



NMUN • NY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY SECOND
COMMITTEE
BACKGROUND GUIDE 2010



www.nmun.org



NATIONAL MODEL
UNITED NATIONS

28 March - 1 April 2010 - Sheraton
30 March - 3 April 2010 - Marriott

WRITTEN BY: Rachel Johnson, Amina Rai, Eva Helena Hernik, Carrie Ann Starnes

CONTACT THE NMUN

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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 Ronny Heintze | dirgen@nmun.org

NMUN•NY 2010 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!**

31 January 2010	31 January 2010	<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 2010	15 February 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Updates Posted to www.nmun.org
1 March 2010	1 March 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotel Registration with FULL PRE-PAYMENT Due to Hotel - Register Early! Group Rates on hotel rooms are available on a first come, first served basis until sold out. Group rates, if still available, may not be honored after that date. See hotel reservation form for date final payment is due. • Any Changes to Delegate Numbers Must be Confirmed to: karen@nmun.org • Two Copies of Each Position Paper Due via E-mail (See Delegate Preparation Guide for instructions). • Preferred deadline for submission of Chair / Rapp applications to Committee Chairs
1 March 2010	1 March 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Conference Fees Due to NMUN for confirmed delegates. (\$125 per delegate if paid by 1 March; \$150 per delegate if received after 1 March. Fee is not refundable after this deadline.
NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS		The 2010 National Model UN Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 March - 1 April – Sheraton New York • 30 March - 3 April – New York Marriott Marquis

POSITION PAPER INSTRUCTIONS

Two copies of each position paper should be sent via e-mail by 1 MARCH 2010

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 when background guides are available. 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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for more information

COMMITTEE

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General Assembly Second Committee	ga2nd.sheraton@nmun.org
General Assembly Third Committee	ga3rd.sheraton@nmun.org
Security Council	sc.sheraton@nmun.org
Security Council 2	sc2.sheraton@nmun.org
SC Working Group: Children and Armed Conflict	caac.sheraton@nmun.org
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ECOSOC Plenary	ecosoc.sheraton@nmun.org
Committee for Development Policy	cdp.sheraton@nmun.org
Commission for Sustainable Development	csustd.sheraton@nmun.org
Commission on the Status of Women	csw.sheraton@nmun.org
Econ. Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean	eclac.sheraton@nmun.org
International Atomic Energy Agency	iaea.sheraton@nmun.org
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees	unhcr.sheraton@nmun.org
United Nations Children's Fund	unicef.sheraton@nmun.org
World Food Programme	wfp.sheraton@nmun.org
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Association of Southeast Asian Nations	asean.sheraton@nmun.org
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Organisation of The Islamic Conference	oic.sheraton@nmun.org

COMMITTEE

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General Assembly Third Committee	ga3rd.marriott@nmun.org
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Security Council 2	sc2.marriott@nmun.org
SC Working Group: Children and Armed Conflict	caac.marriott@nmun.org
International Court of Justice	icj.marriott@nmun.org
ECOSOC Plenary	ecosoc.marriott@nmun.org
Committee for Development Policy	cdp.marriott@nmun.org
Commission for Sustainable Development	csustd.marriott@nmun.org
Commission on the Status of Women	csw.marriott@nmun.org
Econ. Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean	eclac.marriott@nmun.org
International Atomic Energy Agency	iaea.marriott@nmun.org
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees	unhcr.marriott@nmun.org
United Nations Children's Fund	unicef.marriott@nmun.org
World Food Programme	wfp.marriott@nmun.org
African Union	au.marriott@nmun.org
Association of Southeast Asian Nations	asean.marriott@nmun.org
North Atlantic Treaty Organization	nato.marriott@nmun.org
Organisation of The Islamic Conference	oic.marriott@nmun.org

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Entire Set of Delegation Position Papers	positionpapers.sheraton@nmun.org
(send only to e-mail for your assigned venue)	positionpapers.marriott@nmun.org
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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2010 National Model United Nations (NMUN)! We are very pleased to be serving as your Directors and Assistant Directors for the General Assembly Second Committees at the Sheraton and Marriott Venues this spring.

We would like to introduce ourselves, as we will be your first contacts for your questions or suggestions which we will be more than happy to receive. Rachel Johnson graduated from Sonoma State University with a B.A. in Global Studies. She currently lives in the San Francisco Bay Area in California. This is her fifth NMUN and third year on staff. Her Assistant Director, Carrie Ann Starnes, is a first year graduate student pursuing both her Masters of International Business and a M.A. in International Relations. This is her fourth year at NMUN, and first year on staff. Amina Rai, an experienced NMUN Director, holds a BA in Psychology and Gender Studies from the University of British Columbia and is currently living in England where she is pursuing her MPhil at the University of Cambridge. Her Assistant Director, Eva Helena Hernik received her BA in International Criminal Justice from John Jay College of Criminal Justice in NYC where she is now completing her MA in Criminal Justice. She is also working towards MA in International Relations at the City College of New York. This is her fourth year at NMUN, and first year on staff.

This year's topics are:

1. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for Development
2. Promoting Low-Carbon Economic Growth in the Developing World
3. Protecting Developing Countries during the Current Financial Crisis

The General Assembly Second Committee constitutes a platform for discussion of international economic and financial issues consisting of Member States dedicated to finding solutions to recent problems. Delegates have the responsibility to apply available resources wisely and with respect to internationally diverse needs. These tasks require profound knowledge of the role of the committee, economic decision and their financial and social consequences.

This guide will aid you in developing a basic understanding of the topics and provide you with a starting point for your future research.

Every delegation is required to submit a position paper prior to attending the conference. NMUN will accept position papers via e-mail by March 1st, 2010. Please refer to the message from your Director-General explaining NMUN's position paper requirements and restrictions, as adherence to these guidelines is of utmost importance.

Your experience in the General Assembly Second Committee will be a combination of challenging and rewarding experiences. Please do not hesitate to direct any questions toward your Director. We look forward to meeting you in New York and wish you the best.

Sincerely yours,

Sheraton Venue
Rachel Johnson
Director
Carrie Ann Starnes
Assistant Director
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Marriott Venue
Amina Rai
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Eva Helena Hernik
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Message from the Directors-General Regarding Position Papers for the 2010 NMUN Conference

At the 2010 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 each committee impacts 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 experts. To understand these fine differences, please refer to the 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. Making recommendations for action by your committee should also 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 two single spaced pages (one double sided paper, if printed)
- 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, 2009. 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, 2010 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 Amanda Williams, Director-General, Sheraton venue, or Ronny Heintze, 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 use 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 can 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
Amanda Williams, LCSW
Director-General

Marriott Venue
Ronny Heintze
Director-General

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Sample Position Paper

The following position paper is designed to be a sample of the standard format that an NMUN position paper should follow. While delegates are encouraged to use the front and back of a single page in order to fully address all topics before the committee, please remember that only a *maximum* of one double-sided page (or two pages total in an electronic file) will be accepted. Only the first double-sided page of any submissions (or two pages of an electronic file) will be considered for awards.

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. 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 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.

History of the General Assembly Second Committee

Introduction

The United Nations (UN) was ratified by fifty-one states in October of 1945 to serve as a multilateral approach to international cooperation.¹ The body is comprised of six primary organs, the General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, Secretariat, International Court of Justice, Security Council, and the Trusteeship Council. The General Assembly (GA) was established under Chapter III, Article 7 of the Charter of the United Nations.² The GA is comprised of 192 member states.³ It now oversees a wide breadth of topics, and is the “the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ.”⁴ The GA divides the work according to topic among six Main Committees.⁵

The subsidiary organs were established under Chapter IV, Article 22 of the Charter of the United Nations which states, “[t]he General Assembly may establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.”⁶ The General Assembly then delegates items from its agenda to these organs.⁷ The subsidiary organs of the General Assembly include: 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 Sixth Committee (Legal Committee). All subsidiary committees thus established by the General Assembly submit reports and proposals to the plenary body for approval.⁸

General Assembly Second Committee (Economic & Financial)

The General Assembly Second Committee was designed specifically to address economic and financial topics delegated to it by the General Assembly Plenary.⁹ The voting structure is modeled after the General Assembly Plenary, in which each Member State receives one vote.¹⁰ During the 63rd Session the Committee sought to make the work of the body more efficient, a recent initiative for all of the subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly. It also addressed several economic and financial agenda items under the direction of Chairperson H.E. Mrs. Uche Joy OGWU of Nigeria.¹¹ Before being appointed Chairperson, Ms. Ogwu was Nigeria’s Foreign Minister from 2006 to 2007 and is considered a champion of women’s development and human rights.¹²

As previously stated, the primary jurisdiction of the Second Committee regards economic questions.¹³ However, the body has also been tasked with discussing the situation of special groups of countries including least developed countries (LDCs) as well as the sovereignty of some peoples in occupied territories in the Middle East.¹⁴ For instance, on the agenda of the 63rd Session under “International Peace and Security” the Second Committee was tasked with addressing the “permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources”¹⁵ The majority of agenda items fall under the topic of the “promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations

¹ United Nations Publications, *History of the United Nations*.

² United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Chapter III; Article 7.

³ United Nations, *Member States- Member States of the United Nations*, 2008.

⁴ United Nations, *UN General Assembly 63rd Session- Functions and Powers of the General Assembly*.

⁵ United Nations, *UN General Assembly 63rd Session- Main Committees*.

⁶ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Chapter IV.

⁷ United Nations, *UN General Assembly 63rd Session- Subsidiary Organs*.

⁸ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Chapter IV.

⁹ United Nations, *Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee*, 2008.

¹⁰ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Chapter IV; Article 18.

¹¹ United Nations, *Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee, Bureau* . 2008.

¹² United Nations, *UN General Assembly 63rd Session- Biographical Note: Uche Joy Ogwu, Chairman of the Second Committee*.

¹³ United Nations, *UN General Assembly 63rd Session- Main Committees*.

¹⁴ United Nations, *Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee*, 2008.

¹⁵ United Nations, *Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee, Documents*. 2008.

conferences,” including “Information and communication technologies for development,” item 46, and “Sustainable development,” item 49.¹⁶

During the 62nd Session, Member States worked on thirty five draft resolutions which were submitted to the GA Plenary for approval.¹⁷ Voting records for the Main Committees of the General Assembly indicate that resolutions are passed by a considerable consensus.¹⁸ It is also crucial to note that, in accordance with the mandate of the General Assembly outlined in the Charter of the United Nations Chapter IV, Article 20, it is also possible for the body to call special meetings if necessary.

For example, in consideration of the current economic crisis and the impact it is having on developing states, the United Nations held a special conference in June of 2009 called the United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development. Member states elected to hold this conference as a follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development held in Doha, Qatar in December of 2008. The goals of the June conference, were to “identify emergency and long-term responses to mitigate the impact of the crisis, especially on vulnerable populations, and initiate a needed dialogue on the transformation of the international financial architecture, taking into account the needs and concerns of all Member States.”¹⁹

Conclusion

During the 64th Session the body is also expected to produce documents to the General Assembly with consensus.²⁰ In accordance with the agenda, set by the General Assembly Plenary, the body will be discussing topics related to both economic development and financial considerations related to projects.²¹ Looking into the future work of the body and the role the Member States will have is an important part of understanding the function and plan of action for delegates. The General Assembly Second Committee encourages the Member States of the United Nations to focus on reducing the development gap, particularly regarding access to information and technology, by utilizing and efficiently implementing existing programs and initiatives.²² This includes efforts made by other organs of the United Nations, such as the United Nations Economic and Social Council and Secretariat. The report to the General Assembly Plenary A/63/411 further includes issue areas of the topic that have yet to be addressed, such as the participation of women and triangular cooperation. This tactic is perhaps one of the most important strategies to approaching agenda items: what has been done to combat the problem or issue? How well has it been implemented and what can be done moving forward? It is with this idea that the delegates of the General Assembly Second Committee contextualize the agenda items of each session.

Must Reads

United Nations. (1945). *Charter of the United Nations*. Retrieved August 8, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>

This document establishes the position and function of each organ of the United Nations. Two specific chapters may be of particular use to delegates. The first is Chapter III which establishes the organs of the United Nations, including the General Assembly. Chapter IV then outlines the purpose and procedure for the body. Article 22 specifically states that the General Assembly may further establish subsidiary organs to enhance the procurement of its goals.

