

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY

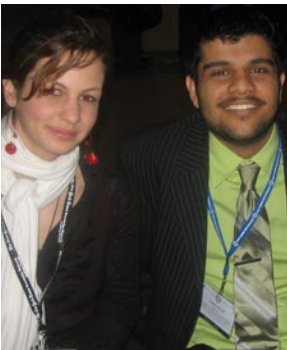
# GAPLENARY

NMUN•08

NATIONAL MODEL  
UNITED NATIONS

2008 COMMITTEE BACKGROUND GUIDE

[www.nmun.org](http://www.nmun.org)



WRITTEN BY:  
Romy Blickle  
Colleen Miller  
Kristina Mader  
Christian Winkler

18-22 March  
Sheraton New York

22-26 April  
New York Marriott Marquis

 NATIONAL  
COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE  
association™

Please consult the FAQ section of [www.nmun.org](http://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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 718.810.5044 phone

**NMUN Director-General (Sheraton)**  
 Linda Poppe | [dirgen@nmun.org](mailto:dirgen@nmun.org)

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**NMUN Director-General (Marriott)**  
 Galen Stocking | [dirgen@nmun.org](mailto:dirgen@nmun.org)

## NMUN•08 IMPORTANT DATES

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** To make hotel reservations, you must use the forms at [www.nmun.org](http://www.nmun.org) and include a \$1,000 deposit. Discount rates are available until the room block is full or one month before the conference – whichever comes first. **PLEASE BOOK EARLY!**

SHERATON	MARRIOTT	
31 January 2008	31 January 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm Attendance &amp; Delegate Count. (Count may be changed up to 1 March)</li> <li>Make Transportation Arrangements - DON'T FORGET!</li> </ul> (We recommend confirming hotel accommodations prior to booking flights.)
15 February 2008	15 February 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee Updates Posted to <a href="http://www.nmun.org">www.nmun.org</a>.</li> </ul>
23 February 2008	21 March 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hotel Registration with FULL PRE-PAYMENT Due to Hotel - Register Early! Registration is first-come, first-served.</li> </ul>
1 March 2008	1 March 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any Changes to Delegate Numbers Must be Confirmed to <a href="mailto:eaton@nmun.org">eaton@nmun.org</a></li> </ul>
1 March 2008	1 April 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two Copies of Each Position Paper Due via E-mail (See Delegate Preparation Guide for instructions).</li> </ul>
3 March 2008	1 April 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>

NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

**The 2008 National Model UN Conference**

- 18 - 22 March – Sheraton New York
- 22 - 26 April – New York Marriott Marquis

Two copies of each position paper should be sent via e-mail by 1 MARCH 2008 (Sheraton Venue) or 1 APRIL 2008 (Marriott Venue)

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 1 March (Sheraton Venue) or 1 April (Marriott Venue) 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. Please put committee and assignment in the subject line (Example: GAPLEN\_Greece).

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 committee, assignment and delegation name in the subject line (Example: Cuba\_U\_of\_ABC). If you have any questions, please contact the Director-General at dirgen@nmun.org.

COMMITTEE	E-MAIL   SHERATON	COMMITTEE	E-MAIL   MARRIOTT
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OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:

Entire Set of Delegation Position Papers (send only to e-mail for your assigned venue)	positionpapers.sheraton@nmun.org positionpapers.marriott@nmun.org
Executive Director	eaton@nmun.org
Secretary-General	secgen@nmun.org
Director(s)-General	dirgen@nmun.org

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# THE 2008 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

New York City, 18-22 March (Sheraton) & 22-26 April (Marriott) • [www.nmun.org](http://www.nmun.org)

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2008 National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference and the General Assembly Plenary. The directors of this year's General Assembly Plenary are Colleen E. Miller and Romy Blickle. Colleen will be directing at the Sheraton venue while Romy will be at the Marriott venue. This is Colleen's third year as a director at NMUN; she has previously directed the United Nations Children's Fund and the Council of Europe. She is currently an advanced PhD student at the University of Minnesota in Political Science with research interests in foreign policy and terrorism. The Assistant Director at the Sheraton venue is Christian Winkler, a political science student in Munich, Germany. Romy Blickle holds an MA in Political Science and returns for her second year as a director at the Marriott venue. She will be assisted by Kristina Mader, who is completing her senior year studying Political Science at Western Washington University. Each of us is eager to meet you in New York and appreciates the hard work and research you are undertaking in preparation for what we are confident will be a great week.

The topics for this year's General Assembly Plenary are:

1. Breaking the Link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict
2. The Promotion of Alternate Sources of Energy
3. Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

As the center of the United Nations, the General Assembly was created in 1945 under the Charter of the United Nations to serve as its chief deliberative, policy-making and representative organ. Comprising all 192 Members of the United Nations, it provides a forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the Charter, reflected in the agendas of the sessions of the body. With a dedicated effort from all delegates, we are very confident that this will lead to fruitful discussions and an overall successful simulation. This guide will aid you in developing a cursory understanding of the topics listed above and give you a starting point for future research.

Every participating delegation is required to submit a position paper prior to attending the conference. NMUN will accept position papers via e-mail by March 1, 2008 for Sheraton and April 1, 2008 for Marriott. Please refer to the message from your Directors-General explaining NMUN's position paper requirements and restrictions in this guide. Delegates' adherence to these guidelines is crucial.

The General Assembly experience can be intimidating, but it will be incredibly rewarding. We wish each of you the best as you prepare. We urge you to move beyond the background guide as you learn more about both the State you will represent and the topics we will be discussing. Please do not hesitate to direct any questions or concerns toward your Director. We look forward to meeting you at the conference.

Sincerely yours,

*Sheraton Venue*

Colleen E. Miller  
Director  
Christian Winkler  
Assistant Director

[gaplenary.sheraton@nmun.org](mailto:gaplenary.sheraton@nmun.org)

*Marriott Venue*

Romy Blickle  
Director  
Kristina Mader  
Assistant Director

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## Message from the Directors-General Regarding Position Papers for the 2008 NMUN Conference

At the NMUN Conference, each delegation submits one position paper for each committee it is assigned to. Delegates should be aware that their role in a respective committee has some impact on the way a position paper should be written. While most delegates will serve as Member States, some may be observers, NGOs or judicial or technical experts. To understand these fine differences, please refer to Delegate Preparation Guide.

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

NGO position papers should be constructed in the same fashion as 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.

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.

Delegation's position papers can be awarded as recognition of outstanding pre-Conference preparation. In order to be considered for a Position Paper Award, however, delegations must have met the formal requirements listed below. 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 or .pdf) **for each assigned committee** should be sent to the committee email address listed in the Background Guide. These e-mail addresses will be active after December 1, 2007. Delegates should carbon copy (cc:) themselves as confirmation of receipt.
2. Each delegation should also send **one set of all position papers** to the e-mail designated for their venue: [positionpapers.sheraton@nmun.org](mailto:positionpapers.sheraton@nmun.org) or [positionpapers.marriott@nmun.org](mailto:positionpapers.marriott@nmun.org). This set will serve as a back-up copy in case individual committee directors cannot open attachments. These copies will also be made available in Home Government during the week of the NMUN Conference

Each of the above listed tasks needs to be completed no later than **March 1, 2008 for Delegations attending the NMUN at the Sheraton venue and April 1, 2008 for Delegations attending the NMUN on the Marriott venue.**

**PLEASE TITLE EACH E-MAIL/DOCUMENT WITH THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE, ASSIGNMENT AND DELEGATION NAME (Example: AU\_Namibia\_University of Caprivi)**

*A matrix of received papers will be posted online for delegations to check prior to the Conference. If you need to make other arrangements for submission, please contact Linda Poppe, Director-General, Sheraton venue, or Galen Stocking, Director-General, Marriott venue at [dirgen@nmun.org](mailto:dirgen@nmun.org). There is an option for delegations to submit physical copies via regular mail if needed.*

Once the formal requirements outlined above are met, Conference staff uses the following criteria to evaluate Position Papers:

- Overall quality of writing, proper style, grammar, etc.
- Citation of relevant resolutions/documents
- General consistency with bloc/geopolitical constraints
- Consistency with the constraints of the United Nations
- Analysis of issues, rather than reiteration of the Committee Background Guide
- Outline of (official) policy aims within the committee's mandate

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.

Sincerely yours,

*Sheraton Venue*  
Linda Poppe  
Director-General

[linda@nmun.org](mailto:linda@nmun.org)

*Marriott Venue*  
Galen Stocking  
Director-General

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## 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.

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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 encourages 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.



## History of the General Assembly Plenary (GA)

### *Entitlement and Composition*

The General Assembly (GA) was established as one of the six principle organs of the United Nations (UN) under Article 7 of the *Charter of the United Nations*.<sup>1</sup> Alarmed by the devastating experience of World War II and the failure of the marginalized League of Nations, the founding members of the UN intended to create “a global institution with the legitimacy that derives from universal membership”, and a mandate that encompasses every field of international politics.<sup>2</sup>

Article 9 of the *Charter* states that the “General Assembly Plenary shall consist of all the Members of the United Nations”, making it the only UN organ with universal representation and thus granting a unique role to the body.<sup>3</sup> In 1945, the Assembly was composed of the fifty-one original Member States of the UN.<sup>4</sup> Due to Anglo-American-Soviet disputes about the admission procedure, only nine new members joined the UN in its first decade of existence.<sup>5</sup> However, with the process of decolonization in the 1960s and 1970s, the size of the GA grew rapidly. The collapse of multi-ethnic States such as the Soviet Union and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the 1980’s and 1990’s, further contributed to the enlargement. Most recently, Montenegro was admitted in 2006.

Entities that do not fulfil the requirements to be defined as ‘States’ are often granted the status of ‘Observer’ by the GA.<sup>6</sup> Observers may attend General Assembly meetings and are allowed the right to speak before the Assembly; however, they are not allowed to vote on resolutions.<sup>7</sup> Procedural rights vary between the several observer groups.<sup>8</sup> The most prominent observer that has not been granted the status of a Member State is Palestine.<sup>9</sup> In its 61<sup>st</sup> session, already 64 entities and organizations had been granted observer status to the General Assembly.<sup>10</sup> These included Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs), such as the League of Arab States, as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the Holy See.<sup>11</sup> Moreover, Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have become increasingly important for the effectiveness of the work at the UN. Their practical experience has become an indispensable tool and resource to tackle contemporary economic and social problems. Former UN Secretary-General (SG) Kofi Annan referred to them as “essential partners [...] in the execution of policies.”<sup>12</sup> However, up to this date, NGOs do not have a regular status in the GA.<sup>13</sup>

Questions in the Assembly are decided by a simple majority of the members present and voting.<sup>14</sup> The principle of ‘one state, one vote’ in the GA reflects the “sovereign equality” of all Member States.<sup>15</sup> Important questions, budgetary matters and elections are decided by a 2/3-majority.<sup>16</sup> Most UN elections concerning membership in committees and councils are formally voted upon in the GA. These encompass the non-permanent members of the Security Council or the election of the SG.<sup>17</sup> Recent practice of the GA strongly leans towards adopting resolutions by consensus rather than by voting in order to confirm GA resolutions despite their formally non-binding nature.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, art. 3.

<sup>2</sup> Taylor & Curtis, *The United Nations*, 2005, p. 409.

<sup>3</sup> *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, art. 9.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Growth in United Nations Membership, 1945-present*.

<sup>5</sup> Simma, *The Charter of the United Nations. A Commentary*, 2002, p. 179.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* 189.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.* 189.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 189.

<sup>9</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session. *List of non-Member States, Entities and Organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as Observers in the Sessions and the Work of the General Assembly. Note by the Secretariat (A/INF/61/5)*, 2006.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>12</sup> Global Policy Forum, *Secretary-General Opening Address to Fiftieth DPI/NGO Conference*, 1997.

<sup>13</sup> United Nations. General Assembly 62nd Session, *About the General Assembly, Functions and Powers of the GA*, 2007.

<sup>14</sup> *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, art. 18

<sup>15</sup> *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, art. 2.1.

<sup>16</sup> *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, 1945, art. 18

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, art. 18.

<sup>18</sup> United Nations. General Assembly 62nd Session, *About the General Assembly, Functions and Powers of the GA*, 2007.

## ***Functions and Powers***

The GA constitutes the “main deliberative organ” of the UN and can discuss “any questions or any matters within the scope of the present *Charter*”.<sup>19</sup> This includes the power to discuss questions relating to international peace and security and to initiate studies and make recommendations, which promote international political cooperation and collaboration in the humanitarian, educational, cultural, social, and health field.<sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, Article 12 of the *Charter* subordinates the GA to the Security Council (SC) concerning issues of international peace and security. It establishes “a temporary ban on recommendations by the GA with regard to cases being dealt with by the SC.”<sup>21</sup> The 61<sup>st</sup> session of the GA featured 156 items on its agenda.<sup>22</sup> These topics vary from crime prevention and the promotion of human rights, to sustainable development, disarmament, and UN reform.<sup>23</sup> In order to fulfill this task, the GA has established six Main Committees, which reflect the GA with all Member States being represented. They are as follows: First Committee (disarmament and international security), Second Committee (economic and financial matters), Third Committee (social, humanitarian and cultural matters), Fourth Committee (special political and decolonization matters), Fifth Committee (administrative and budgetary matters), and Sixth Committee (legal matters).

The General Assembly meets in regular annual sessions, which last from September until December.<sup>24</sup> The body also retains the option of special sessions to discuss urgent matters. Special meetings have been held to address issues including HIV/AIDS (2001) and gender equality (2000).<sup>25</sup> On the other hand, the recognized Millennium Summit in 2000 and the 2005 World Summit were part of the regular annual sessions.<sup>26</sup>

Despite the fact that the General Assembly has only secondary responsibility for issues dealing with international peace and security, it exercises control over other UN organs. According to Article 15 of the *Charter*, all other organs have to report about their activities to the GA.<sup>27</sup> The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), being a principle organ itself, is explicitly placed under GA authority.<sup>28</sup> Moreover, Article 22 of the *Charter* allows the GA to “establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.”<sup>29</sup> This Article has been used over 500 times in GA history to set up specialized committees or subsidiary bodies. The Human Rights Council was recently established under this Article.

## ***Criticism and Reform***

The issue of revitalizing the General Assembly’s work has been an important item on the agenda throughout the last several years. Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan offered a variety of proposals in his report *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All* (2005).<sup>30</sup> In his view, the recent trend towards unanimously adopted resolutions – though giving more weight to them – impedes action-orientated resolutions and “reflect[s] the lowest common denominator of widely different opinions.”<sup>31</sup> Annan has also reaffirmed the need to streamline the agenda and to consider civil society as the most important partner to achieve the ends of the UN.<sup>32</sup> Indeed, the lack of formal arrangements and systematic approaches hampers progress regarding the status of NGOs

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<sup>19</sup> *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, art. 10.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, art. 11, 13

<sup>21</sup> Simma, *The Charter of the United Nations. A Commentary*, 2002, p. 288.

<sup>22</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61<sup>st</sup> Session, *Agenda of the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the General Assembly*, 2006.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>24</sup> United Nations. General Assembly 62<sup>nd</sup> Session, *About the General Assembly, Functions and Powers of the GA*, 2007.

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>27</sup> *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, art. 15.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, art. 66, 87.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, art. 22.

<sup>30</sup> United Nations, 59<sup>th</sup> Session, *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All, Report of the Secretary-General*, 2005, 159.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, 160-162.

and the involvement of civil actors. As a result, GA resolutions have been accused of “remain[ing] dead-letters of non-compliance”, as NGOs have repeatedly claimed.<sup>33</sup>

The GA itself has also confronted the issue of reform in recent years. An Ad-hoc Working Group was established to identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the GA.<sup>34</sup> Amongst other things, the Working Group requested the GA to take on their *Charter* – given responsibility in matters of international peace and security.<sup>35</sup> The subordination to the SC in this field is according to the Working Group by no means an exclusion from the matter.

### **Conclusion**

The General Assembly may lack several powers to be considered a “world parliament”, especially since its decisions are not legally binding. However, it carries “the weight of world opinion, as well as the moral authority of the world community.”<sup>36</sup> The GA represents the most democratic approach in the UN System, which is reflected by the principle ‘one state, one vote’. From a social, economic, cultural and educational perspective, decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly have developed an immense impact, which is most recently reflected by GA Resolution A/RES/55/2, the *Millennium Declaration*.<sup>37</sup> This well-known document with its Millennium Development Goals (MDG) has become a global synonym for the United Nations fight for human rights, equality and tolerance and is among the many that illustrate the importance of the United Nations General Assembly Plenary.

