

NMUN • NY

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL PLENARY



NATIONAL MODEL
UNITED NATIONS

5-9 April 2009 - Sheraton
7-11 April 2009 - Marriott

www.nmun.org

BACKGROUND GUIDE 2009

NATIONAL
COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE
association™

WRITTEN BY:

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

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NMUN•NY 2009 IMPORTANT DATES

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

SHERATON

MARRIOTT

31 January 2009

31 January 2009

- Confirm Attendance & Delegate Count. (Count may be changed up to 1 March)
- Make Transportation Arrangements - DON'T FORGET!
(We recommend confirming hotel accommodations prior to booking flights.)

15 February 2009

15 February 2009

- Committee Updates Posted to www.nmun.org.

1 March 2009

1 March 2009

- Hotel Registration with FULL PRE-PAYMENT Due to Hotel - Register Early! Registration is first-come, first-served.
- Any Changes to Delegate Numbers Must be Confirmed to karen@nmun.org
- Two Copies of Each Position Paper Due via E-mail
(See opposite page for instructions).
- ***All Conference Fees Due to NMUN for confirmed delegates.***
(\$125 per delegate if paid by 1 March; \$150 per delegate if received after 1 March.) Fee is not refundable after this deadline.

NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The 2009 National Model UN Conference

- 5 - 9 April – Sheraton New York
- 7 - 11 April – New York Marriott Marquis

Two copies of each position paper should be sent via e-mail by 1 MARCH 2009

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 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.

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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
NMUN Director of Programs	karen@nmun.org
Secretary-General	secgen@nmun.org
Director(s)-General	dirgen@nmun.org

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THE 2009 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

New York City, 5-9 April (Sheraton) & 7-11 April (Marriott) • www.nmun.org

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2009 National Model United Nations (NMUN)! We are very pleased to be serving as your Directors and Assistant Directors for the ECOSOC Plenary Committees at the Sheraton and Marriott Venues this spring.

We would like to introduce ourselves, as we will be your first contacts for your questions or suggestions which we will be more than happy to receive. Your Director at the Sheraton venue is Amina Rai; she holds a degree in psychology and gender studies and currently works as a Project Manager for the Civil Chambers Pro Bono Duty Counsel Project for the charitable organization, Pro Bono Law of BC, at the Vancouver Supreme Courthouse. Her Assistant Director, Sasha Sleiman, is finishing her bachelors in international relations. Heidi Schneble, director of the Marriott venue holds a degree in international relations and divides her time between pursuing an MPA and working full time at a financial services policy research in Washington, DC. Her Assistant Director, Katharina Weinert, studies Political Science; constitutional, social and economics history and German literature in Bonn.

This year's topics are:

1. Partnering for Development: An Examination of the Partnerships between Developed and Developing States
2. Working Towards the Achievement of MDG 7: Ensuring Environmental Sustainability
3. Increasing Coordination of Humanitarian Agencies with the UN System

The ECOSOC Plenary constitutes the platform for discussion of international economic and social issues consisting of Member States dedicated to finding solutions for occurring or anticipated problems. Delegates have the responsibility to apply available resources wisely and with respect to internationally diverse needs. These tasks require profound knowledge of the role of the council, economic coherences, and their social consequences.

Due to the length of time until the conference commences, committee topics are likely to be affected by current events. It is therefore important to observe these global developments in order to keep yourself updated on matters that would affect the ECOSOC Plenary session. This guide will aid you in developing a basic understanding of the topics and provide you with a starting point for your future research. Apart from this background guide, it is a worthwhile initiative to orient yourself with periodicals such as BBC, Reuters, The Guardian (UK), The Economist and others. While it is important that you stay within the spirit of your nation's policy, the committee staff will also want to see creative, unique and realistic solutions coming from the delegates.

Every delegation is required to submit a position paper prior to attending the conference. Position papers will be due on March 1st, 2009 for both venues. Please refer to the message from your Director-General explaining NMUN's position paper requirements and restrictions, as adherence to these guidelines is of utmost importance.

Your experience in the ECOSOC Plenary will be a combination of challenging and rewarding experiences. We know about the demanding preparation for the participation in your committee's work. Please do not hesitate to direct any questions toward your Director. With a high-level of effort and excitement, we are confident that the NMUN 2009 ECOSOC Plenary session will be a success. We look forward to meeting you in New York and wish you the best.

Sincerely yours,

Sheraton Venue
Amina Rai
Director
Sasha Sleiman
Assistant Director
ecosoc.sheraton@nmun.org

Marriott Venue
Heidi Schneble
Director
Katharina Weinert
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Message from the Directors-General Regarding Position Papers for the 2009 NMUN Conference

At the 2009 NMUN New York 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 representatives of Member States, some may also serve as 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. Discussing recommendations for action to be taken by your committee is another portion of the position paper that should be considered. 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 re-creation 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.
- Margins must be set at 1 inch for whole paper
- Country/NGO name, School name and committee name clearly labeled on the first page; the use of national symbols is highly discouraged
- 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 November 15, 2008. 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 or 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, 2009 for Delegations attending the NMUN conference at either the Sheraton or 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 Sarah Tulley, Director-General, Sheraton venue, or Lauren Judy, Director-General, Marriott venue at 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 2,000 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
Sarah Tulley
Director-General

sarah@nmun.org

Marriott Venue
Lauren Judy
Director-General

lauren@nmun.org

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.

Delegation from
Canada

Represented by
(Name of College)

Position Paper for General Assembly Plenary

The topics before the General Assembly Plenary are: Breaking the link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict; the Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy; and the Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa. Canada is dedicated to collaborative multilateral approaches to ensuring protection and promotion of human security and advancement of sustainable development.

I. Breaking the link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict

Canada endorses the Kimberly Process in promoting accountability, transparency, and effective governmental regulation of trade in rough diamonds. We believe the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) is an essential international regulatory mechanism and encourage all Member States to contribute to market accountability by seeking membership, participation, and compliance with its mandate. Canada urges Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2007 Kimberley Process Communiqué to strengthen government oversight of rough diamond trading and manufacturing by developing domestic legal frameworks similar to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. We call upon participating States to act in accordance with the KPCS's comprehensive and credible systems of peer review to monitor the continued implementation of the Kimberley Process and ensure full transparency and self-examination of domestic diamond industries. We draw attention to our domestic programs for diamond regulation including Implementing the Export and Import of Rough Diamonds Act and urge Member States to consider these programs in developing the type of domestic regulatory frameworks called for in A/RES/55/56. We recommend Member States implement the 2007 Brussels Declaration on Internal Controls of Participants and, in cooperation with established diamond industries, increase controls for record keeping, spot checks of trading companies, physical inspections of imports and exports, and maintenance of verifiable records of rough diamond inventories. Pursuant to Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations and in conjunction with S/RES/1346, we support renewed targeted sanctions on Côte d'Ivoire, initiated under Paragraph 1 of S/RES/1782, and recommend the Security Council use targeted sanctions and embargos to offset illicit exploitation of diamond trading. Canada recognizes the crucial role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the review of rough diamond control measures developed through the Kimberly Process and encourages States to include NGOs, such as Global Witness and Partnership Africa Canada, in the review processes called for in A/RES/58/290. We urge Member States to act in accordance with A/RES/60/182 to optimize the beneficial development impact of artisanal and alluvial diamond miners by establishing a coordinating mechanism for financial and technical assistance through the Working Group of the Kimberly Process of Artisanal Alluvial Producers. Canada calls upon States and NGOs to provide basic educational material regarding diamond valuation and market prices for artisanal diggers, as recommended by the Diamond Development Initiative. Canada will continue to adhere to the 2007 Brussels Declaration on Internal Controls of Participants and is dedicated to ensuring accountability, transparency, and effective regulation of the rough diamond trade through the utilization of voluntary peer review systems and the promotion of increased measures of internal control within all diamond producing States.

II. The Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy

Canada is dedicated to integrating alternative energy sources into climate change frameworks by diversifying the energy market while improving competitiveness in a sustainable economy, as exemplified through our Turning Corners Report and Project Green climate strategies. We view the international commitment to the promotion of

alternative sources of energy called for in the Kyoto Protocol and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Control (UNFCCC) as a catalyst to sustainable development and emission reduction. Canada fulfills its obligations to Article 4 of the UNFCCC by continuing to provide development assistance through the Climate Change Development Fund and calls upon Member States to commit substantial financial and technical investment toward the transfer of sustainable energy technologies and clean energy mechanisms to developing States. We emphasize the need for Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2005 Beijing International Renewable Energy Conference to strengthen domestic policy frameworks to promote clean energy technologies. Canada views dissemination of technology information called for in the 2007 Group of Eight Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy Declaration as a vital step in energy diversification from conventional energy generation. We call upon Member States to integrate clean electricity from renewable sources into their domestic energy sector by employing investment campaigns similar to our \$1.48 billion initiative ecoENERGY for Renewable Power. Canada encourages States to develop domestic policies of energy efficiency, utilizing regulatory and financing frameworks to accelerate the deployment of clean low-emitting technologies. We call upon Member States to provide knowledge-based advisory services for expanding access to energy in order to fulfill their commitments to Goal 1 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Canada emphasizes the need for States to establish domestic regulatory bodies similar to the Use, Development, Deployment, and Transfer of Technology Program to work in cooperation with the private sector to increase the transfer of alternative energy technologies. Highlighting the contributions of the Canadian Initiative for International Technology Transfer and the International Initiative for Technology Development Program, we urge Member States to facilitate the development and implementation of climate change technology transfer projects. Canada urges States to address the concerns of the 2007 Human Development Report by promoting tax incentives, similar to the Capital Cost Allowances and Canadian Renewable and Conservation Expenses, to encourage private sector development of energy conservation and renewable energy projects. As a member of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership, Canada is committed to accelerating the development of renewable energy projects, information sharing mechanisms, and energy efficient systems through the voluntary carbon offset system. We are dedicated to leading international efforts toward the development and sharing of best practices on clean energy technologies and highlight our release of the Renewable Energy Technologies Screen software for public and private stakeholders developing projects in energy efficiency, cogeneration, and renewable energy. Canada believes the integration of clean energy into State specific strategies called for in A/62/419/Add.9 will strengthen energy diversification, promote the use of cogeneration, and achieve a synergy between promoting alternative energy while allowing for competitiveness in a sustainable economy.

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

Canada views the full implementation of the treatment and prevention targets of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Especially in Africa, as essential to eradicating malaria and assisting African States to achieve Target 8 of Goal 6 of the MDGs by 2015. We recommend Member States cooperate with the World Health Organization to ensure transparency in the collection of statistical information for Indicators 21 and 22 of the MDGs. Canada reaffirms the targets of the Abuja Declaration Plan of Action stressing regional cooperation in the implementation, monitoring, and management of malaria prevention and treatment initiatives in Africa. To fully implement A/RES/61/228, Canada believes developed States must balance trade and intellectual property obligations with the humanitarian objective of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health. We continue to implement Paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health into our compulsory licensing framework through the Jean Chrétien Pledge to Africa Act. We urge Member States to support compulsory licensing for essential generic medicines by including anti-malarial vaccines and initiating domestic provisions to permit export-only compulsory licenses to domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers, similar to Canada's Access to Medicines Regime. Canada calls upon Member States to establish advanced market commitments on the distribution of pneumococcal vaccines to developing States in cooperation with PATH and the Malaria Vaccine Initiative. We emphasize the need for greater membership in the Roll Back Malaria initiative to strengthen malaria control planning, funding, implementation, and evaluation by promoting increased investment in healthcare systems and greater incorporation of malaria control into all relevant multi-sector activities. Canada continues to implement the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) New Agenda for Action on Health to reduce malaria infection rates among marginalized populations in Africa, increase routine immunizations rates, and reduce infection rates of other neglected infections. Canada will achieve the goal of doubling aid to Africa by 2008-2009 by providing assistance to the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. We urge Member States to increase donations to intergovernmental organizations and NGOs that support malaria

programming in Africa, exemplified by CIDA's contribution of \$26 million to the Canadian Red Cross. We continue our efforts to provide accessible and affordable vector control methods to African States through the Red Cross' Malaria Bed Net Campaign and the African Medical Research Foundation Canada by supplying insecticide-treated mosquito nets and Participatory Malaria Prevention and Treatment tool kits. We support the Initiative to Save a Million Lives Now 2007 Campaign to improve healthcare for impoverished mothers and children and reaffirm the need for standardization of healthcare systems to ensure adequate training of healthcare officials. We call upon Member States to assist in the capacity building of developing States' healthcare frameworks to provide adequate training, equipment, and deployment to new and existing African healthcare personnel. Canada places strong emphasis on ensuring increased accessibility to health services, improved standards of living, and reduction in mortality rates through our \$450 million contribution to the African Health Systems Initiative. Pursuant to Article VII of the A/55/2, we will continue to exhibit leadership in the implementation of A/RES/61/228 to mitigate the effects of malaria in developing States, particularly in Africa, and remain dedicated to the strengthening of healthcare systems to improve malaria prevention and treatment.

History of the Economic and Social Council

Introduction

The establishment of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1945 marked the beginning of a movement by the international community “to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples.”¹ Throughout history, ECOSOC has been named “the United Nation’s principal organ for the discussion and coordination of international economic and social issues and for formulating policy recommendations for Member States and the UN system,” and as a result has played a central role in developing policy.² ECOSOC’s structure, which is laid out in Chapter X of the *United Nations (UN) Charter*, reflects the boldness of the UN’s architecture at the time of its creation.³ Originally, ECOSOC’s function was to be the replicate body to the Security Council in regards to economic, social, health, environmental, human rights, and cultural advancement.⁴ Despite this being an underlying goal, the Great Powers (United States, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, Italy, and the Soviet Union) created ECOSOC to make decisions by majority vote and created no special privileges, such as veto power, for countries as they did in the Security Council.⁵ Furthermore, with the development of ECOSOC, Member States were only encouraged to cooperate for global prosperity and were bound to work for international security via the Security Council.⁶ In the 50 years since its founding, there have been continued attempts to either reform ECOSOC or to replace it and create an entirely new global decision-making body for economic and social matters.⁷ Throughout its history, ECOSOC has been widely criticized for its ineffectiveness in exercising authority in international policy making.⁸ The goal of many reform efforts has been to strengthen the organization’s effectiveness, and as a result ECOSOC reform and UN reform in general have been on the forefront of the body’s agenda for the past eight years.

ECOSOC Membership and Structure

In 1945, the membership of ECOSOC, which is outlined in Articles 62, 63, and 71 of the *UN Charter*, consisted of 18 Member States and after evolving slowly, reached its current size of 54 in 1971.⁹ In 1971 the General Assembly passed *Resolution 2847* with the goal of expanding ECOSOC in order to make the body more representative of the UN’s overall membership.¹⁰ Today however, it is argued that even at ECOSOC’s current expanded membership this number is still too small to be a fully representative forum.¹¹ This concern is especially strong within the Group of 77 (G77), which includes many developing states, who feel they are severely underrepresented within the body.¹² According to Chapter X of the *UN Charter*, 18 Members of the Council are to be elected by the General Assembly for a period of three-year terms.¹³ The regional makeup of ECOSOC is divided up as: 14 states from Africa, 11 states from Asia, 6 states from Eastern Europe, 10 states from Latin America and the Caribbean, and 13 states from Western Europe.¹⁴ ECOSOC’s membership during the 2008 session is as follows:

Algeria	China	Indonesia	Mozambique	Russian Federation
Angola	Congo	Iraq	Netherlands	Saint Lucia
Austria	Cuba	Japan	New Zealand	Saudi Arabia
Barbados	Czech Republic	Kazakhstan	Niger	Somalia
Belarus	El Salvador	Liechtenstein	Pakistan	Sri Lanka

¹ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Preamble.

² UNElections.org, *Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)*.

³ Kennedy, *The Parliament of Man: The Past, Present, and Future of the United Nations*, 2006, pg. 43.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 115

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Martens, *The Reform of the UN Economic and Social Council: A Never-Ending Story?*, (2006).

⁸ Martinetti, *A Strengthened United Nations’ Economic and Social Council*, 2006.

⁹ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Articles 62, 63, 71.

¹⁰ United Nations General Assembly, *Enlargement of ECOSOC (A/RES/2847)*, 1971.

¹¹ Martens, *The Reform of the UN Economic and Social Council: A Never-Ending Story?*, (2006).

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *Ibid.*, Chapter X, Article 61.

¹⁴ Martens, *The Reform of the UN Economic and Social Council: A Never-Ending Story?*, (2006).

