

NMUN • NY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY



NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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

BACKGROUND GUIDE 2009

NATIONAL
COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE
association™

WRITTEN BY:
Mike Aguilar
Brianna Noler
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Melissa Gonzalez

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Updates Posted to www.nmun.org.
1 March 2009	1 March 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). <i>All Conference Fees Due to NMUN for confirmed delegates.</i> (\$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,

We are pleased to welcome you to the 2009 National Model United Nations (NMUN). This year's General Assembly Plenary staff is: Directors Michael Aguilar and Brianna Noler, and Assistant Directors Amanda D'Amico and Melissa Morales Gonzalez. Michael graduated from American University, with an M.A. in International Peace & Conflict Resolution. He is currently working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, assisting in capacity building for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). This is his seventh year at NMUN and third on staff. Brianna graduated from California State University with B.A.s in English Linguistics and Political Science. She currently lives and works in New York City. This is her sixth NMUN and third year on staff. Amanda graduated from Ursinus College in 2007 with a degree in International Relations and is currently pursuing her M.A. from George Washington University. This is her fifth year at NMUN and her first year on staff. Melissa is a student at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus, and will be graduating in May 2009 with a BA in Political Science. This is her third year at NMUN and her first year on staff.

The topics under discussion for the General Assembly Plenary at the 2009 NMUN are:

- 1) New approaches to Nuclear Non Proliferation
- 2) The Impact of Migration on Development
- 3) Approaching United Nations Reform

The General Assembly Plenary is the most encompassing body in the United Nations system. As such, you will be researching and writing resolutions that have direct impact on the international community. Keep this in mind while you research your topics and write your position papers.

This background guide will serve as a brief introduction to the three topics listed. Accordingly, it is not meant to be used as an all inclusive analysis but as the groundwork for your own analysis and research. To conduct your research, please consult scholarly materials, including journals, international news, and the United Nations website, amongst others. You will also need to familiarize yourself with the work and current operations of the General Assembly.

Each delegation must submit a position paper. NMUN will accept position papers via e-mail by March 1st, 2009 for both venues. Please refer to the message from your Director General explaining the NMUN position paper requirements and restrictions. Delegates' adherence to these guidelines is crucial. NMUN can be one of the most rewarding academic experiences of your college career. We hope that this year's conference will not only intrigue you to participate again, but also that you find it as beneficial as we have. If you have any questions regarding preparation, please feel free to contact any of the General Assembly Plenary substantive staff or the Under-Secretaries General for the Department of General Assembly and Security Council, Amanda Williams (Marriott) and Rüdiger Schöch (Sheraton).

Good luck in your preparation for the conference. We look forward to seeing you in March!

Sheraton Venue
Brianna Noler
Director
Melissa Morales Gonzalez
Assistant-Director
Gaplenary.sheraton@nmun.org

Marriott Venue
Mike Aguilar
Director
Amanda D'Amico
Assistant-Director
Gaplenary.marriott@nmun.org

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 General Assembly Plenary

After witnessing the chaos and destruction of World War II, the 51 founding members of the UN combined their efforts to establish an international organization that would protect and promote international peace and security for future generations. In this spirit, the General Assembly (GA) was established in 1945 under Article 7 of the *Charter of the United Nations*. It is considered the most deliberative, representative, and democratic organ within the United Nations (UN).¹

The GA is currently composed of the 192 Member States of the UN, with each having one vote. Voting on important questions, such as peace and security matters, election of non-permanent members to the Security Council (SC), election of members to other councils, admission of new members, budgetary matters, and the election of the Secretary-General, as outlined in Article 18 of the *Charter*, requires a two-thirds majority of the votes; a simple majority decides other issues.² Special considerations for representation have been taken for entities that are not recognized as States under international law; they are given the status of Observer.³ Currently there are a total of 71 entities and organizations categorized as Observer in the General Assembly.⁴ Although they have no voting rights, they are allowed to be present during sessions, as well as share their reports with the Plenary Committee. Regular GA sessions are held every year from September to December. If required, special and emergency special sessions can take place during the year to highlight important subjects such as the environment, HIV/AIDS, or disarmament.⁵ An example of a special session is the *World Summit for Children* held in May 2002. The GA has adopted important resolutions and declarations throughout its past such as the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), the *Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women* (1979), and most recently, the *Millennium Declaration* (2000).⁶

Functions and Powers

Chapter IV of the *Charter* stipulates the powers that are assigned to the General Assembly.⁷ Article 10 of the *Charter* allows the GA to discuss any subject “within the scope of the Charter.”⁸ In order to discuss the various topics on the agenda, the GA has established six Main Committees to manage the extensive workload: First Committee (Disarmament and International Security Committee), Second Committee (Economic and Financial Committee), Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee), Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization Committee), Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary Committee) and the Sixth Committee (Legal Committee).⁹ Latest reports show that thirty committees (including the six Main Committees), seven commissions, six boards, five councils and panels, as well as several working groups and “others” report directly to the GA.¹⁰

The *Charter* also allows the GA to interact on a variety of topics with other UN organs. Article 11 of the UN Charter states that the GA can discuss, and make recommendations on matters related to international peace and security to Member States and the SC.¹¹ It is important to keep in mind that the primary responsibility on these matters rest within the SC, which can, unlike the GA, make legally binding decisions.¹² In addition, Article 11(2) states that the GA can discuss matters of international peace and security which have been presented by non-

¹ Field Haviland, *The Political Role of the General Assembly*, 1951, Foreword.

² United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Art. 18.

³ United Nations, General Assembly, *Growth in the United Nations Membership Since 1945*, 2008.

⁴ United Nations, General Assembly, 62nd Session, *List of non-Member States, Entities and Organizations having received a standing Invitation to participate as Observers in the Sessions and the Work of the General Assembly. Note by the Secretariat* (A/INF/62/6), 2008.

⁵ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Art. 20.

⁶ United Nations, General Assembly 62nd Session, *Landmark General Assembly Documents: A Selection*, 2008.

⁷ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Chapter IV.

⁸ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Art. 10.

⁹ United Nations, General Assembly 62nd Session, *Main Committees*, 2008.

¹⁰ United Nations, General Assembly, *Growth in the United Nations Membership Since 1945*, 2008.

¹¹ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Art. 11.

¹² Goodrich, Hambro, and Simons, *Charter of the United Nations: Commentary and Documents*, 1969, p. 202.

Member States with regard to Article 35(2) of the *Charter*.¹³ However, the GA cannot make recommendations with regards to a subject that is currently discussed by the SC, unless the SC consents to it.¹⁴ This measure was created in order to avoid interference and conflicting decisions between the two organs.¹⁵ The General Assembly may initiate reports and make recommendations for the “promotion of international cooperation, development and codification of International Law, the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and international collaboration in the economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, educational and health fields.”¹⁶ In addition, the General Assembly may consider reports from the SC and other UN organs such as the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).¹⁷ Resolution A/RES/377(V), “Uniting for Peace” (1950), allows the GA to take action if the SC fails to act, e.g. due to a veto of a permanent member, in matters where there is a “threat to peace, breach of peace or act of aggression.”¹⁸

Challenges and Reform of the General Assembly

The GA has faced many difficulties over the last two decades regarding revitalization within the organization’s structure.¹⁹ Many factors have impeded progress to achieve reform in the GA; these factors are mostly due to a political divide between developed and developing States.²⁰ The relationship between the GA and the SC, as an example, has also been under scrutiny. Many developing countries have argued that the SC no longer reflects the composition of the United Nations because they feel that they are under-represented, especially among the States with veto power.²¹ Efforts to provide the GA with more responsibility on international peace and security issues have been met with heavy opposition from the members of the SC, some of who oppose the involvement of the GA in the SC procedures and prerogatives.²²

In 2005, then Secretary-General Kofi Annan laid out various proposals to revive the reform efforts within the UN System in his report *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All*.²³ His proposals for strengthening the GA included reforms regarding the topics discussed in the agenda to improve the deliberative process, changes within its committees and debates, as well as strengthening the role of the President of the General Assembly.²⁴ He also proposed changes for the topics of the Agenda, so that the GA can address matters that are currently affecting the international community, and create measures for the involvement of the civil society.²⁵

Despite the challenges, the GA has been able to achieve major accomplishments in the last few years. Following up on the *Millennium Declaration* A/RES/55/2 (2000), the GA reaffirmed its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the challenges of the 21st century in its 2005 World Summit and *2005 World Summit Outcome* (A/RES/60/1).²⁶ As a result of this recommitment, and alongside the initiatives from the High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) was established under GA Resolution A/RES/60/180 and SC Resolutions 1645 (2005) and 1646 (2005).²⁷ In addition to this accomplishment,

¹³ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Art. 35(2).

¹⁴ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Art. 12.

¹⁵ Goodrich, Hambro, and Simons, *Charter of the United Nations: Commentary and Documents*, 1969, p. 129.

¹⁶ United Nations, General Assembly 62nd Session, *About the General Assembly: Functions and Powers of the General Assembly*, 2008.

¹⁷ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Art. 15.

¹⁸ United Nations, General Assembly, *About the General Assembly*, 2008; United Nations, General Assembly 5th Session, *Uniting For Peace*, A/RES/377 (V), 1950.

¹⁹ Swart, *Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly*, 2008.

²⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² *Ibid.*

²³ United Nations, General Assembly, 59th Session, *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All, Report of the Secretary-General*, 2005.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, paragraphs 159-163.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ United Nations, General Assembly 60th Session, *2005 World Summit Outcome* (A/RES/60/1), 2005.

²⁷ United Nations, General Assembly 60th Session, *The Peacebuilding Commission* (A/RES/60/180), 2005; United Nations, Security Council, *Post-conflict peacebuilding* (S/RES/1645), 2005; United Nations, Security Council, *Post-conflict peacebuilding* (S/RES/1646), 2005.

the Human Rights Council was created under the 2005 GA resolution *A/RES/60/251*, replacing the Commission on Human Rights due to shortcomings in the work of the Commission.²⁸

Conclusion

In the 62nd Session of the GA, climate change, the global food crisis, and UN reform were the top issues on the agenda. Several thematic debates have been held on the topics of climate change and the global food crisis to address these situations and their impact on the MDGs. In 2008, the General Assembly held additional thematic debates on issues such as *Human Trafficking* and *Human Security*, both sessions of these sessions were held in May.²⁹ On the topic of “Advancing UN Reform,” the focus of the current session will be directed to improve the coherence of the UN System, revitalizing the GA and reform of the SC.³⁰ The work of the GA in past and recent years has had a positive and crucial impact within the UN. As the most democratic organ, the GA has reinforced its efforts to face the challenges of the 21st century by promoting the ideals of the UN.

I. New Approaches to Nuclear Non-Proliferation

“Above all else, we need a reaffirmation of political commitment at the highest levels to reducing the dangers that arise both from existing nuclear weapons and from further proliferation.”³¹

Introduction

Since the inception of the United Nations (UN), nuclear weapons and non-proliferation have been at the forefront of its agenda, particularly within the General Assembly (GA). Like all the UN's main bodies, the GA's authority is based on the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945).³² Along with the GA there are several other UN bodies that deal with the issues of international peace and security, the most authoritative being the Security Council (SC).³³ The scope of authority for the SC's permanent Member States was determined by which States were States after World War II.³⁴ These States are the Permanent Five members, or P5, (China, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and the United States).³⁵ The GA and SC work together to ensure that the goals of the *Charter* and other international agreements are met.³⁶ Numerous conventions and treaties have been negotiated in the arena of nuclear weapons, and one of the most well known treaties of all time, the *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons* (NPT), is the premier non-proliferation mechanism in the international community.³⁷ The NPT created an international regime designed to halt the flow of nuclear weapons to States that did not already possess them, while giving the P5 the international recognition as the only States allowed to possess nuclear weapons, and also created a safeguard mechanism that would be administrated by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).³⁸ These safeguards not only help to maintain the international nuclear regime but they also help to quell the incidents that occur outside of the scope of the recognized nuclear regime – conducting such activities as weapons inspections and stockpile maintenance inspections.³⁹

There are other non-proliferation measures that work in tandem with the NPT, such as the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).⁴⁰ The problem in the international community, though, is not that there are no effective enforcement mechanisms, it is that the mechanisms are not taken seriously by the international community itself;

²⁸ United Nations, General Assembly 60th Session, *Human Rights Council* (A/RES/60/251), 2005; United Nations, Economic and Social Council, *Implementation of the General Assembly resolution 60/251* (E/2006/2), 2006.

²⁹ United Nations, General Assembly 62nd Session, *Thematic Debates*, 2008.

³⁰ United Nations, General Assembly 62nd Session, *Main Issues*, 2008.

³¹ Annan, *Secretary-General's Millennium Assembly Report*, 2000, Section IV: Freedom from Fear.

³² Elaraby, *The Security Council and Nuclear Weapons*, 2006.

³³ United Nations, *Functions and Powers of the General Assembly*.

³⁴ United Nations Security Council, *Membership of the Security Council: About the Council*, 2008.

³⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁶ United Nations, *Functions and Powers of the General Assembly*.

³⁷ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)*, 2002.

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ United Nations Department of Disarmament Affairs, *Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs*, 2008.

several nuclear States now exist outside of the realm of what the NPT allows.⁴¹ North Korea, Iran, India, and Pakistan have openly admitted to developing nuclear weapons, and Israel has had a nuclear reactor at the Negev Center for Nuclear Research (CNR) in Dimona since 1958 (created with the help of a recognized nuclear power: France), along with several other nuclear research centers in the country.⁴² This brings to the forefront the issue that the NPT does in fact allow for the peaceful use of nuclear material for power, development and research (dual use items) by non-nuclear States.⁴³ However, in the case of Israel, most scholars and policymakers believe that Israel possesses capabilities far beyond that which would be considered under the NPT as peaceful uses of their nuclear technology.⁴⁴

The 1996 CTBT is one measure that was intended to strengthen the arm of non-proliferation in the international community.⁴⁵ However, many UN Member States refuse to become party to it, because it lacks the means for the elimination of weapons stockpiles within a certain, decided amount of time.⁴⁶ In 1998 after a round of international negotiations, the Conference on Disarmament (CD), decided to enter, once again, the arena of disarmament measures by beginning negotiations on the Fissile Materials Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), which would put in place a mechanism for the non-distribution of nuclear weapons materials (not including plutonium or highly enriched uranium, or HEU, for non-explosive purposes).⁴⁷ Like the CTBT, though, the FMCT has been met with considerable skepticism and criticism, delaying the negotiations and any clear advancement on the subject.⁴⁸ The FMCT, meant to work alongside the CTBT and strengthen the non-proliferation measures that already exist, has not entered into force but would be a useful tool for reducing and eventually eliminating the threat of nuclear warfare.⁴⁹

The members of the accepted international nuclear weapons regime are expected to reduce their stockpiles to eventual elimination from their arsenals.⁵⁰ The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) published a report in 2004 about the new nuclear regime and the current crisis that faces the international community.⁵¹ The report details some of the main problems facing the international community in regards to nuclear weapons, including the emerging new world order, and the politics and interests that are helping to form this new world order.⁵² These politics are increasingly mercurial. The UNIDIR's report writer, John Simpson, a former member of the UN Secretary-General's advisory board on disarmament measures, describes the polarity forming in the international community, with particular regard to how each State views disarmament. Simpson states that there are two basic approaches to State disarmament measures.⁵³ The first is fueled by an anarchical system that relies on the protection of mutual self-interest; the second is reliant on common values and goals.⁵⁴ Simpson makes the case that it could be either of these situations presented in his "dichotomy."⁵⁵ In the States that practice one or the other, however, the position would be a more centered approach that would moderate the arms management and disarmament policies used in the States that practice them (Simpson points to the United States).⁵⁶ Simpson also makes a bold Statement about these dichotomies, stating, "The use of raw power without legitimacy generates the anarchy it may be claiming to moderate. Arms management based on universality and non-discrimination will fail without effective non-compliance mechanisms."⁵⁷ This assertion makes the two approaches to arms management

⁴¹ Suleman, *Bargaining in the Shadow of Violence: The NPT, LAEA, and Nuclear Non-Proliferation Negotiations*, 2008, p. 206.

⁴² International Atomic Energy Agency, *Nuclear Research in Israel*, 2003.

⁴³ United Nations, *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons*, 1974.

⁴⁴ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Nuclear Research in Israel*, 2003.

⁴⁵ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, *Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty*, 2002; Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban-Treaty Organization, *CTBT Moves World Closer to Being Free of Nuclear Weapons*, says UN Secretary-General, 2006.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ Federation of American Scientists. *Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty*.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ Chow, Speier, and Jones, *The Proposed Fissile Material Production Cut-off: Next Steps*, 1995.