United Nations. (2008). *UN General Assembly 63rd Session-Second Committee*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/ga/second/index.shtml>

¹⁶ United Nations, Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee, Documents. 2008.

¹⁷ United Nations, Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee, 2008.

¹⁸ United Nations, UN General Assembly 63rd Session- Functions and Powers of the General Assembly.

¹⁹ United Nations, Latest News- United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, 2009.

²⁰ United Nations, Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee, 2008.

²¹ United Nations, Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee, Documents. 2008.

²² United Nations, Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee, Reports to the Plenary-A/63/411. 2008.

This page gives an overview of the General Assembly 2nd (Economic and Financial). It briefly states the general purview of the body and gives a brief account of the proceedings from the previous session. It also provides a summary of the current proceedings in the committee this session. This is the page that will be updated at the end of each session. It is the most helpful citation for seeing the purpose and progression of the most recent previous sessions and current session. Although short, it was very informative and even included mention of the level of consensus reached in each session.

United Nations, Latest News. (n.d.), *United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development*, Retrieved September 30, 2009 from <http://www.un.org/ga/econcrisissummit/>

For delegates looking into the United Nations response to the international financial crisis this page might be a helpful starting point. The page gives brief information on the June 2009 conference which discussed the impact of the crisis on developing states in particular. The page also alludes to the December 2008 conference where the mandate for the United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development was made.

United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *Main Committees*. Retrieved August 4, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/ga/maincommittees.shtml>

The Main Committees tab provides a list of the six main committees established as subsidiary organs by the General Assembly. A description of the issue areas of each is also included. Separate from the main committees, but also included on this page are links to the Credentials Committee examines and reports to the General Assembly the credentials of representatives of Member States, and the General Committee that meets frequently during each session to monitor the throughout each session to review the progress of the General Assembly and its committee.

United Nations, Economic and Financial UN General Assembly 63rd Session - Second Committee. *Reports to the Plenary*. Retrieved September 30, 2009 from <http://www.un.org/ga/second/63/reports.shtml>

This is a database for all of the reports the General Assembly Second Committee reports submitted to the Plenary for suggested adoption. The link entitled "A/63/411" will provide a document that provides a suggested resolution to the General Assembly Plenary regarding information communication technologies. It will be helpful in directing delegates toward what initiatives are already in place and which need to be addressed. See pages five through eight.

I. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for Development

"The open society, the unrestricted access to knowledge, the unplanned and uninhibited association of men for its furtherance – these are what may make a vast, complex, ever growing, ever changing, ever more specialized and expert technological world, nevertheless a world of human community."²³

Introduction

The world is challenged with one of the worst financial and economic crisis in modern history.²⁴ Starting within the world's major financial centers, this growing dilemma has spread throughout the global community, causing severe social, political and economic impacts.²⁵ For the developing nations of the world, the crisis constitutes a development emergency as they have suffered significantly from a decline in investment and falling export

²³ United Nations ICT Task Force, *The world summit on the information society: moving from past to future*, p. ix.

²⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the conference on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development*, 2009, (A/RES/63/411).

²⁵ United Nations Development Programme, *The financial crisis and its impact on developing nations*, 2009, p. 2.

earnings.²⁶ Perhaps now more than ever, the developing world is in need of a collective global response to combat this economic crisis. Addressing these issues, the General Assembly (GA) Second Committee made development a cornerstone of its discussions and reports during the 63rd session, while also emphasizing the need for Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for development.²⁷ Specifically, the report for this session titled Information and Communication Technologies for Development further acknowledged that ICTs have enormous potential to benefit developing nations; however, this potential has yet to be brought to fruition.²⁸ The GA 2nd also recognized that the ever-present “Digital Divide” must be reduced by ensuring equal access to ICTs in every region of the world.²⁹ While it is undeniable that certain high-tech advancements may be inappropriate for the developing world, research has shown that many problems facing the poorer regions of the world- from combating disease to developing distance education- have been alleviated by proper application of technologies.³⁰ Despite several project successes, numerous barriers continue to inhibit the developmental promise of ICTs for the majority of the poor citizens in the world. As noted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), “...many technologies are tools of human development that enable people to increase their incomes, live longer, be healthier, enjoy a better standard of living, participate more in their communities and lead more creative lives...technology is like education- it enables people to lift themselves out of poverty.”³¹

ICTs and Development: A History

Implementing ICTs in development projects has been a tactic used since the 1950s.³² The first digital computer put into operation in a developing country was in Kolkata, India in 1956.³³ Information Technology (IT), the predecessor to ICTs, was initially applied to internal administrative functions of the public sector in developing regions.³⁴ A major shift occurred in the 1980s when multinational organizations began to view IT as an essential component for increasing economic growth in the private sector.³⁵ The rising influence of the Internet as well as the establishment of the International Development Goals (which would later be formalized as the Millennium Development Goals [MDGs] in 2000) helped to create current perceptions of ICTs and their potential benefits in developing nations.³⁶

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) prevalent today are vastly different and provide many alternatives to technologies employed in the past. According to the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), ICTs are “goods either intended to fulfill the function of information processing and communication by electronic means, including transmission and display, or which use electronic processing to detect, measure and/or record physical phenomena, or to control a physical process.”³⁷ The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development uses indicators to measure ICT use in developing regions by tracking usage per 100 inhabitants of the following technologies: fixed telephone lines, mobile cellular phones subscriptions, computers, internet subscriptions, broadband internet subscriptions, international internet bandwidth, radio sets, and television sets as well as percentages of localities with public internet access centers.³⁸

²⁶ United Nations Development Programme, *The financial crisis and its impact on developing nations*, 2009, p. 2

²⁷ United Nations, General Assembly, 63rd Session, *Information and communication technologies for development: Report of the Second Committee*, 2008.

²⁸ United Nations, General Assembly, 63rd Session, *Information and communication technologies for development: Report of the Second Committee*, 2008.

²⁹ United Nations, General Assembly, 63rd Session, *Information and communication technologies for development: Report of the Second Committee*, 2008.

³⁰ United Nations Development Programme, *Human Development Report 2001: Making new technologies work for human development*, 2001, p. 27.

³¹ United Nations Development Programme, *Human Development Report 2001: Making new technologies work for human development*, 2001, p. 27.

³² Heeks, *ICT4D 2.0: The next phase of applying ICT for international development*, 2008.

³³ Heeks, *ICT4D 2.0: The next phase of applying ICT for international development*, 2008.

³⁴ Heeks, *ICT4D 2.0: The next phase of applying ICT for international development*, 2008.

³⁵ Heeks, *ICT4D 2.0: The next phase of applying ICT for international development*, 2008.

³⁶ Heeks, *ICT4D 2.0: The next phase of applying ICT for international development*, 2008.

³⁷ Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development, *Glossary of statistical terms: information and communication technology (ICT) goods*, n.d.

³⁸ Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, *The Global Information Society: a statistical view*, 2008, p. 21.

The GA 2nd has emphasized the need for new and updated technologies in the world's developing and least developed countries (LDCs).³⁹ According to the United Nations Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, certain countries are given the classification of LDC based on three criteria:

- A low income criterion determined by a three year average of Gross National Income (GNI);
- A human resource weakness criterion, based on statistics of nutrition, percentage of population undernourished, health, education and adult literacy rates; and
- An economic vulnerability criterion involving indicators of population size, remoteness, merchandise export concentration, share of agriculture, forestry and fisheries in gross domestic product, homelessness owing to natural disasters, instability of agricultural production and instability of exports of goods and services.⁴⁰

The GA has shown repeatedly that it supports the implementation of ICTs in development projects. It has officially approved of the findings made in the Monterrey Consensus, requesting Official Development Assistance (ODA) policy reflect the need for ICTs in development.⁴¹ The Monterrey Consensus emphasized the need for economic and social development especially in LDCs.⁴² The Consensus called upon developed nations to contribute at least 0.7% of their GNP.⁴³ The ITU World Information Society Day in 2006 highlighted the importance of increasing worldwide connection using ICTs.⁴⁴ A speech made by former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan implored the international community to work together to “connect the unconnected...[to] spur the development for all the world's people.”⁴⁵ Kofi Annan further explains the concept of “connected” and “unconnected” (or the “haves” and the “have nots”) in his Challenge to Silicon Valley.⁴⁶ The GA also supports the efforts of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).⁴⁷ The Geneva 2003 and Tunis 2005 WSIS conferences and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) were monumental to the promotion of ICTS in development. Both conferences maintain that ICTS are crucial to the successful achievement of the MDGs.⁴⁸

Obstacles and Setbacks

While the opportunities ICT projects allow for seem boundless, the reality shows that there continues to be an ever prevalent digital divide.⁴⁹ Basic problems that developing nations face include a lack of access to electricity, infrastructure, computers and other devices, skilled users, and content. This digital divide is recognized and thoroughly debated in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Digital Divide Report.⁵⁰ The report concludes that the issue is a cyclical one: poverty is the leading factor in the digital divide and the lack of ICTs in developing regions inhibits potential growth, thus maintaining current poverty levels.⁵¹ For example, a person in a high-income country is over 22 times more likely to be an Internet user than someone in a

³⁹ United Nations, General Assembly, 63rd Session, *Information and communication technologies for development: Report of the Second Committee*, 2008.

⁴⁰ United Nations, Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, *Criteria for identification of LDCs*, n.d.

⁴¹ United Nations, *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico*, (A/CONF.198/11) 2002.

⁴² United Nations, *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico (A/CONF.198/11)*, 2002.

⁴³ United Nations, *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico (A/CONF.198/11)*, 2002.

⁴⁴ Annan, *Message of the UN Secretary General, World Information Society Day*, 2006.

⁴⁵ Annan, *Message of the UN Secretary General, World Information Society Day*, 2006.

⁴⁶ Annan, *Perspective: Kofi Annan's IT Challenge to Silicon Valley*, 2002.

⁴⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *World Summit on the Information Society (A/RES/60/252)*, 2006.

⁴⁸ United Nations World Summit on the Information Society Geneva 2003- Tunis 2005, *Declaration of Principles Building the Information Society: a global challenge in the new Millennium (WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/4-E)*, 2003.

⁴⁹ United Nations World Summit on the Information Society Geneva 2003- Tunis 2005, *Declaration of Principles Building the Information Society: a global challenge in the new Millennium (WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/4-E)*, 2003.

⁵⁰ United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, *The Digital Divide Report: ICT Diffusion Index*, 2005.

⁵¹ United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, *The Digital Divide Report: ICT Diffusion Index*, 2005.

low-income country.⁵² Research also indicates that countries with a 10% higher telephone per inhabitant percentage are more likely to register 0.6% higher annual growth in GDP.⁵³

To address these digital divide concerns, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) created the ICT Task Force in 2001.⁵⁴ The Task Force's role is to strategize on how to incorporate ICT technologies into the development projects.⁵⁵ This Task Force recognizes the disproportionate spread of ICT technologies between developing and developed countries and seeks to "promote action to ensure that ICT produce optimal benefits on the basis of fairness."⁵⁶ In 2002, the GA showed full support of the ICT Task Force during the 56th Session.⁵⁷ The ICT Task Force stresses that problems with ICTs in developing nations are not necessarily technological but are actually affected by purpose, governance, mind-set, leadership, policy, vision, willingness and resources.⁵⁸ ICTs are recognized as potentially beneficial given the proper environment exists to allow for effectiveness.⁵⁹ For example, countries with the lowest levels of telephone and Internet usage also had the highest phone, connectivity and bandwidth costs, making it extremely difficult to promote such technologies.⁶⁰ According to this task force, "there is not one digital divide, there are several – rural/urban, young/old, rich/poor, white collar/blue collar, etc. Access is key, but access alone is not sufficient."⁶¹

Future Prospects

With the deadline for the MDGs approaching in 2015, the world is looking to find solutions to issues facing the developing world. There is a great push to implement ICTs in as many aspects of development strategies as possible. According to the MDG 2009 Report, the "use of the Internet is increasing steadily, with almost 1.4 billion people —about one fifth of the world's inhabitants — online by the end of 2007."⁶² Internet access has strong potential to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals, especially in the areas of health, education and poverty reduction. Mobile telephone technology is also offering new methods of communication to regions that have long gone without access to mobile connection. "During 2007, sub-Saharan Africa added almost 50 million new mobile subscriptions, and mobile penetration rose from less than one in 50 people in 2000 to close to a quarter of the population. Mobile phones have not only increased access to basic voice communications, but are also increasingly being used for non-voice applications, including Short Message Service (SMS, also known as text messaging), m-banking and m-commerce, and disaster management."⁶³ New cellular technologies allowing for broadband access will undoubtedly offer several benefits to developing regions. Enhanced media access can also improve the overall competitiveness of countries, regions, and cities.⁶⁴

Mobile technologies have the capacity to stimulate economic growth, as do numerous development projects already in place. UNESCO emphasizes that there are countless "pilot projects" in the field of ICTs for development; however, these projects have yet to impact the masses.⁶⁵ In an attempt to address this issue, UNESCO has been transitioning the Community Multimedia Centre (CMC) pilot program into a large-scale project.⁶⁶ This process, called "scaling up" allows for isolated pilot ICT projects to have much stronger impact in developing regions.⁶⁷

Case Study: Scaling up Community Multimedia Centres in Mali, Mozambique and Senegal

⁵² United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, *The Digital Divide Report: ICT Diffusion Index*, 2005.

