



THE 2006 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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Distinguished Delegates:

Welcome to the 2006 National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference in New York City! My name is Jennifer Hathaway and I am honored to be serving as your Director for the General Assembly Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee, otherwise known as the General Assembly Third Committee. I am currently pursuing my Masters of Arts degree in Political Science at the University of Montana. This will be my sixth consecutive year at the NMUN conference. I participated as a delegate during my first four years at the conference, and this will be my second year on NMUN staff. Your Assistant Director, Clara Vaz. Clara will be further introduced during the update process.

Both Clara and I understand the rigors of preparing for the NMUN conference. We expect that your research and methods will be nothing short of superb. To facilitate the process of planning and preparation, this background guide has been created to assist you in your role as a delegate. However, this is a foundation, and not the sole source of your research. Therefore, it is vitally important that you find a variety of sources that reflect the position of your Member State. This background guide will provide you with an introduction to information and research sources on the following topics:

1. Alternative Approaches for Improving Human Rights;
2. The Right of Peoples to Self-determination; and
3. Crime Prevention in Developing States.

The General Assembly Third Committee is a resolution writing body, consisting of representatives from Member States who will work in cooperation to produce detailed resolutions that encompass ideas on a wide spectrum of social, humanitarian, and cultural issues. During the course of your time as a delegate in the General Assembly Third Committee, these three topics will supply you with many facets to research and develop. This spring, delegates are expected to be well prepared, knowledgeable, and eager to discuss these pressing issues in an efficient and academic manner. Although we are a large committee, all participants are charged with creating an atmosphere of camaraderie and order, wherein all will work in a spirit of consensus.

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 pages 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 Third 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 Clara, Jacob, or myself at the committee e-mail addresses listed below. Again, we look forward to working with you in the coming months. See you in April!

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

Position papers are submitted for each committee in which a State/NGO participates at the NMUN Conference. Position papers should provide a concise review of each delegation's foreign policy regarding the topic areas under discussion and establish precise policies and recommendations in regard to the topics before the committee. International and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action of relevance to the policy of your State/NGO should be identified and addressed. Position papers also serve as a blueprint for individual delegates to remember their country's position throughout the course of the Conference.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Kevin E. Grisham
Director-General

Sample Position Paper

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

Delegation from
The State of Tranquility

Represented by the
University of Bohemia

Position Paper for the General Assembly Plenary

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

I. The Situation in Sub-Saharan Africa

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

II. Racism and Racial Discrimination

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

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

III. A Comprehensive Review of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations

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

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

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

Resolution Writing and Report Writing at the NMUN Conference

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

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

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

Resolution Writing

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

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

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

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

Report Writing

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

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

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

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

What to Expect at the Simulation of Your Committee

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Your Role as a Delegate at the 2006 NMUN Conference

Taking on the Role of a Diplomat

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

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

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

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

The Preparation and Introduction of Resolutions and Reports

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Executive Bureau, the General Committee and Saturday Plenary Sessions

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

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

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

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

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

The Role of Non-governmental Organizations in the Simulation

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

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

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

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

NGOs at the National Model United Nations Conference

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

How to Prepare as an NGO Delegation

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

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

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

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

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

The Role of Inter-Governmental Organizations in the Simulation

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

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

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

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

IGOs at the National Model United Nations Conference

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

How to Prepare as an IGO Delegation

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

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

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

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

Inter-Governmental Organization

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

Web Site

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

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

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

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

The Variety of Roles That Delegates Simulate at the NMUN Conference

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

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

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

Technical Experts within the United Nations System

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

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

History of the General Assembly Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (Third Committee)

The United Nations General Assembly was created with the signing of the *United Nations Charter* in 1945 at the United Nations Conference on International Organizations in San Francisco, California.¹ The *Charter*, unanimously approved at the conference by 850 delegates from 50 countries, was officially ratified on 24 October 1945.² The General Assembly (GA) is one of six principal organs within the United Nations system, charged with making recommendations to Member States and “discussing any questions or any matters within the scope of the present Charter,” as specified in Article 10 of the Charter of the United Nations.³ Today, the GA, consisting of 191 Member States, is the main deliberative organ of the United Nations.⁴ Each member state is endowed with one vote on all issues before the GA. These issues can range in topics, and are diverse in nature, with the GA often tackling international security, legal issues, humanitarian crises, and economics.

While a great deal of discussion and debate occurs within the plenary body of the General Assembly, six main committees are assigned to deliberate on various categories of issues.⁵ The General Assembly Third Committee (GA Third Committee), dealing specifically with Social, Humanitarian and Cultural, is one of six Main Committees established by the General Assembly.⁶ The other Main Committees are the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee); Economics and Financial Committee (Second Committee); the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee); the Administrative and Budgetary Committee (Fifth Committee); and the Legal Committee (Sixth Committee).

The General Assembly Third Committee was created out of organizational necessity and is mandated the responsibility of discussing, deliberating and recommending actions on all social, humanitarian and cultural issues brought before the General Assembly. As stated in Article 13, Section 1, Part b of the *United Nations Charter*, the GA is charged with advocating change in the “economic, social, cultural, educational, and health fields, and assisting in the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.”⁷ While the Committee’s mission may be more refined to social, humanitarian and cultural issues, and different from the five other GA committees, the structure, voting, procedure and process of the GA Third Committee is identical to the GA Plenary.⁸ Additionally, and similarly to the GA Plenary, the resolutions passed by the GA Third are not legally binding, yet they express the opinion and will of a majority of Member States.⁹ Under the *United Nations Charter*, the GA Third Committee is authorized to initiate studies, make recommendations, receive and consider reports and discuss any question related to social, humanitarian, and cultural issues.¹⁰

Located in New York City, the GA Third Committee aims to deliberate on pressing world issues and derive solutions using consensus. The Committee uses a simple majority vote to pass resolutions, which are then submitted to the plenary session for consideration.¹¹ In past sessions, the Committee has deliberated on a wide spectrum of pressing international issues within their realm of expertise.¹² During the 59th Session alone, the GA Third Committee examine a broad spectrum of topics, including human rights and poverty, countering terrorism,

¹ United Nations. (2000). *Basic Facts About the United Nations*. New York, NY: United Nations.

² United Nations. (2005, June 26). *60th Anniversary of the United Nations Charter*. Retrieved June 13, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/aboutun/sanfrancisco/history.html>

³ United Nations General Assembly. (1945, June 26). *Charter of the United Nations*. San Francisco, CA.

⁴ United Nations, *Basic Facts about the United Nations*, *supra*, note 1.

⁵ Meilser, Stanley. (1997). *United Nations: The First Fifty Years*. New York, NY: Atlantic Monthly Press.

⁶ Until 1993, the General Assembly had seven Main Committees. However, with an amendment to its rules of procedure (A/520/Rev.15/Amend.2), the General Assembly merged the Fourth Committee (Decolonization) with the Special Political Committee.

⁷ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, *supra*, note 3.

⁸ United Nations. (2005, July 15). *United Nations Documentation: Research Guide*. Retrieved August 1, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/gasess.htm#gaintr>

⁹ Fasulo, Linda. (2003). *An Insider’s Guide to the UN*. Hartford, CT: Yale University Press.

¹⁰ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, *supra*, note 3.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² Drakulich, Angela. (2004). *A Global Agenda: Issues before the 59th General Assembly of the United Nations*. New York, NY: United Nations Association of the United States of America.

protecting migrant workers, eliminating racism, enhancing regional organizations, and human rights issues in Zimbabwe and Sudan.¹³ Along with a great deal of discussion and debate on many topics, the GA Third recommended a continued United Nations presence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, with the hope of implementing a multi-faceted approach to ending violence and protecting human rights.¹⁴ On many occasions, and in addition to the normal agenda, the GA Third Committee actively reexamines summits, world conferences, and programs of action, in an effort to emphasize important agreements and ensure effective and timely implementation.¹⁵ Furthermore, the GA Third Committee receives topical and subject-related recommendations from the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights, the Security Council, and many other United Nations organs.

Presently, the GA Third Committee faces a wide spectrum of issues of great importance to the world community. These include topics related to crime prevention, advancement of women, human rights questions, the rights of children, the rights of peoples to self-determination and international drug control.¹⁶ With the report by the Secretary-General regarding the restructuring of the United Nations, titled *In Larger Freedom*, the Committee may face one of its biggest challenges. The Secretary-General has encouraged the General Assembly to streamline their agenda, review and minimize unfunded mandates within the committee structure, re-evaluate procedure, strengthen the role of the General Assembly President and implement reforms in an effort to mold the United Nations into an increasingly modern organization.¹⁷ The Committee will readily respond to the Secretary-General's suggestion to concentrate on the most pressing and important issues of the day in a quick and decisive manner. The reform process represents a challenge to further the effectiveness of the Committee, in addition to fostering a larger scope of action and achievement within the international community.

Conference Participation and Voting

At the 2006 NMUN General Assembly Third Committee, in-depth discussion of social, humanitarian, and cultural issues on the agenda will be followed by the drafting of resolutions with the goal of fostering consensus among all Member States and Observers. All resolutions passed in the Committee are then voted upon during a General Assembly Plenary Session and, if passed, become General Assembly resolutions.

The Member States of the 2006 NMUN General Assembly Third Committee are all Member States of the UN General Assembly Plenary. At the UN, the delegations from the Holy See and Palestine are invited to participate in the General Assembly activities, as well as all Main Committees of the General Assembly. 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. The delegation of the Holy See may co-sponsor any resolution that "...makes reference to the Holy See."¹⁸ In the case of Palestine, the delegation has "the right to co-sponsor draft resolutions and decisions on Palestinian and Middle East resolution issues."¹⁹ Under the individual 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. At the 2006 NMUN Conference, the delegations from the Holy See and the Palestinian delegation will not be represented in the General Assembly Third Committee.

Various NGOs, from time to time, have been invited to participate in the Committees' activities. They are brought into these meetings when the Committee considers it to be in the best interest of all parties involved. They take on a consultative role and participate in its deliberations on matters that are being considered. Even though delegations

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ United Nations. (2005). *United Nations General Assembly 59th Session*. Retrieved August 1, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/ga/59/>

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ Report of the Secretary-General. (2005, March 21). *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All*. (General Assembly Resolution A/59/2005). New York: United Nations.

¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹ United Nations General Assembly. (1998, July 13). *Participation of Palestine in the work of the United Nations*. (A/RES/52/250). New York: Author.

representing NGOs will not be active during the simulation in the General Assembly Second Committee, delegates are expected to learn what work they have done and incorporate it into debate.

Various IGOs may be participants in the General Assembly Second Committee at the 2006 NMUN Conference. If they are present, they will be afforded the same rights as NGOs (see discussion in previous paragraph).

I. Alternative Approaches to Improving Human Rights

*The destiny of human rights is in the hands of all our citizens in all our communities.*²⁰

Conception of Human Rights in the Past and Present

The General Assembly Third Committee (GA Third) exists as one of many bodies in the United Nations system deeply concerned with the promotion and protection human rights. During the last decade, the means of defending human rights in the global community have garnered widespread supporters and ever-evolving tools.²¹ Despite recent advancements and actions, the concept of human rights existed long before the *Charter of the United Nations* was created or the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was conceived.²² As Secretary General Kofi Annan stated on the 50th anniversary of the UDHR, “The principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are deeply rooted in the history of humankind. Their modern universality is founded on their endorsement by all Members of the United Nations.”²³ This basic “universality” of principles was first became entrenched in the *Charter of the United Nations*, drafted in San Francisco at the United Nations Conference on International Organization in 1945.²⁴ With pressure from lobbyists, great debates between countries and the horrors of World War II on the minds of many. The groundwork for the protection and promotion of human rights was established in the signed *Charter* with the leading phrase, “to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small.” Article 1, which says, “promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion...” served as a call to action for all United Nations members.²⁵

With the creation of the UDHR in 1948, issues surrounding the idea of human rights became significant, legitimate international issues. Over time, supported by individual states and organizations, the spectrum of human rights laws and norms has blossomed through international human rights documents such as the United Nations’ International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESR).²⁶ Together, the UDHR, ICCPR and the ICESCR are known as the International Bill of Rights, and codify the international law of human rights.²⁷ While the UDHR may have been initially perceived as a simple suggestion for states to follow, overtime it has become something more extensive, inspiring movements and international actions. Presently, human rights issues continue to be at the forefront of concern for many countries

²⁰ Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute. (2001, March 21). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Retrieved July 4, 2005, from <http://www.udhr.org/index.htm>

²¹ Diehl, Paul F., Ed. (2001). *The Politics of Global Governance: International Organizations in an Independent World*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc.

²² Devine, Carol, Carol Rae Hansen, and Ralph Wilde. (1999). *Human Rights: The Essential Reference*. Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press.

²³ Annan, Kofi. (1997 December 10). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights Illuminates Global Pluralism and Diversity*, speech delivered at the University of Tehran. Retrieved July 7, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/rights/50/dpi1937.htm>

²⁴ United Nations Department of Social Affairs. (1953). *Impact of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. New York: United Nations.

²⁵ United Nations General Assembly. (1945, June 26). *Charter of the United Nations*. New York, NY.

²⁶ Wronka, Joseph. (1992). *Human Rights and Social Policy in the 21st Century*. Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, Inc.

