹²³ *Ibid.*

realization of human rights in general.¹²⁴ The promotion of democracy has become an established goal of the United Nations at the start of the 21st century.¹²⁵ The General Assembly has recognized that democracy contributes substantially to preventing violent conflict, to accelerating reconciliation and reconstruction in post-conflict peace-building (including the fulfillment of human rights) and, in peacetime, to resolving disputes that may impede economic and social progress.¹²⁶

The International Conferences of New or Restored Democracies (ICNRD) represents an initiative by new democracies to address the unique challenges that they face. The first Conference was held in Manila in June of 1988 and was attended by 13 “newly restored democracies” who adopted the Manila Declaration, which recognized the indissoluble link between peace, democracy, and development.¹²⁷ There have been four subsequent conferences, the most recent held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in 2003 and the next is to occur in Doha in November 2006.¹²⁸ The Ulaanbaatar Declaration and the Plan of Action on Democracy, Good Governance, and Civil Society¹²⁹ stressed the interdependence between democracy and human rights and the need for all states to work in cooperation.¹³⁰

One of the keys to developing democracy in post-conflict societies is through the holding of free and fair elections. In the UN, the Electoral Assistance Division main objectives are: a) to assist Member States in their efforts to hold credible and legitimate democratic elections in accordance with internationally recognized criteria established in universal and regional human rights instruments; and b) to contribute to building the recipient country’s institutional capacity to organize democratic elections that are genuine and periodic and have the full confidence of the contending parties and the electorate.¹³¹ NGOs are also contributing to this mission. For example, the Carter Center is an NGO aiding democratic societies worldwide by observing elections, strengthening the capacity of civic organizations, and promoting the rule of law.¹³²

Case Study: Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone is a small country in West Africa that has seen some of the worst violence, civil strife and atrocities the world has ever witnessed. The conflict in Sierra Leone dates from March 1991 when fighters of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) launched a war from the east of the country near the border with Liberia to overthrow the government.¹³³ What ensued was a decade long Civil War that tore the small country apart. Numerous peace agreements were signed between the government and the RUF but it is not until 1999, with the signing of the Lome Agreement that a modicum of peace was brought to Sierra Leone. The Lome Agreement was ratified by the Sierra Leonean National Assembly and initially endorsed by a UN Security Council Resolution.¹³⁴ A second Security Council resolution also authorized the creation of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) with six thousand military personnel charged with implementing the peace agreement, including assisting in the holding of elections, and facilitating humanitarian assistance.¹³⁵

¹²⁴ Hamm, Brigitte. (2002). A Human Rights Approach to Development. *Human Rights Quarterly*. 23.4. p. 1005-1031.

¹²⁵ United Nations Department of Political Affairs. (2005). *New or Restored Democracies*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/prev_dip/fr_new_democracies.htm

¹²⁶ United Nations General Assembly. (2004). *Enhancing the role of regional, subregional and other organizations and arrangements in promoting and consolidating democracy*. (A/RES/59/201). New York: Author.

¹²⁷ United Nations Department of Political Affairs, *supra*, note 38.; Note: The 13 countries were Argentina, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Greece, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Spain and Uruguay.

¹²⁸ *Ibid.*

¹²⁹ United Nations General Assembly. Letter dated 18 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/387). New York: Author.

¹³⁰ United Nations Department of Political Affairs, *supra*, note 126.

¹³¹ United Nations Electoral Assistance Division. (2005). *Context and Objectives*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from http://www.un.org/depts/dpa/ead/ea_content/ea_context.htm

¹³² The Carter Center. (n.d.). *Peace Programs*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.cartercenter.org/peaceprograms/peacepgm.htm>; Note: The Carter Center is an organization that has played a major role in election monitoring in countries throughout the developing world.

¹³³ United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone. (2005) *Background*. Retrieved July 13, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/unamsil/background.html>

¹³⁴ Pham, J. Peter. (2005). Democracy by Force? Lessons from the Restoration of the State of Sierra Leone. *The Whitehead Journal of Diplomacy and International Relations*. p. 129-147.

¹³⁵ United Nations Security Council. (22 October 1999). *Resolution 1270*. (S/Res/1270). New York: Author

The international support for the restoration and promotion of constitutional and democratic government in Sierra Leone was unprecedented in the annals of modern African history and represented a pivotal shift that was ultimately decisive in breaking the country's vicious cycle of instability and violent conflict.¹³⁶ The continuing support from the international community, despite the numerous failures, shows what can be achieved if the will is there. There are also a number of lessons that can be learned from the peace process in Sierra Leone. While promoting democracy is the goal of most international interventions, proceeding to the polls too quickly is counter productive; it is necessary to strengthen political stability and national identity before promoting democracy.¹³⁷ Further, it is necessary to promote local participation in the post-conflict accountability, justice and reconciliation phase, which in Sierra Leone, has seen the establishment of the Special Court and also a Truth and Reconciliation Commission.¹³⁸ Lastly, it is necessary to reinforce the capacity of the state and to create economic opportunities that empower the people.¹³⁹ Overall, there is still much that needs to be done in Sierra Leone, but by following the steps that have allowed for a more sustainable transition that what other post-conflict countries have experienced.

Conclusion

The United Nations remains the most influential international forum that is dedicated to promotion of human rights and democracy throughout the developing world. While there are numerous agreements that define human rights and accepted ideals of democracy the lack of implementation of these principles greatly hinder a sustainable transition from conflict to peace and peace building. Fulfillment of human rights and democracy, especially in post-conflict regions is not an easy task and there is still much work that needs to be done in order to see these two principles fully achieved throughout the globe. Some questions to answer while undertaking your research:

- What steps must countries in post-conflict situations undertake to ensure that human rights and democracy are met?
- What are some of the obstacles that countries face when undertaking peace building activities and how can these obstacles be overcome?
- What are the root causes for conflict and how do those effect the fulfillment of human rights and democracy?

III. The Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa

*I envision someday a great, peaceful Africa in which the world will take pride[...] in which each of many different groups will be making its own creative contribution.*¹⁴⁰

Introduction to a Durable Peace

Under article 11 of the United Nations Charter, the General Assembly is the body that "...may consider the general principles of co-operation in the maintenance of international peace and security."¹⁴¹ It is the responsibility of the General Assembly to facilitate debate on policy measures to promote durable peace between and within the borders of a nation. When it comes to Africa, the underlying issues in maintaining peace and security are enormous. For years, Africa has had many regions that can be characterized as possessing little political stability. Since 1970, over thirty known wars have been fought on the continent and the casualties have mounted in the millions.¹⁴² For those around the global community, Africa has become known - not for its vast array of cultures, natural resources or geographic location but for "...civil war or conflicts, ethnic cleansing or genocide, failed states, and intractable

¹³⁶ *Ibid.* p. 142

¹³⁷ *Ibid.* p. 142

¹³⁸ *Ibid.* p. 142

¹³⁹ *Ibid.* p. 142

¹⁴⁰ Alan Paton, (1903 - 1988) is the author of "Cry, the Beloved Country."

¹⁴¹ Charter of the United Nations (opened for signature June 26, 1945). U.S.T.S. No. 993 (1945), Article 11.

¹⁴² Udombaba, Nsongurua J. (2003). The Unfinished business: Conflicts, the Africa Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development. *The George Washington International Law Review*, 35(1), 59.

woes.”¹⁴³ In addition, many of these problems have devolved into armed conflicts, unconventional in nature, and outside the traditional principles of war. At times, the armies of rebel groups have even “...inflicted suffering for its own sake or for mere indulgence in cruelty.”¹⁴⁴

Observers of the harms that Africa goes through offer many factors that lead to the conflict. Historically, post-Colonial African nations have had troubles creating national identities because of the manner in which they were formed. In 1885, the colonial powers of the world, carved Africa into pieces without attention being paid to cultures or identities.¹⁴⁵ There was not much of a framework that was being utilized to decide the borders, as “Kingdoms, States and communities in Africa were arbitrarily divided; unrelated areas and peoples were just as arbitrarily joined together.”¹⁴⁶ This created almost insurmountable conditions for nationalism. Eventually the only method to create a nation state was through the monopoly of political power within a nation.¹⁴⁷ Finally, the 1963 agreement negotiated by the Organization of African Unity decided that instead of continuous fighting, the boundaries that the colonial powers provided would be accepted.¹⁴⁸

It has also been observed, that in many instances, the perceived method of achieving and maintaining political power is through a “winner take all” attitude.¹⁴⁹ There have been cases in which the leader of a country will assume control over all political activities and economic resources of the land.¹⁵⁰ This transforms itself into governments that have no transparency, checks and balances, responsibility of actions, and the lack of peaceful transitions of power, if it even occurs.¹⁵¹ Years of colonial rule also continued to play a role in the growing economies. The infrastructure of economies had been formed to support metropolitan growth, and not of the characteristics of the local regions they were in.¹⁵² Many of the nations had agricultural products with populations that were based in areas that basic infrastructure could not reach.¹⁵³

There are still many factors that can be looked into deeply for reasons of conflict amongst the people of Africa. In terms of development, the fight for control over resources has to be heavily studied. In his 1998 study, Secretary General Kofi Annan reported to the Security Council his observations on Africa. It was titled, *The Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa*. The Secretary-General laid out a historical overview of the region, his factors to the reasons for conflict and recommendations to assist in Africa’s development.¹⁵⁴ It was made clear that the global community has the responsibility to assist Africa in its struggle for peace. He states that, “For the United Nations there is no higher goal, no deeper commitment, and no greater ambition than preventing armed conflict. The prevention of conflict begins and ends with the promotion of human security and human development.”¹⁵⁵

The General Assembly gives the topic priority status and continues to receive updates of the report at each annual session.¹⁵⁶ During the last update, the Secretary-General states progress has been made in regards to the number of conflicts in the region. At the time of the 1998 report, there were 14 nations that experienced conflict, 11 had

¹⁴³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 63.

