NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS |'07

The World's Largest College Model United Nations

18 - 22 MARCH - SHERATON NEW YORK HOTEL

20 - 24 MARCH - NEW YORK MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOTEL

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA (ESCWA)

WRITTEN BY:
Lauren Judy
Rüdiger Schöch

Please consult the FAQ section of www.nmun.org for answers to your questions. If you do not find a satisfactory answer you may also contact the individuals below for personal assistance. They may answer your question(s) or refer you to the best source for an answer.

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NMUN IMPORTANT DATES | '07

IMPORTANT NOTICE: To make hotel reservations, you must use the forms at www.nmun.org and include a $1,000 deposit. Discount rates are available until the room block is full or 18 February - WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. **PLEASE BOOK EARLY!**

31 January 2007 *(Wednesday)*	• Confirm Attendance & Delegate Count. (Count may be changed up to 1 March) • Make Transportation Arrangements - DON'T FORGET! (We recommend confirming hotel accommodations prior to booking flights)
15 February 2007 *(Thursday)*	• Committee Updates Posted to www.nmun.org
22 February 2007 *(Thursday)*	• Discount Hotel Rates Expire. REGISTER EARLY - REGISTRATION IS FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED • Position Papers Due Via E-mail *(see next page for instructions)*
1 March 2007 *(Thursday)*	• Full Pre-Payment Due to Hotel • Any Changes to Delegate Numbers Must be Confirmed to eaton@nmun.org • All Conference Fees Due to NMUN for confirmed delegates. ($100 per delegate if paid by 1 March; $125 per delegate if received after 1 March. Fee is not refundable after this deadline
March 2007	The 2007 National Model UN Conference • 18 - 22 March – Sheraton New York • 20 - 24 March – New York Marriott Marquis

TWO COPIES OF EACH POSITION PAPER SHOULD BE SENT VIA E-MAIL BY 22 FEBRUARY 2007

1. TO COMMITTEE STAFF

A file of the position paper (.doc or .pdf) for each assigned committee should be sent to the committee e-mail address listed below. Mail papers by 22 February to the e-mail address listed for your particular venue. These e-mail addresses will be active after 15 November. Delegates should carbon copy (cc:) themselves as confirmation of receipt.

2. TO DIRECTOR-GENERAL

- Each delegation should send one set of all position papers for each assignment to the e-mail designated for their venue: positionpapers.sheraton@nmun.org or positionpapers.marriott@nmun.org. This set (held by each 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.
- The head delegate or faculty member sending this message should cc: him/herself as confirmation of receipt. (Free programs like Adobe Acrobat or WinZip may need to be used to compress files if they are not plain text.)
- Because of the potential volume of e-mail, only one e-mail from the Head Delegate or Faculty Advisor containing all attached position papers will be accepted. *Please put the school or delegation's name in the subject line.* If you have any questions, please contact the Director-General at dirgen@nmun.org.

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Entire Set of Delegation Position Papers (due 22 February):	positionpapers.sheraton@nmun.org
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THE 2007 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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New York City, 18-22 March (Sheraton) & 20-24 March (Marriott) • www.nmun.org

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November 2006

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the Directors, Assistant Directors, Senior and Executive Staffs, and the National Collegiate Conference Association, we would like to take this time to welcome officially you to the 2007 National Model United Nations Conference. Our staff has worked most diligently throughout the year to provide you with what we believe are outstanding preparation materials for your participation in this year's conference. It is our sincere hope that these materials serve you well in your preparation for March.

We are also very excited about the dual venues of this year's conference. While the second venue has posed challenges, we believe it will act as an effective method in greater facilitation of delegation and faculty member needs. The addition of Deputy Chiefs of Staff for both venues will also allow us to assist further you during the course of the conference. Should you find that you need assistance of any type throughout the week of your venue participation, please feel free to call on any member of staff, as they are all trained to be of assistance to and best facilitate you, our valued participants. It is important to remember that, although the conference is divided into two venues, the continuity of the conference remains intact for the 2007 conference. No one venue is more important than the other and our staff has been trained to ensure this continuity as well.

This manual has been provided as a resource for your preparation for the 2007 conference. In it you will find answers to many pressing questions delegates and faculty may have about the conference and delegate preparation. To continue further the educational aspect of the conference, we are pleased to announce that we have introduced several new committees this year. In an attempt to place greater emphasis on the promotion of the preservation of our global environment, we have introduced the simulation of the International Hydrological Programme and the United Nations World Tourism Organization, which will focus on environmental issues that take great priority on the United Nations agenda. In addition, we are simulating the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, which we believe will be an extremely interesting simulation for delegates at both venues. We are very excited about these variations, as we believe that they will provide very interesting and educational experiences for their participants.

We are also very excited to not only provide more educational materials regarding the environment this year, but also in taking great strides to promote its protection during the course of both venues. Our first effort to this end is only to provide electronic copies of all conference materials, thus greatly reducing the incredible amount of paper the conference uses every year. The background guides that are sent out each year use an incredible amount of paper that could easily be saved. We are also committed to using only recycled paper during the course of the conference, as well as recycling the paper that is used in each committee of both venues. Our conference T-shirts this year will use only environmentally friendly inks and a portion of the proceeds of their sale will go to an environmental charity. It is the firm belief of this year's staff that, in order to promote our sincere goals of further protection of our planet, we must first practice what we preach. We are extremely proud of all efforts we are taking to preserve our planet in any method we can.

Please note that all position papers must be sent, via electronic mail, to two individual addresses this year. One copy of your papers, as a whole, must be sent to your delegations appropriate venue (either positionpapers.sheraton@nmun.org or positionpapers.marriott@nmun.org). This address will serve as a depository for all papers submitted to each venue. We, the Directors-General, will maintain a database of all submitted papers, which will be crosschecked against the individual submissions. The individual committee papers should be sent to the email addresses included on the front page of your committee background guides. It is very important that all directions for emailing these guides, as outlined in both the background guides and in the Delegate Prep guide, be followed. With the dual venues, we are making every effort possible to ensure that their proper committee Directors receives all papers. We also recommend that delegations carbon copy themselves on all electronic submissions to ensure proper tracking of your position papers. Should any delegation require any assistance in the delivery of their papers, please contact us, as we will be happy to facilitate any problems that may arise in this process.

We sincerely look forward to meeting and working with you at the upcoming conference. We both have worked hard to do what we can to provide you with the materials you need to have an amazing experience in March. Should you find that you have any questions regarding the published materials, parliamentary procedure, delegate preparation, or the rules of the conference, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are happy to be of assistance in any way that we can. Our primary goal is to provide you with an outstanding educational experience.

Sincerely yours,

Jacob Schanzenbach   Tracy L. Kingsley
Director-General   Director-General
Sheraton venue   Marriott venue
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History of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Introduction

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) was founded in 1973 as Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA).[1] It is a subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations (UN), and as the UN's regional arm in Western Asia, its underlying objective is to further the economic and social endeavors of the Member States by promoting cooperation among theses States on the one hand, and the UN as well as other regional organizations on the other.[2] Among the five regional commissions, ESCWA has the smallest budget as well as the smallest number of Member States.[3]

The first attempts to form an economic commission for Western Asia date back to 1949.[4] After the Second World War, the UN General Assembly (GA) aimed to improve the Member States' economies and living standard through regional economic commissions, which would increase collaboration between the States of the respective region.[5] At that time, the Western Asia region suffered from isolation, lack of resources and an under-developed economy.[6] In addition, the region witnessed political instability, mainly due to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.[7]
The first Israeli-Arab conflict followed the declaration of independence of Israel on May 14, 1948, disregarding the borders outlined in GA Resolution 181 of November 1947.[8] Following the subsequent attacks from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and the Syrian Arab Republic, the nascent State of Israel secured victory and increased its territory.[9] The hostilities have continued to date, often latent, sometimes as full-fledged armed conflicts, complicating issues of regional cooperation and integration. It is also due to the international and internal conflicts in the region, that the draft of the founding resolution for the regional economic commission for Western Asia appeared on the ECOSOC's agenda only in 1972.[10]

The ESCWA's predecessor is the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (UNESOB).[11] This office was founded as a provisional measure for the lack of an official Western Asia regional commission. The UNESOB's mandate was initially limited to small-scale activities such as collecting data, and it did not have its own decision-making body. Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and the Syrian Arab Republic were its main beneficiaries.[12] In the framework of preparation for the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) 1964, the ECOSOC requested the UN Secretary-General in Resolution 955 of July 5, 1963, to strengthen the competence of a small United Nations office in Beirut.[13] On December 11, 1963, GA Resolution 1941 endorsed the ECOSOC resolution, thus giving the UNESOB the effective status of a regional economic commission.[14]

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[1] United Nations. Economic and Social Council. 55th Session. (1973, August 13). *Resolution 1818: Establishment of an economic commission for Western Asia*. Retrieved July 25, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/library.asp

[2] United Nations. (2004). *United Nations System Chart*. Retrieved July 30, 2006, from http://www.un.org/aboutun/chart.html; Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *UNESCWA... at a glance* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.

[3] Nédélec, S., & Destremau, B. (1999). *Twenty-five years of service to the region's development*. Beirut: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Africa. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from Official Documents System of the United Nations, p. 11.

[4] *Ibid.,* p. 2.

[5] *Ibid.*, p. 24.

[6] *Ibid.*

[7] *Ibid.*, p. 25.

[8] United Nations. General Assembly. 2nd Session. (1947, November 29). *Resolution 181: Future government of Palestine*. Retrieved July 30, 2006, from http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/2/ares2.htm

[9] Nédélec & Destremau, *supra* note 3, p. 26.

[10] *Ibid.*, p. 25

[11] *Ibid.*, p. 27

[12] *Ibid.,* p. 30.

[13] United Nations. Economic and Social Council. 36th Session. (1963, July 5). *Resolution 955:Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions*. Retrieved August 30, 2006, from United Nations Documents Database.

[14] United Nations. General Assembly. 18th Session. (1963, December 11). *Resolution 1941: Decentralization of the Economic and Social Activities of the United Nations and Strengthening of the Regional Economic Commissions and the United Nations Office in Beirut*. Retrieved July 30, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/186/16/IMG/NR018616.pdf?OpenElement

Foundation and policy issues

Two major factors played a role in the foundation of the ECWA in 1973. While the League of Arab States, the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, and UNESOB stepped up their activities, international awareness for the Western Asia region's economic difficulties increased, as the States of the region were playing and increasingly significant role as major oil exporters and, for that reason, attention for a better integration of the region in the world economy was growing.[15] At the same time, the GA and ECOSOC experienced significant changes in number and composition of their Member States. The ECOSOC expanded the number of its members to 54, accommodating the new realities of the international system.[16] More and more States from the developing world joined the ECOSOC, therefore influencing the kind of activities ECOSOC was engaged in. Due to these tectonic shifts in UN membership, the Western States no longer dominated the GA, and new initiatives surfaced in the ECOSOC. With respect to the Western Asian region, it can be noted that the new independent States of Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates became members of the United Nations. During the 55th Session of the ECOSOC, Lebanon, which had become a member of ECOSOC in 1971, brought forth a proposal for the regional economic commission, which, eventually, led to the foundation of ECWA by ECOSOC Resolution 1818 of August 13, 1973.[17]

Before 1985, ECWA focused on technical advancement and the increase in productivity.[18] Its main goal was to modernize the industry and its related areas, like transport, energy, and research.[19] During the mid-1980s, the commission shifted its focus to human capital and social development, while concentrating more on regional cooperation and less on the creation of a common Arab market.[20] Three broad focus areas result from these major shifts. First, alternative energy sources and environmental issues became more relevant for the international community following the large United Nations summits of Nairobi, Kenya in 1981 and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992, which is reflected in the creation of a related ESCWA division.[21] The issue of the availability and management of water gained importance, both from an environmental and - particularly - from a geo-strategic point of view.[22] This issue has always played a major role in the work of the commission.[23] Secondly, urban sprawl and related social problems received less attention while others gained significance, including demographic analysis— the evaluation of populations and migration flows, which always were present in the region, due to its political instability—and the migration due to economic disparity.[24] Third, the empowerment of women was and continues to be of great concern to the commission.[25]

The States of the ESCWA-region possess two thirds of the global proven oil reserves: Saudi Arabia alone has one fourth, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, and Kuwait have ten percent each.[26] Therefore, their principal economic activity is the export of oil, leaving their economies heavily vulnerable to influences on the global level. The richest countries of the Western Asian region depend on oil for ninety percent of their revenue and as foreign currency resource.[27] They also depend on external markets for supplies of goods and services, as well as on foreign labor and skills to run their economies.[28] During the boom in the oil economy, oil-exporting countries increased their public spending, thus triggering genuine economic development effort in the branches producing by-products of oil and

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[15] Nédélec & Destremau, *supra* note 3, p. 31.

[16] *Ibid.*

[17] United Nations. Economic and Social Council. 55th Session. (1973, August 13). *Resolution 1818: Establishment of an economic commission for Western Asia*. Retrieved July 25, 2006, from: http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/library.asp

[18] Nédélec & Destremau, *supra* note 3, p. 105

[19] *Ibid.*

[20] *Ibid.,* p. 41, 105.

[21] *Ibid.*, p. 106

[22] *Ibid.*, p. 108

[23] *Ibid.*

[24] *Ibid.*, p. 107-108

[25] Ibid., p. 107; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *The twenty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author...

[26] Nédélec & Destremau, *supra* note 3, p. 19; Oil. (n.d.). *The Saudi Arabia information resource*. Retrieved July 14, 2006, from http://www.saudinf.com/main/d11.htm

[27] Nédélec & Destremau, *supra* note 3, p. 19.

[28] *Ibid.*

natural gas.[29] Big foreign companies were usually behind these developments.[30] The non oil-exporting countries of Western Asia depend on the flow of revenues from the oil-exporting States.[31] This flow occurs principally in two ways: either through direct assistance or through the massive movements of migrant labor to the work sites of the Arabian Peninsula.[32] Consequently, any economical crisis caused by the oil-market also affects these States. In the 1980s, the repercussions of the collapse of the oil market were felt in the economies and the households of the entire region, and the Organization of Petrol exporting Countries (OPEC) was in no position to control the oil prices.[33] Public investment suffered the biggest cuts and the countries' public deficits grew dramatically.[34] Subsequently, the international financial institutions pushed them to promote privatization and start economic reforms.[35]

Structural reform

In the 1990s, in a context of these national reforms in the ESCWA region, and reforms of the UN System itself, which were focused on better accommodating the economic and social needs of the Member States, ESCWA also went through a major restructuring. In 1993, the Office of Inspections and Investigations (now the Office of Internal Oversight Services) inspected ESCWA and criticized notably the lack of a comprehensive strategy permeating the work program, the spreading of the resources over too many divisions.[36] Following its recommendations, the commission formulated a more coherent strategy, identifying fundamental priorities, and devised a new approach to implementing this strategy by streamlining its fifteen divisions into thematic subprograms.[37] Today, these subprograms comprise: integrated policies for the management of regional resources for sustainable development, focusing on water and energy management, the environment, and agriculture and industry; integrates social policies, promoting comprehensive social policies that are "region-specific, culturally sensitive, and have a practical orientation" while improving the quality of life of the populations of the region; economic analyses and projections of regional development; regional economic integration and regional response to globalization; Information and Communications Technology (ICT), as the most effective tool to increase economic growth and development in the ESCWA region; comparable statistics for the improvement of planning and decision-making; and women advancement and empowerment, and strengthening women's role in the economic and social development in the ESCWA region.[38]

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[29] *Ibid.*
[30] *Ibid.*
[31] *Ibid.*
[32] *Ibid.,* p. 20.
[33] *Ibid.*
[34] *Ibid.,* p. 21.
[35] *Ibid.*
[36] *Ibid.,* p. 38-39.
[37] *Ibid.*, p. 41; Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *UNESCWA... at a glance, supra* note 2.
[38] United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *UNESCWA... at a glance, supra* note 2; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Ed.). (2002, March 5). *Revised medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005*. Beirut. Retrieved July 4, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/S-4/L.3/Rev.1), p. 5; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003, March 28). *Report of the executive secretary on the activities of the commission*. Beirut. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/22/4(Part II)), p. 3; United Nations. Economic and Social Council for Western Asia. (n.d.). Sustainable Development and Productivity Division. In *United Nations Economic and Social Council for Western Asia*. Retrieved August 29, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/main.asp?division=sdpd; United Nations. Economic and Social Council for Western Asia. (n.d.). Social Development Division. In *United Nations Economic and Social Council for Western Asia*. Retrieved August 29, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/main.asp?division=sdd; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2004, February 5). *Central issues related to social policies: Comparative study and guidelines for the formulation of social policies in the ESCWA region*. Retrieved July 4, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/SDD/2004/2)., p. 25 United Nations. (2004). *Towards integrated social development policies: A conceptual analysis*. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from United Nations Documents database, p. 73; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003, October 27). *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 6, 2006, from http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/I03/007/74/img/I0300774.pdf?OpenElement, p. 14; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005). *Annotated Agenda. 23rd ministerial session of ESCWA*. Retrieved July 10, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session/maine.asp?menuID=4&topic=Annotated%20Agenda&lang=e; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003, November 3). *Tentative plan of action for Western Asia: Building the regional information society*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 4, 2006, from

Beside these subprograms, ESCWA focuses not only on studies to find measures for the improvement of the living standards in Palestine, but also on implementing these measures.[39] It is important to notice that the Member States have divergent opinions about the issue of Palestine, but all recognize its crucial importance for the whole region.[40]

Perspective and Membership

Since its creation, ESCWA's work has been hampered by the region's instability. The creation of the commission was initially delayed due to a lack of will for cooperation among the potential Member States, and due to the particular problems the creation of Israel and the involvement of the major powers of the time entailed. Later, the commission was affected by all major crises in the region, as the internal unrest in Lebanon in the 1970s and 1980s or the Gulf War of 1990/91. Today, its work is suffering from the recent unrest in its host country Lebanon. As to the focus of its work, the main goal to foment economic and social cooperation among the Member States has prevailed, but we have seen a slight shift in the measures it has taken to achieve it. Now that the unrest in Iraq continues, and that Lebanon faces grave instability, it is important to ask how these realities would affect the work of the commission and how its achievements could be conserved. Moreover, a central question and challenge is what the commission itself can do to prevent and alleviate this regional instability.

The twelve initial Member States were Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and the Yemen Arab Republic. Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) joined the commission in 1977.[41] In 1985, ECWA changed its name to ESCWA to reflect better the commission's endeavors in the social field. Since the unification of Yemen, ESCWA now has 13 Member States. The ministerial sessions of ESCWA are the governing instrument of the commission, which elaborates its policies and its general directives and pronounces them through resolutions. The 24th ministerial session granted observer status to Japan, Germany, South Korea and Morocco, the last of which was granted permanent observer status at all ESCWA sessions.[42] These States are not afforded substantive voting rights.

I. Formulating a Regional Response to Globalization: Creating Economic Opportunities and Addressing the Social Consequences

Confronted by a global assault, our people, instead of uniting against a common danger, instead of cooperating to solve their problems and developing solidarity in their struggles, tend to build up destructive barriers and fortifications against one another. Rather than being open to difference, they close up like oysters, become divided, [and] fight tooth and nail on issues that are not the most important to their lives.[43]

Due to a large number of rapidly occurring technological advances over the last decade, the world today is more connected than ever.[44] Firms in India, China, the United States, and elsewhere can conduct business together as

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United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/ICTD/2003/12), p. 4; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005, January 11). *Economic trends and impacts in the ESCWA region*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 6, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/2): http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/ead-05-2.pdf; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *The twenty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, supra* note 25.

[39] United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005, March 11). *Arab-International Forum on Rehabilitation and Development in the occupied Palestinian territory*. Retrieved July 8, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/main/pal/docs/Plorepe.pdf, p. 22.

[40] Nédélec & Destremau, *supra* note 3, p. 127.

[41] *Ibid.*, p. 35.

[42] United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *The twenty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, supra* note 25.

[43] Hetata, D. S. (2006). *Globalization, Women, and the Culture of Helplessness* [Pamphlet]. Arab Women's Solidarity Association. Retrieved July 13, 2006, from http://www.nawalsaadawi.net/articlessherif/06/globalizationwomen.htm

[44] Friedman, T. (2000). *The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding Globalization*. New York City: Anchor Books.

though they were dealing with local companies.[45] With the aid of the Internet and other communications advances, businesses can now operate across almost all conceivable boundaries at a previously unimaginable capacity.[46] These same technological advances also allow for the development of interpersonal relationships between individuals from around the globe. While providing great opportunities for the progression of businesses, it also allows for unprecedented social and cultural evolution. Thus, globalization, as this process of increasing global economic and social interdependence is known, retains many positive aspects, but it also retains several negative characteristics.