⁵⁰ Simpson, *The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime: back to the future?*, 2004, pp. 5-7.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*

⁵² *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

⁵³ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

much more interesting, then: The norms and values of the international community are explicitly at odds with the strategies used for disarmament.⁵⁸

Problems with the Existing Nuclear Regime

One of the problems the international community currently faces in their efforts to curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons is that the NPT allows for the possession of items that can be used either for peaceful purposes or to create nuclear weapons capabilities, otherwise known as dual-use items.⁵⁹ One such “dual-use” item is HEU.⁶⁰ These materials, per the NPT, must meet IAEA safeguard procedures in order to be possessed by non-nuclear States and to be used for peaceful purposes, such as nuclear energy or research.⁶¹ While the aims of the writers of the NPT were to protect the rights of States that were not recognized as nuclear States, an unintentional loophole was created – several States that are not recognized nuclear powers now possess nuclear weapons.⁶²

Since the dual-use items that can be used for peaceful purposes can also be used to create nuclear weapons, many States have joined collaborative international coalitions to help control the spread of such items.⁶³ One such regime, the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), seeks to curb the proliferation of dual-use items through export controls and a stringent list of controlled items.⁶⁴ This list includes complete missile systems and overtly weapons related materials (such as propulsion materials), but some of the items that are carefully controlled by the participating MTCR countries are not as obviously used for nuclear weapons creation.⁶⁵ The MTCR classifies items into two categories: Category I materials are the materials that have no use but weaponry; and Category II items are software, technology, and development items.⁶⁶ These categories are further defined in the MTCR Technical Appendix, which not only defines each item, but goes so far as to define the differences between basic scientific research, development, and other programs.⁶⁷ The MTCR is just one organization that focuses on export controls such as this one, and even with such stringent controls it remains difficult to halt the flow of the controlled items that may be used to create a nuclear weapon. Another body that focuses on export controls is the United States Bureau of Industry and Security (a bureau of the U.S. Department of Commerce) also lists items that are considered dual-use technologies.⁶⁸ This list is called the Commerce Control List (CCL) and includes common items such as telecommunications devices and computers.⁶⁹ Many of the items that are carefully watched by these export control groups are used for medical research, nuclear energy, and basic scientific research.⁷⁰ The items that can be used for peaceful purposes and for weapons at the same time are the ones that need to be the closely monitored, but monitoring whether or not these items are being used for peaceful purposes is hard to monitor.⁷¹ The MTCR has managed to monitor the situation by encouraging its members to have regular dialogue with their trading partners and to implement export licensing and policy guidelines.⁷²

New Approaches to Non-Proliferation

With these controls already in place, it would seem that gaining nuclear weapons capabilities would be a much harder activity than the international climate currently allows. The fact that the NPT only allows for five States to possess nuclear weapons, yet there are an additional three States known to possess nuclear weapons (India, Pakistan, and North Korea) and one unofficial nuclear weapon possessing state, Israel, only goes to show that the export controls and other mechanisms are failing.⁷³ The CTBT sought to fill in these policy gaps; however, the reluctance

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

⁵⁹ United Nations, *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)*, 1968, Article IV.

⁶⁰ General Accounting Office, *Controlling Exports of Dual-Use Nuclear-Related Equipment* [Report], 1983.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, Article 3.

⁶² Suleman, *Bargaining in the Shadow of Violence: The NPT, IAEA, and Nuclear Non-Proliferation Negotiations*, 2008, p. 206.

⁶³ United States Bureau of Industry and Security, *Multilateral Export Regimes*.

⁶⁴ Missile Technology Control Regime, *The Missile Technology Control Regime*.

⁶⁵ Missile Technology Control Regime, *Equipment, Software and Technology Annex*, 2008.

⁶⁶ United States Bureau of Industry and Security, *Export Control Basics (Exporting 101*

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ Missile Technology Control Regime, *Objectives of the MTCR*.

⁷² *Ibid.*

⁷³ Suleman, *Bargaining in the Shadow of Violence: The NPT, IAEA, and Nuclear Non-Proliferation Negotiations*, 2008, p. 207.

of many States to sign onto it has led to its perceived failure in the realm of non-proliferation.⁷⁴ The UN has said on numerous occasions that instability on a regional level help create arms races that start small and end up with a bargaining game for bigger items, highlighting the need for the CTBT and other control regimes.⁷⁵ In 2000, the GA adopted *A/RES/55/567*, which again highlighted the importance of the CTBT and fervently urged all non-willing Member States to sign on to it.⁷⁶

An FMCT is one key way the international community can work to curb the illicit proliferation of nuclear weapons.⁷⁷ Its aims go beyond dual-use items and recommend the reduction and eventual elimination of the substances that can be used to produce nuclear weapons.⁷⁸ However, much like the CTBT, there are key States whose goals for the establishment of a FMCT would deter some States from wanting to sign on.⁷⁹ In General Assembly Resolution *A/RES/48/75, General and Complete Disarmament*, the UN calls for the creation of such a treaty, and recognizes the links between deterred development and the proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as the possession of fissile materials.⁸⁰

The James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies (CNS), a non-governmental organization that brings together non-proliferation experts from all over the world, has published numerous reports on the inherent problems of the current nuclear weapons regime.⁸¹ The Monterey Non-Proliferation Strategy Group is a working group of experts that is part of a collaborative effort of the CNS and recently revived their discussion concerning the international nuclear weapons regime.⁸² They call not only for a renewed commitment to the NPT but also a search for common ground that could bring the NPT back into the view of the international community and strengthen its role as a non-proliferation measure.⁸³ A report written by the Monterey Non-Proliferation Strategy Group, *Strengthening the Nuclear Nonproliferation Regime: Searching for Common Ground*, details some of the problems with the current regime.⁸⁴ This report makes interesting claims relating to verification and inspection of nuclear weapons programs, and states also that “[d]etection of violations and diversions – a key aspect of verification – is often dependent on national intelligence transfers... Given the nature of, and the limited means available to, international organizations such as the IAEA, it cannot be expected that these organizations should have greater access to information and be authorized to use it as freely as national intelligence services would.”⁸⁵

The IAEA is “the world’s center of cooperation in the nuclear field. It was set up as the world’s ‘Atoms for Peace’ organization in 1957 within the United Nations family.”⁸⁶ One of the main duties of the IAEA is the inspection, safeguarding and verification of nuclear materials. In order to accomplish this goal, they have established agreements for inspections and safeguards compliance in over 145 countries today, and they use this to complete their verification programs.⁸⁷ The IAEA has special safeguards protocols and action plans, as well as special outreach programs to ensure that the goals of the UN, NPT, and IAEA are being met.⁸⁸ In an effort to support the role of the IAEA the General Assembly has continually reaffirmed support for the organization and its work. The IAEA has many areas of focus, although there are Member States that receive or have received more scrutiny than others, including Iran, Libya, North Korea, and Iraq.⁸⁹ The Safeguards Action Plan and the international

⁷⁴ Blix, *CTBT: Going the Last Mile to Banish Nuclear Weapons Testing*, 2007.

⁷⁵ United Nations, *Security for Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, Ballistic Missile Proliferation Addressed in Disarmament Committee Draft Texts*, 2005.

⁷⁶ United Nations General Assembly, *Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, (A/RES/55/567)*, 2000.

⁷⁷ Federation of American Scientists, *Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty*.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

⁷⁹ United Nations, *Relationship between Disarmament and Development*, 1993.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*; United Nations General Assembly, *General and Complete Disarmament (A/RES/48/75)*, 1993.

⁸¹ James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, *Monterey Non-Proliferation Strategy Group*, 2008.

⁸² *Ibid.*

⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁸⁴ Monterey Non-Proliferation Strategy Group, *Strengthening the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime: Searching for Common Ground*, 2006.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 7.

⁸⁶ International Atomic Energy Agency, *About IAEA*.

⁸⁷ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Our Work: Verification*.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*

agreements, such as the NPT, are the IAEA's main tools in weapons and nuclear program inspections.⁹⁰ Some States believe that in order to improve the nuclear control regime it is necessary to strengthen and promote the work of the IAEA and particularly their safeguard system; others point to the need to strengthen capacity of the IAEA to verify nuclear activities that have been declared by a state, and to further their ability to detect illicit nuclear programs as well.

The Risk of Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East

The GA works in conjunction with the SC and other oversight bodies, such as the IAEA, to ensure that the established safeguards are working and up to date. The GA is responsible for the existence of the NPT, the CTBT, and other enforcement treaties, such as treaties on non-conventional weapons and warfare.⁹¹ While the efforts of the international community to deter the further proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons materials have been extensive, the risk of proliferation still runs high, especially in conflict ridden areas.⁹² One of the closest watched regions in the international community is the Middle East, due to prolonged turmoil and the expressed desires of several States in the area to possess nuclear weapons capabilities.⁹³ Israel is the first in the region thought to already possess said capabilities, but the government has never published conclusive information regarding their nuclear facilities.⁹⁴

There are many unknowns regarding Israel's nuclear program – there is no publicly released information regarding the Israeli nuclear program.⁹⁵ Establishment of a nuclear weapons program was discussed as a goal of the Israeli government since its founding in 1948.⁹⁶ The attitude that nuclear weapons were a necessity in Israel was developed in response to the Holocaust, and Israel's first chairman of the Israel Atomic energy Commission (IAEC), Ernst David Bergmann stated that the presence of nuclear weapons would ensure that the citizens of Israel were "[...] never again led as lambs to the slaughter."⁹⁷ There was some contention over the need for a nuclear weapons program in the early days of Israel's existence, with two camps arguing over the benefits and costs of a nuclear weapons program.⁹⁸ The supporters won this argument and nuclear research programs were put in place with the help of the French.⁹⁹ David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first Prime Minister, was a strategist and supporter of the nuclear program, and he viewed the program as the only possible way that the State of Israel would survive in the Middle East, after failing to obtain a binding security agreement from the United States.¹⁰⁰ Current Israeli military doctrine is centered on the existence of such a program, and in fact, Israel plans to remain not only greater in military power than any Arab State, but, if need be, all of them combined and together with Iran.¹⁰¹

In an effort to prevent the further proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region, numerous States have made calls to establish a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in the Middle East (MENWFZ). The efforts to establish a MENWFZ began in 1974 when Iran and Egypt put forth such a proposal.¹⁰² In an effort to expand the ban, "Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak went further and proposed the establishment of the Middle East of a zone free of all types of weapons of mass destruction."¹⁰³ However, despite the various proposals, the establishment of a MENWFZ has been largely a failure, for a number of reasons. A major reason for the impasse in the establishment of the zone is the continuing tensions in region between Israel and its neighbors, "while Egypt and other Arab nations insist on Israel's accession to the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon state, Israel maintains that there must first be a comprehensive peace between

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

⁹¹ United Nations Department of Disarmament Affairs, *Weapons of Mass Destruction*, 2008.

⁹² United Nations Disarmament Commission, 'Creeping Retreat' From Nuclear Disarmament, *Increased Proliferation Risk*, 2003.

⁹³ United Nations, *The Risk of Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East (A/RES/62/56)*, 2008.

⁹⁴ Bahgat, *Israel and Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East*, 2006, p. 113.

⁹⁵ Nuclear Threat Initiative, *Israel Nuclear Facilities: Overview of Organizations and Facilities*, 2004.

⁹⁶ Bahgat, *Israel and Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East*, 2006, p. 113.

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 114.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, p.115.

⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 116.

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 114.

¹⁰¹ Neumann, *Conventional Arms Exports and Stability in the Middle East*, 1995, pp.193.

¹⁰² Nuclear Threat Initiative, *Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Tutorial, Proposed NWFZs:Middle East*.

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*

Israel and its neighbors”; coupled with this is the failure of Israel to accede to the NPT and for other states in the region to uphold their obligations as parties to the treaty.¹⁰⁴

Conclusion

The UN has done considerable work to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. There are many unstable regions in the international community, and unfortunately, there is either one or more State in each area seeking to gain nuclear weapons capabilities. The UN and many other international organizations strive to provide new and useful ways to stem the flow of nuclear weapons, particularly to conflict-ridden regions, but it is impossible to prevent the acquisition, spread, and development of nuclear weapons completely. The NPT, the CTBT and the FMCT are important first steps but it has been shown that there is still more that needs to be done to prevent the further proliferation of nuclear weapons throughout the globe. In an effort to determine the next steps, below are questions to answer moving forward:

Since the UN lacks an enforcement mechanism, it must be considered that something quite large needs to happen in the international community before a truly viable and comprehensive non-proliferation measure can be created. With all of this in mind, could the UN be the proprietor of such a mechanism? How would the General Assembly fit into such a mechanism? The GA has been an active participant in negotiations up to this point. How can the role of the GA continue and be enhanced? What further steps should the GA take to further non-proliferation efforts? As mentioned above, the numerous treaties have been important first steps. What should be done to enhance the work of these treaties? Are the treaties still satisfactory to meet the goals of non-proliferation or is something new required? Why have nuclear weapons continued to proliferate around the globe in spite of the NPT and other treaties? There are a number of organizations and bodies that are dedicated to controlling the spread of nuclear weapons. How effective have these organizations been in halting the spread of nuclear weapons? What can be done to enhance the work of these organizations? Is your country a member of any regional organization dedicated to discussing the threat of nuclear weapons? One of the important steps in halting proliferation has been the establishment of Nuclear Weapons Free Zones (NWFZs). Is your country a member of a NWFZ treaty? If not, is there a treaty within your region and why are you not a member of it? What can be done to further enhance the NWFZs throughout the globe? How can the GA work to enhance NWFZs?

II. Advancing United Nations Reform

“Every day we are reminded of the need for a strengthened United Nations, as we face a growing array of new challenges ... Seldom has the United Nations been called upon to do so much for so many. I am determined to breathe new life and inject renewed confidence into a strengthened United Nations firmly anchored in the twenty-first century, and which is effective, efficient, coherent and accountable.”¹⁰⁵

Introduction

The United Nations (UN) is a noble experiment in human cooperation.¹⁰⁶ Since its inception, however, the world has grown more complex, and many are asking whether the UN system can realistically and effectively prevent the recurrence of war and strife.¹⁰⁷ Much of the criticism and serious attention the UN receives today continues to improve the work of the UN system.¹⁰⁸ Whether such scrutiny is justified or not, it is important to remember that the UN has existed three times as long as its predecessor the League of Nations.¹⁰⁹ It is a survivor.¹¹⁰ But in the words of former Secretary-General Kofi Annan, “the Organization needs to be significantly reconfigured in order to better what the international community requires it to do.”¹¹¹

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁵ Ban Ki-moon, *UN Secretary-General, Reference Reports and Materials: Reform at the United Nations*, 2008.

¹⁰⁶ United Nations General Assembly, *Renewing the United Nations: A Programme for Reform (A/51/950)*, 1997, p. 9.

¹⁰⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945.

¹⁰⁸ Steele, *The Reform of the United Nations*, 1987.

¹⁰⁹ Finkelstein, *From Seeds to System: The United Nations Charter*, 2005.

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹¹ United Nations General Assembly, *Renewing the United Nations: A Programme for Reform (A/51/950)*, 1997, p. 2.

UN reform is a highly complicated set of processes, occurring at many different levels and involving a wide variety of actors.¹¹² Member States in the early years of the UN called for the use of Article 109 of the UN Charter, which provides for “a General Conference of the Members of the UN for the purpose of reviewing the present charter.”¹¹³ The founders of the UN called for *Article 109* because they foresaw that in the future, their original ideas might require amendments and anticipated the probable need for improving the Charter, but after numerous reports, summits, and proposals being placed on the agenda for the session of the General Assembly, many are skeptical whether the UN Organization can handle such difficult international issues.¹¹⁴ The procedures are there and the time has come for the UN to review the manner in which the “world society wants to operate.”¹¹⁵

Historical Background

Many believe that UN reform was first suggested in 1957 with the proposal by the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, entitled *Strengthening the United Nations*.¹¹⁶ The recommendations in this report grew out of the deliberations of twelve study committees that reflected the wide variety of viewpoints and experience represented on the Commission.¹¹⁷ A few examples of recommendations given included the substantial reduction in the veto power of the permanent members in the Security Council and the creation of a UN permanent military force consisting of volunteers plus contingents from national armies in genuine readiness to be placed under the authority of the UN.¹¹⁸ Subsequent studies on UN reform included *A Study of Future Worlds* and *World Peace Through World Law*, which both called for the placement of ultimate legal-political-economic authority in a revised General Assembly.¹¹⁹ The Assembly “would have primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.”¹²⁰ Clark’s 1958 study builds on the report *Strengthening the United Nations* by creating a 200,000 to 600,000 United Nations Peace Force.¹²¹ In addition, Clark envisioned a UN system with a “World Development Authority” with an annual \$25 billion capital investment fund.¹²² The total UN budget would be approximately \$35 billion annually – an enormous disparity from the approximate \$5 billion bi-annual current budget of the UN system and the \$7 billion annual budget that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) has at its disposal.¹²³

In 1970, the UN was made aware for the first time of failures in mismanagement and negligence inside its administration.¹²⁴ A commission entitled *A Study of the Capacity of the United Nations Development System*, recommended reinforcement of the central authority of the UN, effective leadership, and meaningful implementation of the principles expressed in the charter.¹²⁵ In other words, it was addressed to the problem of poor administration in the Secretariat in order to avoid any future scandals.¹²⁶ Other reports, such as *Some Reflections on Reform of the United Nations* and an *Agenda for Peace* would surface in the 1980s and early 1990s calling for further reforms to strengthen the UN system.¹²⁷ But the momentum for making UN reform a priority began in 1997 with the 7th Secretary-General of the UN, Kofi Annan taking office.