¹⁴⁵ Annan, Kofi. (1998, June). Kofi Annan on Africa’s Development Problems. *Population and Development Review*, 24(2), 411.; Note: The Congress of Berlin was the 1885 group of colonial powers who decided the territorial boundaries.

¹⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 412.

¹⁴⁸ *Ibid.*; Note: The Organization of African Unity has been replaced with the regional group, the African Union (AU).

¹⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁵¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁵² *Ibid.*

¹⁵³ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁴ Secretary General of the United Nations. (1998, April 16). *The Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa*. New York: Author., paragraph 1.

¹⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, paragraph 2.

¹⁵⁶ United Nations General Assembly. (2005, March 4). *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa*. (A/RES/59/255). New York: Author.

political problems, and 15 had stable situations.¹⁵⁷ In contrast, currently there are six nations that are in a violent conflict, and only several would be classified as having stable political situations.¹⁵⁸ One factor for this can be the active role that neighbors and regional organization have performed as a method to reduce the political instability of the area. They have offered their help in such form as mediators and have pushed for accelerated negotiations for peace agreements in many situations.¹⁵⁹

However, it was made clear in the new report that a larger priority has to be given to the natural resources of Africa.¹⁶⁰ The region remains a potentially unstable one, and the lack of management of basic human needs such as water and energy can create tension between groups. The report states, “As most of the intractable conflicts on the continent come to an end, the durability of peace will depend greatly on the capacity of each new Government to take control of the natural resources and manage the wealth of the State in a transparent and accountable manner that will benefit its people.”¹⁶¹

The illicit trade of natural resources which everyday become more valuable due to the increasing consumption demands of the growing global economy can be a fundraiser for rebel groups.¹⁶² The funds that are collected through these trades can lead to rebels causing violent conflicts because of the resources not being able to reach the citizens.¹⁶³ Natural resources include such items as water, clean air, timber, and energy products, but it also encompasses valuable minerals as diamonds.¹⁶⁴

Natural Resource Consumption and Sustainable Development

The need to develop in society has led to an uneven balance between human wants and the Earth’s ability to satisfy them. In the 21st century, the environment has undergone a more radical transformation than in all previous centuries combined. The increasing stress that the Earth’s rapid population growth and expanding industrialization in developed and developing economies can just not be sustained long term. Policy makers started to realize this disturbing trend in the early 1970s and soon started to consider plans of action. Soon after, the concept of sustainable development was introduced.

Simply defined, sustainable development is “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”¹⁶⁵ It was a concept that can trace its first major introduction onto the floors of debate at the 1992 Earth Summit. Over 20,000 participants at the Earth Summit took the definition first provided by the 1987 Brundtland Commission and evolved it into a workable framework.¹⁶⁶ Coming together in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, governments worked with members of society to tackle the issues facing the uneven consumption of the Earth’s natural resources.¹⁶⁷ At the meetings, issues just as deforestation, freshwater, energy consumption, climate change and biodiversity were given major attention and tackled to find plausible alternative solutions that would satisfy all parties. Together, heads of state and members of civil society drafted international covenants aimed at stopping the adverse strains that people have put on the environment. Essentially, the global community came to the realization that if the current rate of global development and consumption was carried on into the future, the earth would far exceed its carrying capacity, and that this would have disastrous

¹⁵⁷ Secretary General of the United Nations. (2004, August 20). *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa - Progress Report of the Secretary-General*. (A/59/285). New York: Author., paragraph 3.

¹⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, paragraph 4.

¹⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, paragraph 65.

¹⁶¹ *Ibid.*, paragraph 66.

¹⁶² *Ibid.*

¹⁶³ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁵ World Commission on Environment and Development. (1987) *Our Common Future*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, p. 43.

¹⁶⁶ Sustainable Development Communications Network. (n.d.). Introduction into Sustainable Development: Definitions. Retrieved July 28, 2005, from <http://sdgateway.net/introsd/definitions.htm>; Note: Also known as the World Commission on Environment and Development, the Brundtland Commission, named after its chairperson, Gro Harlem Brundtland, was formed after General Assembly Resolution A/38/161 to study and provide plausible solutions to environmental problems.

¹⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

implications for future quality of life. Sustainable development was believed to answer these concerns. At the conference, Agenda 21: The global programme of action for sustainable development was drafted.¹⁶⁸ The other agreements created during the summit have also had an impact on environmental policy.¹⁶⁹

Agenda 21 is a detailed framework that all members of society can utilize to achieve global sustainable development. One of the main components discussed in trying to obtain sustainable development is to have policy makers, at all levels, succeed in implementing the right courses of action to undertake.¹⁷⁰ One of the principles of Agenda 21 is the need for civic participation in the decision-making process.¹⁷¹ At the Earth Summit, members of civil society were allowed to attend and give their input on all major issues being discussed. Out of the thousands of people who came, nine special interest areas were represented who became to be known as the nine major groups. They were women, children and youth, business and industry, trade unions, non-governmental organizations, farmers, indigenous people, local authorities, and the scientific and technological community. The major groups' advocacy was widely felt throughout the conference and each has a vital contribution to sustainable development. It is important to realize the importance of these groups because of the valuable role they play on implementing programs of sustainable development. The Earth Summit also led to the creation of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) by the General Assembly shortly after.¹⁷² The CSD is responsible for reviewing the implementation of Agenda 21 at all levels of government and assist Member States and regional organizations in promoting the agenda.¹⁷³

A great amount of enthusiasm followed the participants after the final meeting of the Earth Summit. Member States and civil society pledged to enter into a relationship to assure implementation of sustainable development to make measured progress in correcting the poor resource consumption practices that plagued the world. Then these same parties would come together to share their best practices in implementing sustainable development programs at the annual CSD meetings. However, at the 10-year review session held in Johannesburg, South Africa, it was evident that little progress towards the ultimate goals laid out in 1992 was met.

The ten-year review was known as the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and is also referred to as the Johannesburg Summit.¹⁷⁴ The amount of attention provided for the conference was as great as the original Earth Summit with over 22,000 people participating.¹⁷⁵ The WSSD was going to be a different conference in that people already had a blueprint to achieve its goal in Agenda 21. Less time was going to be spent on thinking of new ideals or concepts as in the past. The ten-year review would instead give the architects the arena to observe comments, evaluate indicators, and appraise results in sustainable development practices that were utilized in the past decade.¹⁷⁶ "What the world wanted, the General Assembly said, was not a new philosophical or political debate but rather, a summit of actions and results."¹⁷⁷ For the WSSD, Secretary General Kofi Annan identified five areas that he wanted to serve as the main discussion theme throughout the ten-year review.¹⁷⁸ These five are water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture, and biodiversity protection and ecosystem management, also known as the WEHAB initiative.¹⁷⁹

¹⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁹ United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. (n.d.). *Sustainable Development Homepage*. Retrieved July 28, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/index.html>; Note: The other agreements written at the 1992 Earth Summit include the Rio Declaration, Framework Convention on Climate Change, Convention on Biological Diversity and the Statement of Forest Principles.

¹⁷⁰ United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. (1992, August 12). *Agenda 21. Chapter 40*. Retrieved July 28, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/agenda21/english/agenda21toc.htm>

¹⁷¹ Elias, Victoria. (2000). Who is Aware of Agenda 21? Missing Conditions: Three Major Barriers. In Felix Dodds (Ed.) *Earth Summit 2002, A New Deal*. Sterling, VA: Earthscan Publications, p. 33.

¹⁷² United Nations General Assembly. (1993, January 29). *Institutional Arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development*. (A/RES/47/191). New York: Author.

¹⁷³ United Nations Division for Sustainable Development, *supra*, note 170.

¹⁷⁴ United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. (2002, September 25). *The Johannesburg Summit Test: What will Change?* Retrieved July 24, 2005 from http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/whats_new/feature_story41.html

¹⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁸ United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. (2003, January). *The Road from Johannesburg. What was Achieved and the Way Forward*. Retrieved July 24, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/media/Brochure.doc>

¹⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

Ultimately, the participants at the WSSD provided a further plan to promote sustainable development. The *Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development* looks to “further build on the achievements made since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and expedite the realization of the remaining goals.”¹⁸⁰ The 72-page plan contains a plethora of items that affect the overall potential effectiveness of sustainable development. In the plan, there are chapters that specifically deal with regional concerns.¹⁸¹ Chapter 8 is one of these, and its main area of concern is Africa, which remains a major challenge and deserves a great amount of attention from the global community if sustainable development in the continent is to become a reality.¹⁸² The plan discusses a list of constraints to achieving sustainable development in Africa.