In some societies, globalization is blamed for a sterilization of culture, as it tends to favor large, multinational corporations over smaller local firms.[47] Moreover, as global forces begin to play a major role at the local, national, and regional levels, the affected societies have little recourse in dealing with the effects, such as unemployment and inflation. Therefore, while globalization can potentially provide unprecedented opportunities for economic growth at all levels of society, it simultaneously has created new social problems. Critics of globalization most frequently blame this interdependence for increasing levels of domestic political, social, and economic instability.[48] In West Asia, a region of great ethnic, political, and socioeconomic diversity, globalization has led to many complex economic and social problems, but it simultaneously holds great potential should the West Asian States harness its power for their economic and social benefit.

A Brief History of Globalization

While globalization, in its current form, is a relatively recent course of international affairs, the concept behind it has long been in existence. As one economic historian notes, "internationalized economies with widespread interstate activities have existed for centuries."[49] Moreover, some note that globalization and its characteristic economic interactions have cycled somewhat regularly over the last century.[50] These writers assert that the last century saw the rise and fall of three distinct "waves" of economic integration and cooperation. The first wave lasted from 1870 until 1914.[51] During this period, global trade equaled 8% of the total world income, essentially doubling in value from the decades prior and creating great wealth, although mostly within the industrialized societies.[52] The second wave, which affected mainly the industrialized and wealthy societies, lasted from 1945 to 1980.[53] Currently, the third wave significantly influences international economic and social relations and is characterized by the expansion of international technological and communication abilities that greatly assist international trade.

Technology accounts for the rapid spread of globalization throughout the world, with specific innovations and inventions such as the Internet and affordable personal computers accounting for major developments. These developments facilitated commercial growth by enabling supply chains to include firms from around the world and ultimately provide consumers goods for the lowest possible price.[54] Unfortunately, while some people, mainly consumers in the developed countries, benefit from the increased competition by receiving less expensive goods of higher quality, many Less Developed Countries (LDCs) currently lack the economic infrastructure to meet the market's changing demands and thus fail to profit from increased foreign business.[55] Furthermore, it must be noted that technological advances facilitate the international business of MNCs so that companies can open or move plants and factories to areas where the costs to the company will be the lowest. Therefore, even if a sovereign Member State had the infrastructure to institute heavier taxes on the MNCs they, might refrain from doing so as they must compete with other LDCs willing to provide the services at a lower cost to the company. Thus, globalization and

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[45] Friedman, T. L. (2006). *The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*. New York City: Farrar, Straus and Giroux. pp.3–27.

[46] *Ibid.,* pp. 154–155.

[47] Barber, B. (1996). *Jihad vs. McWorld: How Globalism and Tribalism are Reshaping the World.* New York City: Random House. pp.23–24.

[48] Roskin, Michael G., and James J. Coyle. (2003). *Politics of the Middle East: Cultures and Conflicts*. Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall.

[49] Davidson, Christopher M. (2005). *The United Arab Emirate: A Study in Survival*. London: Lynne Riener Publishers. p. 251.

[50] *Ibid.,* p. 252.

[51] Globalisation and Inflation. (2005, October). *The Economist*. 81.

[52] *Ibid.*

[53] *Ibid.*

[54] Friedman, *supra* note 44. 151–155.

[55] Abed, G. T., & Davoodi, H. R. (n.d.). Of Growth and Development in the Middle East and North Africa. *International Monetary Fund*. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/med/2003/eng/creane/index.htm

the related technological advances, while generally successful at promoting international business, present major challenges to the governments of the poorer West Asian Member States less able to compete in the broader world market.

Globalization in Western Asia

In many ways, the current West Asian Member States have great experience with globalization. For centuries, the Arab and then the Turkish empires dominated a large part of the world, including this region. Trade occurred, relatively unimpeded, under the rule of these empires, and many different peoples interacted in the busy market streets of Damascus, Cairo, and Mecca. The imperialism of the British in the 19th and 20th centuries also represented a sort of globalization in which trade could be conducted and technology was used to bring people together, although at a great disadvantage to the indigenous peoples. In fact, Arab intellectuals, writers, and activists regard the imperial experience as the cause of great societal troubles within and between local populations. Libyan Head of State Muammar Abu Minyar al-Qadhafi noted, "Any personal action on our part springing from our personality or from our values is cast into doubt, and we ourselves have begun to doubt. That precisely is how colonialism has affected us." This sentiment is shared by many throughout Western Asia and provides one cause for the tensions between these peoples and the Western powers.[56]

Over the last several decades, the Arab Member States attempted to institute programmes that would enhance economic cooperation between the Arab States.[57] To this end, in 1998, 14 signatory countries launched the Pan-Arab Free Trade Area (PAFTA), also called the Greater Arab Free Trade Area.[58] Today, this agreement includes 17 Arab League Members; in addition, Algeria is completing the formal procedures to become the 18th Member State.[59] This agreement guides efforts to dismantle tariffs for agricultural and industrial goods between the Member States, thus removing barriers to trade. The dismantling of such barriers remains one of the key aspects of globalization in this region and throughout the world. However, while the PAFTA has created a trading block consisting of 320 million people, it has not been wholly effective at alleviating poverty and faces significant boundaries because of a "lack of transport infrastructure (some major investments will be needed in the region to improve road transport, maritime transport and air freight), customs procedures and the lack of diversification of production by the industry."[60]

Most recently, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia signed the Agadir Agreement with the European Union (EU) in order to promote free trade between the four Arab countries.[61] Unlike the PAFTA agreement, this Agadir Agreement also extends Association agreements from the EU to the signatories and results from the EU's efforts to create a Euro-Mediterranean regional free trade area by 2010.[62] According to Gamal Bayoumi, Secretary-General of the Arab Investors' Union, "Arabs were more serious in their negotiations with the EU than they were with each other." Bayoumi, who headed the Egyptian delegation to the negotiations, noted that this resulted because "all signatory countries have a base to build on, namely their agreement with the EU and all the accompanying conditionality." He went on to note that, unlike the PAFTA, the Agadir agreements have a strict "anti-dumping and anti-subsidy mechanism." Bayoumi does not see any conflict between the Agadir agreements and the PAFTA; rather, he believes that the Agadir agreements will support and strengthen the PAFTA as more Member States become signatories.[63] The early success of the Agadir agreements provides a solid example of international

[56] Wetherby, Joseph N., Randal L. Cruikshanks, Emmit B. Evans, Jr., Reginald Gooden, Earl D. Huff, Richard Kranzdorf, and Dianne Long. (2000). *The Other World: Issues and Politics of the Developing World*. New York: Addison Wesley Longman, Inc.

[57] Wahish, N. (2006, July). *Hold your breath: The Agadir Agreement may Finally Mean Serious Arab Economic Cooperation*. Al-Ahram Weekly Online. Retrieved August 20, 2006, from http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2004/680/ec1.htm

[58] *Ibid.*

[59] European Commission. Delegation of the European Commission in Egypt. (May 2006.) *The Pan-Arab Free Trade Area. Regional Integration Arrangements*. Retrieved August 20, 2006, from http://64.233.161.104/search?q=cache:kW2of_7d4MoJ:www.eu-delegation.org.eg/en/EU-Egypt_Trade_issues/Docs/Regional%2520Integration%2520Arrangements7.doc+pan+arab+free+trade+area&hl=en&gl=us&ct=clnk&cd=7&client=firefox-a

[60] *Ibid.*

[61] Wahish, *supra* note 57.

[62] *Ibid.*

[63] *Ibid.*

cooperation that enables Member States to deal with the economic realities of globalization, most specifically the need for regional cooperation to address trade issues. However, thus far the Agadir agreements have only affected a few of the more socially liberal Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Member States. It is unlikely that the more conservative ESCWA Member States will be able or willing to join.

Even as some West Asian societies, such as the United Arab Emirates (UAE), benefited financially from globalization, internal critics note that some states and populations were excluded from these benefits.[64] Western critics of the underdevelopment of this region, while acknowledging that each economy has its own experiences, cite seven common causes of underdevelopment of the economies. According to the International Monetary Fund, "one may attribute the region's weak economic performance to the following possible reasons, most or all of which are interrelated and characterize each country to varying degrees: high population growth and low productivity; lagging political and institutional reforms; large and costly public sectors; inefficient and inequitable educational system; underdeveloped financial markets; high trade restrictiveness; and inappropriate exchange rate policies."[65]

Economic, Social and Political Aspects of Globalization in West Asia

Because globalization can have such potentially "serious implications for… indigenous political systems, societies, and cultures," each West Asian Member State has faced globalization in a different way.[66] At first, many States resisted the rushing economic forces of globalization by isolating themselves economically, and consequently receive great criticism for their "inappropriate exchange rate policies."[67] However, when the overwhelming market forces began to affect these states anyway, the political and economic infrastructures of several States could not keep up, and, as a result, the economies of many of these States are in shambles, a fact hidden by the oil wealth of several West Asian Member States.[68]

The current period of globalization has changed the face of domestic and international economics. Economic forces, such as inflation, which used to be considered as almost completely reliant on domestic factors, now, vary greatly due to global forces, including the increase of foreign resource or production costs.[69] Globalization has also raised the level of international competition.[70] Accordingly, domestic firms cannot easily pass on their increased costs to consumers.[71] While the increase in competition has, for the most part, kept inflation levels down thus far, it has also taken much power away from the consumer and even the governments of many developing countries.[72]

Globalization, in conjunction with high population growth and low productivity in the West Asian region, has led to severe social problems, including unemployment and social unrest that further divide this region.[73] According to intellectuals such as Sherif Hetata (quoted above), globalization in West Asia, a region fractured by divisions, has pitted people against each other by worsening already poor situations. Furthermore, the benefits of globalization and development are poorly distributed within populations of the West Asian region; refugees and the lower classes, the poorest groups, rarely benefit from the economic advantages of globalization.[74]

Politically, globalization also causes many problems largely due to the aforementioned economic and social problems. Moreover, conservative governmental infrastructures were unprepared for the digital age and policies

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[64] Economic and Social Commission for West Asia. (2005). *Impact of Globalization on the Social Situation in the ESCWA Region*. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/sdd/events/19dec05.html

[65] Abed, *supra* note 55.

[66] Davidson, Christopher M. (2005). The United Arab Emirates: A Study in Survival. London: Lynne Riener Publishers. 252.

[67] Abed, *supra* note 15.

[68] Iqbal, F., & Nabli, M. K. (2006, Spring). *Poverty in the Middle East and North Africa: A Cause for Concern?* Retrieved July 15, 2006, from http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTMENA/Resources/Poverty_OpEd_06.pdf

[69] The Economist, *supra* note 51, page 81.

[70] Viston, C. S. (2002, September). Globalization's Bad Effects Discussed. *Business World.* Retrieved July 13, 2006, from http://www.globalpolicy.org/ngos/role/globalact/int-inst/2002/0912globaliz.htm

[71] Economist, *supra* note 51.

[72] El Saadawi, Nawal. (1994.) Women and the Poor. *The Nawal El Saadawi Reader*. London: Zed Books. 11–20.

[73] Wetherby, *supra* note 56.

[74] Iqbal, F. (2006). *Sustaining Gains in Poverty Reduction and Human Development in the Middle East and North Africa. Washington DC: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development*. World Bank – Middle East and North Africa Division. Retrieved July 15, 2006, from http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTMENA/Resources/Poverty_complete_06_web.pdf.

rarely changed quickly enough to keep up with the business developments.[75] In many cases, this led to a weakening of many regional economies.[76]

Current Efforts

Many United Nations (UN) bodies are debating the progress of globalization. The ESCWA's Globalization and Regional Integration Division has addressed the problem in various manners, such as publishing reports that detail the progress and problems of integration,[77] providing workshops and training programs for government workers throughout the West Asian region to assist the governments in dealing with globalization,[78] and working with other organizations, including the UN Conference on Trade and Development, the UN Development Programme, the League of Arab States (and its subsidiary bodies), and other relevant groups. While all of these programs address different aspects of globalization, there is little success in addressing this problem comprehensively at a regional level.

Some Member States, including most notably the UAE and other Gulf States such as Kuwait, have already used globalization and the technological advances to their advantage. These Member States harnessed the mobility and business potential of globalization and combined it with the oil wealth to reach high levels of development by investing in the development of businesses and schools. Abu Dhabi, a small, unobtrusive emirate, controls 10% of the world's oil reserve and also has weathered political fallout by not engaging in a broad religious or political debate regarding their development.[79] The key to the success of Abu Dhabi's economy seems to be its willingness to reform its economic and social infrastructures to allow for extensive economic investment and the development of different industries including communications and tourism that the more traditional societies will not allow for cultural or religious reason. Furthermore, Abu Dhabi simultaneously empowers its young population through education.[80]

In the UAE, the need for skilled workers has empowered women to enter the workforce in new capacities, specifically in the media.[81] Media outlets, such as the television station al Jazeera, have experienced a surging demand for intelligent analysts and creative, skilled workers. Frequently, women, who in the UAE have a higher literacy rate than men (81% to 76%),[82] are filling these roles and now work in every aspect of production, from editing to serving as anchors on the most popular news programs.[83] To the conservative imams throughout the region, however, these changes signal a threatening change in culture. They note the "breakdown of the hadud" or the veil of privacy that protects women and children from the corruption of the world. Conservative critics see the enhanced role of women in the private sector and the increased ability of individuals to publish private thoughts and feelings on Internet blogs and in chat rooms as signs of the deterioration of traditional religious values. The debate between the conservative members of UAE society and the liberals attempting to modernize the economic infrastructure remains; however, since the entire society benefits from a stable, strong economy, which some have compared to the strongest of Western European economies, the chances of this intrasocietal debate becoming violent as it has elsewhere remains weak.

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[75] Abed, *supra* note 55.

[76] *Ibid.*

[77] United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia's Globalization and Regional Integration Division. (2005). *Progress Made by the ESCWA Member Countries in the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus*. Retrieved July 14, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/grid-05-5.pdf.

[78] United Nations. United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia. (2006, June 23). *UNCTAD-UNESCWA Workshop to Develop Country Decision-Makers*, 26/6-15/7/2006. Retrieved July 14, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/teams.asp?teams=Regional%20Integration%20and%20Financing%20for%20Development&division=GRID.

[79] Sitting Pretty: Haven of prosperity in a turbulent sea. (2006, June 10). *The Economist*, p. 45.

[80] *Ibid.*, p. 45.

[81] Mernissi, F. (2006, March). Digital Schehrazades in the Arab World. *Current History, 105*(689), pp. 121–127.

[82] Central Intelligence Agency. *CIA World Factbook: United Arab Emirates*. Retrieved August 5, 2006, from https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ae.html

[83] Mernissi, *supra* note 81.

Civil society and non-governmental organizations have also begun to work together to deal with the realities of globalization.[84] For example, the Fares Institute of Lebanon has been working with the ESCWA since 2002 in order to strengthen "regional, subregional, and national cooperation and the formulation and implementation of development projects."[85] However, civil society within the West Asian region faces many challenges in implementing changes as the governments, most of which are not democratically elected but based on monarchical or theocratic tradition and are largely distrustful of civil society. Some governments, while facing criticism of the manner in which they deal with the economic and social effects of globalization, sometimes respond by further regulating civil society's access to the technologies of globalization. Many West Asian governments, including Saudi Arabia, regulate and censor access to the Internet.[86] However, other Member States, such as Egypt and Jordan, allow greater freedom of speech via the internet than in print.[87] Civil society, therefore, has found a new medium for communicating their opinions on government reform. The effects of the enhanced technology, however, have yet to reach the majority of the populations due to limited access to the Internet by the poor and middle class members of society.

The Effects of Globalization on the Situation in Lebanon

The positive effects of globalization, specifically the empowerment of civil society and the private sector due to rapidly occurring technological advances, have simultaneously empowered many violent and malevolent non-State actors, including Hezbollah, Al Qaeda, and Hamas. These groups use the same technologies available to civil society and governments to play increasingly influential roles. For example, Al-Qaeda, an internationally recognized terrorist organization, operates around the world in a manner similar to international businesses. It coordinates the covert operations of its independent cells via the Internet and cell phones.

The July 2006 conflict between Lebanon and Israel provide a case study on the manner in which globalization complicates the regional and international politics today. Relations between Israel and Lebanon were tense since the war in 1978 largely due to Israel's occupation of territories in the south of Lebanon. However, since Israel withdrew to its established borders pursuant UN Security Council Resolution 425 in 2000, relations have generally improved. They quickly deteriorated, however, in the summer of 2006, when Hezbollah, a domestic political party with a violent military wing, launched missile attacks on Israel.[88] Hezbollah, like Hamas in Palestine and Al-Qaeda, used new communication options to procure arms from various foreign sources and launch this attack on a neighboring country. Interestingly, civil society in both Lebanon and Israel used these same tools to coordinate evacuation plans from within the conflict zones and also to show the world, via camera phones and the Internet, every aspect of the conflict.[89] The uncensored images and testimonies were published on the Internet and on many of the Arab news stations, including *Al Jazeera* and *Al Arabiya,* and incensed public opinion throughout the world. This dynamic fundamentally alters the abilities of governments to conduct necessary yet unpopular bilateral or multilateral negotiations due to overwhelming public knowledge and activism. This situation demonstrates the fact that globalization retains tremendous power to promote transparency within government; however, it also shows that thus far the governments lack the capacity to deal effectively with its economic and social effects.

Conclusion

Due to its economic, political, and social complexities, globalization presents a distinct and difficult challenge to the governments and peoples of Western Asia. ESCWA Member States attempt to harness globalization's economic potential but often face political and social fallout because of their choices.

The West Asian region is a diverse area that currently faces many internal struggles. The different ethnic groups and Member States face severe internal problems including sectarianism, fundamentalism, and ethnic tensions, often

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[84] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *ESCWA – Civil Society Institutions*. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. Retrieved July 15, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/affiliations/civil.asp

[85] *Ibid.*

[86] Privacy International. (2003, January). *Silenced: The Middle East Profile*. Retrieved July 12, 2006, from http://www.privacyinternational.org/article.shtml?cmd%5B347%5D=x-347-103797

[87] *Ibid.*

[88] *Ibid.*

[89] Goo, S. K. (2006, July 26). YouTube.com users explore Israel-Hezbollah violence. *Seattle Times*, pp. sec A.

worsened by foreign involvement and the forces of globalization.[90] With that in mind, students should consider as specifically and concisely as possible how globalization affected the public and the private sectors of your country in economic terms. Which economic aspects of globalization have most thoroughly affected your Member State and what policy changes were made by your government to address them? Has your State experienced any political or social fallout due to globalization? How have the governments responded to political pressures caused by globalization? What measures, if any, has your Member State taken to address the economic and social changes brought about by globalization domestically? Has your State made any efforts to work with other countries in this region to address the social and cultural tensions caused by globalization? To research this question, please consider both projects within the ESCWA and elsewhere (for example please review the work of the League of Arab States, the Inter Islamic Conference, UNCTAD, etc.) in order to find examples of effective programs that had positive benefits on this situation within your State.

II. Reconstruction in Iraq: Direct Assistance, Monitoring, and Coordination with Other Agencies

The reconstruction of Iraq is perhaps a wrong perspective and even a misplaced strategy. The issues are far more complex than simply organizing and financing a massive construction program and engaging a mammoth international construction corporation. The real issues are rather about rebuilding a devastated economy, society and polity simultaneously, cumulatively and without delay. In a nutshell, the issues are those of choosing a development strategy under crisis.[91]

After three armed conflicts during the last 25 years and over a decade of international sanctions, the institutional, economic, and social life of Iraq is in a dire situation. In 1990, two years after the end of an economically exhausting conflict between Iran and Iraq, Iraq invaded Kuwait following arguments over Kuwaiti petrol extraction.[92] The international community responded to this aggression with military countermeasures, authorized by United Nations (UN) Security Council (SC) Resolution 678 (1990), and with the establishment of economic sanctions to bring Iraq into compliance with the SC's provisions on disarmament.[93] Therefore, the Iraqi economy and infrastructure deteriorated significantly together with the provision of basic services for a large part of the population, particularly in the domains of health care and nutrition.[94] At the same time, decades of a totalitarian regime had centralized the economic and financial system, led to political and social exclusion of large parts of the society and all but eliminated civil society, thus making the population all the more vulnerable and leading to significant poverty.[95] The "oil for food" program, established with SC Resolution 986 (1995), was designed to improve the basic provisions for the population without loosening the economic sanctions.[96] Despite its shortcomings, it made a positive difference in the life of ordinary Iraqis, whereas the political problems continued to simmer.[97]

[90] Chua, A. (2003). World on Fire: How exporting free market democracy breeds ethnic hatred and global instability. New York: Doubleday.