⁵³ Ampah and Guermazi, *Connecting Africa is critical to accelerated economic growth*, 2007.

⁵⁴ United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, *About*, n.d.

⁵⁵ United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, *About*, n.d.

⁵⁶ United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, *About*, n.d.

⁵⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Meeting of the General Assembly devoted to information and communication technologies for development (A/RES/56/258)*, 2002.

⁵⁸ ICT Task Force, *How ICTs Leverage Development to Meet the Millennium Summit Goals, Summary of Panel Discussion*, 2002.

⁵⁹ ICT Task Force, *How ICTs Leverage Development to Meet the Millennium Summit Goals, Summary of Panel Discussion*, 2002.

⁶⁰ ICT Task Force, *How ICTs Leverage Development to Meet the Millennium Summit Goals, Summary of Panel Discussion*, 2002.

⁶¹ ICT Task Force, *How ICTs Leverage Development to Meet the Millennium Summit Goals, Summary of Panel Discussion*, 2002.

⁶² United Nations, *Millennium Development Goals Report 2009*, 2009, p.54.

⁶³ United Nations, *Millennium Development Goals Report 2009*, 2009, p.54.

⁶⁴ Locksley, *The media and development: what's the story?*, 2009.

⁶⁵ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Communication and Information: CMC Scale-Up*, n.d.

⁶⁶ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Communication and Information: CMC Scale-Up*, n.d.

⁶⁷ Hughes, Stella, *CMC Scale-Up – Opportunities and Challenges*, 2004.

Founded in 2001, UNESCO's pilot Community Multimedia Centre (CMC) program sought to address the issues of lack of access to information and knowledge in various communities.⁶⁸ Today there are forty CMCs in over fifteen developing countries in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.⁶⁹ These CMCs have demonstrated that they can improve communities through social and economic development while offering a way to combine traditional knowledge with the enormous reserve of information provided by the Internet. CMCs also combine the use of community radio in local languages with community telecentre facilities (computers with Internet and e-mail, phone, fax and photocopying services).⁷⁰ Noting the success of these CMCs, a scale-up initiative was launched during the WSIS in Geneva in December 2003.⁷¹ UNESCO and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) have been working to scale-up 20 CMCs (50 in the second phase) in three countries: Mali, Mozambique and Senegal.⁷²

A major facet of UNESCO's Communication and Information (CI) scale up project was to secure national ownership and commitment. While local CMCs and other pilot projects have experienced strong community support, there have not been many examples of projects seeing the same level of support on national levels.⁷³ An evaluation made by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) in 2005 listed several challenges CI scale-up projects faced including the utilization of various management models, absence of strong and sufficient field support, a lack of strategic benchmarks and timeline, deficient clarity on UNESCO's continued and future involvement with the initiative as well as a general lack of networking opportunities for staff.⁷⁴ While the blancmange-esque structure of the initiative presents many problems, the pressing concern is funding. General startup and sustainability costs were higher than revenue from individuals charged for training, advertisements, computer access, etc.⁷⁵ Efforts to achieve financial stability may have forced CMC managers to provide services to only those who were able to pay for them, thus debilitating the potential to help the poorer citizens of developing regions.⁷⁶ CMCs also rely on volunteers to provide training and other services, yet lack incentives for volunteers. CMC managers are struggling with maintaining both revenue based business models and poverty alleviation objectives, especially when the expectation is to achieve both using unpaid labor.⁷⁷

While the evaluation does recommend a more structured, results based scale-up initiative including country level action and management plans, the CMC scale-up project was classified as a success in IISD's evaluation.⁷⁸ A CMC manager emphasized the beneficial impact of CMCs by stating: "Having worked on the ground with some of these projects, there is no doubt they are making an impact locally."⁷⁹

Conclusion

Jeffrey Sachs, a special advisor on the MDGs maintains that the key to ending poverty is to "create a global network of connections that reach from impoverished communities to the very centers of the world power and wealth and back."⁸⁰ Sachs also proceeds to emphasize the need to "scale up" current projects with proven success rates. He recommends that scaling up is possible when it is supported by the necessary technologies, organizational leadership and appropriate financing. If the global community can continue this model of scaling up existing and successful projects, perhaps entire regions can be positively affected as opposed to small communities. According to Sachs, in the case of the MDGs, the promising technologies exist, but have not yet been scaled up.

As mentioned previously, the potential of ICTs to act as a significant engine for productivity and growth is increasingly well recognized all over the world. New technologies are evolving and emerging daily in the

⁶⁸ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Communication and Information: CMC Scale-UP*, n.d.

⁶⁹ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Communication and Information: CMC Scale-UP*, n.d.

⁷⁰ World Summit on the Information Society, *WSIS stocktaking and partnerships: activity details*, 2009.

⁷¹ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Communication and Information: CMC Scale-UP*, n.d.

⁷² World Summit on the Information Society, *WSIS stocktaking and partnerships: activity details*, 2009.

⁷³ Hughes, Stella, *CMC Scale-Up – Opportunities and Challenges*, 2004.

⁷⁴ Creech, Heather, *Evaluation of UNESCO's Community Multimedia Centres: Final Report*, 2005, p.8.

⁷⁵ Creech, Heather, *Evaluation of UNESCO's Community Multimedia Centres: Final Report*, 2005, p.8.

⁷⁶ Creech, Heather, *Evaluation of UNESCO's Community Multimedia Centres: Final Report*, 2005, p.8.

⁷⁷ Creech, Heather, *Evaluation of UNESCO's Community Multimedia Centres: Final Report*, 2005, p.8.

⁷⁸ Creech, Heather, *Evaluation of UNESCO's Community Multimedia Centres: Final Report*, 2005, p.57.

⁷⁹ Creech, Heather, *Evaluation of UNESCO's Community Multimedia Centres: Final Report*, 2005, p.9.

⁸⁰ Sachs, *The end of poverty: economic possibilities for our time*, 2005, p. 246.

developed world and there is no doubt that these technologies could have a highly positive impact if applied properly to developing regions. While various projects show much promise, such as the Community Multimedia Centres, readiness and accessibility issues will most likely remain relevant for years to come. Patience and commitment are necessary when embarking on ICT projects in developing nations. The MDG 2009 report implores the international community to recognize the role ICTs can have in achieving several goals including ensuring environmental sustainability, developing a global partnership for development, achieving universal primary education and promoting gender equality and empowering women.⁸¹

ICTs must be recognized as a necessity, not a luxury. ICTs should not be viewed as an alternative to other projects but as a necessary tool for development. When considering ICTs for development, delegates should try to address what changes still need to be made to bridge the Digital Divide gap. Also, what support has your Member State shown for ICT and development projects? How can current projects in place be assessed to ensure optimal impact on developing regions? How can the global community ensure the transfer of knowledge and thus benefit developing nations? What existing projects can be scaled up to benefit entire regions in the developing world.

Must Reads

United Nations. General Assembly. 63rd Session. (2008). *Information and communication technologies for development: Report of the Second Committee*. (A/RES/63/411). Retrieved July 22, 2009 from <http://www.un.org/ga/second/63/reports.shtml>
The GA 2nd committee emphasizes its support for several organizations and programs already in place to promote ICTs for development. In this resolution, the GA 2nd committee references the continuing mission of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) as well as the necessity of South-South cooperation for ICT development. This resolution is also of interest as it recognizes that the majority of poor citizens in LDCs do not currently have access to ICTs.

World Summit on the Information Society (2008). *Tunis Agenda for the Information Society*. (WSIS-05/TUNIS/DOC/6 Rev.1-E). Retrieved July 23, 2009 from http://ict.unsystemceb.org/reference/14/base_view
The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) includes two United Nations supported conferences in Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005). This document is the agenda for the Tunis conference, which referenced and added on to the findings of the previous Geneva conference. It also touches on issues of funding, discussing Official Development Assistance (ODA) as well as the Digital Solidarity Fund (DSF).

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. (2005). *The Digital Divide Report: ICT Diffusion Index 2005*. Retrieved July 23, 2009 from <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?docid=6994&intItemID=2068&lang=1&mode=downloads>
The Digital Divide Report substantiates claims suggesting a technological gap between developed and developing nations. Numerous case studies highlight issues of access and affordability of ICTs in several member states. One can even read data on “Internet Backbone Capacity” by region. The graphs, figures and statistics that help to prove the existence of a “Digital Divide.”

United Nations. (2009). *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2009*. Retrieved July 30, 2009 from <http://millenniumindicators.un.org/unsd/mdg/Default.aspx>
With the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals less than six years away, this report demonstrates that the overall limited progress may prevent achieving many of the MDGs by 2015. Granted, there have many successes, notably the increase in mobile technology worldwide. However, the report highlights evident regional differences in general ICT access. Using the link provided above, one can also access an MDG Progress Chart which breaks down the current standing of each MDG.

United Nations Development Programme. (2001). *Human Development Report 2001: Making new technologies work for human development*. Retrieved August 10, 2009 from <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2001/>

⁸¹ United Nations, *Millennium Development Goals Report 2009*, 2009.

The Human Development Report is an essential guide regarding the status of developing nations. Every year, a new report is authored by the UNDP. The 2001 report will be of special interest to delegates as it deals directly with the issue of ICTs and development. While more recent reports, also obtainable through the link above, may have a different thematic focus, they can be helpful in discovering recent statistics on development projects and LDCs.

II. Promoting Low-Carbon Economic Growth in the Developing World

Introduction

For the past few decades, scientific research has been reporting on higher global temperatures caused by rapidly increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases (GHG).⁸² Climate change affects our ecosystems, biodiversity, agriculture, and marine life.⁸³ The 2007 Climate Change assessment by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) presents staggering evidence of CO₂ emissions significantly crossing the level absorbable by the biosphere, which is evident in rising global temperatures of 0.74°C within the last century.⁸⁴ Continuing down the path of growing CO₂ emissions and global warming will have a profound impact on the environment and climate conditions, affecting the basic elements of life, such as the availability of fresh water and an adequate food supply. In his 2008 World Environment Day address, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stressed that even though the cost of this state of matters will be borne by all, the poorer, developing nations will be hit the hardest – not only by droughts and floods, but also shortage in food and water, in effect stalling their growth, and threatening their population’s security.⁸⁵ He further noted that “with the climate crisis upon us, businesses and governments are realizing that, far from costing the Earth, addressing global warming can actually save money and invigorate economies.”⁸⁶

In June 2009, in the run-up to the Conference on the World Economic and Financial Crisis, the UN System Chief Executives’ Board for Coordination issued a call for a sustained effort to expand a new development pattern that addresses, along with the economic and financial crisis, the challenges the world faces in the areas of climate, water and food security.⁸⁷ The central element in achieving this is the transition to a global low carbon economy while providing assistance to developing countries in their progress on a less carbon intensive development path.⁸⁸ The topic discusses the pathways, necessary policies and mechanisms needed to facilitate implementation and achievement of the global GHG reduction goals necessary to limit the rise in global average temperatures to 2°C to meet the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change’s (UNFCCC) internationally agreed goal to “prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.”⁸⁹ The 2°C adopted by the UNFCCC was suggested based on analysis measuring climatic response to sustained concentration of the GHG.⁹⁰ Even though climate sensitivity ranges from 2°C to 4.5°C, scientists predict a daunting impact on both the natural and human environment, including species extinction, melting ice caps, violent weather conditions, droughts resulting in extensive migration, food and water inefficiency, health challenges, as well as significant disturbance in development and sustainable growth, especially in already challenged developing countries.⁹¹ However, the most recent article by Hansen et al. find that both the emission reduction trajectories developed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, discussed in the UNFCCC framework, and in the Stern Review are allowing for too high GHG concentrations to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change.⁹²

⁸² United Nations Environment Programme, *Towards a Low-Carbon Economy: World Environment Day*, 2008.