*Poverty remains a major challenge and most countries on the continent have not benefited fully from the opportunities of globalization, further exacerbating the continent's marginalization. Africa's efforts to achieve sustainable development have been hindered by conflicts, insufficient investment, limited market access opportunities and supply side constraints, unsustainable debt burdens, historically declining levels of official development assistance and the impact of HIV/AIDS.*¹⁸³

The chapter also goes into detail with recommendations on these areas that affect Africa's lack of sufficient natural resource consumption. First, the establishment of a supportive community at the regional, sub regional, national, and local levels is necessary to promote economic growth.¹⁸⁴ Secondly, the creation of technology transfer programs and support the scientific and technology community in setting up communities for people to learn.¹⁸⁵ The development of national education programs by the aims set by the Millennium Development Goals.¹⁸⁶ Additionally, these goals can assisted in being met by assuring that nations have to sufficient resources during times of climate change, extreme weather, and sea level changes.¹⁸⁷ To support the initiatives and support the partnerships in the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).¹⁸⁸ Essentially, the primary focus remains to “support Africa's efforts for the prevention and resolution, management and mitigation of conflicts, and its early response to emerging conflict situations to avert tragic humanitarian consequences.”¹⁸⁹

New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

Under a mandate of the then Organization of African Unity, a socio-economic development plan was to be created that dealt with the challenges that faced the citizens of Africa in the 21st century. The framers of the new plan were the Heads of State of Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal, and South Africa.¹⁹⁰ This pledge by African governments is the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and was signed in October 2001. The plan was to be different from previous pledges because it was to be based on a self-dependency and an internal motivation to achieve wide scale development within the continent.¹⁹¹ As one observer looked back, “It was presented to the international family of nations as the quintessential redeemer of the African continent because, for the first time, it would not rely on handouts, and accordingly be worthy of fellowship in the global community.”¹⁹²

¹⁸⁰ United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. (2003). *The Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development*. Retrieved July 28, 2005 from http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/WSSD_PlanImpl.pdf

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸² *Ibid.*

¹⁸³ *Ibid.*, paragraph 62.

¹⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, paragraph 62(a).

¹⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, paragraph 62(c).

¹⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, paragraph 62(e).

¹⁸⁷ *Ibid.*, paragraph 62(k).

¹⁸⁸ *Ibid.*, paragraph 62.

¹⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, paragraph 65(c).

¹⁹⁰ New Partnership for Africa's Development. (2005). *NEPAD in Brief*. Retrieved September 20, 2005 from <http://www.nepad.org/2005/files/inbrief.php>

¹⁹¹ Organization of African Unity. (2001, October). *The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD.)* Abuja, Nigeria: Author., paragraph. 5.

¹⁹² Nepad – what is it and what can it really do? (2003, April). *African Business*, 286, 30.

African leaders understand that in order to achieve sustainable development there would have to be necessary focus on the pillars of "...peace, security, democracy, good governance, human rights and sound economic management."¹⁹³ Bearing in the mind that the majority of African states possess relatively small population sizes and per capita income, NEPAD focuses on capacity building and pooling the resources of nations to be more attractive to investors.¹⁹⁴ In researching the limitations of having social and economic development that would make a substantial dent in the poverty levels, NEPAD stressed six cross-sector themes. The six were bridging the infrastructure gap including the digital divide, human resources development including reversing the brain drain, agriculture, culture, science and technology, and the environment.¹⁹⁵

The framers of NEPAD understood the importance of an environment within the region that allows and promotes development at all levels however difficult it was going to be to achieve. As the writers stated, "... the range of issues necessary to nurture this environmental base is vast and complex, and that a systematic combination of initiatives is necessary to develop a coherent environmental programme."¹⁹⁶ With the World Summit on Sustainable Development being held in South Africa and within a year after the NEPAD was introduced, African leaders knew that the time was right to push forth an environmental conscious agenda. The Environmental Initiative within the NEPAD targets eight main areas that needed to have priority status on agendas.¹⁹⁷ The themes were combating desertification, wetland conservation, invasive alien species, coastal management, global warming, cross-border conservation areas, environmental conservation, and the necessary financing of projects.¹⁹⁸

In the four years since its introduction, NEPAD has faced criticism in its implementation and created doubters even in its founders because it has struggled to make considerable reductions in poverty levels.¹⁹⁹ However, many Africans see NEPAD as being the last resort to end decades of conflict and poverty. As Nigerian leader, Olusegun Obasanjo, stated in an interview, "There is a realization that in contemporary Africa, NEPAD is the real and only game in town and we are resolutely committed to it."²⁰⁰ However, certain observers see the establishment of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) as a step in the right direction in which 24 nations have already agreed to its mandates.²⁰¹ The purpose of the APRM is to "...foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration through sharing of experiences and reinforcement of successful and best practice, including identifying deficiencies and assessing the needs for capacity building."²⁰² A nation that is undergoing a review by the APRM has several different assessment periods under a set timeline.²⁰³ A member can ask for a review to take place or there are certain criterions that the APRM can initiate one.²⁰⁴ Furthermore, each specific nation starts their review based off different levels as it is recognized that certain situations are worse than others are.²⁰⁵ However, the APRM is not a required prerequisite if a country pledges to the goals of the NEPAD and this has led to some criticism. It is perceived by several observers that many of the nations that necessitate increased transparency in their government have not become aligned with the APRM.²⁰⁶ However, defenders will point out the essential voluntary nature of the APRM and "... that the desired effect will come about through increased recognition, foreign investment and trade, and donor assistance flowing to reviewed nations, while those that demur will remain in the cold."²⁰⁷

¹⁹³ The New Partnership for Africa's Development, *supra*, note 191, paragraph 71.

¹⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, paragraph 90.

¹⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. iii.

¹⁹⁶ *Ibid.*, paragraph 135.

¹⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, paragraph 138.

¹⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁹ Is NEPAD nothing but a talk shop? (2005, January). *African Business*, 305, 28.

²⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁰¹ *Ibid.*

²⁰² Organization of African Unity. (2002, July 8). *The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)*. (AHG/235). Durban, South Africa: Author, paragraph, 2.

²⁰³ *Ibid.*, paragraph 13.

²⁰⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.*, paragraph 16.

²⁰⁶ Is NEPAD nothing but a talk shop?, *supra*, note 200, p. 29.

²⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

Conclusion

As the research will demonstrate, the topic of the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa is vast and complex with many cross-sectional themes. With its vast natural resources, natural habitats, cultures, and rich history Africa remains one of the main focuses of international attention. Yet the eradication of poverty and conflict in Africa remains one of the most challenging goals for the global community.

For the purposes of this General Assembly Plenary, delegates will be challenged to focus on certain specific areas to create programs of action that can be agreed on by the vast majority of the body. Delegates should also concentrate on the relationship between stability and the concept of sustainable development as it relates to natural resource management and as NEPAD stressed under its Environmental Initiative. In performing their research and in further preparing their delegation, delegates should answer, amongst others, the following questions:

- Has their government assisted African nations in any types of aid? If so, what type and how has it assisted? What would the nation wish to see in terms of further assistance to Africa? What areas should continue to be stressed and/or what areas have not been focused on enough?
- What does your nation believe that the ultimate role of the United Nations is to be in developing Africa? Can the United Nations have the resources necessary to implement change? If not, what is needed?
- Even though different reasons can be pointed to the conflicts throughout Africa, have there been in the past or presently any that can be traced to fighting over natural resources? How can teaching local citizens and governments the principles of sustainable development lead to more stable societies?
- Does the delegation implement sustainable development practices as it relates to environmental protection in their home country? If so, what effect has it had on local populations? Can these practices be brought to African populations?
- Is there a link between conflict and environmental security? Does the nation believe that a society that is more conscious of its natural resources is a more stable one?
- What is the future of the New Partnership for Africa's Development? Is the NEPAD the solution to poverty and conflict? Should the body recommend that the African Union reevaluate its position that the APRM remain voluntarily?
- If the nation is a member state of the African Union, is that delegation currently under the auspices of the APRM? If yes, has it found that the APRM has created additional investment and transparency? If not, does the nation feel that it has lost on opportunities from outside parties? Is the APRM a valid mechanism to evaluate progress made on sustainable development?

Annotated Bibliography

History of the General Assembly Plenary

Charter of the United Nations (opened for signature June 26, 1945). U.S.T.S. No. 993 (1945), *The bylaws and principles that the Member States of the United Nations follow and guide their decisions on. All delegates should be familiar with the bylaws of the charter. The committee's structure, debate and product will follow the guidelines and principles of the charter.*

United Nations Cyber School Bus. (n.d.). *Introduction to the United Nations*. Retrieved July 17, 2005, from <http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/unintro/unintro5.htm>
The Web site is dedicated to teaching students the history and inner workings of the United Nations. These pages give a brief introduction of specialized agencies and international meetings. It discusses their roles in meetings and what they hope to achieve.

United Nations Cyber School Bus. (n.d.). *The United Nations: An Introduction for Students*. Retrieved July 17, 2005, from <http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/unintro/unintro.asp>
This web page gives the background of how the United Nations was formed and organized in 1945. Both first time and veteran delegates should visit the page to familiarize themselves with

the formation of the United Nations and the environment in which the global community was working under during that time.

United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *General Assembly Frequently Asked Questions* Retrieved August 2, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/gafaq.htm#rules>

The website provides responses to common questions about the activities of the General Assembly. Also included are links to information about proclamations made by the General Assembly, i.e. international days and decades. Also provides valuable links to relevant documents within the UN system.

United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *59th General Assembly Session: Background* Retrieved August 2, 2005 from http://www.un.org/ga/59/ga_background.html

A good website that provides basic knowledge about the purposes and limits of the General Assembly sessions. It provides delegates with an abridged version of the principles of the charter and the committees that compose the General Assembly. The top of the page provides links to other areas of the General Assembly system.