During his tenure as Secretary-General, Kofi Annan understood that the UN Organization needed a substantial overhaul to meet the challenges of tomorrow. Annan made numerous proposals with significant implications for how the UN conducts its work, implements its mandates, and manages the funds entrusted to it by its Member

¹¹² Gordon, *The United Nations at the Crossroad of Reform*, 1994.

¹¹³ *Ibid*, p. 208.

¹¹⁴ Fromuth, *A Successor Vision: The United Nations of Tomorrow*, 1959.

¹¹⁵ *Ibid*.

¹¹⁶ The Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, *Strengthening the United Nations*, 1957.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid*, p. 269.

¹¹⁸ *Ibid*, p. 275.

¹¹⁹ Clark, *World Peace Through World Law*, 1958.

¹²⁰ Gordon, *The United Nations at the Crossroads of Reform*, 1994, p. 211.

¹²¹ Clark, *World Peace Through World Law*, 1958, p. 17.

¹²² *Ibid*, p. 306.

¹²³ Global Forum Policy, *UN Finance*, 2008.

¹²⁴ Bertrand, *Some Reflections on the Reform of the United Nations*, Joint Inspection Unit, 1985.

¹²⁵ Kaufmann, *The Capacity of the United Nations Development Program: The Jackson Report*, 1971, p. 939.

¹²⁶ *Ibid*, p. 940.

¹²⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *An Agenda for Peace: Preventive Diplomacy, Peacemaking and Peace-keeping*, (A/47/277), 1992.

States.¹²⁸ This has included changes to work programs and funds, structures and systems, in headquarters locations and in the field.¹²⁹ Much of Annan's proposals were accepted by Member States, beginning with his bold vision in 1997 with *A Programme for Reform*.¹³⁰ He followed in 2002 with *An Agenda for Further Change* and in 2004 with *High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change*.¹³¹ In 2005, Annan's vision for a united effort to achieve a reformed UN came to reality when more than 170 heads of State and governments expressed a global consensus that wide-ranging UN reform is imperative.¹³² However, while UN reform has gained momentum in the General Assembly, there continues to be a number of roadblocks that prohibits the full implementation of recommendations for advancing UN reform.

A Programme for Reform

Early on in Kofi Annan's first term as Secretary-General, he set out to constitute an extensive and far-reaching set of changes that would move the UN Organization firmly along the road to major and fundamental reform designed to achieve greater unity of purpose, coherence of effort and flexibility in response.¹³³ Some of the actions and recommendations in *A Programme for Reform* focused primarily on:

- The establishment of a new leadership and management structure that will strengthen the capacity of the Secretary-General to provide leadership and ensure accountability (i.e. the establishment of a Deputy Secretary-General and a Strategic Planning Unit);
- Integration of twelve Secretariat entities and units into five, and proposed consolidation of five intergovernmental bodies into two;
- A changed management culture accompanied by management and efficiency measures, which would eliminate at least 1,000 staff posts, reduce administrative costs by one third and improve performance;
- Promoting sustained and sustainable development as a central priority of the UN through the grouping of UN funds and programs with development operations into a United Nations Development Group;
- Improving the Organization's ability to deploy peacekeeping and other field operations more rapidly and strengthening the UN capacity for post-conflict peacebuilding.¹³⁴

The reforms begun in 1997 were aimed at adapting the internal structures and culture of the UN to new expectations and new challenges.¹³⁵ In Kofi Annan's first three years, he was able to establish a UN that showed greater coherence and efficiency, while becoming more open and creative. But as the 2000 Millennium Assembly was approaching, Annan and some Member States acknowledged that there was still a need for accountability and oversight for the conduct of the UN's programs and agencies. Following the Millennium Assembly, Member States decided to make the UN a more effective instrument for pursuing the priorities adopted in the United Nations Millennium Declaration.¹³⁶

An Agenda for Further Change

At the end of Kofi Annan's first term, the Secretary-General noticed a UN that can change, which had changed.¹³⁷ As Annan said upon presenting his report, *An Agenda for Further Change*, "the United Nations exists, not as a static memorial to the aspirations of an earlier change, but as a work in progress – imperfect, as all humans endeavors must be, but capable of adaptation and improvement."¹³⁸ While Annan's first reform proposal in 1997 was aimed at

¹²⁸ United Nations, *Reform at the United Nations: UN Reform Highlights Since 1997-2006*, 2008.

¹²⁹ *Ibid.*

¹³⁰ United Nations General Assembly, *Renewing the United Nations: A Programme for Reform (A/51/1950)*, 1997.

¹³¹ United Nations, *Reform at the United Nations: UN Reform Highlights Since 1997-2006*, 2008.

¹³² United Nations General Assembly, *2005 World Summit Outcome*, 2005.

¹³³ United Nations General Assembly, *Renewing the United Nations: A Programme for Reform (A/51/950)*, 1997, p. 6.

¹³⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 6-8.

¹³⁵ United Nations General Assembly, *Strengthening of the United Nations: an Agenda for Further Change (A/57/387)*, 2002.

¹³⁶ United Nations, *The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations: Millennium Summit*, 2000.

¹³⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Strengthening of the United Nations: an Agenda for Further Change, (A/57/387)*, 2002, p. 4.

¹³⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

the internal structures of the UN, his reform proposal in 2002 was designed for the necessity of change in the intergovernmental organs of the UN system.¹³⁹

A number of suggestions made by Kofi Annan included the strengthening of the General Assembly so its work was not diminished by far too many overlapping agenda items.¹⁴⁰ It also included enhancing the Economic and Social Council so it could give better guidance to the UN system as a whole on issues within its sphere of responsibility and the effort to restart the Open-ended Working Group to examine reforming the Security Council.¹⁴¹ In the eyes of Annan and the majority of Member States, the “size and composition of the Security Council appeared insufficiently represented.”¹⁴² In the end, Annan’s objective was to figure out a way to “manage change.”¹⁴³ The proposals set out an agenda for change by emphasizing three critical areas: managing the change process itself, training, and information technology.¹⁴⁴

2005 World Summit & In Larger Freedom

In September 2005, world leaders gathered in New York to review the progress made since the Millennium Declaration was adopted by all Member States five years earlier. It also provided the forum to discuss UN reform in more detail, by acknowledging the vital importance of a relevant, effective, efficient, accountable, and credible UN system.¹⁴⁵ By doing so, Member States urged new instruments and stronger mandates to better address the multifaceted and interconnected challenges and threats confronting our world and to achieve progress in the areas of peace, security, development and human rights.¹⁴⁶ While many believe the heads of State and world leaders did not go far enough in promoting UN reform, a few exemptions were the creation of the Peacebuilding Commission, a newly formed Human Rights Council, and the endorsement of the *Responsibility to Protect (R2P)*.¹⁴⁷ The endorsement meant that individual States and the international community would have the responsibility to use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian, and other peaceful means to protect populations from mass atrocities.¹⁴⁸

Shortly after the Summit, Kofi Annan presented his latest report on UN reform entitled *In Larger Freedom*.¹⁴⁹ In it, Annan envisioned a UN reshaped in ways not previously imagined, focusing on boldness and speed not previously shown.¹⁵⁰ The report centered on three themes: Freedom from want, Freedom from fear, and Freedom to live in dignity.¹⁵¹ These themes were set to address the challenge for the world community to decide whether the moment of wider conflict, deepening inequality and the erosion of the rule of law should continue to exist or whether the opportunity to renew institutions for peace and human rights would finally triumph.¹⁵²

Obstacles for UN Reform: Mandate Review

One of the sluggish obstacles for advancing UN reform has been the “mandate review” exercise.¹⁵³ The UN today has compiled approximately 9,000 active mandates that guide the work of the UN.¹⁵⁴ Currently, Member States are reviewing every one of the 9,000 mandates that are five years or older to identify and address problems such as the uncoordinated mass of reports, the increasing overlap of mandates from different organs undertaking similar issues, the lack of guidance on how to manage older mandates when newer ones address the same issues as well as the lack of information on the outcomes achieved by resources already invested.¹⁵⁵ Moreover, the lack of an

¹³⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 2-4.

¹⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 8.

¹⁴¹ *Ibid.*, p. 8.

¹⁴² *Ibid.*, p. 8.

¹⁴³ Muravchik, *The Future of the United Nations: Understanding the Past to Chart a Way Forward*, 2005, p. 8.

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 8-9.

¹⁴⁵ United Nations General Assembly, *2005 World Summit Outcome*, 2005.

¹⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 30-32.

¹⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 30.

¹⁴⁸ ICISS, *Responsibility to Protect*, 2001.

¹⁴⁹ United Nations, *In Larger Freedom*, 2005.

¹⁵⁰ Zifcak, *United Nations Reform: Heading North or South*, 2006.

¹⁵¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁵² *Ibid.*, p. 142.

¹⁵³ United Nations, *Mandating & Delivering: Analysis and Recommendations to Facilitate the Review of Mandates*, 2008.

¹⁵⁴ Global Policy Forum, *Mandate Review Moves to Humanitarian Cluster with New Methodology*, 2007.

¹⁵⁵ Center for UN Reform Education, *Sluggish Progress on UN Mandate Review*, 2007.

intergovernmental organ and a coherent system in place to analyze the effectiveness of mandates contribute to the lamented efficiency of the UN.¹⁵⁶ In trying to promote cost-cutting efficiency and strengthening the work of the UN, the “mandate review” exercise has stalled as regional blocs disagree on how to approach renewing mandates and eliminating older ones.¹⁵⁷

At the conclusion of the World Summit in 2005, Resolution A/RES/60/1 provided the legal basis for reform by calling for the “General Assembly and other relevant organs to review all mandates older than five years originating from resolutions of the General Assembly and other organs.”¹⁵⁸ This exact quote has given rise to diverging interpretations on the scope of the mandate review exercise, thus generating conflict between various groups of Member States.¹⁵⁹ For example, the Group of 77 (G77) and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) believes A/RES/60/1 authorizes only the review of mandates older than five years that have not been reviewed.¹⁶⁰ On the other hand, the United States, Japan, and the European Union (EU) interpret it to mean a review of all mandates older than five years, both renewed and not renewed.¹⁶¹ As a result of this and other disagreements, the mandate review exercise has found itself with subsequent lack of progress.

In addition, the G77 fears that the review is being pushed by the US, Japan and the EU as an exercise to eliminate a number of mandates that cut costs for international aid to developing countries.¹⁶² There is an obvious financial implication to the mandate review exercise. While some Member States dispute which mandates to eliminate, others are arguing for new offices and more resources, such as the establishment of an Ethics Office, more funds for the Department of Field Services (in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations), and additional posts in the Department of Political Affairs.¹⁶³ These additions add on to an ever-growing budget that has reached an all-time high of \$4.17 billion, with further add-ons bringing that figure to \$5 billion.¹⁶⁴ The closing of the 62nd General Assembly was historic in December 2007 because it was the first time in more than 20 years that the UN budget was not passed by consensus.¹⁶⁵ Such a historic development raises concern whether the top funders of the UN will withhold their annual dues and payments to their arrears if the mandate review exercise does not produce results for management reform.

Possible Changes in Function for the General Assembly

At the end of the World Summit in 2005, the General Assembly decided to establish an ad hoc working group open to all Member States to identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness, and efficiency of the General Assembly, inter alia, by building on relevant Assembly resolutions and reviewing the agenda and working methods of the Assembly.¹⁶⁶ Beginning in 2006, Member States have debated on how to revitalize the General Assembly by examining three clusters: 1) the role and authority of the General Assembly; 2) the selection of the Secretary-General; and 3) the working methods of the General Assembly.¹⁶⁷ For example, the Working Group strongly felt that although the Security Council has primary responsibility on the matters of peace and security, the General Assembly should enhance its examination and discussion of issues of international peace and security in accordance with Articles 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the UN Charter.¹⁶⁸

Another area of change for the General Assembly is the argument of a system for selecting the delegates in a manner

¹⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁷ Global Policy Forum, *Mandate Review Moves to Humanitarian Cluster with New Methodology*, 2007.

¹⁵⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *2005 World Summit Outcome*, 2005, p. 34.

¹⁵⁹ Center for UN Reform Education, *Sluggish Progress on UN Mandate Review*, 2007.

¹⁶⁰ Group of 77, *Statement Delivered by Ambassador Dumisani A. Kumalo: Review of Mandates Older than Five Years*, 2006.

¹⁶¹ United States Mission to the United Nations, *Statement by Ambassador Mark D. Wallace: Opening Session of the Fifth Committee*, 2007.

¹⁶² Center for UN Reform Education, *Sluggish Progress on UN Mandate Review*, 2007.

¹⁶³ United Nations General Assembly, *Documents by Agenda Item*, 2007.

¹⁶⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *Fifth Committee Recommends 2008-2009 Budget of \$4.17 Billion, As It Concludes Work for Main Part of Current Session*, 2007.

¹⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁶ United Nations General Assembly, *Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the General Assembly*, 2006.

¹⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 3.

¹⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 11.

that would make them more representative of the people and less beholden to the executive branches and, frequently, dictators in their countries of origin.¹⁶⁹ These conditions fortify an impression that the General Assembly is not geared to speak for the world's people in any democratically meaningful sense.¹⁷⁰ Some system of weighted voting would seem desirable in order for the result to represent the democratic opinion of the world's population.¹⁷¹

The Road Ahead for UN Reform

The legacy of Kofi Annan will forever be considered far-reaching and rich, especially in terms of UN reform, where Annan paved the road for a rejuvenated and resourceful UN system. During his 10 years as Secretary-General, Annan presented a number of additional reports that centered on addressing the challenges, threats and change of tomorrow. Whether it was a report calling for strengthening peace operations or a report moving for more transparency and accountability in the Secretariat, Kofi Annan believed in a UN system that would continue to remain credible, strong and necessary.¹⁷² His efforts to restructure and strengthen the Organization's rules, systems, and culture meant retooling and investing in the UN to fulfill the growing expectations and demands placed on it by the international community.¹⁷³

As we enter the new era of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who shares the same passion and aspirations for UN reform, the question on everyone's mind is: "How does the Secretary-General advance UN reform?" In evaluating the response to the reform recommendations made in 2005, some cases have been received and implemented very effectively; in other cases they have been regarded as more promising; but in some key areas, they have been viewed as very disappointing.¹⁷⁴ As one follows the history of the UN, one will be struck by the adaptive qualities of the Organization and its ability to adjust to a changing international context.¹⁷⁵ But the fraud, corruption and mismanagement in the UN Organization continue. How can the UN prevent another "Oil-for-Food" scandal, which suffered from widespread corruption when Saddam Hussein acquired more than \$10 billion in illicit funds under the watch of the UN?¹⁷⁶ How can the UN avert another Alexander Yakovlev in the UN Procurement Department from taking nearly \$1 million in bribes from vendors in order to win contracts?¹⁷⁷ How does the UN resolve the bitter feelings that Member States have towards the Procurement Task Force – who has identified more than \$610 million in tainted UN contracts and \$25 million in misappropriated funds?¹⁷⁸

Conclusion

The UN is evolving with the times but there remains a sizeable gap between aspiration and accomplishment.¹⁷⁹ The future is waiting to present new and different problems to the UN. The UN cannot afford to stand still. It has survived the worst days of the cold war and gone on to accommodate itself with the influx of the drastic changes such as the new composition and character of an increased membership. It has produced unavoidable strains and tensions, but it also has produced a UN which is more reflective of the forces and desires of the world community. But the challenges of tomorrow continue to confront the UN. What can the Secretary-General do to align activities with priorities? How can his office allocate new resources for these priorities? What efforts must be done to clarify roles and responsibilities for coherence? Will the UN be able to "manage" change? From pragmatic beginnings, can there be a visionary change of direction for the world?

III. The Impact of Migration on Development

¹⁶⁹ Barros, *The United Nations: Past, Present, and Future*, 1972, p. 196.

¹⁷⁰ *Ibid*, p. 196-197.

¹⁷¹ *Ibid*, p. 197.

¹⁷² Ban Ki-moon, *UN Reform*, 2008.

¹⁷³ United Nations, *In Larger Freedom*, 2005.

¹⁷⁴ United States Institute of Peace, *American Interests and United Nations Reform*, 2005, p. 12.

¹⁷⁵ Barros, *The United Nations: Past, Present, and Future*, 1972, p. 6.

¹⁷⁶ Government Accountability Office, *United Nations: Lessons Learned from Oil for Food Program Indicate the Need to Strengthen UN Internal Controls and Oversight Activities*, April 2006.

¹⁷⁷ Rosett, *U.N. Family Ties: Is There a Replay of the Kofi and Kojo Annan Scandal?* Fox News, 2005.

¹⁷⁸ Lynch, *Ex-Prosecutor Targets Corruption at U.N.*, Washington Post, 2008.

¹⁷⁹ Haas, *Why We Still Need the United Nations*, 1986, p. 71.