²⁷ United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (2005). *Homepage*. Retrieved July 23, 2005, from <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/2/chr.htm>

across the globe, and steadfastly remains a topic of great importance for the United Nations.²⁸ United Nations Member States must remain dedicated to the responsibilities they have assumed under the *Charter*, including the commitment to promote human rights, observe human rights, and to cooperate with individual states and the United Nations to achieve a global respect for human rights.²⁹

Human Rights Climate and Current Approaches

The General Assembly Third Committee (GA Third) aims to ensure that nation states remain steadfastly committed to promoting issues of a social, humanitarian and cultural nature. With this mandate, the GA Third uses recommendations from the Commission on Human Rights and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a springboard for discussing human rights issues with all 191 members of the United Nations.³⁰ By working closely with other UN human rights bodies, the GA Third is able to stay apprised of human rights situations across the globe. This partnership has fostered a sense of cooperation and continued support and each of these UN bodies work assiduously to both protect and promote human rights across the globe.

In recent years, great advancements have occurred, yet, overt violations continue to plague the world community.³¹ In areas diverse as migrant labor, torture, gender equity, state coercion, terrorism and poverty, human rights issues are prevalent and in desperate need firm action by Member States.³² The GA Third, and the United Nations system as a whole, continues to take strides towards curbing human rights abuses in the international community through a wide spectrum of activities, which include developing monitoring operations, establishing peace missions, calling for action against human rights violations, funding human rights activities and maintaining a field presence in countries around the globe.³³ In the past, the General Assembly Third Committee has enacted a wide variety of activities aimed at reducing the incidents of human rights abuses.³⁴ In 1996, the UN fostered Peace Accords in Guatemala helped end the civil war and prompt investigations into human rights abuses during the 36 year reign of abuses by both government officials and guerillas.³⁵ Despite this, and many other examples of UN action, problems persist in the realm of human rights protection and enforcement³⁶

Despite the continued creation of human rights documents, violations of these international laws and norms continue.³⁷ While the ability of the international community to discourage human rights abuses and punish violators is not yet fully realized, the United Nations upholds that the proliferation of human rights abuses must stop.³⁸ Through the study and use of alternative approaches to human rights, the possibility of accelerating toward the ideal human rights situation can be realized.³⁹

²⁸ Claude, Richard Pierre, and Burns H. Weston, Eds. (1992). *Human Rights and the World Community: Issues and Action*. Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press.

²⁹ United Nations Department of Public Information. (1951). *Message of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. New York: United Nations.

³⁰ United Nations General Assembly. (2005). *Homepage*. Retrieved July 24, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/ga/60/>

³¹ Wronka, *supra*, note 26.

³² United Nations Commission on Human Rights, *Homepage, supra*, note 27.

³³ *Ibid.*

³⁴ Veenhoven, Willem A., Ed. (1975). *Case Studies on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms: A World Survey*. The Hague, Netherlands: Martinus Nijhoff.

³⁵ United Nations. *United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA)*. Retrieved March 3, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/DPKO/Missions/minugua.htm>

³⁶ Devine, *supra*, note 22.

³⁷ Claude, *supra*, note 28.

³⁸ Report of the Secretary-General. (2005, March 21). *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All*. (General Assembly Resolution A/59/2005). New York: United Nations.

³⁹ United Nations Information Service. (2005, April 24). *Security, Development, Human Rights All Essential for Life 'In Larger Freedom', Crime Congress High-Level Meeting Told*. Retrieved July 7, 2005, from <http://www.unis.unvienna.org/unis/pressrels/2005/bkcp23.html>

Alternative Approaches

Fact-finding missions, investigative missions, technical cooperation and education programs continue to be of the highest importance in the struggle against human rights abuses.⁴⁰ However, many approaches to improving human rights must be implemented in order to curb human rights abuses throughout the international community. Secretary General Kofi Annan called for a comprehensive human rights plan of action in his report titled *In Larger Freedom*.⁴¹ In response, the human rights bodies within the United Nations system have targeted poverty, discrimination, impunity, democratic deficits and institutional weaknesses as a means of examining the implantation problem.⁴²

Poverty

There is an indisputable link between poverty and human rights. People who live in extreme poverty are not able to achieve freedom from fear, want or even an adequate standard of living, all of which are freedoms granted within the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR).⁴³ Article 25 of the UDHR affirms that every person, regardless of gender, race, disability or geographical location, has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of him/herself and of his/her family. These rights include access to food, water, clothing, housing, medical care, social services and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or lack of livelihood.⁴⁴ With the continued spread of poverty throughout the global community, the widening disparity of wealth and income, and the effects of globalization, both good and bad, reaching the far corners of the world, greater hunger, disease, illiteracy and effects of poverty have reached a wide spectrum of populations.⁴⁵

Therefore, by targeting the alleviation of extreme poverty as an alternative method to ensuring human rights, the GA Third strongly believes that the alleviation of poverty can herald greater democratic consolidation and participation, more effective education programs, a more concentrated effort to battle disease and a more hopeful world population.⁴⁶ By examining and discussing alternative approaches such as Human Rights and Extreme Poverty; Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order; The Right to Development; The Right to Food; Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights; and the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, the GA Third has the opportunity to work toward the UN Millennium Declaration goal of sparing no effort to fight extreme poverty, while bearing in mind the tremendous weight of poverty on achieving the ideal of human rights.⁴⁷

Discrimination

Halting discrimination, whether it is discrimination by religion, race, gender or geography, is of the utmost importance for the GA Third, particularly as it is, at the core, an issue of human rights. The first two articles of the UDHR state, “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights... Everyone is entitled to the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”⁴⁸ Despite the efforts of the international community, a world free from discrimination has not yet been fully realized. Today, in communities across the globe, individuals suffer from intolerance, unveiled when they seek equal access to employment and training, housing, schooling, health services, public services, social services and treatment before the law.⁴⁹ In large

⁴⁰United Nations Report of the Secretary-General. (2003, July 3). *Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms*. (A/RES/58/121, Item 119 (b). New York, NY.

⁴¹ Report of the Secretary-General, *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All*, *supra*, note 38.

⁴² United Nations Report of the Secretary-General, *Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms*, *supra*, note 40.

⁴³ United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (2003, April 22). *Human Rights and Extreme Poverty*. (E.CN.4.RES.2003.24). New York, NY.

⁴⁴ United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (1948). *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*.

⁴⁵ United Nations Information Service, *Security, Development, Human Rights All Essential for Life 'In Larger Freedom', Crime Congress High-Level Meeting Told*, *supra*, note 39.

⁴⁶ Wronka, *supra*, note 26.

⁴⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Homepage*, *supra*, note 30.

⁴⁸ Commission on Human Rights, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, *supra*, note 44.

⁴⁹ Devine, *supra*, note 22.

countries and small countries, rich countries and poor countries, public and private realms, work life and home life, discrimination exists and continues to violate the basic human right to dignity, liberty and security of person.

The fight against discrimination must be multi-faceted, and many bodies within the UN system work diligently to eliminate discrimination, racism and xenophobia.⁵⁰ For the GA Third Committee, the focus of the fight against discrimination is linked to human rights issues, with attention to the following issues: Protection of Migrants; the Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance; In-depth study on all forms of violence against women; and Promoting non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity in human rights efforts.

Extrajudicial Matters and Impunity

In order to make progress in the field of human rights issues, it is vital that the GA Third examine the judicial aspect of human rights work.⁵¹ Ensuring protection under the law for those who work to improve human rights conditions, and prosecuting those who disregard the inalienable human rights of the human race is an essential step in strengthening the rule of law and defending human rights.⁵² Human rights defenders, or those who act either individually or in association with others to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, are often subjected to threats, harassment, insecurity, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial executions.⁵³ In this same vein as the threat of detention and execution, is the current issue of arbitrary executions.⁵⁴ These extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions are a violation of the right to life, part of international legal standards, found in a series of CHR and GA resolutions, as well as the UDHR and the ICCPR.⁵⁵ The ICCPR states that the right to life “shall be protected by law” and “no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of life.”⁵⁶ Despite these international standards and laws, human rights defenders continued to be threatened and detained, and people around the globe are arbitrarily executed.⁵⁷

The GA Third, in an effort to protect human rights defenders and lessen the prevalence of arbitrary executions, must continue to proceed toward a stronger rule of law.⁵⁸ Continued impunity for those who defy human rights laws and standards impedes the progress toward an ideal world community, free of human rights violations.⁵⁹ In the spirit of advancing human rights, the GA Third has focused on the protection of human rights defenders, extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and strengthening the rule of law as key areas of focus for alternative approaches to human rights.

Democratic Deficits and Institutional Weaknesses

Continued impunity, extrajudicial executions and the fear of threat to life and limb remain not only violations of human rights, but also evidence of a common world trend – democratic deficits. As stated in Article 21 of the UDHR, “Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.”⁶⁰ A key to democracy is ensuring the opportunity for participation in decision making, ensuring government accountability and transparency, and creating laws which can be predictably and equally applied. When a society is rife with coercion, laps in equal applicability of the law, threats, disappearances, extrajudicial executions and even terrorist activity, these symptoms are representative of a breakdown on democracy. The equal

⁵⁰ United Nations General Assembly, *Homepage, supra*, note 30.

⁵¹ United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention. (2003). *Guide for policy makers: on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*. New York: United Nations.

⁵² Amnesty International. (2004). *Amnesty International Report 2004*. London, U.K.: Amnesty International Publications.

⁵³ United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (2000, April 26). *Human rights defenders*. (E.CN.4.RES.2000.61). New York, NY.

⁵⁴ Amnesty International, *supra*, note 52.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ United Nations General Assembly. (1966, December 16). *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*. New York, NY.

⁵⁷ Amnesty International, *supra*, note 52.

⁵⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Homepage, supra*, note 30.

⁵⁹ United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (2000, April 26). *Human rights defenders*. (E.CN.4.RES.2000.61). New York, NY.

⁶⁰ United Nations Commission on Human Rights, *Homepage, supra*, note 27.

participation of citizens, and the freedom from threat and fear, is essential human rights which are often best protected through democratic institutions. Similarly, when institutional weaknesses are present, both within an individual country's government, and within regional or international institutions, the ability of the international community to protect and promote human rights is at risk.

In an effort to strengthen the protection of human rights throughout the international community, the gradual implementation of stronger democratic practices, when combined with institutional strength, creates a more conducive atmosphere for ensuring the promotion of human rights. The GA Third is able to focus on a broad selection of alternative approaches in this area, which include, human rights and unilateral coercive measures, enforced or involuntary disappearances, protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights, regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights, respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging human rights, and fundamental freedoms in solving international problems of a humanitarian character.

Conclusion

These alternative approaches demand cooperative action and multi-faceted approach to promoting and protecting human rights. By its very nature, this topic demands forward-thinking delegations working in collaboration with all nations, observers and NGOs represented at the conference and within this committee. Much needs to be done in order to bridge the gap between innovation and action in the realm of human rights. As a delegate, it is important ask what can be done to accelerate respect and promotion of human rights. What issues identified by the General Assembly Third Committee demand the most urgent attention? What steps must be taken to launch further implementation? What innovative methods can be applied to facilitate the improvement of human rights conditions?

Discussion, debate and resolutions within this conference, when coupled with both forward-looking ideas and the spirit of cooperation, will further the goals of the GA Third and promote a more peaceful world community.

II. The Right of Peoples to Self-Determination

*The self-determination of peoples is a major issue in the modern world community. Both radical and potentially subversive, it serves to grant statehood to oppressed peoples, but also to disrupt existing state structure.*⁶¹

Introduction to the People's Right to Self-Determination

Throughout history, a people's right to self-determination has evolved from the conception of democracy in Ancient Greece, to revolutionary principles during the French and American revolutions, to its incorporation in the *League of Nations Charter* as envisioned by President Wilson Woodrow at the end of World War One, and reaching its apex after World War Two with the decolonization and secession of many African and European nations. This period of increased concern for a people's right to govern themselves has led to the right to self-determination being implemented in several international legal documents. Self-determination has become a fundamental principle and the precondition to the availability and attainability of other basic human rights.⁶² Article 1 of the *United Nations Charter* states that developing "friendly relations among nations is based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples..."⁶³ That right includes a people's claim to determine their own government and judicial system, as well as having complete sovereignty over their economic development, their cultural and social emancipation and their natural resources,⁶⁴ as declared in Article 1 of the *International Covenant on Economic,*

⁶¹ Ishay, Micheline. (2004). *The History of Human Rights*. California: University of California Press.

⁶² Cristescu, Aureliu. (1981). *Sous-commission de la lutte contre les mesures discriminatoires et de la protection des minorités. Le droit à l'autodétermination*. New York: United Nations Publications.

⁶³ United Nations. (1945). *United Nations Charter*. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>

⁶⁴ Espiell, Héctor Gros. (1977). *Conseil économique et social. Application des résolutions de l'organisation des Nations Unies relatives au droit des peuples assujettis à une domination coloniale et étrangère à disposer d'eux-mêmes*. New York: United Nations Publications.

Social and Cultural Rights adopted in 1966 by the General Assembly (GA) and in the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*.⁶⁵ Articles 4, 27 and 21 respectively, of the *Universal Declaration on Human Rights* also state that no one shall be held in slavery or servitude, and that everyone has the right to participate in their nation's cultural life as well as its government, which is determined by the will of the people.⁶⁶ GA resolution 1803 of 14 December 1962 reaffirms resolution 1515(XV) of 15 December 1960 giving permanent sovereignty to people and nations over their national wealth and resources.⁶⁷ These articles enforce the right to self-determination as they ensure certain basic liberties and the freedom to act upon decisions involving the governing of a nation.