Benin	France	Luxembourg	Paraguay	Sudan
Bolivia	Greece	Madagascar	Philippines	Sweden
Brazil	Guinea-Bissau	Malawi	Poland	United Kingdom
Cameroon	Guyana	Malaysia	Portugal	United States
Canada	Haiti	Mauritania	Republic of Korea	Uruguay
Cape Verde	Iceland	Moldova, Rep. of	Romania	

Similar to the General Assembly, ECOSOC has 29 subsidiary bodies that report to ECOSOC Plenary.¹⁵ These bodies are divided up into seven groups which include, functional commissions, regional commissions, standing committees, ad hoc bodies, expert bodies composed of governmental experts, expert bodies composed of members serving in their personal capacity, and other relevant bodies.¹⁶ For the purpose of this session of ECOSOC Plenary it is important to understand the following commissions: ECOSOC Functional Commissions; Commission for Social Development, Commission on the Status of Women, Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Commission on Sustainable Development. ECOSOC Regional Commissions: Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).¹⁷

Although membership within ECOSOC is restricted to Member States, the body has a stronger relationship with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) than most other bodies within the UN system. This is due in part to the issues which are addressed by ECOSOC, as well as provisions made for this relationship in the *Charter*, specifically Chapter X, Article 71 which embraces ECOSOC's relationship with non-governmental organizations (NGOs).¹⁸ The article stipulates that ECOSOC can make "arrangements for consultation" if the topic is within the NGOs competence.¹⁹ Today, over 2,869 NGOs enjoy consultative status with ECOSOC, ranging in focus from the environment to gender.²⁰ These NGOs work closely with ECOSOC members to both influence governments and spread awareness of specific issues.²¹

Reforming ECOSOC

The Economic and Social Council, and the UN as a whole, has been developing reform proposals for decades, creating a great deal of disagreement and discussion as to exactly what type of reform is best for the UN system, and for ECOSOC in particular in the coming decades. The 2005 World Summit mandated new functions be carried out by ECOSOC including a mandate to convene Annual Ministerial Reviews (AMR) and biennial Development Cooperation Forum (DCF).²² Both of these new functions were endorsed by the General Assembly in 2006.²³ The Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) is a new function of ECOSOC mandated by Heads of State and Government at the 2005 World Summit.²⁴ The purpose of the AMR is to assess progress made towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's). In addition, another goal of the process was to "contribute to scaling-up and accelerating action to realize the development agenda, by serving as global high-level forum with broad-based participation, where lessons learned are exchanged and successful practices and approaches that merit scaling-up are identified."²⁵ The first AMR was held in July of 2007 and focused on the eradication of poverty and hunger.²⁶ The 2008 AMR, held on 2-3 July 2008 at the UN Headquarters in New York, focused on "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development."²⁷ The Council has the opportunity to address many issues on the agenda, including: the assessment of the state of implementation;

¹⁵ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Subsidiary Bodies of ECOSOC*.

¹⁶ *Ibid*

¹⁷ *Ibid*

¹⁸ Kennedy, *The Parliament of Man: The Past, Present, and Future of the United Nations*, 2006, pg. 216.

¹⁹ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Chapter X, Article 71.

²⁰ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Frequently Asked Questions-FAQs*.

²¹ Kennedy, *The Parliament of Man: The Past, Present, and Future of the United Nations*, 2006, pg. 217

²² United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Frequently Asked Questions-FAQs*.

²³ United Nations General Assembly, *Strengthening the UN (A/RES/61/16)*, 2006.

²⁴ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *2008 Annual Ministerial Review*.

²⁵ *Ibid*

²⁶ *Ibid*

²⁷ *Ibid*

exploring key challenges in ensuring that the global consensus on sustainable development is translated into action at the national level; the promotion of the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Programme of Implementation (JPOI); contributing to the efforts to integrate the implementation of MDG7 with other MDGs; and considering recommendations and proposals for action, including new initiatives.²⁸ Recently, the planning process for the 2009 AMR was initiated, and in preparation for the event, the theme was announced as: *"Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health."*²⁹ Another major new function of ECOSOC is the biennial high-level Development Cooperation Forum (DCF).³⁰ The DCF has the mandate of enhancing the Millennium Development Goals.³¹ The Forum was initially launched in Geneva in July 2007 and the first biennial Forum took place in New York on 30 June and 1 July 2008.³² The deliberations of the 2008 session provided strategic input to bring further attention to aid delivery and development assistance work for improving the lives of the poor.³³ The DCF will be held every other year. Representatives in the DCF include UN organizations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, regional development banks and representatives from developing and developed countries.³⁴ The Economic and Social Council's history is filled with expansion, reform and evolution. The council has come a long way since its inception yet has many weaknesses to yet overcome.

I. Partnering for Development: Partnerships between Developed and Developing States

*"Addressing global challenges requires a collective and concerted effort, involving all actors. Through partnerships and alliances and by pooling comparative advantages, we increase our chances for success."*³⁵

Introduction

One of the founding purposes of the United Nations (UN) as stated in its Charter is "to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character" and in the "promotion of social progress and better standards of life."³⁶ Development difficulties particularly among Least Developed Countries (LDCs) continue to challenge these founding principles prompting the UN to take action through initiatives such as the Programme for Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010.³⁷ Frameworks and models to address these issues have often focused on the development of partnerships.³⁸ From September 6-8 2000, the UN community gathered for the Millennium Summit, an event to "reaffirm the UN's role for the 21st century."³⁹ On September 8, 2000 the UN General Assembly adopted the Millennium Declaration recognizing the importance of the principle of collective responsibility in achieving global equality.⁴⁰ In addition, it also established the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a set of eight goals designed to respond the world's most crucial development issues.⁴¹ This principle of collective responsibility is a key element of the eighth MDG developing a global partnership for development.⁴²

²⁸ *Ibid*

²⁹ Economic and Social Council, *Frequently Asked Questions-FAQs*.

³⁰ Economic and Social Council, *2008 Development Cooperation Forum*.

³¹ *Ibid*

³² *Ibid*

³³ Economic and Social Council, *2008 Development Cooperation Forum Official summary of the President of the Economic and Social Council*.

³⁴ *Ibid*.

³⁵ United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, *Public-Private Partnerships at the United Nations, UNF/UNFIP: A Story of Generosity, Thoughtfulness and Accomplishment, 2006*.

³⁶ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice, 1945, Chapter I*.

³⁷ United Nations, General Assembly, *Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/Conf.191/11)*, 2001.

³⁸ United Nations. General Assembly, Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the LDCs (A/Conf.191/13), 2001.

³⁹ United Nations, General Assembly, *United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2)*, 2000.

⁴⁰ *Ibid*.

⁴¹ United Nations Development Programme, *About the MDGs: The Basics*.

⁴² United Nations, General Assembly, *Brussels Declaration (A/Conf.191/12)*, 2001.

According to United Nations' Deputy Secretary-General, Louise Frechette, a global partnership for development is the key to moving ahead with the MDGs stating that "the MDGs are about people. But they are not only about people in need. The MDGs are also about people who can do something to meet that need."⁴³ As such, she calls upon developed and developing countries as well as the entire global community including private businesses, civil society groups, and concerned citizens to transform the MDGs into reality.⁴⁴ To support this process, the United Nations has identified specific target areas to address.⁴⁵ For the eighth goal, these include improvement of trading and financial systems, addressing the special needs of LDCs, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states, dealing comprehensively with debt problems, providing productive work for youths, providing access to essential drugs and medicine as well as helping developing countries achieve access to technology in cooperation with the private sector.⁴⁶

Traditionally, partnerships between developed and developing nations have centered on financial based aid such as official development assistance (ODA) or debt forgiveness.⁴⁷ During the past decade, in part due to substantial contributions from philanthropists such as Ted Turner, financial based assistance has also extended to include participation from the private sector, foundations and civil society.⁴⁸ In 2002, global heads of state met from around the world in Monterey, Mexico for the World Conference on International Financing for Development to "address the challenges of financing for development around the world, particularly in developing countries."⁴⁹ The outcome of the conference known as the Monterrey Consensus, focuses on six specific finance development areas and as such has become a major framework for developed and developing countries to partner with the private sector and other sources to further development assistance.⁵⁰ These areas include mobilizing domestic financial resources for development, mobilizing international resources for development: foreign direct investment and other private flows, international Trade as an engine for development, increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development, external debt, and addressing systemic issues such as enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development.⁵¹

The United Nations Office for Partnerships

With the global community partnering together to address development issues, the UN system created the United Nations Office for Partnerships (UNOP) to serve as gateway between the UN organization and the broader global community.⁵² UNOP became responsible for providing partnership advisory and outreach services as well as helping UN partners' assistance in navigating the UN bureaucracy.⁵³ One of the UNOP's most prominent tasks is helping to coordinate the partnership between the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) and the UN Foundation (UNF).⁵⁴ The UNFIP serves as the interface between the UN and the UN Foundation which is responsible for administering the \$1 billion donation by Ted Turner.⁵⁵ The UNF-UNFIP's partnership has focused on numerous issues ranging from the environment to children's health as well as peace, security and human rights programs.⁵⁶ Since 1997, the UNFIP-UNF partnerships have allocated more than \$1 billion in grants to the UN system.⁵⁷ A few of the partnership initiatives supported by UNOP include Our Common Humanity, Rural Energy Enterprise Development Programme and the Global Reporting Initiative.⁵⁸

Financing for Development

⁴³ Frechette, *Innovative UN Partnerships Critical for Achieving Millennium Development Goals*, 2005.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵ United Nations Development Programme. *About the MDGs: The Basics*.

⁴⁶ United Nations Development Programme. *Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development*.

⁴⁷ United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. *Implementing the Monterrey Consensus in the Asian and Pacific Region: Achieving Coherence and Consistency*, 2005.

⁴⁸ Dossal. *UNFIP: Partnerships Beyond Borders*, 2004.

⁴⁹ United Nations, *Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development*, 2003, p.5.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

⁵¹ *Ibid.*

⁵² United Nations Office for Partnerships, *Overview*.

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ United Nations Office for Partnerships, *Structure*.

⁵⁵ United Nations Office for Partnerships, *What is the UN Fund for International Partnerships?*.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁷ United Nations Office of Partnerships, *Thematic Financing*.

⁵⁸ United Nations Office of Partnerships, *Partnership Initiatives*.

In 2004, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan launched a comprehensive review of the progress of the MDGs.⁵⁹ The Millennium Project was mandated with the responsibility of assessing the current progress of the MDGs as well as developing a plan to achieve the goals.⁶⁰ The report concluded that the international community was behind in the achievement of the goals and pointed out low levels of international financing as a key reason.⁶¹ Development aid commitments continue to be one of the most common forms of international partnerships and key development topic.⁶² The Monterrey Consensus set to revise development aid commitments from the United States and Europe as well as focus on areas such as debt and corruption by funding new sources of financing for development as states that are burdened with substantial debt do not have the ability to deal concurrently with their debt while focusing on development.⁶³ The fourth target of MDG 8 focuses on dealing “comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term.”⁶⁴ This includes addressing the debt problems of developing countries which includes ODA, market access and debt sustainability.⁶⁵ The problem, however, addressed at the 2005 World Summit, is that despite global commitments, ODA is on a decline.⁶⁶

In 1970, the UN General Assembly set a target for ODA at 0.7 per cent of the gross national product of developed countries.⁶⁷ However, in recent years, a steady decline of ODA to developing states has existed which has prompted global concern especially within the UN community.⁶⁸ The Monterrey Consensus views ODA as essential for achieving the MDGs and urges developed states to meet their ODA targets and also recognizes that an increase in ODA is essential to achieve global development goals.⁶⁹ From 2005 to 2006, ODA decline 5.1 percent which is the first decline since 1997 as only five donor countries, Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden and Norway, had reached the 1970 ODA target.⁷⁰ The report also states that if there is no significant increase in ODA it will be impossible for even the most developed country to achieve the MDG targets.⁷¹ In the *2008 Millennium Development Goals Report*, reports showed that development assistance had fallen for a second consecutive year.⁷²

The lagging efforts of donor governments prompted the UN to create the position of a special adviser on innovative financing for development.⁷³ During a 2008 press conference, Special Adviser Philippe Douste-Blazy, stated that “we are only at the halfway point in achieving the MDGs due to the time, not due to results. The real truth is that we are late. There has been progress in just about every area, but it is not enough, especially in sub-Saharan Africa.”⁷⁴ Above all, worldwide development assistance has fallen for the first time in ten years.⁷⁵ The Millennium Project report offer recommendations to help regions, such as Africa, that have fallen behind.⁷⁶

While the Monterrey Consensus supports assistance from developed countries as well as private sources, it also

⁵⁹ United Nations General Assembly, *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit and integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields* (A/RES/58/291), 2004.

⁶⁰ Millennium Project. *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals*, 2005.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*

⁶² United Nations General Assembly, *Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s* (A/RES/52/187), 1997.

⁶³ United Nations, *Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development*, 2003.

⁶⁴ United Nations Development Programme, *Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development*.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁶ United Nations Department of Public Information, *The 2005 World Summit: An Overview*, 2005.

⁶⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade* (A/RES/2626), 1970.

⁶⁸ United Nations Department of Public Information. *The Millennium Development Goals Report: UN Report Points to Serious Shortfalls in Development Aid*, 2007.

⁶⁹ United Nations, *Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development*, 2003.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ *Ibid.*

⁷² United Nations, *Millennium Development Goals 2008*, 2008.

⁷³ United Nations Department of Public Information, *Press Conference by Special Adviser on Innovative Financing for Development*, 2008.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

⁷⁶ United Nations General Assembly, *Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the Millennium Project* (A/RES/59/727), 2005.

supports mobilizing domestic resources.⁷⁷ The New Partnership for Africa's Development, for example, combines both international and domestic aspects.⁷⁸ In March 2008, the GA Resolution 62/179 focused on both the actions of African countries as well as those of the international community.⁷⁹ The UN commends African countries for their progress in "fulfilling their commitment in the implementation of the New Partnership to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance, and sound economic management".⁸⁰ In addition, it also recognizes the numerous African initiatives of the international community such as the Africa Partnership Forum, the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership, and the Millennium Challenge Account.⁸¹

The Evolving Role of Non-State Participants

Innovative partnerships have had the opportunity to evolve due to the involvement of the private sector, foundations and civil society.⁸² Both the private sector and foundations offer a unique set of tools and resources for successful partnerships.⁸³ The private sector, for example, is able to contribute infrastructure, technology expertise and management skills while foundations not only offer funding but knowledge and expertise.⁸⁴ The relationship between the UNFIP and the UNF has helped to spearhead several successful partnerships.⁸⁵ Some of these major and successful partnerships include a water and sanitation partnership with Coca-Cola due to the 2005 tsunami, a sustainable travel partnership around World heritage with Expedia, the creation of the first donor-advised fund specifically supporting UN causes with Dimini Social Investments, a partnership with the Vodaphone Group Foundation applying their technological expertise to humanitarian and emergency responses and a partnership with the Nike Foundation supporting adolescent girls.⁸⁶ Another example of the innovative partnerships spearheaded by the UN and the global community is the UN Global Compact.⁸⁷ The UN Global Compact, focused on legitimizing business and investment, is the result of citizen initiative and objectives.⁸⁸

Conclusion

While efforts such as the Monterrey Consensus have provided a framework to aid in development, it requires the commitment of the global community.⁸⁹ The United Nations and the international community face more obstacles than just a decline in ODA in order to develop successful partnerships. In addition, organizations such as the UNFIP and the UNF have to face weak institutions, deficient infrastructure and trade barriers.⁹⁰ In 2008, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon released *The Millennium Development Goals Report*.⁹¹ While there existed some positive observations, the Secretary-General warned that the ultimate success of the MDGs will depend in large part on whether developed countries make good on their commitments.⁹² Despite the efforts of creating and implementing global partnerships it is essential that each nation takes responsibility for its own economic and social development.⁹³ As the 2015 target date for achieving the MDGs quickly approaches, debate within the main UN organs such as the ECOSOC plenary will escalate posing several questions looking at both the commitments of the broader international community and how individual nations focus on their own development. First, how can the international community work together to increase ODA levels? Second, how will the international community continue to strengthen the public-private partnerships that have developed during the past decade? What is the level of aid contributed? Is the state involved in regional partnerships? Thus, by combining the efforts of the entire

⁷⁷ United Nations, *Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development*, 2003.

⁷⁸ United Nations, General Assembly, *New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support* (A/RES/62/179), 2008.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*

⁸¹ *Ibid.*

⁸² Dossal, *UNFIP: Partnerships Beyond Borders*, 2004.

⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

⁸⁵ United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, *Public-Private Partnerships at the United Nations, UNF/UNFIP: A story of generosity, thoughtfulness and accomplishment*, 2006.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷ United Nations Global Compact, *What is the UN Global Compact?*.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

⁸⁹ United Nations, *Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development*, 2003.

⁹⁰ Dossal. *UNFIP: Partnerships Beyond Borders*, 2004.

⁹¹ United Nations, *Millennium Development Goals Report*, 2008.

⁹² *Ibid.*

⁹³ United Nations, *Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development*, 2003.

international community to create global partnerships economic and social development can be achieved.

II. Working towards the Achievement of Millennium Development Goal 7: Ensuring Environmental Sustainability

Introduction

Within the international community, there is a growing understanding that ensuring environmental sustainability is the basis on which economic development should be built as sustainability forms the foundation for the achievement of all other Millennium Development Goals.⁹⁴ With the *Millennium Declaration* the Member States of the United Nations (UN) outlined the fundamental values essential to international relations in the 21st century. One of these fundamental values is the respect for nature so that the immeasurable riches provided to mankind by nature can be preserved and passed on to future generations.⁹⁵ “Ensuring Environmental Sustainability” is Goal 7 of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be reached by 2015 agreed on by Member States of the UN at the Millennium Summit in 2000.⁹⁶ Environmental degradation and depletion of natural resources have the biggest impact on the poor who are mostly affected by natural disasters and conflict over land.⁹⁷ These impacts are caused by desertification and deforestation especially affecting Sub-Saharan Africa which is most in danger of not reaching the Millennium Development Goals.⁹⁸

In 1945, when the United Nations was founded, protection of the environment was not a central issue for the international community, which focused more on peacekeeping, fostering international cooperation and protection of human rights. The term “environment” is therefore not mentioned in the UN Charter.⁹⁹ The first conference on environment which was initiated by ECOSOC took place in 1972 in Stockholm whose most significant outcome was the foundation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).¹⁰⁰

The Brundtland Commission, also known as the World Commission on Environment and Development, which was convened in 1983 due to the concern about the growing deterioration of the environment, published its final report *Our Common Future* in 1987; this report verbalized for the first time made the connection between “environment” and “development.”¹⁰¹ A major environmental credit program, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) was implemented in 1991 by the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNEP and focuses on climate change, biodiversity, depletion of the ozone layer, and protection of international waters.¹⁰² Through the GEF developing countries and countries with economies in transitions (CEITs) can receive grants and concessional funds for projects regarding environmental protection.¹⁰³ In 1992, more than 100 heads of state, 170 government representatives and 2400 representatives from NGOs participated in the *World Commission on Environment and Development* in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the so called “Earth Summit” which resulted in the “Agenda 21”, which introduced action and cost plans but was criticized for only weakly reflecting several issues, like contamination of oceans and export of waste.¹⁰⁴ Other outcomes from this meeting include the *UN Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) and the *UN Convention on Biological Diversity* which show the focus on environment of this conference according to the environmental priorities of the industrialized countries, and shifted

⁹⁴ United Nations, Economic and Social Council, *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Millennium Development Goals – Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, 2005, p. 154.