## **I. Breaking the Link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict**

*“Lack of strong action on the part of governments and industry has allowed diamonds to be used to fund terrorism and conflict, to launder dirty money, and to fuel corruption in some of the world's poorest countries.”<sup>38</sup>*

### **Introduction**

As early as 1998, the United Nations (UN) concerned itself with the problem of conflict diamonds and their role in financing armed conflict.<sup>39</sup> They have been recognized by the UN as being a crucial factor in the prolonged and brutal civil wars particularly in parts of Africa, primarily due to their ability to fund rebel groups.<sup>40</sup> On December 1, 2000, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted A/RES/55/56, which addressed the issue of conflict diamonds and called for Member States to implement previous United Nations Security Council (UNSC) measures to attack the link between conflict diamonds and the financing of armed conflicts involving rebel groups in African conflicts.<sup>41</sup> Despite the impressive efforts – and successes – of both domestic groups and the international community to combat the illicit trade in diamonds, they continue to play a significant role in fueling conflicts around the globe, particularly in Africa.<sup>42</sup> Rebel groups that have prospered from conflict diamonds include the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) in Sierra Leone.<sup>43</sup> These groups have benefited financially from their participation in the trade of conflict diamonds and used these

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<sup>33</sup> Global Policy Forum, *Reform of the General Assembly*, n.d.

<sup>34</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 59th Session, *Resolution 313: A strengthened and Revitalized General Assembly*, 2006. (A/RES/59/313)

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>36</sup> United Nations. General Assembly, 60th Session, *Background Information*, n.d.

<sup>37</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 55th Session, *Resolution 2, United Nations Millennium Declaration*, 2000. (A/RES/55/2)

<sup>38</sup> Global Witness, *Combating Conflict Diamonds*, 2007.

<sup>39</sup> United Nations, *Conflict Diamonds: Sanctions and War*, 2007.

<sup>40</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>41</sup> United Nations. General Assembly Plenary. 57th Session, *The Role of Diamonds in Fuelling Conflict: Breaking the Link Between the Illicit Transition of Rough Diamonds and Armed Conflict as a Contribution to Prevention and Settlement of Conflicts* (A/RES/57/302), 2000.

<sup>42</sup> World Federation of Diamond Bourses and the International Diamond Manufacturers Association, *Diamond Facts*, 2007.

<sup>43</sup> United Nations, *Conflict Diamonds: Sanctions and War*, 2007; *Ibid.*

monies to finance their brutal campaigns on the African continent, which have taken an untold toll with respect to lives, economic opportunities and the possibility of peace.<sup>44</sup>

On the one hand, the General Assembly Plenary deals with a subset of armed conflicts, specifically those civil conflicts within African countries identified by the United Nations as currently participating in the mining and sale of conflict diamonds. States currently identified by the international community as possibly participating in the trade of conflict diamonds include Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire and the Republic of the Congo.<sup>45</sup> States having previously been involved in the trade of conflict diamonds include Angola, Liberia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>46</sup> Today, it is suggested by the Kimberley Process organization and others that Côte d'Ivoire remains the only State wherein rebel groups still maintain control of diamond production, making up 0.2% of the world's diamond trade.<sup>47</sup> This statistic provides solid evidence of the impressive accomplishment that the international community has achieved in breaking the link between rough diamonds and the financing of armed conflict. The General Assembly Plenary furthermore considers the link between conflict diamonds and armed violence taking the form of terrorism. The United States' Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has reported links between Al Qaeda money laundering efforts and the conflict diamond trade in Africa; according to the FBI, Al Qaeda began buying diamonds from Sierra Leone's Revolutionary United Front at the time of the 1998 United States embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania.<sup>48</sup> Such trade has resulted in millions of dollars being procured by terrorist groups; these funds are both procured illegally and used to conduct illegal – and usually violent – activities around the globe.<sup>49</sup>

The United Nations defines conflict diamonds – also known as 'blood diamonds'—as “diamonds that originate from areas controlled by forces or factions opposed to legitimate and internationally recognized governments, and are used to fund military action in opposition to those governments or in contravention of the decisions of the Security Council.”<sup>50</sup> Both the General Assembly Plenary and the UNSC have given considerable time and attention to this issue over the past decade; their efforts have been assisted by the international community at large, including many of those involved in the production and sale of legitimate diamonds.

### ***Previous Efforts in Combating the Trade in Conflict Diamonds***

As discussed above, the United Nations first addressed the link between diamonds and armed conflict in 2000 with the adoption of General Assembly Resolution A/RES/55/56. This resolution called for further transparency in the diamond trade, as well as establishing specific guidelines with respect to the certification of rough diamonds.<sup>51</sup> The resolution encouraged the introduction of national certification schemes for diamonds, while also supporting the work of the Kimberley Process.<sup>52</sup> While the resolution served to call attention to the problem of conflict diamonds with respect to their role in fueling and financing many civil conflicts in Africa, the resolution itself did not establish specific mechanisms for combating the problem. Instead, this responsibility was taken on by the Kimberley Process, which has played a key role in breaking the link between diamonds and the financing of armed conflicts in the region.

The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme was developed between 1999 and 2002 through cooperation between Member States, the diamond industry, and various Non-governmental organizations (NGOs).<sup>53</sup> The Kimberley Process document developed definitions pertaining to conflict diamonds and the diamond trade itself, and also developed a framework for cooperation between all parties to develop certification and transparency schemes in the trade of rough diamonds.<sup>54</sup> The Kimberley Process aims to regulate the trade in rough diamonds while ensuring

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<sup>44</sup> Brilliant Earth, *Conflict Diamonds*, 2007.

<sup>45</sup> Kimberley Process, *Kimberley Process*, 2007.

<sup>46</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>47</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>48</sup> Brilliant Earth, *Conflict Diamonds*, 2007.

<sup>49</sup> Weissenberger, *Terrorist Ties to Conflict Diamonds*, 2001.

<sup>50</sup> United Nations, *Conflict Diamonds: Sanctions and War*, 2007.

<sup>51</sup> United Nations. General Assembly Plenary. 57th Session, *The Role of Diamonds in Fueling Conflict: Breaking the Link Between the Illicit Transition of Rough Diamonds and Armed Conflict as a Contribution to Prevention and Settlement of Conflicts (A/RES/57/302)*, 2000.

<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>53</sup> Fatal Transactions, *The Kimberley Process*, 2007.

<sup>54</sup> Kimberley Process, *Kimberley Process*, 2007.

conflict diamonds are not accepted on the international market. States apply for membership to the Scheme and must meet the membership qualifications of the Scheme, which include implementing internal domestic controls, information sharing with other members of the Scheme, and ensuring the secure transportation of diamonds.<sup>55</sup> Members are only allowed to trade diamonds with other members; participants in the Scheme are banned from trading with non-participants.<sup>56</sup> With 72 States currently participating in the process through the framework of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, the markets available for those attempting to profit from conflict diamonds have been substantially reduced.<sup>57</sup> The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme has enjoyed impressive cooperation from the commercial diamond industry, as well as civil society groups.<sup>58</sup> Over the past eight years, the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme has claimed tremendous success in assisting numerous African States transform the problem of conflict diamonds into a productive and profitable 'clean' diamond industry with the ability to support domestic development in post-war societies.<sup>59</sup> While the Kimberley Process can point to a decrease in the trade of conflict diamonds, as well as its growing membership through the certification scheme, the Process is not without its critics.

While recognizing the Kimberley Process has been successful in cutting off some avenues of the conflict diamond trade, there have been critiques that the control mechanisms of the Scheme are not particularly effective, nor stringent enough.<sup>60</sup> Some of the signatories of the Kimberley Process have been unwilling to agree to develop an international, independent monitoring of the certification process itself.<sup>61</sup> "To become a member of the Kimberly Process, a country has to do little more than send a postcard by diplomatic post to the organization's president, South Africa."<sup>62</sup> As such, there are very real concerns that current measures to block the trade of conflict diamonds are insufficient.<sup>63</sup> It has been recommended that these controls be tightened and cooperation of Member States be increased.<sup>64</sup>

The World Federation of Diamond Bourses and the International Diamond Manufacturers Association, working together as the World Diamond Council, is another organization that has found itself on the frontlines of the fight against conflict diamonds.<sup>65</sup> In 2000, motivated by concerns over the violent consequences of African conflicts, the organization created the World Diamond Council.<sup>66</sup> The Council was charged with the task of developing, implementing and overseeing a tracking system "for the export and import of rough diamonds to prevent the exploitation of diamonds for illicit purposes such as war and inhumane acts."<sup>67</sup> The World Diamond Council has also worked extensively with the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme organization in an effort to provide cooperation from those businesses involved in the diamond trade.<sup>68</sup>

Non-governmental organizations have also been active in combating the trade in conflict diamonds, as well as breaking the link between these conflict diamonds and armed conflict. Indeed, some credit the London-based NGO Global Witness with bringing the issue of diamond conflicts and their role in financing armed conflict to the attention of the international community.<sup>69</sup> In 2001, several NGOs coordinated their efforts to begin a public awareness campaign on conflict diamonds that launched on February 14, Valentine's Day.<sup>70</sup> This public awareness campaign brought together a coalition of NGOs including Amnesty International USA, World Vision, Physicians for Human Rights, Oxfam USA and World Relief with the objective of raising consumer concerns about conflict diamonds and soliciting support for domestic legislation banning imports of conflict diamonds into the United

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<sup>55</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>58</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>59</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>60</sup> Fatal Transactions, *The Kimberley Process*, 2007.

<sup>61</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>62</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>63</sup> Amnesty International, *Kimberley Process: An Amnesty International Position Paper*, 2006.

<sup>64</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>65</sup> World Federation of Diamond Bourses and the International Diamond Manufacturers Association, *Diamond Facts*, 2007.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>67</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>68</sup> Kimberley Process, *Kimberley Process*, 2007.

<sup>69</sup> Program in Peace and World Security Studies, *Case Study: Conflict Diamonds*, 2003.

<sup>70</sup> Global Policy, *US NGOs Initiate Valentine's Day Campaign*, 2001.

States.<sup>71</sup> These organizations have also served important watchdog functions in monitoring both the progress of the Kimberley Process and the policies and practices of individual members of the Process.<sup>72</sup>

### ***Conflict Diamonds and Problem Areas***

It is difficult for the international community to identify exactly which States have groups involved in conflict diamonds and the status of a State's diamond trade will be greatly impacted by its political stability. As stated above, States identified as having been involved in the conflict diamond trade include many African States, including Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, and Sudan.<sup>73</sup> At time of press, only Côte d'Ivoire is characterized by the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme as having groups participating in the conflict diamond trade.<sup>74</sup> However, this is not always a guarantee that the diamond trade in other States is entirely 'clean,' as the Kimberley Process can often be circumvented by enterprising individuals, groups and even occasionally, States.<sup>75</sup> It is important to note that conflict diamond trade tends to be a practice of rebel groups and not legitimate State actors as defined by the United Nations.<sup>76</sup> As such, States suffering from civil strife are most likely to face the conflict diamond problem.

States currently participants in the Kimberley Process include Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone.<sup>77</sup> It should be noted that most States identified as having had or currently having rebel groups profiting from conflict diamonds are participants in the Kimberley Process, exposing the need to build on Kimberley Process and develop more powerful means of combating the conflict diamond trade. Ways in which to strengthen the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme should be considered by delegates in determining how to both prevent current trade in conflict diamonds, as well as prevent future rebel groups from adopting the practice.

### ***Conflict Diamonds and Terrorism***

Terrorism is a form of armed conflict, although it does differ significantly from traditional warfare. However, as many individuals and groups engaging in terrorism have profited from trade in conflict diamonds, it is important that this body considers the relationship between terrorism and conflict diamonds. As discussed above, the United States' Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has reported links between Al Qaeda money laundering efforts and the conflict diamond trade in Africa; according to the FBI, Al Qaeda began buying diamonds from Sierra Leone's Revolutionary United Front at the time of the 1998 United States embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania.<sup>78</sup> Unfortunately, such trade has resulted in millions of dollars being procured by terrorist groups; these funds are both procured illegally and used to conduct illegal – and usually violent – activities around the globe.<sup>79</sup> This development has allowed Al Qaeda and other terrorist organizations to easily hide massive amounts of assets outside of financial intuitions; this has made it profoundly more difficult for the United Nations, States and other organizations to track terrorist resources, leaving the international community vulnerable to attack by such groups.<sup>80</sup>

### ***Conclusion***

While conflict diamonds constitute a very small percentage of the diamond trade itself, they remain a very powerful tool of rebel groups, have the potential to result in extreme violence, and rob States of valuable natural resources. In the wrong hands, diamonds have the potential to thwart peace attempts and fund activities ranging from conventional warfare to terrorism. To date, the efforts of the United Nations and the work of the UN-mandated Kimberley Process Certification Scheme have resulted in many States adopting policies of certification and practices of transparency which have thwarted the ability of rebel groups to profit from so-called 'blood diamonds.' It is impressive that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme organization itself believes that less than two percent of

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<sup>71</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>72</sup> Global Witness, *Combating Conflict Diamonds*, 2007.

<sup>73</sup> Kimberley Process, *Kimberley Process*, 2007.

<sup>74</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>75</sup> Amnesty International, *Kimberley Process: An Amnesty International Position Paper*, 2006.

<sup>76</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>77</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>78</sup> Brilliant Earth, *Conflict Diamonds*, 2007.

<sup>79</sup> Weissenberger, *Terrorist Ties to Conflict Diamonds*, 2001.

<sup>80</sup> Farah, *The Role of Conflict Diamonds in Al Qaeda's Financial Structure*, 2007.

diamonds on the world market are conflict diamonds and lists Côte d'Ivoire as the sole State wherein rebel groups remain in control of important diamond mines and resources.<sup>81</sup> This, coupled with the extensive African membership in the Scheme, is strong evidence of the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme's successes. However, any instability in diamond-rich areas of the world increases the risk that diamonds – and the individuals who mine them – will be exploited. That exploitation has the potential to result in extreme violence while financing bloody civil wars and the activities of international terrorists. Thus, combating the entrance of conflict diamonds to the world market remains of utmost importance in both establishing regional peace and fighting the global war on terrorism.

During the process of writing position papers and preparing for the conference itself, delegates are encouraged to give careful to the consideration to the work that has already been accomplished with respect to breaking the link between diamonds and armed conflict. It is important that the General Assembly Plenary moves forward with respect to this area and avoids duplication of previous efforts. Additionally, it is important to consider to what degree previous mechanisms have been successful in curbing the conflict diamond trade. What weaknesses exist in previously developed mechanisms? What can be done to optimize and reform the existing processes? What areas have been successfully addressed and what contributed to their successes? Delegates should remain mindful of the immense economic power of diamonds and the role companies dealing in diamonds will play in breaking the link between violent conflict and diamonds. How can the United Nations work with these businesses to guarantee trading in conflict diamonds is not profitable or beneficial? What are some of the greatest roadblocks to ensuring that the percentage of 'clean' diamonds on the international market reaches 100? Which incentives could be developed to further regular diamond trade, including creating a positive impact for development? Delegates should also consider allegations that transnational groups, specifically terror networks active in the Middle East and North African region are exploiting 'dirty' diamonds to fund their activities. What can the body do to prevent future exploitation in this area?

## II. The Promotion of Alternate Sources of Energy

*"We will need political action if we are to protect our environment, secure our planet and safeguard our future, for our children and generations to come. This is one of the greatest challenges of our time."*<sup>82</sup>

At the Millennium Summit in September 2000, the Member States of the United Nations (UN) reaffirmed their commitment to working towards a world in which sustainable development and eliminating poverty would have the highest priority by establishing the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).<sup>83</sup> Energy itself was not included in the MDGs, but instead it is recognized as a key driver behind them.<sup>84</sup> At the launch of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) Report *Energy Services for the Millennium Development Goals* in 2006, economist and UN Special Advisor Jeffrey Sachs stressed that without increased investment in the energy sector, the MDGs will not be achieved in the poorest countries.<sup>85</sup> The UNDP report states that better energy services are needed to end poverty, hunger, educational disparity between boys and girls, the marginalization of women, major disease and health service deficits, as well as environmental degradation.<sup>86</sup>

Energy affects all aspects of modern life. By the end of this century, close to three quarters of the world's population is likely to be urbanized, with intense pressure on housing, sanitation, air and water quality, health care and congestion.<sup>87</sup> But the threat of disruptive climate change, the erosion of energy security, the finiteness of fossil fuels, and the growing energy needs of the developing world are major challenges for the international community.<sup>88</sup> They can only be met through innovation, new cost-effective technologies, and an efficient use of existing energy

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<sup>81</sup> Kimberley Process, *Kimberley Process*, 2007.