⁸³ United Nations Environment Programme, *Towards a Low-Carbon Economy: World Environment Day*, 2008.

⁸⁴ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report*, 2007.

⁸⁵ United Nations Environment Programme, *Towards a Low-Carbon Economy: World Environment Day*, 2008.

⁸⁶ Kirby, *Kick The Habit: The UN Guide to Climate Neutrality*, 2008.

⁸⁷ United Nations Environment Programme, *Green Economy. A Transformation to Address Multiple Crises*.

⁸⁸ Stern, *The Economics of Climate Change: The Stern Review*, 2007.

⁸⁹ United Nations, Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992.

⁹⁰ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report*, 2007.

⁹¹ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report*, 2007;

See also: Stern, *The Economics of Climate Change: The Stern Review*, 2007.

⁹² Hansen et al., *Target Atmospheric CO₂: Where Should Humanity Aim*, 2008.

Brief Review of International Framework

The issue of climate change entered the global arena with the First Climate Conference of 1979, although some scientists trace the roots of the interest in the topic to the 1972 Stockholm UN Conference on Human Development.⁹³ The 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) marks the backbone of the international effort, recognizing the atmosphere as a shared resource and setting the goal to keep warming below 2°C.⁹⁴ This is to be achieved by stabilizing GHG concentrations in order to slow down and eventually halt negative anthropogenic environmental impact. The UNFCCC recognized differentiated historic responsibilities of industrialized and developing countries as well as current respective capacities of the Member States pertaining to GHG emissions.⁹⁵ All 192 of the ratifying states recognized the significance of promoting and cooperating in scientific, technological, technical, socio-economic research, while also engaging in full, open and prompt exchange of information of such nature; as well as education, training and other awareness related to climate change.⁹⁶ Such interstate collaboration is especially important in addressing the advancing capacities of developing countries. International cooperation took a major step forward in December 1997 by adopting the Kyoto Protocol – a binding instrument designed to overcome the UNFCCC’s inefficiency by setting obligatory targets while ensuring greater cost-effectiveness in meeting Members States obligations.⁹⁷ During the 2009 summit leaders of developing countries, namely China, Japan, and the US pledged financial and technological assistance to developing states, alongside specifying their own GHG target reduction level.⁹⁸ Furthermore, China proposed an increase of mandatory contributions towards assistance for developing countries to 1% GDP.⁹⁹

The development of an international institutional framework was fostered by the growing scientific consensus within the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) about the role of anthropogenic GHG emissions. The IPCC was set up in 1988, and is an impartial scientific advisory body – charged with generating and reviewing research applicable to climate change and its consequences, in order to bolster well-informed and accurate policy decisions.¹⁰⁰ The gravity of extensive carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and its adverse impact on the Earth’s climate is acknowledged by the international community comprised not only of the UN Agencies, but also a growing number of regional groups and regulations, such as the European Union’s (EU) emission trading scheme (ETS).¹⁰¹ Scientific evidence notes that the concentration of carbon dioxide has been increasing in the Earth’s atmosphere: from 280ppm in 1750 to 367ppm in 1999, and reaching 385ppm in 2008, assessing the current increase at 2ppm increase yearly.¹⁰² Taking into account its atmospheric residence time scientific scenarios suggest that the CO₂ emission should not exceed 400ppm.¹⁰³ This level is significantly higher than the ceiling proposed by Hansen’s research, based on analysis of the evidence from the carbon shift that took place during the Pleistocene epoch, and should not surpass 350ppm.¹⁰⁴ The IPCC projects increasing levels of CO₂ emissions resulting in temperature increases that will cause adverse changes in precipitation, extreme weather events, increased natural variability, land ice and sea ice covers, and sea levels.¹⁰⁵ General findings in both the IPCC 2007 Fourth Assessment Report and the Stern Review corroborate in stating that the climate crisis is solvable at a low cost, if early action is taken: The Stern Review and the IPCC address the relation between stabilization of the CO₂ emission and both estimate comparable

⁹³ Fisher, *The History of Science and Policy of the Global Climate Change Regime*, 2004.

⁹⁴ United Nations, *Framework Convention on Climate Change*, 1992.

⁹⁵ United Nations, *Framework Convention on Climate Change*, 1992;

See also: United Nations, General Assembly, *Protection of Global Climate for Present and Future Generations of Mankind (A/RES/62/86)*, 2008.

⁹⁶ United Nations, *Framework Convention on Climate Change*, 1992, art.3 points 3 g-l.

⁹⁷ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, *Kyoto Protocol*.

⁹⁸ Goldenberg, *UN Climate Summit: Leaders Take Small Steps Towards Action on Climate Change*, 2009.

⁹⁹ Goldenberg, *UN climate summit: Leaders Take Small Steps Towards Action on Climate Change*, 2009.

¹⁰⁰ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Organization, Working Groups/Task Force, Activities*.

¹⁰¹ European Commission, *Emission Trading System*.

¹⁰² Trumper et al., *The Natural Fix? The Role of Ecosystem in Climate Mitigation. A UNEP Rapid Response Assessment*, 2009; See also: Hansen et al., *Target Atmospheric CO₂: Where Should Humanity Aim?* 2008.

¹⁰³ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Summary for Policymakers*, 2007.

¹⁰⁴ Hansen, et al., *Target Atmospheric CO₂: Where Should Humanity Aim?* 2008.

¹⁰⁵ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Summary for Policymakers*, 2007.

expenditure on the project (less than 1%), which is to be achieved by 2050.¹⁰⁶ In addition, shifting to a low-carbon economy throughout the next 20 years is assessed to cause an increase of total financing in global capital expenditures approximately between 0.7% and 2.3%.¹⁰⁷ In comparison “the recent fluctuations in oil prices have had a far greater economic impact costing in the order of 5% of global GDP between 2004 and 2008, let alone the funds the world will spend on recovering from the subprime crisis.”¹⁰⁸

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is at the heart of climate safeguarding advocacy by hosting programs such as the Green Economy Initiative of October 2008, the recently launched Climate Neutral Network, and the Global Reporting Initiative.¹⁰⁹ These projects target respectively: the importance of clean technology application to agricultural expansion and economic growth with special consideration to carbon sinks, the advancement of GHG emission cutbacks and exchanges of information for doing so, and providing frameworks for sustainability reporting respectively.¹¹⁰

The Pathway to Low-Carbon Economic Growth

As of this year, 188 Member States expressed their concern and agreed on the undeniable need of addressing the global climate change by limiting GHG emissions through either ratifying, accessing, as well as approving and accepting Kyoto Protocol.¹¹¹ Given that CO₂ is the focal greenhouse gas contributing to global warming, it is of utmost importance to address all its sources.¹¹² The IPCC Climate Change 2007 report identifies the energy sector as the major contributor of CO₂ (amounting to 26%), followed by industrial emissions at 19.4%, deforestation at 17.4%, and agricultural land usage at 13.5%.¹¹³ Transition of the global economy to low-carbon energy industry requires the development of significant technological, economic and policy innovations.¹¹⁴ The central, yet unanswered, question is how to achieve this. The main areas of differences among states in the climate negotiation process concerned the “ability and/or willingness to pay, capacities to respond, responsibility and vulnerability to impacts, as well as income and aspirations for development.”¹¹⁵ Further discussion will point to a number of measures proposed, yet none seems to be either flawless or universally readily acceptable.

Besides domestic emission reductions, the Kyoto Protocol set up three market-based flexible mechanisms for international cooperation in reducing the release of GHGs - emissions trading, the clean development mechanism (CDM), and joint implementation (JI) - that are to provide economic incentives to countries in achieving their target reduction of GHG emissions.¹¹⁶ These instruments aim not only at reducing emissions of GHG, but also at furthering sustainable development through technology transfer, investment, and involvement of the private sector.¹¹⁷ CDM projects help developed countries reach their GHG reduction level in a less expensive manner, giving developing countries a comparative advantage of achieving low-carbon sustainable development.¹¹⁸ The strict requirements and review process created in CDM projects are considered to be of high quality, however, the cost of design and certification are considerable; the price per offset unit is higher than that of other mechanisms.¹¹⁹ Among CDM criticisms, the most often pointed out is the so-called ‘additionality’ criterion, referring to “reduction in emissions that are additional to any that would occur in the absence of the certified project activity.”¹²⁰

¹⁰⁶ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Summary for Policymakers*, 2007; see also: Stern, *The Economics of Climate Change: The Stern Review*, 2007.

¹⁰⁷ McKinsey & Company, *Pathways to Low-Carbon Economy*, 2009.

¹⁰⁸ Beinhocker & Oppenheim, *Economic Opportunities in a Low-carbon World*, 2008.

¹⁰⁹ United Nations Environment Programme, *Green Economy Initiative*, n.d.

¹¹⁰ United Nations Environment Programme, *Green Economy Initiative*, n.d.;

See also: Kirby, *Kick the Habit: The UN Guide to Climate Neutrality*, 2008, p.73 & p.187.

¹¹¹ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, *Kyoto Protocol*, n.d.

¹¹² Bernstein, Bosch, Canziani, et al., *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report*, 2007.

¹¹³ Bernstein, Bosch, Canziani, et al., *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report*, 2007.

¹¹⁴ Flavin, *Building of a Low-Carbon Economy*, 2008, pp. 75-90.

¹¹⁵ Banuri, & Spanger-Siegfried, *Equity and the Clean Development Mechanisms: Equity, Additionality, Supplementarity*, 2002.

¹¹⁶ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, *The Mechanisms Under the Kyoto Protocol: Emission Trading, the Clean Development Mechanism, and Joint Implementation*, n.d.

¹¹⁷ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, *The Mechanisms Under the Kyoto Protocol: Emission Trading, the Clean Development Mechanism, and Joint Implementation*, n.d.

¹¹⁸ Garibaldi, Hampton, Hohne & Jung, *Scaling Up Investment in Climate Change Mitigation Activities*, 2009.

¹¹⁹ Kirby, *Kick the Habit: The UN Guide to Climate Neutrality*, 2008.

¹²⁰ United Nations, *Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, 1998.

‘Additionality’ designed as a safety mechanism from scams, runs into problems when it comes to its assessment - rigorous testing not only makes it extremely difficult to patent under CDM, (therefore pursued largely by the developed states’ due to their technological and fiscal resources for elaborate designs), but also making the process more costly.¹²¹ The CDM faces significant criticism as to swift and wide application in developing countries. An Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development’s (OECD) report from 2003 points to prioritizing basic economic and social development, lack of countries’ individual capacities in the form of trained personnel, equipment, weak and/or corrupt enforcement mechanism, as well as an inability to facilitate legal, regulatory, and monitoring procedures.¹²² The Second Review of the Kyoto Protocol pursuant to its article 9 of 2008 concluded that “CDM has proven to be an insufficient tool to make a meaningful difference to energy production and consumption patterns in developing countries.”¹²³ In order to make it more accessible and productive, its role must be improved and accompanied by suitable incentives.¹²⁴ According to the UNFCCC, CDM registration data lists 58 states registered for project activities, with China, India accounting for 59.6% or 224,794,892 of Certified Emission Reductions credits (CER).¹²⁵ CDM inspired a more natural – yet rapidly growing – avenue for CO₂ emission reductions, namely the voluntary carbon market, driven by changing consumer preference and increasing corporate social responsibility.¹²⁶ In their 2008 study of voluntary carbon markets, Hamilton et al. estimated that in 2007, “the voluntary carbon market saw ‘over the counter’ (OTC) trades of about 42 million tons of CO₂ with a value of about US\$ 258 million.”¹²⁷ The report on the voluntary carbon market estimated the total (OTC and ETS) value at US\$ 91 billion in 2007, but it is projected that its worth will reach anywhere between USD 800 billion and US\$ 2 trillion, by 2020.¹²⁸ Carbon footprint labeling of products may also serve as an incentive to advancing low-carbon economy.¹²⁹ It is important for the developing countries perspective on adoption and expansion of the low-carbon production technologies, in that it will make their products more competitive and appealing to the western, or the more environmentally considerate markets, boosting export revenues and consequently providing capital for further advancement.