⁹⁵ United Nations, General Assembly, 55th Plenary Meeting, *Millennium Declaration (A/55/2/L.2)*, 2000.

⁹⁶ United Nations, Economic and Social Council, *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Millennium Development Goals – Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, 2005, p. 141.

⁹⁷ Zukang, *Overview: The Millennium Development Goals Report 2008*, 2008, p. 5.

⁹⁸ United Nations, Economic and Social Council, *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Millennium Development Goals – Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, 2005, p. 133.

⁹⁹ Rechkemmer, *Globale Umweltpolitik 2005. Perspektiven im Kontext der Reform der Vereinten Nationen*, 2004, p. 9.

¹⁰⁰ Birnie, *The UN and the Environment*, 1993, p. 334.

¹⁰¹ Töpfer, *Nach dem Brundtland-Bericht: Umweltverträgliche Wirtschaftliche Entwicklung*, 1992, p. 9.

¹⁰² Oberthür, *The Kyoto Protocol: International Climate Policy for the 21st century*, 1999, p. 60.

¹⁰³ Moore, *Encyclopedia of the United Nations*, 2002, p. 129.

¹⁰⁴ Victor, *Recovering Sustainable Development*, 2006, p. 92; Rechkemmer, *Global Governance and UN Reform. Challenges and Opportunities for Environment and Human Security*, 2005, p. 14.

away from the development focus which was criticized by the developing countries.¹⁰⁵ Even though the international community managed to agree upon a list of dangers for the environment at the Earth Summit, the conventions lacked lists of specific priorities or targets and only listed general intentions to protect the environment.¹⁰⁶ The specifications were intended to be formulated at the 2002 *World Summit on Sustainable Development* (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa which resulted in the “Johannesburg Plan of Implementation” still lacking specific time and goal settings or concrete measurements for sanctions.¹⁰⁷

The central coordination body of the policies in the area of development and environment and their related issues is the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).¹⁰⁸ At the *High Level Segment* of ECOSOC in 2005, which dealt with the question on how to achieve the MDGs, the Executive Director of UNEP Dr. Klaus Töpfer called for a clear message from ECOSOC that not only financial and human capital is needed but also natural or “nature’s” capital to overcome poverty and meet the MDGs.¹⁰⁹ Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play a significant role in the achievement of the MDGs which was emphasized at the *High Level Segment* of ECOSOC in 2005 where the President of ECOSOC called for more partnerships between NGOs in the north and the south and suggested thinking about “how best to use ECOSOC as a forum for civil society to make a real impact on the global Millennium Development Campaign to eradicate poverty.”¹¹⁰ Especially the field of environment has provided several opportunities for NGOs to be involved in UN affairs in particular through the global conferences in Rio and Johannesburg in which they participated in national delegations or parallel side events.¹¹¹

Deforestation and loss of biodiversity

According to the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, which was adopted at the ‘Earth Summit’ in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, biodiversity is defined as “variability among living organisms from all sources [...] and the ecological complexes of which they are part”.¹¹² The target of MDG 7 as stated in the Millennium Development Goals Report is to “integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources” and focuses on deforestation, biodiversity, and emissions of carbon dioxide.¹¹³ During the High-Level Segment of ECOSOC in 2005 the then Director of UNEP Dr. Klaus Töpfer quoted an interim report of the UN Millennium Project regarding the value of environmental resources for a sustainable development: “A considerable body of scientific data points to environmental degradation – the erosion of genetic diversity, the loss of species, the degradation of ecosystems, and the decline of ecosystem services – as a direct cause of many of the most pressing issues we face today including poverty, declining human health, hunger, undrinkable water, emerging diseases, rural-urban migration and civil strife.”¹¹⁴

Deforestation seriously harms the agricultural production since the degradation of the environment due to overgrazing and unsustainable agriculture causes degradation and desertification which leads to a sinking of the groundwater and also socioeconomic problems like loss of agricultural land, crop failure, poverty, and hunger.¹¹⁵ This is a big problem especially in developing countries.

Environmental resources are an essential part of the fight against poverty as the High-Level Segment of the ECOSOC in 2005 pointed out stating that the economic value of the environment is underestimated.¹¹⁶ The Millennium Development Goals Report of 2007 emphasized that it is possible to achieve the MDGs as the success

¹⁰⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 97.

¹⁰⁶ Rechkemmer, *Globale Umweltpolitik 2005*, 2004, p. 5.

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁸ Rechkemmer, *Global Governance and UN Reform – Challenges and Opportunities for Environment and Human Security*, 2005, p. 13.

¹⁰⁹ United Nations, Economic and Social Council, *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals- Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, 2005, p. 141.

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 172.

¹¹¹ Moore, *Encyclopedia of the United Nations*, 2002, p. 107; Fomerand, *Agent of Change? The United Nations and Development*, 2004, p. 173.

¹¹² United Nations, *Convention on Biological Diversity*, Article 2.

¹¹³ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 13.

¹¹⁴ United Nations, Economic and Social Council, *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals – Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, 2005, p. 141.

¹¹⁵ Rechkemmer, *Globale Umweltpolitik 2005, Perspektiven im Kontext der Reform der Vereinten Nationen*, 2004, p. 8.

¹¹⁶ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 13.

of some developing countries shows but that in order to achieve this aim strong government leadership as well as policies and strategies that effectively target the needs of the poor are needed as well as adequate financial and technical support from the international community.¹¹⁷

Even though there was some progress made to replant these areas, e.g. in Eastern Asia, in a lot of regions of the world deforestation continues, as for example in Latin America and the Caribbean, South Eastern Asia and Oceania, so that overall, the world lost three per cent of its forests between 1990 and 2005.¹¹⁸ Deforestation poses a threat and is together with the loss of biodiversity one of the primary causes of climate change.¹¹⁹ Forests provide the basis for a sustainable environment considering that most of the planet's biodiversity lives in forests, they protect watersheds, generate clean drinking water, diminish carbon dioxide from the air and in this way help to maintain the climate.¹²⁰

Even though forests are planted, degraded land restored, and natural woodlands expand the loss of forests continues and every day an area of about 200 km² of forest is lost which is an area twice the size of Paris.¹²¹ In order to successfully address these issues a bottom-up approach which focuses on responsible government systems is necessary which is also essential because no policy instruments are appropriate for all settings¹²² The two biggest threats for natural forests are agriculture and logging and more specifically the size of population, its income and diet as well as yield (amount crops grown per hectare) of crops grown.¹²³ Considering these factors the most effective way to reduce the agricultural impact on deforestation is to change how farmers grow crops so that less area is needed to produce the same amount of food.¹²⁴

In 2006, an area twice the size of China was under protection but effective management of these protected areas is essential in order to successfully conserve these sites.¹²⁵ Considering that large parts of global biodiversity are located in developing countries, external funding for protected areas is necessary so that they can be effectively managed and improved.¹²⁶ Another weakness is that only a small part of these protected areas are marine ecosystems which are especially important for the sustainability of fish stocks and coastal livelihoods.¹²⁷ Although more and more areas are under protection the proportion of species threatened with extinction continues to increase.¹²⁸ Effective management strategies are needed in order to preserve and restore biodiversity.¹²⁹ To ensure the expansion of the global network of protected areas, developing countries need funding from external sources.¹³⁰

Carbon Dioxide Emissions and Protection of the Ozone Layer

Even though the world is making progress in eliminating the use of ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) the ozone layer cannot begin to heal until they diminish significantly which is which is an essential part in the fight against climate change because ultraviolet radiation will continue to harm human health, crop productivity, and wildlife.¹³¹ Growing emissions of carbon dioxide are one of the primary causes for climate change.¹³² Between 1990 and 2004 the emissions of carbon dioxide rose from 9.7 billion metric tons to 12.5 billion metric tons in the developed regions, and from 6.9 to 12.4 billion metric tons in the developing regions but the emissions of carbon dioxide per capita are still far higher in the developed regions than in the developing regions.¹³³ As the

¹¹⁷ *Ibid*, p. 3.

¹¹⁸ *Ibid*, p. 13.

¹¹⁹ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Indicators for Sustainable Development: Guidelines and Methodologies*, 2007, p. 72.

¹²⁰ Victor, *Restoring the forests*, 2000, p. 127.

¹²¹ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, 2007, p. 13.

¹²² Victor, *Recovering Sustainable Development*, 2006, p. 99.

¹²³ Victor, *Restoring the Forests*, 2000, p. 129-130.

¹²⁴ *Ibid*, p.130.

¹²⁵ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2008*, 2008, p. 38.

¹²⁶ Deke, *Environmental Policy Instruments for Conserving Global Biodiversity*, 2008, p. 349.

¹²⁷ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 13.

¹²⁸ *Ibid*, p. 13.

¹²⁹ *Ibid*, p. 23.

¹³⁰ Deke, *Environmental Policy Instruments for Conserving Global Biodiversity*, 2008, p. 349.

¹³¹ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, 2007, p. 14.

¹³² *Ibid*, p. 14.

¹³³ *Ibid*, p. 14.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated science proved that without a doubt human activities are driving changes in the world's climate.¹³⁴

In November 1997 Japan hosted an international environmental conference.¹³⁵ The outcome of this conference was an update of the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol, which is one of the most ambitious treaties ever agreed upon, even though it is weakened by the fact that some industrialized countries who contribute a large amount to the emissions of carbon dioxide have not signed or ratified the Kyoto Protocol.¹³⁶ Reducing emissions of carbon dioxide is one of the key factors for a sustainable climate and energy policy.¹³⁷ Such a sustainable climate and energy policy has to be technically and financially doable, be economically at least growth neutral, and has to be directed towards climate protection.¹³⁸ In order to implement the Kyoto Protocol successfully it is important to create incentives for countries to join, scientific research has to be improved, and international partnerships have to be promoted.¹³⁹ The Kyoto and the Montreal Protocol show that a lot can be achieved when countries act together for a common goal.¹⁴⁰ Emissions of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) have dramatically reduced seeing that emissions sunk from 1.5 million tons in 1989 to 89.000 tons in 2005.¹⁴¹ The issue that has to be tackled now is to make sure that countries completely eliminate their use of CFCs according to the timelines in the Montreal Protocol.¹⁴² In their research delegates should focus on what measures can be taken against illegal production and trade of CFCs.¹⁴³ The destruction of ODS stockpiles could rush out disastrous amounts of ozone-depleting substances, therefore effective management strategies and ways to finance for ODS stockpiles are necessary.¹⁴⁴

Access to safe Drinking Water and Basic Sanitation

Safe drinking water and basic sanitation are the key factors to sustainable development considering that open defecation, poor hygiene, and lack of safe drinking water lead to health, economic, and social repercussions and are the main reason for approximately 88 % of deaths due to diarrheal diseases.¹⁴⁵ The direct causes for the degradation of freshwater resources are “dams for energy generation, channelization and flow diversion for irrigation and flood control, wetland drainage, and groundwater withdrawal”, additionally to several indirect influences like “demographic change, economic factors, and institutional gaps which also have an effect on the exploitation of water resources.¹⁴⁶ Today, 1.2 billion people worldwide do not have access to safe water and 2.4 billion people do not have access to basic sanitation.¹⁴⁷

Another aim of MDG 7 is to reduce by half the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water by 2015.¹⁴⁸ The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007 pointed out that if trends since 1990 continue, the target will be missed by almost 600 billion people with Sub-Saharan Africa mostly affected by this problem.¹⁴⁹ Between 1990 and 2004 the absolute number of people without access to adequate sanitation increased from 335 million to 440 million.¹⁵⁰ But also several countries and regions in North Africa and the Middle East as well as South Asia have huge problems in dealing with the degradation of freshwater resources.¹⁵¹ Successful progress is made in some countries. Senegal and Uganda are making progress towards the achievement of MDG 7 with increasing access to

¹³⁴ United Nations Development Programme, *Annual Report 2008*, 2008, p. 30.

¹³⁵ Oberthür, *The Kyoto Protocol: International Climate Policy for the 21st century*, 1999, p. 60.

¹³⁶ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 95.

¹³⁷ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2008*, 2008, p. 37.

¹³⁸ Rechkemmer, *Globale Umweltpolitik* 2005, 2004, p. 26.

¹³⁹ Browne, *Beyond Kyoto*, 2004, p. 23.

¹⁴⁰ Ban, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 3.

¹⁴¹ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 14.

¹⁴² United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2008*, 2008, p. 40.

¹⁴³ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 14.

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁶ United Nations Millennium Project, *Environment and Human Well-being: A Practical Strategy*, 2005, p. 9.

¹⁴⁷ United Nations, Economic and Social Council, *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals – Dialogues at Economic and Social Council*, 2005, p. 143.

¹⁴⁸ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2008*, 2008, p. 40.

¹⁴⁹ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 14.

¹⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 14.

¹⁵¹ Weiss, *The United Nations and Changing World Politics*, 1994, p. 210.

water and sanitation.¹⁵²

At the World Summit 2002 in Johannesburg free and democratic access to fresh water was established as a basic right.¹⁵³ The weakness of the final declaration, the *Johannesburg Declaration* and the *Plan of Implementation* were that concrete plans of actions were not mentioned. as there are for example only unspecific timelines regarding fish stocks which “possibly should be under protection until 2015”.¹⁵⁴ Specific action plans, clear mechanisms for sanctions and concepts on how to institutionally implement these measures were not agreed upon so far.¹⁵⁵ How should the declared intentions be implemented at the institutional and organizational level? How could or should sanctions be imposed?¹⁵⁶

Improving the Lives of Slum Dwellers

Improving the life of slum dwellers and providing access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation are closely connected.¹⁵⁷ “Slum dwelling” is defined as “lack of clean water and adequate sanitation, lack of sufficient living space and overcrowding, makeshift shelter construction, insecure tenure, and exposure to demolition and eviction.”¹⁵⁸ People living in slums suffer from a concentration of poisonous industries, dyeing factories, rendering plants, battery, recycling and chemical waste.¹⁵⁹ Most of the big cities in developing countries systematically contaminate, urbanize and destroy their ecosystems which is especially a big problem in Africa and Asia where agricultural land is destroyed due to the growing population and with that their basis for food supply.¹⁶⁰

Improving the lives of at least 100 million people living in slums by 2020 is a target under MDG 7 agreed upon in 2000, but it becomes clearer, that this only affects a small part of slum dwellers worldwide.¹⁶¹ During the High Level Segment of ECOSOC in 2005 the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT Anna Tibaijuka emphasized that it is also necessary to prevent new formations of slums according to the “cities without slums” initiative.¹⁶² According to UN-HABITAT one billion people live in slums, a number which is expected to rise to 1.6 billion people by 2020 if no measures are taken immediately.¹⁶³ It is important to recognize that even though the Millennium Development Goals are global, they can only be reached at the local level, which has to happen in a context of local reality, aspirations, and priorities.¹⁶⁴

Global Environmental Management

Over 900 Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) have been agreed upon which leads to a decentralized and often not coordinated and inefficient global environmental management system in which a lot of decisions are connected but the synergies are not used which is especially problematic for developing countries to follow because they do not have the resources to participate in each of the many conferences worldwide related to environmental protection and sustainability.¹⁶⁵ To address this problem several approaches have been made to better coordinate global environmental management. There are four major approaches towards an institutional reform.¹⁶⁶ The first approach mainly made by NGOs and academics is directed towards the integration of ecological aspects into the existing institutions while the second proposal focuses on the emerging importance of actors of the civil society and

¹⁵² United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 14.

¹⁵³ Rechkemmer, *Global Governance and UN Reform. Challenges and Opportunities for Environment and Human Security*, 2005, p. 15.

¹⁵⁴ Rechkemmer, *Globale Umweltpolitik 2005. Perspektiven im Kontext der Reform der Vereinten Nationen*, 2004, p. 11.

¹⁵⁵ *Ibid.* 11.

¹⁵⁶ Rechkemmer, *Global Governance and UN Reform. Challenges and Opportunities for Environment and Human Security*, 2005, p. 15.

¹⁵⁷ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 14.

¹⁵⁸ United Nations, Economic and Social Council, *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals – Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, 2005, p. 144.

¹⁵⁹ Davis, *Planet der Slums*, 2007, p. 137.

¹⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 141/142.

¹⁶¹ United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2007*, p. 14.

¹⁶² Tibaijuka, *Sustainable Urbanization*, 2005, p. 145.

¹⁶³ *Ibid.*, p. 134.

¹⁶⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 143.

¹⁶⁵ Rechkemmer, *Globale Umweltpolitik 2005*, 2004, p. 5.