<sup>82</sup> Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, *In first plenary on climate change, General Assembly to seek speedy action*, 2007.

<sup>83</sup> United Nations. General Assembly, *Millennium Declaration*, 2000.

<sup>84</sup> United Nations. Millennium Project, *Energy Services for the Millennium Development Goals*, 2005, p.73.

<sup>85</sup> Sachs, *Energy and Environment*, 2006.

<sup>86</sup> *Ibid.*, p.3.

<sup>87</sup> United Nations. UN Chronicle, *Green our World!*, 2007.

<sup>88</sup> *Ibid.*



technologies.<sup>89</sup> As confirmed by the G8 Summit of 2007, the key to mastering this challenge is the promotion of alternative energy sources through policy and new market mechanisms, advanced by governments as well as by international organizations.<sup>90</sup> Although it is gradually increasing, the share of energy from new and renewable sources remains far below its economic potential.<sup>91</sup> The world energy demand is projected to increase at about 1.8% per year between 2000 and 2030.<sup>92</sup> In 2030, more than half of the world energy demand is expected to come from developing countries, compared to 40% today.<sup>93</sup> Among all regions, the most rapid energy demand will appear in Asia because of its strong economic growth.<sup>94</sup> The major energy consumption sectors are transport, industry, agriculture, commercial and public services, and residences, including heating, cars, as well as electricity for construction, computer, air conditioning and many others.<sup>95</sup> In the absence of new government policies or accelerated deployment of new technology, the world's primary energy demand is set to rise by 60% from now through 2030.<sup>96</sup>

### ***Commercial vs. Alternate Energy***

Generally, commercial energy refers to fossil fuels like oil, coal, and natural gas, nuclear energy, and large-scale hydropower.<sup>97</sup> Nuclear generation, which is low in greenhouse gas emissions, could actually be an attractive option for electricity.<sup>98</sup> But all forms of nuclear energy must ensure the highest level of safety and a profound waste management, for not being a high risk to the environment and to humanity.<sup>99</sup> Fossil fuels are not renewable.<sup>100</sup> The use of resources to meet human needs requires radical changes in the efficiency with which they are exploited and the creation of subsidies towards the use of renewable sources.<sup>101</sup>

The term new, renewable or alternative energy refers mainly to modern biofuels, wind, solar, small-scale hydropower, tidal, and geothermal energy.<sup>102</sup> Regenerative or renewable energies are categorized as sources of energy or energy carriers that are expected to renew naturally within a measurable human scale of time.<sup>103</sup> Renewable sources of energy are used for numerous applications including, but not limited to, providing modern energy services to the poor, contributing to the every-increasing needs of a global demand for energy, reducing air pollution and mitigating climate change.<sup>104</sup> Energy sources that are renewable and regenerative include solar radiation, wind energy and waterpower.<sup>105</sup> These renewable energies are ecologically sensible, socially compatible and their use promotes economical flexibility and innovation.<sup>106</sup> In contrast to fossil and nuclear fuels, renewable energy will not run out, and in general add little to the pollution and waste problems caused by fossil fuels, without the risks attendant on nuclear power.<sup>107</sup> However, the adoption of renewable energy alternatives still faces several technical and non-technical barriers, especially in developing countries.<sup>108</sup> This is because renewable energy policies and strategies are not yet integrated into national energy policies, financial resources for renewable energy

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<sup>89</sup> International Energy Agency, *Summary and Policy Implications*, 2006.

<sup>90</sup> G8 Summit 2007, *Chair's Summary*, 2007.

<sup>91</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 60th Session, *Report of the Secretary-General: Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the culmination of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, (A/60/154)*, 2005.

<sup>92</sup> European Commission, *World Energy, Technology, and Climate Policy Outlook 2030*, 2003.

<sup>93</sup> Birol, *The Investment Implications of Global Energy Trends*, 2005.

<sup>94</sup> European Commission. *World Energy, Technology, and Climate Policy Outlook 2030*, 2003.

<sup>95</sup> Energy Information Administration. *International Energy Outlook 2007, Energy Consumption by End-Use Sector*, 2007.

<sup>96</sup> International Energy Agency. Fatih Birol. *The Investment Implications of Global Energy Trends*, 2005.

<sup>97</sup> United Nations Development Program. *World Energy Assessment, Overview, 2004 update*, 2004, p.26.

<sup>98</sup> International Atomic Energy Agency, *Impact of U.S. Nuclear Generation on Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, 2001.

<sup>99</sup> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Nuclear Energy Agency, *Nuclear Energy in a Sustainable Development Perspective*, 2000.

<sup>100</sup> United Nations. General Assembly, *Press Release GA/9810*. 2000.

<sup>101</sup> European Environment Agency, *Changes in Business and the Environment: metaphors, partnerships, tools*, 1999.

<sup>102</sup> United Nations Development Program, *World Energy Assessment, Overview, 2004 update*, 2004, p.26.

<sup>103</sup> The Solar Server, *Forum for Solar Energy*, 2007.

<sup>104</sup> United Nations, General Assembly. 60th Session. Report of the Secretary-General. *Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the culmination of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, (A/60/154)*, 2005.

<sup>105</sup> The Solar Server, *Forum for Solar Energy*, 2007.

<sup>106</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>107</sup> Urban Ecology Institute, *Green Times*, 2006.

<sup>108</sup> International Panel on Climate Change, IPCC Working Group II, *Summary for Policymakers: Scientific-Technical Analyses of Impacts, Adaptations and Mitigation of Climate Change*, n.d.

investments remains limited, and coordination of efforts and experiences between concerned parties is weak.<sup>109</sup> Other obstacles are research and development databases which are inadequate, as well as technology transfer and local manufacture activities which are insufficient due to limited capacity building programs.<sup>110</sup>

### ***Climate Change and its consequences***

As a result of the changes in the traditional global climate system, the sea level rise, floods and droughts, desertification, frequent and stronger cyclones, coastal flooding, effects on hydrology and eco-systems, effects on agriculture and fishery, and extended exposure to contagious diseases are likely to occur.<sup>111</sup> Developing countries are most vulnerable to these threats, as they lack the capacity to adapt to the changes.<sup>112</sup> Other consequences are shrinkage of glaciers, later freezing but earlier break-up of ice on lakes and rivers, decline of some plant and animal population, early flowering of trees, and emergence of insects.<sup>113</sup>

If no strong specific policy initiatives and measures are taken, world CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are expected to double by 2030 because fossil fuels are expected to continue to dominate the energy system and continue to comprise 90% of all energy sources.<sup>114</sup> Given the continued dominance of fossil fuels, in 2030 world CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will be more than twice the levels recorded in 1990.<sup>115</sup> In the EU, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are projected to increase by 18% by 2030 compared to the 1990 levels.<sup>116</sup> In the United States of America the increase is around 50%.<sup>117</sup> While the emissions from developing countries represented 30% of the totals from 1990, it will be more than half the world's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2030.<sup>118</sup> It is under these circumstances that the problem of energy sustainability has become one of the most rapidly evolving global issues, and it will be of fundamental importance in the globalized world of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.<sup>119</sup>

### ***International efforts to promote the use of alternate energy sources***

By the mid-1980's climate change began to appear on the international political agenda as a result of an increasing number of scientific studies raising concerns about global warming.<sup>120</sup> Therefore the UN established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which published its *First Assessment Report*, calling for a global treaty to address the problem, in 1990.<sup>121</sup> This call, translated into the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC), opened for signature in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>122</sup> The UNFCCC entered into force in 1994 and counts 186 governments as parties today.<sup>123</sup> Its ultimate objective is to achieve the "stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system."<sup>124</sup>

The rising trend in world emissions called for more action in the direction of the promotion of alternate energy. International negotiations continued and in 1997 the *Kyoto Protocol* to UNFCCC was adopted.<sup>125</sup> The most striking element of the *Kyoto Protocol* is that most industrialized countries accepted that the average emissions over the

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<sup>109</sup> United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, *Executive Summary of ESCWA Briefing Paper No. 5, Development of Renewable Energy Technologies and Application*, n.d.

<sup>110</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>111</sup> Asia-Pacific Network on Climate Change, *Causes and Consequences*, n.d.

<sup>112</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>113</sup> International Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2001: Impact, Adoption and Vulnerability*, 2001.

<sup>114</sup> Wohlgemuth & Painuly, *Promoting Private Sector financing of commercial investments in renewable energy technologies*, n.d.

<sup>115</sup> European Commission, *World Energy, Technology, and Climate Policy Outlook 2030*, 2003.

<sup>116</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>117</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>118</sup> European Commission, *World Energy, Technology, and Climate Policy Outlook 2030*, 2003, p. 9.

<sup>119</sup> Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich Allianz Summer Academy 2006, *Which Europe in a globalized world? A Common European Energy Policy as a challenge for Europe in a globalized world*. 2006.

<sup>120</sup> Global Legal Group, *Environment Law 2007*, 2007.

<sup>121</sup> United Nations, *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Report*, 1990.

<sup>122</sup> United Nations, *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio Declaration*. (A/CONF.151/26), 1992.

<sup>123</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>124</sup> United Nations, *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Report*, Art. 2, 1990.

<sup>125</sup> United Nations, *Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, 1998.

2008-2012 periods should not exceed a given amount, defined as a percentage of the country greenhouse gases emissions in 1990.<sup>126</sup> As defined, the emission reduction leads to a decrease of 5% during the first commitment period 2008 to 2012.<sup>127</sup> The *Kyoto Protocol* already called for research, promotion, development, and increased use of renewable forms of energy.<sup>128</sup> It entered into force after 55 countries ratified the treaty, those countries accounting for at least 55% of the 1990 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.<sup>129</sup> But the United States, the largest producer of greenhouse gases, is not a party to the *Kyoto Protocol*, and large developing countries like China, the second largest emitter, and India and Brazil are exempt from its obligations.<sup>130</sup>

Other early measures taken by the UN include the *World Solar Programme*, which took place from 1996 to 2005.<sup>131</sup> It resulted in a series of recommendations for action at the national and international level, five major projects of global scope and universal value and close to 500 high-priority national projects submitted by governments.<sup>132</sup> The *World Solar Programme* and its aftermath have made significant contributions to raising awareness of the increased role that renewable sources play in the global energy supply.<sup>133</sup>

Additional evidence for the importance of the promotion of alternate energy sources is the fact that the 62<sup>nd</sup> session of the General Assembly, held from the 31<sup>st</sup> of July to the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2007, was its first-ever plenary session devoted exclusively to one topic: climate change.<sup>134</sup> The General Assembly is seeking to translate the growing scientific consensus on the problem into a broad political consensus for action following alarming UN reports on its potentially devastating effects.<sup>135</sup> Moreover, the 2007 *Human Development Report* of UNDP, to be released in November 2007, is dedicated to the Human Development and Climate Change, as the world's poorest countries and poorest people will bear the brunt.<sup>136</sup>

The EU has called for a stronger commitment from member states to promote alternate energy, in particular wind, water, solar, biomass and geothermic sources.<sup>137</sup> Over the last ten years, a number of substantial EU programmes have been established, aimed at supporting the main sustainable energy actors, both in the field of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency, to develop concrete projects, to disseminate their achievements and results, and to demonstrate the benefits of new technologies and tools.<sup>138</sup> This is, for example, done with the help of technology research and demonstration programs, such as the Intelligent Energy – Europe (2003-2006) Programme.<sup>139</sup> It is the main means of converting EU policy for smart energy use and more alternative energy sources into action on the ground, addressing today's energy challenges and promoting business opportunities and new technologies.<sup>140</sup> The program is structured into four fields. "SAVE", "ALTENER", "STEER", "COOPENER".<sup>141</sup> It is in this context of the EU's commitment to changing the landscape of energy that the Sustainable Energy Europe 2005-2008 Campaign has been launched.<sup>142</sup> Sustainable Energy Europe 2005-2008 is a European Commission initiative in the framework of the Intelligent Energy - Europe program, which will help achieve the EU's energy policy targets within the fields of renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, clean transport and alternative fuels.<sup>143</sup>

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<sup>126</sup> *Ibid.*; United Nations, *Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, 1998.

<sup>127</sup> *Ibid.*, Art.3.

<sup>128</sup> *Ibid.*, Art.2.

<sup>129</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>130</sup> United Nations, UN Chronicle Online Edition, *Climate Change as a Global Challenge: The Road to Bali*, 2007.

<sup>131</sup> United Nations, *The World Solar Programme 1996-2005 (A/53/395)*, 1996.

<sup>132</sup> United Nations, *Energy in the United Nations: An Overview of UN-Energy Activities*, 2006.

<sup>133</sup> United Nations, General Assembly. 60th Session, *Report of the Secretary-General: Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the culmination of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, (A /60/154)*, 2005.

<sup>134</sup> UN News Centre, *In first plenary on climate change, General Assembly to seek speedy action*, 2007.

<sup>135</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>136</sup> United Nations Development Programme, *Human Development Report*, 2007.

<sup>137</sup> European Parliament, *Fact Sheet: Energy Policy*, 2006.

<sup>138</sup> European Commission, *Sustainable Energy Europe*, n.d.

<sup>139</sup> European Commission, *Decision No. 1230/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26. June 2003 adopting a multiannual programme for action in the field of energy, Intelligent Energy - Europe (2003-2006)*, 2003, p.29.

<sup>140</sup> European Commission, *Intelligent Energy - Europe, Work Programme 2007*, 2007.

<sup>141</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>142</sup> European Commission, *Sustainable Energy Europe*, 2005.

<sup>143</sup> *Ibid.*

Further key players in the promotion of alternate energy sources are the industry and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). In most countries in the western hemisphere, these organizations and industry have immense influence on their country's politics and their positions and concerns must be considered when making political decisions. Companies try to influence the national foreign-policy decision-making process through talks, comments and public-relations actions. Lobbying plays an important role in our pluralistic society and should not be underestimated. Meanwhile, via public campaigns, NGOs have the power to confront a brand and image-sensitive company with its supposed social misconduct in the field of environmental or climate politics. NGOs can mobilize the public and because of the vulnerability of a costly brand images, campaigns such as the successful Brent-Spar campaign of Greenpeace against the Shell Company cannot be ignored.<sup>144</sup>

### *Case Studies*

The best way to illustrate how renewable energy sources can be promoted is to list real examples of such activities by governments and international organizations. The following case studies examine the implementation of programs designed to use and to promote renewable energy sources and how their application can contribute to the improvement of people's lives and to environmental awareness.

#### *The United States Green Energy Parks Program*

The promotion of renewable energy should not only be enhanced in developing countries, but especially in the world's leading nations in order to serve as a role model for other countries. The United States Department for Energy together with the Department for the Interior designed and implemented a renewable energy project throughout the country's National Parks.<sup>145</sup> The Green Energy Parks Program was honored as a very successful project with one of four Presidential Awards for Federal Energy Management Success.<sup>146</sup> The United States National Parks provide good opportunities for renewable and other alternative energy technologies because many sites are remote and far from existing electric or gas grids.<sup>147</sup> The applied technologies include alternative fuel vehicles, fuel cells for mobile and stationary applications, and solar photovoltaic and thermal energy systems for light and security.<sup>148</sup> The overall objective of the initiative is to promote the use of energy efficient and renewable energy technologies and practices, and increased use of alternative fuels throughout National Park facilities and transportation systems.<sup>149</sup> High attention is also paid on educating the visiting public about the impact of conventional energy use on natural and cultural resources, the capacity of current and emerging energy technologies to reduce that impact, and the things visitors can do at home to reduce their own energy use.<sup>150</sup>

#### *UNESCO: Strengthening the National Capacities through the GREET Programme*

The use of renewable energies has become increasingly familiar to decision-makers and the general public in many industrialized countries. However, this is not always the case in a number of developing countries, where the relevant knowledge is still limited to a restricted circle of specialists and government officials.<sup>151</sup> To respond to the needs in this area and based on regional consultations UNESCO launched the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training (GREET) Programme as a strategic initiative with universal scope and value.<sup>152</sup> The program has two-fold strategic objectives aimed at improving the use and maintenance of renewable energy projects and their management, and at strengthening the national competencies and favoring the transfer of technological knowledge.<sup>153</sup> Activities implemented within the GREET Programme cover the design and field implementation of training tools and materials, the organization of training programs at different levels, including continuing and distance education, and training activities targeting professionals like teachers and politicians.<sup>154</sup> Within the GREET

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<sup>144</sup> Greenpeace International, *The Brent Spar*, 2005.