This inalienable human right has allowed for people and nations around the world to gain their independence and become self-governing entities. It has enabled many African nations to remove themselves from the burden of colonial governance and has permitted diverse ethnic groups to assemble themselves into distinctive peoples. Indeed, the right to self-determination has applied specifically to groups of people who are oppressed by a foreign control. GA Resolution 3382, 10 November 1975, reaffirmed that only through self-determination can the oppressed become independent and benefit from basic human rights and that there is a concrete legitimacy in "a people's struggle for independence, territorial integrity and the liberation of colonial and external domination by any means in their power."⁶⁸

Complexities

Nevertheless, as the right to self-determination is indispensable, it continues to generate strong dispute among Member States of the United Nations (UN), as will be demonstrated in the case studies further below. Although considerable assertion of the right to self-determination on the part of many peoples has already taken place, many debates linger concerning various ethnic groups and minorities who continue fighting for their independence. At the 32nd session of the Human Rights Committee in 1976, it was declared that the right to self-determination should not be interpreted as a means to destroy the unity or peace of a nation.⁶⁹ However, since this time, it is a growing argument used by many countries when questioned about uprisings in their territories by minorities or distinctive peoples. Clearly, there are international conflicts that are hard to decipher and civil wars are perhaps the most difficult. While the right to self-determination is intrinsic, a nation's sovereignty must also be taken into account, as must the use of force in the conflict and whether or not there is evidence of oppression or domination of a certain group within the nation. These combining factors divide the international community in deciding what action to take when a civil conflict is present. The following case studies will demonstrate some of the complexities with the use of the right to self-determination and display the UN's attempts at ameliorating the situations. These are particular cases from all around the world, concerning very different peoples struggling for their basic rights. Each one represents a different situation from which the right to self-determination has evolved.

Case Studies

Jammu and Kashmir

As India obtained independence in 1947, a territory between India and Pakistan, known as the Kashmir region struggled for its independence, as it considered itself different, both culturally and religiously. Kashmir could not find a peaceful compromise with India and therefore presented its issue to the Security Council on 1 January 1948. Consequently, the United Nations Commission on India and Pakistan (UNCIP) was created, as well as a plebiscite to determine the future of the State.⁷⁰ As the Kashmir people continued their struggle, the Security Council reaffirmed their right to self-determination in 1951 and 1957, and called the Indian occupation of Jammu and Kashmir to be

⁶⁵ United Nations General Assembly. (1966). *The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <https://www.tamilnation.org/humanrights/instruments/iccpr.htm>

⁶⁶ United Nations General Assembly. (1966). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Retrieved July 10, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>

⁶⁷ United Nations General Assembly. (1962, December 14). *Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources*. (A/RES/1803). New York: Author.

⁶⁸ Conseil économique et social, *supra*, note 64.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* p. 4

⁷⁰ United Nations General Assembly. (1994, September 6). *Right of Peoples to Self-Determination, use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination*. (A/49/362). New York: Author.

illegal.⁷¹ When the people claimed their right again in 1990, it was met with repressive action and laws, which allowed for the arrest and detention of citizens without resort to court.⁷² On 21 November 2003, the General Assembly Third Committee approved a draft resolution on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, opposed by India who claimed that the draft resolution had challenged the unity and territorial integrity of its nation.⁷³ It is therefore clear that strife remains in this part of the world where a central force is impeding on the human rights of a people who claimed their autonomy after the main body's independence.

Tibet and Taiwan

China has always exerted an exceptional presence in the eastern hemisphere, but within its empire, there are several groups that have claimed the right to self-determination over the years. In the 1950's, the UN had begun passing several resolutions on the situation in Tibet, a previously independent nation to the northwest of the country which was invaded by Chinese forces in October, 1950. In GA resolution 1723 on Tibet in 1961, the GA stated its concern that the Chinese control of Tibet "violates fundamental human rights and freedoms including the principle of self-determination of peoples and nations," and called for the halt of all actions that dispossessed Tibetans of their right of self-determination.⁷⁴ Indeed, in the General Recommendation of 1996 on the right to self-determination, it was stated that the implementation of self-determination into international law means that every State's government must "promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations."⁷⁵ Still today, nations across the world continue to express concern over the situation in Tibet, while the Chinese Government denies the urgency of the situation, stating that "the right to self-determination should not be distorted to authorize or encourage any action to dismember or encroach upon a country's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political unity."⁷⁶ Tibetans are not the only people claiming their right to self-determination within China. The vast régime is also aiming to quell the voice of an increasing Muslim population in the north of their territory as well as the people of the island of Taiwan. Taiwan has been struggling for independence for the past 400 years, but has yet to attain their goal, fearing harsh Chinese reprisal methods.⁷⁷ Already Taiwan has obtained economic prosperity and has democratized its politics, yet China continues to deny it participation on the international scene or in regards to actions affecting its interests.⁷⁸ It is clear, therefore, that within China the right to self-determination continues to cause strife amongst the different peoples.

Palestine

Palestine holds its own peculiarities, as the Palestinian people as well as their territory are recognized and yet neither have any substantial power. In the GA Third Press release in October 1999, Somaia Barghouti of the Observer Mission of Palestine declared once again that the Palestinian people were being denied their right to self-determination. "It was inconceivable to recognize an adversary as a people, while refusing to recognize their right to self-determination."⁷⁹ Draft resolution III contained in A/55/601 from the 2000 Report of the Third Committee also reaffirms the right of the Palestinian people to their right to a State in which they can live peacefully and in security.⁸⁰ Nevertheless, in the GA Third Press release of October 2001, Avraham Millo of Israel replied that self-determination for the Palestinian people could not be achieved through measures of violence. While Israel had used their right on the basis of the 1993 Oslo Accords, self-determination could not be wielded by any people in any way

⁷¹ *Ibid.* p. 4

⁷² *Ibid.* p. 4

⁷³ United Nations Press Release. (2003, November 11). *Third Committee approves 10 Draft Resolutions on Human Rights, Self-Determination, Elimination of Racism.* (GA/SHC/3770). New York: Fifty-eighth General Assembly, Third Committee.

⁷⁴ United Nations General Assembly. (1961, December 20). *Question of Tibet.* (A/RES/1723). New York: Author.

⁷⁵ United Nations High Commission for Human Rights. (1996). *General Recommendation No. 21 - Right to self-determination, forty-eighth session.* Retrieved July 8, 2005, from <http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/dc598941c9e68a1a8025651e004d31d0?Opendocument>

⁷⁶ United Nations Press Release. (1996, November 5). *Third Committee debate on racism, racial discrimination, right to self-determination.* (GA/SHC/3377). New York: Fifty-first General Assembly, Third Committee.

⁷⁷ Takayuki, Munakata. *Human rights, the right of Self-determination and the right to Freedom.* Retrieved July 6, 2005, from http://www.gmu.edu/academic/ijps/vol4_1/takayuki.htm

⁷⁸ *Ibid.* p. 4

⁷⁹ United Nations Press Release. (1999, October 25). *Self-Determination main theme at Third Committee Meeting, Intolerance and Xenophobia also cited.* (GA/SHC/3536). New York: Fifty-fourth General Assembly, Third Committee.

⁸⁰ United Nations General Assembly. (2000, November 17). *Right of peoples to self-determination: Report of the Third Committee.* (A/55/601). New York: United Nations.

they deemed fit.⁸¹ Indeed, violence as a measure for claiming independence has long been matter of discussion and concern within the GA. The United Nation's conception of the use of violence has evolved through specific cases, notably Indonesia's independence, the invasion of Goa, and the bloodshed within the Israeli Occupied Territories. After UN activity in these three regions, it became clear that the UN has specific opinions on the use of violence, and do not view the prohibition of violence within Article 2(4) of the UN charter as unconditional, especially since the right to self-determination has become a matter of *jus cogens*.⁸² Indeed, third parties may intervene in civil conflicts on the side which the UN has deemed to obtain self-determination.⁸³ Yet, the battle continues as to whether this is an impediment on a State's sovereignty or an aid to those under oppression. Nevertheless, it remains important to note that the UN and the International Court of Justice (ICJ) have recognized that "if a people are denied its right to self-determination they have the right to armed struggle to achieve liberation and this is characterized as international conflict."⁸⁴ Under this notion, it is argued that the Palestinian people have the right to continue legally their quest for independence. This struggle continues in Israel and the Occupied Territories as the Palestinian's right to self-determination has yet to be fulfilled.

Small Nations and Indigenous People

Nations in the Caribbean and the Pacific have long been aspiring to their sovereignty and right to self-determination. Since GA resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, it is important to consider these situations as they present a distinctly different view: that of many small independent peoples, some with no specified nation, who demand to be recognized as distinctive peoples, in the shadow of an administering force.⁸⁵ A nation symbolic in this struggle is Guam, whose political status has been undetermined for decades and who remains a "non-self-governing territory" in the eyes of the UN.⁸⁶ There is debate over whether these smaller nations have the power and consistency to establish a self-governing State. In response, not only have the representatives of these nations declared that their size was not a hindrance to their right to self-determination and that they must be allowed complete political equality, but Héctor Espiell also elaborates upon this concept in the 1977 UN special report on a people's right to self-determination.⁸⁷ The study declares that since the adoption of GA Resolution 1514 (XV) there is no possible pretext under which a State can oppose the claim to self-determination because a people has not reached sufficient development to obtain independence.⁸⁸ A/RES/36/63 emphasizes this and reaffirms the right of the people of Guam to self-determination as well as the responsibility of the administering Power to "create such conditions in the Territory as will enable the people of Guam to exercise (that right) freely and without any interference."⁸⁹ Nevertheless, due to the diminished size, the lack of resources, and the small population of these nations, another option would allow them various levels of autonomy without breaking their ties to the developed countries, and this to ameliorate the situation of their populations.⁹⁰ This remains a complex issue as these smaller developing nations continue to struggle for recognition amidst the developed nations which control them.

In 2003, the Commission on Human Rights produced a draft Declaration that contained, in Article 3, the statement that Indigenous Peoples have the right to self-determination and can decide their political status and pursue their economic, social, and cultural development.⁹¹ Nevertheless, there is continued debate in some States as to whether

⁸¹ United Nations Press Release. (2001). *Right to Self-Determination not Synonymous with Independent Statehood, Third Committee told, as Debate Continues*. (GA/SHC/3651). New York: Fifty-sixth General Assembly, Third Committee.

⁸² Note: *jus cogens* is a legal term which represents "a norm imperative to the general international human rights" as stated in Article 53 of the Vienna Convention.; Sureta, Rigo A. (1973). *The Evolution of the right of Self-Determination, A Study of United Nations Practise*. Netherlands: W. Sijthoff International Publishing Company. p. 324.

⁸³ *Ibid.* p. 349.

⁸⁴ Al-Siryani, Fr. Majdi. (n.d.). *Self-Determination and Self-Defense; the Palestinian Case*. Retrieved July 8, 2005, from <http://www.al-bushra.org/latpatra/self.html>

⁸⁵ United Nations General Assembly. (1966, December 13). *Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples*. (A/RES/51/141). New York: Author.

⁸⁶ Worth, Kate. (August 2, 2005). *Governor missed UN decolonization meeting*. Retrieved August 19, 2005, from <http://www.guampdn.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050802/NEWS01/508020308/1002>

⁸⁷ United Nations General Assembly Third Committee, *supra*, note 73.

⁸⁸ Conseil économique et social, *supra*, note 64.

⁸⁹ United Nations General Assembly. (1981, 25 November). *The Question of Guam*. (A/RES/36/63). New York: Author.

⁹⁰ Guilhaudis, Jean-François. (1976). *Droit des peuples à disposer d'eux-mêmes*. Grenoble: Presses Universitaires de Grenoble. p. 74.

⁹¹ United Nations Economic and Social Council. (2005, March 18). *The Right to Self-Determination and its Application to Peoples under Colonial or Alien Domination or Foreign Occupation*. (E/CN.4/2005/NGO/308). New York: Author.

or not Indigenous People can be recognized as such. The recent resolution A/RES/41/120 from the GA clarifies this by accepting the term without change.⁹² It is clear that Indigenous People should continue their quest for the right to self-determination, and already States such as Canada and Australia have been directed on how to accommodate to their indigenous populations. Nevertheless, the complete right to self-government and development throughout their communities has yet to be accomplished in many areas around the world, and this dissipated people continue to call for access to their basic human rights.

Québec

Québec has long been fighting for its right to separate from the rest of Canada, based on its particularities of having a specific culture and language amidst the other provinces in Canada. However, it is clearly not oppressed by the sovereign as it receives distinctive treatment from the federal government to preserve those differences. Cultural independence has been the political incentive, and yet international law, does not permit self-sufficient regions to determine their international status, regardless of their cultural differences with the rest of the population.⁹³ The Canadian Constitution also does not provide for any secession of its provinces, and Québec, with its continuous claim for independence remains one of the few groups in the world that does so with no international legal support. Nevertheless, the point is raised: is cultural and language differences enough for a claim to independence?

These case studies have outlined some of the major differences in the claim to self-determination worldwide. Kashmir clearly shows how a newly founded nation can rupture from the inside, while Tibet and Palestine demonstrate how easily peoples can be dominated by exterior forces and how it becomes more difficult to resolve these issues as it is the dominating force that detains the power in international community. The case of small nations and indigenous people follows populations across the world that come together through cultural, economic and historic similarities within or controlled by larger nations who are reluctant to cede any power. Finally Québec is a particularity of its own, where an entire province bases its choice of separation on language and culture, completely defying international rule.