Alongside the Kyoto mechanisms and new technology R&D, some scientists point to the application of the CO₂ emission reduction technologies already at hand. In their 2004 article, Pacala and Socolow underscore the necessity of reducing and stabilizing the CO₂ emissions at not higher than 500ppm – a concentration far greater than the recently proclaimed 350ppm.¹³⁰ They draw attention to fifteen already existing technology options – or stabilization wedges – that could be employed in reducing carbon emissions by 2050.¹³¹ They suggest that application of any seven out of fifteen measures proposed would stabilize GHG emissions at a level that would provide the chance of avoiding the worst climate effects.¹³² Pacala and Socolow illustrate their model in two graphs comparing the ‘business as usual’ (BAU) scenario to the one of atmospheric CO₂ stabilization through application of the seven wedges – each wedge is discussed with the specific numeric values of the required change.¹³³ The wedges are readily applicable and consist of: increased efficiency and reduction of vehicle use, increased efficiency of building and coal plants, replacement of coal power with either gas, wind, solar, nuclear power or mixture of thereof, capture

¹²¹ Michaelowa, *Determination of Baselines and Additionality for the CDM: A Crucial Element of Credibility of the Climate Regime*, 2005.

¹²² Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Greenhouse Gas Emission Trading and Project-based Mechanism*, 2004.

¹²³ United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, *Second Review of the Kyoto Protocol Pursuant to its Article 9*, 2008.

¹²⁴ United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, *Second Review of the Kyoto Protocol Pursuant to its Article 9*, 2008.

¹²⁵ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, *CDM Registration*, n.d.

¹²⁶ Garibaldi, Hampton, Hohne, & Jung, *Scaling Up Investment in Climate Change Mitigation Activities*, 2009.

¹²⁷ Hamilton et al., *State of the Voluntary Carbon Market*, 2008.

¹²⁸ Hoffman, & Twining, *Profiting from the Low-Carbon Economy*, 2009;

See also: Hamilton, Bayon, Turner, & Higgins, *State of the Voluntary Carbon Markets 2007: Picking Up Steam*, 2007.

¹²⁹ Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Environmental Performance Reviews: Mexico*, 2003.

¹³⁰ Pacala & Socolow, *Stabilization Wedges: Solving the Climate Problem for the Next 50 Years with Current Technologies*, 2004; See also: Hansen et al., *Target Atmospheric CO₂: Where Should Humanity Aim?* 2008.

¹³¹ Pacala & Socolow, *Stabilization Wedges: Solving the Climate Problem for the Next 50 Years with Current Technologies*, 2004.

¹³² Pacala & Socolow, *Stabilization Wedges: Solving the Climate Problem for the Next 50 Years with Current Technologies*, 2004, p.971.

¹³³ Pacala & Socolow, *Stabilization Wedges: Solving the Climate Problem for the Next 50 Years with Current Technologies*, 2004, p.971.

and storage of CO₂ at hydrogen, coal, or coal- to-synfuels plants (fuel synthesized from non-petroleum sources), replacement of fossil fuels with biomass fuels, reduced deforestation and expansion of conservation tillage, and the use of wind to generate hydrogen for fuel-cell cars.¹³⁴

In a report of similar kind, McKinsey offers a significantly larger study and suggestion of pathways to low-carbon economy: 200 opportunities across 10 sectors and throughout 21 geographical regions that are to reduce the global GHG emissions by 55 % by 2030, a reduction of 70 % from the business as usual scenario.¹³⁵ Even though many of the proposed opportunities to carbon reduction require initial investment for future returns, four regulations are identified as crucial towards achieving a low-cost emissions reduction: removing market barriers to energy efficiency opportunities, establishment of long-term incentives for development and deployment of GHG efficient technologies, incentives towards accost-efficient GHG technologies, as well as the use of agriculture and forestry mainly by the developing countries in order to meet their obligations, and forward the global emission reduction targets.¹³⁶

To illustrate one of the arguments, one may look at ‘carbon productivity’. The benefits from increasing “carbon productivity” are twofold – leading to carbon abatement and economic growth, which is especially vital to the developing nations.¹³⁷ Quick advancement and the need to expand energy generation infrastructure in developing countries calls for the deployment of low-carbon technologies and systems due to: population and economic growth, manufacturing energy-intensive goods consumed by the industrialized world, urban-bound population shift, and the need to alleviate poverty.¹³⁸

Regardless of a growing number of proposed GHG emission alleviation measures, developing countries face significant challenges in fulfilling their emissions obligations. From a practical and realistic point of view, most of these challenges could, by and large, be addressed by increases in financing and investments.¹³⁹ The 2007 UNFCCC publication entitled *Investment and Financial Flows to Address Climate Change* stressed that perceived economic growth of developing countries in light of cheap and easily accessible fossil fuels needs special consideration – large share investment and financial flows (I&FF) allowing for redirection of the focus from quick and inexpensive instantaneous economic growth, to long-term ‘green’ investment and postponed gains.¹⁴⁰ A World Bank’s report notes that “when carbon financing may play an important role in scaling up a particular type of low carbon activity, it requires taking a strategic program approach that provides the right enabling environment.”¹⁴¹ Among the World Bank’s financial mechanisms is a large-scale, long-term carbon investment in pragmatic and sectoral initiatives called Carbon Partnership Facility (CPF), designed specifically to aid developing countries and countries with economies in transition to approach a low-carbon development pathway.¹⁴² Initial private banking contributions are both crucial and profitable for the world’s transition to a low-carbon economy by “industrializing the market for carbon financing and investments in a low-carbon economy, creating transparency into carbon-related costs and value, and driving innovations.”¹⁴³ As one of the mitigating options, UNEP is also aiming at increasing investment in clean energy projects both internationally and in specific target countries by innovative bank loan programs, such as allowing banks to offer credit facilities that help consumers finance the purchase of natural energy source systems and water heating.¹⁴⁴

As highlighted throughout the text, developing countries’ perspective on low-carbon economic development is quite more challenging than the one of developed states. Developing states not only lack financial and technological capacities, but more importantly long-term sustainable low-carbon strategies are foregone for other policies, such as

¹³⁴ Pacala & Socolow, *Stabilization Wedges: Solving the Climate Problem for the Next 50 Years with Current Technologies*, 2004, p.971.

¹³⁵ McKinsey & Company, *Pathways to Low-Carbon Economy*, 2009.

¹³⁶ McKinsey & Company, *Pathways to Low-Carbon Economy*, 2009, p.19.

¹³⁷ McKinsey & Company, *Pathways to Low-Carbon Economy*, 2009.

¹³⁸ Garibaldi, Hampton, Hohne, & Jung, *Scaling Up Investment in Climate Change Mitigation Activities*, 2009.

¹³⁹ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, *Investment and Financial Flows to Address Climate Change*, 2007.

¹⁴⁰ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, *Investment and Financial Flows to Address Climate Change*, 2007.

¹⁴¹ Garibaldi, Hampton, Hohne, & Jung, *Scaling Up Investment in Climate Change Mitigation Activities*, 2009.

¹⁴² Garibaldi, Hampton, Hohne, & Jung, *Scaling Up Investment in Climate Change Mitigation Activities*, 2009.

¹⁴³ McKinsey & Company, *Pathways to Low-Carbon Economy*, 2009.

¹⁴⁴ United Nations Environment Programme, *Mitigation - Responding to Opportunity*, n.d.

human security or short-term economic growth. As illustrated by the case study, developing countries can still on their own undertake some actions (such as reforestation, land use incentives) towards reduction of the GHG emissions. However, given that the energy sector is the major source of extensive CO₂ release, investment in its efficiency and increase of its share of renewable sources is crucial as it not only reduce carbon emissions, but also facilitates more sustainable growth in different economic sectors.¹⁴⁵ In addition to the financing and investment, developing countries are also daunted by the challenges of research and development, technological innovation, technology transfers and intellectual property rights, trade barriers, the build-up institutional capacity, development of CDM, as well as support and incentivizing small scale private sector domestic undertakings.¹⁴⁶ Advancement and effectiveness of these reforms will also require education, which will foster behavioral changes of the people, in both the lifestyle and prioritizing slower, but clean and sustainable development over a faster growth that is potentially catastrophic to the future generations.¹⁴⁷ As recognized by presidents Obama and Hu in the spirit of common but different responsibilities of developing countries, active participation in curbing global GHG emissions is crucial, and therefore financial and technical aid will be provided to secure a win-win endeavor on climate change.¹⁴⁸

Case Study: Mexico on the Low-carbon Growth Path

Since the 1990s, Mexico has been an active participant in the international climate change talks.¹⁴⁹ Mexico recognized that development and the application of environmentally-conscious practices are a main factor in the country's advancement in the global market by exports and consequently attracting foreign investment and tourism.¹⁵⁰ Since then, Mexico has been a leading developing country in reducing GHG emissions and has announced its goal to lower GHG release by 50% until 2050 based on the level of 2002, amounting to 3.64 t CO₂ per capita.¹⁵¹ Ricardo Ochoa, Head of the International Affairs Unit of the Ministry of Finance, stated that even though Mexico is not a globally significant GHG emitter, it is imperative not only to take action in an attempt to prevent the negative impacts of global warming on its territory, but also to set an example for other countries.¹⁵² Regardless of issues with institutional adjustment, research and development, capacity-building and communication, the Special Climate Change Programme's major mitigation policy undertakings include land use, land use change, and forestry (LULUCF), energy generation and use, waste management, as well as the creation of a framework for a carbon market.¹⁵³ Mexico is a beneficiary of low interest financial injections coming from the Clean Technology Fund and the World Bank, to be invested in reducing CO₂ emissions from the two most significantly contributing sectors, namely transportation and energy generation.¹⁵⁴ Successful bus rapid transit transformation of Mexico City transit will serve as the blueprint for a low-carbon transformation in transportation, whereas CO₂ emission cuts in the energy sector will be coming from further advancement of hydrological and wind power plants.¹⁵⁵ It is also important to note that prior to signing the Kyoto Protocol, Mexico recognized the gravity of vegetation loss and undertook significant steps towards its alleviation in the form of Forest Resources Conservation and Sustainable Management Project (PROCYMAF) – currently in its second application, aiming at the sustainable use of forest resources, and the reforestation of marginal agricultural land through direct payments to the farmers.¹⁵⁶

Conclusion

The international community recognized the grave danger posed by growing GHG emissions, leading to global climate change. In order to attain long term GHG release cutbacks, it is of the utmost importance to continue on the

¹⁴⁵ United Nations Environment Programme, *Mitigation - Responding to Opportunity*, n.d.

¹⁴⁶ Stern, *The Economics of Climate Change: The Stern Review*, 2007.

¹⁴⁷ United Nations Environment Programme. *Green Economy Initiative*, n.d.

¹⁴⁸ Goldenberg, *UN Climate Summit: Leaders Take Small Steps Towards Action on Climate*, 2009.

¹⁴⁹ Brizzi, & Ahmed, *A Sustainable Future*, 2001, p.117-121.

¹⁵⁰ Brizzi, & Ahmed, *A Sustainable Future*, 2001.

¹⁵¹ Martinez-Fernandez, *Mexico's Special Program for Climate Change*, 2009;

See also: The World Bank, *Climate Change. Mexico: Seeking a Low-Carbon Growth Path*, 2009;

See also: International Atomic Energy Agency, *Energy and Environment Data Reference Bank: Mexico*, n.d.

¹⁵² The World Bank, *Mexico: Seeking a Low-Carbon Growth Path*, 2009.

¹⁵³ Martinez-Fernandez, *Mexico's Special Program for Climate Change*, 2009.

¹⁵⁴ The World Bank, *Mexico: Seeking a Low-Carbon Growth Path*, 2009.

¹⁵⁵ The World Bank, *Mexico: Seeking a Low-Carbon Growth Path*, 2009.