<sup>145</sup> United States Department of Energy, *About the office of EERE*, 2004.

<sup>146</sup> National Park Service, *Green Energy Parks Initiative Receives White House Award*, n.d.

<sup>147</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>148</sup> National Park Service, *Memorandum of understanding between the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior*, 1998.

<sup>149</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>150</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>151</sup> United Nations. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *UNESCO's activities for promoting renewable energies*, n.d.

<sup>152</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>153</sup> Benchikh, *UNESCO's Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme (GREET Programme)*, 2004.

<sup>154</sup> *Ibid.*

Programme, UNESCO has also initiated a new conceptual training platform on alternative energy, developed as a tool to conduct seminars and training activities at the national and regional level.<sup>155</sup> This platform also serves as a simulator for spreading knowledge on the application of renewable energy for decentralized rural electrification.<sup>156</sup>

### ***Conclusion and Committee Directive***

The above mentioned case studies show clearly that renewable energy technologies have great potential for contributing to a sustainable development and a secure energy mix all over the world in all sectors. However, more action is needed. As recommended by the European Commission, this action should integrate renewable energy policies into national and international energy and development policies.<sup>157</sup> Governments need to move forward quickly to design and to carry out national climate change policies in order to promote the use of alternate energy sources. Combined national and international policies and activities can promote the use of alternate energy sources and thereby reduce emissions and the impact of the climate change for future generations. Future work should also address the area of technology, communication, awareness raising and education for the promotion of renewable energy sources.<sup>158</sup>

How can the General Assembly help coordinate the efforts to promote the use of renewable energy in developed and in developing countries? How can Research and Development of renewable energy sources be strengthened? What “lessons learned” can be drawn from the already implemented use of renewable sources? How can renewable energy sources be accessible and affordable for the poor? How can the General Assembly help to design the Post-Kyoto period and how can the MDGs be advanced through the use of renewable energy? These and many more questions on the promotion of alternate energy sources should guide delegates in their research and their preparation.

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

*“We believe that despite the existing constraints, it is still possible to achieve the Abuja targets by enhancing the pace of implementation of planned activities, ensuring effecting and prompt utilization of available funds at all levels, and redoubling efforts to involve all in malaria control activities especially at the community level.”<sup>159</sup>*

### ***Introduction***

Over three billion people are at risk of contracting malaria, a parasitic disease spread to the majority of its victims by the bite of a mosquito.<sup>160</sup> The disease is closely associated with poverty, its targets being mostly women and children in sub-Saharan Africa where the deadliest strain of the disease, *Plasmodium falciparum (falciparum)*, is prevalent.<sup>161</sup> Worldwide, this specific strain is the cause of 50% of all malaria cases and 95% of the deaths.<sup>162</sup> With 85% of total global malaria cases occurring in Africa, the other two regions that are most at risk are Southeast Asia, with 8% of all cases, and the Eastern Mediterranean region, with 5% of all cases.<sup>163</sup>

### ***The Roll Back Malaria Partnership and other international eradication efforts***

In 1998, the Roll Back Malaria Partnership (RBM) was launched by the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank (WB), the United Nation’s Children Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Program

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<sup>155</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>156</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>157</sup> European Union, *United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development/Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting: Energy for Sustainable Development*, 2007.

<sup>158</sup> European Commission, *Education on Energy*, 2006.

<sup>159</sup> Babaniyi, *Speech delivered by Dr Olusegun Babaniyi WHO Representative to Ethiopia on Africa Malaria Day 2004*, 2004.

<sup>160</sup> United Nations. United Nations Children’s Fund, *Malaria: A Major Cause of Child Death and Poverty in Africa*, 2004.

<sup>161</sup> UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research & Training in Tropical Diseases, *Tropical disease research: progress 2003-2004 (TDR/GEN/05.1)*, 2005.

<sup>162</sup> National Geographic Magazine, *Bedlam in the blood: Malaria*, 2007.

<sup>163</sup> The World Bank, *Global Strategy & Booster Program*, 2005.

(UNDP).<sup>164</sup> The organization has the main goal of linking malaria-endemic countries, development partners, the private sector, non-governmental and community-based organizations, and research and academic institutions in the fight to eradicate malaria.<sup>165</sup> The partnership is currently focusing its efforts at country and community levels to make cost-effective interventions more readily available.<sup>166</sup> These efforts have set targets linked to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), specifically MDG Goal 6: “To halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.”<sup>167</sup>

An important framework that helps guide countries in meeting the MDGs is contained within the *Abuja Declaration*.<sup>168</sup> The Declaration is the product of the African Summit on Roll Back Malaria, held in Abuja, Nigeria on April 25, 2000.<sup>169</sup> The targets were developed by forty-four of the fifty malaria-affected countries in Africa and reflect a “real convergence of political momentum, institutional synergy and technical consensus on malaria.”<sup>170</sup> By signing this document, the African leaders dedicated themselves to ensure that by 2005, at least 60% of those suffering from malaria, especially pregnant women and children, would have prompt access to affordable and appropriate treatment within 24 hours of the onset of symptoms, access to appropriate treatments, such as presumptive intermittent treatment for pregnant women, and access to a combination of personal and community protective measures such as insecticide treated mosquito nets.<sup>171</sup> Other suggested measures that leaders pledge to take are health system reform, reduction of taxes and tariffs on mosquito nets, insecticides, and anti-malarial drugs, and development of reliable mechanisms that facilitate.<sup>172</sup> In addition, the targets specify that 60% of the epidemics will be detected within two weeks of onset, and responded to within two weeks of detection.<sup>173</sup>

### ***Scaling up preventative efforts***

Control of the disease focuses on prevention as well as treatment in the 107 malaria-endemic regions of the world.<sup>174</sup> The most common preventative methods of vector control are indoor residual spraying and insecticide-treated mosquito nets.<sup>175</sup>

Indoor residual spraying (IRS) was the key factor in the elimination of malaria in many areas of the world over the past 50 years.<sup>176</sup> There are 12 insecticides currently recommended by WHO for IRS: Dichlorodiphenyltrichlorethane (DDT) is the longest lasting, but most controversial insecticide because of its proven linkage to harmful effect on wildlife and the environment.<sup>177</sup> DDT is carefully monitored by WHO according to the guidelines laid out by the Stockholm Convention.<sup>178</sup> The Convention, signed in 2001, is a global treaty that outlines the proper use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).<sup>179</sup> POPs are chemicals that remain in the environment for many years, can become widely distributed, and accumulate in the tissue of living organisms, becoming toxic to humans and wildlife.<sup>180</sup> The suggested use of DDT, one of the better known POPs, is strictly indoors, and only in countries where safe, effective, and affordable alternatives are not available.<sup>181</sup> In June 2006, WHO reaffirmed that IRS should only be utilized “within the context of an integrated vector management strategy.”<sup>182</sup>

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<sup>164</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>165</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>166</sup> United Nations. United Nations Children’s Fund, *Malaria: A Major Cause of Child Death and Poverty in Africa*, 2004.

<sup>167</sup> United Nations, Millennium Development Goals. *What are the Millennium Development Goals?*, (2005)

<sup>168</sup> Roll Back Malaria/World Health Organization, *The Abuja Declaration and the Plan of Action*, 2003.

<sup>169</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>170</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>171</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>172</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>173</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>174</sup> The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, *Malaria*, In *The Disease Report*, 2005.

<sup>175</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>176</sup> World Health Organization, *Malaria Control Today: Current WHO Recommendations*, 2005.

<sup>177</sup> World Health Organization, *Frequently asked questions on DDT use for disease vector control*, 2005.

<sup>178</sup> Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), *What are POPs?*, 2007.

<sup>179</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>180</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>181</sup> World Health Organization, *Frequently asked questions on DDT use for disease vector control*, 2005.

<sup>182</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

In 2007, the UN issued a global statement on the use of mosquito nets in the fight against malaria.<sup>183</sup> For the first time, they recommended that the nets be “long-lasting, distributed either free or highly subsidized, and used by all community members to fight a disease that kills more than 1 million people each year.”<sup>184</sup> The widespread use of mosquito nets in endemic regions has shown that they can reduce child mortality by 20% in some areas, and up to 44% in other areas, such as Kenya.<sup>185</sup> In 2002, fewer than 5% of children in sub-Saharan Africa were sleeping under insecticide-treated nets (ITNs); only 15% were sleeping under any net at all.<sup>186</sup> Retreatment of the nets is critical in order for them to continue being effective, but WHO estimates that less than 5% are re-treated.<sup>187</sup> Retreatment of the nets is necessary because the two most effective ITNs, permethrin and deltamethrin, only work for one year.<sup>188</sup> This process can become costly, due to the inaccessibility of many of the areas that need the preventative methods the most, as well as to the high cost of the retreatment supplies.<sup>189</sup>

In order to address some of the weaknesses of ITNs, long lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) are a newer, more effective alternative net available for the prevention of malaria.<sup>190</sup> In LLINs, insecticide is incorporated into the netting at the factory, continuously releasing insecticide for four to five years, saving a significant amount of money on annual retreatment.<sup>191</sup> The benefits of widespread use of ITNs and LLINs, have made a measurable, positive impact in several countries. Most notably, in Malawi, Kenya, and the United Republic of Tanzania, “efforts to deliver free or highly subsidized nets to pregnant women have increased coverage to over 50% of that population.”<sup>192</sup>

At the country level, WHO and UNICEF are successfully scaling up distribution of insecticide nets, as well as other anti-malarial therapies.<sup>193</sup> They have set the goal of “universal access” to ITNs or LLINs for themselves, and are working to integrate the distribution of the nets with antenatal care and immunization programs that will reach children in particular.<sup>194</sup> As part of their effort, WHO has successfully lobbied for the removal of taxes on LLNs, making it “less expensive to reach high-level coverage” of the longer-lasting nets than the conventional ITNs.<sup>195</sup> The programs have been relatively successful, but several “bottlenecks” have arisen, due in part to the “inability of the international community to reach a consensus on how to deliver the nets,” as well as problems in the area of retreatment, availability, and affordability.<sup>196</sup>

### ***Treatment methods to combat drug resistance***

Treatment of malaria must occur within 24 hours of the onset of symptoms – especially in cases involving children under the age of five – to prevent severe illness or death.<sup>197</sup> Resistance to antimalarial drugs, attributed in large part to misuse of the drugs, has been high in Southeast Asia and South America for the past decade, and now Africa is also being affected.<sup>198</sup>

WHO now recommends the use of Artemisinin-Based Combination Therapies (ACTs) as the primary treatment for malaria.<sup>199</sup> ACTs are a highly effective combination of artemisinin compounds that produce a “very rapid

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<sup>183</sup> United Nations News Service., *UN agency issues new guidance for insecticide-treated mosquito nets to fight malaria*, 2007.

<sup>184</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>185</sup> United Nations Children’s Fund. *Malaria: A Major Cause of Child Death and Poverty in Africa*, 2004.; United Nations. News Service., *UN agency issues new guidance for insecticide-treated mosquito nets to fight malaria*, 2007.

<sup>186</sup> United Nations Children’s Fund. *Malaria: A Major Cause of Child Death and Poverty in Africa*, 2004.

<sup>187</sup> Roll Back Malaria/World Health Organization, *Insecticide-treated mosquito nets*, 2002.

<sup>188</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>189</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>190</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>191</sup> United Nations Children’s Fund. *Malaria: A Major Cause of Child Death and Poverty in Africa*, 2004.

<sup>192</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>193</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>194</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>195</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>196</sup> United Nations News Service., *UN agency issues new guidance for insecticide-treated mosquito nets to fight malaria*, 2007.

<sup>197</sup> World Health Organization, *Facts on ACTs*, 2006.

<sup>198</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>199</sup> *Ibid.*



therapeutic response,” including the reduction of the mass of parasites that cause the disease as well as a resolution of symptoms.<sup>200</sup> The increase in demand, which in 2005 rose to its highest level ever at 32 million treatment courses, has led to “global shortages” of many critical elements to malaria control.<sup>201</sup> Most notably, single-source ACTs and limited-source LLINs have become scarce, as has artemisinin, the raw material which is needed to manufacture many of the drugs utilized in prevention and treatment of the disease.<sup>202</sup>

A new program created by WHO assists member countries with the purchase of ACTs by “pre-qualifying manufacturers of artemisinin compounds and ACTs on the basis of compliance with international recommended standards of manufacturing and quality.”<sup>203</sup> This program has been very successful in increasing production to meet the rising demand, but is lacking in significant financial support by larger manufacturers because of the competition they face with the new producers.<sup>204</sup>

### ***Implementation of community and home-based treatment***

Home-based management of malaria (HBM) is being developed to reach “vulnerable populations (particularly children under the age of 5) in countries with low health facility coverage.”<sup>205</sup> This revolutionary treatment of malaria puts essential drugs and critical information into the hands of those who are closest to the disease, mothers and community based caregivers.<sup>206</sup> HBM has produced highly beneficial results in several African countries, notably Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, and Nigeria.<sup>207</sup> The typical program includes a system that allows caregivers to recognize and respond to the onset of the disease quickly.<sup>208</sup> To assist in this, the tools utilized in the prevention and treatment have been redesigned by the WHO in order to streamline the process for caregivers.<sup>209</sup>

This package of home-based interventions developed by WHO involves basic diagnostic and treatment training for shopkeepers who sell antimalarial drugs, and improved packaging of the drugs for consumers.<sup>210</sup> Concurrently, rectally administered artemisinin are effectively being utilized in HBM as a “pre-referral treatment for severe malaria” that lowers the risk of death in children until prenatal treatment can be provided at a local health institution.<sup>211</sup> The drawbacks to HBM include inadequate or poor quality of care. This is usually the case if there isn’t a cohesive, coordinating organization in the region to facilitate proper distribution of supplies, accurate and clear instructions, and the inability of many caregivers to cope with multiple health issues which can exacerbate malaria, such as malnutrition and HIV/AIDS.<sup>212</sup> In spite of these drawbacks, the combination of ACTs and home based management has been extremely successful in mitigating the severest consequences of the disease in many cases, as well as providing clear instructions on the use of the drugs, and empowering families to take control of their own health.<sup>213</sup>

### ***The achievement gap in controlling malaria***

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<sup>200</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>201</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>202</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>203</sup> United Nations. Economic and Social Council. Commission on Human Rights. 62<sup>nd</sup> Session, *Access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria (E/CN.4/2006/39)*, 2006.

<sup>204</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>205</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>206</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>207</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>208</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>209</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>210</sup> The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, *Malaria*, In *The Disease Report*, 2005.

<sup>211</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>212</sup> The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, *Malaria*, In *The Disease Report*, 2005.

<sup>213</sup> *Ibid.*

Progress towards the Abuja targets is hard to calculate, because monitoring was based on national surveys with indicators that differ from the ones used by the RBM Partnership.<sup>214</sup> What is clear, though, is that countries are not meeting the goals set for them quickly enough to reach the 2010 targets.<sup>215</sup> Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has identified four actions that can be taken to close this achievement gap: development of strong technical leadership in WHO and member organizations; quick adoption and accurate completion of technical policies; consensus on strategies for achieving the agreed upon targets; and consistent and effective monitoring and evaluation of capacity, implementation, and impact of the various RBM Partnership programs.<sup>216</sup> Within the RBM Partnership, a “change process” has been initiated to assist with internal issues preventing effective implementation of malaria control programs, with a large focus on delivering “more robust strategic and technical leadership on curative and preventative interventions.”<sup>217</sup>

Funding for programs, specifically a lack of follow-up on funds that were pledged to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as well as less than expected WB funding has also contributed to the delay in progress.<sup>218</sup> In spite of those setbacks, the United States of America President’s Malaria Initiative, started in 2005, has raised hopes that resource availability will rise in the second part of the decade.<sup>219</sup> In 2006, WHO established the Global Malaria Programme (GMP) in order to be able to “respond cohesively and strongly to the needs of malaria-endemic member States” and meet their goal of a 50% reduction in the malaria burden by 2010.<sup>220</sup> The new strategic-direction has been instrumental in making positive progress by identifying important aspects of global malaria control previously ignored, including: expansion of malaria control efforts to non-African endemic countries; greater focus on monitoring and evaluation; support of “priority” research that will help rectify “implementation bottlenecks;” and well-coordinated partnerships that ensure support is “harmonized and aligned with national strategies and plans.”<sup>221</sup> The Strategic Technical Advisory Group to the Director General has been critical in achieving broad consensus within the GMP, and helped in efficiently moving forward on malaria eradication.<sup>222</sup>

### ***Gender perspectives in malaria control***

Cultural practices involving the role of women have a large impact on the higher risk faced by women than men in contracting malaria.<sup>223</sup> According to WHO, “gender norms and values that influence the division of labor, leisure activities, and sleeping arrangements, may lead to different patterns of exposure to mosquitoes for males and females.”<sup>224</sup>

Pregnant women are the largest adult group that is at risk in endemic countries around the world.<sup>225</sup> A multi-pronged approach is recommended by WHO for women in areas of “stable, moderate to high transmission” including administration of intermittent preventative treatment (IPTp), home use of ITNs, and case management of malaria illness.<sup>226</sup> IPTp requires two to three doses of the anti-malaria drug, during the second and third trimester significantly, reduces the proportion of low-birth weight infants as well as maternal morbidity.<sup>227</sup> Increased attention to policy in this area is being given, because of the risk of usage of ACTs instead of IPTp in the early

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<sup>214</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>215</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>216</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>217</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>218</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>219</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>220</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>221</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>222</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>223</sup> Roll Back Malaria Partnership, *A Guide to Gender and Malaria Resources*, 2006.