[91] Kubursi, A. (n.d.). Rebuilding Iraq: Strategies of Development Under Crises Conditions. In *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia*. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/docs/RebuildIraq%2Epdf, p. 1.

[92] Israeli, R. (2004). *The Iraq war. Hidden agendas and Babylonian intrigue*. Brighton: Sussex Academic Press, p. 42; Anderson, L., & Stansfield, G. (2004). *The future of Iraq. Dictatorship, democracy, or division?* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, p. 85.

[93] United Nations. Security Council. (1990, August 6). *Resolution 661: Iraq-Kuwait*. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/575/11/IMG/NR057511.pdf?OpenElement; United Nations. Security Council. (1991, 3 April). *Resolution 686: Iraq-Kuwait*. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/596/25/IMG/NR059625.pdf?OpenElement

[94] *Ibid.*

[95] *Ibid.*, p. 53-55.

[96] United Nations. Security Council. *Resolution 686, supra* note 93; United Nations. Security Council. (2003, May 22). *Resolution 1483: The situation between Iraq and Kuwait*. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N03/368/53/PDF/N0336853.pdf?OpenElement

[97] United Nations. Secretary-General. (2002, November 12). *Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 7 and 8 of Security Council resolution 1409 (2002)*. Retrieved September 1, 2006, from http://daccess-

The situation worsened again in 2002, when Iraq was suspected of not complying fully with its disarmament obligations. SC Resolution 1441 (2002), called upon Iraq to lay open its programs concerning the procurement of weapons of mass destruction, and Iraq's reaction was considered insufficient both by Great Britain and the U.S. as well as by the weapons inspectors.[98] The subsequent U.S.-led military intervention starting in March 2003 was declared illegal by the United Nations Secretary-General.[99] These military operations and the ensuing occupation of Iraq engendered new difficulties of social and economic nature for the Iraqi people, which the era of Saddam Hussein had left traumatized and divided.[100]

The resulting breakdown of the already fragile political and economic system led to considerable additional hardship for the population as well as to political instability.[101] Even after the official end of the occupation on June 28, 2004, when power was handed over to the Iraqi Interim Government, the multinational force had to stay in Iraq to support the Iraqi security forces whose capacities are until today insufficient to address a highly precarious security situation.[102] The insurgency against the multinational force plays an important role in the destabilization of the political, economic, and social system and has reached new levels of violence in 2006.[103] It has its basis mainly in the "Sunni triangle" around Baghdad and is supported by ex-Saddam militiamen as well as foreign Islamic extremists.[104] The multinational force in cooperation with the newly trained Iraqi security forces has conducted several military operations to crack down on insurgents and restore law and order as well as the monopoly of the use of force, which is the foundation of a functioning State.[105]

Iraq after the invasion: assessment of the post-conflict situation

The near complete breakdown of law and order in Iraq has made it difficult to administer effectively the State. At the same time, it eroded the foundation of the population's subsistence. The restoration of order depends on a new social contract, which needs to be "based on iron-clad guarantees for all of human security, human rights and gender equality," since the impoverishment and the marginalization of certain parts of society only add to the instability.[106] On the economic level, the forced transition of a centrally controlled economy, based for a long time on the "oil for food" program, into a market economy, creates substantial difficulties for a population lacking for the most part the

ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?OpenAgent&DS=S/2002/1239&Lang=E; United Nations. (n.d.). *Office of the Iraq programme oil-for-food*. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from http://www.un.org/depts/oip/

[98] United Nations. News Centre. (2003, March 4). *Iraq's destruction of missiles 'positive' but still much more to be done – Annan*. Retrieved July 29, 2006, from http://www.un.org/apps/news/storyAr.asp?NewsID=6336&Cr=iraq&Cr1=inspect&Kw1=iraq+&Kw2=weapons&Kw3=report

[99] Annan, K. (2004, September 16). *BBC News*. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/3661134.stm

[100] Anderson & Stansfield, *supra* note 93, p. 114.

[101] Tanmiya, D. A. (2003, June 10). *The Iraq war: Social and humanitarian implications*. Beirut: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/docs/WarSocHumImpl%2Epdf

[102] Anderson & Stansfield, *supra* note 93, p. 189; Gordon, M. R. (2006, July 24). U.S. struggles to refill ranks of Iraqi police. *International Herald Tribune*. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from http://www.iht.com/articles/2006/07/24/news/police.php; Gordon, M. R. (2006, July 26). Behind U.S. shift on Baghdad, a security failure. *International Herald Tribune*. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from http://www.iht.com/articles/2006/07/26/news/baghdad.php

[103] Economist Intelligence Unit Ltd. (2005, August 17). Iraq economy: Struggling to pick up the pieces. *Economist Intelligence Unit ViewsWire*. Retrieved July 25, 2006, from Lexis-Nexis database; Gordon, Behind U.S. shift on Baghdad, a security failure, *supra* note 93.

[104] Keegan, J. (2004). The war's aftermath. In *The Iraq war* (p. 204-219). New York: Alfred A. Knopf (Random House), p. 207.

[105] The International Institute for Strategic Studies. (2003). Iraq: Military & security developments. In *IISS Armed Conflict Database*. Retrieved October 16, 2006, from IISS Armed Conflict Database; Linklater, A. (2005). Globalization and the transformation of political community. J. Baylis & S. Smith (Eds.), *The globalization of world politics. An introduction to international relations* (3rd ed., p. 709-725). Oxford University Press. (Original work published 2001).

[106] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Ed.). (2003, September 29). *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war: Issues of economic and social reconstruction. Beirut, 9-11 July 2003. Conclusions and recommendations*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 19, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/oes-03-iraq.pdf, p, 5.

conditions for a successful participation in economic competition.[107] Economy and security are interdependent: The dilemma is that economic growth would drain the insurgency of its recruits, while it seems impossible to ensure economic growth without first stemming the insurgency and creating a minimum level of security.[108]

The struggle of the Iraqi government for domestic and international legitimacy and authority further complicates the efforts for recovery: The provisional administration created by the U.S. initially lacked the consent of the ruled, but the legitimacy of the Iraqi government has been improved by the elections organized and conducted with the support of the UN.[109] Its task is particularly difficult due to the need to reconstruct the administration from the very scratch, without the expertise of most of the well-qualified experts and officials, who are often excluded from government employment due to their membership in the Ba'ath party during the reign of Saddam Hussein.[110] The primary tasks for the administration of Iraq are the following: to restore basic services to cities and towns[111]; to control the flow and export of oil to finance the reconstruction of the State – since oil will be a major building block for any new Iraqi regime, as it was a major building block for the regime of Saddam Hussein[112]; and to harmonize the various political, religious, and ethnic factions in order to create a stable government enjoying popular support.[113] Eventually, these issues again are linked to a much-needed improvement of the security situation.[114]

Other relevant issues that need to be tackled by the new government include the educational system and environmental issues.[115] In the field of education, gender discrimination is widespread and should be given new consideration.[116] In addition, the current security situation often poses obstacles to the access to regular scholastic programs.[117] To improve the level of education, security issues, therefore, have to be addressed as well as the employment stability of teachers improved, many of whom are arbitrarily dismissed as "Ba'athist."[118] Concerning environmental issues, water has been at the heart of many problems. Government control of water sources and distribution has in the past been instrumentalized for political ends.[119] The long-term effects of the military operations of 2003 on the ecology of Iraq are still hard to identify.[120] However, "[a]s is the case in many war-torn countries, recovering from the environmental toll of war will be a profoundly difficult endeavor."[121] The experience with the war in Kuwait in 1990-1991 and its effects, together with the damage already observed in Iraq today, draw

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[107] Barakat, S. (2005, October). Post-Saddam Iraq: Deconstructing a regime, reconstructing a nation. *Third World Quarterly, 26*(4-5), 571-587. Retrieved July 18, 2006, from EBSCOhost EJS database, p. 586.

[108] Economist Intelligence Unit Ltd, *supra* note 103.

[109] United Nations News Centre. (n.d.). *Iraq electoral fact sheet*. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from http://www.un.org/news/dh/infocus/iraq/election-fact-sht.htm#electdate; Faris, H. (2003, July 11). The socio-political effect of the war on Iraq and the Arab region. In United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war*, *supra* note 106.

[110] Keegan, *supra* note 104, p. 210.

[111] RTI International. (2005, May). Postconflict Restoration of Essential Public Services:. In *Iraq local government program*. Retrieved September 3, 2006, from http://www.rti.org/pubs/llb_1-albasrahrestoremay.05.pdf, p. 1.

[112] Salman, R. (n.d.). "Oil for food" and "Oil for reconstruction". In *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.* Retrieved July 24, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/docs/OilforFdOilforRec%2Epdf

[113] Iraq review 2006. (2006). *CountryWatch*. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from CountryWatch database, p. 28; The peril of defeat and the danger of victory. (2005, August 27). *Economist, 376*(8441), 22-24. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from Business Source Premier database.

[114] Gordon, M. R. Behind U.S. shift on Baghdad, a security failure, *supra* note 102.

[115] Brown, V. J. (2004, June). Reconstructing the environment in Iraq. *Environmental Health Perspectives, 112*(8), A464. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from InfoTrac database, p. A464; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Ed.). *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war*, *supra* note 16, p. 7,

[116] *Ibid.*; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *Gender Statistics Programmes in the Arab Countries*. Retrieved September 1, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/gsp/main/gender.html

[117] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Ed.). *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war*, *supra* note 106. p. 7.

[118] *Ibid.*

[119] Iraq review 2006, *supra* note 103, p. 129; Frew, A. (2003, May 31). Washington diary: Andreas Frew on George Bush's claims to being green, and the hidden damage done to Iraq's environment. *New Scientist*, 178(2397), 53. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from InfoTrac database; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005). *The Environment in the transboundary context in the ESCWA region: Situation and recommendations*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/sdpd-05-5.pdf, p. 34.

[120] *Ibid.*, p. 19.

[121] *Ibid.*

a rather glum picture of the probable damage done. There are various direct effects of the military operations. The breaking up of the thin brittle desert surface by heavy military machinery uncovered sand that may gradually form moving sand dunes, which could persist for hundreds of years.[122] Leaking oil wells pollute the ground water, and burning oil wells, factories, and vehicles create smoke containing highly toxic mercury, sulfur, dioxins, and furans.[123] Moreover, destroyed sewage treatment plants as well as depleted uranium from U.S. armaments contribute to the deterioration of the environment, environmental health, and clean water access.[124] According to The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the mortality rate for children under age five is two and a half times its 1989 level; even though the cause-effect relationship is difficult to precisely establish, this is particularly disturbing since more than 4 per cent of the Iraqi population are under age 14.[125] In addition to the direct damage, indirect environmental damage has to be taken into account, as the part of the population that is displaced by the fighting inevitably settles in already stressed and fragile environments.[126] Because of the vulnerability of the whole region's ecosystem, impacts on the environment in one State are of concern for the entire region.[127]

Rebuilding Iraq: A tremendous task for the international community

The enormous task for Iraq, the multinational force, the region, as well as the international community, therefore, consists in a durable reconstruction of the different spheres of Iraqi social, economic and political life, as well as the provision of general security, thus combining immediate relief with long-term development strategies.[128] This approach is in harmony with the Secretary-Generals emphasizing the interdependence of security, development, and human rights as the three foundations of international cooperation.[129]

The experts of the US State Department were regarded as too soft for the task of rebuilding Iraq; therefore, the strategy of the multinational force is implemented through military command under the control of the Ministry of Defense.[130] Since it is in the military's interest to justify the earlier military strategy of occupation, this often leads to a disregard of the actual systemic and individual needs of the State and population.[131] Consequently, it is left to the international community to tackle these problems with a long-term perspective.[132] The UN asserted its role with SC Resolution 1483 (2003), pertaining to the post-conflict order in Iraq.[133] This resolution terminates all economic sanctions, excluding the weapons embargo. The resolution recognizes the occupying powers de facto while reminding them of their obligations under international law of armed conflict. It stresses several times the right of the Iraqi people to determine their own political future and control their own natural resources. In May 2003, following SC Resolution 1483, the Secretary General appointed the then UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR), the Brazilian Sergio Vieira de Mello, Special Representative in Iraq. When he was killed along with 21 other victims of a bomb blast at the UN mission in Baghdad in August 2003, the UN scaled down their personnel and operations in Iraq, reducing its direct engagement mainly to the activities of the new Special Representative, the Algerian Lakhdar Brahimi. However, the issue of the reconstruction in Iraq remains a priority item on the agenda of the UN, particularly for the SC.[134]

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[122] Future looks bleak for Iraq's fragile environment. (2003, March 15). *New Scientist, 177*(2386), 12-13. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from InfoTrac database, p. 13.

[123] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *The Environment in the transboundary context in the ESCWA Region: Situation and recommendations*, *supra* note 29; Brown, p. A464.

[124] *Ibid.*

[125] *Ibid.*

[126] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005). *The Environment in the transboundary context in the ESCWA region: Situation and recommendations, supra* note 123, p. 19.

[127] *Ibid.*, p. 18-19.

[128] United Nations. Security Council. *Resolution 1483*, *supra* note 106; Diamond, L. (2004, September/October). What went wrong in Iraq. *Foreign Affairs, 83*(5), 34-56. Retrieved July 25, 2006, from Business Source Premier database.

[129] United Nations Secretary-General. (2005, March 31). *In larger freedom: Towards development, security and human rights for all*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/270/78/PDF/N0527078.pdf?OpenElement

[130] *Ibid.*.

[131] Barakat, S. (2005, October). Reconstructing post-Saddam Iraq: An introduction. *Third World Quarterly, 26*(4-5), 565-570. Retrieved July 18, 2006, from EBSCOhost EJS database, p. 568.

[132] *Ibid.*, p. 569.

[133] United Nations. Security Council. *Resolution 1483*, *supra* note 106.

[134] Latest News. (n.d.). *United Nations. Security Council*. Retrieved August 18, 2006, from http://www.un.org/sc/unsc_news.shtml

In many ways, the UN plays an important role in the reconstruction and nation building in Iraq, which exceeds its direct involvement in operations in Iraq. It has proven to be the crucial instance needed to grant the necessary legitimacy to the provisional arrangements in the post-conflict situation. This is particularly true for the Interim Governing Council, which assumed the administrative responsibility in the aftermath of the invasion, before the people had a chance to express their will by casting a vote.[135] Brahimi stressed the importance for the U.S. to hand over the complete power and control to the Interim Government.[136] The SC recognized the Iraqi Interim Government in Resolution 1546 (2003) and established, for the following 12 months, the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI).[137] SC Resolution 1546 (2003) endorses the UN's involvement in preparations of elections to a national assembly and local governments, and affirms that such elections should be held no later than January 2005. These elections were held on January 30, 2005, as well as elections in May 2005 to the Iraq Transitional Government, and, in December 2005, to the permanent government for the term 2006 to 2010.[138]

The current situation in Iraq has regional implications not only in the field of politics, but also in the field of economy, due to the close link to the regional economy through trade, resources, investment and the mobility of labor.[139] Therefore, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), as the regional arm of the UN in Western Asia, play an important role in the rebuilding of Iraq.[140] Regional organizations, like the European Union (EU), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the African Union (AU), the Mercado Común del Sur (MERCOSUR) and others like ESCWA, have proved to be a vital part of the multilateral system, and "regional cooperation and economic integration continue to be an essential strategy for addressing the repercussions of the conflicts and political volatility that plague the region," as the UN Secretary-General reiterates.[141] Consequently, "ESCWA aspires to provide a solid platform to implement regional schemes to mitigate conflicts and support peace by addressing pressing issues" in the region.[142] To achieve long-term sustainable development in a volatile and rapidly changing environment afflicted with continuous instability and conflict, ESCWA needs to determine the root causes of conflict and instability.[143] It is therefore working to improve the prediction and prevention of potential crises, as well as to alleviate the repercussions of conflict and political turmoil and to determine how social-economic development can contribute towards mitigating or preventing conflict.[144]

Besides the objective of "facilitating economic and social cooperation among the countries of the region to achieve regional integration," the other part of ESCWA's twofold mandate is to "familiarize the outside world with the conditions and needs of the countries in the region." [145] To these ends and concerning the reconstruction in Iraq, ESCWA cooperates with other UN agencies like United Nations Online Network for Public Administration and Finance (UN-PAN), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and the UNDP Program on Governance in

[135] Tharoor, S. (2003, September/October). Why America still needs the United Nations. *Foreign Affairs, 82*(5), 67-80. Retrieved July 18, 2006, from EBSCOhost EJS database.

[136] *Ibid.*

[137] United Nations. Security Council. (2004, June 8). *Resolution 1546: The situations between Iraq and Kuwait.* Retrieved July 29, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N04/381/16/PDF/N0438116.pdf?OpenElement

[138] United Nations News Centre, *Iraq electoral fact sheet, supra* note 109.

[139] Kubursi, *supra* note 100, p. 1-2.

[140] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *UNESCWA... at a glance* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.

[141] High-level panel on threats, challenges and change. (2004). *A more secure world: Our shared responsibility. Report of the Secretary-General's high-level panel on threats, challenges and change.* New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from http://www.un.org/secureworld/report2.pdf, p. 85; United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *New challenges in the region and their impact on the work of ESCWA: The Arab region to 2025* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author; United Nations Secretary-General. (2006, May 10). *The Secretary-General - message to the 24th ministerial session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.* Retrieved July 25, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/escwa-8may2006.pdf

[142] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *Emerging & conflict related issues* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.

[143] *Ibid.*

[144] *Ibid.*

[145] United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2006, April 30). *Press release: UNESCWA 24th Ministerial Session to Convene Under Auspices of Lebanese House Speaker*. Retrieved July 10, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/PR-Curtain-Eng-30Apr2006.pdf

the Arab Region (POGAR) and the Special Representative of the Secretary General.[146] Some of these agencies contribute valuable expertise and experience in post-conflict reconstruction, while ESCWA can use its in-house expertise in social and economic development in Iraq and the region, to get involved in the implementation of development projects in Iraq as part of its work to serve and contribute to Iraq's reconstruction.[147] Other important regional and international partners of ESCWA include the League of Arab States, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the World Bank and the Gulf Cooperation Council.[148] In Iraq, ESCWA is concentrating its assistance on some specific areas. One of the priorities is a program for capacity building and networking and the adoption of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) use in remote rural areas.[149] Another is capacity building to improve the quality of governance in public and civic institutions with regard to public administration, rule of law, economic decision-making, and policy formulation.[150] Examples of activities along these lines include training workshops and programs for senior Iraqi public servants and the Smart Community project.[151]

Moving forward: A future for Iraq

In a workshop in July 2003, ESCWA discussed the reconstruction of Iraq, and by issuing recommendations based on the conclusions of this workshop, ESCWA also outlined its own framework of action.[152] The outcome document stresses the need for cooperation between the occupying powers and the international community. It equally emphasizes the need for strict political independence of the international organizations operating in Iraq: It reiterates that the neutrality of the UN and its agencies is important to enhance the legitimacy of its operations.[153]

Since 2003, ESCWA has been active in Iraq through an ad-hoc task force established within the commission.[154] Since the capacity of outsiders to develop the skills and expertise necessary to reconstruct a decapitated State is limited, the Iraq Task Force (ITF) was set up in order to engage in forming project ideas and processing them with the view of obtaining necessary funds and resources for their implementation.[155] Its activities are at present focused on three main operational fields: electronic networks for exchange of information and academic networking; training programs, particularly in administration; and technology to fight poverty through so-called "Smart Communities."[156] Other recommendations of the seminal workshop pertain to the domains of macro finances, education, and the judicial system.[157]

In January 2006, ESCWA established the Unit for Emerging and Conflict Related Issues (ECRI) "in order to consolidate the efforts of the task forces [on conflicts in the region], and to develop further the activities of the

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[146] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war*, *supra* note 16, p. 6.