¹⁵⁶ Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Environmental Performance Reviews: Mexico*, 2003.

path of international cooperation, with special consideration to individual needs, as well as considering the advantages gained by individual states.¹⁵⁷ Yvo de Boer, the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, expressed his satisfaction with the talks among 183 parties that met in Bonn in July 2009 in preparation of the Copenhagen Climate Summit and stated that “a big achievement of this meeting is that governments have made it clearer what they want to see in the outcome of the Copenhagen agreement.”¹⁵⁸

Delegates should be familiar with the science of climate change and have thorough knowledge of international efforts and legal instruments put in place in order to reduce CO₂ and other GHG emissions. They should have a very good knowledge of domestic policies, regulations, mechanisms, and initiatives, as well as its contributions to low-carbon economic growth. While delegates are expected to be familiar with the outcomes of the Copenhagen 2009 climate conferences, they are expected to expand on these results and discuss long-term policies to achieve reduction commitments agreed by the international community.

In preparation for the task, delegates may want to consider questions such as: What contributions are or could be made to advance low-carbon economic growth? What are the specific and necessary steps that must be taken towards domestic/regional low-carbon economic growth? What mechanisms/approaches are most suitable/most effective for their country? What are the sources of financing or what possible partnerships are available? What should be the balance between national sovereignty in pursuing changes and cost efficiency in reducing global GHG emissions?

Must Read Section

Bernstein, L., Bosch, P., Canziani, O., et al. (2007, November). Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report: Summary for Policymakers. Retrieved from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Web site: http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4_syr_spm.pdf
The Report's Summary for Policy Makers is a clear and concise synthesis of the IPCC's findings on global climate change discussing the large variety of impacts and their certainties. It presents the observed changes in the global climate and their effects, causes of the change, and further projected alteration and its bearing. It also consists of a section dedicated to adaptation and mitigation alternatives in specific sectors of high energy consumption (e.g. transport, agriculture), with a long term sustainability.

Hansen, J., Sato, M., Kharecha, P., Beerling, D., et al. (2008). ‘Target Atmospheric CO₂: Where Should Humanity Aim?’ The Open Atmospheric Sciences Journal 2: 217–231. Retrieved September 1, 2009 from Web site http://www1.ci.uc.pt/pessoal/asobral/index_ficheiros/L1CLI.pdf
The article provides an extensive review on the climate sensitivity equilibrium, based reverse precedence of the CO₂ concentration shift that led to the ice age of the Pleistocene Epoch. The authors analyzed and compared the scientific evidence, and concluded that the previously suggested ceiling for the CO₂ concentration at 450-550 parts per million is significantly too high – their estimate is that it should not be higher than 350 ppm CO₂. It is suggested that achieving this reduction from the current level of 385 ppm CO₂, can be done by extensive cutback on burning of the fossil fuels accompanied by CO₂ capture and storage and sequestration, significant increases in the global price of CO₂ release, as well as the crediting of land use and forestry services as carbon sinks. In conclusion the authors make a grim prediction that ‘continued growth of GHG emissions for another decade practically eliminates the possibility’ of averting catastrophic climate changes.

Kirby, A. (2008). Kick the Habit: The UN Guide to Climate Neutrality. Progress Press: Malta
This very recent publication is extensive, comprehensive, and written in an easy and engaging fashion and presents the up-to-date scientific findings and discussions. It aims not exclusively at scientific, political or scholarly audience, but to organizations, businesses, as well as individuals. The author walks the reader from the main climate features, through the dangers posed to it by the climate change, types of GHGs, reasons for aspiring climate neutrality, through the existent

¹⁵⁷ Stern, *The Economics of Climate Change: The Stern Review*, 2007.

¹⁵⁸ United Nations, *Ambitious Global Climate Change Agreement in Sight, Says Top UN Official*, 2009.

problems, the actors involved, finally to the extensive discussion of the reduction cycle. The main message to be learned is that all and every cell of the humankind can help and reduce the carbon dioxide emissions.

McKinsey & Company. (2009). Pathways to a Low-Carbon Economy. Retrieved October 4, 2009 from http://www.mckinsey.com/client/service/ccsi/pathways_low_carbon_economy.asp

The report argues that there is potential to reduce global GHG reductions until 2030 by 35% compared to 1990. It presents a detailed cost-benefit analysis of a myriad of different measures and technologies to reduce GHG emissions – thus it shows that energy efficiency measures and energy retrofitting provides real positive returns, while the carbon capture & storage technology is the most expensive option considered by the study. It further analyzes the different potentials of world regions in abatement and the consequences of delaying cooperation on GHG reduction.

Pacala, S., & Socolow, R. (2004, August 13). Stabilization Wedges: Solving the Climate Problem for the Next 50 Years with Current Technologies. *Science*, 305, 968-972. Retrieved August 11, 2009, from <http://www.sciencemag.org.ez.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/cgi/reprint/305/5686/968.pdf>
In this widely recognized publication the authors take an approach to amending emissions of GHG is such a way that the progression of global warming is slowed down and eventually halted. Pacala and Socolow point to fifteen ‘wedges’ – a portfolio of already existent technologies – all of which are readily available. They conclude that even though no single one of these can reduce emissions significantly enough to avert global warming, application of any seven of them would prevent growth of CO₂ levels to anywhere close to its estimated doubling by 2050.

Stern, N. H. (2007). *The Economics of Climate Change: the Stern Review*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

This study is by the former World Bank Chief Economist provides an independent and science based analysis of the causality and economic impacts of global warming fully reflecting the up-to-date knowledge on the issue. Stern stresses the importance of thorough understanding of economics for the design and successful application of public policy. Stern points to means of swift and significant prevention of adversary effects of the global warming for our and future generations and underscores that the benefits of timely action by far surpass the costs associated with complacency.

III. Protecting Developing Countries during the Current Financial Crisis

“We have a historic opportunity and a collective responsibility to bring new stability and sustainability to the international economic financial order. This transformation, which could begin to narrow the North/South divide, requires the involvement of all nations of the world.”¹⁵⁹

Overview of Developing Countries in the Global Markets and the Current Financial Crisis

The above remarks by Miguel d’Escoto Brockmann, President of the 63rd Session of the General Assembly, at the June 2009 UN Conference on World Financial and Economic Crisis, captures the importance of engaging in the dialogue and addressing the effects of the economic crisis on developing countries.¹⁶⁰ As President Brockmann stated, this pivotal juncture in our economic history not only requires understanding the exposed vulnerabilities developing countries are facing in this crisis, but it also requires the global community to determine and implement progressive solutions to the unstable cracks and flaws of the current global financial architecture.¹⁶¹

¹⁵⁹ United Nations General Assembly, UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development - Background, 2009.

¹⁶⁰ United Nations General Assembly, UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development - Background, 2009.

¹⁶¹ United Nations General Assembly, UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development - Background, 2009.

In the onset of rapid globalization, the economic integration between the Global North and South evolved at an accelerated pace.¹⁶² In the 1970s, commercial bank loans from the Global North served as the primary source of private funds to the developing countries.¹⁶³ In the 1980s, however, the implementation of structural adjustment programs by international financial institutions, such as the World Bank, catalyzed economic liberalization of developing countries and integrated them into global markets.¹⁶⁴ Moving forward from the 1980s to present time, long-term commercial bank loans have been replaced by private foreign direct investments, remittances and expanding trade that further integrated developing countries into the global market economy.¹⁶⁵

The years preceding the financial crisis saw significant global growth driven by the increased integration of the developing countries into the global economy, strong expansion in trade, and relatively stable and low inflation in most countries.¹⁶⁶ However this growth combined with low interest rates and the overall unregulated and unmonitored markets, led to the overexpansion of financial institutions in combination with businesses and private persons adopting riskier measures, which were ultimately not sustainable.¹⁶⁷ While high commodity prices benefited the economies of developing countries, the indebtedness of the households, businesses and institutions soon unraveled in the West.¹⁶⁸ The Western real estate market crisis, tightly connected to the global financial system, severely affected both industrialized and developing countries' economies.¹⁶⁹ Integrated in the global market, developing countries faced the insecurities of the unstable economy whereby the shocks of the Western world's recession have a direct affect on the state of their own economies.¹⁷⁰ As stated in the Report of the Secretary-General on the Economic and Financial Crisis and its Impact on Development, "when global confidence in over-leveraged financial institutions and complicated asset structures began to break down in 2008, these imbalances began to unwind. In a highly integrated global economy without adequate regulation, a breakdown in one part of the system has huge repercussions elsewhere, as we are witnessing today."¹⁷¹

The crisis poses complex and multilayered challenges to developing countries and their state of development, as unemployment rates have sharply risen and per capita income has drastically declined.¹⁷² Despite the fact that developing countries' economies on average remained positive growth rates, the World Bank has estimated that over 55 million people have been pushed into extreme poverty (living on less than US\$1.25 per day) as a result of the crisis.¹⁷³ However, a closer look on these numbers reveals that, if China and India with their rather high growth rates are excluded, the incomes in the remaining developing countries will fall by 1.6% on average.¹⁷⁴ In September 2009, the World Bank stated that 90 million more people would be pushed into extreme poverty by the end of 2010 as a result of the global economic slowdown.¹⁷⁵ The global number of extreme income poor will rise to a staggering

¹⁶² Ohno, *Latecomer Countries and the Global Market Economy: The Risk of Premature International Integration Disrupting the Development Process*, 2008, p. 1.

¹⁶³ Ohno, *Latecomer Countries and the Global Market Economy: The Risk of Premature International Integration Disrupting the Development Process*, 2008.

¹⁶⁴ Ohno, *Latecomer Countries and the Global Market Economy: The Risk of Premature International Integration Disrupting the Development Process*, 2008.

¹⁶⁵ Ohno, *Latecomer Countries and the Global Market Economy: The Risk of Premature International Integration Disrupting the Development Process*, 2008.;

The World Bank, *Global Monitoring Report 2009: A Development Emergency*, 2009.

¹⁶⁶ United Nations General Assembly, *Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, Anatomy of the Crisis*, 2009.

¹⁶⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, Anatomy of the Crisis*, 2009.

¹⁶⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, Anatomy of the Crisis*, 2009.

¹⁶⁹ United Nations General Assembly, *Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, Anatomy of the Crisis*, 2009.

¹⁷⁰ United Nations General Assembly, *Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, Anatomy of the Crisis*, 2009.

¹⁷¹ United Nations General Assembly, *Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, Anatomy of the Crisis*, 2009, p. 1.

¹⁷² United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009, p. 3.

¹⁷³ The World Bank, *Global Monitoring Report 2009: A Development Emergency*, 2009, p. 48.

¹⁷⁴ The World Bank, *Global Development Finance 2009: Charting a Global Recovery*, 2009, p. 2.

¹⁷⁵ United Nations Development Fund for Women, *The World Economic and Financial Crisis: What Will It Mean for Gender*

1.2 billion in 2009 with the likelihood of increase climb of the poverty pandemic as the depth and extent of the global recession is further realized.¹⁷⁶

The repercussions of the financial crisis have also significantly impacted developing countries by the reduced demand for their exports, lowered remittances and foreign direct investments, decreased aid and large fluctuations in commodity prices increasing the vulnerability of developing economies.¹⁷⁷ Many of the developing countries relying on their commodity exports are now struggling with a drop in demand that has occurred since the onset of the recession, thereby causing a decline in revenues and the fall of commodity prices.¹⁷⁸ The lack of growth of remittances in 2008 and their projected decline in 2009 is expected in about half of all developing countries as overwhelmingly, immigrant workers in the Global North are often the first to lose their employment.¹⁷⁹ The International Organization for Migration indicates that sharp changes in immigration policies of the developed countries can pose a significant hindrance to the developing countries relying on foreign remittances.¹⁸⁰ The World Bank's Global Development Finance Report has projected that remittances will decline from 305 billion dollars in 2008 to an estimated 290 billion in 2009.¹⁸¹ The lack of assurances of increased levels of aid due to the tightening of budgets of donor countries has exposed a great level of uncertainty for developing countries and their economic status.¹⁸²

The United Nations and Multi-partnered Response to the Global Economic Crisis

The United Nations has made various steps to work with partner organizations to address the financial crisis and its rippling effects on human development issues. Prior to the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, the United Nations had met with representatives from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and nearly 30 civil society organizations (CSOs) in four different roundtable discussions from May 2008 to June 2009. In the first CSO roundtable held on May 23, 2008, representatives from UNICEF and the UN Food Crisis Taskforce partook in developing measures to respond to national food needs by establishing a comprehensive response framework and stronger integration of coordination efforts between CSOs, the World Bank, IMF, and the United Nations.¹⁸³ The second roundtable, held on July 15, 2008, provided the forum to discuss and follow-up on initiatives taken to address the food crisis. At this particular roundtable, instruments such as subsidies and conditional cash transfer programs were discussed with the desire to focus on long term solutions in addressing the food scarcity issues.¹⁸⁴ In the fourth roundtable meeting, focus shifted to the financial crisis and its exacerbating effects on the already significant food scarcities in least developed countries.¹⁸⁵ Roundtable members discussed the need for more a integrated and collective response and explored particular initiatives to support farmers in developing countries, specifically in regions in Africa.¹⁸⁶ During the fourth roundtable, the World Bank also presented on their proposed and newly constructed 'Vulnerability Fund,' which the United Nations had collaborated with the World Bank on designing.¹⁸⁷ The fund has been created to assist the economies of developing countries by providing support to infrastructure projects that would stimulate employment, safety net programs that would provide families with cash transfers with conditional requirements of having their children attain education and healthcare services.¹⁸⁸ The fund would also provide financing for small and medium-sized businesses and microfinance institutions to provide support and aid for the business sector.¹⁸⁹

Equality, 2009.