United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *59th General Assembly Session: Press Kit*. Retrieved July 17, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/ga/59/presskit/geninfo.htm>

This source gives the provisions that the General Assembly can work under. Its powers, rights, and responsibilities are listed and discussed. This page also offers more insight on the inner workings of the General Assembly. For example, there are descriptions of the committees that are responsible for topic agenda and credentials and how the body seeks consensus in all of their work.

United Nations General Assembly (2004, July 16). *Participation of the Holy See in the work of the United Nations*. (A/RES/58/314). New York: Author.

The resolution states the role that the Holy See can work under in debate. The Holy See is limited to its functions within debate at the General Assembly due to its status as an observer. This resolution summarizes the delegation's responsibility to the debate. All delegates should obtain this resolution and understand the role of the Holy See in General Assembly debate.

United Nations General Assembly. (1998, July 13). *Participation of Palestine in the work of the United Nations*. (A/RES/52/250). New York: Author.

Like the delegation from the Holy See, the delegation of Palestine is limited in certain areas of debate during General Assembly negotiations. The resolution passed in 1998 describes the roles under which Palestine can proceed in debate. All delegations in the committee should review this resolution in order to be familiar with the guidelines that Palestine is to operate under.

United Nations Publications. (1995). *Basic Facts About the United Nations*. New York: Author.

This book is a good tool for both novices and veterans in learning about the United Nations. As the title states, the piece describes the facts that all delegates should know and understand and what functions and powers that many UN agencies have.

Additional Sources

United Nations General Assembly. (1993, September 14). *Revitalization of the work of the General*. (A/RES/47/233). New York, NY: Author.

The resolution is important in that it decides the main committees of the General Assembly. The main committees as outlined under this resolution include Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee); Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee); Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee); Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (Third Committee); Administrative and Budgetary Committee (Fifth Committee); and the Legal Committee (Sixth Committee). Other content in the resolution includes dealings of the 47th and 48th session of the GA.

I. The Use of Economic Sanctions for Political and Economic Compulsion

- Baldwin, David A. and Robert A. Pape. Evaluating Economic Sanctions. *International Security*, 23(2), 189.
When researching the topic, delegates will find that there is not clear-cut method to fully grade the effectiveness of economic sanctions on a targeted country. Many different scholars on the subject have developed their own system, which is included in this article. This commentary is a rebuttal of a previous article that provides its own ideas for an evaluation system.
- Barber, James. (1979, July). Economic Sanctions as a Policy Instrument. *International Affairs*, 55(3), 367.
An earlier article discussing the history of economic sanctions before the large increase in frequency of the 1990s. The author starts his discussion defining economic sanctions and talks about three of the more well known economic sanctions cases of the 20th century. The three examples that are discussed in depth are the League of Nations against Italy, the United States against Cuba and the United Kingdom against Rhodesia (which is now the Republic of Zimbabwe.)
- Bruderlein, Claude. (1998, December 2). *Coping with the Humanitarian Impact of Sanctions: An OCHA Perspective*. New York, NY: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Retrieved on July 25, 2005 from http://www.reliefweb.int/ocha_ol/pub/sanctions.html
Written for the United Nation's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the author provides a detailed look into the systemic need for an overhaul of sanction management within nations. Delegates should study the recommendations that the author has made including her critical analysis of past UN sanctioned nations.
- Boutros, Boutros-Ghali. (1992). *An Agenda for Peace, Preventive Diplomacy, Peacemaking and Peace-keeping*. Retrieved July 14, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/agpeace.html>
At the time, the agenda for which the United Nations was going to lead the global community into the next century. It provided guidance on nations and civil society focusing on the non-military threats to social and economic development. Under a recommendation by the Security Council, the Secretary General was asked to offer suggestions on obtaining peace through preventative diplomacy. As defined in the report, preventive diplomacy is "action to prevent disputes from arising between parties, to prevent existing disputes from escalating into conflicts and to limit the spread of the latter when they occur."
- Elliott, Kimberly Ann & Gary Clyde Hufbauer (1999, May). Same Song, Same Refrain? Economic Sanctions in the 1990s. *The American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings of the One Hundred Eleventh Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association*. 89(2).
Elliott and Hufbauer are two of the most well known scholars on the topic of economic sanctions with the writing of numerous studies on the subject. This short article provides a snapshot on economic sanctions and then goes briefly into different areas of the debate including regional aspects and backlash of the late 1990s. The authors take a closer look at the manner in which international diplomacy changed with the end of the cold war. With the end of the cold war many more diplomatic options became available, for example, economic sanctions.
- Gordon, Joy. (1999, Fall/Winter). Economic Sanctions, Just War Doctrine, and the "Fearful Spectacle of Civilian Dead." *Cross Currents*, 49(3), 387.
The author looks into the utilization of economic sanctions, both unilateral and multilateral, as a possible act of war against another. It takes into consideration past cases of economic sanctions and puts it against the Just War doctrine defense. Additionally, the moral basis and consequences of economic sanctions are discussed. The author offers an argument that with the severe toll that economic sanctions can have on a society, that the same justification for them be given as if war had been declared. Examples are provided from example in nations where economic sanctions have been instilled and the damage that had occurred.

Hufbauer, Gary Clyde, Schott, Jeffery J., Elliot, Kimberly Ann. (1990). *Economic Sanctions Reconsidered: History and Current Policy*. 2nd ed., 2 vols. Washington D.C.

These three authors established the benchmark for an scientific guide to evaluating the goals of economic sanctions both unilateral and multilateral. The authors take every case of economic sanctions from one entity to another before the 1990s and determine if economic sanctions were successful. Many scholars since the first edition was published has debated the criterion to which these based their studies off. During research, delegates might see this guide being referred to as the "HSE database."

Kaempfer, William H. & Anton D. Lowenberg. (1999 March) *Unilateral Versus Multilateral International Sanctions: A Public Choice Perspective*. *International Studies Quarterly*. 43(1).

A interesting debate on the economic versus the political objectives of sanctions from a unilateral and multilateral point of view. First, the authors take in depth study on multilateral sanctions and their effectiveness on the economy of a targeted country. Next, they undertake a study on the political situation of targeted countries and the change that occurred through unilateral sanctions. The authors take in depth looks into the economies of these countries and historical case studies. Delegates should look at the distinction between unilateral and multilateral in this article to gain a better understanding of the difference.

Nossal, Kim Richard. (1989, Spring). *International Sanctions as International Punishment*, 43(2), 305.

The intent of unilateral economic sanctions by the sanctioning country or countries has been debated on many levels. This author views economic sanctions to be more in the arena of an international punishment with retributive motives behind it. Lastly, there is a case study on the United States sanctions against Afghanistan.

Nossal, Kim Richard. (1999). *Liberal-democratic regimes, international sanctions, and global governance*. *Globalization and Global Governance*, 127.

The author looks at what she perceives as successful cases of economic sanctions over a time period. However, the article looks closer at what seems to be a direct relationship between successes and regime types. The hypothesis is that economic sanctions have a greater success rate with liberal-democratic governments than others.

Office of the Spokesman for the Secretary-General. (2005 January). *Use of Sanctions under Chapter VII of the UN Charter*. Retrieved July 14, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/news/oss/sanction.htm>

A straightforward website that lists the previous utilization of economic sanctions by the United Nations. The website provides a list of the General Assembly and Security Council resolutions per country in relation to sanctions. Delegates should use this website as a valuable starting road to learning about specific instances that sanctions were used. The links to the nations will provide an organized and easy to read format of the resolutions.

Pape, Robert A. (1997, Autumn). *Why Economics Sanctions Do Not Work*. *International Security*, 22(2), 93.

As the title suggests, the author provides an in depth look into economic sanctions and their perceived great effectiveness by other scholars. He first looks into and states the differences and purposes between economic sanctions and instruments of trade wars. Essentially providing his definition of what is included in economic sanctions. He then goes into great detail his critique of the HSE database and gives his analysis of each case of economic sanctions.

Reinish, August. (2001, Oct.) *Developing Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Accountability of the Security Council for the Imposition of Economic Sanctions*. *The American Journal of International Law*, 95(4), 851.

An article that details the current state of international in relation to the Security Council and economic sanctions. Basically looks into the legal obligations, if any, of the Security Council and the United Nations in overseeing the humanitarian impact on the people of the country its economic sanctions are being targeted on.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan. (1998). *Annual Report of the Secretary-General on the Work of the Organization*. (A/53/1), New York: Author.

Every year the Secretary General of the United Nations is asked to review the work of the organization during the previous year and offer recommendations if necessary. The SG will provide a blunt assessment of the UN's work as it relates to achieving the principles of the Charter. In the 1998 report, delegates can view the document to review the state of the United Nations during the late 1990s and how the call for greater humanitarian assistance is needed in economic sanctions.

Unknown Author. (1995). Clinton Suspends Sanctions Against Serbia and Montenegro. *Associated Press*. Retrieved July 25, 2005 from <http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/sanction/yugo5.htm>

As the title suggests, a short news article discussing the lifting of economic sanctions by the United States against Serbia and Montenegro. In addition to the Security Council's sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro several developed nations had unilateral sanctions. The United States had hoped that their unilateral sanctions would help bring representatives of the former Yugoslavia to the negotiation table.

Weiss, Thomas G. (1999, September). Sanctions as a Foreign Policy Tool: Weighing Humanitarian Impulses. *Journal of Peace Research*, 36(5), 499.