¹⁶⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 17.

proposes the shift away from a state-centric approach towards a society or people centered approach.¹⁶⁷ The third proposal proposes to strengthen UNEP by broadening its financial and personal capacities and if necessary extending its mandate and also calls for a universal membership in UNEP while the fourth approach is directed towards the establishment of a World Environment Organization.¹⁶⁸ According to this proposal the current status of UNEP as a subordinate program to ECOSOC would change to form a specialized agency.¹⁶⁹ In 2003 France made a proposal for the establishment of a United Nations Environment Organization (UNEO) which should be based on protection of the environment as a key factor for collective security, environmental degradation as risk for development, the necessity of multilateral reaction, and the central role of the UN in this context.¹⁷⁰

Conclusion

Achieving MDG 7 is the basis for the achievement of all other Millennium Development Goals.¹⁷¹ Environmental Sustainability underlines the importance of ecosystems management as well as water supply and addresses the vital issues in conquering the problems like loss of biodiversity, land degradation and food production, as well as health and child mortality.¹⁷² ECOSOC as UN's forum to coordinate activities on the economic and social field and humanitarian governance is the central forum to discuss all these aspects of a sustainable environment.¹⁷³

Several international agreements concerning environmental sustainability have been agreed upon but concrete plans of action and mechanisms for sanctions are needed to effectively implement the existing treaties and conventions.¹⁷⁴ Integrating environmental concerns into national strategies and policies is essential in order to ensure environmental sustainability. Coordination with Ministries of Financing and Planning is essential to secure financing for mechanisms of environmental protection.¹⁷⁵ Most of the time environmental objectives in international agreements are formulated in general terms which makes an evaluation of the achievements difficult.¹⁷⁶ Measurable objectives also should include mechanisms for compliance which can be controlled through several techniques, e.g. joint scientific monitoring of national environmental parameters, mutual recognition of inspections, periodic reporting by all Parties followed by a joint public review of the information submitted, which is the measurement that is used most of the time.¹⁷⁷

Dealing with the topic of environmental sustainability requires consideration of the following questions: How specifically does Millennium Development Goal 7 affect both individual states and regions? How do international treaties or programs affect national policy regarding these issues? What are the main obstacles that keep states from achieving the targets under Goal 7? What financial capacities or capacity in human resources, knowledge, and skills do states have on local, regional, and national level to address the issues of environmental sustainability?

¹⁶⁷ Rechkemmer, *Global Governance and UN Reform. Challenges and Opportunities for Environment and Human Security*, 2005, p. 25.

¹⁶⁸ Karns, *International Organizations. The Politics and Processes of Global Governance*, 2004, p. 493.

¹⁶⁹ Rechkemmer, *Global Governance and UN Reform. Challenges and Opportunities for Environment and Human Security*, 2005, p. 23.

¹⁷⁰ *Ibid*, p. 25.

¹⁷¹ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals – Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, 2005, p. 141.

¹⁷² United Nations, Economic and Social Council, *Background Note on Roundtable 7: Dialogue on environmental sustainability*, 2005, p. 3.

¹⁷³ Fomerand, *Agent of Change? The United Nations and Development*, 2004, p. 167.

¹⁷⁴ Rechkemmer, *Globale Umweltpolitik 2205. Perspektiven im Kontext der Reform der Vereinten Nationen*, p. 11.

¹⁷⁵ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals – Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, 2005, p. 133.

¹⁷⁶ Sand, *The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development: The effectiveness of international environmental agreements. A survey of existing legal instruments*, 1992, p. 8.

¹⁷⁷ *Ibid*, p. 13.

III. Increasing Coordination of Humanitarian Agencies with the UN System

“Our world is interdependent. It is now clearer than ever before that the fate of one is linked to the fate of all. We have an obligation – individually and collectively – to help the destitute among us based on a profound appreciation of our shared humanity.”¹⁷⁸

Overview of the Development of Coordination of Humanitarian Agencies with the UN System

It has become increasingly apparent in contemporary times that humanitarian emergencies require united global responses. As reflected by the United Nations (UN) Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon’s above remarks at the 2008 Consolidated Appeal launch in Geneva, the UN plays a pivotal role in ensuring that such effective responses are shared by the global community and commitments toward intervening and assisting those in need are met and upheld.¹⁷⁹ The UN’s role in determining the most meaningful methods of global responses focuses on the coordination of humanitarian agencies within the UN system. The UN has been steadfastly engaging in the development of such a coordinated network since 1971.¹⁸⁰ Their work that began in 1971 was propelled by the adoption of General Assembly Resolution 2816 (XXVI) that established a Disaster Relief Coordinator position.¹⁸¹ The position was created with the mandate to increase communication and relief operations with non-UN organizations, essentially creating a designated high official who would embody the coordinating efforts of UN and non-UN response units.¹⁸² Since its inception in 1971, the UN Disaster Relief Coordinator has worked closely with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in developing a disaster management-training program.¹⁸³ In 1991’s annual report from the General Assembly, the UN called for the disaster management-training program to be increasingly strengthened and broadened.¹⁸⁴ In that year as well, the General Assembly furthered its commitment towards increasing coordination of humanitarian agencies by passing Resolution A/RES/46/182, calling for development of an Emergency Relief Coordinator position to be designated to the Secretary-General in order to coordinate a central unit for emergency response.¹⁸⁵

Under the Emergency Relief Coordinator position, the UN also called for the formation of an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) that would include UN officials and non-governmental organizations as invited participants.¹⁸⁶ The committee was fully constructed in 1992 and was designated to meet as soon as a humanitarian emergency that required global response occurred.¹⁸⁷ In 1993, the UN stated that the committee was the primary point for coordination and development of operational approaches to disaster relief.¹⁸⁸ Currently the IASC consists of eight full members: the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Human Settlement Programme, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the World Food Programme, and the World Health Organization.¹⁸⁹ The committee also consists of nine standing invitees: the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Council of Voluntary Agencies, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the American Council for Voluntary International Action, the International the Organization for Migration, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR), and the World Bank.¹⁹⁰ The IASC focuses on developing system-wide humanitarian policies, allocating responsibilities among agencies in humanitarian programmes, developing and agreeing on common ethical framework for all humanitarian activities, and resolving

¹⁷⁸ Ki-moon, *UNA-UK address on Securing the Common Good: The United Nations and the Expanding Global Agenda*, 2008.

¹⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁰ United Nations General Assembly, *Assistance in cases of natural disaster and other disaster situations (A/RES/2816)*, 1971.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸² *Ibid.*

¹⁸³ United Nations General Assembly Resolution, *Strengthening the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations (A/RES/46/182)*, 1991.

¹⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁷ Inter-Agency Standing Committee, *About Me*, 2008.

¹⁸⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Strengthening the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance to the United Nations (A/RES/48/57)*, 1993.

¹⁸⁹ Inter-Agency Standing Committee, *About Me Section*, 2008.

¹⁹⁰ Inter-Agency Standing Committee, *About IASC Section*, 2008.

disputes or disagreements about and between humanitarian agencies or system-wide humanitarian issues.¹⁹¹

The IASC also operates as an established forum by which international humanitarian organizations are able to collectively unite to discuss humanitarian policies. The IASC has been successful in initiating this process, particularly through the IASC's Sub-Working Group on Preparedness and Contingency Planning, which organized the First Global Consultation of Contingency Planners in July of 2007 in Geneva.¹⁹² Sixty-seven participants, from 22 agencies, attended the consultation in order to focus dialogue and discourse on improving the effectiveness of humanitarian emergency response through contingency planning and preparedness.¹⁹³ The consultation allowed for peer exchange on learned experiences as well as the opportunity for participants to submit feedback on the IASC Inter-Agency Contingency Planning Guidelines that were under revision at that time.¹⁹⁴ The report from the consultation entitled, *Challenges and Suggestions for Enhancing Inter-Agency Contingency Planning: Report of the 1st Global Consultation of Contingency Planners in Humanitarian Agencies*, focused on the complex issues of centralizing communication.¹⁹⁵ Particularly, the report examined the best approaches to inter-agency communication during the time of humanitarian emergency response (be it through a multi-agency approach, or a centralized unit).¹⁹⁶ The consultation also focused discussion on determining the capacity of different levels of government, NGOs, and IGOs in order to establish the best contingency plan.¹⁹⁷ In particular, the report recommended the establishment of an association of contingency planners "as a forum for continued interaction and building of a professional cadre of humanitarian contingency planners," and the establishment of a 'community of practice' by way of a website and e-forum for "sharing best practices, posing problems and furthering discussions."¹⁹⁸ The report also included a variety of particular tools required for effective contingency building practices that were assessed as requiring priority.¹⁹⁹

Aside from the IASC's motivations in developing forums for humanitarian agencies to discuss and collaborate on building effective contingency responses to humanitarian emergencies, one of IASC's particular standing invitees, the SCHR, is worth noting. The SCHR works beyond the UN network of humanitarian agencies and functions as an alliance of major international humanitarian networks and organizations.²⁰⁰ Currently, the SCHR consists of the following nine members: Care International, Caritas International, the ICRC, the International Federation of Red cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Save the Children Alliance, Lutheran World Federation, Oxfam, World Council of Churches/ACT, and World Vision International.²⁰¹ With the mission to unite these nine major humanitarian actors, the committee functions as a central networking point to share information, and coordinate joint positions of humanitarian advocacy.²⁰² Although committees such as SCHR function to provide a forum of communication for major international humanitarian actors, development of a global information network for the international humanitarian community has not yet to be achieved. Recently, focus has been placed on determining the scope and functions of such a coordination initiative and while recognizing that it would be suitable to develop such a network with the current tools available.²⁰³ Currently, informal networks such as the International Council of Voluntary Agencies exist online as a means to providing unified advocacy alliance amongst humanitarian and human rights NGOs by strengthening the overall NGO community through representation and collaboration of particular global initiatives.²⁰⁴ Although international voluntary organizations engage in developing such networks of communication with one another, a central formal point of communication amongst the international

¹⁹¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁹² *Ibid.*

¹⁹³ Inter-Agency Standing Committee, Sub-Working Group on Preparedness and Contingency Planning, *Challenges and Suggestions for Enhancing Inter-Agency Contingency Planning: Report of the 1st Global Consultation of Contingency Planners in Humanitarian Agencies*, 2007.

¹⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁰ Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response, *About SCHR Section*, 2008.

²⁰¹ *Ibid.*

²⁰² *Ibid.*

²⁰³ Bui et al. Information Systems Frontiers, *A Framework for Designing a Global Information Network for Multinational Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief*, 2000.

²⁰⁴ International Council of Voluntary Agencies, *About ICVA*, 2008.

humanitarian agency in response to disaster or risk awareness does not exist. Such technology network systems may be effective tools in developing the forum for information exchange, planning, coordination and negotiation for humanitarian agencies and disaster relief agencies.²⁰⁵

In the absence of such a central network, coordination to fill the gaps of disaster relief has been progressed by the UN. In response to the recommendations of the Emergency Relief Coordinator in 2005, a cluster system was devised by the UN as a method to increase effectiveness of the humanitarian response by designating key organizations in specific roles and responsibilities during the emergency response process.²⁰⁶ Such a system would increase the accountability of the international humanitarian organizations by lessening the lack of clarity of designated roles and increasing the structure of response.²⁰⁷ However, as noted in the following sections, increased efforts are needed in developing preventative strategies to humanitarian challenges that require long-term sustainable coordination as opposed to focusing on emergency responses.

Coordination of Humanitarian Agencies with the UN System in Response to Global Emergencies and Climate Changes

In the current global era, two particular major humanitarian areas have been identified as posing the greatest threat and challenge –climate related disasters and challenges related to global food trends.²⁰⁸ As stated in the 2008 report of the Secretary-General *Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations*, “nine out of every ten disasters are now climate related.”²⁰⁹ The report also notes that in the past 20 years, the number of recorded climate related disasters has doubled to more than 400 per year and is expected to become increasingly prevalent in the future.²¹⁰ The challenge of providing effective humanitarian assistance to natural disasters essentially concerns the need for swift and prepared responses to the frequency of such emergencies.²¹¹ The Secretary General’s report outlines the need for “disaster risk reduction preparedness in high-risk settings and to mobilize support for addressing the humanitarian impacts of climate change.”²¹² Humanitarian agencies are participating in this by collaborating with the World Meteorological Organization and other climate specialist actors in order to determine the most effective ways to detect early warning signs.²¹³ However, some believe that involvement of international humanitarian agencies and disaster risk reduction organizers in UN climate change negotiations is increasingly needed in order to address the risk factors of vulnerable countries.²¹⁴ It has become increasingly important to determine the risk factors for disasters and to determine trends in humanitarian crises by investigating, among others things, levels of urbanization, strength and capacity of infrastructure, and access to food and water.²¹⁵ To achieve this, some believe there is a need for greater emphasis by the UN and its humanitarian agencies network to broaden their working relationships with global actors in order to understand the current global trends and forthcoming concerns of regional states.²¹⁶ It should be noted however, that there is an increased progress in developing relationships within the international community, such as disaster management organizations and scientific climate centers, as seen in the case of the El Nino phenomenon, which triggered a great collaboration of scientific, technical, and financial assistance in studying the phenomenon.²¹⁷

Perhaps then, increased coordination of humanitarian agencies with the UN system is best devised by outlining major humanitarian challenges and providing mechanisms and networking capacities that are focused on addressing such emerging challenges. As in the instance of the current challenges related to global food trends that reveal an increasingly prevalent humanitarian crisis in the need for global emergency intervention, coordination would require

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.* .

²⁰⁶ Humanitarian Reform, *What is the Cluster Approach*, 2008.

²⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁸ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: Report of the Secretary-General*, 2008.

²⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

²¹⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹¹ *Ibid.*

²¹² *Ibid.*

²¹³ *Ibid.*

²¹⁴ Helmer et.al., *Humanitarian Agencies should Engage in UN Climate Change Negotiations*, 2008.

²¹⁵ *Ibid.*

²¹⁶ *Ibid.*

²¹⁷ General Assembly, *International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Nino phenomenon (A/RES/61/199)*, 2007.

a two-tier approach focusing on both active and adequate emergency response and preventative processes.²¹⁸ In the instance of active and adequate emergency response, immediate attention to the current food crises in vulnerable countries requires a greater level of concentrated coordination of the international community.²¹⁹ As was noted in IASC weekly meeting in July of 2008, addressing the food crisis in West, Central and East Africa was most effectively addressed through the establishment of a multi-dimensional approach that focused on renewed partnerships with stakeholders, such as the IMF.²²⁰ It was highlighted in the meeting that the best method of addressing the food crisis was by studying national and international capacities to address the crisis in order to best develop a public health emergency management process.²²¹

In the preventative process, the challenge of increasing level of food insecurity has the UN concerned with its capacity to provide successful intervention to large populations suffering from extreme hunger.²²² Currently the UN is focused on determining how governments, international agencies and the global community can partake in devising better long-term preventative strategies.²²³ Such effective strategy building relies on the increased partnership of the UN and national level government officials to increase infrastructure capacities to address food shortages.²²⁴ On the international level, increased efforts have been placed on centralized coordinated responses to global food insecurities.²²⁵ In May of 2008, the Secretary General responded to the need for increased coordination by forming a High Level Task force on the global food security crisis that involved relevant UN agencies and organizations, along with the Bretton Wood institutions (the World Bank and the IMF most notably).²²⁶ As noted in the Secretary General's report *Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations* (2008), the task force was developed to research food market trends, enhance agriculture productivity and strengthen the development of food market monitoring systems.²²⁷ This task force is just one example of how concerted, cross-sectoral cooperation can help address a global crises.

Case Study: The 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami

The 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami is one of history's most destructive and deadliest natural disasters.²²⁸ The tsunami, which was caused by an undersea earthquake, resulted in 227,000 lives lost and an estimated 1.7 million displaced persons.²²⁹ Overall, 14 countries were gravely affected by the tsunami, generating damages of US\$9.9bn.²³⁰ The disaster required an unparalleled international community response and a strong force of humanitarian agency coordination and contingency plan building in providing immediate emergency and disaster-reconstruction assistance.²³¹ Furthermore, the international humanitarian community was addressing the tsunami with the hindsight of the mechanisms that did and did not work through various experiences with previous global crises.²³² While building on experiences of the past, the tsunami-international response also revealed the weaknesses in humanitarian agency coordination.²³³ Considering the great level of awareness and understanding that would benefit from reviewing the aftermath of the tsunami-response, the United Nations and international humanitarian agencies have embarked in the review process of the tsunami-response by evaluating humanitarian coordination efforts.²³⁴ In the report entitled *The Post-Tsunami Recovery in the Indian Ocean: Lessons Learned, Successes, Challenges and Future Action* (2005), by the UNDPs Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, the tsunami-relief coordination revealed that the coordination that existed during the emergency response required continued sustainability during

²¹⁸ *Ibid.*

²¹⁹ Inter-Agency Standing Committee, *Food Crisis in West, Central and East Africa*, 2008.

²²⁰ *Ibid.*

²²¹ *Ibid.*

²²² United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: Report of the Secretary-General*, 2008.

²²³ *Ibid.*

²²⁴ *Ibid.*

²²⁵ *Ibid.*

²²⁶ *Ibid.*

²²⁷ *Ibid.*

²²⁸ British Broadcasting Corporation, *Tsunami Disaster*, 2007.

²²⁹ *Ibid.*

²³⁰ *Ibid.*

²³¹ *Ibid.*

²³² Telford, Cosgrave, and Houghton, *Joint Evaluation of the International Response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami: Synthesis Report*, 2006.