¹⁷⁶ Australian Government, *The Global Recession*, 2009.

¹⁷⁷ The World Bank, *Global Monitoring Report 2009: A Development Emergency*, 2009, p. 32.

¹⁷⁸ Australian Government, *The Global Recession*, 2009.

¹⁷⁹ Deen, *Migration: Financial Crisis Eroding Remittance Lifeline*, 2009.;

The World Bank, *Global Monitoring Report 2009: A Development Emergency*, 2009, p. 32f.

¹⁸⁰ Deen, *Migration: Financial Crisis Eroding Remittance Lifeline*, 2009.

¹⁸¹ The World Bank, *Global Development Finance 2009: Charting a Global Recovery*, 2009, p. 54.

¹⁸² The World Bank, *Global Development Finance 2009: Charting a Global Recovery*, 2009, p. 54.

¹⁸³ The World Bank, *Civil Society, World Bank Hosts Roundtable with CSOs on Food Crisis*, 2008.

¹⁸⁴ The World Bank, *Civil Society, Second Bank – Civil Society Roundtable on the Global Food Crisis*, 2008

¹⁸⁵ The World Bank, *Civil Society, Bank-CSO Fourth Roundtable on Food and Financial Crises*, 2009.

¹⁸⁶ The World Bank, *Civil Society, Bank-CSO Fourth Roundtable on Food and Financial Crises*, 2009.

¹⁸⁷ The World Bank, *Civil Society, Bank-CSO Fourth Roundtable on Food and Financial Crises*, 2009.

¹⁸⁸ The World Bank, *Civil Society, Bank-CSO Fourth Roundtable on Food and Financial Crises*, 2009.

¹⁸⁹ The World Bank, *Civil Society, Bank-CSO Fourth Roundtable on Food and Financial Crises*, 2009.

The World Bank has asked developed countries to dedicate 0.7 percent of their economic stimulus packages to the fund, which would then be monitored and overseen by the World Bank and the United Nations.¹⁹⁰

The United Nations General Assembly President also convened a commission of experts to examine reforms to the international monetary and financial system in April, 2009.¹⁹¹ The Financial Commission was chaired by Joseph Stiglitz, former Chief Economist of the World Bank, and included a diverse group of policymakers, academics, banking experts, heads of state, economists and former United Nations officials.¹⁹²

The United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development

In response to the financial crisis, the United Nations has taken various measures to protect developing countries.¹⁹³ In 2007, the United Nations General Assembly had adopted resolution (A/RES/61/191) at a “Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development” in Doha, Qatar in November 2008.¹⁹⁴ The initial objective of the conference was to discuss new approaches to financing more equitable global development and review the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus as agreed in the March 2002 first International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, Mexico.¹⁹⁵ In response to the financial crisis, effective dialogue focused on the status of developing countries and was integrated into the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, which was adopted by consensus by Member States.¹⁹⁶ The declaration called for the President of the United Nations General Assembly to organize a conference at the highest level on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development.¹⁹⁷

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: Outcome Document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (A/RES/63/239) on March 19, 2009 that endorsed the Doha Declaration and affirmed that the United Nations would hold a conference on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development.¹⁹⁸ In preparation for the conference, GA President Miguel D’Escoto Brockmann presented a Draft Outcome Document that framed the discourse of the conference.¹⁹⁹ In that conference briefing, the president outlined six timely issues on the agenda - global stimulus for restructuring and survival, finance for restructuring and survival, emergency trade stimulation and debt relief, global and regional reserve systems, regulation and coordination of global economy, and restructuring of international institutions.²⁰⁰

¹⁹⁰ The World Bank, Civil Society, *Bank-CSO Fourth Roundtable on Food and Financial Crises*, 2009.

¹⁹¹ United Nations General Assembly, UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development- *The Preliminary Draft of the Full Report of the Commission of Experts on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System*, 2009.

¹⁹² United Nations General Assembly, *The Commission of Experts of the President of the UN General Assembly on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System*, 2009.

¹⁹³ United Nations General Assembly, *The Commission of Experts of the President of the UN General Assembly on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System*, 2009.

¹⁹⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: Outcome Document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (A/RES/61/191)*, 2007.

¹⁹⁵ United Nations General Assembly, *Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: Outcome Document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (A/RES/61/191)*, 2007.

¹⁹⁶ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, International Conference on Financing for Development, *Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus*, 2008.

¹⁹⁷ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, International Conference on Financing for Development, *Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus*, 2008.

¹⁹⁸ United Nations Declarations and Conventions Contained in GA Resolutions, *Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: Outcome Document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (A/RES/63/239)*, 2008.

¹⁹⁹ United Nations General Assembly, Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, *Draft Outcome Document*, 2009.

²⁰⁰ United Nations General Assembly, Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, *Draft Outcome Document*, 2009.

Ultimately the conference's focus was to act in the "interest of all nations in order to achieve a more inclusive, equitable, balanced, development-oriented and sustainable economic development to help overcome poverty and inequality."²⁰¹ Several important factors were discussed at the conference including the recognition that there are varying categories of developing countries that have been affected by the global economic crisis differently and face specific challenges.²⁰² As addressed in General Assembly resolution (A/RES/63/303), Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, conference attendees agreed about the varying categories of the Global South including the least developed countries, developing small island states, landlocked countries, African countries, and countries marred with ethnic conflict and that such categorical statuses of development require focusing on specific economic needs, and particular national development goals.²⁰³ Further, for adequate response, sensitivity is required in addressing specific needs including "trade and market access, access to adequate financing and concessionary financing, capacity-building, strengthened support for sustainable development, financial and technical assistance, debt sustainability, trade facilitation measures, infrastructure development, peace and security, the Millennium Development Goals, and [their] previous international development commitments."²⁰⁴ Member States were mindful that their collective prescription to the wellbeing of the developing countries must not generalize or homogenize the needs of developing countries. Instead, Member States recognized that particular attention was required to address the specific categories of economic needs such as trade and market access, strengthened support for sustainable development, infrastructure development, peace and security, the Millennium Development Goals, and previous international development commitments.²⁰⁵

With the need for prompt and effective decision-making efforts, the conference outlined key issues to address the global crisis.²⁰⁶ Amidst the key issues was the need to reform and strengthen the international financial and economic system and architecture to adapt to current challenges and fostering good governance at all levels, including in the financial institutions and markets while also addressing the human and social impacts of the crisis.²⁰⁷ In response to these issues, Member States focused on prompt and decisive action plans that included "providing adequate support for developing countries to address the human and social impacts of the crisis, in order to safeguard and build upon hard-won economic and development gains to date, including the progress being achieved towards the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals."²⁰⁸

In addressing these key issues, the conference attendees discussed the role of the Group of Twenty (G-20) and the London Summit hosted by the Chair of G-20 for 2009, the United Kingdom.²⁰⁹ G-20 has pledged to make available a portion of the \$1.1 trillion program for revitalizing the world economy to be used for emerging markets and developing countries.²¹⁰ While such a pledge was applauded by the United Nations, Member States called upon all G-20 countries to continue remaining committed to the financial needs of developing countries by monitoring and implementing their allocated resources to the developing countries most affected by the crisis.²¹¹ As well, Member States called upon financial multilateral development banks and financial organizations, such as the IMF, to modify

²⁰¹ United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009, p. 2.

²⁰² United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009, p. 2.

²⁰³ United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009.

²⁰⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009, p. 2.

²⁰⁵ United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009.

²⁰⁶ United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009.

²⁰⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009.

²⁰⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009, p. 4.

²⁰⁹ G-20, *The Global Plan for Recovery and Reform*, 2009.

²¹⁰ G-20, *The Global Plan for Recovery and Reform*, 2009.

²¹¹ United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*, 2009, p. 6.

their lending framework by progressing forward with flexible and effective assistance to developing countries in addressing their economically vulnerable financial gaps and holes.²¹²

Case Study: Recognizing the Gendered Effects of the Financial Crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa

While the developing world as a whole has been hit with severe repercussions of the global economic recession, it is important to recognize the effects of the global recession on vulnerable groups in particular developing regions and countries. For sub-Saharan Africa, one of the poorest regions in the world, the economic recession has forced more people into poverty, slowed down growth significantly, and has particularly negatively affected middle-income countries and oil exporters in the region.²¹³

One of the challenges that the financial crisis poses on the United Nations is the need to ensure that all aspects of human development are not rendered invisible or ignored in the face of economic uncertainty. As stated by United Nations Development Fund for Women's (UNIFEM) Executive Director, Ines Alberdi, "our endeavors must be guided by the need to address the human costs of the crisis: an increase in the already unacceptable number of poor and vulnerable, particularly women and children, who suffer and die of hunger, malnutrition and preventable or curable disease; a rise in unemployment; the reduction in access to education and health services; and the current inadequacy of social protection in many countries."²¹⁴ In recognizing how women and children's issues become marginalized and displaced, it is an important exercise to look at historical attempts to invigorate women in the economy and understand what can be learned by those experiences in moving forward today.

In sub-Saharan Africa, women have historically been the most affected in the region's struggle with economic uncertainties. In the debt crises of the early 1980s, the IMF and World Bank intervened to help developing countries make debt repayments owed to commercial banks and governments.²¹⁵ The World Bank and IMF focused on restructuring aid by implementing Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs). SAPs were constructed by the IMF and the World Bank as a means to increase productivity of the economies of developing countries by focusing on export-led growth; privatization and liberalization and the efficiency of the free market.²¹⁶ SAPs operated as policies that attached conditionalities to funds given to developing countries to strengthen the country's macroeconomic structure and reduce their fiscal imbalances.²¹⁷ With the implementation of SAPs, developing countries were generally required to devalue their currencies against the dollar, lift import and export restrictions, balance their budgets and not overspend, and remove price controls and state subsidies.²¹⁸ In the 1980s, SAPs were implemented in sub-Saharan Africa, but with negative outcomes.²¹⁹ The program had received criticisms for restricting aid provisions that forced sub-Saharan African countries to comply to the conditions in order to receive funds.²²⁰ These restrictions incited criticism regarding the question of national sovereignty and rights over a country's economic policy making powers.²²¹ SAPs were also criticized for being gender-biased because they ignored the unpaid labor of women particularly in agricultural and farm labor.²²² As a result of SAPs, sub-Saharan African women in particular, began

²¹² United Nations General Assembly, *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/393)*, 2009.

²¹³ Press Trust of India, *IMF Forecasts Positive Outlook for Sub-Saharan Africa*, 2009.

²¹⁴ United Nations Development Fund for Women, *The World Economic and Financial Crisis: What Will It Mean for Gender Equality*, 2009.