[147] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: Iraq Task Force*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/index.asp

[148] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war*, *supra* note 16, p. 6; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *UNESCWA... at a glance, supra* note 50.

[149] *Ibid.*

[150] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *Emerging & conflict related issues, supra* note 52.

[151] *Ibid.*

[152] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003). *Reconstruction of Iraq. An Arab economic and social view. Report on the Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war, Beirut, 9-11 July 2003, held by ESCWA.* New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/sdpd-03-9.pdf

[153] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war*, *supra* note 16, p. 3; Barakat, S. Post-Saddam Iraq: Deconstructing a regime, reconstructing a nation, *supra* note 17, p. 587.

[154] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *Emerging & conflict related issues, supra* note 52; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: Iraq Task Force*, *supra* note 57.

[155] Hendrickson, D. C., & Tucker, R. W. (2005). *Revisions in need of revising: What went wrong in the Iraq war*. Carlisle: The Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College, p. iii; UNESCWA Iraq Task Force. (n.d.) *What's New.* Retrieved July 4, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/index.asp

[156] *Ibid.*

[157] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war*, *supra* note 16, p. 5-7.

Commission".[158] In accordance with these objectives, the new unit is aimed to act as a catalyst for the incorporation of "socio-economic development needs of conflict-stricken countries into the work of substantive divisions within ESCWA" in order to enhances ESCWA's capacities to formulate and implement related policies and programs.[159] The head of the Unit, Mr. Antoine Mansour, recently participated in meetings on the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq (IRFFI), as well as on the roles and needs of Iraqi civil society institutions in rebuilding Iraq. At the same time, he is fostering relations with international and Iraqi civil organizations to facilitate potential collaboration in the reconstruction of Iraq.[160]

Ministerial sessions of ESCWA took place in spring 2003, 2005 and 2006, respectively.[161] The UN Secretary-General calls the ministerial sessions of ESCWA an "important mechanism for formulating and solidifying regional cooperation."[162] Indeed, during these – usually biannual – conferences, the policies of ESCWA, and its general directives are elaborated and expressed in the resolutions issued by the session. The 23rd ministerial conference in 2005 issued a resolution on peace and security and their impact on economic and social development in the ESCWA region.[163] Following up on the UN Millennium Declaration, the 23rd session also issued the Damascus Declaration on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) in the ESCWA region.[164] These goals are particularly relevant for Iraq since the MDG indicators in Iraq have deteriorated because of the sanctions that were imposed on it for over ten years, in addition to the consequences of armed conflict.[165] The health conditions in Iraq are dire, with infant and maternal mortality on the rise.[166] Illiteracy is around 50 per cent, posing great challenges for the educational system.[167] The 24th ministerial session passed Resolution 274 (2006), which establishes the regional technology center, aimed at strengthening the national technological capacities necessary to achieve the MDG, and to "strengthen economic and social development and regional and international cooperation in technological fields."[168] In Resolution 271 (2006), the 24th ministerial session delineates ESCWA's role in addressing the impact of conflict and instability within the context of social and economic development.[169] While

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[158] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. *Emerging & conflict related issues, supra* note 52.

[159] *Ibid.*

[160] What's New. Following Up Emerging Issues in Palestine and Iraq. (2006, July 4). *What's New-ESCWA.* Retrieved July 4, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/main/scroll/printwhatsnew.asp?id=24

[161] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003). *ESCWA 22nd ministerial session.* Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session22/ex1.html; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005). *23rd ministerial session of ESCWA.* Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session/main.asp; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2006). *24th ministerial session of ESCWA.* Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/maine.asp

[162] United Nations Secretary-General. *The Secretary-General - message to the 24th ministerial session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, supra* note 51.

[163] United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. 23rd Session. (2005, May 3). *Peace and security and their impact on economic and social development.* (E/ESCWA/23/4(Part I)). Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session/Peace23e.pdf

[164] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005). Damascus declaration on the realization of the millennium development goals in the ESCWA region. In *23rd ministerial session of ESCWA: Resolutions adopted by the commission.* Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session/docs.asp?menuID=25&topic=Resolutions%20adopted%20by%20the%20Commission&lang=e; United Nations. General Assembly. 55th Session. (2000, September 18). *Resolution 2: Millennium Declaration.* Retrieved July 23, 2006 from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N00/559/51/PDF/N0055951.pdf?OpenElement; The UN Millennium Development Goals. (2005). *UN Millennium Development Goals.* Retrieved July 20, 2006, from http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/goals.html

[165] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *A review of the realization of the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCWA region, in accordance with the Damascus Declaration* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.

[166] *Ibid.*

[167] *Ibid.*

[168] United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. 24th Session. (2006, May 11). *Resolution 274: The establishment of the ESCWA Technology Centre.* Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/Draft24e.pdf

[169] United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. 24th Session. (2006, May 11). *Resolution 271: Strengthening the role of ESCWA in addressing the impact of conflict and instability within the context of social and economic development.* Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/Draft24e.pdf, p. 10-11.

"[a]*ppreciating* the economic and social development initiatives of the ESCWA secretariat and its capacity-building activities in the occupied Palestinian territories and Iraq," this resolution reaffirms ESCWA's mandate to improve its Member States' "capacities to assess, predict, and respond to socio-economic and political challenges posed by conflict." [170] ESCWA should achieve this aim by "monitoring, analyzing, and reporting on the repercussions of conflict and instability on socioeconomic development in Western Asia."; it should also elaborate and implement "operational activities for the rehabilitation and development of conflict-stricken areas, including capacity-building projects for the public sector and civil society."[171] The resolution equally calls upon ESCWA to identifying needs of conflict-stricken States in order to be able to assist these countries through technical cooperation and the systematic improvement of good governance.[172] Accordingly, one of the main policy issues at the 24th conference of May 2006 was State institution building, which is of particular relevance for Iraq.[173]

Conclusion

In the efforts to rebuild Iraq, it is important how the reconstruction is carried out.[174] Contributions to peace-building and the restoration of a shared national life are crucial to create the level of security necessary for an accountable State-building process leading to responsible and sovereign institutions with recognized legitimacy.[175] Therefore, one of the great challenges ahead is the harmonization of the political agendas of the different regional and global actors. ESCWA can function as a mediator between the international community and the need for a regional approach for durable reconstruction, including economy, political institutions, and society.[176] It can thus play an important role in helping to realize the Iraqi people's dream of security, peace and a better life after many decades of hardship.

The following questions may be a starting point for your research:

- Who are the present and potential partners and how, with their help, can ESCWA's agenda best be implemented? Where can ESCWA get further involved directly?
- What are your country's visions for the reconstruction of Iraq? How does the situation in Iraq affect your country?
- Which ESCWA projects is your country involved with? What does it fund, what does it support?
- How can lessons learned from other regional case studies better be included in the strategy for the reconstruction of Iraq? Can other regional organizations serve as a model for some aspects of peace building and reconstruction?
- How can ESCWA's political independence be safeguarded? How can the blurring of the line between military intervention and humanitarian aid in the minds of the local population be avoided? [177]
- How can the empowerment of women help to address the urgent challenges of poverty and unemployment?

III. Continuing Efforts in Secure Housing, Land Tenure, and Good Urban Governance

Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social, and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.[178]

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[170] *Ibid.*

[171] *Ibid.*

[172] *Ibid.*

[173] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *The twenty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.

[174] Barakat, S. Reconstructing post-Saddam Iraq: An introduction, *supra* note 41, p. 585.

[175] *Ibid.*, p. 585-586.

[176] Kubursi, *supra* note 1, p. 1.

[177] Barakat, S. Post-Saddam Iraq: Deconstructing a regime, reconstructing a nation, *supra* note 107, p. 569.

[178] United Nations. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. New York City: United Nations Department of Public Information, 1948. United Nations. Retrieved July, 15 2006, from http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html

The *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*[179] and the *Universal Islamic Declaration of Human Rights* both promise to protect the rights of individuals to exist and to reside peaceably within their homeland.[180] This right to reside in a state of social security encompasses one of the most basic of human needs: the need to be free from fear regarding one's residence and livelihood.[181] However, despite such commitments made by the international community to secure these important rights for the peoples of the world, today many, especially those living in the developing world, live in constant fear for their lives, homes, and businesses.[182] In fact, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center estimates that 2.1 million internally displaced persons live in the Middle East.[183] Moreover, by all estimates, more than five million refugees live in the area.[184] Such a dynamic has severe repercussions on the social structures in these countries. In the West Asian region, an area especially prone to conflict, many of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Member States face unstable social, economic, and political conditions domestically as a result of their people's lack of secure housing, legal land ownership and, increasingly, from the corrupt and nontransparent governance of urban areas.

Major Sources of Instability

Many domestic, regional, and international conflicts have impacted the personal security of individuals living within ESCWA Member States. In the West Asian region, many military conflicts have led to the displacement of large numbers of people.[185] Most directly, conflicts involving Israel and the occupied territories, including the Golan Heights, the Palestinian territories, and Lebanon, have left specific geographic regions with little stability or security while creating large numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons.[186] The United States' invasion of Afghanistan (2001) and Iraq (2003) left both ESCWA Member States destabilized and more prone to sectarian and tribalistic violence.[187] Refugees are the group most negatively impacted by instabilities related to land and property. In fall of 2006, the conflict between Lebanon and Israel displaced more than 500,000 people between July 12, 2006 and the end of that month.[188] Furthermore, United Nations (UN) statistics show that, as the result of Israel's control over the Palestinian territories, more than 400,000 Palestinians claimed asylum in the other West Asian Member States.[189] The Palestinian and, more recently, Lebanese diasporas cause problems not only to the displaced peoples but also within the host society, which must deal with issues such as increased unemployment and housing issues. Unfortunately, the policies of the host countries are routinely discriminatory against the refugee populations in order to ensure the national populations' employment and security.[190] This, in turn, frustrates the already aggravated refugee populations and leads to higher crime rates and difficult social problems, including poor health, extreme

[179] *Ibid.*

[180] Islamic Council. Universal Islamic Declaration of Human Rights. 19 Sept. 1981. Al Hewar Center: The Center for Arab Culture and Dialogue. 2006. Retrieved July 17, 2006, from http://www.alhewar.com/ISLAMDECL.html

[181] United Nations Department of Public Information, *supra* note 1.

[182] *Ibid.*

[183] Internal Displacement Monitoring Center. Internal Displacement in the Middle East. Internal Displacement Monitoring Center Publications (August 2006). Retrieved August 25, 2006, from http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004CE90B/(httpRegionPages)/F4C363E496AB88D1802570A6005599C7?opendocument

[184] *Ibid.*

[185] United Nations Development Programme. *The Arab Human Development Report.* Amman, Jordan: United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Arab States, 2005. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from: http://www.un-ngls.org/Arab_Human_Development_Report_2004_eng.pdf

[186] The Palestine Refugee Problem. (2001). *MidEast Web.* Retrieved July 2, 2006, from MidEast Web for Coexistence Web site: http://www.mideastweb.org/refugees1.htm

[187] Rebuilding Lives in Afghanistan. (2006). *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.* Retrieved July 18, 2006, from:. http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/afghan

[188] Internal Displacement Monitoring Center. Israeli military operations continue to cause large-scale displacement. Internal Displacement Monitoring Center Publications (July 2006). Retrieved July 30, 2006, from http://www.hic-mena.org/pNewsId.asp?Id=429

[189] United Nations. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. *2003 UNHCR Statistical Yearbook Country Data Sheet - Occupied Palestinian Territory.* Geneva, Switzerland: United Nations Department of Public Information, 2003. Retrieved July 17, 2006, from http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/statistics/opendoc.pdf?tbl=STATISTICS&id=41d2c1970

[190] Lebanon Refugee Camp Profiles. (2003). *United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East Lebanon Refugee Camps Profile.* Retrieved July 17, 2006, from http://www.un.org/unrwa/refugees/lebanon.html

poverty, and other human rights concerns within the refugee camps.[191] Thus, military actions caused by foreign forces and international conflicts destabilize the housing situation for people in the West Asian Member States.

Domestic instability provides another key deterrent to secure housing, land development, and good and transparent urban governance. Poverty is the leading cause of homelessness and one of many sources of tension. The UN's Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), in its report entitled *The State of the World's Cities 2006–2007,* estimates more than 1,200 "slum" areas in Egypt, although the same report notes that because the Egyptian government does not allocate land for the poorest segments of the population, most of the heavily impoverished Egyptians live illegally on "agricultural land… in tombs [and by] building desert settlements and…on rooftops."[192] This further strains Egyptian society. Ola Abbas, the vice-chairman of the General Organisation for Physical Planning at the Egyptian housing ministry, noted that "the effects of the slums aren't only on the people who live in them…They're on the whole society. Terrorism comes from slums. Sickness comes from slums. Any area that has a negative health and social environment causes problems for the entire country."[193] Likewise, UN estimates reveal that more than 58% of Palestinian lives below the poverty line and thus faces great stress regarding their homes and livelihoods.[194]

Additional sources of the domestic, urban instability, most specifically among the poorest segments of populations, are the increasing ethnic and religious tensions in this region. In some cases, these tensions, such as those existing in Iraq under the rule of Saddam Hussein, have led to the forced relocation of ethnic minorities by the national governments.[195] Social and political stability in the years since the United States' invasion of Iraq has materially worsened: of the estimated 2.1 million internally displaced persons residing in the Middle East, 1.3 million of them reside in Iraq.[196] While these relocations are no longer forced by the government, they result increasingly from sectarian conflicts.[197] After the bombing of the Al Ashkari, or the Al Azhar shrine on February 23, 2006, 81,000 people were forced out of their homes.[198] Finally, because of the military operations in Iraq, several hundred thousand Iraqis were displaced; however, the numbers are only estimates due to the nature of the military involvement.[199]

While military upheaval accounts for most of the instability of housing and land issues, a lack of legally defined and respected property rights also adds to the insecurity in this region. It is prohibitively difficult, time-consuming, and expensive in most West Asian Member States for individuals to legally purchase their homes and businesses. Research conducted by Hernando de Soto, the Peruvian property rights expert, demonstrated that it could take an Egyptian citizen up to 30 years to purchase their home if they followed all the required legal channels. The bureaucratic complications of this system prompt many to live in illegally constructed residences and also make it more difficult for the poorer members of society to improve their standards of living.[200] Without clearly delineated and acknowledged land rights, citizens will overuse and under protect farms and urban areas, falling victim to an economic concept called the "tragedy of the commons."[201] Because no one owns an area legally, no one benefits from its responsible development. This often leads to severe environmental degradation and, in an arid area such as

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[191] *Ibid.*
[192] Hubbard, Ben. Egypt: Housing Policy gets Mixed Reviews. Integrated Regional News Network (June 2006). Retrieved July 17, 2006, from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=54031&SelectRegion=Middle_East
[193] *Ibid.*
[194] United Nations Development Programme, *supra* note 185.
[195] Samad, Samah. Ethnic Tensions Rising in Kirkuk. Kurdish Media: United Kurdish Voice 2 Feb. 2006. Retrieved July 18, 2006, from http://www.kurdmedia.com/news.asp?id=11257
[196] International Displacement Monitoring Center. Interactive Map. Internal Displacement in the Middle East. 2006. Retrieved July 18, 2006, from http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004CE90B/(httpMapCountries)/718916EEB6743EEF802570A7004CB9B9?opendocument
[197] *Ibid.*
[198] *Ibid.*
[199] *Ibid.*
[200] *Ibid.*
[201] Tragedy of the Commons from Economics A-Z. (2006). *The Economist.* Retrieved July 21, 2006, http://www.economist.com/research/Economics/alphabetic.cfm?LETTER=T#TRAGEDY%20OF%20THE%20COMMONS

Western Asia, to desertification of previously arable areas as well as the continued pollution of the scarce water resources.[202]

Finally, the aforementioned problems involving housing and land use are often worsened by problems with local governments, which are too-often corrupt or prejudicial.[203] According to the 2004 Arab Human Development Report, the Arab World enjoys few freedoms and rights and is dominated by two forms of government: undemocratic regimes and tribalism.[204] While the 2004 Report demonstrates this dynamic on a national level, in reality the two different types of governments have the most direct impact on people's lives on the local level. Urban governance is carried out by local law enforcement personnel such as mayors and police forces that are, like the national governments, often corrupt and based upon tribal hierarchies. In Iraqi Kurdistan, for example, it is impossible for a corporation to conduct business without "entering into a partnership with [Massoud] Barzani," the leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party, or one of his relatives.[205] Thus, the economic and political power within this region depend not on the prevalence of the rule of law but rather upon the will of an individual more concerned with his own welfare than that of his people. Largely because of the support of the local Kurdish militias, Massoud Barzani's net worth increased from an inconsequential amount when he returned to Kurdistan in 1991 to an estimated sum of $2 billion in 2005.[206] The independent actions of local governments or political parties further complicate urban and local governance. Unfortunately, these groups can have a destabilizing effect on an international scale: local governments or local militias can operate semi-independently, such as Hamas before the elections of 2006 and Lebanon in the fall of 2006.[207] In both of these cases, the militant activities of each separate group against Israel caused for increased hostilities and decreased stability of relations within all involved populations. All questions of good governance, especially on the local level, carry tremendous weight as potential as stabilizing forces within this region.

Current International Efforts to Address Security and Property Issues in Western Asia

ESCWA has taken many steps to address housing, land tenure, and urban governance problems. A successful example is the UN Regional Coordination Group, which was established within the ESCWA and is designed to coordinate the work of the various UN and regional bodies, including the UN Development Programme, the UN Conference on Trade and Development, the UN Human Development Programme, the League of Arab States, and many others working specifically on issues effecting the West Asian Member States. By working organizations such as those previously mentioned, ESCWA has had many successes in dealing with specific issues such as urban planning and environmental questions and by incorporating the contributions of many different civil society organizations and Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

In order to better coordinate activities throughout the ESCWA region, the ESCWA relies upon nine separate programs that deal with specific issues affecting the region. The Social Development Division of the ESCWA, for example, has worked with Member States on many social policy issues, including urban and housing programs. This division worked with the Inclusive Cities Programme to further the development of communities in Beirut that allowed for increased participation of youth and disabled within in their community.[208] The Sustainable Development and Productivity Division of the ESCWA has worked extensively to develop rural areas in environmentally responsible ways. The Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development Team works with Member States to develop agricultural programs specific to the problems of each Member State's land usage.[209] The Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development Team also sponsors conferences such as the November 2005 Seminar on Enhancing Agricultural Productivity through On-Farm Water-Use Efficiency in order to address

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[202] Isaac, Jad. A Dry Peace in the Middle East. Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem. Retrieved July 21, 2006, from http://www.arij.org/pub/events/drypeace.htm

[203] United Nations Development Programme, *supra* note 185.

[204] *Ibid.*

[205] Rubin, Michael. The Middle East's Real Bane: Corruption. Beirut Daily Star. November 18, 2005.

[206] *Ibid.*

[207] An Accidental War. (2006, July). *The Economist, 13-14.*

[208] Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia's Social Development Division. *Inclusive Cities Program.* ESCWA. Retrieved August 26, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/cities/index.html

[209] Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (2002). *Capacity-Building Workshop on Rural Development: Policies, Strategies and Institutional Reform* (E/ESCWA/AGR/2002/1). Retrieved July 5, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/agr-02-01.pdf

common problems to the West Asian agricultural sector.[210] These conferences have been especially effective at fostering international cooperation between ESCWA Member States and international groups and organizations such as the International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies, the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, and the German Technical Cooperation.[211] Furthermore, the team also assembled several important conferences aimed at nurturing competitive agro-business in the region.[212] However, without clearly delineated and well-respected property rights to these areas, the efforts taken by the division as well as civil society within these regions will not materially better the conditions for the poorest segments of the West Asian societies. Consequently, the positive economic growth in ESCWA Member States such as Egypt, whose economy grew at a steady 6% for the last few years and whose budget regularly shows surpluses, still fails to provide for the basic needs of the poor in the society. Despite this demonstrably positive economic growth, in Egypt the "state schools, universities, and hospitals… have worsened; only private courses or fee-paying sections provide a decent service." Meat has become a luxury."[213]

Over the last few years, both the oil producing and non-producing ESCWA Member States and have taken steps to diversify their economies.[214] While these changes have led to some concrete economic development, they have also led to increased participation on the part of civil society within governmental institutions. In order to assist its Member States to achieve enhanced development, ESCWA worked with several of these countries in the Capacity-Building Workshop on Rural Development, Strategies, and Institutional Reform in 2002.[215] The goal of this conference was to improve the productivity of the rural sector through strategic, regional cooperation in conjunction with the reform of governmental institutions. As a result of this conference and in order to incorporate policies that would promote economic growth, many of the ESCWA governments have started to make institutional reforms that will allow for increased involvement from civil society particularly on the local level. For example, although a monarchy that adheres strictly to the laws of shari'a, Saudi Arabia has instituted democratic reforms that allowed male citizens to elect a part of the local government.[216] In the West Asian region, such policy changes have major effects on the different classes and social groups. While reforms such as these within the most conservative of societies indicate a major shift in domestic policy, the governments face increasing and widespread dissatisfaction domestically because of the generally low standards of living in the poor and lower middle class segments of the populations.[217] The West Asian governments are slow to embrace reform largely due to the fact that their claims to political legitimacy stem from historical and often religious traditions. However, should these conservative societies diversify their economies and government infrastructures to incorporate the previously disenfranchised members of society, the private sector will reap some benefits through increased employment and a generally improved quality of life.