<sup>224</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>225</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>226</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>227</sup> United Nations Children’s Fund. *Malaria: A Major Cause of Child Death and Poverty in Africa*, 2004.

trimesters of a pregnancy, and the lack of safety knowledge regarding ACTs and pregnant women.<sup>228</sup> Even though pregnant women are so at risk, there are many opportunities for prevention and control of malaria within the group with 70% of pregnant women in Africa making multiple antenatal clinic visits during their pregnancy.<sup>229</sup>

### ***Economic cost of malaria***

Malaria costs African countries US\$12 billion each year in direct and indirect costs.<sup>230</sup> Annual economic growth in countries with high malaria transmission has been lower than in countries with low transmission rates.<sup>231</sup> Some economists estimate that malaria causes a 1.3% “growth penalty” in some African countries.<sup>232</sup> It is because of this penalty that WHO estimates that if malaria had been eliminated 35 years ago, the continent’s collective GDP would be up to \$100 billion greater.<sup>233</sup> The direct costs of malaria include public and personal expenditures on prevention and treatment of the disease. Public expenditures encompass government spending on health care facilities, publicly managed vector control, education, and research.<sup>234</sup> In endemic countries, as much as 40% of public health expenditures are a result of malaria control efforts.<sup>235</sup>

To control malaria globally, it is estimated that \$3.4 billion would be required per year.<sup>236</sup> In human terms, one healthy year of life would be gained for every \$1 to \$8 spent on effective malaria treatment, which is as “cost-effective a public health investment as measles vaccinations.”<sup>237</sup> The costly bite malaria takes out of the world, specifically Africa, could be mediated by a comparatively small amount of investment in control and treatment.<sup>238</sup> Funding is far below the required levels, but the amount donated and given towards the cause has risen substantially since 2001.<sup>239</sup> An estimated \$600 million has been allocated to various development agencies, but not distributed, as of 2004.<sup>240</sup>

### ***Development of health care systems and policies to assist with malaria control***

WHO urges nations to establish national policies and operational plans to ensure that at least 80% of those at risk, or suffering from malaria, benefit from major preventative and curative interventions by 2010.<sup>241</sup> If global health goals are to be met, health care systems must be strengthened through “focused action in countries,” most importantly, high levels of investment and technical support.<sup>242</sup>

The GMP has as one of its main areas of focus the “fostering of a multi-sector approach, with strong health-sector leadership, to gather political support for long-term investments in the health sector and to link national health priorities and development agendas.”<sup>243</sup> WHO in particular is focusing on this aspect of malaria control as a way to fix many of the larger issues with health care in general, such as “brain drain” and lack of capacity.<sup>244</sup> Specifically,

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<sup>228</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>229</sup> Roll Back Malaria Partnership, *Malaria in pregnancy*, 2004.

<sup>230</sup> Roll Back Malaria Partnership, *RBM Global Strategic Plan: 2005 – 2015*, 2005.

<sup>231</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>232</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>233</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>234</sup> Roll Back Malaria Partnership, *RBM Global Strategic Plan: 2005 – 2015*, 2005.

<sup>235</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>236</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>237</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>238</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>239</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>240</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>241</sup> World Health Organization. World Health Assembly. 58<sup>th</sup> Session, *Malaria Control (WHA58.2)*, 2005.

<sup>242</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>243</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

<sup>244</sup> *Ibid.*

WHO is supporting the development of, “managerial capacity to oversee health-care personnel and efficient mechanisms for quality laboratory services.”<sup>245</sup>

### **Conclusion**

The three principle ingredients that need to be present for effective and successful malaria control are high political commitment from the home government, strong technical assistance from organizations such as the WHO, and adequate funding from both bilateral and multilateral donors.<sup>246</sup> Geography plays a large part in high levels of malaria, specifically ecological conditions in warmer areas of the world, but poverty plays an even larger role in maintaining the presence of malaria. Poverty, combined with violent conflict creates situations where medical treatment is difficult to near impossible within a crumbling and dangerous infrastructure of inadequate health services. In Africa, the only parts of the continent that are free from the disease are the richest areas, the north and south. A similar pattern occurs in other parts of the world, such as India and Haiti, both of which have extremely impoverished populations.<sup>247</sup> The cost of controlling malaria is significantly less than the total economic cost it has on the poorest nations in the world, and is well worth a negligible investment in stopping millions of preventable deaths annually. There are many successful programs around the world that have made small to significant gains in controlling malaria, but without a continuing commitment on a global level the targets set by the MDGs will not be reached. The eradication of malaria would have a very positive impact on global health and human development, but with its link to more complex issues any approach to the issue must be comprehensive and inclusive of a wide array of tools and programs that address the needs of all member countries of the UN.

There are other issues that have a large effect on the presence and severity of malaria in regions around the world, such as poverty, and conflict. How can the General Assembly address these issues as part of a larger strategy to accomplishing the MDGs and promoting a culture of peace and security globally? With the variety of techniques and tools available to prevent and control malaria, how can the General Assembly create a comprehensive plan that will address the needs of all member countries in the most cost effective and efficient manner? What innovative programs have been successful enough to be scaled up on a global level? What current programs exist, or what programs could be developed to address the need for research, development, and distribution of anti-malarial drugs and vaccines? How can the General Assembly examine the gender issues associated with malaria control in a culturally sensitive, but proactive way? Are the targets for malaria eradication set by the MDGs and related agreements achievable? This topic is extremely complex and broad, but these questions should guide delegates in focusing in on several areas that are feasible and critical for the General Assembly to address.

## **Annotated Bibliography**

### ***History of the General Assembly Plenary***

About the General Assembly. (n.d.). *United Nations General Assembly*. Retrieved September 21, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/ga/about/background.shtml>

*This website constitutes the ideal starting point for delegates' research. The source delivers a short overview of the General Assembly's functions and powers as well as its place in the whole United Nations System. This general information will help delegates to familiarize themselves with the work of the Assembly. Getting to know the body's functions and powers is an essential element of the preparation for the NMUN Conference.*

Annan, K. (n.d.). *Opening Address to Fiftieth DPI/NGO Conference*. Retrieved September 21, 2007, from <http://www.globalpolicy.org/ngos/docs97/kofi997.htm>

*The Department of Public Information (DPI) of the United Nations (UN) has cooperated with Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) since its establishment in 1947. In his opening address to the 50th DPI/NGO conference in 1997 Mr. Annan outlines the necessity of partnerships*

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<sup>245</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>246</sup> World Health Organization. World Health Assembly. 58<sup>th</sup> Session, *Malaria Control (WHA58.2)*, 2005.

<sup>247</sup> United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session, 2001-2010: *Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*, 2006.

*between civil society and the United Nations. Beside the information this speech supplies, delegates also get helpful suggestions how to structure a striking speech.*

Annan, K. (2005). *In Larger Freedom. Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All*. Retrieved July 3, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/largerfreedom/>

*This report by H.E. the former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has become one of the landmark documents in UN history. In Chapter V of his statement, the former Secretary-General addresses the issue of UN reform. The agenda items 158-164 deal with the reform of the General Assembly. Thus the document can enhance the understanding of criticism and reform suggestions concerning the work of the General Assembly.*

*Charter of the United Nations*, June 26, 1945, 59 Stat. 1031, TS No. 993, 3 Bevans 1153.

*The Charter of the United Nations is the core document of the United Nations. Chapter IV of the Charter deals with the General Assembly. The rights and powers of the GA are constituted in this section. Every delegate should have a profound knowledge of the Charter. This document is the backbone of the organization. The ends, purposes and functions of the UN and its organs are written down in this milestone of human history. On the other hand, knowledge of the Charter will be a good help for discussions and negotiations at the conference. The Charter is available at <http://www.un.org/aboutun/Charter/>.*

Curtis, D., & Taylor, P. (2005). The United Nations. In J. Baylis & S. Smith (Eds.), *The Globalization of World Politics. An Introduction to International Relations* (pp. 405-424). New York: Oxford University Press.

*This source illuminates the structure of the United Nations System in an uncomplicated manner and gives useful explanations of the inter-relations of the UN organs. Moreover, the situation of the several UN organs in world politics is tried to be defined. Delegates will get an idea of the UN position in international relations.*

Growth in the UN Membership. (n.d.). *United Nations Member States*. Retrieved September 18, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/members/growth.shtml>

*The years of admission of every single Member State is outlined on this website. Delegates should be informed about the year their country found accession to the United Nations. This often gives a first hint about the role within the organization.*

Reform of the General Assembly. (n.d.). *Global Policy Forum*. Retrieved July 3, 2007, from Global Policy Forum Web site: <http://www.globalpolicy.org/reform/topics/gaindex.htm>

*This website offers a special overview regarding the discussion of General Assembly (GA) reform. The most relevant reports, drafts, and resolutions are linked and listed with a short summary. This site, which is run by a NGO, is continuously updated and should be checked on regularly. An overview about other UN reform topics can also be found on this website, especially about the UN and its cooperation with Non-Governmental Organizations*

Simma, B. (Ed.). (2002). *The Charter of the United Nations. A Commentary* (2nd ed., Vol. 1). New York.

*The author of this comment to the Charter is a current member of the International Court of Justice, one of the main organs of the United Nations. The book comments on every single article of the UN Charter. It provides a detailed insight into the functions and powers of the UN organs as well as their interaction. Continuing problems with the meaning of articles of the Charter can be solved by these excellent explanations.*

United Nations. General Assembly. 55th Session. (2000, September 8). *The Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2)*. Retrieved September 21, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>

*This declaration was adopted at the Millennium Summit in 2000. In this document the General Assembly, and thus the whole United Nations, committed themselves to certain fundamental values which should guide the Organization through the 21st century. Delegates should familiarize themselves with not only the reaffirmed principles of the Charter but also the Millennium Development Goals, written down in this document.*

United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session. (2006). *List of non-Member States, entities and organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly. Note by the Secretariat*. New York: Author.  
*In this Note of the Secretariat all Observers of the 61st Session of the General Assembly are listed. A total of 64 entities have attended the meetings of the GA in its 61st session as observers. The document gives an excellent overview about the variety of organizations UN delegates are working with. The most recent version is available online.*

United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session. (2006, September 14). *Agenda of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly (A/61/251)*. Retrieved September 2, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/ga/61/issues/issues.shtml>  
*This document lists the 154 agenda items, which the General Assembly discussed during their 61st session in 2006. The GA adopted 296 resolutions on the basis of this agenda. Topics ranged from e.g. "Prevention of armed conflict" to "International migration and development" to "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".*

United Nations. General Assembly. 59th Session. (2005). *A strengthened and revitalized General Assembly (A/RES/59/313)*. Retrieved September 21, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r59.htm>  
*This resolution constitutes the attempt of the General Assembly to tackle the reform issue. Next to several suggestions, the General Assembly decides to establish an Ad-hoc Working Group on the topic. Delegates should get used to the writing style of resolutions during their preparation, since creating their own resolution will be one of their major tasks at the NMUN Conference.*

### ***Additional Sources***

Bloom, R. (n.d.). *The Role of the UN General Assembly*. Retrieved September 24, 2007, from Council on Foreign Relations Web site: [http://www.cfr.org/publication/13490/role\\_of\\_the\\_un\\_general\\_assembly.html](http://www.cfr.org/publication/13490/role_of_the_un_general_assembly.html)  
*This site provides students with basic background knowledge about the General Assembly. Further it lists the most controversial and most prominent resolutions the body has ever adopted. Delegates also find a comprehensive summary of the 61st session of the GA in 2006.*

Daws, S., & Weiss, T. G. (Eds.). (n.d.). *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.  
*This book delivers a universal examination of the current state of the United Nations. More than 40 chapters evaluate the UN System in all its aspects. Being up-to-date, this book will supply most essential knowledge about the UN in a comprehensive manner.*

United Nations. Panel on Civil Society. (2004, June 11). *Report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on United Nations-Civil Society Relations (A/58/817)*. Retrieved September 26, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/reform/civilsociety/panel.shtml>  
*According to a suggestion by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan to "assemble a group of eminent persons representing a variety of perspectives and experiences", the Panel on Civil Society was established in order to evaluate the relations between the UN and civil society. The results were reported to the 58th General Assembly. In the report delegates can find lots of suggestion, how to fill the gap of global governance with the help of civil actors.*

### ***I. Breaking the Link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict***

Amnesty International. (n.d.) *Amnesty International Web site*. Retrieved August 15, 2007 from [www.amnestyusa.org](http://www.amnestyusa.org).  
*The Web site of this international nongovernmental organization will prove to be an important resource for delegates at all levels of their preparation for the conference. Amnesty International has been very involved in attempting to stop the trade in conflict diamonds and there are several reports on the topic available at this Web site. Delegates should consider researching their own State's position on these issues as viewed by this Non-governmental organization (NGO).*



- Brilliant Earth. (n.d.) *Brilliant Earth Web site*. Retrieved August 15, 2007 from [www.brilliantearth.com](http://www.brilliantearth.com). *Brilliant Earth is a diamond distributor committed to providing conflict-free diamonds to Canadian and American consumers. Brilliant Earth's Web site contains a substantial amount of information about the trade in conflict diamonds, as well as what is being done to ensure these diamonds do not enter the international market. Delegates can learn much about the steps that can be taken to ensure that diamonds mined in Africa lead to sustainable development.*
- Campbell, G. (2004). *Blood Diamonds*. New York, NY: Westview Press. *Campbell's book provides a detailed story of the role of conflict diamonds in Sierra Leone. There is an extensive discussion of the way in which the mines themselves work. The book relies heavily upon Campbell's interviews and experiences in the region.*
- Fatal Transactions. (2007). *Fatal Transactions*. Retrieved August 15, 2007 from <http://www.fataltransactions.org>. *Fatal Transactions is a Dutch-based NGO committed to combating the trade in conflict diamonds. It has been calling consumer and political attention to the problem of conflict diamonds since 1999. This Web site provides valuable information on the need to implement new and improved verification schemes to ensure that conflict diamonds are not allowed on the international diamond market.*
- Global Policy. (2001). *US NGOs Initiate Valentine's Day Campaign*. Retrieved August 15, 2007 from <http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/issues/diamond/2001/0216ngo.htm>. *This article discusses efforts by NGOs to raise public awareness of the conflict diamond trade. The NGOs worked together to raise awareness of the public in hopes that it would influence United States policy and legislation. Delegates may find in this information useful as they consider the ways in which NGOs can play a role in combating conflict diamonds.*
- Global Witness. (2007). *Combating Conflict Diamonds*. Retrieved August 15, 2007 from [http://www.globalwitness.org/pages/en/conflict\\_diamonds.html](http://www.globalwitness.org/pages/en/conflict_diamonds.html). *Global Witness is an NGO working to combat conflict diamonds and raise awareness of their dangers. The Web site provides information on the Kimberley Process, as well as the work of the United Nations in the area of conflict diamonds. This Web site is a terrific resource for learning more about critique of the Kimberley Process; this information can be found in the 'briefs' section of the Web site.*
- Kimberley Process. (n.d.). *Kimberley Process*. Retrieved June 29, 2007, from <http://www.kimberleyprocess.com/> *This is the Web site for the Kimberley Process and its Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. This scheme, developed in 2002, has developed a framework for cooperation between all parties to develop certification and transparency in the trade of rough diamonds. Delegates will find the Kimberley Process and its work in this area particularly helpful as they develop ideas for further ways in which to curb the introduction of conflict diamonds onto the marketplace.*
- Le Billion, P. (2006). *Fatal Transactions: Conflict Diamonds and the (Anti)Terrorist Consumer*. *Antipode*. 38(4). *The author considers the role of the international community in attempting to expose the link between conflict diamonds and armed conflict. Human rights groups have been very successful in bringing the issue of conflict diamonds to international public attention. However, Le Billion argues that not all of this has had positive results and identifies several ways in which this campaign for public awareness has resulted in stereotyping behavior.*
- Program in Peace and World Security Studies. (2003). *Conflict Diamonds*. Retrieved August 15, 2007 from <http://pawss.hampshire.edu/topics/conflictdiamonds/index.html>. *This Web site provides a basic overview of the issue of conflict diamonds. There is also discussion of the roles of NGOs, the United Nations and other actors. The document also provides a useful bibliography on the topic of conflict diamonds.*
- United Nations. (n.d.). *Conflict Diamonds: Sanctions and War*. Retrieved June 29, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/peace/africa/Diamond.html>