“Only through cooperation – bilateral, regional, and global – can we build the partnerships between receiver and sender countries that are in the interests of both; explore innovations to make migration a driver of development; fight smugglers and traffickers effectively; and agree on common standards for the treatment of immigrants and the management of migration.”¹⁸⁰

Introduction

Until recently, the relationship between migration and development has been undefined and rarely discussed; this relationship has been riddled with speculation, false information, and misunderstandings. In order to discuss the impact of migration on development, the relationship between migration and development must be explored.

The relationship between migration and development is not linear; it is cyclical.¹⁸¹ Underdevelopment induces migration, while migration impacts development.¹⁸² As underdevelopment induces migration, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are most affected by international migration.¹⁸³ Emigration, or the flow of migrants from a State, can cause a further lack of development by reducing human capital resources in countries of origin.¹⁸⁴ A blanket assumption, however, that any migration will have a negative impact on development is inaccurate.¹⁸⁵ In fact, migration can positively impact development.¹⁸⁶ Migration caused by supply and demand of labor can be beneficial to both countries of origin and receiving countries.¹⁸⁷ For example, there are large numbers of unemployed laborers in Africa who are “waiting to enter the formal economy, either at home or abroad.”¹⁸⁸ In South Africa, 25% - 30% of adults who actively look for work cannot find any.¹⁸⁹ As the education and skill set of migrants vary, so does the impact of migration on development.¹⁹⁰

Migration by highly skilled and educated citizens, however, can prove detrimental to the development of the countries of origin.¹⁹¹ This phenomenon, commonly referred to as the “brain drain,” is specifically defined as “the departure of educated professional people from one country or field for another, usually for better pay or living conditions.”¹⁹² As work proves difficult to find in countries of origin, educated migrants go to great lengths to travel abroad in search of work.¹⁹³ In migration patterns between the Middle East and North Africa to Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) States, 48.6% of migrants were considered “high-skilled,” or had obtained 13 years and more of schooling.¹⁹⁴ In fact, a large number of African migrants to the United States are “highly educated” or had completed tertiary education (roughly 95,000 of 128,000, or 74.2%, in 1999).¹⁹⁵ Most migrant populations are more educated than those who remain in developing countries of origin.¹⁹⁶ The health care industry is particularly affected by this phenomenon; in Ghana, for example, it is estimated that over 60% of medical doctors have emigrated.¹⁹⁷ This exodus has a monetary cost; one estimate put the cost of the brain drain in Iran at

¹⁸⁰ Annan, *UN Secretary-General Annan addresses European Parliament*, 2004.

¹⁸¹ Taylor, *International migration and economic development (UN/POP/MIG/SYMP/2006/09)*, 2006.

¹⁸² *Ibid.*

¹⁸³ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁴ Ozden, *Brain drain in Middle East & North Africa -- the patterns under the surface (UN/POP/EGM/2006/10)*, 2006.

¹⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁶ International Organization for Migration, Research and Publications Division, *Towards development-friendly migration policies and programmes: Some concrete examples from European Member States*, 2006.

¹⁸⁷ Ozden, *Brain drain in Middle East & North Africa -- the patterns under the surface (UN/POP/EGM/2006/10)*, 2006.

¹⁸⁸ Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM), *Fact sheet: Regional hearing for Africa, 28 February - 1 March 2005*, n.d.

¹⁸⁹ Kingdon & Knight, *Unemployment, race and poverty in South Africa*, 2005.

¹⁹⁰ Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM), *Fact sheet: Regional hearing for Africa, 28 February - 1 March 2005*, n.d.

¹⁹¹ Taylor, *International migration and economic development (UN/POP/MIG/SYMP/2006/09)*, 2006.

¹⁹² *Ibid.*; Janneh, *Migration and development -- Exploring the development potential of migration in Africa*, 2008.

¹⁹³ Harrison, Huge cost of Iranian brain drain. *BBC News*, 2007.

¹⁹⁴ Adams, *Migration, remittances and development: The critical nexus of the Middle East and North Africa (UN/POP/EGM/2006/01)*, 2006.

¹⁹⁵ Carrington & Detragiache, How extensive is the brain drain? *Finance & Development: A Quarterly Magazine of the IMF*, 1999.

¹⁹⁶ Ozden, *Brain drain in Middle East & North Africa -- the patterns under the surface (UN/POP/EGM/2006/10)*, 2006.

¹⁹⁷ International Organization for Migration, Research and Publications Division, *Towards development-friendly migration policies and programmes: Some concrete examples from European Member States*, 2006; African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), & International Organization for Migration (IOM) for West and Central Africa, *Migration*,

\$40 billion per year.¹⁹⁸ This is a significant problem, as States are investing in education, yet losing their most skilled citizens to emigration.¹⁹⁹ Therefore, the economic investment in education does not yield positive results, as anticipated, in relation to development.²⁰⁰

In relation to the “brain drain” phenomenon, policy makers have begun discussing “brain exchange,” “brain waste,” and “brain circulation.”²⁰¹ These three concepts, focusing on the “exchange of professionals” between countries of origin and receiving countries, the underemployment of migrants in receiving countries, and the potential for learned emigrants to return to their countries of origin, respectively, are all closely related to the concept of the “brain drain.”²⁰² All four of these concepts are thoroughly scrutinized when constructing migration policy.²⁰³ The “brain exchange” has been of particular interest to policy makers, as policy makers have encouraged Diaspora communities to transfer knowledge back to their countries of origin in order to spur development.²⁰⁴ Diaspora networks may significantly stem the “brain drain.”²⁰⁵ In a similar vein, policy makers have encouraged the development of Home Town Associations (HTAs), which are created when migrants form “associations to support their home region/town.”²⁰⁶ HTAs often encourage increased remittances by migrants to countries of origin.²⁰⁷ Such policy initiatives, in addition to “independent, nongovernmental initiatives,” have proven increasingly effective.²⁰⁸

It has been often argued that these remittances, which “are direct person-to-person flows from migrants to families and relatives in their countries of origin and directed to the identified need of the recipient,” help to stem the economic loss due to the loss of human capital.²⁰⁹ Data confirming the extent to which remittances are helpful remains unclear; in fact, there has been “intense debate” among policy makers as to the ability of remittances to reduce poverty and increase investment.²¹⁰ In effort to create comprehensive policies, leaders are continually trying to understand how to increase remittances.²¹¹ Policy makers have emphasized the importance of the banking sector; in order to induce increased remittances, remitting money to countries of origin must be “cheaper, faster, and safer.”²¹² In addition, policy makers have begun to analyze the underlying causes of remittances; there have been four theoretical approaches to the motives behind remittances put forward:

1. the endogenous migration theory, which argues that altruism and family ties are responsible for remittances;
2. the portfolio theory, which argues migrants logically remit money because investment in the country of origin will yield greater results;
3. the co-sharing of risks and insurance theory, which argues that migrants feel it necessary to keep ties to their countries of origin in case their migration proves unsuccessful, and;

development and poverty reduction: Report, workshop on migration, development and poverty reduction, Dakar, 8-10 August 2006, 2007.

¹⁹⁸ Harrison, Huge cost of Iranian brain drain. *BBC News*, 2007.

¹⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁰ African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), & International Organization for Migration (IOM) for West and Central Africa, *Migration, development and poverty reduction: Report, workshop on migration, development and poverty reduction, Dakar, 8-10 August 2006, 2007.*

²⁰¹ Janneh, *Migration and development -- Exploring the development potential of migration in Africa*, 2008.

²⁰² *Ibid.*

²⁰³ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁴ International Organization for Migration, Research and Publications Division, *Towards development-friendly migration policies and programmes: Some concrete examples from European Member States*, 2006; Mbeki, *African Diaspora in the 21st century*, 2003.

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁸ *Addressing Africa's humiliation: 'Brain gain'/'brain circulation' Diaspora networks for African progress*, 2006.

²⁰⁹ International Organization for Migration, Research and Publications Division, *Towards development-friendly migration policies and programmes: Some concrete examples from European Member States*, 2006.; Taylor, *International migration and economic development (UN/POP/MIG/SYMP/2006/09)*, 2006.

²¹⁰ Gallina, *The impact of international migration on the economic development of countries in the Mediterranean basin (UN/POP/EGM/2006/04)*, 2006.

²¹¹ *Ibid.*

²¹² International Organization for Migration, Research and Publications Division, *Towards development-friendly migration policies and programmes: Some concrete examples from European Member States*, 2006.

4. the social-capital theory, which indicates that social factors, including age and authority, are responsible for remittances.²¹³

Leaving theoretical reasoning aside, it is clear that remittances aid investment in countries of origin.²¹⁴ Even those remittances which are not themselves spent on investment, as remittances are often used for “food, clothing, and health care,” free other resources which are.²¹⁵ Often, investment due to remittances is focused on the micro-levels; many small and family businesses are increasingly reliant on remittances.²¹⁶ Moreover, remittances can be used to aid development directly, through “support of education, public health, housing,” basic infrastructure, etc.²¹⁷ Remittances could prove to be a valuable tool for development; if only 12% of all remittances are invested in countries of origin, it would result in \$15-20 billion worth of investment annually.²¹⁸ Such a prospect, however, must be weighed against the potential negative affects of remittances, which includes higher inflation, as well as an increased inflow of imports, resulting in a higher trade deficit.²¹⁹

The Causes of Migration

As stated, underdevelopment often fuels migration; lack of opportunity and development causes individuals to migrate.²²⁰ To be more specific, high unemployment, tied with a high cost of living, will encourage migration.²²¹ Specifically, the lack of available “knowledge-intensive jobs” encourages the migration of skilled workers.²²² Those most affected by economic problems, i.e. the poor, however, are unlikely to migrate, due to their inadequate financial support.²²³ Moving abroad is costly; some are simply unable to pay this cost.²²⁴ In addition to economic factors, political and social factors also play a significant role.²²⁵ Areas suffering from political instability and violence experience higher rates of migration.²²⁶ Moreover, violations of human rights also cause migration.²²⁷

Gender also plays a significant role in the causes of migration.²²⁸ Often, women’s migration is based upon familial and social reasons; women frequently migrate to reunite with previously migrated family members (typically husbands), leave a harmful domestic situation, ensure the safety of their children, avoid “stigmatization by the community,” and escape persecution.²²⁹ Unfortunately, women who migrate in order to avoid traditions in their countries of origin do not always find solace; as families arrive in the receiving country, they often bring traditions with them, which can include female genital mutilation (FGM), arranged marriages, polygamy, etc.²³⁰ As the

²¹³ *Ibid.*

²¹⁴ Adams, *Migration, remittances and development: The critical nexus of the Middle East and North Africa* (UN/POP/EGM/2006/01), 2006

²¹⁵ Gallina, *The impact of international migration on the economic development of countries in the Mediterranean basin* (UN/POP/EGM/2006/04), 2006; Adams, *Migration, remittances and development: The critical nexus of the Middle East and North Africa* (UN/POP/EGM/2006/01), 2006.

²¹⁶ Conway & Cohen, Consequences of migration and remittances for Mexican transnational communities. *Economic Geography*, 1998.

²¹⁷ Labaki, *The role of transnational communities in fostering development in countries of origin* (UN/POP/EGM/2006/13), 2006.

²¹⁸ Gallina, *The impact of international migration on the economic development of countries in the Mediterranean basin* (UN/POP/EGM/2006/04), 2006.

²¹⁹ Labaki, *The role of transnational communities in fostering development in countries of origin* (UN/POP/EGM/2006/13), 2006.

²²⁰ Global Forum on Migration & Development, *Final conclusions and recommendations of the Chair, Ambassador Regine De Clercq*, 2007.

²²¹ Sako, Brain drain and Africa’s development: a reflection. *African Issues*, 2002.

²²² Janneh, *Migration and development -- Exploring the development potential of migration in Africa*, 2008.

²²³ Taylor, J. E. *International migration and economic development* (UN/POP/MIG/SYMP/2006/09), 2006.

²²⁴ *Ibid.*

²²⁵ Ozden, *Brain drain in Middle East & North Africa -- the patterns under the surface* (UN/POP/EGM/2006/10), 2006.

²²⁶ *Ibid.*; Sako, Brain drain and Africa’s development: a reflection. *African Issues*, 2002

²²⁷ Sako, Brain drain and Africa’s development: a reflection. *African Issues*, 2002.

²²⁸ Global Forum on Migration & Development, *Final conclusions and recommendations of the Chair, Ambassador Regine De Clercq*, 2007.

²²⁹ Taylor, *International migration and economic development* (UN/POP/MIG/SYMP/2006/09), 2006; Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM), *Report of a workshop on gender dimensions of international migration, 23 - 24 March 2005, Geneva*, n.d.

²³⁰ *Ibid.*

United Nations works to end “harmful traditions,” the effect of migration on these practices must be evaluated and considered.²³¹

Nevertheless, women stand to gain significantly by migration.²³² Some progress in women’s rights is due directly to migration; wives of migrants have become increasingly independent, as they are responsible for the handling of remittances.²³³ Therefore, they have gained “economic independence,” as they are the primary decision-maker of the household, as male family members are abroad.²³⁴

It is difficult to understand the root causes of migration, and migration’s specific impact on development, due to the lack of data on the subject. Avoiding the topic of irregular migration for a moment, full and complete records of formal migration do not exist. Records on emigration from States in the Middle East and Africa are woefully incomplete, as are records of European immigration.²³⁵ Records of emigration, specifically, are lacking, and information on emigration must be inferred by immigration statistics.²³⁶ Moreover, the measurement of remittances proves continually problematic, as only remittances through proper banking channels can be measured.²³⁷ There is a real and immediate need for better “data collection on migration flows and development impact analyses.”²³⁸ As communication between States on this topic increases, there are additional opportunities to exchange methods of measurement and analysis, in an effort to regulate statistical information.²³⁹

Case Studies

Currently, States work to cope with migration, both as receiving countries and countries of origin. The two following case studies illustrate how States have responded to the impact of migration on development.

Germany – Turkey

Of the four million migrants originating from Turkey, 80% live in Europe; a significant portion of these European immigrants reside in Germany.²⁴⁰ From the German perspective, Turkish migrants make up roughly 24% of all migrants residing in the country, and “2% of the total population.”²⁴¹ Such a high percentage of Turkish migrants residing in Germany encourage each government to construct specific policies in order to address this situation. In order to encourage remittances, Turkey ensures that official financial channels continue to be attractive due to “efficient operations (low cost, high speed)” and “incentives offered by the Central Bank of Turkey.”²⁴² In addition, in order to encourage continued investment by migrants, the Turkish government also created the “pink card,” which allows Turkish migrants to “buy and inherit land in Turkey.”²⁴³ Germany created the “green card” in 2000, in order to increase immigration by “foreign experts,” specifically in the field of information and communication

²³¹ Migiro, *With sustained effort, female genital mutilation 'can vanish within a generation,'* 2008; UN agencies rally to end to female genital mutilation within a generation, 2008; United Nations. General Assembly, *Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century,'* (A/Res/59/167), 2005.

²³² Conway, & Cohen, Consequences of migration and remittances for Mexican transnational communities. *Economic Geography*, 1998.

²³³ *Ibid.*

²³⁴ *Ibid.*

²³⁵ Adams, *Migration, remittances and development: The critical nexus of the Middle East and North Africa (UN/POP/EGM/2006/01)*, 2006; International Organization for Migration, Research and Publications Division, *Towards development-friendly migration policies and programmes: Some concrete examples from European Member States*, 2006.

²³⁶ Michalowski, *Guidelines to measure emigration through immigration data*, 2006.

²³⁷ Adams, *Migration, remittances and development: The critical nexus of the Middle East and North Africa (UN/POP/EGM/2006/01)*, 2006.

²³⁸ Global Forum on Migration & Development, *Summary report: First meeting, Brussels, July 9-11, 2007*, 2007.

²³⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁰ Gallina, *The impact of international migration on the economic development of countries in the Mediterranean basin (UN/POP/EGM/2006/04)*, 2006.

²⁴¹ *Ibid.*

²⁴² *Ibid.*

²⁴³ *Ibid.*

technology.²⁴⁴ This card, in addition to another law passed in 2005, is designed to increase immigration by skilled migrants.²⁴⁵

United States – Mexico

Unlike the exodus of highly educated individuals from Africa, most Mexican migrants living in the United States are low-skilled.²⁴⁶ Although efforts have been taken to create additional opportunities in Mexico, Mexican immigration to the United States has increased since the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).²⁴⁷ This migration has caused a significant amount of remittances to be sent back to Mexico; in 2004, approximately \$16 billion were remitted to Mexico.²⁴⁸ In an effort to increase the impact of these remittances, Mexico has established a tres-por-uno program, which triples remittances dedicated to investment through government contributions.²⁴⁹ Moreover, Mexico has established a “consular matricula,” which allows irregular migrants to establish a bank account, obtain a drivers’ license, and “have proof of their identity and nationality.”²⁵⁰

Recent Progress

As migration and development are increasingly recognized as linked, the international community has taken notice. International policy coherence is essential.²⁵¹ The United Nations held a High Level Dialogue in 2006 which discussed four topics: the effects of international migration on economic and social development; measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of all migrants, and to prevent and combat smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons; multidimensional aspects of international migration and development, including remittances; and ways of promoting the building of partnerships.²⁵² The dialogue confirmed the need for further analysis and cooperation when considering the impact of migration on development.²⁵³

In response to this confirmation, the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), held in Brussels in July 2007, continued the discussion topics which began at the High Level Dialogue in 2006.²⁵⁴ The GFMD affirmed that a “new approach to migration” was needed and emphasized that migration should be viewed as an opportunity instead of a threat.²⁵⁵ The Forum also emphasized the need to reduce remittance costs to encourage greater investment.²⁵⁶

On June 20, 2008, the General Assembly passed resolution A/Res/62/270, which links the GFMD to the United Nations, through continued correspondence between the Secretary-General and the organizers of the GFMD and encouraging of Member States to take part in subsequent forums.²⁵⁷ This resolution strongly advocates the migration must be addressed at a global level.²⁵⁸

The GFMD will again meet in October 2008 in Manila, Philippines.²⁵⁹ The forum is intended to focus on: migration, development, and human rights; secure legal migration can achieve stronger development impacts; and

²⁴⁴ Kolb, The German “Green Card.” *Focus Migration: Policy Brief*, 2005.

²⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁶ Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM), *Summary report: Regional hearing for the Americas, Mexico City, 16-17 May 2005*, n.d.

²⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁹ Taylor, *International migration and economic development (UN/POP/MIG/SYMP/2006/09)*, 2006.

²⁵⁰ Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM), *Summary report: Regional hearing for the Americas, Mexico City, 16-17 May 2005*, n.d.

²⁵¹ International Organization for Migration, *Migration initiatives appeal 2008*, 2008.

²⁵² United Nations General Assembly, *Summary of the high-level dialogue on international migration and development*, 2006.

²⁵³ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁴ Global Forum on Migration & Development, *Summary report: First meeting, Brussels, July 9-11, 2007*, 2007.

²⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁷ United Nations. General Assembly, *Global Forum on Migration and Development*, (A/Res/62/270), 2008.

²⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁹ Global forum on migration & development, *Background*, 2008.

policy and institutional coherence and partnerships.²⁶⁰ The purpose of this meeting is to again emphasize the importance of international cooperation on migration policies in order to ensure development.²⁶¹

Conclusion

Progress made at the aforementioned meetings is significant, but more has to be done. How can countries of origin work to ensure that an investment in education will result in developmental benefits? How can countries of origins and receiving countries work together to lower the transaction cost of remittances? Should this body work to directly address the political and social causes of migration, as well as the economic causes? If so, how can this be accomplished? How can this body increase the reliability of data on the subject, considering the problem of irregular migration? Clearly, there is much more that needs to be done on this topic, in order to understand the relationship between migration and development and to increase the positive impact of migration and development.

Annotated Bibliography

History of the General Assembly Plenary

Field Haviland, H., Jr. (1951). The Assembly's Political Role-In Embryo. In *The Political Role of the General Assembly* (pp. 5-34). New York: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
This book offers a detailed analysis of the functions and activities of the General Assembly. It also offers an historic background on the creation of the UN Charter and the key influences in its writing. Despite the age of the book, the information provided serves as an essential tool for research and reference purposes.

Goodrich, L. M., Hambro, E., & Simons, A. P. (1969). The General Assembly. In *Charter of the United Nations: Commentary and Documents* (3rd, Rev. ed., pp. 106-191). New York: Columbia University Press.
The authors of this work provide a full and detailed analysis on every article of the UN Charter. The analysis provides an interpretation and explanation of how each article is applied within the UN System. The section dedicated to the General Assembly provides a detail look into the functions and historical explanation of the Charter.

Swart, L. (2008, April). Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly. In *Managing Change at the United Nations*. Retrieved August 2, 2008, from Center for UN Reform Education Web site:
<http://centerforunreform.org/node/308>
This document focuses on the efforts made by the General Assembly to revitalize itself, as well as the efforts made to advance the body within the UN System. The author examines the difficulty that the GA faces with opposition between developed and developing States, as well as differences between the GA and other UN organs, such as the SC. The article also highlights achievements made by the GA regarding efforts to strengthen itself in the UN. Included are interviews from Ambassadors to the UN and a detailed look at the efforts made during the initial part of the 21st century to reform the UN.

United Nations. (n.d.). *Growth in United Nations Membership 1945-present*. Retrieved July 16, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/members/growth.shtml>
Detailed information regarding the growth of the UN since 1945 is provided at this website. The page also provided information about Member States of the UN and its organs. In addition, information on non-Member States, NGOs, and IGOs is provided on entities that are represented in the UN System as "Observers".

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session. *About the General Assembly, Functions and Powers of the General Assembly*. Retrieved July 9, 2008, from <http://un.org/ga/about/background.shtml>
This source provides official information regarding the General Assembly. A summary of the primary functions and powers of the GA is provided in accordance to the UN Charter. This source also provides additional links to other pages of interest concerning the GA.

²⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁶¹ *Ibid.*

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session. *Landmark General Assembly Documents: A Selection*. Retrieved August 18, 2008, from <http://un.org/Depts/dhl/landmark/amajor>

This selection of documents highlights important documents adopted by the General Assembly since its creation. The documents range from topics such as human rights and women's right to important documents related to the parliamentary process of the GA. Each document provides a link to an online version of the document in some of the official languages of the UN.

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session. (2008). *List of non-Member States, Entities and Organizations having received a standing Invitation to participate as Observers in the Sessions and the Work of the General Assembly. Note by the Secretariat (A/INF/62/6)*. Retrieved August 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/INF/62/6>

This document includes non-Member States, entities and organizations that have an invitation by the GA to participate as "Observers" during sessions and the work of the GA. During the 62nd Session, a total of 71 entities have been reported as participants within the activities of the GA. This document reflects the diversity of the participants that take part of the GA, which can include religious and regional organizations, among other NGOs and IGOs.

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session. *Main Committees*. Retrieved July 9, 2008, from <http://un.org/ga/maincommittees.shtml>

This section of the GA website provides a quick look at the six Main Committees of the General Assembly. This source provides the main issues assigned to each committee and a link to each committee's page where further information is provided for this subsidiary organs of the General Assembly.

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session. *Main Issues*. Retrieved July 31, 2008, from <http://un.org/ga/president/62/issues/issues.shtml>

The website provides a summary of the top issues on the agenda for the 62nd Session of the General Assembly. It also provides links that lead to further details and development of the main issues presented. It allows the researcher to know what are the topics being discussed during this session, as well as developments and future discussions of the items on the agenda.

United Nations. General Assembly. 62th Session. *Thematic Debates*. Retrieved September 26, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ga/president/62/ThematicDebates/thematicdebates.shtml>

During its 62nd Session, the GA held several thematic debates to engage in further discussion and development of current issues that affect the international community. The debates were held in various countries during 2008 and highlighted various topics such as climate change, human trafficking, human security, as well as UN reform. The themes of these debates are usually reflections of the issues that the GA has on its agenda, as well as the commitment the GA has with the international community regarding these issues.

United Nations. General Assembly. 60th Session. (2005, September 16). *2005 World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1)*. Retrieved September 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r60.htm>

On September 16, 2005, the General Assembly signed resolution A/RES/60/1 at the 2005 World Summit which was a follow-up to the 2000 Millennium Summit. The document reaffirms the GA's commitment to the MDGs alongside other commitments, such as the fight against terrorism. This resolution calls for the creation of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Human Rights Council.

United Nations. General Assembly. 60th Session. (2006, April 3). *Human Rights Council (A/RES/60/251)*. Retrieved September 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r60.htm>

The General Assembly passed Resolution A/RES/60/251 establishing the Human Rights Council. In this resolution, the GA reaffirms its commitment to promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Human Rights Council replaced the Commission on Human Rights in 2006.

United Nations. General Assembly. 60th Session. (2005, December 30). *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*. Retrieved September 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r60.htm>

On December 30, 2005, the General Assembly adopted Resolution A/RES/60/180, establishing the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). Working alongside the SC and the High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, the GA laid down the framework of the PBC. The PBC was established to create mechanism of recovery and reconstruction for countries emerging out of conflict.

United Nations. General Assembly. 59th Session. *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security, and Human Rights for All, Report of the Secretary-General*. Retrieved August 10, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/largerfreedom/contents.htm>

In 2005, the historic report of former Secretary-General Kofi Annan was released and has proven to be one of the most important documents of UN history. Section IV of the Report is dedicated to strengthening the UN system. Items 158-164 of this section are dedicated to GA reform. Annan calls for bolder measures within the GA to improve the deliberative process, attend to issues currently affecting the international community, and create measures to involve civil society within the GA.

United Nations. General Assembly. 5th Session. (1950, November 3). *Uniting For Peace* (A/RES/ 377(V)). Retrieved September 26, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/5/ares5.htm>

In 1950, the GA adopted resolution 377(V) "Uniting for Peace." This resolution allows the GA to take action when there appears to be a situation that threatens peace and security is vetoed by a permanent member of the SC. According to the resolution, the GA can also give out recommendation to parties involved to "maintain and secure international peace and security."

United Nations. Economic and Social Council. (2006, March 22). *Implementation of the General Assembly United Nations resolution 60/251* (E/2006/2). Retrieved September 26, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/docs/resdec.asp?type=1&year=2006>

The Economic and Social Council decided in 2006 to take up on the GA resolution, A/RES/60/251, regarding the replacement of the Commission on Human Rights. In the ECOSOC resolution, the original 1946 mandate of the Commission was recalled, and called for the conclusion of the activities of the Commission at its 62nd Session. The decision was made effective on June 16, 2006. In this same year, the Human Rights Council was established under the 2005 GA resolution A/RES/60/251.

United Nations. Security Council. (2005, December 20). *Post-conflict peacebuilding* (S/RES/1645 and S/RES/1646). Retrieved September 10, 2008, from http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_resolutions05.htm

The Security Council adopted Resolutions 1645 and 1646 in 2005 which gave the approval to create the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) alongside the GA's Resolution A/RES 60/180 in 2005. Working alongside the High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, the framework was established for the PBC. During its first year of existence, the PBC has focused on the regions of Burundi and Sierra Leone.

United Nations. (1945, June 6). *United Nations Charter*. Retrieved July 9, 2008, from <http://un.org/aboutun/charter>

This is an online version of the Charter of the United Nations. This is the main document where the mandate of the GA is established. Chapter VI of the Charter is dedicated to the GA. It stipulates functions and powers granted to the GA in order to carry out its work properly.

Additional Sources

Kaufmann, J. (1980). World Meeting Place: The General Assembly. In *United Nations Decision Making* (pp. 25-42). The Netherlands: Sijthoff & Noordhoff International Publishers.

This book provides a very detailed look into the activities and functions of the main organs of the UN. The section dedicated to the General Assembly provides an analysis in how decisions are made within the Assembly. In addition, it studies step-by-step procedures to reach an accord with in the GA as well as how the GA reaches other agreements with other UN organs.

Townley, R. (1968). The Six Pillars of Collective Wisdom. In *The United Nations: A View from Within* (pp. 30-34). New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

In the selected chapter of this book, the author gives a detailed look at the composition, structure, and functions of the six main UN organs. The first section of this chapter is dedicated to the main UN organ, the General Assembly. The author provides the reader with a brief, yet comprehensive look to the activities of the GA and the functions that are detailed in the UN Charter.

I. New Approaches to Nuclear Non-Proliferation

Annan, K. (2000, March 7). *Secretary-General's Millennium Assembly Report*. Report presented at the United Nations. New York, New York.

Former Secretary-General Kofi Annan's report to the Millennium Assembly in 2000 had several sections that addressed specific goals that he wanted addressed by the United Nations as part of the Millennium Development Goals. Section IV, called "Freedom from Fear" was directed specifically at the failures of the international community to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction and the failure of the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and other international documents that are aimed at keeping the balance of the nuclear regime.

Bahgat, G. (2006, June). Israel and Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East. *Middle East Policy*, 13(2), 113-133. *This article explores Israel's nuclear research program. Bahgat qualifies his article by stating that Israel has never admitted to developing nuclear weapons and have never published any details regarding the program, so the best guesses of what they actually possess is from non-Israeli sources and scholarly analysis. It is generally thought that Israel possesses the capability to create nuclear weapons and has a very sophisticated research program and several reactors.*

Blix, H. (2007, July). *CTBT: Going the Last Mile to Banish Nuclear Weapons Testing*. Retrieved September 17, 2008, from http://www.ctbto.org/fileadmin/content/reference/outreach/ctbto_spectrum_10/p6_7_Cover_story.pdf *Hans Blix is an internationally renowned scholar and UN weapons inspector. In this article he wrote for the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Blix outlines the problems that the negotiations for the CTBT have encountered. Blix also highlights the importance and urgency of ratifying the CTBT.*

Bureau of Industry and Security, United States Department of Commerce. (n.d.). *Multilateral Export Regimes*. Retrieved September 16, 2008, from <http://www.bis.doc.gov/policiesandregulations/multilateralexportregimes.htm> *The United States Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) Web site is useful for understanding how export controls function in the international trade regime. This particular section of the Web site shows how different export control regimes function, including the already mentioned Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). The others listed here are the Wassenaar Arrangement, the Australia Group, and the Nuclear Suppliers Group. These regimes also focus on nuclear dual-use technologies that can be dangerous if put to the right use.*

Charter of the United Nations, June 26, 1945, 59 Stat. 1031, TS No. 993, 3 Bevans 1153. *The Charter of the United Nations is the foundation document of the UN and therefore, all delegates should familiarize themselves with the principles enshrined in it. Of particular relevance is Chapter IV, which lays out the specific duties and powers of the General Assembly. Understanding the duties and reach of the General Assembly will assist you as a delegate in focusing their research.*

Chow, B. G., Speier, R. H., & Jones, G. S. (1995). *The Proposed Fissile Material Production Cutoff: Next Steps* (Monograph). Retrieved August 8, 2008, from http://www.rand.org/pubs/monograph_reports/2007/MR586-1.pdf *This report, published by the Rand Corporation in 1995, provides an in depth look at the proposed Fissile Materials Cutoff Treaty. The writers use a policy-oriented focus that looks at what the FMCT would do and how it would affect the proliferation of nuclear materials. They analyze the materials themselves (both plutonium and highly enriched uranium, HEU), and the policies proposed and whether or not a document such as the FMCT would actually hinder the proliferation of nuclear weapons.*

Federation of American Scientists. (n.d.). *Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty*. Retrieved August 8, 2008, from <http://www.fas.org/nuke/control/fmct/>

The Federation of American Scientists (FAS) has provided this site as an introduction to the proposed Fissile Materials Cutoff Treaty. This page also provides links to other sites that detail the history of negotiations and proposals for the FMCT. The FAS also neatly summarizes the chronology of the FMCT.

General Accounting Office. (1983, September 29). *Controlling Exports of Dual-Use Nuclear-Related Equipment*. Retrieved September 16, 2008, from <http://archive.gao.gov/f0102/122594.pdf>

The General Accounting Office, which is now known as the Government Accountability Office, or GAO, is known as the "Congressional Watchdog." They write reports on the business and politics of the United States Congress, and this one details the need for stricter controls on dual use technologies. This report also focuses on how export controls can assist in curtailing the proliferation of these hard to track items.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (n.d.). *About IAEA*. Retrieved September 27, 2008, from <http://www.iaea.org/About/index.html>

This website is an introduction to the IAEA and it's work in the field of nuclear weapons inspection. The IAEA is the premier agency that works in conjunction with the United Nations to ensure that all of the established safeguards are met and followed. The IAEA uses its statute to create guidelines in three main areas: safety and security, safeguards and verification, and science and technology.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (n.d.). *Our Work: Verification*. Retrieved September 27, 2008, from <http://www.iaea.org/OurWork/SV/index.html>

The 'Verification' section of the IAEA Web site is dedicated to explaining how the safeguards mechanisms work within the IAEA. The IAEA is one of the biggest nuclear weapons inspections organizations in the international community. They work closely with the United Nations to ensure that compliance mechanisms are met.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2003). *Nuclear Research in Israel*. Retrieved September 1, 2008, from http://www.iaea.org/inisnkm/nkm/ws/research_institutes/israel.html

The International Atomic Energy Agency's Nuclear Energy Handbook provides facts and lists facilities that contribute to a State's nuclear research programs. This page is dedicated to Israel's program, and upon further research, links are provided to Israeli government pages such as the Israel Atomic Energy Commission (IAEC) and others. This listing is also a link to many other resources regarding nuclear power.

James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies. (2008). *Monterey Nonproliferation Strategy Group*. Retrieved September 27, 2008, from <http://cns.miis.edu/research/mnsg/>

The Monterey Institute is home to one of the most renowned nuclear non-proliferation study programs. The Institute also houses the Monterey Nonproliferation Strategy Group, which puts on conferences and hosts debate regarding the international nuclear weapons regime. This Web site is dedicated to their reports and findings and is a good resource for getting acquainted with the current dialogue on nuclear non-proliferation.

Missile Technology Control Regime. (n.d.). *The Missile Technology Control Regime*. Retrieved August 28, 2008, from <http://www.mtcr.info/english/index.html>

This Web page is an introduction to the organization that is made up of thirty-four countries that have export controls on dual-use items. The goal of the MTCR is to halt the proliferation of nuclear weapons or nuclear weapons materials by using stricter export controls. The MTCR is a loose collaborative effort that encourages policy driven solutions to halting the flow of materials that can be used for nuclear weapons development.