Conclusion

Many conflicts have torn the vibrant West Asian region apart frequently over the last century, and civil societies have suffered dramatically. People live in deep fear and lack safe shelter and access to vital resources. As the recent Israel–Lebanon conflict showed, even those areas considered stable and secure can erupt with little or no notice. This constant state of socioeconomic instability and insecurity causes lasting psychological effects on the populations involved and undermines the efforts toward long-term regional stability. Moreover, because the legal systems of many West Asian Member States do not protect individual property rights, and sometimes further discriminate against certain groups (such as women, minorities, and refugees), the societies cannot reach their economic and social potential. Thus, property and physical resources in this region, such as land, water and other natural resources which are already scarce, continue to be irresponsibly utilized. Furthermore, without meaningful policy changes, the poorest members of West Asian society will fail to benefit from any such development as the

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[210] Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (2005). *Relevant Information: Seminar on Enhancing Agricultural Productivity through On-Farm Water-Use Efficiency, Beirut, 23-25 November 2005.* Retrieved August 10, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/otherdetails.asp?id=344

[211] *Ibid.*

[212] *Ibid.*

[213] Egypt: Forwards, Backwards. The Economist. The Economist (May 2006).

[214] Country Briefing: Saudi Arabia, Forecast. The Economist (June 2006). Retrieved July 21, 2006, from http://www.economist.com/countries/SaudiArabia/profile.cfm?folder=Profile-Forecast

[215] Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, *supra* note 32.

[216] *Ibid.*

[217] The Economist, *supra* note 207.

division of labor continues to exclude them. Finally, neither the personal security of individuals nor the ecologically responsible development of lands will occur without the long overdue changes to governments on the local level and specifically within the cities.

In light of the ESCWA's recent efforts, please consider what, if any, efforts your State made to provide safe and secure housing to its citizens. Has your State participated in any regional programs related to improving housing? What efforts are being made by NGOs in your state? Also, please consider the land tenure and development policies of your assigned Member State. What programs, if any, is your State participating in that promote responsible land usage? Has your country used the resources provided by the ESCWA in order to address land use issues in the past? Finally, what is your State doing in order to advance good urban governance on the local level? Has your State taken any efforts to increase transparency and public involvement in governance?

Annotated Bibliography

History of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Nédélec, S., & Destremau, B. (1999). *Twenty-five years of service to the region's development*. Beirut: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Africa. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from United Nations Documents Web site: http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/I99/003/50/img/I9900350.pdf?OpenElement
This publication is a summary of the history of the commission from its beginning until 1999. This source provides a concise overview of the economical and political background of the region, as well as the commission's main areas of work. It also provides a description of the cooperation within the Member States and a quantitative analysis of the commission's activities to promote its goals. It does not provide further bibliography, but it contains information gathered through interviews to former staff at the ESCWA, thus giving a human touch to the history of the commission.

United Nations. (2004). *Towards integrated social development policies: A conceptual analysis*. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from United Nations Documents database.
This publication introduces the social policy history and contextualizes it, putting into a historical perspective. It compares the social policy Anglo-Saxon models with the Nordic models and lastly gives an overview of welfare measures of isolated colonial cases. It also analyzes the impact of the WTO and IMF policies on social policies and how they can take place parallel to development. Finally, it studies the challenges of the ESCWA countries.

United Nations. (2004). *United Nations System Chart*. Retrieved July 30, 2006, from http://www.un.org/aboutun/chart.html
This organizational chart illustrates the structure of the UN system. It provides information on which organizations and organs belong to the system and on how they are related to each other. Direct links facilitate easy access to the web sites of the organizations.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *Programmes*. Retrieved July 10, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/main.asp?division=sdpd
The official web site of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia offers a good overview of the different programs and their missions and strategies. It also has a link to their library that further takes to the documents.un.org page. This is a good way for beginners to be familiarized with the UN Documents search engine. The major drawback of the ESCWA-web site is that it does not have a general mission statement or any history of the commission.

United Nations. Economic and Social Council for Western Asia. (n.d.). Social Development Division. In *United Nations Economic and Social Council for Western Asia*. Retrieved August 29, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/main.asp?division=sdd
This is the web site of ESCWA's Social Development Division (SDD). It strives to achieve regional cooperation in the advocacy and promotion of comprehensive and integrated social policies that are

region-specific, culturally sensitive, and have a practical orientation. It comprises key documents, news, and helpful links.

United Nations. Economic and Social Council for Western Asia. (n.d.). Sustainable Development and Productivity Division. In *United Nations Economic and Social Council for Western Asia*. Retrieved August 29, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/main.asp?division=sdpd
This is the web site of ESCWA's Sustainable Development and Productivity Division (SDPD). It aims to promote regional integration and cooperation among ESCWA member countries through an intensive approach to integrated sustainable management of water and energy and the production sectors. It places special emphasis on increasing access of the poor to cheap energy and water, and facilitating the creation of new jobs. The web site provides news, key documents, and helpful links.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *The twenty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.
The 24th ministerial session of ESCWA, held in Beirut on May 8-11, 2006, addressed a number of organizational and financial management issues. Several important matters related to general policy issues, like new challenges in the ESCWA region; youth unemployment and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCWA region and the Damascus Declaration were also discussed. This pamphlet provides a short summary of the meeting.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *UNESCWA... at a glance* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.
The Pamphlet gives an overview over the objectives, the mandate, the priorities, program, and the most significant achievements of UNESCWA as the regional arm of the United Nations in the Arab world. The cited goals include the promotion of economic and social development processes in the Member States, the strengthening of cooperation between the States of the region, the achievement of regional integration of Member States, the achievement of synergy between the countries of the region, and ensuring the exchange of information about experiences, good practice and lessons learned. One of the achievements mentioned is the assistance to countries affected by conflict, notably Palestine and Iraq, for whom the above cited is all the more important in their efforts for (re-)construction.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Ed.). (2002, March 5). *Revised medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005*. Beirut. Retrieved July 4, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/S-4/L.3/Rev.1).
This is the ESCWA report for the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It describes the goals, and the measures to be taken for each of the work areas of the commission in regards to the years of 2002-2005.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003, March 28). *Report of the executive secretary on the activities of the commission*. Beirut. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/22/4(Part II)).
This web site describes the main program of activities and the progress made during 2002 in the implementation of the program of the work for the year 2002-2003. The priorities for this year are management of water and energy, social policy, globalization, and technology. The measures for each of these work areas are described. It also contains a re-evaluation of the projects.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003, October 27). *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 6, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/SDPD/2003/9): http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/I03/007/74/img/I0300774.pdf?OpenElement
Report on the workshop on the reconstruction of Iraq after the war with conclusions and recommendations. Provides an overview of the issues of reconstruction of Iraq, starting with funding and public debt, to its social implications. It also sketches the role the United Nations should play in the peace effort. It provides concrete recommendations from legal to economical nature.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003, November 3). *Tentative plan of action for Western Asia: Building the regional information society*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 4, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/ICTD/2003/12).
This is the ESCWA program for 2003, concerning the development of the information technology in the region because of the World Summit on Information Society held in Geneva in 2003. Information technology is seen as a means to improve economic and living standards, and especially to decrease unemployment.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2004, February 5). *Central issues related to social policies: Comparative study and guidelines for the formulation of social policies in the ESCWA region*. Retrieved July 4, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/SDD/2004/2).
This study follows a comparative approach. After the analysis of social policies in selected developed countries outside the ESCWA region, it outlines requirements for effective social policies and recommends steps to be taken to implement them in the ESCWA region. It concludes that relatively low social policy integration in the ESCWA region leads to loss of resources in the field, where cooperation could improve the effectiveness of social policy measures.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005, January 11). *Economic trends and impacts in the ESCWA region*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 6, 2006, from United Nations Documents database (E/ESCWA/EAD/2005/2):
http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/ead-05-2.pdf
This report provides information about the financial systems of the ESCWA region and the links between finance and growth as well as the country profiles. Studies the economic situation in the ESCWA region with relation to the economic crisis from 1997 in East Asia. The aim of the study is to provide a view of the risks of the financial systems and measures to avoid economic crisis like the above mentioned. It provides a comprehensive number of tables.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005, March 11). *Arab-International Forum on Rehabilitation and Development in the occupied Palestinian territory*. Retrieved July 8, 2006, from
http://www.escwa.org.lb/main/pal/docs/Plorepe.pdf
This is the report on the workshop on issues relating to the occupied Palestinian territories, held in 2004. A panel of experts discusses some strategies for development of the territory. Concrete measures to improve the quality of life are listed. Particularly relevant to the ESCWA is the section on the partnership with the Arab countries, as well as the role of the Arab private sector in development.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005). *Annotated Agenda. 23rd ministerial session of ESCWA*. Retrieved July 10, 2006, from
http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session/maine.asp?menuID=4&topic=Annotated%20Agenda&lang=e
This web site contains the agenda to be discussed in the 23rd ministerial session of ESCWA, held May 9-12, 2005, in Damascus. The emphases of the main working areas are listed. The focus issues of the commission, and how the implementation of the global summit takes place, are clearly presented.

United Nations. Economic and Social Council. 36th Session. (1963, July 5). *Resolution 955:Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions*. Retrieved August 30, 2006, from United Nations Documents Database.
This resolution recognizes the important role that the regional economic commissions play in the work of the ECOSOC in general and the preparation of the United Nations Conference on Development and Trade (UNCTAD) in particular. It therefore encourages the strengthening of these commissions. It invites the Secretary-General to explore ways and means of expanding the economic and social activities of the UN Office in Beirut and encourages a further process of decentralization of economic and social activities.

United Nations. Economic and Social Council. 55th Session. (1973, August 13). *Resolution 1818: Establishment of an economic commission for Western Asia*. Retrieved July 25, 2006, from ESCWA Web site:
http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/library.asp
This is the founding document of ESCWA. It gives basic information about the structure and inner workings of the ESCWA. This is an absolute must-read for your preparation!

United Nations. General Assembly. 18th Session. (1963, December 11). *Resolution 1941: Decentralization of the Economic and Social Activities of the United Nations and Strengthening of the Regional Economic Commissions and the United Nations Office in Beirut.* Retrieved July 30, 2006, from United Nations Documents Web site: http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/186/16/IMG/NR018616.pdf?OpenElement
This Resolution endorses a report of the Secretary-General on decentralization, as well as recommendations by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as well as the ECOSOC. It stresses the importance of all United Nations regional commissions and the Office in Beirut, strengthening its competences in the field of technical assistance. It emphasizes notably the importance for the Office to get involved not only in the formulation, but also in the execution and evaluation of regional projects, while undertaking the related financial and administrative responsibilities.

United Nations. General Assembly. 2nd Session. (1947, November 29). *Resolution 181: Future government of Palestine.* Retrieved July 30, 2006, from http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/2/ares2.htm
This resolution has become famous as the basis of UN policy towards the solution of the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. Its conclusions are based on a UN commission that examined the situation in Palestine and Europe. Important background information for anyone interested in the Middle East.

Additional Sources

Yemen. (2006, July 20). *The world factbook* (introduction). Retrieved July 25, 2006, from CIA Web site: https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ym.html#top
This online factbook is a valuable resource to find quick and straightforward information about the States of the world. There is little information on history, but fast facts about the current economic and political situation. It provides a lot of statistics and numbers. It is a good place to start searching information about your country, but you will later on need to put it into context

I. Formulating a Regional Response to Globalization: Creating Economic Opportunities and Addressing the Social Consequences

Abed, G. T., & Davoodi, H. R. (n.d.). Of Growth and Development in the Middle East and North Africa. *International Monetary Fund.* Retrieved July 5, 2006, from http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/med/2003/eng/creane/index.htm
George Abed and Hamid R. Davood published this report for the International Monetary Fund. As such, delegates should use discretion with using this information as the IMF does not necessarily represent the general sentiments of the Arab street. However, it does provide a concise analysis of the economic effects of globalization on ESCWA Member States.

Barber, B. (1996). *Jihad vs. McWorld: How Globalism and Tribalism are Reshaping the World.* New York City: Random House. pp. 23–24.
Barber offers a great analysis of how globalization simultaneously integrates and fragments the world's societies within this book. While written from a decidedly western and academic perspective, the analysis will be very helpful in understanding this complicated region. This book is especially effective at illuminating the cultural aspects of globalization and the cultural tensions caused by increased integration.

Chua, A. (2003). *World on Fire: How exporting free market democracy breeds ethnic hatred and global instability.* New York: Doubleday.
In this book, Amy Chua provides an insightful analysis of the impact of free market democracy on less developed countries. She shows how globalization worsens ethnic hatreds between certain groups. This text provides a good analysis of how globalization has affected various social groups in Western Asia. Chapter 10 will be particularly useful as delegates explore this region. Delegates of economics will be particularly interested in the economic approach Chua takes to the complicated issue of democratic reforms.

Davidson, Christopher M. (2005). *The United Arab Emirate: A Study in Survival.* London: Lynne Riener Publishers. p. 251.

Davidson uses his thesis to explore the effects of globalization and other important factors effecting West Asia from the perspective of the United Arab Emirates. As a case study, it provides excellent and grounded research. The thesis explores the evolution of the UAE from a historical perspective and ultimately explores many of the reasons for the country's current economic successes while simultaneously revealing aspects of the evolving societal debate.

Economic and Social Commission for West Asia. (2005). *Impact of globalization on the social situation in the ESCWA region*. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/sdd/events/19dec05.html
ESCWA's background guides for this important globalization conference provide a basic introduction to both the purpose and process of the conference. Unfortunately, the papers presented at this conference have not yet been translated to English; however the background information will be useful as it sets up the reasons for such a conference. It is strongly recommended that delegates review their assigned country's government and media outlets in order to understand this important conference as fully as possible.

El Saadawi, N. (1997) Women and the Poor. In *The Nawal El Saadawi Reader*, pp. 11–20. London: Zed Books.
El Saadawi consistently provides a deep and inside analysis of the impact of aid programs on the state of women and the poor in developing countries. The section regarding globalization is an excellent source for delegates' work with this topic. As an activist, El Saadawi has devoted her life and career to helping the disenfranchised in Egyptian society and is especially insightful in addressing the human rights concerns that result from globalization and increased global integration.

European Commission. Delegation of the European Commission in Egypt. (May 2006*.) The Pan-Arab Free Trade Area. Regional Integration Arrangements*. Retrieved August 20, 2006, from http://64.233.161.104/search?q=cache:kW2of_7d4MoJ:www.eu-delegation.org.eg/en/EU-Egypt_Trade_issues/Docs/Regional%2520Integration%2520Arrangements7.doc+pan+arab+free+trade+area&hl=en&gl=us&ct=clnk&cd=7&client=firefox-a
The European Commission in Egypt produced this report after their trade negotiations. The writers do an excellent job of summarizing the most important trade agreements affecting the ESCWA region. The document also provides excellent statistics relating to this discussion that will be useful for delegates' preparations.

Friedman, T. (2000). *The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding Globalization*. New York City: Anchor Books.
Friedman's book does an excellent job of explaining and analyzing globalization and its impact on international relations. Friedman's attitudes regarding globalization differ greatly from the attitudes of those in many of the Western Asian nations and represent a very positive and decidedly western outlook on the subject. However, for delegates wishing to understand the development of globalization and more importantly the effect of globalization on international affairs, this book provides an excellent guide to understanding globalization.

Friedman, T. L. (2006). *The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*. New York City: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
Among other important topics covered within this book, Friedman does an excellent job of demonstrating how a series of technological advances allowed for the rapid spread of globalization. It will be particularly interesting for those delegates wishing to understand supply chain economics and, along with some regionally specific information; this book also provides many examples of the benefits of globalization. It can also provide some examples of successful cooperative measures that harnessed some of the economic potential of globalization.

Globalisation and Inflation. (2005, October). *The Economist*.
The Economist provides an excellent introduction to the economics behind globalization within this article. It explains in simple language how globalization has led to inflation and the effects of this dynamic upon societies. Delegates with limited exposure to the topic of globalization or those who wish to understand more completely the economic aspects of globalization are strongly recommended to read this article.

Goo, S. K. (2006, July 26). YouTube.com users explore Israel-Hezbollah violence. *Seattle Times*, section A.

Youtube.com is an increasingly popular video blog site that published many short videos. The site made it possible for people all over the world to watch the events unfold in the Israel-Lebanon conflict. Youtube and other Web sites have used the Internet to allow individuals to publish graphic and incendiary images and opinions with little or no liability or censorship. In the Lebanese and Israeli conflict, this led to increased public outrage over the military action undertaken by the government of Israel in response to the actions of the Hezbollah party in Lebanon.

Hetata, D. S. (2006). *Globalization, Women, and the Culture of Helplessness* [Pamphlet]. Arab Women's Solidarity Association. Retrieved July 13, 2006, from Arab Women's Solidarity Association Web site: http://www.nawalsaadawi.net/articlessherif/06/globalizationwomen.htm
Dr. Sherif Hetata and his wife, Dr. Nawal El Saadawi, has been vocal activists against western influence of Arab and Islamic cultures. This article and others on this site will provide delegates a good exposure to the literatures of protest produced by activists in this region and their responses to globalization. As demonstrated by the works of Drs. Hetata and El Saadawi, globalization has empowered civil society to play an increasingly powerful role in providing commentary regarding the actions of their governments.

Iqbal, F. (2006). *Sustaining Gains in Poverty Reduction and Human Development in the Middle East and North Africa.* Washington DC: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. World Bank – Middle East and North Africa Division. Retrieved July 15, 2006, from: http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTMENA/Resources/Poverty_complete_06_web.pdf
The World Bank provides many crucial resources for delegates' preparation. Delegates will benefit from researching the manner in which the report was received by the country they represent. Like the IMF report, the position each country takes regarding these international institutions merits attention; however for those wanting to understand fully the prevalent economic problems of this area, this report and the previously cited IMF publication are vital.

Iqbal, F., & Nabli, M. K. (2006, Spring). *Poverty in the Middle East and North Africa: A Cause for Concern?* Retrieved July 15, 2006, from Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA) Department of the World Bank Web site: http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTMENA/Resources/Poverty_OpEd_06.pdf
In this editorial, the authors of the previously cited World Bank report analyze the findings of their work. Again, delegates should be cognizant of the perception of their country's regarding the World Bank; however, this OPED makes many important points regarding the development of the non-monetary indicators in Western Asia. The article highlights the fact that access to primary education has improved for both boys and girls in this area and that lifespan has also increased. The article also demonstrates the many factors responsible for poverty within the region and focuses on the diversity of resources and government welfare strategies as reasons for the differing economic status.

Mernissi, F. (2006, March). Digital Schehrazades in the Arab World. *Current History, 105*(689), pp. 121–127.
Current History provides within this text a fascinating view of the impact the demand for journalists has upon Arab societies. Particularly within the Gulf States, women are rapidly joining the work force to meet the high demand for skilled reporters on Arab television and are playing key roles throughout the Gulf Region. This article provides an important view of the way globalization impacts society in very real ways.

Roskin, M. G., & Coyle, J. J. (2003). *Politics of the Middle East: Cultures and Conflicts.* Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall.
The authors of this text do an admirable job of addressing the complexities of Middle East politics. It breaks down social developments to understandable terms and is written for delegates. The section regarding oil politics and the recent economic and social developments within this region provides excellent analysis of important related issues.