*This Web site, maintained by the United Nations, discusses several of cases in which conflict diamonds have entered the international marketplace. It provides miniature on Sierra Leone, Angola, and Liberia. Delegates will benefit from the Web site's consideration of the difference between conflict diamonds and legitimate diamonds.*

United Nations. General Assembly Plenary. 57th Session. (2000, December 1). *The Role of Diamonds in Fuelling Conflict: Breaking the Link Between the Illicit Transition of Rough Diamonds and Armed Conflict as a Contribution to Prevention and Settlement of Conflicts (A/RES/55/56)*. Retrieved June 29, 2007, from [http://mmsdl.mms.nrcan.gc.ca/kimberleyprocess/UN\\_Resolution\\_e.pdf](http://mmsdl.mms.nrcan.gc.ca/kimberleyprocess/UN_Resolution_e.pdf)

*This United Nations General Assembly Plenary resolution marks the body's first specific discussion of conflict diamonds and their role in financing rebel groups in African conflicts. Within this resolution, the General Assembly Plenary encouraged the development of cooperation between States to prevent the trading of conflict diamonds. This document is the foundation of the United Nation's efforts to curb the trade of conflict diamonds and will provide delegates with important information regarding these efforts.*

Weissenberger, Mark. (2001). *Terrorist Ties to Conflict Diamonds*. Retrieved August 15, 2007 from <http://www.allbusiness.com/retail-trade/apparel-accessory-stores-womens-specialty/4231645-1.html>

*This article discusses the relationship between terrorists and the conflict diamond trade. Weissenberger cites several reports by the United States' Federal Bureau of Investigation regarding the link between conflict diamonds and Al Qaeda. This article provides great detail with respect to how terrorists transport and trade diamonds; delegates may find this useful in considering ways in which such techniques can be blocked in the future.*

World Federation of Diamond Bourses and the International Diamond Manufacturers Association. (n.d.). *Diamond Facts*. Retrieved June 29, 2007, from <http://www.diamondfacts.org>

*This Web site, maintained by the World Federation of Diamond Bourses and the International Diamond Manufacturers Association, provides introductory information on conflict diamonds and their impact. The organization created the World Diamond Council, which defines its mission as developing, implementation and oversight of a tracking system for the trade of rough diamonds. Delegates will find this Web site useful in considering mechanisms by which the problem of conflict diamonds can be fought.*

### ***Additional Sources***

Boyd, B. (2007, March 16). Taking the Rap for Bloody Bling. *The Irish Times*, p. 5.

*This article from the Irish Times describes the rise in public awareness regarding the problem of conflict diamonds. Kanye West in particular is credited with bringing the issue forward in public dialogue. A new documentary on conflict diamonds is discussed, as is the Kimberley Process.*

Buckhalter, H. (2003). Between the Lines: A Diamond Agreement in the Rough. *Foreign Policy*. No. 135.

*This article provides a critical look at the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. Delegates will find it useful in that it addresses the efficacy of the Scheme, as well as its potential. The article also includes discussion of how the issue of conflict diamonds reached the international agenda.*

*Charter of the United Nations*, June 26, 1945, 59 Stat. 1031, TS No. 993, 3 Bevans 1153.

*The Charter of the United Nations is the core document of the United Nations. Chapter IV of the Charter deals with the General Assembly. The rights and powers of the GA are constituted in this section. Every delegate should have a profound knowledge of the Charter. This document is the backbone of the organization. The ends, purposes and functions of the UN and its organs are written down in this milestone of human history. On the other hand, knowledge of the Charter will be a good help for discussions and negotiations at the conference. The Charter is available at <http://www.un.org/aboutun/Charter/>.*

- Dovkants, K. (2007, January 25). Holloway to Hollywood. How Three Londoners Inspired DiCaprio Film About Blood Diamonds. *The Evening Standard (London)*, p. 22.  
*This article from London's Evening Standard describes the development of the film 'Blood Diamond.' The film was motivated by the efforts of a London-based Global Witness NGO. The article discusses the efforts of this organization, as well as areas where conflict diamonds remain a significant problem.*
- Gberie, L. (2006). *A Dirty War in West Africa: The RUF and the Destruction of Sierra Leone*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press.  
*This book provides a history of the decade-long civil war in Sierra Leone. Specific attention is paid to the Revolutionary United Front, which has been linked to conflict diamonds. In doing so, the author exposes the ways in which the conflict diamond trade has the power to have a substantial impact on armed conflict.*
- Glimore, E., Gleditsch N.P., Lujala, P. and Rod, J.K. (2005). Conflict Diamonds: A New Dataset. *Conflict Management and Peace Science*.  
*The authors develop a new dataset, which provides a list of diamond deposits by geographical location in an attempt to determine their role in armed conflicts. Problems in tracking diamond production are discussed, as well. The authors argue that lootable diamonds will play an important role in diamonds fueling conflicts.*
- Grant, A.J. and Taylor, P. (2004). Global Governance and Conflict Diamonds: The Kimberley Process and the Quest for Clean Gems. *The Round Table*. 93(375).  
*The authors provide an analysis of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. There is a very helpful discussion of the evolution of conflict diamonds as a human security concern in international politics. The authors make the argument that the Scheme is representative of multi-track diplomacy on the international stage.*
- Olsson, O. (2007). Conflict Diamonds. *Journal of Development Economics*.  
*This journal considers the economic impact of conflict diamonds. The author considers a game-theoretic approach combined with economic theory of institutions. Increased diamond resources are found to have a negative relationship with economic growth in States with weak institutions.*
- Roberts, J.P. (2007). *Glitter and Greed: The Secret World of the Diamond Cartel*. New York, NY: Disinformation Company.  
*Roberts delivers a very critical look at the diamond industry and its involvement in the trade of conflict diamonds. The author also considers the role terrorist organizations have played in the mining, production and trading of conflict diamonds. The book includes discussion of legitimate diamond trade as well, with particular attention paid to the issue of so-called diamond cartels.*
- Samset, I. (2002). Conflict of Interests or Interests in Conflict? Diamonds and War in the DRC." *Review of African Political Economy*. 29(93-94).  
*Samset addresses the role of conflict diamonds in the more recent Democratic Republic of the Congo conflict. The author argues that diamond resources have funded much of the conflict, in addition to prolonging it. There is also consideration of the roles of neighboring states in the production and profit from conflict diamonds.*
- Tamm, I.J. (2002). *Diamonds in Peace and War: Severing the Conflict Diamond Connection*. New York, NY: World Peace Foundation.  
*This report from the World Peace Foundation and various other academic groups considers the contributing effect of conflict diamonds on wars in middle Africa. There is an in-depth analysis of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and the far-reaching implications it has had. The report also considers the technical issues involved in shutting down the conflict diamond trade.*
- Wright, C. (2004). Tackling Conflict Diamonds: The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. *International Peacekeeping*. 11(4).

*This article provides an analysis of the international response to the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. The author details the ways in which the Scheme works, with particular attention paid to its role in Angola and Sierra Leone. Wright's analysis is critical and addresses some of the perceived shortcomings of the Scheme.*

Zoellner, T. (2007). *The Heartless Stone: A Journey Through the World of Diamonds, Deceit, and Desire*. New York, NY: Picador.

*Zoellner's book examines the issue of conflict diamonds, as well as the consequences of the conflict diamond trade. The author also considers the cultural role of diamonds and the ways in which certain companies have been willing to trade in conflict diamonds. Delegates may find this book to be informative with respect to developing a better understanding of the significant implications of the conflict diamond trade.*

## **II. The Promotion of Alternate Sources of Energy**

Asia-Pacific Network on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Causes and Consequences*. Retrieved August 20, 2007, from [http://www.ap-net.org/learning/courses/b\\_1\\_1.html](http://www.ap-net.org/learning/courses/b_1_1.html)

*The Asian-Pacific Network on Climate Change is an online-learning platform sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of the Environment. It provides a wide range of information and data on climate change issues and developments focusing on the Asia-Pacific Region. The section "Causes and Consequences of Climate Change" is included in the basic course offered to get to know Clean Development Mechanisms as a part of the initiative to enhance the exchange of relevant information.*

Benchikh, Osman. (2004). *Science Forum 2004. UNESCO's Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from [http://www.fv-sonnenenergie.de/fileadmin/publikationen/Themenhefte/sf2004/sf2004\\_03\\_02.pdf](http://www.fv-sonnenenergie.de/fileadmin/publikationen/Themenhefte/sf2004/sf2004_03_02.pdf)

*The Science Forum 2004, an international conference for renewable energies, was organized by a German cooperation of independent institutes working in the field of alternate sources of energy. Osman Benchikh, the UNESCO Coordinator for Energy and Renewable Energies in the Division of Basic and Engineering Sciences presented the GREET Programme initiated by UNESCO. His paper offers much other information on renewable energy in developing countries, including its contribution to poverty reduction and its support to job creation.*

Energy Information Administration. (2007). *International Energy Outlook 2007, Energy Consumption by End-Use Sector*, 2007. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/ieo/pdf/enduse.pdf>

*The International Energy Outlook 2007 presents an assessment by the Energy Information Administration of the outlook for international energy markets through 2030. Chapter two focuses on the energy consumption by end-use sector. In general, this report is helpful to get an overview on the future of energy trends.*

European Commission. (2003). *World energy, technology and climate policy outlook 2030*. Retrieved July 19, 2007, from [http://ec.europa.eu/research/energy/pdf/weto-h2\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/energy/pdf/weto-h2_en.pdf)

*Starting from a set of clear key assumptions on economic activity, population and hydrocarbon resources, WETO describes in detail scenarios for the evolution of World and European energy systems, power generation technologies and impacts of climate change policy in the main world regions or countries. It presents a coherent framework to analyze the energy, technology and environment trends and issues over the period to 2030, focusing on Europe, but still in a world context.*

European Commission. Directorate-General for Energy and Transport. (n.d.). *Sustainable Energy Europe*. Retrieved August 16, 2007, from [http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.html)

*The European Union runs a number of programs in order to advance and to promote the use of alternate energy sources. Sustainable Energy Europe is only of the tools funding action to save energy and encourage the use of renewable energy sources in Europe. The latest issue of the*

*Intelligent Energy News Review can be downloaded here, as well as many other related documents.*

- European Commission. (2006). *Education on Energy*. Retrieved August 16, 2007, from [http://ec.europa.eu/energy/action\\_plan\\_energy\\_efficiency/doc/education\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/action_plan_energy_efficiency/doc/education_en.pdf)  
*Education on Energy is a publication by the European Commission in order to teach tomorrow's energy consumers. Illustrated with many case studies, this brochure outlines the energy challenge and emphasises the role of education as a vector in changing behaviour. Moreover, the included list with links for further reading is useful for delegates to find out about European activities in the field of renewable energies.*
- European Commission. (2007). *Intelligent Energy - Europe, Work Programme 2007*. Retrieved August 16, 2007, from [http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call\\_for\\_proposals/doc/wp2007\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call_for_proposals/doc/wp2007_en.pdf)  
*The Intelligent Energy-Europe Programme aims to increase the use of renewable energy and to reduce energy consumption by supporting energy efficiency. New and renewable energy sources and technological solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are promoted within the program. The annual Work Programme elaborates the planned activities, to ensure transparency and broad participation.*
- European Commission. (2003, June 26). *Decision No. 1230/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26. June 2003 adopting a multiannual programme for action in the field of energy, Intelligent Energy - Europe (2003-2006)*, 2003, p.29.  
*Due to the fact that European Union countries are reliant on energy imported from outside the EU, EU political leaders and institutions have made energy independence a priority in their legislation and policy initiatives. This decision by the European Parliament is but one example of such a program put forth by the EU. This program of action seeks to increase program development over multiple years in the areas of intelligent energy.*
- European Environment Agency. (1999). *Changes in Business and the Environment: metaphors, partnerships, tools*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from [http://reports.eea.europa.eu/TEC20/en/tech\\_20.pdf](http://reports.eea.europa.eu/TEC20/en/tech_20.pdf)  
*The European Environment Agency aims at achieving significant and measurable improvement on Europe's environment through the provision of relevant information to policy makers and the public. The present report is a collection of speeches from the ECO Conference in 1999, elaborating the necessary changes to achieve sustainable development. Moreover, it links business with action on environmental protection.*
- European Parliament. Fact Sheet. (2006). *Energy Policy*. Retrieved August 16, 2007, from [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/facts/4\\_12\\_0\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/facts/4_12_0_en.htm)  
*The European Parliament regularly publishes fact sheets to inform European citizens about current topics and about the role it is playing. The fact sheet on energy policy provides an overview on the legal basis, the objectives and the achievements of European energy actions. It strongly calls for the promotion of energy efficiency, for energy saving and for the development of new and renewable forms of energy.*
- European Union. EU statement. (2007). *United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development/Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting: Sustainable Development of SIDS*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from [http://eu-un.europa.eu/articles/en/article\\_6847\\_en.htm](http://eu-un.europa.eu/articles/en/article_6847_en.htm)  
*At the preparation meeting for the implementation of a program of action for the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States the European Union assured, that energy issues are included. Especially for Small Island Developing States it is essential to build up decentralized energy systems, including solar and wind energy systems, tailored to the geographical circumstances of these countries. In this statement, the European Union gives also suggestions concerning climate change and international trade issues.*

- G8 Summit 2007. (2007). *Chair's Summary*. Retrieved August 29, 2007, from [http://www.g-8.de/nsc\\_true/Content/EN/Artikel/\\_g8-summit/anlagen/chairs-summary.templateId=raw.property=publicationFile.pdf/chairs-summary](http://www.g-8.de/nsc_true/Content/EN/Artikel/_g8-summit/anlagen/chairs-summary.templateId=raw.property=publicationFile.pdf/chairs-summary)  
*The 2007 G8 Summit dealt with growth and responsibility in Africa, with foreign policy and security issues and with growth and responsibility in the world economy. In the last topic, but also considered a cross cutting issues, climate change and energy related themes were discussed. The chair's summary provides an overview on the decisions of the eight leading countries of the world.*
- Global Legal Group. (2007). *Environmental Law*. Retrieved August 29, 2007, from <http://www.iclg.co.uk/>  
*Strong Environmental law is the basis for all action takes on climate change and on the severe promotion of alternate energy. The present issue first neatly describes the situation in the United States, the European Union and in England. Secondly, in the country chapters, detailed information is given on the national climate change and environment law of more than twenty countries in several sections.*
- Greenpeace International. (2005). *The Brent Spar*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/about/history/the-brent-spar>  
*How the Non Governmental Organization Greenpeace advocated against the scuttle of the oil storage facility Brent Spar in the North Sea has caused a sensation in the whole world. This campaign is remembered as one of the most significant Greenpeace successes of the 1990s. The website dedicated to the Brent Spar occupation provides detailed information on the involved actors and the historical dates.*
- International Atomic Energy Agency. (2001). *Impact of U.S. Nuclear Generation on Greenhouse Gas Emissions*. Retrieved August 4, 2007, from <http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/FTP/ROOT/nuclear/ghg.pdf>  
*Nuclear energy could be a solution for the fight against climate change. Nuclear energy is considered to be clean and unlimited – but it has to be safe and sane concerning production, storage and the waste management. The present paper advocates that nuclear power clearly can significantly reduce emissions levels when it replaces fossil fuels. The question is raised, if the world can meet its energy needs without nuclear energy.*
- Fatih Birol. (2005). *The Investment Implications of Global Energy Trends*. International Energy Agency. Oxford Review of Economic Policy. Vol. 21, Issue 1, pp. 145-153.  
*Dr. Fatih Birol, the Chief Economist of the International Energy Agency, elaborates the international market mechanisms in the field of energy. He describes the obstacles to get the markets flowing and how they can be overcome. It is particularly interesting, to read about his perception about the development of energy needs in the different part of the world.*
- International Energy Agency. (2006). *Summary and Policy Implications*. Retrieved August 4, 2007, from <http://www.iea.org/Textbase/npsum/enertech2006SUM.pdf>  
*Already in 2005, one of the topics at the G8 summit in Gleneagles was clean energy for the future. As a response, the International Energy Agency's Energy Ministers created this document, to present alternative solutions. In short chapters and through a scenario, the most important issues in the field of energy are discussed, resulting in advices to save energy and to reduce CO2 emissions.*
- International Panel on Climate Change. (2001). *Climate Change 2001: Impact, Adoption and Vulnerability*. Retrieved July 29, 2007, from [http://www.grida.no/climate/ipcc\\_tar/wg2/index.htm](http://www.grida.no/climate/ipcc_tar/wg2/index.htm)  
*This report examines climate change impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability across a range of systems and sectors, thereby contributing to the Third Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Especially the environmental, social, and economic dimensions of climate change are assessed. The chapters which concentrate on each continent as well as the given options for adapting to the climate change are very useful for delegates.*