²³³ *Ibid.*

²³⁴ *Ibid.*

the recovery stage as well.²³⁵ The report assessed that permanent dialogue by means of inter-sectoral coordination of the government, civil society, agencies, donors and others was needed to facilitate the coordination of initiatives in the local, regional, and national scales in order to ensure transparency, accountability and participation in providing assistance to those in need.²³⁶

In the Tsunami Evaluation Coalition's synthesis report entitled the *Joint Evaluation of the International Response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami*, authors John Telford and John Cosgrave examined the onset of the tsunami and the structural weaknesses of East Asia that led to its severe devastation.²³⁷ The report outlined three particular issues that hindered post-disaster relief and what should be done to address them. Firstly, it focused on the need for increased services to provide early warnings, particularly for natural disasters.²³⁸ Initiatives such as the Humanitarian Early Warning Service, which is part of the IASC, are pivotal in functioning as a global multi-hazard watch service that is needed to support humanitarian preparedness and therefore require greater development and involvement by international humanitarian key players.²³⁹ Secondly, the report indicated that the local community aid workers were often marginalized by western humanitarian agencies thereby neglecting local efforts to assist individuals in need.²⁴⁰ This issue outlined a fundamental need for the international community to understand how to provide effective aid without imposing on the local communities or stripping local community workers from their efforts.²⁴¹ The third issue was that of the allocation of tsunami-relief funds.²⁴² Reports indicated that although the donations from the international community were exceptional, the distribution of the funds was often triggered by politics rather than need which resulted in many of the people affected by the tsunami being "marginalized, even undermined, by an overwhelming flood of international agencies controlling immense resources."²⁴³

Current United Nations Efforts

In the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the global community intensified focus on natural disaster response. The UN's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) themed their humanitarian affairs segment of 2005 as "Strengthening of the coordination of United Nations humanitarian assistance, including capacity and organizational aspects."²⁴⁴ The segment included a panel on the lessons learned from the earthquake/tsunami of the Indian Ocean.²⁴⁵ As well in 2005, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, released the report entitled "Humanitarian Response Review."²⁴⁶ The report offered recommendations on ways to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the response systems. – one major recommendation being the need to develop a global mapping of humanitarian response units that would extend from international to national, regional, private sector and military capacities.²⁴⁷

The post-tsunami discourse on disaster relief and coordination of humanitarian agencies also shifted on the focus from reaction and response to disaster preparedness and prevention. In 2005, the UN General Assembly decided to hold the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Hyogo, Japan, to follow up on the progress in disaster risk reduction as discussed at the Yokohama Conference in 1994.²⁴⁸ At the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters* was

²³⁵ United Nations Development Programme Bureau for crisis Prevention and Recovery, *The Post-Tsunami Recovery in the Indian Ocean: Lessons Learned, Successes, Challenges and Future Action*, 2005.

²³⁶ *Ibid.*

²³⁷ *Ibid.*

²³⁸ *Ibid.*

²³⁹ Humanitarian Early Warning Service, *Main Page*, 2008.

²⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁴¹ *Ibid.*

²⁴² United Nations Joint Inspection Unit, *Towards a United Nations Humanitarian Assistance Programme for Disaster Response and Reduction: Lessons Learned from the Indian Ocean Tsunami Disaster*, 2005.

²⁴³ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁴ United Nations Economic and Social Council, *ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment 2005*, 2005.

²⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁶ United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs, *Humanitarian Response Review*, 2005.

²⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁸ World Conference on Disaster Reduction, *Hyogo Framework for Action, Building the Resilience of nations and Communities to Disasters*, 2005.

produced.²⁴⁹ The Hyogo Framework for Action focuses on efforts to reduce disaster risks by not only isolating the issue of disaster relief but also implementing disaster risk reduction in structural policies, focus on poverty alleviation, good governance, and overall increase and improvement of state capacities to respond to local disasters effectively.²⁵⁰

In 2006, the UN Joint Inspection Unit reported on their investigation of the post-tsunami disaster relief response in Geneva in the report *Towards a United Nations Humanitarian Assistance Programme for Disaster Response and Reduction: Lessons learned from the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster*.²⁵¹ The report identified one key weakness within the international humanitarian system, the “lack of a central coordinating authority to plan and manage international assistance in relief, recovery and reconstruction”; this weakness, as outlined in the report was “owing to inherent weakness in inter-agency administrative cooperation among the United Nations system organizations and the lack of effective intergovernmental guidance to them.”²⁵² The report also highlighted many of the recommendations from the Hyogo Framework for Action that needed to be implemented in order to strengthen the commitment towards preventative measures.²⁵³ Reaffirmation of the principles of the Hyogo Framework for Action came in February 2008 when the General Assembly adopted Resolution *A/RES/62/192*, calling for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action by all Member States.²⁵⁴ In particular, the UN declared their support and insistence for adaptation of “those commitments related to assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and for disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk reduction activities in post-disaster recovery for rehabilitation processes.”²⁵⁵ Ultimately, this resolution placed emphasis on disaster-risk awareness and delivery of structural improvements.²⁵⁶

Conclusion

The challenges facing the UN in increasing the coordination of the humanitarian agencies with the UN is large but can be overcome through continued efforts by all parties involved. Currently the lack of a centralized unit of humanitarian coordination has gravely affected the ability of the UN and other agencies to effectively deliver aid to those in need. In moving forward, the international humanitarian community has a number of critical questions to ask. Basic questions include what are the most effective international agencies addressing humanitarian disasters? How much coordination do these organizations undertake, if any at all? While attempts have been listed above, what has become of those strategies for increased coordination? What is the relationship between ECOSOC and the various UN humanitarian agencies and other non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations that address humanitarian issues? How can this relationship develop further and evolve going forward?

Another question is how can the international community, and in particular ECOSOC, address the gap of preventative strategies versus emergency response through coordination and communication with the UN and humanitarian agencies? Of particular interest is what strategies devised by the international community have been effective and which have not? How can the international community continue to learn from lessons of the past? Increasing communication among agencies is essential to further coordinating efforts. What does an effective communication center for the international humanitarian agency community look like? What steps should be taken to implement an international communication center? How does the UN factor in the presence of such a central unit? How can we create effective strategies of communication building between the UN and humanitarian agencies? More so, how can we ensure the best delivery of humanitarian aid to countries in need without compromising their own local community capacities? Such initiatives require an effort to not only unite the international humanitarian agencies but also the focus on developing stronger lines of inter-communication between the international community and national systems.

²⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁵¹ United Nations Joint Inspection Unit, *Towards a United Nations Humanitarian Assistance Programme for Disaster Response and Reduction: Lessons learned from the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster*, 2006.

²⁵² *Ibid.*

²⁵³ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/RES/62/192)*, 2008.

²⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

Annotated Bibliography

History of the Economic and Social Council

- Disney J. (2000) *Agencies of Change: Should ECOSOC Be Reformed?* Retrieved July 28, 2008 from <http://www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/2000/issue2/0200p27.htm>
This article also discusses ECOSOC reform. This article proposes that both structural and procedural reforms could reduce weakness and improve effectiveness. The author also proposes to strengthen relationships with intergovernmental organizations. This article will be used to further the discussion of ECOSOC reform generally as well as diving into the issue of reforms in the UN Charter and ECOSOC's role with NGO's and other intergovernmental organizations.
- Kennedy, P. (2006). *The Parliament of Man; The Past, Present, and Future of the United Nations*. New York: Random House.
This books gives a detailed history of the United Nations and the actors involved in its creation. The book was used to highlight ECOSOC's history and evolution. Specific areas focused on were; structure, history, problems, NGO's and view at creation. Kennedy's work is useful in researching specific areas of ECOSOC's history and creating a context in which they fit into the overall History of the UN until 2006.
- Martens J. (2006) *The Reform of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC): A Never-Ending Story?*. Retrieved August 27, 2008 from <http://www.globalpolicy.org/soecon/un/reform/2006/1114ecosocmartens.htm>
This article, written by the Director of the Global Policy Forum Europe in Bonn, discusses proposals for reform made over the last 50 years as well as what has worked and has not worked. Martens has written a comprehensive evaluation of ECOSOC reforms and this source can be used by delegates to help analyze where ECOSOC has been and where it could go. There is also a list of recommendations for ECOSOC reform that will be a helpful starting point for exploring this issue in a historical context.
- Martinetti, I. (2006, October 26). A Strengthened United Nations' Economic and Social Council. In *UN Reform Watches*. Retrieved August 2, 2008, from <http://www.centerforunreform.org/node/195>
Martinetti's articles provides essential information for understanding the background and history of UN and ECOSOC reform. The article provides a vast amount of information and links to further sources that once accessed enhance the article's information. The UN Reform Education website provided much of the background information for this paper.
- UNelections.org, *Economic and Social Council*. Retrieved July 28, 2008, from <http://www.unelections.org/?q=node/34>
This website was used to access information on ECOSOC membership as well as retrieving descriptive quotes about the role of ECOSOC in the UN. This fact sheet has general information that was most useful as a starting point for more specific research. Basic fact type websites such as this are important to get started in researching ECOSOC as they provide useful general background knowledge of ECOSOC and its role within the United Nations system.
- United Nations Economic and Social Council. *2008 Annual Ministerial Review*. Retrieved August 5, 2008, from: <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/newfunct/amr2008.shtml>
This section of the ECOSOC website provided the resource for information on new functions of ECOSOC, specifically the Annual Ministerial Review. Information provided in this area of the website includes the 2007, 2008, 2009 reviews as well as documentation, preparations, meetings and the mandate. This information is critical to understanding the new role of ECOSOC.
- United Nations Economic and Social Council. *2008 Development Cooperation Forum*. Retrieved August 27, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/newfunct/2008dcf.shtml>
This section of the UN ECOSOC website specifically focuses on the 2008 DCF meeting. The site gives a brief overview of what took place in the first meeting of DCF and also has links to detailed summaries of the meeting. Delegates should familiarize themselves with the most recent updates to the DCF to ensure

they are current on the entire workings of the committee.

United Nations Economic and Social Council. *Development and Cooperation Forum*. Retrieved August 27, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/newfunct/develop.shtml>

This is the main background section on the DCF sessions on the ECOSOC website. The general site provides background information on what DCF however is broken up into subsections that provide more specific information about the specific meetings, documentation and statements.

United Nations Economic and Social Council. *Frequently Asked Questions-FAQs*. Retrieved August 5, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/about/faqs.shtml>

This section of the ECOSOC website can be used to gather general information about ECOSOC and its History. This site is incredibly helpful in finding small amounts of general information that will lead to digging deeper into the subjects discussed in the committee during conference.

United Nations Economic and Social Council. *Subsidiary Bodies of ECOSOC*. Retrieved August 5, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/about/subsidiary.shtml>

This website is used to find information about the subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC. A critical part of understanding the structure of ECOSOC is understanding the committees and commissions that report to ECOSOC Plenary. This website grants access to information on each committee as well as provides for the list of relevant commissions that are cited in this section of the Background Guide.

United Nations General Assembly. (1971, December 20). *Enlargement of ECOSOC 1971 (A/RES/2847)*. Retrieved August 28, 2008, from http://www.unelections.org/files/GA_EnlargementofECOSOCResolution_1971.pdf

This resolution is the original resolution that expanded ECOSOC from the 27 members in 1965 to the current 54 members. This resolution provided the substantive background to describe the policy decision to expand the size of ECOSOC in 1971. This resolution is describes the reasoning and justification for the 1971 expansion of ECOSOC. Source was used to provide historical documentation of this expansion.

United Nations. (1945). *Charter of the United Nations: Chapter X*. Retrieved August 5, 2008 from <http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>

The UN Charter is used to outline the mandate of ECOSOC for the delegates as well as looking at the original intent of ECOSOC when it was founded. It is the most basic document that all delegates should familiarize themselves with to completely understand what ECOSOC can and cannot do as a functioning body of the UN. As far as looking into reform issues, the Charter can be used as a historical document showing in what parameters ECOSOC began.

United Nations General Assembly. (2006, November 15). *Strengthening the UN (A/RES/61/16)*. Retrieved August 27, 2008, from <http://www.reformtheun.org/index.php?module=uploads&func=download&fileId=1844>

This Resolution of the General Assembly's 61st session is a follow up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit. The resolution integrates and coordinates the follow-up and implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields. This resolution is particularly relevant due to its discussion of the strengthening of ECOSOC. The resolution also helps emphasize the role of ECOSOC reform in the specific area of strengthening the role and structure of ECOSOC within the United Nations.

Additional Sources

Global Policy Forum. (2007, January 17). *UN Secretary-General Address to the Economic and Social Council. Global Policy Forum*. Retrieved August 27, 2008, from

<http://www.globalpolicy.org/soecon/un/reform/2007/0117ecosocspeech.htm>

The UN Secretary-General's address to ECOSOC outlines opportunities for reorganization and strengthening in ECOSOC's structure. The Secretary-General praises ECOSOC's work engaging civil society as well as shares his goals for the organizations possible new leadership role in promoting coherence and coordination of global efforts. This document was again used to gain insight on inner UN attitudes and goals for ECOSOC as a whole, and for the issue of reform specifically.

ReformtheUN.org, *Letter from Co-Chairs and Issues Paper for Consultations on ECOSOC Reform*. Retrieved August 27, 2008, from http://www.reformtheun.org/index.php/united_nations/1850
This letter can be useful in researching what routes of reform ECOSOC moved to and from throughout history. This letter was a consultation on how to follow up the 2005 summit and what development ECOSOC could embark on.

Schlesinger, S. C. (2004). *Act of Creation; The Founding of the United Nations*. Cambridge, MA: Westview Press.
This book was used to research ECOSOC's history in the context of the creation of the United Nations. The book contains in depth information about the creation of the UN as well as ECOSOC specifically. There is detailed political commentary about the politics that surrounded the creation of ECOSOC and laid ground work for now criticized flaws in how the council is run.

The Conference of NGO's in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO). (2005) *How CONGO Started*. Retrieved August 27, 2008 from <http://www.ngocongo.org/index.php?what=about&id=6>
This article serves as an example of how ECOSOC interacts with NGO's. This article, and website, will be used as a starting point for researching the interaction between ECOSOC and NGOs. The main premise of this "History" section of the website is to provide a foundation of information on NGOs and the principles of the UN. The article not only talks about the roots of NGOs' place in the UN and ECOSOC but more specifically how the NGO 'CONGO' was established and its relationship with the UN specifically.

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. *Non-Governmental Organization Section*. Retrieved August 28, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/>
This website was used to gather information on non-governmental organization's role within ECOSOC. The site offers an in-depth database of NGOs who work with ECOSOC as well as specific information on their role. It gives a quality, broad look at NGOs and ECOSOC that can be helpful for obtaining general information on the subject.

United Nations Economic and Social Council. (2008). *Official Summary of the ECOSOC President*. Retrieved August 29, 2008, from www.un.org/ecosoc/newfunct/Summary_of_the_President.pdf
This document was used to obtain information about the results of the 2008 DCF meeting. The document summarizes the major outcomes of the meeting as well as goals the members set. The President's summary provides an overview of all issues discussed and is useful in providing more detailed information about the 2008 meeting.

United Nations General Assembly. (2006, July 12.) *Follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit (A/RES/60/265)*. Retrieved August 27, 2008, from http://www.ngocongo.org/files/ga_res_60_265.pdf
The 2005 World Summit was an important event in the UN as it was held to monitor progress that had been made by the international community in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. This resolution provides information on the results of the 2005 World Summit as well as background information on the summit itself. The resolution is a good beginning point for delegates as it provides a base knowledge that can be built upon by further research and can provide useful information for delegates in researching further the activities of ECOSOC.

United Nations Office of the Under-Secretary General. (2005, December 1). *Presentation by Mr. José Antonio Ocampo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs to the informal consultations of the General Assembly on follow-up to the Summit outcome on development and ECOSOC reform*. Retrieved August 27, 2008, from http://www.un.org/esa/desa/ousg/statements/2005/20051201_ga_informals.html
This document serves an example of how important and necessary ECOSOC reform has become. The presentation praises the council for its work in the World Summit as well as outlines key objectives for reform. This presentation was used for inside information on how members of the UN view reform and what has been taking place in the recent years.

I. Partnering for Development: Partnerships between Developed and Developing States

Dossal, A. A. (n.d.). UNFIP: Partnerships Beyond Borders. *UN Chronicle Online Edition*. Retrieved from

http://www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/2001/issue4/0104p58_2.html

This article is the first in the series that examines the role of non-state participants in development partnerships. The efforts made by the UN particularly the creation of the United Nations Foundation for International Partnerships developed a gateway and conduit for the UN's work with the private sector and civil society. It is also a good reference on current on-going partnerships such as the First on the Ground initiative.

Frechette, L. (2005, November 10). *Innovative UN Partnerships Critical for Achieving Millennium Development Goals*. Address presented at Philanthropy Conference, Melbourne. Retrieved August 14, 2008 from <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2005/dsgsm269.doc.htm>

At the close of the fifth year for trying to achieve the MDGs, UN officials applauded the work and contributions made but stresses that there is still a lot more work to be done. At a 2005 philanthropy conference, Deputy Secretary-General Frechette while commending the work done to create more partnerships, also reviews the progress that still needs to be made to achieve the MDGs. The key, however, is in the achievement of MDG 8.