Silenced: The Middle East Profile. (2003, January). *Privacy International*. Retrieved July 12, 2006, from http://www.privacyinternational.org/article.shtml?cmd%5B347%5D=x-347-103797

Privacy International is a watchdog group concerned with the human rights issue of privacy. This article details the current policies of certain Arab states including Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and others in light of these rights. It provides an interesting view of the censorship governments attempt to practice regarding internet and technology use. However, it is also important to note that while governments may try to censor television or internet, private citizens often find ways to circumvent these guidelines. Iran for example heavily monitors the programming on the state run television station; however many wealthy Iranians own illegal satellite televisions.

Sitting Pretty: Haven of prosperity in a turbulent sea. (2006, June). *The Economist.*
According to this article, Abu Dhabi's economic success stems from its use of global forces for economic development. It provides a great case study and will help delegates understand the different reactions to globalization. Delegates are recommended to research their assigned country's relationship to the UAE. Furthermore, it will be very useful for delegates to consider the extent to which oil money has effected the development of the country's politics.

United Arab Emirates. (2006, August). *CIA World Factbook*. Retrieved August 5, 2006, from
https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ae.html
The CIA's World Factbook provides succinct statistics for each of the ESCWA Member States and briefly introduces the history and political situations of the area. This database is an excellent resource for statistical data. For example, from this site lists the GDP, age structure statistics, birth and death rates, HIV rates, and other social, economic and political statistics.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia's Globalization and Regional Integration Division. *Progress Made by the ESCWA Member Countries in the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus*. (2005). Retrieved July 14, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/////-5.pdf
ESCWA publishes many important reports and this one provides a solid example of this committee's writings. While it is a little dry, it is an excellent resource regarding the developments in West Asia. The section entitled "Bilateral trade negotiations under the Euro-Mediterranean Partnerships and the Middle East Free Trade Area Initiative" provide particularly important analysis of the effects of continual proliferation of regional trade agreements in the ESCWA region and between neighboring regions as well.

United Nations. United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia. (2006, June). *UNCTAD-UNESCWA Workshop to Develop Country Decision-Makers.* Retrieved July 14, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/teams.asp?teams=Regional%20Integration%20and%20Financing%20for%20Development&division=GRID
This workshop was conducted by the ESCWA to assist governments in dealing with globalization. Delegates would benefit greatly from researching their country's response and openness to such workshops. Moreover, the effectiveness of such conferences in fostering actual change demands attention in light of the cost and difficulties inherent to such events.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2006, July). *ESCWA - Civil Society Institutions. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.* Retrieved July 15, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb//.asp
ESCWA lists some of the many NGOs with which it works. While only listing a few, it provides a good starting place for delegate's research into civil society's involvement in this issue. For example, the ESCWA works with the Fares Institute of Lebanon to promote international socioeconomic cooperation between Lebanon and other ESCWA Member States and also with the Safadi Foundation of Lebanon and the National Broadcast Network of Lebanon for community training and media issues surrounding globalization accordingly.

Viston, C. S. (2002, September). Globalization's Bad Effects Discussed. *Business World*. Retrieved July 13, 2006, from Global Policy Forum Website: http://www.globalpolicy.org/ngos/role/globalact/int-inst/2002/0912globaliz.htm

The "other" side of globalization provides the basis for this article. It illustrates the frustration experienced by the poorest societies as they perceive their control over their economic, cultural and environmental resources being exploited by international forces. Moreover, the poor countries rarely see any profit from this exploitation as they must compete with other extremely poor countries to provide raw goods and services at extremely low costs in order to maintain business.

Wahish, N. (2006, July). *Hold your breath: The Agadir Agreement may finally mean serious Arab economic cooperation.* Al-Ahram Weekly Online. Retrieved August 20, 2006, from http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2004/680/ec1.htm

The Al Ahram newspaper published this article containing a fascinating analysis of the Agadir Agreement and the work of the Egyptian delegation. The Agadir agreements do not represent the first Arab trade agreements but have seen unprecedented success as this critic argues because of their backing by the European Union. Delegates should consider the effects the Agadir agreements will have on the economies of their country.

Wetherby, Joseph N., Randal L. Cruikshanks, Emmit B. Evans, Jr., Reginald Gooden, Earl D. Huff, Richard Kranzdorf, and Dianne Long. (2000). *The Other World: Issues and Politics of the Developing World.* New York: Addison Wesley Longman, Inc.

Wetherby discusses the under-developed world from many different perspectives, including economic, social, and political. The section on the Middle East and globalization are particularly relevant to this topic and will be very useful to delegates' in understanding the importance of poverty and economic issues on the politics and unrest in the region. This text does an admirable job of exploring poverty and its' effects on health and human rights issues including security and the basic human needs.

II. Reconstruction in Iraq: Direct assistance, monitoring, and coordination with other agencies

Anderson, L., & Stansfield, G. (2004). *The future of Iraq. Dictatorship, democracy, or division?* New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

This publication helps to understand the historical context of the rebuilding efforts as well as the different interests of the stakeholders. The scenarios presented illustrate different versions of the future, which help to conceptualize visions and ways to achieve them.

Barakat, S. (2005, October). Post-Saddam Iraq: Deconstructing a regime, reconstructing a nation. *Third World Quarterly, 26*(4-5), 571-587. Retrieved July 18, 2006, from EBSCOhost EJS database.

In this article, the author concentrates on the particularities of reconstruction in Iraq as opposed to recent reconstructing experience in other war-torn countries. He examines which role the international community, particularly the UN (and ESCWA) could and should play in this context and emphasizes the need for a regional approach.

Barakat, S. (2005, October). Reconstructing post-Saddam Iraq: An introduction. *Third World Quarterly, 26*(4-5), 565-570. Retrieved July 18, 2006, from EBSCOhost EJS database.

According to the author, the Bush administration, invigorated by its success in Afghanistan and ignoring the opinion of the international community, went on its mission to trigger a democratic revolution in the Middle East by bringing freedom and democracy to Iraq. This article introduces a series of articles on the post-war reconstruction, which will be useful to analyze the various stakes in the reconstruction and their domestic, regional, and international impact.

Brown, V. J. (2004, June). Reconstructing the environment in Iraq. *Environmental Health Perspectives, 112*(8), A464. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from InfoTrac database.

This article reminds the reader that Iraq's environment was already weakened by a "mini industrial revolution" in the 1970 and 1980, which paid no attention to the environment, before coming under considerable stress by the armed conflicts in the last three decades. In this context, it mentions the rising mortality, particularly among children, which can partly be linked to the environmental degradation. The article stresses the importance of strengthening the Iraqi academic community and resources to help alleviate the environmental impacts of the wars.

Diamond, L. (2004, September/October). What went wrong in Iraq. *Foreign Affairs, 83*(5), 34-56. Retrieved July 25, 2006, from Business Source Premier database.
This article is an excellent summary of the problems facing Iraq after the war in 2003. It delineates four basic needs for post-conflict reconstruction, namely political reconstruction of a legitimate and capable State; economic reconstruction; social reconstruction, including the renewal of a civil society and political culture that foster voluntary cooperation and the limitation of State power; and the provision of general security. It also analyses shortcomings of the occupation that impact negatively on the reconstruction efforts.

Economist Intelligence Unit Ltd. (2005, August 17). Iraq economy: Struggling to pick up the pieces. *Economist Intelligence Unit ViewsWire*. Retrieved July 25, 2006, from Lexis-Nexis database.
This article describes how economic growth and the security situation in Iraq are interdependent. The important oil-industry is the most obvious victim of this dilemma, cutting economic growth with an unexpectedly low volume of oil production. .

Faris, H. (2003, July 11). The socio-political effect of the war on Iraq and the Arab region. In *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war: Issues of economic and social reconstruction. Beirut, 9-11 July 2003. Conclusions and recommendations*. Symposium conducted at United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Beirut, Lebanon. Abstract retrieved July 19, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/oes-03-iraq.pdf
The author analyses the far-reaching effects of the war in Iraq on the national and regional level. He accuses the occupation of hindering the rebuilding of society and the reforming of the economic and social system after the collapse of the totalitarian regime. .

Frew, A. (2003, May 31). Washington diary: Andreas Frew on George Bush's claims to being green, and the hidden damage done to Iraq's environment. *New Scientist, 178*(2397), 53. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from InfoTrac database.
This is a short article from a generalist scientific magazine. The author examines the environmental effects of the Iraq war in the context of President G. W. Bush's domestic environmental policy. Even if attention for oil wells in Iraq overshadows concerns for the Iraqi environment, even small efforts for its restoration will easily outrun Bush's domestic environmental agenda.

Future looks bleak for Iraq's fragile environment. (2003, March 15). *New Scientist, 177*(2386), 12-13. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from InfoTrac database.
This short article reviews the damage sustained by Kuwait during the war in 1990-1991. It translates the findings into indications of what possible long-term effects the new war in Iraq might have on Iraq's fragile environment.

Gordon, M. R. (2006, July 24). U.S. struggles to refill ranks of Iraqi police. *International Herald Tribune*. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from http://www.iht.com/articles/2006/07/24/news/police.php
This article describes the state of the Iraqi police force. There is a serious lack of personnel and recruitment is difficult in the light of attacks on police stations and recruitment centers, as well as targeted killing of Iraqi police officers in some provinces.

Gordon, M. R. (2006, July 26). Behind U.S. shift on Baghdad, a security failure. *International Herald Tribune*. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from http://www.iht.com/articles/2006/07/26/news/baghdad.php
According to the author, the shifting of troops to Baghdad reflects a new security and counter-insurgency strategy after Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki's security plan for the city is perceived to have failed. At the same time, it is an indicator for the fact that until now, the security situation in Iraq and particularly in the central region remains precarious.

Hendrickson, D. C., & Tucker, R. W. (2005). *Revisions in need of revising: What went wrong in the Iraq war*. Carlisle: The Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College.
The authors examine the debate on errors committed before and during the occupation of Iraq. While giving credit to the critics of the Bush administration on many accounts, they argue that the

fundamental problems the US is now faced with in Iraq are virtually unavoidable consequences of the invasion itself.

High-level panel on threats, challenges and change. (2004). *A more secure world: Our shared responsibility. Report of the Secretary-General's high-level panel on threats, challenges and change*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from United Nations Web site: http://www.un.org/secureworld/report2.pdf
The report of the high-level panel gives general recommendation on how the international community should respond to threats, challenges and change in the contemporary international environment. It focuses on collective security approaches and particularly on reforms of different parts of the United Nations System, which are necessary, to accommodate today's security needs. The Secretary-General's proposals in "In lager freedom" are partly based on these recommendations.

The International Institute for Strategic Studies. (2003). Iraq: Military & security developments. In *IISS Armed Conflict Database*. Retrieved October 16, 2006, from IISS Armed Conflict Database.
The IISS Armed Conflict Database is a comprehensive online resource on present day armed conflicts all over the world. The database provides detailed information on the nature of each conflict, the relevant actors and their methods, structure and weapons used, historical background information, quarterly reviews, human security developments, military developments and so forth. It can therefore be used both for brief reference and for in-depth research.

Iraq review 2006. (2006). *CountryWatch*. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from CountryWatch database.
The country reviews give an overview on different topics like politics, economy, environment and others. These are complemented with a series of statistical information. A historical introduction places contemporary politics in a context. This document is useful for a brief overview of different aspects of public life in Iraq.

Iraq war illegal, says Annan. (2004, September 16). *BBC News*. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from British Broadcasting Corporation Web site: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/3661134.stm
The Secretary General is interviewed by BBC News. He talks about "painful lessons" learned since the beginning of the war in Iraq. He further declares that the military action taken by the U.S.-led coalition was not conforming to the pertinent Security Council resolutions.

Israeli, R. (2004). *The Iraq war. Hidden agendas and Babylonian intrigue*. Brighton: Sussex Academic Press.
This book examines the recent war in Iraq from the perspective of regional groups and hidden agendas. The former include, according to the author, Shi'ites, Kurds, Sunnis and Arabs, the latter include oil, terror, and weapons of mass destruction. The last chapter evaluates the impact of the war for the different counties in the region and the region as a whole.

Keegan, J. (2004). The war's aftermath. In *The Iraq war* (pp. 204-219). New York: Alfred A. Knopf (Random House). (Original work published 2004)
The last chapter of this book on the Iraq war, its nature and its origin, is an outlook written in the aftermath of the occupation, taking into considerations the time directly following the cessation of actual fighting through early 2004. It summarizes the coalition's efforts to bring about the transition of Iraq to a peaceful and democratic society, mentioning the different approaches by the British forces in the south and the U.S.-American forces in central Iraq. The chapter also analyzes events concerning the search for Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

Kubursi, A. (n.d.). Rebuilding Iraq: Strategies of Development Under Crises Conditions. In *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia*. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Web site: http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/docs/RebuildIraq%2Epdf
This article published in the documents section of the ESCWA website, gives a brief overview of the first steps that needed to be done directly after the occupation of Iraq in 2003 to ensure the fundament of economic reconstruction of Iraq. The recommendations relate to issue that range from establishing a stable Dinar, to paying the wages for soldiers and civil servants.

Latest News. (n.d.). *United Nations. Security Council*. Retrieved August 18, 2006, from
http://www.un.org/sc/unsc_news.shtml
This website provides the latest public information on the activities of and concerning the Security Council. It follows up on news relating to the work of the council as well as the work of the council itself. It is important to get an overview over the field of work of the council.

Linklater, A. (2005). Globalization and the transformation of political community. In J. Baylis & S. Smith (Eds.), *The globalization of world politics. An introduction to international relations* (3rd ed., pp. 709-725). Oxford University Press. (Original work published 2001)
This is a comprehensive work on concepts in political sciences, focused on international relations. It includes recent developments in world politics, particularly the repercussions of what is generally known as "globalization," as well as its historic roots and causes. This is a valuable work to get a high-quality introduction to contemporary international affairs.

The peril of defeat and the danger of victory. (2005, August 27). *Economist, 376*(8441), 22-24. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from Business Source Premier database.
This article discusses the significance of Iraq's new constitution not only to the county, but also to U.S. President G. W. Bush. According to the author, the current constitutional exercise is one of the factors that will determine success or failure of the U.S. policy in Iraq. Iraq may yet become a hopeful democratic precedent for the whole region - or a complete failure of the U.S. policy.

RTI International. (2005, May). Postconflict Restoration of Essential Public Services: In *Iraq local government program*. Retrieved September 3, 2006, from http://www.rti.org/pubs/llb_1-albasrahrestoremay.05.pdf
The Research Triangle Institute International is a large non-profit research cooperation. From the years 2003 to 2005, the RTI Institute won several contracts with USAID worth some hundred million Dollars to restore Iraq. The contracts comprehend different issues, such as fostering democratic local government, helping councils to govern in a democratic manner, and helping workers learning to provide essential services.

Salman, R. (n.d.). "Oil for food" and "Oil for reconstruction". In *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia*. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Web site: http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/docs/OilforFdOilforRec%2Epdf
This article published in the documents section of the ESCWA website, critically reviews the "Oil for food" program established in the mid 1990s. It criticizes, for example, that the program became strongly politicized, marginalizing its original, i.e. the humanitarian, objective, but also highlighting administrative problems of the program. Its relevance today lies in the importance of oil for Iraq's reconstruction and the author pleads for the lessons learned with the "Oil for food" program to be respected, as well as warning of careless privatization of oil reserves.

Tanmiya, D. A. (2003, June 10). *The Iraq war: Social and humanitarian implications*. Beirut: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Web site: http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/docs/WarSocHumImpl%2Epdf
This report assesses the social and humanitarian consequences of the invasion in Iraq 2003. It is structured in chapters on security and politics, human costs, forced migration, human rights, food and relief coordination, health, education and services. This report constitutes valuable background reading for the work of ESCWA.

Tharoor, S. (2003, September/October). Why America still needs the United Nations. *Foreign Affairs, 82*(5), 67-80. Retrieved July 18, 2006, from EBSCOhost EJS database.
According to the author, then UN Undersecretary-General for Communications and Public Information, the UN's inclusiveness is the key to the legitimacy only it can confer. The organization thus remains an essential force in international politics, and one the United States benefits from greatly. Similarly, it is in the interest of the smaller countries to continue to foster cooperation with the U.S., rather than trying to restrict it in with the help of international institutions.

The UN Millennium Development Goals. (2005). *UN Millennium Development Goals*. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from United Nations Web site: http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/goals.html
The Millennium Development Goals are a set of well-defined objectives agreed upon by all countries and all major development institutions, ranging from halving extreme poverty to developing a global partnership for development. This website describes these goals, most of which should be achieved by 2015. They serve as a framework of action for national and programs and international cooperation of the relevant actors.

United Nations. (n.d.). *Office of the Iraq programme oil-for-food*. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from http://www.un.org/depts/oip/
This is the website of the office administrating the oil-for-food program, which was established by the SC in 1995 to respond to the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi population, while keeping in place the sanctions imposed on Iraq. It contains technical data on the program as well as information on its history. The program was terminated in late 2003 in accordance with SC Resolution 1483 (2003).

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. 23rd Session. (2005, May 3). *Peace and security and their impact on economic and social development*. (E/ESCWA/23/4(Part I)). Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session/Peace23e.pdf
In ESCWA Resolution 241 (2003) concerning the impact of the lack of stability in the Arab region on economic and social development, the Commission requests the secretariat to study the impact of war on economic and social development and to submit a report on the matter to the Commission at its twenty-third session. This report analyses the type of challenges and danger that face the ESCWA Member-States and proposes ways to confront them. Social policy is discerned as a basis for peace and security.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. 24th Session. (2006, May 11). *Resolution 271: Strengthening the role of ESCWA in addressing the impact of conflict and instability within the context of social and economic development*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/Draft24e.pdf
This resolution is dedicated to the issues of security and instability in the ESCWA region. It notes the inter-linkages between development, peace and security and human rights and that they are mutually reinforcing. Delineating measures to be taken by ESCWA, it calls upon the ESCWA Member States as well as the international community to cooperate with ESCWA and among each other to foster stability and peace in the ESCWA region.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. 24th Session. (2006, May 11*). Resolution 274: The establishment of the ESCWA Technology Centre*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/Draft24e.pdf
This resolution states the important role that technology plays in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The regional technology centre is aimed at "building national technological capacities and at harnessing those capacities to achieve the MDGs and to strengthen economic and social development and regional and international cooperation in technological fields." It charges the ESCWA secretariat with the follow-up on the technology centre.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *Emerging & conflict related issues* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.
The Pamphlet briefly presents the newly created unit for emerging and conflict related issues, outlining its creation and main focus of work, like conflict prevention and mitigation, capacity building etc.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *Gender Statistics Programmes in the Arab Countries*. Retrieved September 1, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/gsp/main/gender.html
This web site offers statistical data on Arab countries. The Iraq country profile notably provides statistics on the illiteracy rate according to gender. It also treats economic and health issues as well as demography.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *New challenges in the region and their impact on the work of ESCWA: The Arab region to 2025* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.
A high-level expert group meeting held by ESCWA in January 2006 addressed challenges and opportunities facing the region and the role of ESCWA in serving the countries of the region to 2010. It reviews ESCWA's activities in the light the 2005 World Summit Outcome. This pamphlet presents a resume of the findings presented and recommendations issued.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *A review of the realization of the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCWA region, in accordance with the Damascus Declaration* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.
This pamphlet identifies important issues to be addressed in the ESCWA region in order to realize the Millennium Development Goals. These include unemployment, investment, and local mobilization of resources, human development, education, and economic integration as some of the most important issues. The review is based on the Damascus Declaration on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCWA region.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *The twenty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.
The 24th ministerial session of ESCWA, held in Beirut on May 8-11, 2006, addressed a number of organizational and financial management issues. Several important matters related to general policy issues, like new challenges in the ESCWA region; youth unemployment and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCWA region and the Damascus Declaration were also discussed. This pamphlet provides a short summary of the meeting.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *UNESCWA... at a glance* [Pamphlet]. Beirut: Author.
The Pamphlet gives an overview over the objectives, the mandate, the priorities, program, and the most significant achievements of UNESCWA as the regional arm of the United Nations in the Arab world. The cited goals include the promotion of economic and social development processes in the Member States, the strengthening of cooperation between the States of the region, the achievement of regional integration of Member States, the achievement of synergy between the countries of the region, and ensuring the exchange of information about experiences, good practice and lessons learned.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: Iraq Task Force*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/index.asp
This is the website of the ad-hoc task force created by ESCWA to facilitate the implementation of its objectives concerning the reconstruction of Iraq. It gives information on implemented and planned activities. It also contains a small but useful collection of relevant documents.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003). *ESCWA 22nd ministerial session*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session22/ex1.html
This is the official website of the 22nd ministerial session of ESCWA, which was held at the United Nations House in Beirut from 14 to 17 April 2003. The session discussed the work of the commission since the 21st session, and debated issues of significance to the future of the ESCWA region. The website contains all relevant documents, i.e. resolutions and the final report issued from the session.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2003). *Reconstruction of Iraq. An Arab economic and social view. Report on the Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war, Beirut, 9-11 July 2003, held by ESCWA*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/sdpd-03-9.pdf
Starting from lessons learned from earlier reconstruction efforts in Iraq, the report analyses which challenges lie ahead in the economic, financial, and social fields. Special attention is paid to the new regional context and its impact on the reconstruction. The role, which the UN and ESCWA should play in the construction of a new Iraq, is also discussed.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Ed.). (2003, September 29). *Workshop on Iraq and the region after the war: Issues of economic and social reconstruction. Beirut, 9-11 July 2003. Conclusions and recommendations*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 19, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/oes-03-iraq.pdf
Flowing from the above workshop, this document presents the main policy advice resulting from the presentations and discussions during the workshop. They involve general recommendations and specific recommendations in the social, economic, financial, and legal field. It also comprises abstracts of the presentations held during the workshop.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005). *23rd ministerial session of ESCWA*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session/main.asp
This is the official website of the 23rd ministerial session of ESCWA, which was held from 9-12 May 2005 in Damascus, Syria. The session was dedicated mainly to the impact of peace and stability in the region on economic and social development; the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCWA Member States; and the formulation and implementation of social policies in the Member States of the ESCWA region. The website contains all relevant documents, notably the resolution E/ESCWA/23/4(Part1) on peace and security and their impact on economic and social development.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005). Damascus declaration on the realization of the millennium development goals in the ESCWA region. In *23rd ministerial session of ESCWA: Resolutions adopted by the commission*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session/docs.asp?menuID=25&topic=Resolutions%20adopted%20by%20the%20Commission&lang=e
This Web site contains some of the resolutions passed by the 23rd ministerial session of ESCWA, notably the Damascus declaration. This declaration stresses at the same time that national measures are needed to achieve the goals and that cooperation in the region has to be intensified to support these national measures. It then outlines, in the operational clauses, the next steps to be taken to realize the goals.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2005). *The Environment in the transboundary context in the ESCWA Region: Situation and recommendations*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/sdpd-05-5.pdf
This report analyses the precarious environmental situation in a region considered one of the most water stressed of the world. Particularly chapter II section E on the impact of war and political instability is highly recommendable, analyzing how the environment can be a cause for conflict, can suffer as an incidental victim of conflict, or can be deliberately abused as a weapon of destruction.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2006). *24th ministerial session of ESCWA*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/maine.asp
This is the official Web site of the 24th ministerial session of ESCWA, which was held in Beirut from 8 to 11 May 2006. The session, held under the theme of youth unemployment in the ESCWA region, culminated in the adoption of 11 resolutions focusing on diverse socio-economic priority issues for the region, e.g. Resolution 271 (2006) on strengthening the role of ESCWA in addressing the impact of conflict and instability within the context of social and economic development. The Web site contains all relevant information and documents relevant for this latest session.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2006, April 30). *Press release: UNESCWA 24th Ministerial Session to Convene Under Auspices of Lebanese House Speaker*. Retrieved July 10, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/PR-Curtain-Eng-30Apr2006.pdf
This press release announces the 24th ministerial session of ESCWA and gives some information on the commission in general and the topics, agenda, speakers, and issues treated during the upcoming conference in particular.