The author starts the discussion of economic sanctions with the circumstances that led to the number of case after the cold war to the decrease in the recent years. An in depth look into the humanitarian effects of economic sanctions is provided with suggestions on how to target them towards the regime and not the civilians.

Additional Sources

Badcock, James. (2004, June). Libya: Western firms scramble for contracts. *African Business*, 299(58).
Article about the large foreign investment that is coming into the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya since the economic sanctions were lifted and the country agreed to hand over its weapons of mass destructions. Delegates should look at Libya as an example of how sanctions can be successful without the necessity of military action.

Baldwin, David. (2004, August 18). Sanctions have Gotten a Bum Rap; Pundits Despise Them, but They can be effective in Myanmar and Elsewhere. *The Los Angeles Times*.

Short editorial discussing why economic sanctions is a valuable instrument to achieve foreign policy gains. In a short argument, the author discusses how no international policy tool will ever work perfectly and that it is unfair to have a yes/no question of effectiveness towards economic sanction. It is argued that when discussing the negatives of economic sanctions, few critics will ever point out the negatives of the alternatives which include warfare. Ultimately, the author summarizes that the question of if economic sanctions works is not a yes or no answer, it is a complicated one that needs to consider all the alternatives.

Charter of the United Nations (opened for signature June 26, 1945). U.S.T.S. No. 993 (1945),

The bylaws and principles that the Member States of the United Nations follow and guide their decisions on. All delegates should be familiar with the bylaws of the charter. The committee's structure, debate and product will follow the guidelines and principles of the charter.

Commission on Human Rights (2000, June 21). *The Adverse Consequence of Economic Sanctions on the Enjoyment of Human Rights*. (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/33)., New York: Author.

Also known as the Bossuyt Report, this working paper discusses the humanitarian effects of sanctions on civilian populations. In detail, it lists relevant human rights covenants that might be in violations of and offers its suggestions on what aspects of sanctions should be changed in economic sanctions. Additionally the working paper considers the utilization of economic sanctions against customary international law. The report continues by establishing a six-prong test for evaluating economic sanctions and a briefing on "smart sanctions." The six prong test sets simple standards as for example do the sanctions target the right parties, do they have

reasonable time limits and are they achieving the desired result. The report provides case studies of economic sanctions on Iraq, Burundi and Cuba.

Cortright, David and George Lopez. (2000). *The Sanctions Decade: Assessing U.N. Strategies in the 1990s*. Boulder: Lynnee Rienner.

This books look into the multilateral sanctions that occurred during the 1990s when the utilization of them increased greatly. Studies are done with the sanctions that were instilled on Iraq, Yugoslavia, Libya, Cambodia, Haiti, Angola, Sierra Leone, and Rwanda. The authors made suggestions on why certain sanctions were successful and why others weren't. Ultimately the book looks at sanctions as useful tools because even if they do not achieve specific goals, they are symbolic at singling out violators of human rights and other international norms.

Global Policy. (n.d.) *UN Sanctions Committees, Statements, Papers and Press Releases*. Retrieved July 29, 2005 from <http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/sanction/indexun.htm>

The public advocacy group has provided a web page that provides numerous links many relevant United Nations' work on economic sanctions including resolutions, working papers, and field guidebooks. On the page delegates will find working papers on not just sanctions on individual countries but instead their usefulness overall. For example, there are studies on the effectiveness of UN sanctions and on sanctions imposed by the Security Council. Furthermore, delegates should visit the site because there are also links to the composition of the different committees overseeing the various UN economic sanctions on countries.

Hart, Robert A. (2000, June). Democracy and the Successful Use of Economic Sanction. *Political Research Quarterly*, 53(2).

Interesting look into the reasoning behind the utilization of economic sanctions by leaders. The author argues that because of political pressure by the citizens of a democracy, leaders are more inclined to use economic sanctions as a method of diplomatic pressure instead of less favorable political maneuvers.

Katz, David. (2005, Spring). Sanctioned State. *Harvard International Review*. 27(1).

Short article providing a brief history and current state of the United States over forty year old unilateral economic sanctions on Cuba. The stated goal of the sanctions has been to force a change in the communist government of Cuba. The article discussed Cuba's stagnant economy and the effects of the combination of the sanctions and a communist regime has had on it. Additionally, the author looks at the 1996 United States' Helms-Burton Act. The law seeks to impose sanctions on countries' that trade with Cuba.

Lektzian, David & Mark Souva. (2001, Feb). Institutions and International Cooperation: An Event History Analysis of the Effects of Economic Sanctions. *The Journal of Conflict Resolution*., 45(1).

The authors take the debate into an area that is normally not found in many studies of economic sanctions which is the returning of the targeted economy to the levels before sanctions were instilled. Can it be determined how long it takes to return to normal pre-sanction levels and if so what factors can accelerate the process? Also, what type of political government provides the best opportunity for the economy to rebuild and what long term effects did the sanctions have on the neighboring economies.

Levy, Philip L. (1999, May). Sanctions on South Africa: What Did They Do? *The American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings of the One Hundred Eleventh Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association*, 89(2).

A closer look into the economic sanctions that were in place during the apartheid era of South Africa. The author argues that the reasoning behind the fall of the regime was not directly because of economic sanctions as many have suggests. Instead, the changes in government came about such factors as opposition political parties, the inefficiency of the apartheid system and the fall of the Soviet Union.

Office of the Spokesman for the Secretary-General. (n.d.). *Humanitarian Impact of Sanctions*. Retrieved July 28, 2005 from <http://ochaonline.un.org/webpage.asp?Page=901>

This is an excellent starting point for delegates to begin their research on economic sanctions. The website provides links to the relevant Security Council Resolutions in relation to all the times that economic sanctions have been instilled. Also, links to speeches and important publications are also provided.

Patterson, Jack. (1994, March/June). The Sanctions Dilemma. *Middle East Report.*, 187/188.

A short look at how economic sanctions can actually lead to the military conflict that it was hoping to prevent. The working group studying the issue suggests its conclusions why war is at times inevitable because of the harm that economic sanctions caused.

Yonhap News Agency. (2005, June 14). North Korea accuses Japan of taking unilateral sanctions against it. Retrieved June 26, 2005, from Lexis-Nexis database.

Short newspaper article discusses recent legislation passed in Japan that North Korea believes are indirect unilateral economic sanctions against them. Delegates are encouraged to look into the developing situation as a manner to view how economic sanctions can harm an individual nation's economy.

II. Human Rights and Democracy in Post-Conflict Regions

Annan, Kofi. (2000). *UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's Closing Remarks at the Warsaw Conference of the Community of Democracies*. Retrieved August 29, 2005, from <http://www.ccd21.org/articles/annanwarsaw.htm>

This speech given by Secretary-General at the Warsaw Conference of the Community of Democracies provides a good vision for how the UN and the Secretary-General view the challenges that new democracies face. The Conference of Community of Democracies is another intergovernmental forum in which new democracies may participate.

Ball, Patrick and Chapman Audrey. (2001). The Truth of Truth Commissions: Comparative Lessons from Haiti, South Africa, and Guatemala. *Human Rights Quarterly* 23.1.

This article discusses the development of Truth Commissions in South Africa, Haiti, and Guatemala, analyzing both the positive and negative aspects of what the Truth Commissions do. It provides a good background of the various Truth Commissions that have been established, analysis of how the Truth Commissions work, the problems that they face and recommendations for what can be done to enhance other truth commissions that may be established.

The Carter Center. (n.d.). *Peace Programs*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from

<http://www.cartercenter.org/peaceprograms/peacepgm.htm>

The Carter Center is one organization that has played a major role in election monitoring in countries throughout the developing world. Besides election monitoring, the Carter Center also participates in health, development, and human rights programmes as well.

Diamond, Larry & Morlino, Leonardo. (2004). An Overview. *Journal of Democracy*. 15.4.

This article discusses the various qualities that are required for the establishment of "good democracy" for countries. According to the authors, there are eight key dimensions for establishing a solid democracy: Rule of Law, Participation, Competition, Vertical Accountability, Horizontal Accountability, Freedom, Equality, and Responsiveness.

Donnelly, Jack. (1999). Human Rights, Democracy and Development. *Human Rights Quarterly*. 21.3,

This is a good article to understand the background of how the United Nations works within the sphere of development and how they have worked to integrate, since their inception, human rights. Specific examples are given of how the UNDP and the World Bank have worked within the areas of development and human rights, particularly democratic development, which will allow

delegates to gain a background understanding of bodies within the UN that work within the areas of human rights and development.

Fletcher, Laurel and Weinstein, Harvey. (2002). Violence and Social Repair: Rethinking the Contribution of Justice to Reconciliation. *Human Rights Quarterly*. 24.3.

While not discussed specifically in the background guide, the experiences of the Balkan nations with post-conflict peace building can also be studied to understand the different approaches that have been taken in different areas. While addressing the role of the ICTY within the realm of reconciliation and healing, the article offers general commentary as well as to the process of healing for countries and how criminal trials aid in the reconstruction process.

Hamm, Brigitte. (2002). A Human Rights Approach to Development. *Human Rights Quarterly*. 23.4.

This article discusses the need for greater inclusion within development agendas of human rights and democracy and how the fulfillment of human rights can serve as a frame of reference for development policy. It discusses how the basic human rights of all people are also the rights to development and how human rights, democracy, and development are interchangeable.