Current Preoccupations

Although the previous case studies have elaborated several problems that continue to be debated in the GA, self-determination remains a complex issue spawning new civil uprisings even today. Many States have reserves about the complete right to self-determination, and even the international community within the UN cannot always condone the secession of a particular group or people. Many such concerns arise from areas where racism and xenophobia are present and the creation of a new regime would only fuel those tendencies. A state should manage itself as it sees fit, as long as there is no administration based on racial discrimination of feudalism, for even with universal suffrage, a frightened minority will never have a voice.⁹⁴ The decolonization era produced groups of self-determined nations who were mistreating minorities within their borders. New governments can easily re-invent laws and revive ancestral traditions that may be oppressive to women and minorities and unqualified leaders can easily become corrupted or cede power to the armed forces.⁹⁵ The UN must therefore take particular measures to prevent new nations from sliding into easy degeneracy, all the while allowing them autonomy over their internal affairs. Member states are also preoccupied by the creation of ardent nationalism within a group, which can lead to severe acts of violence, repression, and even genocide towards other peoples. Oppressed nations cannot be allowed to assert themselves to the point of harming others, nor can they attempt to assimilate ethnic groups through repressive measures.

While self-determination does allow for the liberation of peoples, it also disrupts the peace of a nation and can create turbulence within political, economic, and social systems. This point was addressed in the 1996 General Recommendation No. 21 on the right to self-determination:

⁹² *Ibid.* p. 4.

⁹³ Freeman, Michael. (1998). National Self-Determination, Peace and Human Right. *Peace Review*, Vol. 10, no.2. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <http://mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/freeman.htm> ; Cassese, Antonio. (1995). *Self-Determination of Peoples, A Legal Reappraisal*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. p. 251.

⁹⁴ Sureda, *supra*, note 82, p. 262.

⁹⁵ Ishay, Micheline, *supra*, note 61.

“...in accordance with the Declaration on Friendly Relations, none of the Committee’s actions shall be construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair... the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and possessing a Government representing the whole people belonging to the territory”⁹⁶

Many States have since expressed their concern with secession within their boundaries as well as the inference of other States within their territory. The present struggle in the Sudan Darfur region is an example of civil conflict, which has degenerated into mass violence and has sparked the attention of the international community. Although the persecuted Black Africans do not want their independence, they do make claims to land, to participating in the governing of their country and to freedom from oppression. Yet, the international community has been measured in their reaction and intervention in the midst of the hostility. Although Sudanese leaders have claimed sovereignty as a reason to prevent international involvement, as stated in Article 2 of the UN Charter,⁹⁷ it can sometimes be inevitable and even necessary for third party intervention to thwart such action, which would render impossible friendly diplomatic relations.⁹⁸ Indeed, in his 1981 UN report on the right to self-determination, Aureliu Cristescu, Special Reporter of the under Commission of the Fight against Discriminatory Measures and the Protection of Minorities, specified that every nation have the right to choose its own political, social, economic, and judicial system, as long as it respects basic human rights for all people.⁹⁹ Therefore, the use of force to undermine a people’s right to self-determination violates international law.¹⁰⁰ Despite these statements, the violence, rape and pillaging continues in the Darfur region. Clearly the UN must take a distinct stand on how involved it will become with civil conflict, and how much the right to self-determination is worth when diplomatic relations are involved.

Conclusion

The various and differing interpretations and facets of the right to self-determination have made it increasingly difficult for a complete and thorough understanding of the term, and equally complicated for the United Nations to respond adequately to civil conflict. Undeniably, the right to self-determination is a fundamental human claim and the precondition to the enjoyment of any other basic right. Nevertheless, it has an opposite side, which, can cause turmoil within a state and ruin the unity and integrity of its land. Recently, the GA Third Committee along with other non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) have advocated for the freedom of the Lebanese people and condemned Syria for its illegal occupation of Lebanon, which has been a contravention of Security Council Resolutions from 1978 to 2005.¹⁰¹ NGO and the GA Third have also been focused around Southern Cameroon, which was illegally appropriated by the North of the country in 1984. They support the right to self-determination of the peoples of South Cameroon and call on the international community to acknowledge that right and enforce it.¹⁰² NGO’s are also very much focused within the Occupied Territories to aid the Palestinian people and in other more remote areas like the Tamil region where an armed struggle for self-determination and justice from Sri Lanka has been consistent for several years now.¹⁰³ Therefore it is clear that many forces are determined to aid and support those who’s right to self-determination has been repressed even today. Although the decolonization period defined self-determination as applicable only to States, that concept has since evolved to include specific ‘peoples’ within a nation-state, and yet not necessarily groups sharing a common language and culture.¹⁰⁴ The United Nations has organized guidelines for people claiming their right to self-determination, such as a history of independence or self-

⁹⁶ General Recommendation No. 21, *supra*, note 75.

⁹⁷ Guilhaudis, J-F., *supra*, note 90, p. 118.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.* p. 124.

⁹⁹ Sous-commission de la lutte contre les mesures discriminatoires et de la protection des minorités, *supra*, note 62, p. 26.

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.* p. 25.

¹⁰¹ United Nations Economic and Social Council. (1978, February 14). *The Right of Peoples to Self-Determination and Its Application to Peoples under Colonial or Alien Domination or Foreign Occupation*. (E/CN.4/RES/3 [XXXIV]). New York: Author.

¹⁰² United Nations Economic and Social Council. (2005, March 8). *NGO Focuses on the Right of Peoples to Self-Determination and its Application to Peoples under Colonial or Alien Domination or Foreign Occupation in Southern Cameroon*. (E/CN.4/2005/NGO/253). New York: Author.

¹⁰³ United Nations General Assembly, *The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*, *supra*, note 65.

¹⁰⁴ Wikipedia Online Encyclopedia. (n.d.). *Overview*. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self-determination>

rule in an identifiable territory, and a will and capability to govern themselves.¹⁰⁵ Perhaps, however, contemporary issues must review the claim that the world's principal agents are its States, and consider the call for the self-determination of the people. It remains, therefore, to be thoroughly explained how the international community views self-determination and how it is prepared to support it or not.

Civil conflict constitutes the overwhelming majority of armed conflict worldwide, and it is necessary that the international community develops strong and innovative principles to apply justly the right to self-determination.¹⁰⁶ It is up to this committee to join in finding what those principles will be. When you begin to ascertain the position of your country, consider the following:

- What is more important, the State or its people?
- Is territorial integrity and unity cause enough to ignore human rights violations?
- Must democracy be a viable option everywhere, or is this a culturally Western view?
- What pressures must be placed upon States that violate a people's right to self-determination?
- Is the use of force always justifiable in the struggle for self-determination, and if so, how much?
- Do the States have a right to return to defend themselves, and which side should the international community support?

III. Crime Prevention in Developing States

*Freedom from crime, safety from violence at home and on the street, public safety and the means to make cities safer are essential ingredients of sustainable development. To feel safe from crime is as important to a person as access to food, shelter, education, and health.*¹⁰⁷

Crime ravages the feelings of safety and security within a population. As Member States of the United Nations, we are charged with creating a more peaceful and secure world at large, and within individual countries. However, the world cannot attain a higher level of peace and prosperity while crime continues to devastate diverse populations across the globe.¹⁰⁸ Outside of the effects crime has on the feeling of freedom and security, crime can also be symptomatic of deeper tribulations within a country, as is the case with developing states.¹⁰⁹ While the precise reasons for the prevalence of crime in a developing country can be attributed to a broad spectrum of factors, preventing crime in developing states can serve as an important step in development.¹¹⁰ A wide range of issues encompass the issue of Crime Prevention in Developing States, thus, it is difficult to address the idea of crime prevention without also examining the problems effecting developing states, the causes of crime within these states, and current status of crime and prevention as it relates to individual countries, regions and the international community.

According to United Nations figures, the global crime rate has been growing rapidly and is an increasing problem for almost every country in the world.¹¹¹ The UN estimates that urban violence has risen by three to five percent

¹⁰⁵ Parker, Karen. (2000). *Understanding Self-Determination: The Basics. Presentation to First International Conference on the Right to Self-Determination*. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <http://www.webcom.com/hrin/parker/selfdet.html>

¹⁰⁶ United Nations General Assembly Third Committee, *supra*, note 79.

¹⁰⁷ United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. (1995). *Trends in Urban Crime Prevention*. (Volume 2, Number 3). [UNCJIN Crime and Justice Newsletter]. Retrieved on July 7, 2005 from <http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/newsletter/nr2/>

¹⁰⁸ United Nations Information Service. (2005, April 24). *Security, Development, Human Rights All Essential for Life 'In Larger Freedom', Crime Congress High-Level Meeting Told*. Retrieved July 7, 2005 from <http://www.unis.unvienna.org/unis/pressrels/2005/bkkcp23.html>

¹⁰⁹ United Nations Office on Drug Control and Crime Prevention. (June 2005). *Crime and Development in Africa*. New York: United Nations.

¹¹⁰ United Nations Information Service. (2005, April 24). *Security, Development, Human Rights All Essential for Life 'In Larger Freedom', Crime Congress High-Level Meeting Told*. Retrieved July 7, 2005 from <http://www.unis.unvienna.org/unis/pressrels/2005/bkkcp23.html>

¹¹¹ Panos London. (2005). *Homepage*. Retrieved July 24, 2005 from <http://www.panos.org.uk/index.asp>

annually for the past 20 years.¹¹² Violent crime now accounts for 25 to 30 percent of urban crime in some countries and is increasing in rural areas.¹¹³ While both developed and developing nations, rich and poor and urban and rural populations can feel the increase of crime, the costs of crime are far more taxing on developing countries.¹¹⁴ As stated in a Panos Briefing on Crime and Development, “While developed countries spend two to three percent of their national budgets on crime, the figure is between 9 and 14 percent for developing countries.”¹¹⁵ Outside of the money spent to fight crime within a country, there are also economic costs due to lack of investment in crime-affected areas, which can further lead to unemployment, deprivation, and poverty.¹¹⁶ “Violence and crime are usually the result of inequality and poverty, and they certainly breed fastest in a society characterized by extremes of inequality and social exclusion. Ultimately, only measures that protect urban communities from deprivation, joblessness, injustice, and insecurity will also make them safer from crime.”¹¹⁷

According to the Fourth UN Survey on Crime Trends and Criminal Justice Systems, homicide rates are higher in those countries that score lower on the human development index used in the United Nations Human Development Report.¹¹⁸ This index suggests that countries that have lower incomes, shorter life expectancies and lower educational attainments tend to have higher reported homicide rates.¹¹⁹ Other types and levels of crime, in addition to homicides, can prove equally troubling for society, and serve as an indicator of deeper problems within an area, such as poverty.¹²⁰ Furthermore, crime levels can be exacerbated by increased urbanization, political instability, violent conflicts in the region, rapid economic changes or declines and inadequate justice systems, among other complex social and economic factors.¹²¹ The level and type of crime are the result of a range of local, national, regional, and even international factors, which can include cultural practices, traditions, participation in government, economic strength, law enforcement presence, level of corruption, access to weapons and political stability.¹²² These factors offer some degree of insight into why crimes occur, and why crime levels continue to increase.

However, it is often difficult to measure these increases in crime reliably, given the variety of measures and methods used in different countries, the willingness of citizens to report crime, the ability of governments and agencies to keep records of these crimes.¹²³ Crime can often go unreported to local governments, making it difficult to track internationally. For example, police recorded property crime rates in Africa are astonishingly low, however, only 14 percent of victims of property crime reported their intrusion, making Africa’s property crime rate the lowest reported in the world.¹²⁴ Regardless of the reporting difficulties, the United Nations, in cooperation with Member States, NGOs and IGOs, widely accept that crime is increasing and is a growing problem for many countries across the globe. A possibility for the increase in crime levels being reported is greater fear and awareness about crime issues.¹²⁵ This widespread fear of crime, and of the means by which criminal acts are curbed, is of concern to the international community.¹²⁶ Efforts to stop crime must be undertaken while protecting citizens from each other and from hasty government action. Therefore, discussion about human rights and civil liberties remain at the forefront of the crime conversation due to the delicate balance, needed by the government and crime-fighting agencies, between fighting crime and impeding upon citizens rights.

¹¹² UN Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT). (1996). “Social Conditions and Trends: Urban Crime and Violence.” *An Urbanizing World: Global Report on Human Settlements*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

¹¹³ Vanderschueren, Franz. (1996, April). “From Violence to Justice and Security in Cities.” *Environment and Urbanisation* (Volume 8, Number 1). Nairobi: UNHCS.

¹¹⁴ United Nations Office on Drug Control and Crime Prevention. (2005). *UN Survey on Crime Trends and Criminal Justice Systems*. Retrieved July 30, 2005 from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_cicp_surveys.html

¹¹⁵ Panos London, *supra*, note 111.

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁸ UNODC, *UN Survey on Crime Trends and Criminal Justice Systems*, *supra*, note 114.

¹¹⁹ *Ibid.*

¹²⁰ UNODC, *Crime and Development in Africa*, *supra*, note 109.

¹²¹ Das, Dilip and Steven Lab. (2002). *International Perspectives on Community Policing and Crime Prevention*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

¹²² UNODC, *Crime and Development in Africa*, *supra*, note 109.

¹²³ Newman, Graeme R. (1999). *Global Report on Crime and Justice*. New York: Oxford University Press.

¹²⁴ United Nations Office on Drug Control and Crime Prevention, *supra*, note 109.

¹²⁵ Panos London, *supra*, note 111.

¹²⁶ United Nations Information Service, *supra*, note 110.

Despite the difficulties of collecting crime data, crime is undoubtedly an issue of great importance, worthy of the world community's attention. Crime is a violation of the rights of others, and it is capable of deteriorating societies into panic, frenzy, and fear. North and South, developed and developing, urban and rural populations must address the issue of crime in an effort to increase stability, security, and prosperity for the good of all humankind.