Millennium Project. (2005). *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals: An Overview*. New York: United Nations Development Programme. Retrieved August 15, 2008, from <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/MainReportComplete-lowres.pdf>

This report to the UN Secretary-General is part of the UN Millennium Project which was commissioned by the Secretary-General to develop strategies for achieving the MDGs by the target date of 2015. The committee makes several recommendations to achieve the MDGs as well as suggestions on how to accomplish this. For example by focusing on the Monterrey Consensus framework the task force suggests that MDG ODA targets are feasible.

United Nations (Ed.). (1945). *Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice*. San Francisco.

In 1945, members of the international community met in order to develop a solution to prevent future generations from experiencing the global events such as World War I and World War II. The result was the development of the United Nations. This work is important as it lays out the principles and purposes, of the United Nations Organization. In addition it also describes the responsibilities, structure and power of the UN's main organs such as the Economic and Social Council.

United Nations. General Assembly. (2001). *Brussels Declaration* (A/CONF.191/12). Retrieved September 16, 2008, from <http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/aconf191d12.en.pdf>

The outcome of the 2001 Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries was the Brussels Declaration. This document recognized that the goals of past documents such as the Millennium Declaration and past conferences such as the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries had not yet been met. The Declaration states that successful development is dependent upon both the actions of developed and developing nations.

United Nations. General Assembly. 58th Session. (2004, May 17) *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit and integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields* (A/Res/58/291). Retrieved September 16, 2008, from

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N03/511/98/PDF/N0351198.pdf?OpenElement>

The UN continues its work towards achieving the MDGs through resolutions and the convening of high-level conferences and meetings as well as continued comprehensive reports. GA Resolution 58/291 confirms a 2005 high-level meeting as well as arranging its logistical coordination.

United Nations. General Assembly. 59th Session. (2005, March 7) *Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the Millennium Project* (A/59/727). Retrieved September 12, 2008, from

http://www.un.org/ga/59/hl60_plenarymeeting.html

A successful outcome of the goals discussed at the 2000 Millennium Summit is a critical priority for the United Nations community. As such, Secretary-General Kofi Annan commissioned a task force designed to review the goals and make recommendations for their achievement. The conclusions of the report were

mixed and have prompted continued review of their progress. This note by Annan is designed to re-iterate this message.

United Nations. General Assembly. (1970). *International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade* (A/RES/2626). Retrieved September 12, 2008 from, <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/348/91/IMG/NR034891.pdf?OpenElement>
Development assistance has been a key goal of the United Nations for several decades. The importance of this resolution is that it sets the official development assistance target at 0.7. While this target is still the official target, few countries have actually met the target prompting UN leaders to urge developed countries to increase their efforts.

United Nations. General Assembly. 52nd Session. (1998, February 4) *Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s* (A/RES/52/187). Retrieved September 12, 2008, from http://www.un.org/events/ldc3/prepcom/52_187.pdf
The UN community when reviewing the results of the Programme of Action of the 1990s made several observations. First, it is noted that there is a concern in a reduced flow of development resources. It also decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in order to continue to review and implement development assistance programs.

United Nations. General Assembly. (2001, June 8). *Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010* (A/Conf.191/111). Retrieved September 16, 2008, from http://www.unctad.org/english/about_unctad/docs/POA_LDC-english.pdf
Least Developed Countries represent the greatest need for international development assistance. As these countries, cannot create development programs for themselves due to the lack of necessary resources, the UN calls upon the developed countries to partner with developing countries. This program focuses on the policies for both developed and developing countries.

United Nations. General Assembly. 55th Session. (2000). *United Nations Millennium Declaration* (A/55/L2). Retrieved September 9, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>
One of the major outcomes of the 2000 Millennium Summit was the Millennium Declaration. In the document the UN not only reaffirms the role of the UN for the challenges and needs confronting the 21st century but it also outline the eight Millennium Development Goals designed to significantly aid global development in a 15 year time period. In addition to outlining the eight MDGs, the declaration highlights the pledge among the UN Member states that to achieve these goals a commitment to a partnership of collective responsibility.

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session. (2008, March 7) *New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support* (A/Res/62/179). Retrieved September 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/africa/osaa/OSAA%20Resolutions/NEPAD%20Resolution%20March%202008.pdf>
Africa remains a continent that requires a great deal more assistance in achieving the MDGs. However, this resolution cites the recent progress that has been made specifically citing the independent efforts of the African nations as well as there work in developing regional partnerships. While, the UN community supports these regional and independent initiatives, it also stresses the importance of the role of the international community specifically with financial assistance such as enhanced ODA and debt relief. The response of the international community in development efforts is an important factor in achieving the MDGs but there is also a great deal of responsibility and emphasis place on the African states to develop sound national policies.

United Nations. General Assembly. (2001, September 20). *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries* (A/CONF.191/13). Retrieved September 15, 2008, from www.unctad.org/en/docs/aconf191d13.en.pdf
Least Developed Countries continue to be a group of states that suffer from a lack of development opportunities as well as the effect of poverty. Taking into account the Millennium Declaration, several efforts have been made to address these issues such as the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010. The UN issued report not only included the Brussels Declaration but also laid out a partnership framework to assist the citizens of LDCs. The framework included mobilizing

financial resources to work at both the national and international levels.

United Nations. (2008). *Millennium Development Goals Report 2008*. Retrieved September 19, 2008, from http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mdg/Resources/Static/Products/Progress2008/MDG_Report_2008_En.pdf
With the 2015 target date for the MDGs quickly approaching, the United Nations community continues to monitor the strengths and weaknesses of the program. While there have been strengths one of the largest areas of concern is the lagging of financial development assistance which continues to decline. The report looks specifically at the goals so that further recommendations for their achievement can be made.

United Nations. (2003). *Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development*. Retrieved from <http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/monterrey/MonterreyConsensus.pdf>
In 2002, global heads of state met in Monterrey, Mexico to discuss the challenges confronting the development and the response from the global community. The outcome of the international conference was The Monterrey Consensus which has become a major framework in how to partner internationally to develop new sources of financing development. In addition, the conference also focused on addressing the need to remain committed to prior commitments such as the previously agreed upon levels of official development assistance.

United Nations Department of Public Information. (2005). *The 2005 World Summit: An Overview*. Retrieved September 19, 2008, from, <http://www.un.org/ga/documents/overview2005summit.pdf>
The 2005 World Summit was a high-level segment event designed to address several topics including development, security and reform. One of the main topics discussed was official development assistance and how to make it more accessible as well as ensuring its contribution from developed nations. Despite the promised made by many developed nations, lagging ODA contributions continues to be a problem.

United Nations Department of Public Information. (2007, July). *The Millennium Development Goals Report: UN Report Points to Serious Shortfalls in Development Aid, 2007*. Retrieved July 26, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/mdg2007-donorpr.pdf>
July 2007 marked the midpoint for achieving the MDGS leading to the review of their success. Despite the commitments made at the Millennium Summit, the Monterrey Conference on International Financing for Development, and the World Summit, the UN Secretary-General warns that the anticipated rates are lagging. The document highlights the weaknesses that exist and what is needed to achieve the MDG target date.

United Nations Department of Public Information. (2008, February 19). *Press Conference by Special Adviser on Innovative Financing for Development*. Retrieved August 3, 2008, from http://www.un.org/News/briefings/docs/2008/080219_Douste-Blazy.doc.htm
Concern among the UN community exists as development assistance has declined for the first time in times years. In 2008, ODA declined for a second consecutive year. Knowing that the halfway point for achieving the MDGs has passed, UN leaders are looking for new ways to finance development which include the creation of a UN special adviser for this particular issue. Special Adviser Douste-Blazy attempts to revitalize the ODA commitments and efforts by emphasizing and encouraging the members of the broader global community which include the private sector, civil society and foundations.

United Nations Development Programme. (2000). *About the MDGs: Basics*. Retrieved August 3, 2008, from <http://www.undp.org/mdg/basics.shtml>.
In 2000 at the Millennium Summit, world leaders and heads of state agreed to a fifteen year plan consisting of eight goals to increase global development and lessen poverty. These eight goals range in scope from eradicating poverty and hunger to ensuring environmental sustainability to developing global partnerships. The overview explains the eight goals, the targets and indicators used to measure the goals as well as information on the regularly scheduled follow up reports and conferences. As the global community progresses closer to the 2015 target date numerous reports and studies have been issued to evaluate the levels of achievement such as the annual report issued by the Secretary-General.

United Nations Development Programme. (2000). *Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development*. In *Millennium Development Goals*. Retrieved August 3, 2008, from <http://www.undp.org/mdg/goal8.shtml>

Achieving the MDGs is an effort that is been undertaken by all members of the UN community. The importance of this website is the description of the Millennium Development Goal 8. It addresses the indicators and targets that are necessary to achieve the goal. By setting specific targets members of the international community can have a framework and guidelines to work towards achieving. Several of the targets are designed to address the special needs of LDC's and Small Island Developing States.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. (2005). *Implementing. The Monterrey Consensus in the Asian and Pacific Region: Achieving Coherence and Consistency*. Retrieved September 17, 2008, from http://www.unescap.org/pdd/publications/themestudy2005/ThemeStudy05_full.pdf
The Asian and Pacific region has achieved a high level of economic growth. However, despite this boom in economic growth there are also significant weaknesses in the region. There exists a large disparity gap between the rich and the poor as well as a gap or a large ageing population that will bring with it significant financial issues and burden. This purpose of this report is to draw attention to these emerging issues which can allow for both regional and global partnerships.

United Nations Fund for International Partnerships. (2006, March 21). *Public-Private Partnerships at the United Nations, UNF/UNFIP: A Story of Generosity, Thoughtfulness, and Accomplishment*. Retrieved August 1, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/partnerships/YLatestUpdate2006.htm>
Since the end of the Cold War there has been a large influx in the partnerships between the private organizations and nations. This influx is due in part to the interdependence of the international community. Focus areas for the UNF/UNFIP include children's health, the environment and women and population. This article describes in detail the creation of the UNF/UNFIP partnership, its operations and its achievements.

United Nations Global Compact. (2008, March 28). *What is the Global Compact?* Retrieved September 17, 2008, from <http://www.unglobalcompact.org/AboutTheGC/index.html>.
The past decade has seen an increase in the participation of business and the private sector in supporting development. The Global Compact is unique in that it is a completely voluntary initiative. The overview of the UN Global Compact discusses its principles, purposes, benefits and objectives. The UN Global Compact currently has 5500 corporate participants in 130 countries.

United Nations Office for Partnerships. (n.d.). *Overview*. Retrieved September 17, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/unop/YAboutUs.htm>.
Collective responsibility and developing global partnerships are all initiatives supported by the UN. As more states and organizations began to involve themselves in UN partnerships it was necessary to create a gateway within the UN organization to coordinate. Currently, UNOP coordinates two unique components of the UN partnership system, the UNFIP and the UNDEF. This overview explains the policies and procedures of the UNOP.

United Nations Office for Partnerships. (n.d.). *A Selection of Partnership Initiatives*. Retrieved September 17, 2008 from <http://www.un.org/partnerships/YPartnershipInitiatives.htm>
One of the responsibilities of the UNOP is coordinating among the different partners the current partnerships that are being undertaken. This site gives an overview of these current initiatives ranging from financial development assistance to women's health issues. Especially the variety of different partnerships helps to develop an idea how broad these initiatives are.

United Nations Office for Partnerships. (n.d.). *Structure*. Retrieved September 17, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/unop/YStructure.htm>.
The United Nations Office for Partnerships serving as a gateway is responsible for the coordination of all of the UN different partnerships. A well designed administrative structure is necessary to facilitate this function. The organization chart included in this website helps to answer questions about the organization and structure of the department.

United Nations Office of Partnerships. (n.d.). *Thematic Financing*. Retrieved September 15, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/partnerships/YFCThematic.htm>
The achievements of the UNFIP-UNF partnership is an excellent example of how UN partners have come

together to create and implement different development projects. This website shows the amount of funds that have been directed and spent on different projects ranging from children's health to environmental sustainability. Children's health projects currently receive the largest percentage of funding more than the other areas combined.

United Nations Office for Partnerships. (n.d.). *What is the UN Fund for International Partnerships?* Retrieved September 17, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/unop/YWhatIsUNFIP.htm>.

The principle of collective responsibility stated in UN documents such as the Brussels Declaration is evident in UN departments such as the UN Fund for International Partnerships. The UNFIP is responsible for serving as the point of contact for the UN Foundation to work with the UN system. This overview of the UNFIP department focuses on its purpose, priorities, and advisory board.

Additional Sources

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. (n.d.) *International Development Statistics Online Database on Aid and Other Resource Flows*. Retrieved September 22, 2008 from <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/50/17/5037721.htm>.

For the second straight year international development assistance has declined. This prompts concern as without this aid it makes the achievement of the MDGs harder to achieve. This database gives access to numerous information of international aid as well as other distributed resources.

United Nations Democracy Fund. (n.d.). *Basic Information*. Retrieved September 22, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/democracyfund/XUNDEFBasicInformation.htm>

The United Nations Office for Partnerships serves as the gateway for coordinating the activities among the different partnership initiatives of the UN system. One of the bodies UNOP coordinates with is the United Nations Democracy Fund or the UNDEF, which is responsible for working with nations to assist with democratization. The purpose of the UNDEF is to promote and facilitate democracy abroad by providing assistance to civil society, foundations and states trying to promote democratization.

United Nations Foundation. (n.d.). *Working with the UN*. Retrieved September 13, 2008, from <http://www.unfoundation.org/about-unf/working-with-the-un/>

The UN Foundation is one of the earliest examples of UN partnerships from a non-state participant. Due to a private contribution and pledge, the UN Foundation has been able to partner with the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships. This source will give an overview of the current projects of the UN Foundation as well as their current priorities.

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session, (2006, April 12). *Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries* (A/Res/62/11). Retrieved September 19, 2008, from <http://intranet.unescap.org/LDCCU/PICs-SIDs/Special%20Body/9th-Jakarta-Apr2006/Resolution62-11.doc>

Addressing issues of development and poverty are issues addressed in the Millennium Declaration, the Programme for Action for Least Developed States and the Brussels Declaration all of which are recalled in this resolution. Drafted by the Economic and Social Commission of Asia, it is an example of partners at the regional level. ESCAP reaffirms the commitments made at previous conferences and summits as well as those made in previous resolutions and makes a continued commitment to helping LDCs.

United Nations Global Compact. (2008, May 15). *Communicating on Progress*. Retrieved September 17, 2008 from <http://www.unglobalcompact.org/COP/index.html>.

As a citizen and voluntary initiative and to prompt others to join, it is necessary to measure the progress of the organization. In order to analyze the success of the Global Compact a database has been created in order to measure the progress of the participants through accountability mechanisms. This database allows the user to search by region, countries, or priority to view the progress of participants and to determine their progress to their principles as well as those of the UN.

United Nations Global Compact. (n.d.). *Participants and Stakeholders*. Retrieved September 17, 2008, from http://www.unglobalcompact.org/ParticipantsAndStakeholders/search_participant.html

Accountability and communication are necessary components for the successful implementation of the

goals and principles of the UN Global Compact. As a completely voluntary and citizen initiative, the partnership relies on the support and participation of the broader international community. This database allows user to search for the Global Compact's participants and stakeholders as well as giving information on their participation.

United Nations Technical Cooperation. (n.d.). *National Development Strategies Policy Notes*. Retrieved September 22, 2008, from <http://esa.un.org/techcoop/policyNotes.asp>

This decade has seen the convening of several high level conferences regarding development and development strategy. This conferences include the 2001 Third UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the 2002 World Conference on International Financing for Development and the 2005 World Summit. The outcome of the events were an agreed upon set of development goals that required a comprehensive and well developed strategy to implement. This database uses UN knowledge as well as outside expertise to provide developing as well as developed nations with a series of suggestions and alternatives to reach these goals.

II. Working towards the Achievement of Millennium Development Goal 7: Ensuring Environmental Sustainability

Ban, K.-M. (n.d.). Foreword. *The Millenium Development Goals Report 2008*, 3. Retrieved September 13, 2008, from

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/The%20Millennium%20Development%20Goals%20Report%202008.pdf>

In his foreword to the Millennium Development Goals Report 2008 Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon points out that the world is not on track to meet the MDGs. He especially points out that to have missed to give issues as climate change adequate attention in the past has led to bigger problems in the present and the future. He outlines the importance for collective action by showing the impact of the current economic slowdown and food security crisis on developing countries.

Biaou, R. (2005). Centrality of Environmental Sustainability in Achieving the MDGs. In *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals - Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, pp. 135-136. New York: United Nations, Economic and Social Council. Retrieved August 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/docs/achieving01.shtml>

Benin's Minister of Foreign Affairs has been a leading voice in the discussions regarding the lives of people living in slums. In his writing, he stresses the importance of sustainable ecosystems in order to achieve all other MDGs. The Minister demonstrates the interconnected nature of environmental developments on human economic and social development by emphasizing the impact of desertification on African states.

Birnie, P. (1993). The UN and the Environment. In A. Roberts & B. Kingsbury, *United Nations, Divided World*, 2nd ed., pp. 327-383. New York: Oxford University Press. (Original work published 1988)

This article is an excellent starting point for delegates research. It gives a brief introduction into the history of environmental programs within the framework of the United Nations. It specifically analyzes the possibilities of ECOSOC regarding actions against environmental problems. This article also points out all basic environmental agreements and gives a short analysis of their strengths and weaknesses.

Browne, J. (2004, July). Beyond Kyoto. *Foreign Affairs*, 83(4), 20-32.