Hoffmann, Florian and Megret, Frederic. (2002). The UN as a Human Rights Violator? *Human Rights Quarterly*. 25.2.

This article discusses how the role of the UN in the promotion of human rights has shifted not just from advocating but action. As the UN becomes further involved in peacekeeping and the promotion of good governance throughout the globe, the need for the UN to reexamine their role and stances is necessary and is a topic that is discussed throughout the article.

Manby, Bronwen. (2004). The African Union, NEPAD and Human Rights: The Missing Agenda. *Human Rights Quarterly*. 26.4.

This article discusses how the formation of the African Union and the drafting of the New Partnership for African Development have placed a renewed emphasis by the African continent on upholding and respecting human rights and how respect for human rights requires a strong upholding of democracy throughout the continent. It also discusses the problems with NEPAD and what the African countries must do to ensure that human rights and democracy are upheld at all times.

Pham, J. Peter. (2005). Democracy by Force? Lessons from the Restoration of the State of Sierra Leone. *The Whitehead Journal of Diplomacy and International Relations*.

This article discusses the Civil War that occurred in Sierra Leone from about 1991-2001 and the peace process that occurred throughout the war. The most important part of the article is that it provides a critique of the post-conflict reconstruction process in Sierra Leone, outlining the specific positives and negatives that were learned in Sierra Leone and how that should be translated to other countries experiencing a similar reconstruction.

Rich, Roland. (2001). Bringing Democracy into International Law. *Journal of Democracy*. 12.3.

This article discusses the evolution of the promotion of democracy has occurred within International Law. As is stated in the article, the UN Charter does not mention the promotion of democracy as a stated goal but more and more the need for countries to adopt democratic reforms and ideals is a conditionality that is placed upon Member States to remain in good terms with the UN.

Schabas, William A. (2003). The Relationship between Truth Commissions and International Courts: The Case of Sierra Leone. *Human Rights Quarterly*. 25.4.

In Sierra Leone, they have established both a Special Court to prosecute war criminals, as well as a Truth and Reconciliation Commission. This paper considers the relationship between the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and compares their legal mandates and jurisdictional scopes. This paper also examines the admissibility before the Special Court of testimony delivered in a Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearing.

- United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (2003). *Civil and Political Right: Continuing Dialogue on Measures to Promote and Consolidate Democracy*. (E/CN.4/2003/59). New York: Author.
The Commission on Human Rights is a body created by the UN with 53 members to address specific issues that are debated within the Human Rights realm. It is a forum where countries large and small, non-governmental groups and human rights defenders from around the world can voice their concerns over the myriad of human rights issues.
- United Nations Department of Political Affairs. (2005). *New or Restored Democracies*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/prev_dip/fr_new_democracies.htm
There have been five New and Restored Democracies conferences held since 1988. This link provides basic background for all of the conferences that have occurred, providing links to all of the declarations and programmes of action that have been passed at the conferences.
- United Nations Development Programme. (n.d.). *Recovery: Transition Recovery*. Retrieved July 13, 2005, from <http://www.undp.org/bcpr/recovery/index.htm>
One of the many areas that the UNDP is involved in is post-conflict reconstruction and recovery. This outlines the specific role that the UNDP plays in post conflict recovery as well as providing links to the other areas that the UNDP work in within the realm of post-conflict reconstruction.
- United Nations Electoral Assistance Division. (2005). *Context and Objectives*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from http://www.un.org/depts/dpa/ead/ea_content/ea_context.htm
The Electoral Assistance Division is the main division within the UN that provides election assistance and monitoring to countries that request it. This provides the background for the work of the committee, outlining what the main role of the EAD is. It also provides links to the specific work of the division as well.
- United Nations General Assembly. (4 December 1986). *Declaration on the Right to Development*. (A/Res/41/128). New York: Author.
The resolution that was adopted by the General Assembly was the first to declare that all peoples and governments have a right to development and is used today as the model for all declarations that deal with development. It places a focus on the developing world and states that greater action must be taken by the international community to assure that full development is achieved for all peoples.
- United Nations General Assembly. (10 December 1948). *International Bill of Human Rights*. (A/Res/3/217). New York: Author.
- United Nations General Assembly. (8 September 2000). *Millennium Declaration*. (A/Res/55/2). New York: Author.
The Millennium Declaration was adopted at the Millennium Summit that was held in New York in 2000. The Declaration outlines the Millennium Development Goals, of which there are eight, and specifically addresses the steps that must be taken by countries to implement the goals. The UN will hold a 5-year review of the Summit this September in New York.
- United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda*. Retrieved August 7, 2005, from <http://www.icttr.org/default.htm>
- United Nations General Assembly. (23 March 2004). *Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of human rights by all*. (A/Res/58/192). New York: Author.
This Resolution adopted by the General Assembly recognizes that in order for the fulfillment of human rights it is necessary for countries to remain in peaceful situations. The resolution outlines what must be done by states to ensure that peace is achieved throughout the globe, and how that will subsequently enhance the human rights situations in the world.

United Nations General Assembly. (2004). *Enhancing the role of regional, subregional and other organizations and arrangements in promoting and consolidating democracy*. (A/RES/59/201). New York: Author. *Increasingly the UN is working with regional and sub-regional organizations to achieve the goals that the UN promotes, such as human rights and democracy. This resolution encourages increased cooperation between the UN and regional and sub-regional organizations as a means to ensuring the fulfillment of democracy and the upholding of human rights.*

United Nations General Assembly. Letter dated 18 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/387). New York: Author. *This letter provides the text of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration that came out of the 2003 Conference on New and Restored Democracies. It outlines the specific aims of the participants and what must be achieved so that democracy can flourish in the countries that are attempting to establish a democracy.*

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (n.d.). *Compilation of Documents*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from http://www.ohchr.org/english/law/compilation_democracy/index.htm *As described briefly, most of the regional organizations in the world have specific human rights treaties that address their specific concerns, especially regarding human rights and democracy, which can vary from the Universal Declaration and the International Covenants. Besides the regional bodies, this website provides links to other organizations with treaties dealing with human rights and democracy.*

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (n.d.). *Democracy*. Retrieved August 7, 2005, from <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/democracy/index.htm>

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (1966). *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*. New York, NY: Author. *The International Covenants elaborate further on the human rights of all people, laying out specific ideas that were only generally talked about in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. While not all states are party to the two Covenants, understanding the basic principles outlined in each document is essential.*

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (n.d.). *World Conference on Human Rights*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu5/wchr.htm> *The 1993 Conference on Human Rights that was held in Vienna as a means to examining how human rights are being implemented around the globe and what must be done to strengthen human rights mechanisms. The Conference adopted the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and the website provides link to those documents as well as the regional preparatory documents.*

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (1948). *Universal Declaration on Human Rights*. New York City, NY. *The Universal Declaration on Human Rights was the first international document that specifically outlined the basic rights and fundamental freedoms that all people of the world are guaranteed. It has near universal acceptance by all countries. Despite this fact though, continuing human rights violations occur in countries that have promised to uphold the human rights laid out in the Universal Declaration.*

United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone. (2005) *Background*. Retrieved July 13 2005, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/unamsil/background.html> *Following the end of violence in Sierra Leone, the Security Council established the UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) which is the peacekeeping organization on the ground. At the time of its establishment, it was the largest peacekeeping mission ever established by the UN. This provides the background to the conflict, as well as the mandate of the mission as well.*

United Nations University. (December 2001). *Human Rights and Societies in Transition*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.unu.edu/p&g/humanrights-finalreport.html>

This is a report of study that was conducted jointly between the United Nations University and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The study's main objectives are: a) to develop a cross-national understanding of the causes of human rights violations in countries in transition; b) to develop a cross-national understanding of the negative consequences of such violations for political and economic development; and c) to suggest practical measures for states, non-state actors and international organizations to promote good human rights practices towards achieving faster and more effective conflict resolution, economic development and democratization.

Zoglin, Katie. (2005). The Future of War Crimes Prosecutions in the Former Yugoslavia: Accountability or Junk Justice? *Human Rights Quarterly*. 27.1.

This article outlines the future of the ICTY in Yugoslavia. It describes how the criminal trials have been going since the ICTY's inception and offers a critique of the ICTY as well. It also discusses the domestic war crimes trials that are occurring in the former Yugoslavia and states that at this time the government does not have the capacity to handle such trials.

Additional Sources

United Nations Department of Political Affairs. (2004). *Peacemaking and Peace-building*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/prev_dip/fr_peacemaking.htm

The DPA is the main coordinating body in charge of peace-building activities. Serving in this role, the DPA has been involved in numerous peace-building activities throughout the globe and this page provides links to the various activities that the DPA has undertaken, including other bodies that have established mechanisms for peace building and with whom the DPA works.

United Nations Economic and Social Council. (30 January 2003). *Civil and Political Right: Continuing Dialogue on Measures to Promote and Consolidate Democracy*. (E/CN.4/2003/59). New York: Author.

This report, which was part of an expert seminar on human rights and democracy and which was adopted by ECOSOC, discusses the interdependence between human rights and democracy. It discusses the roles that the various treaty bodies play in encouraging democracy as well as regional perspectives on democracy and human rights. It ends by offering conclusions and suggestions on what must be done to enhance further democracy and human rights throughout the globe.

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (n.d.). *Bodies*. Retrieved July 12, 2005, from <http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies>

There are numerous bodies that are in charge of monitoring the implementation of the various human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration and the two International Covenants. The basics of each body are described and further information can be gained by looking further into the specific reports that have been submitted by various countries .