Acting against Crime

The ability of the United Nations to curb criminal acts in developing states rests in two diverse realms. The first prescription is acting against crime, in an effort to stop corruption, prevent terrorism, promote cooperation, establish stronger legal systems, and fund just police forces. These actions involve stopping crime as it occurs, developing new means of attacking criminal behavior, and punishing those actors who continue to commit crimes. While criminal acts such as theft, robbery, burglary, assault, murder, and corruption most directly affect the daily lives of citizens, criminal behavior is a global problem.¹²⁷ Often, community-level criminal actions result from transnational financing and drug-related crime, sponsored by high-level actors.¹²⁸ As an illustration, an estimated US \$1 trillion in drug money was laundered through North America and Europe from 1984 to 1994, more than half of which was attained and funneled by low-level actors.¹²⁹ Therefore, acting against crime is a reaction to the ails of society on the community, state and international level, and requires both invention and cooperation between all Member States.

Corruption

With the signing of the Convention against Corruption on December 11, 2003, it was established that corruption can be linked to many different forms of crime, including transnational organized crime, money laundering, drug trafficking and even terrorism.¹³⁰ Additionally, corruption debilitates economic growth, threatens poverty eradication, facilitates unequal wealth distribution, damages democracy and justice and cripples the effectiveness of government.¹³¹ According to the 1997 World Development Report, state corruption remains one of the biggest obstacles of development because official corruption deters investment, promotes individual interest, and misplaces economic, social, and political assistance.¹³² Transparency International found that the average Kenyan living in an urban area pays 16 bribes a month, 99 percent of which are to public officials.¹³³ While most of these bribes are small, but they are estimated to add about 15 percent to the cost of living, a sizeable amount when considering the average Kenyan lives on approximately US\$393 a year.¹³⁴ Clearly, if corruption is pervasive within a society, it can easily hamper the development of individuals, thus threatening the progress of society as a whole.

Perhaps the most damaging effect of official corruption is the destruction of trust between citizens and the government. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), "The most basic obligation of the state is to ensure the safety of its citizens. When the state fails to fulfill this obligation or, worse, provides protection to some groups but not to others, the people effectively reclaim their right to use force in the resolution of disputes, often with disastrous consequences."¹³⁵

¹²⁷ United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention. *Organized Crime*. Retrieved July 7, 2005 from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/organized_crime.html

¹²⁸ Panos London, *supra*, note 111.

¹²⁹ United Nations Research Institute for Social Development. (1995, January 1). *States in Disarray: The Social Effects of Globalization*. Geneva, Switzerland: UNRISD.

¹³⁰ United Nations General Assembly. (2003, October 31). *Convention against Corruption (A/RES/GA/58/4)*. New York: United Nations.

¹³¹ United Nations Drug Control Programme. (2000). *World Drug Report 2000: United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention*. New York: United Nations.

¹³² World Bank. (1998). *1997 World Development Report: The State in a Changing World*. Washington, D.C.: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank.

¹³³ Transparency International Kenya. (2001). *The Kenya Urban Bribery Index Nairobi*. Retrieved July 30, 2005 from http://www.tikenya.org/documents/urban_bribery_index.doc

¹³⁴ *Ibid.*

¹³⁵ UNODC, *Crime and Development in Africa, supra*, note 109.

Combating terrorism

Terrorism afflicts developing states in many ways. Not only can developing states be targeted by terrorist acts, but they are more likely to produce terrorist actors and serve as a refuge for terrorists.¹³⁶ A common bedfellow of underdevelopment is the lack of a criminal justice system or reliable police force, and when coupled with corruption, developing nations with these attributes become appealing to terrorist organizations that can function without the threat of discovery.¹³⁷ Additionally, developing nations with high levels of unemployment and violence have created ideal conditions for terrorists, who may feel alienated by society, or trapped in poor conditions without the hope of a more productive livelihood.¹³⁸ In order for developing countries to experience fewer instances of terrorist activity, dissuade citizens from terrorist acts, and repel potential terrorist groups, greater development, stronger judicial systems, strong police forces, and fewer instances of violent behavior must occur.¹³⁹

As the Secretary-General stated in General Assembly Resolution A/59/2005 titled *In Larger Freedom*, the United Nations must, “resolve to implement the comprehensive United Nations counterterrorism strategy presented by the Secretary-General to dissuade people from resorting to terrorism or supporting it; deny terrorists access to funds and materials; deter States from sponsoring terrorism; develop State capacity to defeat terrorism; and defend human rights...”¹⁴⁰

Law enforcement, law enforcement cooperation and criminal justice reform

While the link between decreasing crime rates, a strong police force, and tough judicial system is often a contentious issue, it is of utmost importance when discussing the effects of crime on development.¹⁴¹ Poorer countries tend to have fewer funds to funnel to police and security forces. When the police force, and even the judicial branch, go under-funded, it becomes difficult to catch, detain, convict, and rehabilitate those persons committing crimes.¹⁴² On the judicial side, low conviction rates can often suggest a shortcoming in both the police force and judicial process, and highlight the effect that a lack of funding can have on the judicial process.¹⁴³ For example, the United States conviction rate is around 56 percent, while in the United Kingdom, the rate hovers around 61 percent.¹⁴⁴ In contrast, South Africa has one of the best police to citizen ratios on the African continent, yet the conviction rate is about 18 percent.¹⁴⁵ An essential element to crime prevention is funding and reforming judicial systems in an effort to punish offenders and deter further offenses.¹⁴⁶ Additionally, coordinating law enforcement to stop trans-boundary crimes through unified and efficient actions is an important step in strengthening borders, sharing information, and halting regional and international crime.¹⁴⁷

Acting to Prevent Crime

The United Nations must also look to the future, and act to prevent crime. Because of the relationship between crime and development, acting against crime is not enough. In the past, vast resources have been channeled into assisting countries in “controlling” crime, without focusing on stopping crime before it happens.¹⁴⁸ Presently, some form of crime exists in every country around the globe despite wealth or poverty, judicial system strength and sophisticated criminal databases.¹⁴⁹ However, the effects and prevalence of crime are most often found in countries

¹³⁶ Chalk, Peter and Kim Cragin. (2003). *Using Social and Economic Development to Inhibit a Resurgence of Terrorism*. Santa Monica, CA: Rand.

¹³⁷ Report on the Secretary-Generals’ High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change. (2004, December 2). *A More Secure World: Our Shared Responsibility* (A/RES/59/565). Retrieved July 24, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/secureworld/>

¹³⁸ *Ibid.*

¹³⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁴¹ Clark, Roger S. (1994). *The United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program: Formulation of Standards and Efforts at Their Implementation*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

¹⁴² Das, *supra*, note 121.

¹⁴³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁴ UNODC, *Crime and Development in Africa*, *supra*, note 109.

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁶ Das, *supra*, note 121.

¹⁴⁷ UNODC, *Organized Crime*, *supra*, note 127.

¹⁴⁸ Report on the Secretary-Generals’ High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, *supra*, note 31.

¹⁴⁹ UNODC, *Crime and Development in Africa*, *supra*, note 109.

already plagued with social, economic, and political challenges. In order to decrease global crime rates, and create greater opportunity in all nations, Member States must prevent crime through addressing the issues of poverty, unequal distribution of wealth, access to education and a myriad of core issues related to development.¹⁵⁰ It is important that countries and communities in both developing and developed nations generate inventive approaches to eliminate the extremes of poverty to help control crime on a global level.

Poverty

The elimination of poverty is a vitally important avenue to decreasing crime in developing states. Poverty is a cyclical, and the effects of poverty, hunger, joblessness, and hopelessness reduce human beings into a struggle for survival.¹⁵¹ Poverty hinders development. While some may argue that poverty can breed criminal activity, it is important to note that the effects of crime on an impoverished family or community can be debilitating. For example, the theft of a productive asset, such as a handcart or livestock, can devastate a family who relies on a pig for meat, a goat for milk or a handcart for transportation of goods to market.¹⁵² Crimes against the poor, while devastating for individuals and families can be catastrophic when viewed in the big picture. The Inter-American Development Bank estimates that Latin America's per capita Gross Domestic Product would be twenty-five percent higher if the region's crime rates were equal to the world average.¹⁵³ Clearly, poverty is linked to crime in many ways, and by decreasing the levels of poverty, levels of crime, and its social destruction, can be lessened.

Unequal distribution of wealth

While the economic stature of many developing states has increased dramatically in the last decade, these economic increases have been met with fierce disparity within countries. According to a report by the UNODC, the continent of Africa hosts some of the most unequally distributed countries in the world, topped only by countries in South America. The richest 10 percent of people in Africa earn 31 times more than the poorest 10 percent.¹⁵⁴ Furthermore, the World Bank considers unequal distribution of wealth to “breed social tensions as the less well-off feel dispossessed when compared to wealthier people,” and thus, “the poor seek compensation and satisfaction by all means, including committing crimes against both poor and rich.”¹⁵⁵

Access to Education and youth populations

Crime disproportionately occurs among urban and youth populations in developing states. Therefore, it is important to address specifically this issue when developing programs to prevent crime. While a large youth population can represent great promise, the sad fact is that teenagers and young adults, between the ages of 12 and 30 years of age commit the majority of crime.¹⁵⁶ The youth demographic continues to grow and when coupled with poor primary education, has given rise to a youth population without jobs or “expectations of employment.”¹⁵⁷ This lack of expectations has driven many young people to participate in crime and criminal activity.¹⁵⁸ For example, the combination lack of education and unemployment has led to gangs and gang violence in Central America, Mexico, Jamaica, Colombia, and Brazil.¹⁵⁹

Additional factors, such as urbanization, increased transient populations, unemployment and education are all noteworthy issues related to the prevention of crime.¹⁶⁰ While these factors alone do not force a community into a spiral of crime, when any number of these are combined, the effects of poverty, unequal distribution of wealth lack of access to education, unemployment, large youth populations, urbanization or the proliferation of firearms can be incredibly hazardous to development and prosperity.

¹⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁵¹ Report on the Secretary-Generals' High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, *supra*, note 31.

¹⁵² UNODC, *Crime and Development in Africa*, *supra*, note 109.

¹⁵³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Information Programs. (2005, April 20). *Crime Hinders Democracy, Development, U.S. Says*. Retrieved August 3, 2005 from <http://usinfo.state.gov/dhr/Archive/2005/Apr/21-965427.html>

¹⁵⁴ UNODC, *Crime and Development in Africa*, *supra*, note 109.

¹⁵⁵ Fajnzylber, P., Lederman, D., and Loayza, N. (2001) “Inequality and violent crime.” *The Journal of Law and Economics* (Volume 45, Issue 1). Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

¹⁵⁶ Smith, D. Youth Crime and Conduct Disorders, in Rutter, M., and Smith, D. (eds). (1995). *Psychological disorders in young people: Time trends and their correlates*. New York: Wiley.

¹⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Information Programs, *supra*, note 153.

¹⁵⁸ Smith, *supra*, note 156.

¹⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Information Programs, *supra*, note 153.

¹⁶⁰ Fajnzylber, *supra*, note 155.

Conclusion

Crime and insecurity is a vitally important issue for the new millennium. Crime is interwoven with a number of other diverse issues, including poverty, lack of judicial strength, corruption, lack of access to education and unequal wealth distribution. Crime is not a problem for developing countries alone, nor is it an issue for the poor, urban populations. Crime is a threat to all societies as long as it remains a threat to even one society. Crime spreads and proliferates if it is not stopped by Members States willing to take action against crime, while also establishing a plan to prevent crime.

As we look toward future of fighting criminal activity, with the hope of fostering greater development, it is important to ask, what should be the first step in developing a plan of action for crime prevention? Does the development process create an opportunity for criminal activity, or does criminal activity indicate underdevelopment? What do you see as the most valuable methods of fighting and preventing crime? How can the GA Third address both the issue of crime prevention and development?

According to Adolfo Franco, assistant administrator for Latin America and the Caribbean at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), “Crime and violence will continue to thrive where rule of law is weak, economic opportunity is scarce, and education is poor. Therefore, effectively addressing crime requires a holistic, multi-sectoral approach that addresses its root social, political, and economic causes.”¹⁶¹ Crime in developing states is symptomatic of a broad spectrum of issues, including corruption, legal systems, poverty, and education. Freedom from crime, and the fear of crime, is a key element to development.

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History of the General Assembly Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (Third Committee)

Drakulich, Angela. (2004). *A Global Agenda: Issues before the 59th General Assembly of the United Nations*. New York, NY: United Nations Association of the United States of America.

As part of a series on the United Nations agenda, this text examines the topics of the 59th Session of the General Assembly by presenting the issues under broad headings, and providing commentary on many of the most pressing issues within the United Nations. Through this lens, readers can examine issues of health and security, sustainable development, human rights, international law and topics on trade. This guide is a valuable way to review General Assembly sessions and understand the nuances of international political issues.

Fasulo, Linda. (2003). *An Insider's Guide to the UN*. Hartford, CT: Yale University Press.

The author, a UN correspondent and reporter, examines the internal workings of the United Nations. While this text is in no way all encompassing, it proves to be an interesting guide through the broader strokes of the United Nations. Outside of basic historical and purely informational strokes, the author assesses the role of the United Nations in the world today.

Meilser, Stanley. (1997). *United Nations: The First Fifty Years*. New York, NY: Atlantic Monthly Press.