The former Chief Executive of BP analyzes the achievements of the Kyoto Protocol in this writing. He stresses the responsibility of governments from developed countries to be more active regarding the reduction of carbon dioxide through more investments in research and creation of incentives. Being the Chief of Europe's biggest oil company he points out that the private sector has already taken steps in order to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide.

Davis, M. (2007). *Planet der Slums [Planet of Slums]*. Berlin.

Half the world's population lives in urban areas. The author criticizes that health, justice and social issues connected with slum dwelling are not noticed in world politics. Poor urban communities worldwide are explicitly described with a focus on individual communities but also specific sub topics are described and

analyzed.

- Deke, O. (2008). *Environmental Policy Instruments for Conserving Global Biodiversity*. Kiel Studies 339. Berlin, Germany: Springer-Verlag.
Scientific aspects of biodiversity and how they can be used to preserve biodiversity are addressed in this book. Also the functions, effects, and mechanisms of the Global Environment Facility to establish and manage protected areas are analyzed. The author argues that neither of those instruments are effective enough to preserve global biodiversity on a global level.
- Fomerand, J. (2004). Agent of Change: The United Nations and Development. In J. E. Krasno, *The United Nations: Confronting the Challenges of Global Society*, pp. 163-191. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers.
The importance of ECOSOC in dealing with sustainable development is outlined in this text. The author stresses the close relationship of ECOSOC with non-governmental organizations. He identifies the role of the UN in development as one of the biggest challenges to meet in the 21st century.
- Girardin, B. (2005). A Paradigm Shift on Environmental Sustainability and Development. In *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals - Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, pp. 136-138. New York: United Nations, Economic and Social Council. Retrieved from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/docs/achieving01.shtml>
The French minister of development cooperation and de la francophonie calls for the integration of environmental aspects into national policies and programs as mentioned in the Johannesburg Plan of Action. The author also gives a specific plan for the transformation of UNEP into an United Nations Environment Organization. Key issues outlined by an informal group of 26 countries for future environmental governance are outlined including use of scientific experts and effective use of financial resources.
- Karns, M. P., & Mingst, K. A. (2004). *International Organizations: The Politics and Processes of Global Governance*. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers.
Global governance is analyzed with regard to different actors. These include international organizations like the UN but also civil society and NGOs. Especially the role of NGOs in environmental government is outlined pointing out their weaknesses and powers in influencing global environmental policy.
- Melnick, D., McNeely, J., Kakabadse Navarro, Y., Schmidt-Traub, G., & Sears, R. R. (2005). *Environment and human well-being: a practical strategy*. New York: UN Millennium Project. Retrieved August 1, 2008, from http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/reports/tf_environment.htm
The Task Force of the Millennium Project consist of 250 experts from around the world including scientists; policymakers; representatives of NGOs, UN agencies, the World Bank, IMF and the private sector. Ten recommendations in order to achieve environmental sustainability in the fields of agriculture, forest managements, water, climate change, and fisheries are outlined in this report. It provides a detailed analysis of the connection of MDG 7 with the other Millennium Development Goals.
- Moore, J. A., Jr., & Pubantz, J. (Eds.). (2002). *Encyclopedia of the United Nations*. New York: Facts on File.
This encyclopedia provides an excellent introduction into several topics concerning the United Nations. Environment is analyzed in regard to sustainable development, atmosphere and climate change, marine resources and water pollution, biodiversity and natural resources, deforestation and desertification. It serves as a good starting point for delegates' research with excellent introductions into several topics concerning the UN, especially the environmental issues.
- Oberthür, S. (1999). *The Kyoto protocol: international climate policy for the 21st century*. Berlin: Springer.
This book gives a detailed overview of the international development that led to the Kyoto Protocol. It analyzes the negotiations and the positions of the drivers and the critics of this agreement. The consequences of the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol are outlined regarding their impact on economic, political, and legal issues.
- Rechkemmer, A. (2005). *Global Governance and UN Reform - Challenges and Opportunities for Environment and Human Security [Brochure]*. Bonn, Germany: United Nations University.

The Executive Director of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change stresses the need to include the aspect of human security into the discussion about environmental dangers. The establishment of a UN Environmental Organization as well as reforming the overall UN system is emphasized as important steps in that direction. He also calls for the inclusion of human development in that discussion in order to address the challenges of the 21st century.

Rechkemmer, A. (2005, November). Globale Umweltpolitik 2005. Perspektiven im Kontext der Reform der Vereinten Nationen [Global Environmental Policy 2005. Perspectives in the context of the reform of the United Nations]. *SWP-Studie* [Study of the German Institute for International Politics and Security], S 45, 5-29. Retrieved July 20, 2008, from http://www.swp-berlin.org/de/produkte/swp_studie.php?id=3933&active=swp-studien&PHPSESSID=104ca8438f75f233e6db0bad46691cfc

The current challenges of global environmental politics are outlined in this article including a short overview of environmental policy within the framework of the UN. The author sums up the basic approaches towards a future global environmental governance especially focusing on the Cartagena Process and the French proposal for a UN Environment Organization. In the fields of water as well as climate and energy the author gives specific examples for global environmental governance.

Sand, P. H. (Ed.). (1992). *The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development: The effectiveness of international environmental agreements. A survey of existing legal instruments*. Cambridge: Grotius Publications.

The analysis provided in this book covers existing international agreements and international legal instruments in the environmental field. These include areas like marine environment and marine pollution, transboundary freshwaters as well as environmental disputes. Central critique of this study is that the basic objectives of most agreements are formulated in highly general and abstract terms which make them difficult to evaluate.

Text of the Convention on Biological Diversity. (n.d.). *Convention on Biological Diversity*. Retrieved August 3, 2008, from <http://www.cbd.int/>

The Convention on Biological Diversity was adopted on the Earth Summit 1992 in Rio with the goal to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. On this website of the United Nations Environment Programme delegates can access information about all aspects of the Convention on Biological Diversity. It analyzes thematic programs, mechanisms and cross-cutting issues.

Tibajjuka, A. (2005). Sustainable Urbanization. In *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals - Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, pp. 143-146. New York: United Nations, Economic and Social Council. Retrieved August 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/docs/achieving01.shtml>

The Director of UN-HABITAT focuses on slum dwellers and the need for basic sanitation and access to water. The key point is the necessity to act on the local level. She points out several instruments with which those problems should be conquered and how they should be used best.

Tiyanto, P. (2005). International Debate on Environmental Sustainability - Focusing on UNEP Governing Council. In *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals - Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, pp. 139-140. New York: United Nations, Economic and Social Council. Retrieved August 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/docs/achieving01.shtml>

The Indonesian Ambassador to the UN calls for collaborative action and to focus on international partnerships in order to successfully achieve the MDGs. The central point of this text concerns an integrated water resources management. In this context he stresses the impact of the Tsunami in 2004 and calls for assistance for developing countries in the fields of data gathering or environment law.

Töpfer, K. (1992). Preface. In R. J. Goodland, *Nach dem Brundtland Bericht: umweltverträgliche wirtschaftliche Entwicklung*. Bonn, Germany: Deutsches Nationalkomitee der UNESCO.

The limits of the growth of world economy are examined in this study. This question is analyzed with regard to the results of the report of the Brundtland Commission. The author calls for an environmentally sound economic development.

- Töpfer, K. (2005). Nature's Capital and the Millennium Development Goals. In *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals - Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*, p. 141/142. New York: United Nations, Economic and Social Council. Retrieved August 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/docs/achieving01.shtml>
The former Director of UNEP emphasizes the economic value of the environmental resources. Directly addressing ECOSOC he gives concrete ideas for plans of action to be taken by Member States in order to conquer the problem of climate change. Those include targeted investments in several environmental areas a provide delegates with a good starting point for their preparation.
- United Nations. (n.d.). *Millennium Declaration*. Retrieved August 20, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/millennium/summit.htm>
In September 2000 the General Assembly adopted the Millennium Declarations which outlines the major challenges and objectives for the UN in the 21st century. For the first time in history, all heads of state agreed on common goals that need to be reached by 2015. From this website delegates can access the Millennium Declaration as well as background information including follow-up reports and statements by each country.
- United Nations. Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (2007). *Indicators of Sustainable Development: Guidelines and Methodologies* (3rd ed.). New York: United Nations. Retrieved September 14, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/publications/publications.htm>
The indicators for sustainable development and how they are applied is outlined in this report. A special focus lies on the relationship with the MDG indicators. Indicators for sustainable development are defined and described for several specific areas.
- United Nations Development Programme. (2008). *Capacity Development: Empowering People and Institutions. United Nations Development Programme, Annual Report 2008*. Retrieved July 29, 2008, from United Nations Web site: <http://www.undp.org/publications/annualreport2008/>
Each year the United Nations Development Programme issues a report which analyzes the current development of countries worldwide. It specifically focuses on capacity development and the achievement of the MDGs. The Report reflects capacity building regarding environment and sustainable development through the Global Environment Facility.
- United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (2005). *Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals - Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council*. New York: United Nations, Economic and Social Council. Retrieved July 27, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/docs/achieving01.shtml>
The outcomes of the High-Level Segment of the ECOSOC in 2005 are summarized in this report. It dealt with achieving the internationally agreed Development Goals. Different short analyzes focus on deforestation, biodiversity, slums, and water. It also addresses the role of ECOSOC and NGOs.
- Victor, D. (2006, January). Recovering Sustainable Development. *Foreign Affairs*, 85(1), 91-103.
The Director of the Program on Energy and Sustainable Development at Stanford University discusses problems and criticism about global environmental policy both from the perspective of developing and developed countries. The current implementation of the MDGs is criticized. He proposes a bottom-up approach in order to achieve the MDGs.
- Victor, D. G., & Ausubel, J. H. (2000, November). Restoring the forests. *Foreign Affairs*, 79(No. 6), 127-144.
The author analyzes obstacles of reforestation and provides several ideas to conquer the problem of deforestation. He stresses that binding international environmental treaties can only work effectively if they include detailed commitments to which governments can comply. However in the field of forests he outlines that each country and region needs different approaches and therefore proposes non-binding but clear and quantitative measurable goals for reforestation agreements.
- Weiss, T. G., Forsythe, D. P., & Coate, R. A. (1994). *The United Nations and Changing World Politics*. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press.
Sustainable development and ecodevelopment are identified as one the key areas for the UN in the 21st century. The UN's future in its ability to address the need for new institutional framework is analyzed

especially regarding the changing nature of conflict. The authors point out the growing influence of NGOs on global environmental policy.

White, N. D. (2002). *The United Nations System. Toward International Justice*. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Protecting the environment is considered the most difficult UN value to achieve. The author states that considering standard-setting, interpretation, and enforcement in the environmental field the UN has made only little progress. He stresses that progress can only be achieved if all states or at least the vast majority adheres to their promises.

Additional Sources

Linden, E. (1996, January). The Exploding Cities of the Developing World. *Foreign Affairs*. Retrieved August 26, 2008, from <http://www.foreignaffairs.org/19960101faessay4171/eugene-linden/the-exploding-cities-of-the-developing-world.html>

The author examines megacities in the developing world. The focus lies on pollution and diseases. The author stresses the importance of urban areas for the development of whole regions and countries. Control of new diseases and drug-resistant strains of old diseases are pointed out as central problems of slums.

Markus, D., & Amelung, T. (1992). *Deforestation of tropical rain forests: economic causes and impact on development. Kieler Studien 241*. Tübingen, Germany: J.C.B. Mohr.

Economic challenges that face tropical countries trying to protect the environment are analyzed in this study. The authors examine the causes for deforestation and exploitation of mineral resources based on detailed data from several tropical countries. They call for a special consideration to the economic evaluation of the ecological services of intact forests.

MDG Monitor. (n.d.). Retrieved July 24, 2008, from <http://www.mdgmonitor.org/>

This website provides delegates with information about the current progress made towards the achievement of the MDGs. It also provides background information to each target and related legal documents. It features interactive maps and detailed country specific information.

Najam, A. (2005). The Case Against a New International Environmental Organization. In P. F. Diehl, *The Politics of Global Governance. International Organizations in an Interdependent World*, 3rd ed., 398-414. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

The need to reform the organizational structure of global environmental governance is the central issue in this text. The author argues that the discussion about a new central environmental organization distracts attention from other important challenges. Nevertheless he calls for more coordination within the context of the larger challenge of reform.

Osborn, D., & Tom, B. (1998). *Earth Summit II. Outcomes and Analysis*. London: Earthscan Publications Limited.

The Earth Summit in Rio and its follow-up Rio+5 are outlined regarding the progress that is and is not made and determines the causes for that. It also provides an outlook for the Earth Summit in Johannesburg. This book includes the principal official documents agreed at the summit.

United Nations. (n.d.). *Agenda 21*. Retrieved September 8, 2008, from

<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/agenda21/index.htm>

Agenda 21 is the Plan of Action approved at the Earth Summit 1992 in Rio. It outlines the environmental and developmental challenges for the 21st century and sets national and international objectives. It also outlines the means to implement the agreed instruments.

United Nations. Economic and Social Council. (2008). *Integrated water resources development and management*.

Retrieved August 14, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/documents/ecosoc/res/1996/eres1996-50.htm>

The Economic and Social Council acknowledges the importance of water resource management. Current threats to water as natural resource are recognized in this resolution. Recommendations for governments how to deal with these challenges are provided in this resolution.

III. Increasing Coordination of Humanitarian Agencies with the UN System

British Broadcasting Corporation. (2007, December 12). *BBC In depth - Tsunami Disaster*. Retrieved August 26, 2008, from http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in_depth/world/2004/asia_quake_disaster/default.stm

The BBC coverage on the tsunami is extensive. It provides extensive information on the tsunami relief process as well as insight on the humanitarian agency coordination. The news brief also has up to date statistics on the disaster of the tsunami and what efforts are still being undertaken to rehabilitate the region.

Bui, T., Cho, S., Sankaran, S., & Sovereign, M. (2000, April). A Framework for Designing a Global Information Network for Multinational Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief. *Information Systems Frontiers*, 1 (4), 427-442.

This article explores the prospects of developing an information network for the international humanitarian network. The essay focuses on determining how humanitarian assistance and disaster relief could be efficiently progressed through a network that allows for information exchange, planning, coordination and negotiation. This article is a strong reference point when determining ways in which information technology can help develop the global capacities needed to increase effectiveness of humanitarian agencies coordination with the UN.

Economic and Social Council. (2008, July). *Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: Report of the Secretary-General [Unedited draft]*. Retrieved July 15, 2008, from

<http://www.un.org/ecosoc/docs/pdfs/ECOSOC%20Humanitarian%20Coordination%20Report%202008%20-%20advance%20unedited%20draft.pdf>

This unedited, draft report focuses on the humanitarian implications of climate change and the humanitarian challenges related to the current global food trends. The report provides an overview of current key processes to improve humanitarian coordination. It also includes recommendations for further strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations in relation to non-governmental organizations.

Helmer, M., Trobe, Tearfund, S. L., & Llosa, S. (2008, August 7). Humanitarian Agencies should Engage in UN Climate Change Negotiations. In *Climate-L.ORG [Opinion Brief]*. Retrieved August 22, 2008, from

<http://www.climate-l.org/2008/08/humanitarian-ag.html>

This opinion brief highlights the need of the international humanitarian agencies and disaster risk reduction organizations to engage in climate change negotiations. The brief discusses how the world leaders are currently engaging in the negotiation and that the international humanitarian community must utilize the opportunity to engage in this discussion in order to construct policies that would focus countries into being better prepared for climate-related disasters. Further to that, the brief discusses the need to lobby for the full implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action in the climate change debates.

Humanitarian Early Warning Service. (2007). *A Global Multi-Hazard Watch Service to Support Humanitarian Preparedness*. Retrieved August 22, 2008, from http://www.hewsweb.org/home_page/default.asp

The Humanitarian Early Warning Service is a service provided by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and developed by the World Food Programme. The service provides information on climate related problems such as droughts, floods, storms, locusts, volcanoes, seismic activities, etc. The service operates with the collaboration of key international and weather agencies. Such a service is extremely useful for the international humanitarian agency community and serves as one example of successful collaboration among the international humanitarian community.

Humanitarian Reform. (2008). *What is the Cluster Approach*. Retrieved August 26, 2008, from

<http://www.humanitarianreform.org/humanitarianreform/Default.aspx?tabid=70>

This website provides extensive information on the cluster approach. It describes the designated areas that specific international organizations have taken on as a responsibility during the emergency relief process. Delegates should be mindful of this particular focus of coordination that works on increasing accountability and structure to otherwise ad hoc initiatives of emergency response systems.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (n.d.) *Inter-Agency Standing Committee About Me Section*. Retrieved August 5, 2008 from <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/content/about/default.asp>

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee website is a useful tool for delegates that provides up to date information on the Committee's ongoing work. The website also contains information on the membership, and contains a list of helpful documents. Delegates should utilize this website fully in gathering information on the humanitarian response network.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee Sub-Working Group on Preparedness and Contingency Planning. (n.d.)

Challenges and Suggestions for Enhancing Inter-Agency Contingency Planning: Report of the 1st Global Consultation of Contingency Planners in Humanitarian Agencies. Retrieved August 25, 2008 from <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/content/products/docs/CP%20Consultation%20Final%207%20September%202007.pdf>

The 1st Global Consultation of Contingency Planners brings together representatives from a variety of different humanitarian agencies to discuss methods to enhance contingency planning in humanitarian relief campaigns. The report is a helpful resource for delegates to understand the complexities of united relief coordination, but also the need to develop practical solutions. The report includes recommendations for the IASC to further develop their contingency planning system.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (2008, July 23). *Food Crisis in West, Central and East Africa*. Retrieved August 27, 2008 from <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/content/documents/weekly/20080723-1551/Summary%20Note.doc>

The IASC weekly meeting notes provide a solid forum of understanding the organization's functioning. This meeting of July 23, 2008, which addressed the food crisis in West, Central and East Africa, reveals the methods and mechanisms acquired to address the humanitarian challenge. A Particular focus on multi-dimensional approaches to humanitarian assistance is an integral focus in the meeting minutes. Delegates are encouraged to go through the meeting notes to further understand complexities and challenges that the IASC faces in coordination endeavors.