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (1993). *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*. New York, NY: Author.

The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action recognized the interdependence between democracy, development, and human rights. The Vienna Declaration also makes concrete recommendations for strengthening and harmonizing the monitoring capacity of the United Nations system and established the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

III. The Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa

Annan, Kofi. (1998, June). Kofi Annan on Africa's Development Problems. *Population and Development Review*, 24(2), 411.

With a request by the Security Council in 1997, Secretary General Kofi Annan compiled his summaries on the sources of conflict and the environment that would be necessary for development in Africa. The report was titled "The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable

peace and sustainable development in Africa.” This is an article that summarizes key points of section II, IV, and V of the report.

Charter of the United Nations (opened for signature June 26, 1945). U.S.T.S. No. 993 (1945),
The bylaws and principles that the Member States of the United Nations follow and guide their decisions on. All delegates should be familiar with the bylaws of the charter. The committee’s structure, debate and product will follow the guidelines and principles of the charter.

Elias, Victoria. (2000). Who is Aware of Agenda 21? Missing Conditions: Three Major Barriers. In Felix Dodds (Ed.) *Earth Summit 2002, A New Deal*. Sterling, VA: Earthscan Publications.
Written as a precursor to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the book is a good “beginners guide” to sustainable development. The author of every chapter is a noted scholar in the field and writes about the areas that have changed since the 1992 Earth Summit, the major issues that confront the implementation of sustainable development at all levels and what the global community needs to focus on in the future.

Is NEPAD nothing but a talk shop? (2005, January). *African Business*, 305, 28.
Now with almost four years having gone since the signing of Nepad, this short article looks into the lack of progress by the continent. Citing different critical evaluations by African leaders, the writer looks at certain roadblocks that have occurred. However, the author also presents positive outlooks for the future of NEPAD.

NEPAD – what is it and what can it really do? (2003, April). *African Business*, 286, 30.
This article was written two years after NEPAD, and it is to provide readers with a brief summary of what has occurred and what is to be expected. This issue focuses on several areas but stresses the financing of NEPAD. In the article, the financing of programs is discussed with a member of the NEPAD secretariat.

New Partnership for Africa’s Development. (2005). *NEPAD in Brief*. Retrieved September 20, 2005 from <http://www.nepad.org/2005/files/inbrief.php>
The intro webpage for The New Partnership for Africa’s Development. The site provides a brief history of the agreement including its origin and the original framers. Also included are brief descriptions of the goals and principles of the NEPAD.

Organization of African Unity. (2002, July 8). *The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)*. (AHG/235). Durban, South Africa: Author.
Written to be a component of NEPAD, the APRM is to become a valuable framework for the nations of Africa to promote and share information to promote development. Even though the APRM is not mandatory, the framers hope that the gain that is achieved will motivate nations to become a member. This annex to NEPAD provides the setup of the governing bodies of the APRM and their powers. Delegates should be aware of this document if the issue of the APRM is to be brought up during debate.

Organization of African Unity. (2001, October). *The New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)*. Abuja, Nigeria: Author.
The 59 page New Partnership for Africa’s Development as written in 2001. African leaders signed the pledge as a new approach for the continent’s underlying problems. The report will provide readers with a understanding of many issues that undermine Africa including those that allow conflict to occur and hinder development.

Paton, Alan. Quoted in *New Yorker*. 17 December 1960.

Secretary General of the United Nations. (1998, April 16). *The Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa*. New York: Author.

The 107-paragraph report that discusses the topic in depth from start to finish. Every delegate should read the report and take emphasis on the historical factors that have caused many of the conflicts. In addition, even though the information is not the most up to date, the report provides a good background for delegates to understand many issues affecting the global community.

Secretary General of the United Nations. (2004, August 20). *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa - Progress Report of the Secretary-General*. (A/59/285). New York: Author.

Secretary General Kofi Annan was requested by the General Assembly in Resolution 58/235 in 2003 to submit a progress report on the topic. The paper provides quick history and recent events on the pertinent subtopics within the issue. Delegates should also note the references to the work that has been done by the United Nations bodies and regional organizations.

Sustainable Development Communications Network. (n.d.). *Introduction into Sustainable Development: Definitions*. Retrieved July 28, 2005, from <http://sdgateway.net/introsd/definitions.htm>

The website provides an excellent resource to delegates learning about the past, present and future of sustainable development. It has an easy to read guide on the historical nature of sustainable development and definitions of commonly used terms. The SD Gateway is an excellent starting point for delegates to first gain an understanding of the concept of sustainable development and then to ultimately advance their knowledge.

Udombaba, Nsongurua J. (2003). The Unfinished business: Conflicts, the Africa Union, and the New Partnership for Africa's Development. *The George Washington International Law Review*, 35(1), 63.

An article that looks into the history of regional partnerships within Africa and their effects on maintaining peace. The discussion starts with taking a critical look into the former Organization of African Unity and past conflicts. Then the author looks into the recently formed New Partnership for Africa's Development and other organizations that potentially can assist in stabilization and development.

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. (1992, August 12). *Agenda 21*. Retrieved July 28, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/agenda21/english/agenda21toc.htm>

The 40-chapter framework for sustainable development was the major outcome of the 1992 Earth Summit, which at the time was the biggest international meeting in history. The book is necessary to read for anyone who wishes to understand the concept of and how to make sustainable development a reality. Even though certain areas of the program of action have been updated with subsequent meetings of the CSD and other conferences, the principles are the same.

United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. (2002, September 25). *The Johannesburg Summit Test: What will Change?* Retrieved July 24, 2005 from

http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/whats_new/feature_story41.html

The webpage provides a brief but good summary of what occurred at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. The webpage discusses the expectations of the WSSD coming in and what resulted. In addition, the articles makes an excellent point about the formation of sustainable development partnerships that arose from the conference.

United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. (2003). *The Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development*. Retrieved July 28, 2005 from

http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/WSSD_PlanImpl.pdf

The outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the 72-page report goes into detail about the issues that were identified at the conference and what further actions are needed. Furthermore, it looks at regional specific issues and the roles of different United Nations bodies. Delegates should look closely at Section VIII that deals specifically with Africa.

United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. (2003, January). *The Road from Johannesburg. What was Achieved and the Way Forward*. Retrieved July 24, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/media/Brochure.doc>

Another article on the results of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and reiterates the fact that the WSSD was to be an implementation conference. Also gives bullet points on the five areas stressed by Secretary-General Kofi Annan. These five areas are also known as the WEHAB initiative.

United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. (n.d.). *Sustainable Development Homepage*. Retrieved July 28, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/index.html>

This is the UN home page for sustainable development. It is an excellent starting point to learn about sustainable development and current events. Also, the website possesses valuable links to documents that will be necessary for delegates to learn sustainable development.

United Nations General Assembly. (1993, January 29). *Institutional Arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development*. (A/RES/47/191). New York: Author.

The General Assembly resolution that created the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) to monitor on a yearly basis the progress of sustainable development practices. With certain exceptions for larger review sessions, the CSD meets every spring at the United Nations Headquarters to discuss the implementation of sustainable development best practices around the global community at local and national levels. The CSD is one of the more highly populated meetings at the UN because of the role that civil society has during discussions. Delegates are encouraged to research the reports of the meetings to view the current trends in sustainable development.

United Nations General Assembly. (2005, March 4). *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa*. (A/RES/59/255). New York: Author.

One of the most recent General Assembly resolutions reaffirming the global community's commitment to solving the threats to peace and promotion of development. Includes references to the past resolutions that have been passed in regards to the topic as well. The references will be helpful to delegates wishing to establish a timeline on the progress of work.

World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED). (1987). *Our Common Future*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Written by the the Brundtland Commission, Our Common Future defined and started sustainable development. Many of the issues that were heavily debated at the 1992 Earth Summit were first discussed during the Brundtland Commission. Delegates should obtain the source in order to understand the background to the concept of sustainable development.

Additional Sources

Africa Economy: Moment of truth for NEPAD. (2005, June 1). *EIU Views Wire*. New York: Author.

A recent article that was intended to be a precursor to the G-8 meetings shortly after, the writer discusses certain current issues affecting NEPAD. This includes the attraction of investment and attempting to gain more aid from the developed world. In addition, several suggestions are provided for NEPAD programs to become more of a reality across the continent.

Commission on Africa. (2005, March 11). *Our Common Interest, Report of the Commission for Africa*. London: Author. Retrieved on July 30, 2005 from

<http://www.commissionforafrica.org/english/report/introduction.html>

Started by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom the purpose of the Commission on Africa was to seize on the revival of enthusiasm for Africa's development struggles. The 17 members of the commission wrote the over 400-page report that was to provide recommendations for the developed world and the nations of Africa. Delegates should understand that the report is not to

supersede NEPAD or other reports that deal with Africa's issues, instead Our Common Interest works along side the principles of NEPAD and encourages its continued progression.

Masters, William A. (2005, Spring). Paying for Prosperity: How and Why to Invest in Agricultural Research and Development in Africa. *Journal of International Affairs*, 58, 35.

The author takes an in depth look into Africa's agricultural economy. The thirty-page article looks into the current problems faced by many African's in possessing sustainable farming practices because of their, amongst other factors, unpredictable rainfall, poor soil and diseases. The author then provides different techniques that can potentially be utilized by farmers to promote their economies and potentially proves to be a viable asset to investment.