This book is a critical look at the high and low points of United Nations history, told in chronological order and with a tremendous emphasis on the historic events which shaped the modern United Nations. Both successes and failures are examined, and the United Nation's role in a wide variety of conflicts and world-changing events is examined. By looking at the important people and events colliding with the United Nations, the author offers insight into policy, process, and the organization of the United Nations.

¹⁶¹ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Information Programs, *supra*, note 153.

Report of the Secretary-General. (2005, March 21). *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All*. (General Assembly Resolution A/59/2005). New York: United Nations. *In Greater Freedom is a report issued by the Secretary-General Kofi Annan that looks toward the future of the United Nations and prescribes helpful measures to ensure its shift to a modern, efficient organization. The Secretary-General examines a wide variety of topics that have the potential to strengthen both the role and effectiveness of the United Nations, including freedom from want, freedom from fear, the right to live in dignity and the strengthening of the United Nations. Specifically, the Secretary-General examines a diverse set of issues that include debt-relief, strengthening the rule of law, and defending human rights.*

United Nations. (2005, June 26). *60th Anniversary of the United Nations Charter*. Retrieved June 13, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/aboutun/sanfrancisco/history.html>
This Web site, celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter, provides an overview of the history of the United Nations, as well as video links, information on the anniversary, messages and press releases. The history, which can also be found via the United Nations homepage, is an important in understanding both the present state of affairs and the possibilities for the future of the United Nations.

United Nations. (2000). *Basic Facts About the United Nations*. New York, NY: United Nations.
This book, published by the United Nations, is a general information guide to the processes, procedures, issues and agenda of the United Nations. By providing information on the internal structure, the different organs and the roles of the vast committee structure, this text provides insight into the United Nations as an organization.

United Nations. (2005). *United Nations General Assembly 59th Session*. Retrieved August 1, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/ga/59/>
Each year, the United Nations creates a Web page for the current session of the General Assembly, with links to the specific work, documents, agendas and issues before the General Assembly Third Committee. These pages record the efforts made by the General Assembly, and serve as a valuable tool in examining past issues and present plans. Following the conclusion of each session, documents, resolutions and future issues are posted on this site.

United Nations. (2005, July 15). *United Nations Documentation: Research Guide*. Retrieved August 1, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/gasess.htm#gaintro>
This site provides general information on the procedure and documentation of the General Assembly. Specifically, this page describes each of the six General Assembly Committees, as well as providing links for General Assembly research. The tools on this page will assist delegates in research, and provide easy access to information.

United Nations General Assembly. (1945, June 26). *Charter of the United Nations*. San Francisco, CA.
The Charter of the United Nations is the starting point for any and all research related to the United Nations. It provides the mandates and scope for the committee on which a delegate serves. For this topic, the UN Charter provides a basis for information on human rights issues.

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: United Nations.
The resolution states the role that the Holy See is permitted to participate in the General Assembly Plenary and General Assembly committees. This participation is extended to debate and deliberation within the General Assembly. Additionally, the Holy See is permitted to co-sponsor any resolution which references the Holy See.

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

I. Alternative Approaches to Improving Human Rights

Amnesty International. (2004). *Amnesty International Report 2004*. London, U.K.: Amnesty International Publications.

Amnesty International (AI) is a well-known human rights non-governmental organization. They issue yearly reports detailing the human rights situation in countries across the globe. Not only is AI recognized by the United Nations, but the issue reports to the Commission on Human Rights and serve as a reliable source for on-the-ground human rights information. These yearly reports serve as a valuable guide for research on the human rights situation across the globe.

Annan, Kofi. (1997 December 10). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights Illuminates Global Pluralism and Diversity*, speech delivered at the University of Tehran. Retrieved July 7, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/rights/50/dpi1937.htm>

Secretary General Kofi Annan delivered this speech at the University of Tehran on the forty-ninth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. He detailed the modern-day relevance of the document and emphasized the importance of working together to achieve the full realization of human rights. This address serves as an interesting insight into the Secretary General's vision for the future of human rights. He believed that human rights remain a relevant topic worthy of debate and in need of action.

Claude, Richard Pierre, and Burns H. Weston, Eds. (1992). *Human Rights and the World Community: Issues and Action*. Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press.

This book contains a collection of human rights works authored by experts in the field of human rights study. The beginning of the text looks provides an overview on human rights in general, paying special attention basic human rights and needs. The book also examines the international and national approaches to implementation, which is particularly relevant to developing alternative approaches to improving human rights. The book concludes with a look at the role of NGOs and individuals in implementing human rights.

Diehl, Paul F., Ed. (2001). *The Politics of Global Governance: International Organizations in an Independent World*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc.

This text consists of scholarly articles written about the role and effectiveness of international organizations. Many of the articles address the work of the United Nations on social, humanitarian and cultural issues. Additionally, this text offers insight into the role of United Nations as a key player in international relations. By addressing a wide-range of issues regarding the United Nations, this text provides an overall view of the United Nations' work on specific issues related to the General Assembly Third Committee.

Devine, Carol, Carol Rae Hansen, and Ralph Wilde. (1999). *Human Rights: The Essential Reference*. Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press.

This text is a reference book on human rights issues which covers history, concepts and issues. The first portion of the book traces the historical development of the idea of human rights while the second section focuses on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights specifically. The last two sections of the book examine the modern day human rights movement and the main issues surrounding human rights discourse. The book offers subject-specific essays and articles, as well as an appendix with United Nations documents on human rights.

Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute. (2001, March 21). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Retrieved March 7, 2005 from <http://www.udhr.org/index.htm>

This Web site contains a variety of information on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the history of the document, the actors involved in drafting the UDHR, current events in human rights and human rights campaigns. With links to information on the declaration itself, and the rich history surrounding its inception, drafting process and ratification, the Web site is a tribute to the

UDHR. Additionally, the site outlines a timeline of the concept of human rights, profiles of UDHR actors and a list of sources for further research.

Report of the Secretary-General. (2005, March 21). *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All*. (General Assembly Resolution A/59/2005). New York: United Nations. *In Greater Freedom is a report issued by the Secretary-General Kofi Annan that looks toward the future of the United Nations and prescribes helpful measures to ensure its shift to a modern, efficient organization. The Secretary-General examines a wide variety of topics that have the potential to strengthen both the role and effectiveness of the United Nations, including freedom from want, freedom from fear, the right to live in dignity and the strengthening of the United Nations. Specifically, the Secretary-General examines a diverse set of issues that include debt-relief, strengthening the rule of law, and defending human rights.*

United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (2005). *Homepage*. Retrieved July 23, 2005 from <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/2/chr.htm>
The Commission on Human Rights homepage provides valuable information and links to important issue-specific pages, as well as documents and press releases. This site offers a great deal of general information, and guides to further research. As one of the United Nations' main human rights bodies, this site serves as a starting point for human rights research.

United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (1948). *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. *This document, along with the ICCPR and the ICESCR is considered the International Bill of Human Rights. The UDHR, signed in 1948, was a revolutionary step in the promotion and protection of human rights. Over time, the document has become revered as the foundation for hundreds of human rights organizations. The document outlines the rights of all people and is divided into short sections addressing certain groups and rights, such as the right to food, and the rights of refugees.*

United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (2003, April 22). *Human Rights and Extreme Poverty*. (E.CN.4.RES.2003.24). New York, NY.
This resolution contains a wide range of topics related to human rights and poverty issues. This particular document examines the link between human rights issues and poverty, democracy, and fear. As always, resolutions serve as a summation of the work of the committee on a particular topic and can also be a directive for research, as they discuss past documents on the given topic. This resolution also serves as a mandate for the 60th Session, as it resolves to revisit this issue under the same title, "Human Rights and Extreme Poverty."

United Nations Commission on Human Rights. (2000, April 26). *Human rights defenders*. (E.CN.4.RES.2000.61). New York, NY.
This resolution acknowledges the importance of individuals and agencies that promote human rights. With reference to the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups, and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms on April 28, 1999, this resolution outlines the need for cooperation between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, governments and the United Nations bodies responsible for human rights issues.

United Nations Department of Social Affairs. (1953). *Impact of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. New York: United Nations.
This small pamphlet was written by the United Nations five years after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed and ratified. This text aims to explain the ramifications and significance of this document. Most importantly, this text offers insight as to the purpose of the declaration, as well as the perceptions surrounding its inception.

United Nations Department of Public Information. (1951). *Message of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. New York: United Nations.

This small UN Document was created following the drafting of the UDHR. While it later became a pamphlet, its purpose was to relay the reasoning behind the UDHR and encourage its swift ratification by all Member States. The document is short and offers a time-specific view of the intentions of the UDHR.

United Nations General Assembly. (2005). *Homepage*. Retrieved July 24, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/ga/60/>
The General Assembly Homepage is the starting point for researching the GA Third's role and relevance in dealing with human right issues. This site serves as a launching pad for documents searches, as well as providing lists of topically related materials, links and information. By examining press releases, speeches and daily records, information on the importance of human rights can be obtained. Additionally, important documents and resolutions from past sessions can be located through the homepage.

United Nations General Assembly. (1945, June 26). *Charter of the United Nations*. New York, NY.
The Charter of the United Nations is the starting point for any and all research related to the United Nations. It provides the mandates and scope for the committee on which a delegate serves. For this topic, the UN Charter provides a basis for information on human rights issues.

United Nations General Assembly. (1966, December 16). *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*. New York, NY.
This document serves as a cornerstone for human rights norms and law. Together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, along with the two Optional Protocols, the ICCPR is a part of the International Bill of Human Rights. The ICCPR offers codified human rights law, definitions and elaborations.

United Nations General Assembly. (1966, December 16). *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*. New York, NY.
This document serves as a cornerstone for human rights norms and law. Together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, along with the two Optional Protocols, the ICESCR is a part of the International Bill of Human Rights.

United Nations Information Service. (2005, April 24). *Security, Development, Human Rights All Essential for Life 'In Larger Freedom', Crime Congress High-Level Meeting Told*. Retrieved July 7, 2005 from <http://www.unis.unvienna.org/unis/pressrels/2005/bkkcp23.html>
This website of the United Nations Information Service, Vienna, contains a variety of press releases and meeting transcripts. This particular document was a transcript of a Crime Congress meeting discussing In larger Freedom. The Crime Congress paid particular attention to the portions of the report dealing with freedom from fear, as it relates to security, anti-terrorism efforts and crime.

United Nations. *United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA)*. Retrieved March 3, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/Depts/DPKO/Missions/minugua.htm>
This website offers specific information on the United Nations Mission in Guatemala. MINUGUA is an example of the United Nations human rights work. This mission involved many branches of the United Nations system. Furthermore, the relationship between human rights and missions can be explored through this example.

United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention. (2003). *Guide for policy makers: on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*. New York: United Nations.
The UNODC uses specific standards and norms to help ease the standardization of crime prevention and criminal justice across borders. In 2003, various policy makers from across the globe met to discuss these standards, and many of them wrote positions of the standard rules and

norms, and the need for compliance. Compiled into a large report, these documents written by crime prevention and criminal justice experts serve as an important set of standardized rules and norms.

United Nations Report of the Secretary-General. (2003, July 3). *Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.* (A/RES/58/121, Item 119 (b). New York, NY.

This report issued by the Secretary-General reviews the current actions taken by states and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants to combat the mistreatment of all migrant workers and their families.

Veenhoven, Willem A., Ed. (1975). *Case Studies on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms: A World Survey.* The Hague, Netherlands: Martinus Nijhoff.

This detailed case study book offers a series of articles on human rights situations throughout the world. With cases on discrimination, human rights violations, indigenous rights and a myriad of other topics, this edition was created in response to the ambiguous nature of human rights discussion in the United Nations in the 1970s. With an incredibly broad look at issues and geographical locations, this text offers insight into the beginnings of human rights rumblings which still plague the world community today.

Wronka, Joseph. (1992). *Human Rights and Social Policy in the 21st Century.* Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, Inc.

This text provides a comprehensive look at the concept of human rights and the development of human rights norms throughout the international community. Perhaps the most useful portion of this text examines the process of creating and ratifying the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In addition to this historical perspective, the author studies current human rights documentation as well. Additionally, there is a section on modern day regional and theoretical developments, which may be helpful when generating ideas for alternative approaches to improving human rights.

II. The Right of Peoples to Self-Determination

Al-Siryani, Fr. Majdi. (n.d.). *Self-Determination and Self-Defense; the Palestinian Case.* Retrieved July 8, 2005, from <http://www.al-bushra.org/latpatra/self.html>

Essential to understanding the continued debate between Palestinian authorities and Israel and the different conceptions of self-determination that both sides have. The document elaborates on several Security Council resolutions on the subject and if or not the Palestinian people have the right to extreme measures to ensure that their rights are taken seriously.

Cassese, Antonio. (1995). *Self-Determination of Peoples, A Legal Reappraisal.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

This book is highly structured with definite sections on history, international law, and then case analysis. The author is especially interested in the evolution of the meaning of self-determination throughout the various struggles that he reviews. The conclusion also raises interesting points about the law and how it is interpreted in different countries, and problems that arise from these contradictions.

Cristescu, Aureliu. (1981). *Sous-commission de la lutte contre les mesures discriminatoires et de la protection des minorités. Le droit à l'autodétermination.* New York: United Nations Publications.

An excellent study on all facets of the right to self-determination, with apt explanations of the various international opinions on the topic. Although the study dates back to 1981, it remains pertinent as it objectively reviews the concept of self-determination within the international community.