Missile Technology Control Regime. (n.d.). *Objectives of the Missile Technology Control Regime*. Retrieved August 28, 2008, from <http://www.mtcr.info/english/objectives.html>

The Objectives section of the MTCR's Web site details the actions and attempts at export controls on nuclear capable materials, and also gives a mission statement. The main objective of the MTCR is to not

only utilize export controls, but also to hold regular meetings and encourage its members to dialogue frequently and openly to discourage the use of dual-use items for nuclear weaponry.

Missile Technology Control Regime. (2008, January 9). *Equipment, Software and Technology Annex*. Retrieved September 26, 2008 from <http://www.mtcr.info/english/annex.html>
The Equipment, Software and Technology Annex, published by the MTCR, is a report that seeks to classify items that can be used both for peaceful uses as well as for the development of nuclear weapons systems. This annex provides useful definitions and categories that assist its 34 members to making useful export policy controls and guidelines for trading items that have the potential to be used for nuclear weapons systems.

Monterey Nonproliferation Strategy Group. (2006, November). *Strengthening the Nuclear Nonproliferation Regime: Searching for Common Ground*. Retrieved September 26, 2008, from http://cns.miis.edu/research/mnsg/pdfs/0611_mnsg_report.pdf
Strengthening the Nuclear Nonproliferation Regime: Searching for Common Ground is a report published by the Monterey Non-Proliferation Strategy Group. This report details the role of non-proliferation measures at a local, regional, and international levels. It also provides prescriptive suggestions for policymakers on how to ensure that nuclear non-proliferation is at the forefront of their agendas.

Neumann, R. G. (1995, Summer). Conventional Arms Exports and Stability in the Middle East. *Journal of International Affairs*, 49(1), 183-204.
Neumann's article gives a brief historic account of Israel's existence in the Middle East and some details regarding the security crisis that resulted from it. This article goes into more depth regarding policies that some of the major players in the area have or might pursue, especially Israel. Neumann asserts that Israel's military procedure would have them be stronger than all Arab or Muslim States in the region combined, and that nuclear weapons were once viewed in Israel as a "great equalizer."

Nuclear Threat Initiative. (2004, April). *Israel Nuclear Facilities: Overview of Organizations and Facilities*. Retrieved September 17, 2008, from http://www.nti.org/e_research/profiles/Israel/Nuclear/3583.html
Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) is a research-based organization that focuses its efforts on tracking the progress (or lack thereof) of the dismantling of the nuclear regime as it exists currently. NTI also publishes country profiles that detail the known factors of certain nuclear programs. NTI also posts facts on chemical and biological weapons, as well as providing press updates and current events.

Nuclear Threat Initiative. (n.d.). *Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Tutorial, Proposed NWFZs: Middle East*. Retrieved October 28, 2008 from http://www.nti.org/h_learnmore/nwftutorial/chapter06_02.html
The establishment of Nuclear Weapons Free Zones (NWFZs) has been one strategy utilized by various regions to contain the spread of nuclear weapons. At the current time, there exist 5 regional NWFZ, Latin America, Africa, South East Asia, the South Pacific and Central Asia. The NTI has provided a thorough background on NWFZs. While the specific page used in this source refers to the Middle East, delegates should review the entire Tutorial as it provides excellent background information on NWFZs and how they work within the non-proliferation regime.

Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban-Treaty Organization. (2007, September 17). *CTBT Moves World Closer to Being Free of Nuclear Weapons, says UN Secretary-General*. Retrieved September 26, 2008 from <http://www.ctbto.org/press-centre/press-releases/2007/ctbt-moves-world-closer-to-being-free-of-nuclear-weapons-says-un-secretary-general/>
The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban-Treaty Organization (CTBTO) works to further the goals of the CTBT and its design. This press release by Ban Ki-moon discusses the CTBT and how it would assist the international community in obtaining a nuclear weapons free world. The honorable Secretary General specifically highlights the nuclear test completed by North Korea in 2006, stating that this should be the world's last nuclear test and urged all Members that have not yet ratified the CTBT to do so immediately to ensure WHAT?.

Simpson, J. (2004). *The Nuclear Non Proliferation Regime: Back to the future?* [Report]. Retrieved August 8, 2008, from <http://www.unidir.org/pdf/articles/pdf-art2015.pdf>

John Simpson's report for the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs is highly in depth regarding the consequences of how disarmament is approached by the United Nations Member States. The report is unique because Simpson tackles one of the most important issues facing the international community today: What changes have taken place since the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was signed that are affecting how we view non-proliferation today? Simpson also analyzes policy and structure, examining what needs to change to really needs to happen in the nuclear regime to ensure that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is halted.

Suleman, A. M. (2008). Bargaining in the Shadow of Violence: The NPT, IAEA, and Nuclear Non-Proliferation Negotiations. *Berkeley Journal of International Law*, 26(1), 206-253.

This article examines the current nuclear regime in the international community and envisions an out of control climate wherein any State that desires nuclear weapons shall have them. References to the nuclear tests completed by North Korea, India, and Pakistan and Iran's continued uranium enrichment program only assist in proving that this is more than a likely reality in the coming years. The fact that the capabilities are growing in already destabilized areas only increases the fears that more States will try to develop nuclear capabilities on their own.

United Nations. (1993). *The Relationship between Disarmament and Development* (A/RES/48/75). Retrieved September 17, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r48.htm>

This resolution is extremely important to the creation of a fissile materials cut-off agreement. Since no official document exists yet, this resolution is seminal to the development of such an agreement. To further the goals of the international community in creating a fissile materials cut-off agreement, this resolution highlights the impact of weapons acquisition on sustainable development.

United Nations. (2000). *Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty* (A/RES/55/567). Retrieved September 17, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/r55.htm>

The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty has been under debate for some time in the international community. This resolution essentially calls for the debate to be reignited. The countries that have not yet expressed interest in signing are key to the success or failure of the CTBT.

United Nations. (2005, October 20). *Security for Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, Ballistic Missile Proliferation Addressed In Disarmament Committee Draft Texts*. Retrieved September 17, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2005/gadis3308.doc.htm>

Periodically the United Nations (UN) gives press updates about the current workings of a committee. This particular release concerns a working paper that came out of the General Assembly First Committee concerning international nuclear policy. The results of the 2005 session of the GA First reported in this press release are the commitments of certain Member States to the values of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

United Nations Department of Disarmament Affairs. (2008). *Weapons of Mass Destruction*. Retrieved September 1, 2008, from <http://disarmament.un.org/WMD/>

This web site is a listing and explanation of the existing compliance mechanisms in the nuclear regime. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (Chemical Weapons Convention) and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (Biological Weapons Convention) are listed here. There are also synopses regarding other weapons of mass destruction issues, such as missiles and terrorism.

United Nations Disarmament Commission. (2003, March 31). 'Creeping Retreat' From Nuclear Disarmament, Increased Proliferation Risk. Retrieved September 26, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/dc2859.doc.htm>

From time to time the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies give press releases to keep the international community abreast of the discussions happening inside of working sessions. This 2003 release details the work of the Disarmament Commission and mentions the progress (or lack thereof) by the international

community to disarm. It also mentions the fact that already volatile areas are becoming increasingly unstable due to the presence of nuclear weapons.

United Nations. General Assembly. 48th Session. (1993). *General and Complete Disarmament (A/RES/48/75)*. Retrieved September 1, 2008 from <http://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/4170248.html>
Under the heading of general and complete disarmament, the General Assembly covered a number of different topics related to disarmament in this resolution. Included in this resolution are separate sections addressing among other topics, the Relationship between disarmament and development, bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament, general and complete disarmament, and Transparency in armaments. As controlling the proliferation of nuclear weapons is one part of the disarmament in general it is important to understand all the various facets of disarmament and how nuclear weapons fit in with other disarmament work.

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session. (2008). *The Risk of Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East A/Res/62/52*. Retrieved September 1, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ga/62/resolutions>
A/Res/62/52 is a General Assembly Resolution detailing the risks of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East. The resolution also calls for a heightened presence in the region to ensure that this does not occur. Since the Middle East is a particularly volatile area, extra measures are often required to ensure that no further proliferation occurs.

United Nations General Assembly, 62nd Session. (2008, January 15). *The Risk of Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East (A/RES/62/56)*. Retrieved September 1, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ga/62/resolutions>
A/RES/62/56 is a resolution that recalls the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency's efforts in the field of non-proliferation, and also that highlights the issues in the Middle East. It identifies Israel as the only State in the region to not have acceded to the NPT and calls for the immediate adherence to it by Israel. This resolution also requires a follow up at the General Assembly's 63rd Session by the Secretary General on the progress of Israel's accession to the NPT.

United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. (2002). *Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty*. Retrieved August 8, 2008, from <http://disarmament.un.org/WMD/ctbt/index.html>
The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) is meant to be a supplemental mechanism to the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty, and this United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) site offers an overview of the treaty. The CTBT would be one of the global community's best defenses against illicit proliferation of nuclear weapons, but due to many objections and contentious clauses, many Member States refuse to become party to the CTBT.

United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. (2002). *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)*. Retrieved August 8, 2008, from <http://disarmament.un.org/wmd/npt/>
This is a United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) site that describes the history of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). The NPT is the seminal document as far as nuclear non-proliferation is considered in the international community and if it were followed as it was intended, nuclear proliferation would be a much less important topic. UNODA gives a treaty status link as well as related documents and news to the NPT.

United Nations Security Council. (2008). *Membership of the Security Council: About the Council*. Retrieved August 8, 2008, from United Nations Web site: <http://www.un.org/sc/members.asp>
This Web site is dedicated to the Security Council's structure. It shows how the Members are chosen (those outside of the permanent five States), and how the Security Council functions within the United Nations. The Security Council site also details how the Security Council itself functions, its rules and structure.

Additional Sources

GlobalSecurity.org. (2000). *Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD): Dimona Negev Nuclear Research Center*. Retrieved August 8, 2008, from <http://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/world/israel/dimona.htm>

GlobalSecurity.org is a well-known site that provides information on all security related matters within the international community. This page provides an outline and chronology on the events that formed the Israeli Negev Nuclear Research Center at Dimona. Israel has long been suspected to possess nuclear weapons and the presence of the reactor at Dimona since 1958 leads many to believe that the state of Israel is home to a very sophisticated nuclear program that extends beyond research.

Elaraby, N. (1996, May 28). *The Security Council and Nuclear Weapons*. Retrieved September 26, 2008, from <http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/docs/elaraby.htm>

Dr. Elaraby's speech from an NGO working group on the Security Council focuses on the history and goals of the United Nations and non-proliferation. The speech calls for the Security Council to pass more resolutions dealing with nuclear weapons safeguards. Elaraby also talks about the need for stronger denuclearization processes and the importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

II. Advancing United Nations Reform

Ban Ki-moon. (2008). *UN Secretary-General, Reference Reports and Materials: Reform at the United Nations*. Retrieved September 14, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/reform/>

The United Nations has created a website to document its progress on reform and provide resources and materials to the public to educate them on the priority of the Secretary-General to advance UN reform. In this site, one will find Ban Ki-moon's agenda with UN reform and the latest news on how the UN Secretariat is determined to bring a new breathe of life into the world Organization.

Barros, J. (1972). *The United Nations: Past, Present, and Future*, New York: Free Press.

The six essays found in this book will be of great use for delegates which focus on the activities of the UN organs since 1946. Analyzing the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Office of the Secretary-General, this book highlights its weaknesses and offers recommendations where those organs can strengthen to better address the threats and challenges of tomorrow.

Bertrand, M. (1985). *Some Reflections on Reform of the United Nations*, Joint Inspection Unit, Presented to the General Assembly 40th Session.

This report reviews the nature, objectives, functions and structures of the United Nations and outlines major proposals for reform. The focus of the report is on maintaining peace and security, strengthening economic assistance, and an integrated approach to economic and social development. Bertrand's report caught the attention of the UN, especially with the idea of merging the work of economic and social development into one body.

Center for UN Reform Education. (2006). *Sluggish Progress on U.N. Mandate Review*. Retrieved August 23, 2008 from <http://www.centerforunreform.org/node/62>

This article by the Center for UN Reform Education looks into the first few months of the exercise mandate review. Within the framework of the World Summit in September 2005, Member States agreed that in order to strengthen the UN and update its program of work, the General Assembly and other relevant organs needed to initiate a review process of all UN mandates older than five years old. However, regional groups have argued how to begin the process with different interpretations of the World Summit Outcome. This article explains the disputes and struggles with the exercise.

Charter of the United Nations (1945). 59 Stat. 1031, TS No. 933, 3 Bevans 1153.

The UN Charter is an excellent resource that provides a working background and knowledge of the duties of the United Nations. The UN Charter also presents the responsibilities of how the UN bodies should work together to achieve its principles. Delegates will benefit from the use of the UN Charter and its understanding, purpose and workflow. When it comes to addressing UN reform, it will help to have a knowledge of the backbone of the Organization. The Charter is available at <http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>

Clark, G. & Sohn, L. (1958). *World Peace Through World Law*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Grenville Clark and Louis Sohn presents two sweeping proposals in their book which will stir debate and

controversy: the removal from national sovereign control of all armed forces & the placement of ultimate legal-political-economic authority in a revised General Assembly. Although written 50 years ago, the authors address two critical factors that is prohibiting the UN from achieving its core mandate: finance and resources for peace operations. An dramatic increase in the UN budget and troop/police contributions to peacekeeping missions will be a big first step in regaining its credibility that it once had.

Commission to Study the Organization of Peace (1957). *Strengthening the United Nations*. New York: Harper & Brothers Publishing.

This report sets out to stimulate thought and policy about strengthening the United Nations in its early years. Arthur Holcombe and the other members who made up the Commission, refer to “strengthening” as the objective of increasing effectiveness of the Organization and its affiliates in the performance of their functions that are essential to a developing world order.

Finkelstein, L. (2005). From Seeds to System: The United Nations Charter. In *UN Chronicle Online Edition*, retrieved August 1, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/2005/issue3/0305p18.html>.

In the run-up to the 60th anniversary of the United Nations and the commencement of the World Summit, Lawrence Finkelstein writes about his concern with the credibility the United Nations has today. In this well-written article, Finkelstein proposes new innovations with respect to the UN Charter, calling for new practices such as the endorsement of “democracy” with language in the UN Charter.

Fromuth, P. (1988). *A Successor Vision: The United Nations of Tomorrow*. Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America for United Nations Association of the United States of America.

Concerned about the near-paralysis that overtook the United Nations in the early 1980s, Peter Fromuth and the UNA-USA identified ways of making the UN and its associated agencies more efficient. The report challenges the procedures of the General Assembly and deplores the practice of making promises in resolutions but without hope of summoning the means of producing results. Fromuth believes that the crisis facing the UN is not financial or institutional, but of its identity.

Global Policy Forum. (2008). *Mandate Review Moves to Humanitarian Cluster with New Methodology*. Retrieved August 24, 2008, from <http://www.globalpolicy.org/reform/topics/manage/2008/0306mandatereview.htm>

In 2008, the co-Chairs for Mandate Review established a new methodology for reviewing the thousands of mandates still unaccounted for. With this new methodology, the Member States agreed that they were ready to move from format to substance. This article is an excellent resource in helping delegates become more aware on what is needed to advance the exercise of mandate review.

Global Forum Policy. (2008). *UN Finance: Tables and Charts*. Retrieved August 3, 2008, from <http://www.globalpolicy.org/finance/index.htm>.

The Global Forum Policy is an excellent website when looking for facts and figures on the financing of the United Nations. The website has the current budgets of the UN Organization and for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). It also breaks down Member States scales of assessment and the arrears that is owed from key states like the United States.

Gordon, W. (1994). *The United Nations at the Crossroads of Reform*. New York: M.E. Sharpe, Inc.

Wendell Gordon begins this excellent book by understanding the process of change: the nature of the process by which knowledge is accumulated, impacts on institutions such as the United Nations, and calls for change in the workings of those institutions, and of all people. Defending criticisms that the UN is incapable of carrying out its mission, Gordon makes his pitch that the Member States needs to allow the UN to acquire the resources it needs to fulfill its mandate.

Government Accountability Office. (2006). *United Nations: Lessons Learned from Oil for Food Program Indicate the Need to Strengthen UN Internal Controls and Oversight Activities*, Report to Congressional Committees. Retrieved August 27, 2008 from <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06330.pdf>

The United States Congress asked the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to look into the corruption and scandals that was occurring in the UN with respect to the Oil for Food program. What this report

provides is recommendations for the UN to ensure that its programs with considerable financial risk apply international accepted internal control standards and that it strengthens its internal controls throughout the Organization.

Group of 77. (2006). *Statement Delivered by Ambassador Dumisani A. Kumalo, Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations at the Meeting of Management Reform: Review of Mandates Older than Five Years Old*. Retrieved August 31, 2008, from <http://www.g77.org/Speeches/021506.htm>
This speech made by the Ambassador of South Africa provides a unique perspective of what the Group of 77 (G77) thinks about mandate review. While they agree that more needs to be done to reform the UN, their approach is much different from the developed countries such as the US, Japan and the European Union.