United Nations. General Assembly. 55th Session. (2000, September 18). *Resolution 2: Millennium Declaration*. Retrieved July 23, 2006 from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N00/559/51/PDF/N0055951.pdf?OpenElement
This resolution, issued by the heads of State and government of the Member States, received a lot of attention. It confirms the Member States faith in the UN and outlines fundamental values and principles for international relations. Other issues treated are peace and security, development and poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals, the environment, human rights, the special needs of Africa and the strengthening of the UN system.

United Nations. News Centre. (n.d.). *Iraq electoral fact sheet*. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from http://www.un.org/news/dh/infocus/iraq/election-fact-sht.htm#electdate
This fact sheet gives a variety of data and information pertaining to the elections in Iraq on January 30, 2005. The information found on this site ranges from technical explanations concerning the electoral process to the political context and the role of the UN in the elections. This is an easily accessible overview.

United Nations. News Centre. (2003, March 4*). Iraq's destruction of missiles 'positive' but still much more to be done – Annan*. Retrieved July 29, 2006, from http://www.un.org/apps/news/storyAr.asp?NewsID=6336&Cr=iraq&Cr1=inspect&Kw1=iraq+&Kw2=weapons&Kw3=report
United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan calls Iraq's destruction of missiles a "positive development" but repeated the views of UN weapons inspectors that "there's much more to be done." Great Britain and the U.S. declare that Iraq has failed to comply with its obligations, while Annan warns of action outside the UN-System. This article is a flashlight from the weeks leading up to the war.

United Nations. Secretary-General. (2005, March 31). *In larger freedom: Towards development, security and human rights for all*. New York: United Nations. Retrieved July 26, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/270/78/PDF/N0527078.pdf?OpenElement
This report of the Secretary-General is a follow up of the Millennium Summit and other relevant conferences, summits and panels in the economic and social as well as related fields. It outlines possibilities to implement policies elaborated during these conferences, stressing the interdependence of development (freedom from want), security (freedom from fear), and human rights (freedom to live in dignity) as the three pillars of international cooperation. To achieve these freedoms, he proposes specific reforms inside the UN System.

United Nations. Secretary-General. (2006, May 10). *The Secretary-General - message to the 24th ministerial session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia*. Retrieved July 25, 2006, from United Nations Web site: http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/escwa-8may2006.pdf
The Secretary-General describes the ministerial Sessions of ESCWA as the governing instrument of the Commission and stresses ESCWA's role in addressing urgent problems in the Western Asian region. Among others, he stresses the crucial importance of the empowerment of women for the improvement of economic and living conditions in the region.

United Nations. Security Council. (1990, August 6). *Resolution 661: Iraq-Kuwait*. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/575/11/IMG/NR057511.pdf?OpenElement
Noting that Iraq had failed to comply with SC Resolution 660, asking for its withdrawal from Kuwait, this resolution establishes economic sanctions against Iraq. These are aimed at forcing Iraq into compliance with Resolution 660. It also calls upon all States not to recognize the current situation of de-facto control of Kuwait by Iraq.

United Nations. Security Council. (1991, 3 April). *Resolution 686: Iraq-Kuwait*. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/596/25/IMG/NR059625.pdf?OpenElement
This resolution declares the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq as illegal. It demands the mutual respect of their border by Iraq and Kuwait. It further details the disarmament obligations for Iraq and, recalling resolution 661, reaffirms the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq.

United Nations. Security Council. (2003, May 22). *Resolution 1483: The situation between Iraq and Kuwait*. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N03/368/53/PDF/N0336853.pdf?OpenElement
This resolution outlines the UN's approach to the post-conflict situation in Iraq, which was brought about in disrespect of the Security Council but has become the concern of the international community as a whole. The resolution recognizes the occupying powers de facto, reminding them of their obligations under international law of armed conflict and stressing several times the right of the Iraqi people to determine their own political future and control their own natural resources.

United Nations. Security Council. (2004, June 8). *Resolution 1546: The situations between Iraq and Kuwait*. Retrieved July 29, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N04/381/16/PDF/N0438116.pdf?OpenElement
This resolution reiterates the UN's position concerning the situation in Iraq. It reaffirms basic principles like self-determination of the Iraqi people and the rule of law. It highlights the present transition of Iraq to a democratically elected government and the creation of a sovereign Interim Government. The resolution also addresses security issues and reminds the Member States of their obligations under the international legislation aimed at preventing terrorism.

What's New. Following Up Emerging Issues in Palestine and Iraq. (2006, July 4). *What's New-ESCWA*. Retrieved July 4, 2006, from United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Web site: http://www.escwa.org.lb/main/scroll/printwhatsnew.asp?id=24
This is a very brief news update on the creation of the Unit on Emerging and Conflict Related Issues, as well as on some of its activities. It also gives some information on the participation of its director in regional conferences. Since the website is regularly updated, the information is no longer available under this URL.

Additional Sources

Boulden, J., & Weiss, T. G. (2004, September). Tactical multilateralism: Coaxing America back to the UN. *Survival, 46*(3), 102-114.
This article traces the changing relationship between the U.S. and the UN in particular, and the development of multilateral diplomacy in the context of the US-American "War on Terror" and the war on Iraq in particular. It concludes that multilateralism is not an objective in itself, but can help to achieve objectives of national interest. This holds true even for a power like the U.S., which is generally considered as a hegemonic power in contemporary international relations debates.

Cordesman, A. (Ed.). (2004). The war after the war. Strategic lessons of Iraq and Afghanistan. *Significant Issues Series, 26*(4).
This publication examines US strategies in post-war Iraq. Because of the need for close cooperation, this is significant also, for ESCWA's strategic planning. It illustrates important deficiencies in reconstruction strategies, which can serve as lessons learned.

Durch, W. J. (2003, October 1). Picking up the peaces: The UN's evolving post conflict roles. *The Washington Quarterly, 26*(4), 195-210. Retrieved July 19, 2006, from EBSCOhost EJS database.
The author argues that the bypassing of the SC by the U.S. in the case of the war in Iraq has not damaged the UN as much as it is often stated. While the political part of this intergovernmental organization was affected, the humanitarian, people-oriented operational part of the system has asserted an important role in post-war reconstruction. The author interprets this as a larger trend in post-conflict reconstruction.

Koch, C., & Neugart, F. (Eds.). (2005). *A window of opportunity. Europe, Gulf security and the aftermath of the Iraq war*. Dubai, UAE: Gulf Research Center.
This collection of papers emerged from a workshop, which explored the possibility of further engagement of the European Union in future Gulf security matters. It is relevant for the topic

because some of the papers examine who the European regional approach can serve as a model for greater regional integration concerning security matters in the ESCWA region.

McManus, K. P. (2006). Civil liability for wartime environmental damage: adapting the United Nations Compensation Commission for the Iraq War. *Boston College Environmental Affairs Law Review, 33*(2), 417-448. Retrieved July 20, 2006, from PAIS International database.
This article argues that customary principles of international law, as well as more formal instruments such as treaties are inadequate to ensure protection and restoration of environmental resources damaged during war. It proposes the establishment of a mechanism for the assessment of civil liability against nations for any wartime environmental damage.

United Nations. Development Programme, Regional Bureau for Arab States. (2005). *The Arab human development report 2004: Towards freedom in the Arab world*. New York.
The UNDP's human development reports are an instrument for measuring human progress, defined as the enlargement of people's choices, discerning fields of action to accomplish positive change. The Arab human development report is focused on the Arab region, addressing region-specific human development approaches to human rights, poverty, education, economic reform, HIV/AIDS, and globalization. It is based on extensive statistical data, but also analyses the data and develops recommendations.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. 24th Session. (2006, May 11). *Resolution 269: The role of ESCWA in the light of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and the subsequent change process*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/Draft24e.pdf
This resolution reaffirms the importance of the role ESCWA plays as the regional arm of the United Nations in Western Asia, in supporting social and economic cooperation between the countries of the region, and its efforts in promoting the development process in those countries and achieving regional integration. It endorses the 2005 World Summit Outcome as part of the strategy to achieve the MDGs. It also calls upon the Member States to continue to foster their cooperation to achieve the MDGs.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (n.d.). Professionals For Iraq Reconstruction. In *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: Iraq Task Force*. Retrieved July 23, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/iraq/IPR/main.asp
The web-side's objective is to create a database of experts, both Iraqi and foreign, willing to use their expertise in the reconstruction of Iraq. It is less informational than operational, but gives an idea of how ESCWA is implementing its objectives concerning the reconstruction of Iraq. This initiative is part of the Iraq Task Force.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2004). Guidelines for the formulation of social policies in the ESCWA region. In *Central issues related to social policies: Comparative study and guidelines for the formulation of social policies in the ESCWA region* (pp. 27-44). (E/ESCWA/SDD/2004/2) Social policy series 9. New York: United Nations.
This study follows a comparative approach. After the analysis of social policies in selected countries outside the ESCWA region, it outlines requirements for effective social policies and recommends steps to be taken to implement them. It concludes that relatively low social policy integration in the ESCWA region leads to loss of resources in the field, where cooperation could improve the effectiveness of social policy measures.

United Nations. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. (2006). *Report on the twenty-fourth Session, 8-11 May 2006*. New York. Retrieved July 25, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/about/gov/session24/upload/Draft24e.pdf
This outcome document on the aforementioned session contains the divers resolutions passed during the session and a general resume of the issues treated the participants and so forth. Issues treated range from new challenges in the ESCWA region to youth unemployment and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCWA region and others.

United Nations. General Assembly. 60th Session. (2005, September 16). *Resolution 1: 2005 World Summit Outcome.* Retrieved July 28, 2006, from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/487/60/PDF/N0548760.pdf?OpenElement *This resolution resembles in many ways the Millennium Declaration, while being much more detailed. It acknowledges that peace and security, development, and human rights are the interdependent fundaments of international relations and all deserve full and equal attention and effort, and it examines these issues at length. The resolution also dwells on the reform of the UN system, for example deciding upon the creation of the new Human Rights Council (HRC) and encouraging a reform of the SC.*

United Nations. Secretary-General. (2002, November 12). *Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 7 and 8 of Security Council resolution 1409 (2002). Retrieved September 1, 2006, from http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?OpenAgent&DS=S/2002/1239&Lang=E This report, though not including the last phase of the program, gives a good overview over the UN's "oil for food" program for Iraq. The Secretary-General analyses achievements and shortcomings of the program and evaluates the progress in different fields like nutrition, health, water and sanitation, education, and de-mining.*

United Nations. Security Council. (2003, March 28). *Resolution 1472: The situation between Iraq and Kuwait.* Retrieved September 1, 2006, from Official Documents System of the United Nations. *This resolution treats the situation in Iraq after the U.S.-led invasion in March 2003. It stresses the need to maintain the humanitarian action in support of the Iraqi population. It reiterates the right of the Iraqi people to decide their own political future as well as the commitment of all Member States to Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The resolution also urges all parties to the conflict to respect the norms of the international law of armed conflict.*

III. Continuing Efforts in Secure Housing, Land Tenure, and Good Urban Governance

An Accidental War. (2006, July). *The Economist, 13-14.* *The Economist covered the Israeli-Lebanese conflict and provided excellent analysis and explanation of the situation in Lebanon. The role of groups such as Hezbollah and Hamas continues to evolve in Arab societies and delegates should consider the involvement of like parties in each Member State. This article demonstrates the ease with which this region can find itself in conflict.*

Country Briefing: Saudi Arabia, Forecast. (2006, June). The Economist. Retrieved July 21, 2006, from http://www.economist.com///.cfm?folder=Profile-Forecast *The Economist provides country forecasts for several countries. It will help all delegates' preparations to consider the developments in Saudi Arabia as it has such massive effects on the region's politics. This report also provides analysis of the social impacts of economic and policy changes.*

Egypt: Forwards, Backwards. (2006, May). *The Economist.* *At first glace, the younger generation of leaders in Egypt appears to be leading the country to economic prosperity. Beneath the surface, however, economic growth "has yet to raise living standards for the masses" and "much-touted" political reforms have proven equally absent or ineffective. The article also discusses some of the recent action against protests in Egypt and the United States response.*

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia's Social Development Division. Inclusive Cities Program. ESCWA. Retrieved August 26, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/cities/index.html *The Inclusive Cities programme works with civil society in order to assist with urban development projects that enable all members of society to access urban areas. This program "aims at achieving equity between individuals regardless of their gender, physical ability or age." The programs have been especially effective in different areas of Beirut. However, the effects of the 2006 bombings of Beirut on these projects have yet to be seen.*

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (2002). *Capacity-Building Workshop on Rural Development: Policies, Strategies and Institutional Reform.* E/ESCWA/AGR/2002/1 Retrieved July 5, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/information/publications/edit/upload/agr-02-01.pdf *In 2002, the ESCWA arranged this conference to discuss many aspects of economic development. The conference focused on the topic of development in rural areas especially and thus addressed property*

rights. Delegates are recommended to investigate the different presentations made by the ESCWA Member States at this conference as they reveal a lot of country-specific information.

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (2005). "Relevant Information: Seminar on Enhancing Agricultural Productivity Through On-Farm Water-Use Efficiency, Beirut, 23-25 November 2005." Retrieved August 10, 2006, from http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/otherdetails.asp?id=344
This conference was one of several sector-based conferences held by ESCWA to deal with specific agricultural development issues. Conferences such as these have been effective tools for disseminating information and building regional cooperation to deal with common problems. Delegates should consider the steps taken by their assigned Member State to implement conference findings.

Hubbard, Ben. Egypt: Housing Policy gets Mixed Reviews. Integrated Regional News Network (June 2006). Retrieved July 17, 2006, from http://www.irinnews.org/.asp?ReportID=54031&SelectRegion=Middle_East
This article explores the state of housing in Egypt. It is brief and well written so it will be useful to delegates researching this topic. Delegates are also recommended to explore the IRIN's Middle East page for the wealth of information contained.

International Displacement Monitoring Center. Interactive Map. Internal Displacement in the Middle East. 2006. Retrieved July 18, 2006, from http://www.internal-displacement.org/CE90B/ (httpMapCountries)/EEF802570A7004CB9B9?opendocument
The International Displacement Monitoring Center provides a wealth of information regarding the state of displaced people in the Middle East. It will help tremendously in delegate's preparation for this topic. The country specific web pages are also a great resource for delegates' preparations.

Internal Displacement Monitoring Center. Internal displacement in the Middle East. Internal Displacement Monitoring Center Publications (August 2006). Retrieved August 25, 2006, from http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004CE90B/(httpRegionPages)/F4C363E496AB88D1802570A6005599C7?opendocument
While the ESCWA region lacks systematic registration of internally displaced persons (IDPs), the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC) estimates that 2.1 million people are currently displaced due to conflicts. Within their Web site, the IDMC provides concrete statistical analysis of the situation facing the IDPs within each ESCWA Member State. As a watchdog group, the IDMC provides excellent and timely coverage of developments in this region as they occur.

Internal Displacement Monitoring Center. "Israeli military operations continue to cause large-scale displacement." Internal Displacement Monitoring Center Publications (July 2006). Retrieved July 30, 2006, from http://www.hic-mena.org/pNewsId.asp?Id=429
In July 2006, large numbers of people fled their homes throughout Lebanon as Israeli troops expanded their operations. This article details the rapid dispersion of people throughout the country, illustrating the sheer scope of the displacement. It also provides a snapshot of the state of humanitarian and diplomatic affairs as the UN and select countries worked to secure humanitarian aid and resolve the conflict.

Isaac, Jad. A Dry Peace in the Middle East. Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem. Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem. 21 July 2006 http://www.arij.org///.htm
While water rights are not a part of this topic, they relate directly to discussions regarding land and property rights and thus present an increasingly controversial topic in Middle Eastern politics. Delegates should consider water issues as they are intricately combined to all land tenure discussions. This article is especially interesting as it was published by an analyst from the Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem.

Islamic Council. Universal Islamic Declaration of Human Rights. 19 Sept. 1981. Al Hewar Center: The Center for Arab Culture and Dialogue. 2006. Retrieved July 17, 2006, from http://www.alhewar.com/.html
The Universal Islamic Declaration of Human Rights was written and accepted by most of the ESCWA Member States in 1981. The Declaration establishes the rights granted to people through Islam. Along with a translation of the Universal Islamic Declaration of Human Rights, this page also provides an interesting view of the dialogue currently occurring within the Middle East from an Arab perspective.

Lebanon Refugee Camp Profiles. (2003). *United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East Lebanon Refugee Camps Profile.* Retrieved July 17, 2006, from http://www.un.org/unrwa/refugees/lebanon.html
The UNRWA provides a good listing of the Palestinians living in Lebanon along with an analysis of their situation within the host country. This website, along with the whole of the UNRWA site, will help delegates in understanding the effect of refugees on housing and social situations in the Middle East. Delegates should also note the effect of the August 2006 conflict between Israel and Lebanon on the housing and refugees within Lebanon.