- Espiell, Héctor Gros. (1977). Conseil économique et social. *Application des résolutions de l'organisation des Nations Unies relatives au droit des peuples assujettis à une domination coloniale et étrangère à disposer d'eux-mêmes*. New York: United Nations Publications.
Concentrating on the right to self-determination of people under colonial domination, this study remains significant as it touches upon territorial integrity, intervention and what constitutes a right to self-determination.
- Freeman, Michael. (1998). National Self-Determination, Peace and Human Right. *Peace Review*, Vol. 10, no.2. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <http://mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/freeman.htm>
These few pages provide extremely useful information on human rights and the diverse problems with identity, nationalism and culture when it comes to self-determination. The author delves into the realist and liberal viewpoints and searches through various definitions by Allen Buchanan and Joseph Raz. He points out the high and low points of nationalism and raises interesting points when he states that it can be dangerous in creating new forms of oppressions and discrimination.
- Guilhaudis, Jean-François. (1976). *Droit des peuples à disposer d'eux-mêmes*. Grenoble: Presses Universitaires de Grenoble.
With a very explicit and detailed table of contents, this book is essential for research on self-determination as it covers the entire scope of legality of the term. It brings up significant topics of debate (the definition of people, the use or not of force, the sovereignty of a state, the interpretation of the UN Charter) and goes through all of them in detail.
- Ishay, Micheline. (2004). *The History of Human Rights*. California: University of California Press.
This book focuses directly on universal human rights but has a substantial chapter on self-determination. It paints a historic view and concentrates on the WWII and the decolonization period. The author raises concerns about the quick and perhaps irresponsible way countries after these two events were allowed to gain independence, only to be subject to corruption, discrimination and further oppression of ethnic groups.
- Parker, Karen. (2000). *Understanding Self-Determination: The Basics*. Presentation to First International Conference on the Right to Self-Determination. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <http://www.webcom.com/hrin/parker/selfdet.html>
This presentation to the first international conference on the right to self-determination is filled with modern useful information. While delving slightly into the history of self-determination in international law, the author lays out conditions for the right to self-determination as well as its different types. Several case studies follow, only to be concluded with an up-to-date analysis on modern day conception of what exactly self-determination is. This is a conference essential to review for the topic of self-determination.
- Sureda, Rigo A. (1973). *The Evolution of the right of Self-Determination, A Study of United Nations Practise*. Netherlands: W. Sijthoff International Publishing Company.
Although beginning with a historical viewpoint, this book has a healthy section on what and how the UN has implicated itself into the struggle of people's right to self-determination. The author elaborates on their goals, how they can accommodate to people's wishes and what concrete measures they have taken. The use of force is also questioned and analyzed as well as the UN's response to this controversial method of quelling a people's proclamation to self-defense.
- Takayuki, Munakata. *Human rights, the right of Self-determination and the right to Freedom*. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from http://www.gmu.edu/academic/ijps/vol4_1/takayuki.htm
This brief document contains pertinent information on the beginnings of the right to self-determination, and its link to freedom and the enjoyment of other human rights. Shifting its focus to the situation of Taiwan in China, the author demonstrates a case study which is essential to understanding the different actions taken by the international community in a variety of situations, especially towards such a powerful nation as China.

United Nations Economic and Social Council. (2005, March 8). *NGO Focuses on the Right of Peoples to Self-Determination and its Application to Peoples under Colonial or Alien Domination or Foreign Occupation in Southern Cameroon*. (E/CN.4/2005/NGO/253). New York: Author.

This article offers a feel for the recent activities of the UN with help from the NGO's in the African region of Cameroon. The history and present situation facilitates the comprehension of this document, necessary to understanding the complexities surrounding self-determination in different parts of the world in the present time.

United Nations Economic and Social Council. (2005, March 18). *The Right to Self-Determination and its Application to Peoples under Colonial or Alien Domination or Foreign Occupation*. (E/CN.4/2005/NGO/308). New York: Author.

A concise look at what the UN has accomplished in terms of Indigenous People's right to self-determination. This is a recent work and shows just how difficult it is to apply self-determination for all people, especially those who have no specified nation and come together on historic and cultural terms.

United Nations Economic and Social Council. (1978, February 14). *The Right of Peoples to Self-Determination and Its Application to Peoples under Colonial or Alien Domination or Foreign Occupation*. (E/CN.4/RES/3 [XXXIV]). New York: Author.

An important document from the United Nations which comes back historically on the rights of people under domination, be it colonial or from an abuse of power. It is most interesting to see how the United Nations has evolved in its views on the subject, especially when considering the time frame of the decolonization period. Although colonial rule has since essentially disappeared, foreign rule is very present, especially in poorer nations where self-determination becomes an intrinsic part of the advancement of society.

United Nations General Assembly. (1966, December 13). *Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples*. (A/RES/51/141). New York: Author.

This is an important document especially for small nations in the present day. It affirms the end of a colonial era, while some nations feel they are being subjected to such oppression from administering forces, as they do not have control over their economy, over the political system, etc. This is the basis for their right to self-determination.

United Nations General Assembly. (1962, December 14). *Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources*. (A/RES/1803). New York: Author.

When the right to self-determination was implemented in international covenants, the use of a nation's natural resources became highly questionable, and so this resolution is an especially essential part of the quest for peoples and nations claiming the right to autonomy.

United Nations General Assembly. (1961, December 20). *Question of Tibet*. (A/RES/1723). New York: Author.

The General Assembly looks into the claim of self-determination for the Tibetan population in China. Again, to truly capture how the international community handles the right to self-determination, one must look at all the situations where it has been used in resolutions. Therefore Tibet is a good point at which to begin as it deals directly with a dominating force trying to assimilate a distinct people.

United Nations High Commission for Human Rights. (1996). *General Recommendation No. 21 - Right to self-determination, forty-eighth session*. Retrieved July 8, 2005, from

<http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/dc598941c9e68a1a8025651e004d31d0?Opendocument>

An important UN look at the fundamental points of the right to self-determination. This document touches on many interesting points as well as displaying equally important legal covenants, such as the Declaration on Friendly Relations.

United Nations General Assembly. (2000, November 17). *Right of peoples to self-determination: Report of the Third Committee*. (A/55/601). New York: Author.

An overview of previous UN resolutions on the right to self-determination, including the States that have vote in favour, against or have abstained from the adoption of the resolutions. The report contains useful draft resolution on the use of mercenaries as a means of impeding upon the right to self-determination, the situation in Palestine, as well as the Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination.

United Nations General Assembly. (1994, September 6). *Right of Peoples to Self-Determination, use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination*. (A/49/362). New York: Author.

A useful look at the history and continuous struggle in the Indian Territory after its independence, dealing with the issue of Kashmir, as well as a perspective into the actions and response of the UN in this matter. Necessary to understand the various situations in which self-determination is present and how it is handled by the international community; how fragile a nation can be and how careful states must be in allowing for self-determination for cultural and religious reasons.

United Nations General Assembly. (1981, 25 November). *The Question of Guam*. (A/RES/36/63). New York: United Nations.

This study focuses primarily on Guam and its complex history and struggle to obtain recognition as an independent nation within the international community. With emphasis on its relations with the United Nations and the United States, this is an explicit example of a smaller nation who is being denied the essential right of self-determination due to its size and weaker power on the global scene.

United Nations General Assembly. (1966). *The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <https://www.tamilnation.org/humanrights/instruments/iccpr.htm>

Another important document which states the importance of self-determination in its Article 1 as this is a covenant prominent within the international community, it is interesting to note that all major agreements do include the right to self-determination as a primary clause. This is another such document which emphasizes the notion's importance.

United Nations General Assembly. (1966). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Retrieved July 10, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>

Essential to any study of humanitarian issues and contains direct information on self-determination seen through the coming together of the UN body. Necessary to review as it stands with all other international covenants and agreements, essential to pleading for the right to self-determination which can be found in most primary clauses or articles.

United Nations Press Release. (2001). *Right to Self-Determination not Synonymous with Independent Statehood, Third Committee told, as Debate Continues*. (GA/SHC/3651). New York: Fifty-sixth General Assembly, Third Committee.

2001 Press Release that is important to note given the statements by Palestine and Israel as well as the general comments on ways to enforce specific manners to implicate self-determination. More interesting is to compare the present situation within the Palestinian Territories with what was said in 2001, how are both sides allowing for the Palestinian people a right to self-determination and how is the UN aiding in this?

United Nations Press Release. (1999, October 25). *Self-Determination main theme at Third Committee Meeting, Intolerance and Xenophobia also cited*. (GA/SHC/3536). New York: Fifty-fourth General Assembly, Third Committee.

This Press release by the GA Third Committee perfectly captures diverse country's views on self-determination as well as racism and xenophobia. There is pertinent information on Palestine, small nations and Eritrea/Ethiopia help elaborate on the many concepts of self-determination.

United Nations Press Release. (2003, November 11). *Third Committee approves 10 Draft Resolutions on Human Rights, Self-Determination, Elimination of Racism*. (GA/SHC/3770). New York: Fifty-eighth General Assembly, Third Committee.

This article demonstrates the importance the UN gives to the right to self-determination and the conflict that still reigns within that domain. Poignantly remarking on the continued presence of racism and xenophobia in many parts of the world, this document also underlines the existing debate between Pakistan, Kashmir and India.

United Nations Press Release. (1996, November 5). *Third Committee debate on racism, racial discrimination, right to self-determination*. (GA/SHC/3377). New York: Fifty-first General Assembly, Third Committee.

A GA 3rd Committee release summing up diverse State positions on the right to self-determination and an important statement to understand the workings of the GA3rd Committee. It is interesting, nevertheless, to see how the topic can be difficult as a concise definition has yet to evolve from the continuous debate within the United Nations.

United Nations. (1945). *United Nations Charter*. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>

Undeniable to any UN based study, and especially Article 1 for the matter of self-determination. This is the principle source to begin understanding what position the UN has on the topic matter. This again is an international agreement that holds self-determination at the highest regard and enforces its importance.

Wikipedia Online Encyclopedia. (n.d.). *Overview*. Retrieved July 6, 2005, from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self-determination>

In order to delve deeper into the claim to self-determination based on language and culture, this source provided pertinent information about the covenants passed and the international laws that exist on the subject. This managed to greatly clarify the situation, especially of Québec, who finally have no legal support to their claim.

Worth, Kate. (August 2, 2005). *Governor missed UN decolonization meeting*. Retrieved August 19, 2005, from <http://www.guampdn.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050802/NEWS01/508020308/1002>

This is a recent news article on the situation on Guam and it is interesting to read about the continuous struggle for self-determination in Guam and the obstacles on their course, especially from a journalistic viewpoint, which describes the raw details of the Guam mission and the way in which the United States treat their demands.

III. Crime Prevention in Developing States

Chalk, Peter and Kim Cragin. (2003). *Using Social and Economic Development to Inhibit a Resurgence of Terrorism*. Santa Monica, CA: Rand.

This report examines three case studies in an effort to establish the link between social and economic policies and terrorism. The report advances six key points, which conclude that while social, and economic policies can have a positive effect on the reduction of terrorism. However, poor implementation and inadequate funding can prohibit the process. Additionally, the report finds that these policies do not eliminate terrorist activities.

Clark, Roger S. (1994). *The United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program: Formulation of Standards and Efforts at Their Implementation*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

This book looks at the United Nations efforts in the field of criminal justice since its inception. The book looks at major declarations, meetings and resolutions on criminal justice matters, while examining how international cooperation produced results in the field. While concentrating on the law angle of many of these agreements, the author also looks at crime prevention and organizational evolution.

- Das, Dilip and Steven Lab. (2002). *International Perspectives on Community Policing and Crime Prevention*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.
This book examines the many means of crime prevention in different countries throughout the international community. The book looks at different levels of development in crime prevention. Moreover, the book examines the formal police forces, in comparison with those states attempting to overcome political turmoil, a history of colonization or underdeveloped systems. In addition to looking at crime prevention methods and case studies, this text also looks at the option of community policing.
- Newman, Graeme R. (1999). *Global Report on Crime and Justice*. New York: Oxford University Press.
This text is a collection of data, articles, and research from the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention. This text provides an overview of transnational crime issues. The focus of this book is crime, punishment, resources, trends, and emerging issues in crime prevention. Additionally, firearm and drug control are two topics of focus for the author's study.
- Fajnzylber, P., Lederman, D, and Loayza, N. (2001) "Inequality and violent crime." *The Journal of Law and Economics (Volume 45, Issue 1)*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
This article attempts to link income inequality and the crime, particularly those crimes of a violent nature. This article, written with attention to statistical studies and processes, posits that there is a relationship between crime and income inequality.
- Leggett, Ted. (2003). "The sieve effect: South Africa's conviction rates in perspective." *South Africa Crime Quarterly* (Issue 5). Retrieved on July 24, 2005 from <http://www.iss.co.za/pubs/CrimeQ/No.5/3SA.pdf>
The author examines the relationship between reported violent crime and the number of violent crimes, which are carried through the court system. Specifically, Leggett looks at the rates of violent crime and trial in South Africa compared to violent crime and trial in the United State and United Kingdom. While the rates can be interpreted as comparable, when low trial rates occur, a sense of public mistrust can cause a deterioration of faith in the justice system.
- Panos London. (2005). *Homepage*. Retrieved July 24, 2005 from <http://www.panos.org.uk/index.asp>
Panos is a NGO in London, which concentrates on studying development issues to assist the media in providing educated information on topics like hunger and crime. Panos believes that through media, development issues can be brought to the attention of the public at large, thus becoming part of the public debate. Panos has created various briefing papers on a wide variety of topics; which includes the topic of crime. The writing also contains data, statistics, and statements from the United Nations.
- Report of the Secretary-General. (2005, March 21). *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All*. (General Assembly Resolution A/59/2005). New York: United Nations.
In Greater Freedom is a report issued by the Secretary-General Kofi Annan that looks toward the future of the United Nations and prescribes helpful measures to ensure its shift to a modern, efficient organization. The Secretary-General examines a wide variety of topics that have the potential to strengthen both the role and effectiveness of the United Nations, including freedom from want, freedom from fear, the right to live in dignity and the strengthening of the United Nations. Specifically, the Secretary-General examines a diverse set of issues that include debt-relief, strengthening the rule of law, and preventing terrorism.
- Report on the Secretary-Generals' High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change. (2004, December 2). *A More Secure World: Our Shared Responsibility (A/RES/59/565)*. Retrieved July 24, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/secureworld/>
This report is a response to Secretary-General Kofi Annan's September 2003 address to the General Assembly from the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Change. The Secretary-General charged the world community with meeting the challenges of security, caused by widespread poverty, terrorism, organized crime, war, weapons conflict and health crises. The High-level report concentrates on prevention and development as a means to curb many of the ills affecting modern society.