Haas, E. (1986). *Why We Still Need the United Nations: The Collective Management of International Conflict, 1945-1984*, University of California Press.
This policy paper by Ernst Haas looks into the reasons why the United Nations is still needed. Acknowledging that the UN has its flaws with respect to peace & security and mismanagement, it continues to be the one forum where all nations can have a dialogue and voice their concerns and needs to the world body. The reforms proposed by Haas includes more resources for the UN Secretariat so it can assure its field offices that its responsibilities can be met.

International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty. (2001). *The Responsibility to Protect*, Government of Canada.
The so-called "right of humanitarian intervention" has been considered as one the most failing foreign policy issues of the last decade, in particular to the events that occurred in Rwanda and Kosovo. With the release of the report on December 2001, the international community embraced it as a step forward to preventing genocide and mass atrocities if the host government did not respond. The 2005 World Summit endorsed the report, however critics have argued that the R2P principle has failed with the lack of action in Darfur and Myanmar.

Kaufmann, J. (1971). *The Capacity of the United Nations Development Program: The Jackson Report*, International Organization, Vol. 25, No. 4.
Johan Kaufmann takes a different approach with respect to UN reform by focusing on economic and development assistance. Sir Robert Jackson presented various complaints he noted from the UN's work in development assistance, such as its project formulation, execution, evaluation and follow-up. Kaufmann builds on the Jackson Report by highlighting the failed measures in defining a true capacity for relief and development.

Lynch, C. (2008). *Ex-Prosecutor Targets Corruption at U.N.* The Washington Post, 20 January 2008. Retrieved August 29, 2008 from <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/01/19/AR2008011902155.html>
This article provides a wonderful insight into the internal struggles of the UN Secretariat and the Member States of the General Assembly. The Procurement Task Force was created by the office of the Secretary-General while the General Assembly is responsible for paying the salary of the investigators. Most Member States want to see the Task Force eliminated but the Secretary-General sees it as a necessity in order to advance UN reform.

Muravchik, J. (2005). *The Future of the United Nations: Understanding the Past to Chart a Way Forward*. Washington, DC: AEI Press.
Muravchik's book examines the United Nations at its most critical hour. Although the Secretary-General and other leaders have offered their own recommendations for reform, Muravchik argues that the UN's failure to reform continues to be the behavior of the Organization, with its waste, corruption, and lack of accountability. This book will be informative for delegates with its formula for change, including boosting its humanitarian operations and stripping the anti-American sentiment in the UN.

Reform the UN. (2008). *Documents Leading Up to the World Summit*. Retrieved July 31, 2008, from <http://reformtheun.org/index.php/issues/1478?theme=alt4>

ReformtheUN.org is a project of the World Federalist Movement – Institute for Global Policy. It is dedicated to bringing about a just world through a strengthened United Nations, with a focus on the implementation of recommendations made at the 2005 World Summit. This website has an abundance of General Assembly reports and resolutions on UN reform that delegates will find useful.

- Rosett, C. (2005). *U.N. Family Ties: Is There a Replay of the Kofi and Kofi Annan Scandal?* In FoxNews.com. Retrieved August 30, 2008 from <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,160081,00.html>
Right as the Oil-for-Food scandal was making the headlines in every major newspaper, word of another UN scandal was surfacing in the Department of Procurement. This article looks into the corruption of Alexander Yakovlev who took bribes from vendors seeking contracts for peacekeeping and other field offices projects. Yakovlev would be found guilty and sentence to jail in 2007.
- Steele, D. (1987). *The Reform of the United Nations (The United Nations & Its Agencies Series)*. London: Routledge Kegan & Paul Publishing.
This book explores the solutions necessary for a more realistic world Organization that can address the challenges of tomorrow. In it, he proposes more realistic changes rather than adding new machinery to institutions which might work some days if the Member States of the UN allow it to work. The author concentrates on the three global problems: global/economic management; rural development and collective security. Although some of Steele's proposals are radical, it gives a new insight on what drastic changes might be necessary in order to keep up with the demand.
- United Nations. (2008). *Mandating & Delivering: Analysis and Recommendations to Facilitate the Review of Mandates*. Retrieved August 31, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/mandatereview/executive.html>
The mandate-generation cycle through which mandates are adopted, funded and implemented, and then considered for continuation, change or elimination – is not an easy process. Now consider doing that 9,000 times. The United Nations is in the process of reviewing all 9,000 mandates to comply with the call for management reform, but in order to conduct a proper and fully comprehensive review, Member States must be able to serve as better custodians of their mandates. This site is an excellent start in understanding the difficulties in advancing UN reform with respect to mandate review.
- United Nations. (2000). *The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations: Millennium Summit*. Retrieved August 26, 2008 from <http://www.un.org/millennium/>
World leaders gathered in 2000 to create a shared future, based upon their common humanity in all its diversity. They agreed that reform is imperative for the UN to determine whether the Organization can rise to the challenge and re-dedicate itself in carrying out its mandate. The Millennium Summit provides a main document that elaborates what measures and approaches Member States need to strive for to advance UN reform.
- United Nations. (2008). *Reform at the United Nations: UN Reform Highlights Since 1997-2006*. Retrieved August 29, 2008 from <http://www.un.org/reform/highlights/shtml>
This site provides an overview of the reform Kofi Annan provided during his tenure as Secretary-General since 1997-2006. It lists an abundant amount of information on sources such as management systems and structures, field operations and public and private partnerships. They all look into restructuring, efficiency, accountability and oversight into the services of the UN.
- United Nations. General Assembly. (2007). *Documents by Agenda Item*. Retrieved August 30, 2008 , from <http://www.un.org/ga/62/agenda/issues.shtml>
This site provides the agenda items for the 62nd General Assembly, including a number of proposals for reforming the UN such as the increase of posts and resources for the Department of Political Affairs (DPA). This is a good site to use in understanding both how many mandates there are that the General Assembly considers each session and to look at examples of what issues there are in debate to advance UN reform.
- United Nations. General Assembly. (2007). *Fifth Committee Recommends 2008-2009 Budget of \$4.17 Billion, As It Concludes Work For Main Part of Current Session*, (GA/AB/3835). Retrieved August 29, 2008 from <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2007/gaab3835.doc.htm>

The General Assembly Fifth Committee, who is entrusted with the administrative and budgetary matters of the Organization, agreed on the biennium budget of \$4.17 billion for the UN. The negotiations to break a diplomatic deadlock that almost threatened to leave the UN with no budget, is a helpful guide for delegates to read and better familiarize themselves with the internal workings of the UN. This press release will assist delegates in understanding the concerns that Member States have upon voting on a UN budget that encompasses all agendas, such as advancing UN reform.

United Nations. General Assembly. (2006). *Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the General Assembly*, (A/RES/59/313). Retrieved August 28, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/ga/president/60/summitfollowup/060626c.pdf>
Right after the conclusion of the 2005 World Summit, the General Assembly began to explore how it could revitalize itself to meet the challenges of tomorrow and become more efficient. This report identifies several elements that can help improve the work of the General Assembly, such as enhancing its interaction with civil society and non-governmental organizations, particularly from developing countries, so it can become more concise, focused and action-oriented.

United Nations. General Assembly. 47th Session. (1992). *Report of the Secretary-General. An Agenda for Peace*, (A/47/277). Retrieved August 27, 2008 from <http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N92/259/61/pdf/N9225961.pdf?OpenElement>
Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali noticed a conviction growing that an opportunity had been regained in achieving the great objective of the UN Charter – reforming the UN to be capable of maintaining international peace and security, of securing justice and human rights, and of promoting social progress and better standards of life. This report looks into how the Secretary-General proposes changes to address the new challenges facing the UN right after the end of the Cold-War.

United Nations. General Assembly. 51st Session. (1997). *Report of the Secretary-General. Renewing the United Nations: A Programme for Reform*, (A/51/950). Retrieved July 16, 2008, from <http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N97/189/79/img/N9718979.pdf?OpenElement>
Upon taking office as Secretary-General in 1997, Kofi Annan had a concept of reform that included significantly reconfiguring the UN system in order to have it do better with what the international community required it to do. This report of the Secretary-General provides measures and proposals that reflect those principles for a more effective and efficient Organization. This report will be helpful in understanding the first movement towards UN reform and the types of measures taken when Kofi Annan took office.

United Nations. General Assembly. 57th Session. (2002). *Report of the Secretary-General. Strengthening of the United Nations: An Agenda for Further Change*, (A/57/387). Retrieved July 16, 2008, from <http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/583/26/pdf/N0258326.pdf?OpenElement>
In a follow-up to the reforms that began in 1997, Secretary-General Kofi Annan examines the reforms that were aimed at adapting the internal structures and culture of the United Nations to new expectations and challenges. While applauding new investments for a better Organization, Kofi Annan in this report suggests that more changes are needed to better adapt in order to realize its potential. This report is very useful in particular the six sections that break up what reforms are needed for better change.

United Nations. General Assembly. 59th Session. (2005). *Report of the Secretary-General. In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights For All*, (A/59/2005). Retrieved July 16, 2008 from <http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/270/78/pdf/N0527078.pdf?OpenElement>
This report stresses the enduring relevance of the Charter of the United Nations and emphasize that its purposes must encapsulate the idea that development, security, and human rights go hand in hand. Not only does this report provide useful recommendations for Heads of State, such as the concepts of “Freedom from Want” or “Freedom from Fear,” but it also reaffirms the imperative for collective action in: reforming the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the recently created Human Rights Council, and the Secretariat; System-wide coherence; regional organizations; and the Charter of the United Nations.

United Nations. General Assembly. 60th Session. (2005). *2005 World Summit Outcome*, (A/RES/60/1). Retrieved

July 16, 2008, from <http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/N05/511/30/pdf/N0551130.pdf?OpenElement>

The 2005 World Summit, a follow-up summit meeting to the UN's 2000 Millennium Summit, brought world leaders to discuss a number of topics, including humanitarian intervention, a new Human Rights Council, progress of the Millennium Development Goals, the creation of a Peacebuilding Commission, etc. These topics all followed the overriding theme of reaffirming the commitment to strengthen the United Nations with a view of enhancing its authority and efficiency. This report is great to follow up on Kofi Annan's "In Larger Freedom" and to examine the birth of "management reform."

United Nations. General Assembly. 60th Session. (2006). Report of the Secretary-General. *Investing in the United Nations: For a Stronger Organization Worldwide*, (A/60/692). Retrieved July 16, 2008, from <http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/251/77/pdf/N0625177.pdf?OpenElement>
A growing United Nations has become vastly different today from what the Organization emerged as from the San Francisco conference. While its work remains important and substantive, the Organization has undergone enormous operational expansion in a wide range of fields, from human rights to peacekeeping to development. In short, the UN is not a headquarters building located in New York but an organization with twice as many civilian staff in the field than those employed at headquarters. This report examines such radically expanded range of activities and calls for a radical overhaul of the UN Secretariat. Building on what the 2005 World Summit Outcome said, this report expands on management reform and how it can equip the Organization to fully equip itself to implement all its mandates.

United States Institute of Peace. (2005). *American Interests and United Nations Reform*. Washington, DC: Library of Congress Publications.

This report written by Newt Gingrich and George Mitchell explores a call for action with the United Nations. After a number of scandals, crisis's, and inaction to intervene in mass atrocities, the task force looked into five substantive areas that could bring change to the Organization: Preventing and ending conflict, preventing and responding to genocide, preventing catastrophic terrorism, ensuring effectiveness and transparency, and fostering economic development. This report is very helpful with understanding the United State's interest in a reformed UN for meeting tomorrow's challenges as prepared as possible.

United States Mission to the United Nations. (2007). *Statement by Ambassador Mark D. Wallace, U.S. Representative to UN Management and Reform, at the Opening Session of the Fifth Committee 62nd General Assembly*, Retrieved August 31, 2008, from

http://www.usunnewyork.usmission.gov/press_releases/20071005_229.html

The United States is one of the key players in pushing for UN reform, in particularly with mandate review. This statement made by the U.S. Representative to UN Management and Reform explains the reasoning for why mandate review is critical for the UN to achieve transparency and accountability. This statement is helpful because of the argument made that mandate review needs a more coherent approach to examine the thousands of mandates that the UN has.

Zifcak, S. (2006). "United Nations Reform: Heading North or South?" *Global Change, Peace and Security*. 18 (3), 135-142.

This article examines the impact of Kofi Annan's 2005 report In Larger Freedom and its implications on the path to the UN's most ambitious program of reform. Three major changes were proposed by Kofi Annan: the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Commission for Human Rights. Delegates will find this article helpful in tracing the progress of attempts to restructure these three bodies in the lead up to the 2005 World Leader's Summit held at the UN.

III. The Impact of Migration on Development

Adams, R. H., Jr. (2006, April 18). *Migration, remittances and development: The critical nexus of the Middle East and North Africa (UN/POP/EGM/2006/01)*. Retrieved July 27, 2008, from

http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/EGM_Iitmig_Arab/P01_Adams.pdf.

Adams argues that the current analyses of remittances are unnecessarily limited; current analyses can only observe remittances which pass through official channels. Moreover, these analyses are searching for an

answer to the wrong question. While current analyses have examined how the remittances themselves are spent and, therefore, indicate that investment does not respond to remittances, a more accurate analysis should examine how an overall household expenditure changes after receiving remittances.

Addressing Africa's humiliation: 'Brain gain'/'brain circulation' Diaspora networks for African progress. (2006, March 1). Retrieved September 17, 2008, from The African Leadership and Progress Network Web site: http://www.africanprogress.net/brain_gain_network.htm.

This brief examines the impact of "Brain Drain"/Diaspora Africans (BDAs) on African development. This brief strongly emphasizes the importance of grass-roots initiatives in Diaspora communities. Moreover, it references many different potential sources for delegates researching migration and development.

African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), & International Organization for Migration (IOM) for West and Central Africa. (2007). *Migration, development and poverty reduction: Report, workshop on migration, development and poverty reduction, Dakar, 8-10 August 2006*. Retrieved August 12, 2008, from: <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/cache/offonce/pid/1674?entryId=16343>.

Not only does this report give a synopsis of the proceedings which occurred during the Workshop on Migration, Development, and Poverty Reduction in Dakar in August of 2006, but it also contains numerous position papers on the subject written by respectable members of the field. This report is an extremely valuable tool in understanding the connection between migration, development, and poverty.

Annan, K. (2004, January 29). *UN Secretary-General Annan addresses European Parliament*. Address presented at European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium.

Upon receiving the Andrei Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought, Secretary-General Annan spoke eloquently on the importance of deconstructing borders. He argued that migration should not be viewed as a new or detrimental phenomenon; migration augments declining populations in European States, while allowing migrants the opportunity to escape human rights abuses. Secretary-General Annan strongly emphasizes the importance of international policy coherence on this issue.

Carrington, W. J., & Detragiache, E. (1999, June). How extensive is the brain drain? *Finance & Development: A Quarterly Magazine of the IMF*, 36(2).

This article discusses the extent to which the "brain drain" occurs. This particular article focuses on the emigration of educated citizens from developing nations to the United States. Carrington and Detragiache do not directly analyze the implications of this "brain drain," but rather emphasize the lack of uniform cross-national data and the inability of practices such as the U.S. census to correctly count all immigrants.

Conway, D., & Cohen, J. H. (1998, January). Consequences of migration and remittances for Mexican transnational communities. *Economic Geography*, 74(1), 26-44. Retrieved July 15, 2008, from JSTOR database.

Conway and Cohen examine the effect of remittance payments on Mexican communities. Their evaluation, at the microscale level, argues that remittances to Mexican households actually produces investment, rather than simply paying for daily expenses, as suggest in previous works. While Conway and Cohen's analysis delves into detail that is not particularly helpful at the state level, their basic premise, that remittance can spur investment and growth in the country of origin, is essential when considering migration's impact on development.

Gallina, A. (2006, August 15). The impact of international migration on the economic development of countries in the Mediterranean basin (UN/POP/EGM/2006/04). Retrieved July 15, 2008, from United Nations Web site: http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/EGM_Iitmig_Arab/P04_Gallina.pdf.

Gallina analyzes data of migration and development from Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPCs). She also gives a theoretical underpinning to these analyses, as she outlines four specific theoretical orientations. This theoretical viewpoint is helpful when reading not only Gallina's work, but also conceptualizing the migration-development relationship as a whole. In addition, a significant portion of this piece is devoted to the analysis of the Germany-Turkey and Spain-Morocco relationships, which may

be helpful to delegates of those Member States.

Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM). (n.d.). *Fact sheet: Regional hearing for Africa, 28 February - 1 March 2005*. Retrieved July 28, 2008, from <http://www.gcim.org/attachements/Fact-Sheet-Cape%20Town-final-en.pdf>.

This fact sheet discusses migration in Africa. While most discussions of African migration focus only on emigration from African States, this fact sheet also analyzes the, albeit small, immigration to African nations. Data on internal migration within Africa is also presented. This fact sheet gives very little analysis, but presents a significant amount of raw data.

Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM). (n.d.). *Report of a workshop on gender dimensions of international migration, 23 - 24 March 2005, Geneva*. Retrieved July 28, 2008, from <http://www.gcim.org/attachements/Gender%20Workshop%20Report.pdf>.

This report gives a description of the activity which occurred at the workshop held in Geneva in March 2005. Although this report lacks any statistical data, it does give an accurate description of the concerns policy makers have when discussing gender and international migration. Many participants emphasized that gender dimensions should not be viewed as only "women's rights." When discussing gender dimensions in international migration, it is important not only to discuss issues which face women specifically, but also to discuss issues that men face.

Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM). (n.d.). *Summary report: Regional hearing for the Americas, Mexico City, 16-17 May 2005*. Retrieved July 27, 2008, from http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/policy_and_research/gcim/rh/hearing_report_americas.pdf.

This report reflects the discussions of the GCIM hearing held in May 2005. Both the hearing and the summary report cover a myriad of issues, including: the underlying economic causes of migration, the effect of remittances, the importance of protecting migrants' rights, the impact of xenophobia on migrants, and how migration is governed. All of these topics are essential in understanding the impact of migration on development.

Global Forum on Migration & Development. (2007, July 12). *Final conclusions and recommendations of the Chair, Ambassador Regine De Clercq*. Retrieved July 15, 2008, from <http://www.gfmd-fmmd.org/en/conclusions-and-recommendations>.

This short work outlines the main conclusions of the 2007 Global Forum on Migration and Development in Belgium. It reaffirms that migration and development are closely linked and that migration policies directly affect development of countries of origin. Because of this connection, there was a strong emphasis placed on the need for the collection of more complete data and policy coherence among states. Moreover, the Forum emphasized the prominent role human rights and political stability play in migration patterns.

Global Forum on Migration & Development. (2007, August 13). *Summary report: First meeting, Brussels, July 9-11, 2007*. Retrieved July 15, 2008, from Global Forum on Migration and Development Web site: <http://www.gfmd-fmmd.org/en/conclusions-and-recommendations>.

The summary report outlines the events that occurred during the first meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held in July 2007. This forum included several round-table discussions, each with significant findings and recommendations. Overall, the participants maintained that there is a close relationship between migration and development and that both topics deserve further scrutiny. Therefore, participants agreed to meet again in 2008.

Global Forum on Migration and Development. (2008). *Background*. Retrieved July 15, 2008, from <http://government.gfmd2008.org/>

This web site gives information about the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which was

created during the General Assembly's High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2006. The Forum is an effort to address the continuing concerns regarding migration and migration's relationship with development.

Harrison, F. (2007, January 8). Huge cost of Iranian brain drain. In *BBC News*. Retrieved July 15, 2008, from http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/em/fr/-/2/hi/middle_east/6240287.stm.

Harrison succinctly describes the impact of the "brain drain" on a typical Iranian student. Harrison illustrates that many Iranian students strive to find more profitable work outside of Iran, due to Iran's developing economy.

International Organization for Migration. (2008). *Migration initiatives appeal 2008*. Retrieved August 12, 2008, from <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/cache/offonce/pid/1674?entryId=16747>.

Delegates will find this report particularly useful when analyzing migration patterns in individual States. This report provides an overview of migration issues and goals in specific States, as well as broader policy goals and research programs. Despite the fact that the international Organization for Migration is not a part of the United Nations, it is essential for delegates to be aware of the prerogatives of other international organizations which affect migration.

International Organization for Migration, Research and Publications Division, (2006, March). *Towards development-friendly migration policies and programmes: Some concrete examples from European Member States*. Retrieved August 12, 2008, from http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/policy_and_research/research/CM/D15160306.pdf.

The positive impact of migration on development is emphasized in this background note, prepared for the Convention on Migration and Development, held in Brussels, on March 15-16, 2006. This background note explores the potential for "development-friendly" migration policies, by analyzing the policies of the European Union. This background note is extremely helpful in understand how migration policies can positively impact development.

Janneh, A. (2008, April 30). *Migration and development -- Exploring the development potential of migration in Africa*. Keynote speech presented at United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Delegates will find this timely speech essential in their research; it gives a general overview of the issues of migration and development. It discusses a number of issues, including the underlying causes of migration, the effects of remittances, the "brain drain," and the potential for migration to be a "positive force" with regards to development, which will surely arise in any debate on this topic.

Kingdon, G., & Knight, J. (2005, May 20). *Unemployment, race and poverty in South Africa*. Retrieved August 11, 2008, from Global Poverty Research Group Web site: <http://www.gprg.org/themes/t2-inc-ineq-poor/unem/unem-pov.htm>.

This Web site examines unemployment in South Africa. It analyzes the unemployment by race, age, education, gender, and region. Unemployment in South Africa is extremely high, reaching between 25% and 30%, narrowly defined. This Web site briefly mentions that although investment in education would be helpful, the benefits of this investment would be lost if the number of opportunities for employment is not increased.

Kolb, H. (2005, November). The German "Green Card." *Focus Migration: Policy Brief*, (3). Retrieved August 14, 2008, from http://www.focus-migration.de/The_German_Green_Ca.1198.0.html?&L=1.

The German "Green Card," as explained in this policy brief, allows for increased immigration of skilled workers in the information and communication technology (ICT) field into Germany. The Green Card, adopted in 2000, has greatly expedited the immigration process over previous methods, as most Green Card procedures take no more than a week. The Green Card, however, does not allow for eventual

naturalization; it only permits work within Germany for a limited time period (up to five years).

Labaki, B. (2006, May 12). The role of transnational communities in fostering development in countries of origin (UN/POP/EGM/2006/13). Retrieved July 27, 2008, from the United Nations Web site:
http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/EGM_Ittmig_Arab/Paper13_Labaki.pdf.

Labaki closely examines the effect of emigration on the Lebanese economy and infrastructure. Although his work is centered on Lebanon, his examination of the impact of remittances is essential in understanding the potential for development in countries of origin. Labaki argues that Lebanese expatriates aid Lebanese development not only through remittances, but also through the spread of knowledge. Several programs, both private and public, have brought Lebanese expatriates back to Lebanon in order to spread knowledge. To conclude, Labaki advocates several specific policy prescriptions in order to aid Lebanese development.

Mbeki, T. (2003, June 30). *African Diaspora in the 21st century*. Speech presented at The University of West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica.

This speech, given by President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, gives an interesting perspective on Diasporas. Throughout this speech, Mbeki treats the African community still on the continent of Africa and the African Diaspora as one. He discusses their shared past, and argues that they must work together for a brighter future. Specifically, Mbeki argues that in order for Africa to break the cycle of poverty, Africans and the African Diaspora must rally together.

Michalowski, M. (2006, November 20). *Guidelines to measure emigration through immigration data*. PowerPoint presentation presented at Joint UNECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics organized in collaboration with UNFPA, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Michalowski's presentation highlights the lack of data on migration statistics. This void of data specifically affects emigration, as States continually find it difficult to measure outgoing migration flows effectively. Michalowski proposes actions in order to gather emigration data from immigration statistics and argues that statistical information on migration as a whole must be more comprehensive.

Migiro, A.-R. (2008, February 27). *With sustained effort, female genital mutilation 'can vanish within a generation'*. Speech presented at United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, New York.

This press release details a statement made by Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro, on February 27, 2008. She argues that there is no medical benefit to female genital mutilation (FGM), and this archaic practice must be stopped. She calls upon Member States to join with her and ten UN agencies in their efforts to end this practice.

Ozden, C. (2006, May 11). Brain drain in Middle East & North Africa -- the patterns under the surface (UN/POP/EGM/2006/10). Retrieved July 15, 2008, from United Nations Web site:
http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/EGM_Ittmig_Arab/P10_Ozden.pdf.

Ozden closely examines data of migrations from the Middle East/North Africa to Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Member States. Ozden argues that methodological problems arise in analyzing migration data. In addition to the irregularity of the data, it is unclear how to classify certain migrations (i.e., whether students who complete their education in the OECD state still qualify as educated emigrants from their countries of origin). Despite these problems, Ozden concludes that, unsurprisingly, poorer nations are losing a larger percentage of their educated citizens than wealthier states, and that migrants who complete their education in their country of origin are less likely to gain employment which is commensurate with that education level.

Papademetriou, D. G. (1998, Winter). Migration. *Foreign Policy*, (109), 15-31. Retrieved July 15, 2008, from JSTOR database.

Papademetriou works to dispel several myths about migration. Papademetriou argues that immigration to developed countries is not as severe as widely assumed. Moreover, while Papademetriou addresses several issues, he argues that concerns over migration must be addressed at the international level; an

individualistic, nationalist approach will not solve any concerns.

Reinke, J. (2007, May). Remittances: Update on progress with definitions and compilation guidance. *Balance of Payment Statistics: Newsletter From the Balance of Payments and External Debt Divisions*, 4-5. Retrieved July 31, 2008, from the International Monetary Fund Web site: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/bop/news/pdf/0507.pdf>.

This very brief article examines the impact of the Luxembourg Group. This article highlights the significant lack of data available when analyzing migration patterns and advocated specific conceptual improvements to be used when analyzing migration, which were adopted in March 2007.

Sako, S. (2002). Brain drain and Africa's development: a reflection. *African Issues*, 30(1), 25-30. Retrieved July 15, 2008, from JSTOR database.

Sako examines the emigration of intellectuals from Africa. He lists several specific policy prescriptions directed at African leaders, including increased involvement in the African Union, respect for human rights, and the stabilization of the political, economic, and social environments.

Taylor, J. E. (2006, June 26). International migration and economic development (UN/POP/MIG/SYMP/2006/09). Retrieved July 27, 2008, from the United Nations Web site: http://www.un.org/esa/population/migration/turin/Symposium_Turin_files/P09_SYMP_Taylor.pdf.

Taylor argues that migration and development each fuel the other; underdevelopment spurs migration, and migration can cause further underdevelopment. Taylor argues, however, that through enlightened policies, governments of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) can use migration in a way which contributes to economic development. In short, migration can be used as a "development tool."

UN agencies rally to end to female genital mutilation within a generation. (2008, February 27). Retrieved September 17, 2008, from United Nations Web site:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=25777&Cr=female&Cr1=>

This press release announces that ten United Nations agencies will join together in order to end female genital mutilation (FGM). These organizations, which include the Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS, the UN Development Programme, the UN Economic Commission for Africa, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations, the UN Population Fund, the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the UN Children's Fund, the UN Development Fund for Women, and the World Health Organization, hope to end FGM by 2015. This target date, unsurprisingly, aligns with the target date of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set forth by the United Nations.

United Nations. (2003, March 19). *Convention on protection of rights of migrant workers to enter into force next July*. Retrieved July 31, 2008, from the United Nations Web site:

<http://www.unhchr.ch/huricane/hurricane.nsf/view01/B87E9E85C7147498C1256CEF00385E50?opendocument>.

This press release announces that the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Family entered into force on July 1, 2003. Up to the time of this press release, 21 states had signed on to the Convention: "Azerbaijan, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cape Verde, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Mexico, Morocco, Philippines, Senegal, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Uganda and Uruguay."

United Nations. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. (n.d.). TOKTEN Programme - Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals. Retrieved July 31, 2008, from the United Nations Web site:

http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=7812&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

This web site gives a very brief overview of the Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN) Programme. This program encourages expatriates to return to their countries of origin for

short-term service. During this time, expatriates relay information and knowledge gained abroad. This program is done in an effort to reduce the effects of the “brain drain.”

United Nations. General Assembly. 45th Session. (1990, December 18). International convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families (A/Res/45/158). Retrieved July 31, 2008, from the United Nations Web site: http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/m_mwctoc.htm.

This resolution lays out rights and freedoms which should be afforded to all migrants and their families, including: the right to leave the country of origin, freedom of religion, freedom of expression, the right to privacy, the right to property, the right to “liberty and security of person,” the right to unionize, and the right to “participate in public affairs” in their country of origin. These rights and freedoms were enumerated in an effort to protect migrants and their families. This resolution entered into force in 2003, with 21 countries having signed on.

United Nations. General Assembly. 59th Session. (2005, February 22). *Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'* (A/Res/59/167). Retrieved September 17, 2008, from United Nations Web site:

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Beijing+10/ARES59167EliminVAW.pdf>

Passed in early 2005, this resolution calls for Member States to put an end to crimes against women. While the resolution speaks of all forms of violence, delegates studying migration and development will note the resolution expresses concern specifically on the trafficking of women and children. The resolution also voices concern over “harmful traditional or customary practices,” including female genital mutilation (FGM).

United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session. (2006, October 13). Summary of the high-level dialogue on international migration and development (UN Doc. A/61/515). Retrieved July 15, 2008, from United Nations Web site: <http://www.un.org/esa/population/migration/hld/index.html>.

This report summarizes the events of the high-level dialogue. At this dialogue, Member States confirmed that migration and development are closely tied, and that both deserved further scrutiny. Moreover, Member States affirmed that while remittances were beneficial to individual families, countries of origin had yet to fully profit from remittances. Member States affirmed that this dialogue should be continued, and this affirmation was the catalyst for the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session. (2008, June 20). Resolution adopted by the General Assembly. *Global Forum on Migration and Development*, (A/Res/62/270). Retrieved August 14, 2008, from United Nations Web site:

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/479/91/PDF/N0747991.pdf?OpenElement>.

Passed in June 2008, this resolution emphasizes the importance of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). This resolution encourages continued communication between the GFMD and the UN. Moreover, it stresses the importance of addressing migration and development in conjunction with human rights policies.

Rules of Procedure

General Assembly Plenary

Introduction

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

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1 - Dates of convening and adjournment

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

Rule 2 - Place of sessions

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

II. AGENDA

Rule 3 - Provisional agenda

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

Rule 4 - Adoption of the agenda

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

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

Rule 5 - Revision of the agenda

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

As the General Assembly Plenary determines the agenda for its Committees, this rule is applicable only to the Plenary body. Items cannot be amended or added to the agenda by any of the Committees of the Assembly. For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item of an “important and urgent character” is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final. If an item is determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Assembly to be placed on the agenda. It will, however, not be considered by the Assembly until a committee has reported on the question, or a second two-thirds vote is successful to keep the

Plenary body seized of the matter. The votes described in this rule are substantive vote, and, as such, observers are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, “the members present and voting” means those members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 6 - Explanatory memorandum

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

III. SECRETARIAT

Rule 7 - Duties of the Secretary-General

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

Rule 8 - Duties of the Secretariat

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

Rule 9 - Statements by the Secretariat

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

Rule 10 - Selection of the President

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

Rule 11 - Replacement of the President

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

IV. LANGUAGE

Rule 12 - Official and working language

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

Rule 13 - Interpretation (oral) or translation (written)

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

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

V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 14 - Quorum

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

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

Rule 15 - General powers of the President

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

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

Rule 16

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

Rule 17 - Points of order

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

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

Rule 18

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

Rule 19 - Speeches

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

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

Rule 20 - Closing of list of speakers

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

same effect as closure by decision of the Assembly.

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

Rule 21 - Right of reply

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

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

Rule 22 - Suspension of the meeting

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

Rule 23 - Adjournment of the meeting

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

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

Rule 24 - Adjournment of debate

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

Rule 25 - Closure of debate

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

Rule 26 - Order of motions

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

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

Rule 27 - Proposals and amendments

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

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

Rule 28 - Withdrawal of motions

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

Rule 29 - Reconsideration of a topic

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

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

VI. VOTING

Rule 30 - Voting rights

Each member of the Assembly shall have one vote.

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

Rule 31 - Request for a vote

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

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

Rule 32 - Majority required

1. Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Assembly shall be made by a majority of the

- members present and voting.
2. For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase “members present and voting” means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

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

Rule 33 - Important questions

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

Rule 34 - Method of voting

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

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

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

Rule 35 - Explanations of vote

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

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

Rule 36 - Conduct during voting

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

Rule 37 - Division of proposals and amendments

Immediately before a proposal or amendment comes to a vote, a representative may move that parts of a proposal or

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

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

Rule 38 - Amendments

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

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

Rule 39 - Order of voting on amendments

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

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

Rule 40 - Order of voting on proposals

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

Rule 41 - The President shall not vote

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

VII. CREDENTIALS

Rule 42 - Submission of credentials

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

Rule 43 - Credentials Committee

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

Rule 44 - Provisional admission to a session

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

VIII. GENERAL COMMITTEE

Rule 45 - Composition

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

Rule 46 - Functions

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

Rule 47

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

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

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

IX. MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION

Rule 49 - Invitation to silent prayer or meditation

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

X. COMMITTEES

Rule 50 - Establishment of committees

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

Rule 51 - Categories of subjects

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

Rule 52 - Main Committees

The Main Committees of the Assembly are the following:

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

Rule 53 - Organization of work

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

Rule 54 - Discussion of reports of Main Committees

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

XI. ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rule 55 - Applications

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

Rule 56 - Notification of applications

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

Rule 57 - Consideration of applications and decisions thereon

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

Rule 58

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

Rule 59 - Notification of decision and effective date of membership

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