International Council of Voluntary Agencies. (n.d.) *About ICVA*. Retrieved August 25, 2008 from

<http://www.icva.ch/about.html>

The website offers an example of the volunteer networks that exist for international humanitarian and human rights agencies. The website also contains country-specific information on crises. In addition, there is an abundance of issue-specific information that focuses on matters dealing with accountability, capacity building, and other important issues for the topic.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (n.d.) *Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR)*. Retrieved August 25, 2008 from <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/content/about/schr.asp>

The SCHR website is an essential website for delegates to understand how humanitarian agencies operate and coordinate with one another. The website includes publications and documents of the SCHR working groups. The SCHR also provides information on the peer reviews that the organizations conduct on one another in order to increase accountability of organization activity in countries of need.

Telford, J., & Cosgrave, J. (n.d.). *Joint Evaluation of the international response to the Indian Ocean tsunami*. In *Tsunami Evaluation Coalition* [Synthesis Report]. Retrieved September 1, 2008 from

<http://www.tsunami-evaluation.org/The+TEC+Synthesis+Report/Full+Report.htm>

This report investigates the tsunami-relief response. It is an important document in understanding the weaknesses in international humanitarian agency response to global emergencies. The report details these weaknesses and outlines a particular disconnect between national and international systems. Delegates should read this report and understand how centralizing and increasing coordination of humanitarian agencies can also help to provide more effective relief assistance.

United Nations Office of Geneva. (2008). *ECOSOC Opens Humanitarian Affairs Segment*. Retrieved July 18, 2008, from

[http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/0AA7582963714342C125731A0038E014?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/(httpNewsByYear_en)/0AA7582963714342C125731A0038E014?OpenDocument)

This media article provides a solid overview of ECOSOC's focused theme of "strengthening of the

coordination of the United Nations humanitarian assistance through enhancing the effectiveness of needs-based humanitarian assistance,” for the 2007 session. ECOSOC members discussed the challenges of focusing on active initiatives that respond to emergencies efficiently and effectively. The sessions also included discussions that addressed the increasing prevalence of climate-related natural and national disasters, particularly in the Global South. The session also included submissions of various reports that are essential resources in understanding the topic of UN coordination of humanitarian agencies by focusing on particular humanitarian issues.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (n.d.) *Humanitarian Funding*. Retrieved August 25, 2008 from <http://ochaonline.un.org/FundingFinance/tabid/1082/Default.aspx>
This website discusses humanitarian funds and the role that they play within international humanitarian relief works. The website lists the number of different funds - such as the Emergency Response Fund, Central Emergency Response Fund, and discusses their mechanisms of funding. The website is a good informational forum for which delegates can gain an understanding of the international humanitarian appeal process.

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. (2005). *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters*. Retrieved July 14, 2008 from <http://www.unisdr.org/eng/hfa/hfa.htm>
The Hyogo Framework for Action was the principle outcome of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction that was held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan from 18 to 22 January 2005. The framework outlines a list of priorities and implementation initiatives for participating countries to adopt in preparing and effectively addressing disaster emergencies. The framework addresses strategies and systemic approaches to risk and hazard reduction and is one of the most important, recent international documents addressing key issues within humanitarian relief.

United Nations – The Joint Inspection Unit. (2006). *Towards a United Nations Humanitarian Assistance Programme for Disaster Response and Reduction: Lessons Learned from the Indian Ocean Tsunami Disaster*. Retrieved July 18, 2008 from <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/lib.nsf/db900SID/EGUA-6XQSWW?OpenDocument>
The report focuses on the various international disaster relief initiatives. The report states that regardless of the physical reconstruction of the affected regions of the tsunami have progressed, the relief process are still met immense challenges. Furthermore, it states that it will take a number of years for individual households, and the wider economies on which they depend on, to recover from the most destructive disaster caused by nature in recorded history. The report includes 17 recommendations aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations humanitarian assistance system through establishment of a coherent governance and management framework as well as the dissemination of best practices, improved coordination, and the greater efficiency and enhanced accountability of resource use through the entire disaster management process.

United Nations News Centre. (2008). *UNA-UK address on ‘Securing the Common Good: The United Nations and the Expanding Global Agenda’*. Retrieved August 13, 2008 from http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocus/sgspeeches/search_full.asp?statID=262
Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s address to the UNA-UK discusses an overview of topics relevant to humanitarian aid. In his address, Secretary General Ban Ki-moon discusses the challenges of poverty, climate change, counter-terrorism and disarmament. Above all, the Secretary General provides testimony of the universal need to commit to humanitarian response to work together to address these challenges.

United Nations Development Programme Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. (2005, April). *The Post-Tsunami Recover in the Indian Ocean: Lessons Learned, Successes, Challenges and Future Action*. Retrieved August 22, 2008 from http://www.tsunami-evaluation.org/NR/rdonlyres/3DDAE427-D40D-4DB9-9AC4-BD7236ED5223/0/UNDP_Recovery_Lessons_Learned.pdf
Recognizing the need for the evaluation of relief coordination and assistance efforts, this report focuses on the strengths and weakness of the tsunami-relief response. The report engages the review by examining the gaps in emergency relief, rehabilitation and recovery processes. The report also explores how conflict-stricken countries dealt were problematic in receiving humanitarian assistance and recovery operations.

The report also highlights coordination activities and the need for increased governorship and of government capacities by way of increased engagement with NGOs, IGOs etc.

United Nations General Assembly. (1991). *Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations* (A/RES/46/182). Retrieved July 16, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/46/a46r182.htm>

This resolution focuses on international response to disaster relief. In focusing on the response capacity of countries, the resolution calls upon the cooperation of both intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. As well, the resolution urges the development of initiatives aimed at prevention, preparedness, state-capacity, coordination, cooperation, and leadership.

United Nations General Assembly. (1993). *Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance to the United Nations* (A/RES/48/57). Retrieved July 16, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r057.htm>

This resolution further addresses previous resolutions 46/182 and 47/168 and focuses on the increasingly complex natural disasters and emergencies that have occurred around the globe. The resolution also addresses the need for effective coordination of response to such humanitarian emergencies. This resolution also establishes the Inter-Agency Standing Committee as a primary central coordination center for the UN and humanitarian agencies.

United Nations General Assembly. (2007). *International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development* (A/RES/62/92). Retrieved July 16, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ga/62/resolutions.shtml>

This resolution adopted by the General Assembly calls for international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development. The Resolution focuses on the full implementation of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action. The Framework outlines initiatives for risk reduction that would help ensure a safer future, as was stated at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan from 18 to 22 January 2005.

United Nations General Assembly. (1971). *Assistance in case of natural disaster and other disaster situations* (A/RES/2816 (XXVI)). Retrieved August 14, 2008, from <http://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/7646989.html>

This General Assembly Resolution passed in 1971 provides a foundation for the principles of humanitarian aid. The resolution cited humanity, neutrality and impartiality as key principles in the overall humanitarian response system. The position of the UN Disaster Relief Coordinator was created in this resolution, with their official responsibilities and mandate outlined as well.

.World Conference on Disaster Reduction. (2005, January 22). *Road to the WCDR*. Retrieved August 25, 2008, from <http://www.unisdr.org/wcdr/>

The World Conference on Disaster Reduction has an extensive website. The website contains the official documents from the conference including the full script of the Hyogo Framework. This website is informative in understanding the varying levels of coordination - intergovernmental, thematic and public.

Additional Sources

Donini, A. (1996, June). *The Policies of Mercy: UN Coordination in Afghanistan, Mozambique and Rwanda*. Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University, Occasional Paper no.22. Retrieved November 6, 2008 from <http://reliefweb.int/rw/lib.nsf/db900SID/LGEL-5DEBWE?OpenDocument>

This paper examines the strengths and weaknesses of the coordination effort of the international community in Mozambique, Rwanda and Afghanistan. While primarily focusing on UN efforts in the three countries, there is also an examination of how the UN worked with NGOs and other international bodies as well. While the paper is from 1996, examining how the UN worked in these specific areas will provide delegates with a good historical overview of the crises and how coordination has worked in the past and could work in the present and future.

International Crisis Group. (2003, March 27). *War in Iraq: Managing Humanitarian Relief*. *Middle East Report*, No. 12. Retrieved November 5, 2008 from

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=1686&CFID=56583859&CFTOKEN=72106471>

The war in Iraq led to a huge humanitarian crisis, particularly at the outset of the war. While this report of the ICG is from 2003, it provides useful information on the situation of the country before the invasion. Delegates can observe how the situation has changed since the invasion and what steps and recommendations need to still be developed to help Iraq in their recovery.

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. (2007). *General Assembly Resolutions and Decisions on ISDR.*

Retrieved August 22, 2008, from http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about_isdr/bd-ga-resolution-eng.htm

This forum contains a number of substantial GA resolutions. The resolutions posted focus on international strategies for disaster reduction. Delegates wishing to understand the GA's role in disaster reduction and disaster relief organization coordination will find this website very resourceful.

Petitpierre, A. (2005, November). *Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including specific economic assistance* [Speech]. Retrieved November 5, 2008 from <http://www.icrc.org/Web/Eng/siteeng0.nsf/html/united-nations-statement-141105>

The International Committee of the Red Cross is perhaps the most well known and one of the most important humanitarian aid agencies in the world. In this speech that was given at the General Assembly's 60th session, Ms. Petitpierre, the vice-president of the ICRC outlines her organizations priorities when it comes to strengthening coordination of humanitarian aid agencies. This speech provides an excellent overview of how the ICRC and other similar organizations work within the UN system and how they view the topic of coordination, while also providing recommendations on how they believe the UN and aid agencies should work going forward.

Stephenson, M. (2005, December). Making humanitarian relief networks more effective: operational coordination, trust and sense making. *Disasters*, 29(4), 337-350.

Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance activities, particularly between UN bodies and NGOs, is something that still has not been achieved within the international community. This article discusses some of the reasons that this coordination has yet to be achieved within the international community and argues that all concerned parties to the topic need to begin a new dialogue on the topic and further work to enhance coordination.

United Nations Office at Geneva. (2007, July 17). *ECOSOC Adopts Resolutions on Strengthening UN Coordination of Emergency Humanitarian Assistance, Decent Work For All* [Press Release]. Retrieved November 5, 2008 from

[http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/3C83B5DD2B61A0DEC125731B00400C89?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/(httpNewsByYear_en)/3C83B5DD2B61A0DEC125731B00400C89?OpenDocument)

In this press release, the UNOG outlines the resolution that was adopted by ECOSOC on Strengthening Coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance. One major call of the resolution is urged Member States develop disaster preparedness plans on the local, regional and national level and to conduct regular disaster preparedness exercises. Besides discussing the resolution as a whole, the press release provides numerous briefings on country statements about the resolution, providing delegates with excellent information on various country and regional positions on the topic.

United Nations. (n.d.). *Inter Agency Coordination Mechanisms Chart*. Retrieved November 5, 2008 from

<http://www.reliefweb.int/idp/docs/references/CoordChart.pdf>

As there are numerous bodies within the United Nations that undertake humanitarian work, it is important for delegates to familiarize themselves with the basics of what each agency does and can do on the topic. This chart provides an excellent overview of the various mechanisms under the UN, their responsibilities and how they fit within the UN system.

Rules of Procedure Economic and Social Council

Introduction

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

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1 - Dates of convening and adjournment

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

Rule 2 - Place of Sessions

The Council 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 members of the United Nations at least 60 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 in the Council. Items on the agenda may be amended or deleted by the Council by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

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

Rule 5 - Revision of the agenda

During a session, the Council 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 Council so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item as of “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 Council to be placed on the agenda. The votes described in this rule are substantive votes, and as such, observers are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, “the members present and voting” means 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 his/her designate shall act in this capacity in all meetings of the Council.
2. The Secretary-General shall provide and direct the staff required by the Council 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 Council, and shall distribute documents of the Council to the Members of the United Nations, and generally perform all other work which the Council may require.

Rule 9 - Statements by the Secretariat

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

Rule 10 - Selection of the President

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

Rule 11 - Replacement of the President

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

IV. LANGUAGES

Rule 12 - Official and working language

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

Rule 13 - Interpretation

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

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

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 Council are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the body concerned shall be required for any decision to be taken.

For purposes of this rule, "members of the Council" and "members of the body" are based on the number of total members (not including observers) in attendance for the first night's session

Rule 15 - General powers of the President

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Council, 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 Council and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. She or he shall rule on points of order. She or he may propose to the Council 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 his or her discretion, upon the advice and at the consent of the Secretariat, to determine whether to entertain a particular motion based on the philosophy and principles of the NMUN. Such discretion should be used on a limited basis and only under circumstances where it is necessary to advance the educational mission of the Conference. For purposes of this rule, the President's power to "propose to the Council" entails his or her power to "entertain" motions, and not to move the body on his or her own motion.

Rule 16

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

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 session 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 Council 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 Council, and the President may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
3. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call him or her to order without delay.

In line with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN, in furtherance of its educational mission, and for the purpose of facilitating debate, if the President determines that the Council 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 his or her discretion, and on the advice and consent of the Secretariat, may rule as dilatory any additional motions to change the limits of the speaker's time.

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 consent of the Council, 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 Council.

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 Council. A motion to close the speaker's list is within the purview of the Council and the President should not on his own motion move the body.

Rule 21 - Right of reply

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

question shall be subject to appeal.

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

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 Council shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

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

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 only to two representatives favoring and two opposing the 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 his or her wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. Closure of debate shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. If the Council favors the closure of debate, the Council shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

Rule 26 - Order of motions

Subject to rule 21, 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 representatives present who would like the Council 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 Council 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 body for all purposes, including subsequent amendments.

For purposes of this rule, “representatives present” is based on the number of total representatives (including observers) in attendance at the first night’s session. 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 Council by the Secretariat. The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of that working paper. Along these lines, and in furtherance of the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and for the purpose of advancing its educational mission, representatives should not directly refer to the substance of a working paper that has not yet been accepted as a draft resolution/report. After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft resolution/report and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Council. These draft resolutions/reports are the collective property of the Council, 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 Council, 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” mean those representatives, including observers, in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

V. VOTING

Rule 30 - Voting rights

Each member of the Council shall have one vote.

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

Rule 31 - Request for a vote

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

For purposes of this rule, “proposal” means any draft resolution/report, an amendment thereto, or a portion of a draft resolution/report 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 vote.

Rule 32 - Majority required

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

All members declaring their representative states as “present and voting” during the attendance role call for the session during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative

vote, and cannot abstain.

Rule 33 - Method of voting

1. The Council 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

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

Rule 34 - Explanation 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 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 immediately after voting on the topic has come to an end.

Rule 35 - 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 connections with the actual process of voting.

Rule 36 - 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 37 - 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 38-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 39 - Order of voting on proposals

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

Rule 40 - The President shall not vote

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

VII. CREDENTIALS

Rule 41 - 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 42

The Council shall be bound by the actions of the General Assembly in all credentials matters and shall take no action regarding the credentials of any member.

VIII. SESSIONAL BODIES AND SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

Rule 43 - Establishment

The Council may establish and define the composition and the terms of reference of:

- (a) Functional Councils and regional Councils;
- (b) Sessional committees of the whole and other sessional bodies;
- (c) Standing and ad hoc committees.

Rule 44 - Discussion of reports of sessional committees of the whole

Discussion of a report of a sessional committee of the whole in a plenary meeting of the Council shall take place if at least one third of the members present and voting at the plenary meeting consider such discussion to be necessary. A motion to this effect shall not be debated but shall be put to the vote immediately.

IX. PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Rule 45 - Participation of non-Member States

1. The Council shall invite any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Council and any other State, to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.
2. A committee or sessional body of the Council shall invite any State that is not one of its own members to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.
3. A State thus invited shall not have the right to vote, but may submit proposals which may be put to the vote on request of any member of the body concerned.

If the Council considers that the presence of a Member invited according to this rule is no longer

necessary, it may withdraw the invitation again. Delegates invited to the Council according to this rule should also keep in mind their role and obligations in the committee that they were originally assigned to. For educational purposes of the NMUN Conference, the Secretariat may thus ask a delegate to return to his or her committee when his or her presence in the Council is no longer required.

Rule 46 - Participation of national liberation movements

The Council may invite any national liberation movement recognized by the General Assembly to participate, without the right to vote, in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that movement.

Rule 47 - Participation of and consultation with specialized agencies

With the approval of the Council or its committees, the specialized agencies shall be entitled to participate, without the right to vote, in deliberations with respect to items of concern to them and to submit proposals regarding such items which may be put to the vote at the request of any members of the Council or of the committee concerned.

Rule 48 - Participation of non-governmental organization and intergovernmental organizations

Representatives of non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations accorded consultative observer status by the General Assembly and other non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Council on the recommendation of the Bureau, may participate, with the procedural right to vote, but not the substantive right to vote, in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations.

X. MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION

Rule 49 - Invitation to silent prayer or meditation

Immediately after the opening of the first meeting of the Council, representatives may request to observe one minute