- International Panel on Climate Change. (n.d.). IPCC Working Group II. *Summary for Policymakers: Scientific-Technical Analyses of Impacts, Adaptations and Mitigation of Climate Change*. Retrieved July 29, 2007, from <http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/sarsum2.htm>  
*The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has been established by the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme in 1988 to assess scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant for the understanding of climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation. The report published by working group II comprises, beyond others, a chapter on the vulnerability to climate change. All sections refer directly to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which was initiated by the IPCC.*
- Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich. (2006, June). *Which Europe in a globalized world? A Common European Energy Policy as a challenge for Europe in a globalized world*. Allianz Summer Academy 2006. *By identifying the reasons for a common energy policy, this paper describes how efficient existent projects work, what they provide, how they can be improved and whether Europe is prepared for present and coming climate challenges. Therefore, the first section of this paper assesses the current institutional framework and identifies the relevant players. In addition, the status of renewable energy sources is examined as well as potentials of the existing European energy policy.*
- National Park Service. (1998). *Memorandum of understanding between the secretary of energy and the secretary of the interior*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://www.nps.gov/renew/mou.htm>  
*The program "Green Energy Parks: Making the National Parks a Showcase for a Sustainable Energy Future" promotes the use of energy efficient and renewable energy technologies and practices in the National Parks in the United States of America. It also serves as a tool to educate and inform people about the possibilities of alternate energy. This document marked the official beginning of the program.*
- National Park Service. News Release. (n.d.). *Green Energy Parks Initiative Receives White House Award*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://home.nps.gov/applications/release/Detail.cfm?ID=85>  
*One of four US Presidential Awards for Federal Energy Management Success was given to the Green Energy Parks program. In addition to its outreach, the other three areas of achievement were in implementation, institutionalization, and results. The program can serve as a role model for other industrialized countries, in how to include renewable energies in the daily life.*
- Nuclear Energy Agency, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. (2000). *Nuclear Energy in a Sustainable Development Perspective*. Retrieved October 21, 2007, from <http://www.nea.fr/html/ndd/docs/2000/nddsustdev.pdf>  
*This publication assists governments in assessing the extent to which nuclear energy is compatible with the goals of sustainable development and how it can best contribute to them. It provides a review of specific characteristics of nuclear energy from the economic, environmental and social viewpoints of sustainable development, focusing on key issues of relevance for policy makers. It provides data and analyses on the nuclear option that policy makers may use together with information on alternative options to support their own choices in the energy field.*
- The Solar Server. (2007). *Forum for Solar Energy*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from [http://www.solarserver.de/lexikon/regenerative\\_energien-e.html](http://www.solarserver.de/lexikon/regenerative_energien-e.html)  
*The German Solar Server is an advertising platform for all forms of solar generated energy, including photovoltaic technologies. It also provides a broad range of relevant information, all available in English. It starts with basic knowledge about the issue and deepens in more complicated systems, well explained in the lexicon.*
- United Nations. (n.d.). *UNESCO's activities for promoting renewable energies*. Retrieved August 1, 2007, from <http://esa.un.org/un-energy/mapping/UNESCO.RE.htm>  
*UNESCO has been involved in promoting renewable energies since 1952 when the first UNESCO Programs were initiated. As the initiator of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, UNESCO*

*has provided the world community with an instrument for the promotion of renewable sources of energy.*

United Nations (Ed.). (2007, June). Green our World! [Special issue]. *UN Chronicle*, XLIV (Number 2 2007). Retrieved July 18, 2007, from United Nations Web site: <http://www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/2007/issue2/0207cont.htm>

*This special issue of the UN Chronicle offers, through a range of unique perspectives, a comprehensive snapshot of where we currently stand with regard to climate change. The issue touches on a number of relevant topics, from the Kyoto Protocol to solar cooking in Darfur. It is to create a consciousness of climate change in the public and especially on its impacts in developing countries.*

United Nations Millennium Project. (2005). *Energy Services for the Millennium Development Goals*. United Nations. Retrieved August 9, 2007, from [http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/MP\\_Energy\\_Low\\_Res.pdf](http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/MP_Energy_Low_Res.pdf)

*The United Nations Millennium Project, headed by Professor Jeffrey Sachs, was, until 2006, an independent advisory body to the United Nations, to recommend a concrete action plan for the world to reverse the grinding poverty, hunger and disease affecting billions of people in line with the Millennium Development Goals. This report underscores the strong links between energy services and achieving the MDG outcomes and puts forward a practical strategy for providing improved energy services to the world's poor. As a major contribution to our understanding of how to achieve the MDGs, the authors propose quantitative and time-bound energy targets for low-income countries and derive goal-oriented strategies for meeting them.*

Sachs, Jeffrey. (2006). United Nations Development Programme. News Archive. *Energy and Environment*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://www.undp.org/energyandenvironment/csd14launch>

*The UNDP report Energy Services for the Millennium Development Goals, published in 2006, drew the focus of the international community to energy and its importance for the Millennium Development Goals. At the launch of the report, Jeffrey Sachs, an economist who serves as the director of the UN Millennium Project and as a Special Advisor to United Nations, gave an awaking speech, recalling the responsibility for developing countries.*

UN News Centre. (2007). *In first plenary on climate change, General Assembly to seek speedy action*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=23364&Cr=climate&Cr1=change>

*As one of the greatest challenges of our time, the United Nations General Assembly has dedicated an entire plenary session on this burning issue. In a press release by the UN News Center, the General Assembly President Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa stressed the importance of the meeting. It is also described, how the meeting stays carbon neutral, since all emissions are being off-set into investment in a biomass fuel project in Kenya.*

United Nations Development Program. (2004). *World Energy Assessment, Overview, 2004 update*. p.26. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://www.energyandenvironment.undp.org/undp/indexAction.cfm?module=Library&action=GetFile&DocumentAttachmentID=1010>

*The World Energy Assessment is compiled by UNDP, UNDESA and the World Energy Council. It provides an update to the original World Energy Assessment, published in 2000, presenting the linkages between energy and the Millennium Development Goals. This report examines regional challenges linked to energy and describes how key energy issues directly impact the achievement of development objectives outside the energy sector.*

United Nations. Economic and Social Council for Western Asia. (n.d.) Executive Summary of ESCWA Briefing Paper No. 5. *Development of Renewable Energy Technologies and Application*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://www.escwa.org.lb/divisions/sdpd/wssd/pdf/5.pdf>

*The Economic and Social Council for Western Asia plays a leading role in the implementation and promotion of renewable energy technologies in the region. ESCWA issued some 18 briefing papers, all focusing on sustainable development in the field of energy, water and environment.*



*This paper addresses the need for and the benefits of promoting renewable energy applications in the ESCWA region.*

United Nations. General Assembly. 60th Session. (2005). Report of the Secretary-General. *Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the culmination of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005*, (A/60/154). Retrieved July 29, 2007, from

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/438/18/PDF/N0543818.pdf?OpenElement>

*The World Solar Programme 1996-2005 has made a significant contribution to raising awareness of and interest in the increased role that new and renewable sources can play in the global energy supply. The present report provides an overview of recent trends in the development and use of new and renewable sources of energy, of recent advances in new and renewable energy technologies and their applications and of international programmes advancing the use of new and renewable sources of energy. It comes to the conclusion, that more intensive efforts to develop and utilize new and renewable sources of energy have to be envisaged.*

United Nations. General Assembly. (2000). *Press Release GA/9810*. Retrieved August 9, 2007, from

<http://domino.un.org/UNISPAL.NSF/361eea1cc08301c485256cf600606959/0d0751566eeb39878525699000568c93!OpenDocument>

*The present document is a record of statements given at the 55<sup>th</sup> plenary session of the General Assembly. The issue to be discussed was why fossil fuels are not sustainable. The Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency Mohammed Elbaradei pledges for rather considering nuclear energy for future.*

United Nations. (1998). *Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*.

Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf>

*The Kyoto Protocol is an addition to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It came in force in 2005 and will expire in 2012. For the first time, the Kyoto Protocol put down in writing binding data on the carbon emissions expulsion for participating countries.*

United Nations. (2000). *Millennium Declaration*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from

<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>

*On 8 September 2000 the General Assembly adopted the Millennium Declaration. This includes a catalogue of binding aims for all member countries, including poverty reduction, peace, and protection of the environment. The main focus is poverty, not only concerning material poorness, but also the lack of equal opportunities for all. To implement this declaration, the Millennium Development goals were set up one year later.*

United Nations. (1992). *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio Declaration*. (A/CONF.151/26). Retrieved August 19, 2007, from

<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/conf151/aconf15126-1annex1.htm>

*The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development took place from 3-14 June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Five major agreements came out of the conference. One of them is the Rio Declaration, a short, on binding, statement of principles on sustainable development. It embraces 27 basic principles, including law, economy, science and environmental protection, which should be followed by all states in order to assure sustainable development.*

United Nations. (2007). UN Chronicle Online Edition, *Climate Change as a Global Challenge: The Road to Bali*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from

[http://www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/2007/webArticles/081407\\_roadtobali.htm](http://www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/2007/webArticles/081407_roadtobali.htm)

*The Bali Conference in December 2007 will begin discussions on the future of the fight against climate change. This also includes the Post-Kyoto Agreement to be finalized in 2009. The present article describes previous steps taken and the current situation concerning the international community and its attitude to urgent measures on Climate Change.*

United Nations. United Nations Development Programme. (2007). *Human Development Report*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://hdr.undp.org/hdr2007.cfm>

*Every year, the Human Development Report, published by the United Nations Development Programme, deals with a burning issue on the international agenda. The 2007 Report is about "Fighting climate change: Human solidarity in a divided world", focusing on the responsibility, the international community has toward developing countries. The full version will be published by the end of November 2007.*

United Nations. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. (n.d.). *UNESCO's activities for promoting renewable energies*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://esa.un.org/un-energy/mapping/UNESCO.RE.htm>

*UNESCO works to strengthen the national, regional, and international bodies and networks responsible for technological training and research in the field of renewable energy. UNESCO also collects and disseminates relevant technological information and innovations, and will work towards broadening international cooperation in engineering sciences. Its programs and projects are described here.*

United Nations. (2006). *Energy in the United Nations: An Overview of UN-Energy Activities*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from [http://esa.un.org/un-energy/pdf/un\\_energy\\_overview.pdf](http://esa.un.org/un-energy/pdf/un_energy_overview.pdf)

*This report is intended to feature the diverse efforts of UN-Energy members, individually and collectively. Delegates will find examples from all related UN agencies and the elaboration of various energy projects in order to get a comprehensive overview. There is also a very informative section on the development of renewable energy with case-studies from specific countries.*

United Nations. (1990). *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Report*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/reports.htm>

*In 1988, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was created to assess the scientific knowledge on global warming. Its first major report in 1990 showed that there was broad international consensus that climate change was human-induced and a major challenge for our days. That report led way to an international convention for climate change, which is known as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change with the additional Kyoto Protocol.*

United States Department of Energy. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. (2004). *About the office of EERE*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from [http://www1.eere.energy.gov/office\\_eere/factsheets.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/office_eere/factsheets.html)

*The United States Department of Energy created the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in order to strengthen America's energy security, environmental quality, and economic vitality. The present fact sheets provide a comprehensive overview of the efforts taken to bring clean, reliable and affordable energy technologies to the people and to make a difference in the everyday lives of Americans by enhancing their energy choices and their quality of life. The EERE programs are conducted in partnership with the private sector, state and local government, national laboratories, and universities.*

United Nations. (1996). *The World Solar Programme 1996-2005, (A/53/395)*. Retrieved August 19, 2007, from <http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N98/275/59/img/N9827559.pdf?OpenElement>

*The World Solar Programme 1996-2005, initiated and implemented by UNESCO, is a key document, advocating for renewable energies, capacity-building, the development of competent human resources, mobilizing functions in raising awareness and for giving priority to sustainability in the use of renewable energies. Created as an open end attempt, it promotes broad partnership and co-operation of governments and organizations to wider utilize renewable energy sources. It not only refers to solar energy, but to all forms of alternate energy sources available.*

Urban Ecology Institute. (2006). *Green Times*. Retrieved October 29, 2007 from [http://www.greenscreen.org/articles\\_sr.htm](http://www.greenscreen.org/articles_sr.htm).

*The Urban Ecology Institute (UEI) is a non-profit dedicated to educating students about sustainable renewal in urban areas. The provide tools and educational materials to students in urban areas around the United States to help them learn how they can improve water quality, build parks, stop climate change and make their cities more environmentally conscious. This annual journal is one of their many educational resources for students of all ages.*

Wohlgemuth, N., & Painuly, J. (n.d.). *Promoting Private Sector financing of commercial investments in renewable energy technologies*. Retrieved August 12, 2007, from United Nations Web site: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/16wohl.PDF>

*The paper gives an overview of barriers renewable energy technologies face in the market place; it shows an international review of support mechanisms and presents examples of successfully implemented projects. It shows the importance of innovative financial mechanisms to enable renewable energy technologies to overcome the market barriers, and concludes that to overcome the wide array of barriers, support mechanisms should be designed in a way that is compatible with market forces, and that the role of government is crucial in order to provide the right package of incentives for a level playing field for energy production from renewable energy resources, particularly in developing countries.*

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

Babaniyi, Olusegun. (2004). *Speech delivered by Dr Olusegun Babaniyi WHO Representative to Ethiopia on Africa Malaria Day 2004*. Retrieved July 15, 2004, from the World Health Organization Web site: <http://www.who.int/countries/eth/news/speeches/250404/en/index.html>

*Babaniyi is the WHO's representative to Ethiopia, a country strongly impacted by malaria. In this speech, he outlines plans for that year's Africa Malaria Day, which was designated in order to bring attention to the problems malaria causes on the continent.*

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. (2005). *Malaria*. In *The Disease Report*. Retrieved August 5, 2007, from [http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/files/about/replenishment/disease\\_report\\_malaria\\_en.pdf](http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/files/about/replenishment/disease_report_malaria_en.pdf)

*This document is a chapter out of a book that examines AIDS and Tuberculosis in addition to malaria, as examples of the deadliest threats to our health and safety present today. The source is very useful for finding information regarding less discussed aspects of malaria control, as well as detailed information regarding the biological and geographical reasons behind the high prevalence of malaria in Africa. In addition to providing technical background on the disease, the chapter will be key in any malaria research as a tool to discover issues that you want to examine further.*

Government of the United Kingdom. Department for International Development. (2006, November). *Malaria*. Retrieved August 3, 2007, from <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/mdg-factsheets/malariafactsheet.pdf>

*This document is part of a series published by the British Government's Department for International Development which highlights global and national progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals. Although this source is very technical, it highlights key issues in the fight to control malaria, as well as possible solutions to its problems. What this source lacks in depth, it more than makes up for with a plethora of facts and figures to assist in any accurate assessment of the malaria situation.*

National Geographic Magazine. (2007, July). *Bedlam in the blood: Malaria*. Retrieved August 3, 2007, from <http://www7.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0707/feature1/index.html>