- Smith, D. Youth Crime and Conduct Disorders, in Rutter, M., and Smith, D. (eds). (1995). *Psychological disorders in young people: Time trends and their correlates*. New York: Wiley.
This article details the relationship between youth and crime, while mostly focusing on psychological disorders. While the statistical data is helpful, particularly as it relates to crime rates and their relationship with youth populations, the text is not helpful to the broad arch of this topic
- Transparency International Kenya. (2001). *The Kenya Urban Bribery Index Nairobi*. Retrieved July 30, 2005 from http://www.tikenya.org/documents/urban_bribery_index.doc
Transparency International, a United Nations recognized NGO, worked out of their branch in Kenyan to survey citizens on the level of bribery and corruption occurring in every day life. Transparency International Kenyan found that briberies run rampant within Kenyan as a means of providing incentive for official decision-making. The survey examined many aspects of bribery, including both those citizens being bribed and those bribing to survive.
- United Nations. (2005, September 11). *Drug Control and Crime Prevention: Documents*. Retrieved July 7, 2005 from <http://www.un.org/issues/docs/d-crime.asp>
This Web site lists key UN documents on crime prevention and control, including links to documents, statistics, and reports. This page provides links to varied departments and organizations within the United Nations structure, and offers information on a variety of crime topics, including money laundering, drugs, corruption, and human rights.
- UN Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT). (1996). "Social Conditions and Trends: Urban Crime and Violence." *An Urbanizing World: Global Report on Human Settlements*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Each year, HABITAT releases statistical information, policy information, reports, and publications on human settlements and development issues from across the globe. IN 1996, HABITAT published a book on urbanization and development. This book discusses the adverse effects of globalization and urbanization, while also addressing the future of urbanization, including the integration of cultural activities and the creation of secure and sanitary cities.
- United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. (1995) *Trends in Urban Crime Prevention*. (Volume 2, Number 3). [UNCJIN Crime and Justice Newsletter]. Retrieved on July 7, 2005 from <http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/newsletter/nr2/>
This newsletter provides specific information, charts, tables, and statistics on trends in crime and crime prevention in 1995. Specifically, the newsletter examines urban crime rates, the effects of population trends, and the general relationship between cities and crime. The newsletter examines examples from around the world, and looks at the progress being made in crime prevention. The newsletter concludes with ideas on successful crime prevention methods.
- United Nations General Assembly. (2003, October 31). *Convention against Corruption (A/RES/GA/58/4)*. New York: United Nations.
This General Assembly resolution, signed in Mexico in 2003, looks at all aspects of corruption. The document emphasizes prevention, transparency, judicial measures, cooperation, and even asset recovery. The convention advances that through cooperation and proper implementation, levels pf corruption can steadily decrease.
- United Nations Information Service. (2005, April 24). *Security, Development, Human Rights All Essential for Life 'In Larger Freedom', Crime Congress High-Level Meeting Told*. Retrieved July 7, 2005 from <http://www.unis.unvienna.org/unis/pressrels/2005/bkkcp23.html>
This website of the United Nations Information Service, Vienna, contains a variety of press releases and meeting transcripts. This particular document was a transcript of a Crime Congress meeting discussing In Larger Freedom. The Crime Congress paid particular attention to the portions of the report dealing with freedom from fear, as it relates to security, anti-terrorism efforts, and crime.

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Institute. (2005). *History*. Retrieved on July 7, 2005 from http://www.unicri.it/www/history/new_millennium.php
This page of the UNICRI provides links to the current developments in programming and activities for the new millennium. The work program, and review of past efforts, provides a list of topics and results from 2004 – 2005. These reports vary in regional, country and topical scope yet can provide insight into the issues of discussion for particular areas of the world.

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Institute. (2005). *Homepage*. Retrieved on July 7, 2005 from <http://www.unicri.it/>
This is the homepage for the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Institute (UNICRI) which completes extensive research on criminal justice advances within the United Nations systems. The institute organizes and records many of the activities completed by the many arms of the United Nations working on criminal justice issues. Additionally, the Web site contains many reports and programs of action on criminal justice activities.

United Nations Office on Drug Control and Crime Prevention. (June 2005). *Crime and Development in Africa*. New York: United Nations.
This report, released in 2005, details the current state of crime in Africa, and assesses how crime is hindering development on the continent. Specifically, the report looks at the effect of crime on the social, economic, and political realms of African society. Using statistical information, charts, and on-the-ground reports, this document links development and crime. Additionally, the report examines the prospects for the future in both development and decreasing crime.

United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention. (2003). *Guide for policy makers: on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*. New York: United Nations.
The UNODC uses specific standards and norms to help ease the standardization of crime prevention and criminal justice across borders. In 2003, various policy makers from across the globe met to discuss these standards, and many of them wrote positions of the standard rules and norms, and the need for compliance. Compiled into a large report, these documents written by crime prevention and criminal justice experts serve as an important set of standardized rules and norms.

United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention. *Organized Crime*. Retrieved July 7, 2005 from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/organized_crime.html
This Web page details the documents, links and releases which deal with organized crime. Specifically, the many facets and developments in the areas of fighting organized crime are addressed. This site links to the UNODC report and analytical study on 40 crime groups, as well as numerous resolutions. While organized crime as a whole is particularly salient to the General Assembly Third Committee's agenda, the issue of technical cooperation to fight organized crime is a matter of great importance in acting against crime and promoting development.

United Nations Office on Drug Control and Crime Prevention. (2005). *UN Survey on Crime Trends and Criminal Justice Systems*. Retrieved July 30, 2005 from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_cicp_surveys.html
This Web page serves as the homepage for the results of the UNODC's survey on crime trends. The surveys, beginning in the 1970s, ask a series of questions on criminal justice, and provide the results. The Web page has links to the first through the ninth survey, complete with the survey text and the results. The survey itself covers issues on police, courts, criminal acts, and crime rates.

United Nations Drug Control Programme. (2000). *World Drug Report 2000: United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention*. New York: United Nations.
The World Drug Report looks at illicit drug production around the world through statistics. The report mainly focuses on drug production, trafficking, related crime issues, and consumption. The report uses extensive UN data, agency insight and field office experiences to examine the global problem of drugs and crime. The report clearly links drugs, crime, such as money laundering,

and some forms of violence. Each World Drug Report presents a comprehensive glimpse into the issue of drugs and crime.

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development. (1995, January 1). *States in Disarray: The Social Effects of Globalization*. Geneva, Switzerland: UNRISD.

This book takes a sweeping look at the effects of globalization on society. Special attention is paid to the relationship between globalization and crime. For the authors, globalization, which has led to "social dislocation," has also paved the way for an increase in transnational crime, such as money laundering. Like many of the other authors on crime and development, a unified approach on the community level is a recommended way to slow increasing crime rates.

U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Information Programs. (2005, April 20). *Crime Hinders Democracy, Development, U.S. Says*. Retrieved August 3, 2005 from <http://usinfo.state.gov/dhr/Archive/2005/Apr/21-965427.html>

This document is a press release, with a transcribed meeting, for Adolfo Franco, assistant administrator for Latin America and the Caribbean at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Franco was presenting information on crime, and specifically gang crime, before the United States House International Relations Committee's Western Hemisphere Subcommittee on April 20, 2005. He discussed crime issues plaguing the region through a transcript of his comments on violence in Latin America.

Vanderschueren, Franz. (1996, April). "From Violence to Justice and Security in Cities." *Environment and Urbanisation* (Volume 8, Number 1). Nairobi: UNHCS.

This article addresses the increasing levels of crime in urban areas. In an effort to uncover the causes of growing crime rates, Vanderschueren uses statistical data, psychological studies, and country-specific examples to reach his point. He believes that crime is a growing problem, yet many efforts by the government are ineffective. Through identifying the different types of crime afflicting society, and providing a clear outline of the causes and cures, the author proposes that a unified city approach is the most effective means by which to combat crime in urban areas.

World Bank. (1998). *1997 World Development Report: The State in a Changing World*. Washington, D.C.: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank.

The World Development Report is produced annually by the World Bank. Each year, the report analyzes a myriad of different aspects related to development. The 1997 report details the effects of corruption on development. Specifically, the report addresses the need for states to increase credibility through a range of mechanisms, which help minimize corruption. The report provides regional examples and cases to help illuminate the negative effects of corruption on attracting capital and making developmental progress.

Additional Sources

Charfauros, Mark. (n.d.). *English Determination*. Retrieved August 18, 2005 from

<http://www.dialoguebetweenations.com/Spople/English/englishdetermination.asp>

This is an equally interesting article where the author demonstrates the ways in which Guam is kept under US control and their struggle against daily injustice. Again, the power of a much larger, economically prosperous nation greatly overshadows the progress and work that smaller nations are attempting in order to attain complete political and economic independence. Guam is a perfect example of this, as it strives for self sufficiency in all its domains.

Goodwine, Marquetta L. (2000). *Historic Conference on the Right to Self-Determination & the United Nations Pushes for UN Self-Determination Mechanisms*. Retrieved July 10, 2005 from

<http://www.tamilnation.org/selfdetermination/00conference.htm>

The first international conference on the term "right to self-determination," this résumé explains in detail the procedures at the event. It is easy to see the internal conflict, as no firm decisions were taken, nor were there any calls for immediate action. Rather, a second conference was planned...is this the debate on the subject or the general disagreement amongst nations?

United Nations Commission of Human Rights. (2005). *The Right of Peoples to Self-Determination and its Application to Peoples under Colonial or Alien Domination or Foreign Occupation*. Retrieved July 8, 2005, from http://www.unwatch.org/speeches/lebanse_self-determination.html
Recent UN activity in the region makes this a poignant document to review as it dates this year. What is the UN doing in recent situations involving the right to self-determination? How are the States responding? Again, how is the Arab world dealing with these cases and how do they compare with others? Specific regional debates are interesting to investigate as well as noting how the UN is handling them, in this case the Lebanese situation.

United Nations General Assembly. (1993, September 14). *Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly*. (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.

Rules of Procedure General Assembly Third Committee

INTRODUCTION

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

I. SESSIONS

Dates of convening and adjournment

Rule 1

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

Place of sessions

Rule 2

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

II. AGENDA

Provisional agenda

Rule 3

The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to members of the 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 in the body. Items on the agenda may be amended or deleted by the body by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

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

Explanatory memorandum

Rule 5

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

III. SECRETARIAT

Duties of the Secretary-General

Rule 6

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

Duties of the Secretariat

Rule 7

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

Statements by the Secretariat

Rule 8

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

Selection of the Chairperson

Rule 9

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

Replacement of the Chairperson

Rule 10

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

IV. LANGUAGES

Official and working language

Rule 11

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

Interpretation

Rule 12

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

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

Quorum

Rule 13

The Chairperson may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when representatives of at least one quarter [see UN rule 108] of the members of the body are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the body shall be required for any decision to be taken.

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

General Powers of the Chairperson

Rule 14

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

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

Rule 15

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

Points of order

Rule 16

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

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

Rule 17

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

Speeches

Rule 18

1. No one may address the body without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.
2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the body, and the Chairperson may call a speaker to order if her/his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

The body may limit the time allowed to speakers and all representatives. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the Chairperson shall call him or her to order without delay.

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

Closing of list of speakers

Rule 19

Members may only be on the list of speakers once but may be added again after having spoken. During the course of a debate the Chairperson may announce the list of speakers and, with consent of the body, declare the list closed.

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

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

Right of reply

Rule 20

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

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

Suspension of the meeting

Rule 21

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

Adjournment of the meeting

Rule 22

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

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

Adjournment of debate

Rule 23

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

Closure of debate

Rule 24

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

Order of motions

Rule 25

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

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

Proposals and amendments

Rule 26

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

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

Withdrawal of motions

Rule 27

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

Reconsideration of a topic

Rule 28

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

For purposes of this rule, "those present and voting" means those representatives, including observers, in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

V. VOTING

Voting rights

Rule 29

Each member of the body shall have one vote.

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

Request for a vote

Rule 30

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

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

Majority required

Rule 31

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

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

Method of voting

Rule 32

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

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

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

Explanation of vote

Rule 33

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

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

Conduct during voting

Rule 34

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

Division of proposals and amendments

Rule 35

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

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

Amendments

Rule 36

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

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

Order of voting on amendments

Rule 37

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

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

Order of voting on proposals

Rule 38

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

The Chairperson shall not vote

Rule 39

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

VIII. MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION

Invitation to silent prayer or meditation

Rule 40

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

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

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

DIVISION OF THE QUESTION DIAGRAM