The Palestine Refugee Problem. (2001). *MidEast Web.* Retrieved July 2, 2006, from MidEast Web for Coexistence Web site http://www.mideastweb.org/refugees1.htm
Throughout the last 50 years, the Palestinian population has faced severe human rights conditions and currently lack access to adequate resources and medical care. This Web site discusses the evolution of the Palestinian refugee problem. It provides a brief analysis of the different estimates of the number of Palestinian refugees and internally displaced persons.

Rebuilding Lives in Afghanistan. (2006). *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.* Retrieved July 18, 2006, from:. http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/afghan
The UNHCR has made significant progress in the process of rebuilding in Afghanistan. This Web site charts the progress made by the organization especially regarding the technical and physical aspects of the reconstruction. Delegates should note the role of the UNHCR in dealing with resettlement issues in the host country. The Web site provides truly relevant for all delegates' research.

Rubin, Michael. The Middle East's real bane: corruption. Daily Star (Beirut). 18 November 2005.
The Daily Star, a daily Iraqi publication, issued this article in late 2005. The author provides a thorough analysis of the problems of corruption in Iraq. He writes about the effects of corruption on the process of democratization in West Asia.

Samad, Samah. Ethnic Tensions Rising in Kirkuk. Kurdish Media: United Kurdish Voice 2 Feb. 2006. Retrieved July 18, 2006 http://www.kurdmedia.com/.asp?id=11257
Kurdishmedia.com provides nonpartisan analysis of Kurdish politics and this article details the human element of Saddam Hussein's policies regarding the Kurdish minority in Iraq. Delegates should pay most attention to the treatment of ethnic and religious minorities within their assigned state.

Tragedy of the Commons from Economics A-Z. (2006). *The Economist.* Retrieved July 21, 2006, http://www.economist.com/research/Economics/alphabetic.cfm?LETTER=T#TRAGEDY%20OF%20THE%20COMMONS
As part of their free online database, The Economist provides a good introduction to the most important economic concepts. An understanding of the tragedy of the commons is important for this committee's discussion of land and property issues. Delegates are strongly recommended to consider the website's explanations of the most important economic topics.

United Nations. Freedom to Live in Dignity. In Larger Freedom: Toward Development, Security and Human Rights for All. 2005. In Larger Freedom. 2005. United Nations. Retrieved July 17, 2006, from http://www.un.org//.htm
In 2005, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's published this plan for UN reform. In the report, the Secretary General discusses current threats to global peace and stability and, as such, t he sections regarding human rights and condition are very relevant to this topic. Delegates must remember the goals of this report, especially the commitment to the dignity and security of our shared future. This will be an interesting aspect of the discussions during the conference.

United Nations. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. New York City: United Nations Department of Public Information, 1948. United Nations . Retrieved July 15, 2006, from http://www.un.org//.html

The UN Department of Public Information provides access to many important international documents, including this link to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. First published in 1948, this important document deals with many issues related to the topic of human security. Delegates must consider the efforts made by their assigned countries in regards to securing human rights for the peoples of their country.

United Nations . United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. 2003 UNHCR Statistical Yearbook Country Data Sheet - Occupied Palestinian Territory . Geneva, Switzerland: United Nations Department of Public Information, 2003. Retrieved July 17, 2006, from http://www.unhcr.org/bin////.pdf?tbl=STATISTICS&id=41d2c1970
These statistics, published by the UNHCR, deal with displaced Palestinians. The report provides detailed statistic information that will help all delegates' preparations for this discussion. It is crucial that delegates consider refugees as part of this topic.

Supplemental Conference Information

Message from the Directors-General Regarding Position Papers for the
2007 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
- 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

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

1. A file of the position paper (.doc, .pdf or .rtf) for each assigned committee should be sent to the appropriate committee email address for the appropriate venue in which you are participating. Each address is also listed in individual background guides, which will be posted by November 15, 2006. These e-mail addresses will be active after November 15. 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 **February 22, 2007**. *E-mailed files should be in Microsoft Word (.doc), Rich Text (.rtf), or Adobe (.pdf) formats.*

PLEASE NOTE IN THE SUBJECT LINE OF THE E-MAIL/DOCUMENT
THE NAME OF THE COUNTRY & COMMITTEE.

A matrix of received papers will be posted online for delegations to check by March 1, 2007. If you need to make other arrangements for submission, please contact **Jacob Schanzenbach**, *Director-General, Sheraton venue or* **Tracy Kingsley**, *Director-General, Marriott venue at* dirgen@nmun.org.

Additionally, each delegation should submit a copy of their position paper to the permanent mission of the country being represented, 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 preparation for the 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.

Sample Position Paper

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

Delegation from (*Insert Member State/NGO Name)*   **Represented by (*Insert Delegation Name Here)***

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

Please refer to the Delegate Preparation Manual available at www.nmun.org for a detailed instruction on resolution and report writing.

The substantive work of committees at the NMUN conference generally takes the form of either resolutions or reports. At the 2007 NMUN Conference, the ICTY will adopt a variation on these forms. The ICTY will create judgments. 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 2007 NMUN Conference:

Resolution Writing Committees
- GA Plenary, GA 4th, CD, SC
- CCPCJ, ECOSOC Plenary, CND
- ADB, ARF, CoE, OAS
- WFP, WHO

Report (or variation threof) Writing Committees
- CEIRPP
- ICTY, IHP, UNWTO
- ECLAC, ESCWA, OPEC-IEA

Resoultions

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. 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. 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.

Please reference the Delegate Preparation Manual available at http://www.nmun.org for an example of the style used at NMUN, as well as other helpful information necessary to draft appropriately a resolution.

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. Prior to the NMUN Conference in March 2007, 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 recommendation and/or decision 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.

Please also reference the Delegate Preparation Manual available at http://www.nmun.org for an example of the style used at NMUN, as well as other helpful information necessary to draft appropriately a report.

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 Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia [ICTY] a variation of this process will be used. Delegates participating in the ICTY should carefully follow the delegate preparation manual for the ICTY, the various sections of the Background Guide of the ICTY, and refer to the ICTY portion of the NMUN website for a separate copy for perpetration.

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 in the middle 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 Directors-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 as 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.

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 Directors-General) will select a committee chair and rapporteur (committee administrative assistant) following the conclusion of interviews on the first evening of the Conference. For those interested in the opportunity to serve the committee as a chairperson or rapporteur, an application will be available online at *www.nmun.org* after January 1, 2007. 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 2007 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 Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). In their capacities, those delegates serving as justices are serving as independent technical experts. While in preparation for and throughout the duration of the Conference, you may find personal disagreement with the foreign policy of the country you are representing or with the policy of the NGO you are representing. Your personal opinions are entirely inapplicable during the course of the simulation. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance for all delegates to arrive well-versed in the dynamics of their State's foreign policy or in that of their NGO, and anticipate possible obstacles their State or NGO may encounter during the simulation. The simulation's quality depends on the collective preparation of its participants.

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

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

The Preparation and Introduction of Resolutions and Reports

Resolutions and reports adopted within respective committees represent Member States' decisions and recommended courses of action with respect to the topics under discussion. Clauses within the preamble of resolutions should provide a brief outline of historical and current perspectives and endeavors regarding the issues to be addressed within the operative clauses of the document. The operative clauses of resolutions provide the objectives and potential actions that Members designed to address the issues outlined within the preamble. More simply, the preamble states the problems before the committee in relation to the topic under deliberation and operative clauses outline the decisions of the committee for the solution of these problems.

Although delegates are encouraged to develop resolution and report writing skills, both in classroom scenarios and at regional MUN simulations, the NMUN will not accept any pre-written resolutions or reports, and which have not been developed by a plurality of the committee. This determination is at the sole discretion of the Secretariat. Due to the goal of creating an environment where the skill of compromise and conflict resolution skills can be learned,

delegates may be asked to merge working documents with other individuals working on the same issue in a committee. In addition, *any delegates found to be submitting plagiarized material within resolutions will be subject to dismissal from further participation within the Conference.* Although UN documents are within the public domain, the verbatim exploitation of these documents *will not be permitted* at the Conference.

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

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

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

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 Plenary Sessions

By the conclusion of the first night session, 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 the conclusion of the first evening meeting. 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 the evening prior to the Plenary session, following the conclusion of the regular session. 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 the same evening.

The night before the Plenary session,, 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 the Plenary sessions to deliberate upon each committee's recommendations to the Plenary.

ECOSOC Executive Bureau

The 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 prior evening's meeting, the Bureau will set an agenda order for the review of these reports for deliberation and potential adoption during Plenary sessions. Additionally, the ECOSOC Plenary session will deliberate upon a fourth topic to be prepared and introduced by the Director and Assistant Director.

This topic 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

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 non-governmental organizations and other bodies. Following the conclusion of regular sessions on the last evening of session, the General Committee will set the agenda order for the review of these reports and resolutions and for their potential adoption during the Plenary sessions.

Plenary Sessions

On 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. All delegates are advised to participate in these 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 these sessions will be made available to all delegates.

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.

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. This process 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. 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.

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 Directors-General gave 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 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.

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 Directors-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 academic 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 Roles of State Delegates, Technical Experts, and Independent Technical Experts at the 2007 National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference

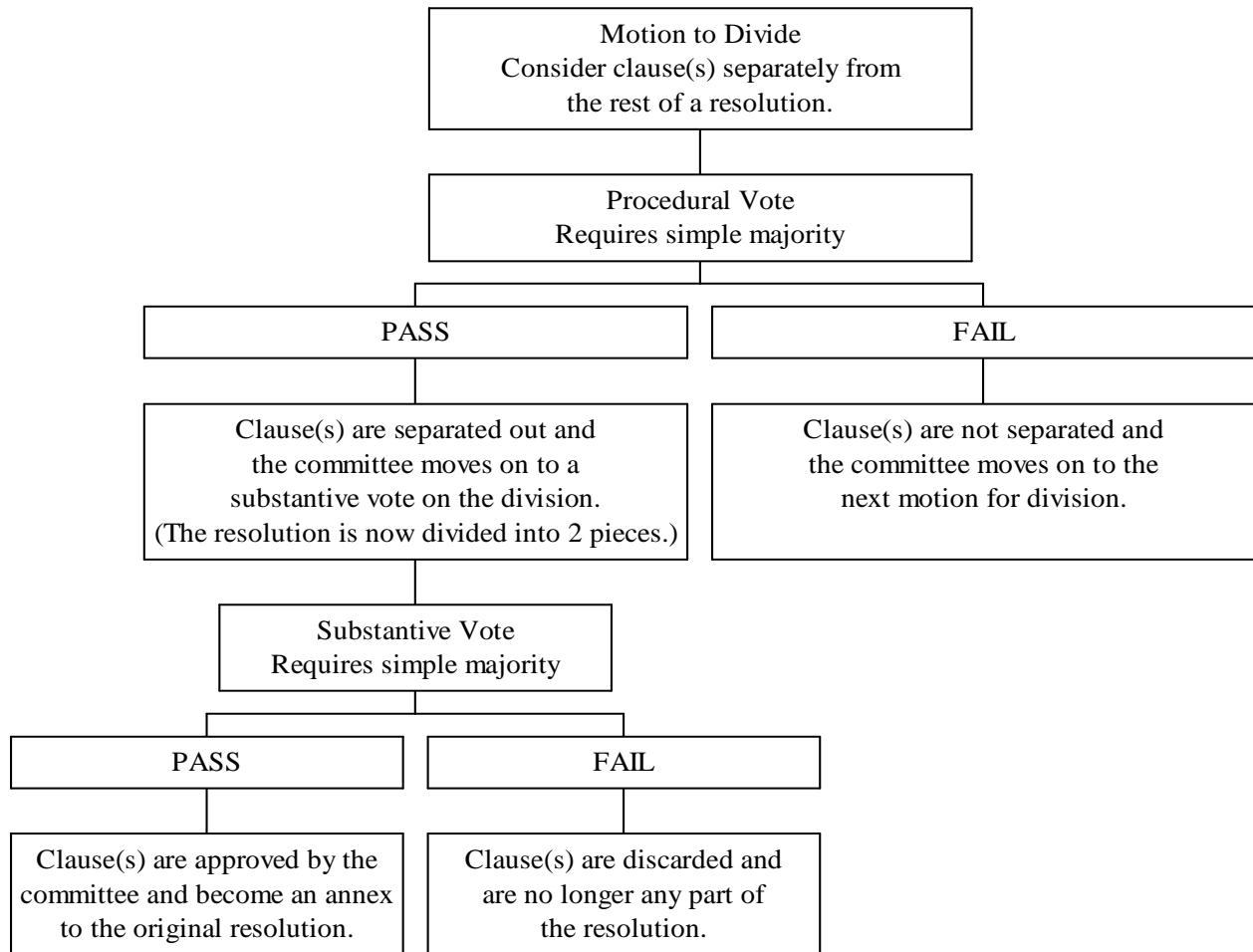*The Variety of Roles That Delegates Simulate at the NMUN Conference*

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 2007 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 ICTY, this role will specifically be addressed in the ICTY 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.

Please Note: This form is only for assistance in your preparation at the NMNU Conference. It however is not an exhaustive list of rules, nor is it the official list for your committee. The official rules are located at the end of the individual Committee Background Guide.

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 1st 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

Motion to Divide
Consider clause(s) separately from
the rest of a resolution.

Procedural Vote
Requires simple majority

PASS

FAIL

Clause(s) are separated out and
the committee moves on to a
substantive vote on the division.
(The resolution is now divided into 2 pieces.)

Clause(s) are not separated and
the committee moves on to the
next motion for division.

Substantive Vote
Requires simple majority

PASS

FAIL

Clause(s) are approved by the
committee and become an annex
to the original resolution.

Clause(s) are discarded and
are no longer any part of
the resolution.

Committee Rules of Procedure

Rules of Procedure
The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

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

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1 - *Dates of convening and adjournment*
The Assembly shall meet every year in regular session, commencing and closing on the dates designated by the Secretary-General.

Rule 2 - *Place of sessions*
The Assembly shall meet at a location designated by the Secretary-General.

II. AGENDA

Rule 3 - *Provisional agenda*
The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to the Members of the United Nations at least sixty days before the opening of the session.

Rule 4 - Adoption of the agenda
The agenda provided by the Secretary-General shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the session. The order of the agenda items shall be determined by a majority vote of those present and voting. Items on the agenda may be amended or deleted by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

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

Rule 5 - Revision of the agenda
During a session, the Assembly may revise the agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only important and urgent items shall be added to the agenda during a session. Permission to speak on a motion to revise the agenda shall be accorded only to three representatives in favor of, and three opposed to, the revision. Additional items of an important and urgent character, proposed for inclusion in the agenda less than thirty days before the opening of a session, may be placed on the agenda if the Assembly so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. No additional item may, unless the General Assembly decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, be considered until a committee has reported on the question concerned.

> *As the General Assembly Plenary determines the agenda for its Committees, this rule is applicable only to the Plenary body. Items cannot be amended or added to the agenda by any of the Committees of the Assembly. For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item of an "important and urgent character" is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such*

determination is final. If an item is determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Assembly to be placed on the agenda. It will, however, not be considered by the Assembly until a committee has reported on the question, or a second two-thirds vote is successful to keep the Plenary body seized of the matter. The votes described in this rule are substantive vote, and, as such, observers are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, "the members present and voting" means those members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 6 - Explanatory memorandum
Any item proposed for inclusion in the agenda shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents.

III. SECRETARIAT

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

Rule 8 - Duties of the Secretariat
The Secretariat shall receive, print, and distribute documents, reports, and resolutions of the Assembly, and shall distribute documents of the Assembly to the Members of the United Nations, and generally perform all other work which the Assembly may require.

Rule9 - Statements by the Secretariat
The Secretary-General, or her/his representative, may make oral as well as written statements to the Assembly concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 10 - Selection of the President
The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall appoint, from applications received by the Secretariat, a President who shall hold office and, *inter alia*, chair the Assembly for the duration of the session, unless otherwise decided by the Secretary-General. The Assembly shall have twenty-one Vice-Presidents, based on the same apportionment as the Vice-Presidents recognized in the Assembly.

Rule 11 - Replacement of the President
If the President is unable to perform her/his functions, a new President shall be appointed for the unexpired term at the discretion of the Secretary-General.

IV. LANGUAGE

Rule 12 - Official and working language
English shall be the official and working language of the Assembly.

Rule 13 - Interpretation (oral) or translation (written)
Any representative wishing to address any United Nations organ or submit a document in a language other than English shall provide interpretation or translation into English.

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

V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 14 - Quorum
The President may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when representatives of at least one third of the members of the Assembly are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the

Assembly shall be required for any decision to be taken.

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

Rule 15 - General powers of the President
In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Assembly, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Assembly and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. He or she shall rule on points of order. He or she may propose to the Assembly the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times the representative of each member may speak on an item, the adjournment or closure of the debate, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting.

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

Rule 16
The President, in the exercise of her or his functions, remains under the authority of the Assembly.

Rule 17 - Points of order
During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order, which shall be decided immediately by the President. Any appeal of the decision of the President shall be immediately put to a vote, and the ruling of the President shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting.

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

Rule 18
A representative may not, in rising to a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 19 - Speeches
1. No one may address the Assembly without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.
2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Assembly, and the President may call a speaker to order if her/his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
3. The Assembly may limit the time allowed to speakers and all representatives may speak on any question. Permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded only to two representatives favoring and two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call her or him to order without delay.

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

Rule 20 - Closing of list of speakers

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

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

Rule 21 - Right of reply

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

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

Rule 22 - Suspension of the meeting

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

Rule 23 - Adjournment of the meeting

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

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

Rule 24 - Adjournment of debate

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

Rule 25 - Closure of debate

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

Rule 26 - Order of motions

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

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

Rule 27 - Proposals and amendments

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

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

Rule 28 - Withdrawal of motions

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

Rule 29 - Reconsideration of a topic

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

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

VI. VOTING

Rule 30 - Voting rights

Each member of the Assembly shall have one vote.

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

Rule 31 - Request for a vote

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

For purposes of this rule, "proposal" means any draft resolution, an amendment thereto, or a portion of a draft resolution divided out by motion. Just prior to a vote on a particular proposal or

motion, the President may ask if there are any objections to passing the proposal or motion by acclamation, or a member may move to accept the proposal or motion by acclamation. If there are no objections to the proposal or motion, then it is adopted without a vote.

Rule 32 - Majority required
1. Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Assembly shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.
2. For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase "members present and voting" means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

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

Rule 33 – Ommitted

Rule 34 - Method of voting
1. The Assembly shall normally vote by a show of placards, except that a representative may request a roll call, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is randomly selected by the President. The name of each present member shall be called in any roll call, and one of its representatives shall reply "yes," "no," "abstention," or "pass."

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

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

Rule 35 - Explanations of vote
Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanation of their votes after the voting has been completed. The representatives of a member sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended, and the member has voted against the proposal or motion.

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

Rule 36 - Conduct during voting
After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representatives shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual process of voting.

Rule 37 - Division of proposals and amendments
Immediately before a proposal or amendment comes to a vote, a representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment should be voted on separately. If there are calls for multiple divisions, those shall be voted upon in an order to be set by the President where the most radical division will be voted upon first. If objection is made to the motion for division, the request for division shall be voted upon, requiring the support of a majority of those present and voting to pass. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given only to two speakers in favor and two speakers against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment

which are involved shall then be put to a vote. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

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

Rule 38 - Amendments
An amendment is a proposal that does no more than add to, delete from, or revise part of another proposal.

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

Rule 39 - Order of voting on amendments
When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal shall be voted on first and then the amendment next furthest removed there from, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on.

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

Rule 40 - Order of voting on proposals
If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Assembly decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted.

Rule 41 - The President shall not vote
The President shall not vote but may designate another member of her/his delegation to vote in her/his place.

VII. CREDENTIALS

Rule 42 - Submission of credentials
The credentials of representatives and the names of members of a delegation shall be submitted to the Secretary-General prior to the opening of a session.

Rule 43 - Credentials Committee
A Credentials Committee, consisting of nine members, shall be appointed by the Secretary-General at the beginning of each session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report without delay. The Main Committees shall be bound by the actions of the Plenary in all matters relating to credentials and shall take no action regarding the credentials of any Member State.

Rule 44 - Provisional admission to a session
Any representative to whose admission a member has made objection shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives until the Credentials Committee has reported and the Assembly has given its decision.

VIII. Ommitted

Rule 45 through Rule 48 - Ommitteed

IX. MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION

Rule 49 - Invitation to silent prayer or meditation

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