*National Geographic's in-depth examination of the malaria situation is extremely comprehensive, examining the situation from many angles and perspectives. This article brings an issue largely ignored by the West to the forefront of global health efforts. In the body of work that has been published on malaria, as of late, this is undoubtedly one of the best, if not the best, overview of the disease and its effects on impoverished regions worldwide.*

- Roll Back Malaria Partnership. (2006, January). *Facts on ACTs*. Retrieved August 4, 2007, from [http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/cmc\\_upload/0/000/015/364/RBMInfosheet\\_9.pdf](http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/cmc_upload/0/000/015/364/RBMInfosheet_9.pdf)  
*In 2006, the World Health Organization dramatically shifted its policy on malaria control towards ACTs, prompting an increase in the literature on the significance of ACTs in controlling and preventing malaria. This document focuses particularly on the negative economic impact of malaria. Of particular importance is the clear explanation of the world economic situation in regards to supply, and demand of ACTs.*
- Roll Back Malaria Partnership. (2006, December). *A Guide to Gender and Malaria Resources*. Retrieved July 6, 2007, from [http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/globaladvocacy/docs/gm\\_guide-en.pdf](http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/globaladvocacy/docs/gm_guide-en.pdf)  
*The Roll Back Malaria Partnership addresses the gender aspects of malaria control in this guide based on the simple fact that there are more problems faced by women as compared to men, in gaining access to treatment and general vulnerability to the disease. This document presents a plan for integrating gender perspectives into every area of malaria control - policy, research and implementation - both through collaborative initiatives as well as field work. The document presents an overview of the most recent work done in the field of gender and malaria, and most importantly a Framework for Action on gender and malaria, which can be found in Part II.*
- Roll Back Malaria/World Health Organization. (2003). *The Abuja Declaration and the Plan of Action (WHO/CDS/RBM/2003.46)*. Retrieved August 7, 2007, from [http://www.rbm.who.int/docs/abuja\\_declaration.pdf](http://www.rbm.who.int/docs/abuja_declaration.pdf)  
*The Abuja Declaration and the Plan of Action sprung from the African Summit on Roll Back Malaria, held on April 25, 2000 in Abuja, Nigeria. This source is critical in any study of malaria as a key international agreement recognizing the importance of combating malaria. The Declaration outlines specific preventative and control measures within African countries that can be taken, as well as sets targets for future action.*
- Roll Back Malaria/World Health Organization. (2004). *Economic costs of malaria*. Retrieved August 6, 2007, from [http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/cmc\\_upload/0/000/015/363/RBMInfosheet\\_10.pdf](http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/cmc_upload/0/000/015/363/RBMInfosheet_10.pdf)  
*The economic cost of malaria is highlighted in this source developed by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership. In this specific document, the indirect and direct economic costs of malaria epidemics is summarized as a situation caused by the presence of extreme poverty in the countries with the highest rate of transmission.*
- Roll Back Malaria/World Health Organization. (2004). *Insecticide-treated mosquito nets*. Retrieved August 4, 2007, from [http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/cmc\\_upload/0/000/015/368/RBMInfosheet\\_5.pdf](http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/cmc_upload/0/000/015/368/RBMInfosheet_5.pdf)  
*This source accurately discusses malaria and preventative measure currently available. ITNs have long been the number one preventative strategy utilized by the poorest countries in the world. The clear outline of steps being taken by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership in promoting the use of ITNs, as well as providing an outline of their use up until today is the most important feature of this document.*
- Roll Back Malaria/World Health Organization. (2004). *Malaria in pregnancy*. Retrieved August 4, 2007, from [http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/cmc\\_upload/0/000/015/369/RBMInfosheet\\_4.pdf](http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/cmc_upload/0/000/015/369/RBMInfosheet_4.pdf)  
*In a series of informational flyers published by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, this document examines malaria and its impact on women who are pregnant. The major public health threat malaria signifies to pregnant women, is thoroughly examined from a technical, but user friendly, point of view. The detail of the info sheet is unusual for a document of this length, but it nevertheless provides a solid overview of the major points of the issue, current efforts to mitigate the damage malaria has on pregnant women, and what future efforts need to be taken.*
- Roll Back Malaria/World Health Organization. (2005, November). *RBM Global Strategic Plan: 2005 - 2015*. Retrieved July 5, 2007, from [http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/forumV/docs/gsp\\_en.pdf](http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/forumV/docs/gsp_en.pdf)  
*This report is an all-inclusive and comprehensive plan developed by the RBM Partnership, which includes the World Health Organization, the World Bank, UNICEF, and the UNDP. This document is linked to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and will provide valuable guidance in current strategies at the forefront of the fight against Malaria.*



Roll Back Malaria/World Health Organization. (2007). *What is Roll Back Malaria?* Retrieved August 5, 2007, from <http://www.rollbackmalaria.org>

*The Roll Back Malaria Partnership website is a hub of global programs and action plans fighting to eradicate malaria. In addition to the most up to date information regarding the malaria burden worldwide, the website links malaria with global advocacy efforts, such as the Millennium Development Goals, and highlights significant and promising countries who employ many of the strategies discussed on the website in the fight against malaria. The most important feature of this website is its large publications library, containing hundreds of documents from civil society and government on the topic of malaria.*

Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). (2005). *What are POPs?* Retrieved August 27, 2007, from <http://www.pops.int/>

*The Stockholm Convention is a key treaty in international law dealing with both health and the environment. This website is the official website for the Convention, and it contains a great deal of information regarding the effectiveness of the Convention, as well as strategies for continued implementation in areas that are resistant. There is a lack of information from the supporters of the use of POPs, but due to the widespread evidence of the harm they can cause, the voices of those that oppose the Convention are not heard very frequently.*

Tigray Health Bureau. (2006). *Malaria*. Retrieved August 27, 2007 from, <http://www.trhb.gov.et/department/malaria02.htm>

*The official website of the Tigray Regional Government has a small amount of information about malaria through the Tigray Bureau of Health in Ethiopia. The information is up to date and gives a good, although short overview of the programs and initiatives currently being pursued by both the government and civil society.*

The United Nations Children's Fund. (2004). *Malaria: A Major Cause of Child Death and Poverty in Africa*. Retrieved August 5, 2007, from [http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/malaria\\_rev\\_5296\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/malaria_rev_5296_Eng.pdf)

*This publication by UNICEF is a very useful document for gaining a broad idea of the impact malaria has on children. The focus on children, rather than adults, is helpful, because it proposes programs and actions that will meet the special needs of children, as well as accommodate adults. This document should not be used as a primary source, but rather as a stepping stone to more in depth publications.*

The World Bank. (2005). *Global Strategy & Booster Program*. Retrieved August 6, 2007, from <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTMALARIA/Resources/377501-1114188195065/WB-Malaria-Strategy&BoosterProgram-Lite.pdf>

*This report is unique in that it is written by the World Bank, which despite its many humanitarian programs, is still a bank and therefore accountable to its stakeholders. This document is very technical at times, and is not very user friendly, but does provide the reader with a significant amount of data to work with. It is interesting to note that the perspective this report is being written from is that of corporate social responsibility, and not from a humanitarian or health arena. This perspective offers fresh insight into actions that could be taken in the fight against malaria by linking business, development, and healthcare.*

UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research & Training in Tropical Diseases. (2005). *Malaria*. In *Tropical disease research: progress 2003-2004 (TDR/GEN/05.1)*. Retrieved August 6, 2007, from <http://www.who.int/tdr/publications/publications/pdf/pr17/malaria.pdf>

*Malaria is a central focus on the Tropical Disease Research Program within the WHO, and this focus is demonstrated in one of the many publications it has published on malaria. The document examines ways to make health research work for poor people, by achieving concrete results that make an impact on poverty as well as the reduction of the malaria burden. Although this is not a very long document, it is one of the most informative and useful publications available.*

United Nations Country Team in Ethiopia. (2003, November). *Ethiopia: Malaria Situation Update*. Retrieved August 27, 2007 from

<http://www.notes.reliefweb.int/w/RWB.NSF/c7ca0eaf6c79faae852567af003c69ca/beaf3ba8df00a4785256de3005f4dde?OpenDocument>

*The country team in Ethiopia has been established for many decades, and this website is indicative of the many programs that have been successful in controlling malaria. In general, the website provides a good framework of how a country such as Ethiopia responds in a time of crisis. The data is broken down into sections, allowing for easy access to the most applicable information. This website will give a good historical perspective on the malaria situation in Ethiopia, but will not provide for any new developments.*

United Nations. Economic and Social Council. Commission on Human Rights. 62nd Session. (2006, January 24). *Access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria (E/CN.4/2006/39)*. Retrieved August 5, 2007, from <http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/sessions/62/listdocs.htm>

*This report of the Secretary-General summarizes contributions received from the United Nations, civil society, and countries in regard to the actions they have taken to improve access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. This document does not assist in gaining an understanding of the disease, but it does help establish a framework of international bodies and organizations involved in malaria control. Special attention should be paid to this source for that reason.*

United Nations. General Assembly Plenary. 61st Session. (2006, August 3). *2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa: Note by the Secretary-General (A/61/218)*. Retrieved July 6, 2007, from <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/455/11/PDF/N0645511.pdf?OpenElement>

*In this most recent report by the Secretary-General on the status of the effort to meet the goals of the Decade to Roll Back Poverty the many successes that global cooperation can achieve are evident. Within the report is an evaluation of the Roll Back Malaria Programme for the period 2000-2005 and a plan for malaria control from 2006 and after. Of particular interest, are sections where issues such as resource mobilization, and research and development are discussed, as well as malaria's impact on pregnant women and epidemics within complex emergencies.*

United Nations, Millennium Development Goals. (2005). *What are the Millennium Development Goals?* Retrieved August 27, 2007, from <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/#>

*The UN Millennium Development Goals site provides a comprehensive overview of the history and evolution of the groundbreaking internationally agreed upon targets for human and social development. In addition to the basic information about the MDGs there are also many documents available to supplement information found on the website. This website is very helpful for a broad overview of the MDGs and a good starting point for further research.*

United Nations. Millennium Project. (2005). *Coming to grips with malaria in the new millennium*. Retrieved July 6, 2007, from <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/malaria-complete-lowres.pdf>

*The UN Millennium Project's Working Group on Malaria of the Task Force on HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB and Access to Essential Medicines has identified the interventions and policy measures needed to achieve each of the Millennium Development Goals. This source provides background information regarding malaria prevention and eradication from the perspective of development, a critical perspective to have when addressing the issue comprehensively.*

United Nations. News Service. (2007, August). *UN agency issues new guidance for insecticide-treated mosquito nets to fight malaria*. Retrieved August 27, 2007 from

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=23515&Cr=malaria&Cr1=>

*This is a recent article dealing with malaria issued from the United Nations. Within the document, new evidence-based WHO guidelines are explained, as well as future collaborative efforts between international bodies focused on these new guidelines. This article is notable in that it links many different areas of society that are affected by malaria in a way that is easy to understand and take action on.*

- United Nations. News Service. (2003, November). *UN Country team tackles Ethiopia malaria outbreak as disease threatens to exacerbate high malnutrition rates (AFR/774)*. Retrieved August 27, 2007 from <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/af774.doc.htm>  
*The UN News Service discusses the situation in 2003 in Ethiopia, which was one of high rates of malnutrition and high rates of malaria infection. The press release details the response of the UN, which is to contribute millions of dollars worth of medicine, as well as the efforts of other international organizations to contribute supplies. This source is helpful in summarizing the emergency response efforts of the international community as well as highlighting the situation in Ethiopia.*
- World Health Organization. (2007). *Home as the first hospital: Malaria in Northern Ethiopia*. Retrieved August 27, 2007 from, <http://www.who.int/inf-new/mala3.htm>  
*This source concentrates on the home based care system that has developed in Ethiopia over the past decade. This system is a model for community health initiatives, as the article highlights, and finds its strength in the recruitment of women. Although the data in the article is dated, the basic information regarding the community-based health system is still relevant and useful today.*
- World Health Organization. (2005). *Frequently asked questions on DDT use for disease vector control*. Retrieved August 4, 2007, from <http://www.who.int/malaria/docs/FAQonDDT.pdf>  
*Although this is in a Q&A format, this document is very helpful in explaining how DDT works, its effects on the environment, and the international mechanism preventing the widespread use of the chemical. The document provides a stable understanding of DDT as well as its use in malaria control, but as expected does not discuss anything but the diseases relationship with the use of DDT. Particularly relevant, are the sections discussing the guidelines preventing DDT from being utilized in certain areas because of its implications on further development of similar preventative efforts.*
- World Health Organization. (2005, March). *Malaria Control Today: Current WHO Recommendations*. Retrieved August 5, 2007, from [http://www.who.int/malaria/docs/MCT\\_workingpaper.pdf](http://www.who.int/malaria/docs/MCT_workingpaper.pdf)  
*This document is one of the most recent attempts by the WHO to define global, independent norms and standards for the control of malaria. Due to the increased attention the malaria eradication effort has received, the guidelines are much stricter than in the past, as well as focus in one several special interest groups, such as pregnant women. This source isn't meant for use by non-medical personnel, but nevertheless provides valuable, and detailed information regarding WHO's efforts in malaria control.*
- World Health Organization. (2006). *Informal consultation on malaria elimination: Setting up the WHO agenda (WHO/HTM/MAL/2006.1114)*. Retrieved July 5, 2007, from <http://www.who.int/malaria/docs/malariaeliminationagenda.pdf>  
*As a response by the World Health Organization's Global Malaria Programme (GMP) to requests by member countries to clarify WHO priorities in the fight against malaria, this report highlights a revitalized process for certifying countries as Malaria free, updates relevant guidelines, and clarifies concepts and plans for elimination. Particularly relevant, are case studies of countries that have successfully controlled and eliminated the threat of malaria, which can be found in Chapter 5, "Stages and strategies for malaria elimination."*
- World Health Organization, & UNICEF. (2005). *World Malaria Report 2005 (WHO/HTM/MAL/2005.1102)*. Retrieved July 6, 2007, from [http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/wmr2005/pdf/WMReport\\_Ir.pdf](http://www.rollbackmalaria.org/wmr2005/pdf/WMReport_Ir.pdf)  
*This is the first comprehensive report by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership of the World Health Organization since it's launch in 1998. The report outlines the burden and risk of malaria in 107 countries as well as those countries' progress in controlling the disease. The report highlights the challenges that face the countries, as well as best practices that are valuable in identifying elements necessary in a comprehensive plan. Especially important to note within the document is Section I, Chapter 3, Malaria Control Policies and Strategies, Section III, Global Financing,*

*Commodities and Service Delivery, and Section IV, Improving RBM Monitoring and Evaluation - The Way Forward. These three sections combine the most recent global data on malaria burden with the current prevention and eradication strategies, as well as important issues that are being faced, such as development of medicine and evaluation of results.*

World Health Organization. World Health Assembly. 58th Session. (2005, May 23). *Malaria Control (WHA58.2)*. Retrieved August 5, 2007, from [http://www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA58/WHA58\\_2-en.pdf](http://www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA58/WHA58_2-en.pdf)  
*This resolution, passed by the World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization in 2005, emphasizes the need for specific actionable steps to be taken quickly in order to meet the MDGs as well as Abuja targets. The resolution focuses on scaling up of preventative measures, as well as stabilizing the economies in the impoverished countries which are hit the hardest by malaria outbreaks. Especially important to note, are the non-medicinal methods of malaria control, such as research and development in the areas of diagnostic tests and epidemic response systems.*



## **Rules of Procedure General Assembly Plenary**

### ***Introduction***

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

### **I. SESSIONS**

#### **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 7 - 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.

**Rule 9 - 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 first night’s meeting.*

**Rule 15 - General powers of the President**

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the 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 roll call for the meeting during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain.*

**Rule 33 - Important questions**

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

**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. GENERAL COMMITTEE

***Rule 45 - Composition***

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

***Rule 46 - Functions***

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

***Rule 47***

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

***Rule 48 - Participation by members requesting the inclusion of items in the agenda***

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

IX. MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION

***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.

X. COMMITTEES

***Rule 50 - Establishment of committees***

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

***Rule 51 - Categories of subjects***

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

***Rule 52 - Main Committees***

The Main Committees of the Assembly are the following:

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

***Rule 53 - Organization of work***

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



***Rule 54 - Discussion of reports of Main Committees***

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

XI. ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS

***Rule 55 - Applications***

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

***Rule 56 - Notification of applications***

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

***Rule 57 - Consideration of applications and decisions thereon***

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

***Rule 58***

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

***Rule 59 - Notification of decision and effective date of membership***

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