Graeger, Nina. (1996, February). Environmental Security? *Journal of Peace Research*, 33, 109-116.

An interesting article that considers the argument for linking the protection of the environment with the state enforcement. Even though almost a decade old, the article offers the arguments on both sides of the issue. The author also provides her thoughts on previous works by other scholars and provides references to them, which will allow delegates to see the origin of this issue.

Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (n.d.). OSAA: GA Resolutions. Retrieved July 30, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/africa/osaa/garesolutions.html>

With the vast amount of work that has been done on Africa in the General Assembly, delegates might find it time consuming to organize the relevant resolutions that have been passed. This website is summary of the resolutions on four areas pertaining to Africa. There are links to each resolution and the lists are in chronological order.

United Nations Regional Consultations on NEPAD. (2004, October 22-23). *Summary Report of the first NEPAD Multi-stakeholder Dialogue*. Retrieved July 30, 2005 from

http://www.uneca.org/unregionalconsultations/documents/report_multistakeholder.htm

The leaders of Africa alongside their regional and international partners hosted a three-year review of the implementation of NEPAD. Hosted in Zambia, the two-day review had over 250 delegates attend. The delegates reiterated the principles and goals of NEPAD, the achievements set so far including the APRM and what is to be stressed both in the short and long term.

Rules of Procedure General Assembly Plenary

INTRODUCTION

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

I. SESSIONS

Dates of convening and adjournment

Rule 1

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

Place of sessions

Rule 2

The Assembly 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 the Members of the United Nations 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. Items on the agenda may be amended or deleted by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

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

Revision of the agenda

Rule 5

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

thirds majority of the members present and voting, be considered until a committee has reported on the question concerned.

As the General Assembly Plenary determines the agenda for its Committees, this rule is applicable only to the Plenary body. Items cannot be amended or added to the agenda by any of the Committees of the Assembly. For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item of an “important and urgent character” is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final. If an item is determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Assembly to be placed on the agenda. It will, however, not be considered by the Assembly until a committee has reported on the question, or a second two-thirds vote is successful to keep the Plenary body seized of the matter. The votes described in this rule are substantive vote, and, as such, observers are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, “the members present and voting” means those members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Explanatory memorandum

Rule 6

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 7

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

Duties of the Secretariat

Rule 8

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

Statements by the Secretariat

Rule 9

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

Selection of the President

Rule 10

The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall appoint, from applications received by the Secretariat, a President who shall hold office and, *inter alia*, chair the Assembly for the duration of the session, unless otherwise decided by the Secretary-General. The Assembly shall have twenty-one Vice-Presidents, based on the same apportionment as the Vice-Presidents recognized in the Assembly.

Replacement of the President

Rule 11

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

IV. LANGUAGE

Official and working language

Rule 12

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

Interpretation (oral) or translation (written)

Rule 13

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

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

V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Quorum

Rule 14

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

For purposes of this rule, “members of the Assembly” means the total number of members (not including observers) in attendance at the Tuesday night meeting.

General powers of the President

Rule 15

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

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

Rule 16

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

Points of order

Rule 17

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

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

Rule 18

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

Speeches

Rule 19

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

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

Closing of list of speakers

Rule 20

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

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

Right of reply

Rule 21

If a remark impugns the integrity of a representative's State, the President may permit that representative to exercise her/his right of reply following the conclusion of the controversial speech, and shall determine an appropriate time limit for the reply. No ruling on this question shall be subject to appeal.

For purposes of this rule, a remark that "impugns the integrity of a representative's State" is one directed at the governing authority of that State and/or one that puts into question that State's sovereignty or a portion thereof. All interventions in the exercise of the right of reply shall be addressed in writing to the Secretariat and shall not be raised as a point of order or motion. The reply shall be read to the Assembly 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 22

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 23

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 Assembly shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

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

Adjournment of debate

Rule 24

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 25

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

Order of motions

Rule 26

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 27

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 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 Assembly unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments or of motions as to procedure, even though such amendments and motions have not been circulated. If the sponsors agree to the adoption of a proposed amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the proposed amendment. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the Assembly 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 Assembly by the Secretariat. The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of the working papers. Along these lines, and in furtherance of the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and for the purpose of advancing its educational mission, representatives should not directly refer to the substance of a working paper that has not yet been accepted as a draft resolution. After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft resolution and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Assembly. These draft resolutions are the collective property of the Assembly 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 28

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 29

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

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

VI. VOTING

Voting rights

Rule 30

Each member of the Assembly shall have one vote.

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

Request for a vote

Rule 31

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

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

Majority required

Rule 32

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

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

Important questions

Rule 33

1. The Assembly may declare a question as important. Motions to declare a topic an important question must be made at the outset of the voting procedure for that topic; such motions may only be made by the Assembly. On such a motion, two members may speak in favor of the motion and two may speak against it. The motion shall then be immediately put to the vote, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. Decisions of the General Assembly on important questions shall be made by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. These questions shall include: recommendations with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security, the election of non-permanent members of the Security Council, the election of members of the Economic and Social Council, the election of the members of the Trusteeship Council, the admission of new Members to the United Nations, the suspension of the rights and privileges of membership, the expulsion of members, questions relating to the operation of the trusteeship system, and budgetary questions.

2. Decisions of the Assembly on amendments to proposals relating to important questions, and on parts of such proposals put to the vote separately, shall be made by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

Method of voting

Rule 34

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

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

2. When the Assembly votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of placards and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call vote. A representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Assembly 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.

Explanations of vote

Rule 35

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

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

Conduct during voting

Rule 36

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

Division of proposals and amendments

Rule 37

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

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

Amendments

Rule 38

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

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

Order of voting on amendments

Rule 39

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 40

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

The President shall not vote

Rule 41

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

VII. CREDENTIALS

Submission of credentials

Rule 42

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

Credentials Committee

Rule 43

A Credentials Committee, consisting of nine members, shall be appointed by the Secretary-General at the beginning of each session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report without delay. The Main Committees shall be bound by the actions of the Plenary in all matters relating to credentials and shall take no action regarding the credentials of any Member State.

Provisional admission to a session

Rule 44

Any representative to whose admission a member has made objection shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives until the Credentials Committee has reported and the Assembly has given its decision.

VIII. GENERAL COMMITTEE

Composition

Rule 45

The General Committee shall comprise the President of the Assembly, who shall preside, the twenty-one Vice-Presidents and the Chairpersons of the six Main Committees.

Functions

Rule 46

In considering matters relating to the agenda of the Assembly, the General Committee shall not discuss the substance of any item except in so far as this bears upon the question whether the General Committee should recommend the inclusion of the item in the agenda and what priority should be accorded to an item the inclusion of which has been recommended.

Rule 47

The General Committee shall assist the President and the Assembly in drawing up the agenda for each plenary meeting, in determining the priority of its items, and in coordinating the proceedings of all committees of the Assembly. It shall assist the President in the general conduct of the work of the General Assembly which falls within the competence of the President. It shall not, however, decide any political question.

Participation by members requesting the inclusion of items in the agenda

Rule 48

A member of the Assembly which has no representative on the General Committee and which has requested the inclusion of an item in the agenda shall be entitled to attend any meeting of the General Committee at which its request is discussed and may participate, without a vote, in the discussion of that item.

IX. MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION

Invitation to silent prayer or meditation

Rule 49

Immediately after the opening of the first plenary meeting of the 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.

X. COMMITTEES

Establishment of committees

Rule 50

The Assembly may establish such committees as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

Categories of subjects

Rule 51

Items relating to the same category of subjects shall be referred to the committee or committees dealing with that category of subjects. Committees shall not introduce new items on their own initiative.

Main Committees

Rule 52

The Main Committees of the Assembly are the following:

- (a) Political and Security Committee (First Committee)
- (b) Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee)
- (c) Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (Third Committee)
- (d) Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
- (e) Administrative and Budgetary Committee (Fifth Committee)
- (f) Legal Committee (Sixth Committee)

Organization of work

Rule 53

Each committee, taking into account the closing date of the session, shall adopt its own priorities and meet as may be necessary to complete consideration of the items referred to it.

Discussion of reports of Main Committees

Rule 54

Discussion of a report of a Main Committee in a plenary meeting of the Assembly shall take place if at least one third of the members present and voting at the plenary meeting consider such a discussion to be necessary. Any proposal to this effect shall not be debated but shall be immediately put to a vote.

XI. ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS

Applications

Rule 55

Any State which desires to become a Member of the United Nations shall submit an application to the Secretary-General. Such application shall contain a declaration, made in formal instrument that the State in question accepts the obligations contained in the Charter.

Notification of applications

Rule 56

The Secretary-General shall, for information, send a copy of the application to the General Assembly, or to the Members of the United Nations if the Assembly is not in session.

Consideration of applications and decisions thereon

Rule 57

If the Security Council recommends the applicant State for membership, the Assembly shall consider whether the applicant is a peace-loving State and is able and willing to carry out the obligations contained in the Charter and shall decide, by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, upon its application for membership.

Rule 58

If the Security Council does not recommend the applicant State for membership or postpones the consideration of the application, the General Assembly may, after full consideration of a special report of the Security Council, send the application back to the Council, together with a full record of the discussion in the Assembly, for further consideration and recommendation or report.

Notification of decision and effective date of membership

Rule 59

The Secretary-General shall inform the applicant State of the decision of the Assembly. If the applicant is approved, membership shall become effective on the date on which the Assembly takes its decision on the application.

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