²¹⁵ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²¹⁶ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²¹⁷ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²¹⁸ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²¹⁹ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²²⁰ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²²¹ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²²² Aslanbeigui, *Women in the Age of Economic Transformation: Impact of Reforms in Post-Socialist and Developing Countries*, 1994, p.72.

leaving skilled and professional positions from public sector employment to the informal sector supported by these policies.²²³ Ultimately, SAPs forced the sub-Saharan African economy to adopt a neoliberal economic framework that opened their markets to the vulnerabilities and risks of economic instability.²²⁴ This transition significantly impacted African women as Jacinta Muteshi, chair of the Kenyan government's Commission on Gender and Development stated, "current neo-liberal economic structures are disadvantageous to women in general," as they "tend to push women into precarious, exploitive, unregulated and temporary forms of work in the informal sector."²²⁵ This overall shift in attention to supporting private industries while neglecting public services has led to an overall decline in quality and effectiveness of the public interest sector.²²⁶ With the lessening accessibility and availability of social services, sub-Saharan African women are left carrying an increased labor load and duties in attending to their families.²²⁷ As well, SAPs implementation resulted in severe cuts to education, health, and social services and the removal of subsidies that were implanted to control the price of basic needs, such as food.²²⁸ In efforts to combat the negative response towards SAPs by Western critics and national resistance movements, the IMF and World Bank introduced the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), national programs for poverty reduction and for debt relief for heavily indebted developing countries.²²⁹ However, PRSPs have been criticized for carrying out the same process as SAPs, whereby conditions have been put in place to ensure liberalization of sectors that increase exposure to economic instabilities.²³⁰

Microfinance loans have also become available to sub-Saharan African women, who have benefited by this form of economic support. However, as Jacinta Muteshi states, "the amounts remain small and have rarely been scaled up in ways that truly strengthen women's economic power. It is time to provide women with credit that moves beyond 'micro'."²³¹ Currently, less than 1 in 5 sub-Saharan African women make regular wages or salaries compared to a third of employed African men and almost 93 per cent of women in the developed North.²³² While policy makers and financial institutions develop strides to address the region's affected outcomes as a result of the recession, sub-Saharan African women are marginalized and disenfranchised.

In the current discourse surrounding aid, development, and poverty relief, much of the attention is focused on providing systematic aid to government bodies, charitable aid by non profit organizations and emergency aid in the face of a natural disaster or unexpected crisis. Recent debates regarding the actual positive effects of this aid has led to surmounting critical opinions that the proviso of aid has only increased poverty and decreased development.²³³ As a result of corruption and weak governmental structures, aid channels have not been transparent or accountable. Assistance from World Bank and IMF programs have been criticized for their negative effects on poverty and development, and while microfinancing projects provide a practical opportunity for women to partake in the business sector, they do not provide greater results towards gender mainstreaming in the economy. In the wake of the current economic and financial crisis, policy makers, government leaders and UN Member States must work to protect and promote new patterns of development that include women of the sub-Saharan Africa and all other developing countries to increase the resilience of their economies and human development.

²²³ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²²⁴ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²²⁵ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²²⁶ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009.

²²⁷ Aslanbeigui, *Women in the Age of Economic Transformation: Impact of Reforms in Post-Socialist and Developing Countries*, 1994, p.72.

²²⁸ Aslanbeigui, *Women in the Age of Economic Transformation: Impact of Reforms in Post-Socialist and Developing Countries*, 1994, p.72.

²²⁹ Bretton Woods Project, *Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs): A Rough Guide*, 2003.

²³⁰ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009, p. 16.

²³¹ African Renewal, *Does Financing Benefit African Women? New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 2009, p. 16.

²³² United Nations Development Fund for Women, *The World Economic and Financial Crisis: What Will It Mean for Gender Equality*, 2009.

²³³ Moyo, *Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There is Another Way for Africa*, 2008, p. 19.

Conclusion

The current challenges the global community is facing in addressing the impact of the financial economic crisis is of paramount importance to the United Nations and the Millennium Development Goals. The United Nations has remained steadfastly committed in ensuring that the vulnerabilities of developing countries are addressed. However, a great deal of responsibility is required of the United Nations lead the discourse and establish multifarious relationships, mechanisms and processes to address the overwhelming concern of stagnated development in the global economic crisis. The questions arising range from an analysis of the origins of and consequences from the current crisis to addressing the more fundamental shortcomings of the global economic order. Some of these are: What processes and systems are needed for reforming and improving the global financial architecture? What partnerships can be created by intergovernmental organizations, financial institutions, and national governments and in what effective ways can these alliances formulate together to address the global and national economic vulnerable inter-linkages? How can the global community take steps in monitoring and regulating the global economic markets to ensure sustainability and security for all active economies? How can the United Nations ensure that the Millennium Development Goals development agenda continue to persist in the face of global economic uncertainty? And what measures can be put in place to ensure that if such a crisis is to ever arise again, that developing countries will be a priority in being protected to ensure that the process of development will continue forward? Delegates researching this topic are strongly encouraged to examine the growing discourse critiquing the overall global capitalist system and the measures in place that integrate developing countries while exposing the vulnerabilities of their economies. Currently, an increasing level of dialogue is occurring that is criticizing the construction of the West's role in creating aid-dependent developing countries and the need to shift focus to strengthen the institutional and national economic structures.²³⁴ The necessary reform of the global economic and financial order provides the opportunity for delegates to be creative and committed to achieving a more equitable, fairer and development-oriented framework governing economic globalization.

Must Read Section

The World Bank (2009). *Global Monitoring Report 2009: A Development Emergency*. Retrieved October 16, 2009 from www.worldbank.org/gmr2009

The annual Global Monitoring Report by the World Bank focuses in this year on the impacts of the financial crisis on developing countries, where it "is rapidly turning into a human and development crisis." Delegates should focus in their research on the analysis of the impacts on developing countries provided by chapter 1 of the report entitled "The Global Financial Crisis and Its Impact on Developing Countries." It provides a very helpful first introduction underlining the interconnectedness in a globalized economy and underlines that multiple challenges and vulnerabilities people in developing countries are faced with due to the structure of the economic and financial order.

United Nations General Assembly. (2009, April). *UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development - The Preliminary Draft of the Full Report of the Commission of Experts on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System*. Retrieved August 19, 2009, from

http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/commission/financial_commission.shtml

This report provides an in-depth examination to the crisis (its origins and impacts), and the institutional, and policy responses to the crisis. The report takes into account the basic principles underlying the economic crisis from market, government, trading, global imbalances etc. It also examines the macro-issues and perspectives by focusing on the international response of fiscal policies, and the need to restructure financial markets. This report is important read for delegates in order to understand the intricacies of the global economic system. The link provided gives delegates also access to the later adopted official report and recommendations made by the commission of experts.

²³⁴ Moyo, *Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There is Another Way for Africa*, 2008, p. 20.

United Nations. (2008, December 9). *Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: Outcome Document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation on the Monterrey Consensus [A/.212/1/.1]*. Retrieved October 8, 2009 from <http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/doha/>

This document provides a detailed overview of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus. The Monterrey Consensus is considered a historical agreement adopted by the Heads of United Nations, the IMF, World Bank and the WTO. While it was adopted in 2002, its implementation is as equally an important aspect as its inception. Delegates may find it useful to understand how such agreements are implemented and sustained. The document discusses the Monterrey Consensus, and key aspects of mobilizing domestic and international resources for development and economic stimulation for developing countries. The document also discusses important factors in international trade and the need for building stronger partnerships to protect developing countries and their economic growth.

United Nations. Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (March 2009). *Background Note on The Global Financial and Economic Crisis, its Impact on Development, and How the World Should Respond*. Retrieved September 4, 2009 from

<http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/interactive/financialcrisis/desabackground.pdf>

This document is a great starting point or introduction to the overall topic. First the background notes explain the roots of the crisis and the effects of the financial crisis, systemic flaws and vulnerabilities of the global financial system. It then goes on to explain the challenges developing countries are facing because of the crisis. Another important part of the background notes is the information it provides on multilateral partnerships, incentives and agreements.

United Nations. General Assembly. (2009). *UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development - Background*. Retrieved August 15, 2009, from

<http://www.un.org/ga/econcrisissummit/background.shtml>

This background note provides the necessary information regarding the United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development. Before reading through the conference documents, delegates should read through this explanation in order to understand the inception of the summit and conference and the themes, topics and issues addressed. The statement also helps to frame the important questions regarding the financial crisis and effect of the developing world.

Annotated Bibliography

Committee History

Neil MacFarquhar. (2009). U.N. Chief Says Working Poor Still Suffer. *New York Times*. Sep 17, 2009. Retrieved Oct 9, 2009 from

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/18/world/18nations.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=U.N.%20Chief%20Says%20Working%20Poor%20Still%20Suffer&st=cse

This article, from the New York Times, describes how the impoverished are impacted by the current economic and financial crisis. It highlights the United Nations goals for recovery. This article also mentions some statistics that indicate the global nature of the crisis.

Fasulo, Linda. (2004). *An Insider's Guide to the UN*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

This book was especially helpful in developing a general understanding of the United Nation. Chapter 7, which focused on the General Assembly, reiterated some of the information from the Charter of the United Nations. This book also contains a chart illustrating which organ each committee reports to.

Holloway, Steven. (1990). Forty Years of United Nations General Assembly Voting. *Canadian Journal of Political Science / Revue canadienne de science politique*, 279-296. *This article discusses the voting patterns of the General Assembly. It focuses on the development of voting blocs. The formation of these blocs also offer historical context for the committee.*

United Nations. (2008). *History of the United Nations*. Retrieved August 4, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/aboutun/unhistory/>
The History of the United Nations explains not only how the body came to be established, but also gives brief notes on the historical context of the inception. The League of Nations is mentioned as well as the International Telecommunications Body, as a precursor for ensuing international institutions and governing bodies. The membership at the time of establishment is also discussed.

United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.), *Biographical Note: Uche Joy Ogwu, Chairman of the Second Committee*. Retrieved August 31, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2008/bio4024.doc.htm>
As the title indicates, this is a biographical note on the current Chairperson of the General Assembly Second Committee, Uche Joy Ogwu. All chairpersons are given this same type of biographical note. This page details the professional history and qualifications of this permanent representative of Nigeria.

United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *Bureau*. Retrieved August 8, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/ga/second/63/bureau.shtml>
This page lists the Bureau (similar to the Dias for NMUN) for the 63rd Session of the General Assembly 2nd (Economic and Financial). The Chairperson is H.E. Mrs. Uche Joy OGWU of Nigeria with the following Vice-Chairpersons: Mr. Andrei Metelitsa of Belarus, Mr. Troy Torrington of Guyana, and Mr. Martin Hoppe of Germany. The Rapporteur is Mr. Awsan Al-Aud of Yemen.

United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *Functions and Powers of the General Assembly*. Retrieved August 4, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/ga/about/background.shtml>
The section outlines the functions and powers of the General Assembly. It lists the topics that fall under the purview of the body. There is also a section that describes how the General Assembly seeks to build consensus around its decisions, all of which are only recommendations and are not binding.

United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *Subsidiary Organs*. Retrieved August 8, 2009 from http://www.un.org/ga/about/subsidiary_organs.shtml
This page lists the subsidiary organs and provides links to the Committees, Commissions, Boards, Councils and Panels, and Working Groups and others categories. A succinct note also explains the purpose and manner of delegating items to these bodies. The most useful information from this note is that the bodies submit reports and resolutions to the General Assembly for approval.

United Nations, Member States. (n.d.). *Member States of the United Nations*, Retrieved September 3, 2009 from <http://www.un.org/en/members/index.shtml>
This page gives a complete list of the 192 Member States of the United Nations and provides links to additional information about each state. It would be helpful in researching information on Member States individually. The date of admission into the United Nations is also noted.

I. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for Development

Annan, K. (2002, November 5). *Perspective: Kofi Annan's IT challenge to Silicon Valley*. In CNET News.
In 2002, then Secretary General Kofi Annan appealed to the private sector to aid in the creation of new technologies to help benefit developing nations. He highlighted advancements in the field of ICTs; however, he stressed the importance of continued innovation. Goals he suggested

included opening an “Open International University” and discovering new ways of bringing wireless fidelity (WIFI) to all areas of the world.

Annan, K. (2006, April 26). *In message for world information society day, Secretary General calls for international countermeasures to enhance cybersecurity* (UN Doc. SG/SM/10433/OBV/553/PI/1711). In *United Nations 60: A time for renewal*.

On World Information Society Day, then Secretary General Kofi Annan commended the efforts made by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). He discusses the need for cybersecurity in a day and age where the world relies heavily on the use of ICTs. In closing, he noted the ideal that the world should work towards creating a free and safe information society, thus stimulating social development.

Baehr, P. R., & Gordenker, L. (2005). *The United Nations: reality and ideal* (4th ed.). New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan.

This book is a highly useful resource regarding the history and future of the United Nations. The authors explain the creation of the United Nations and how it has evolved since the League of Nations. They also go on to discuss the current state of many UN bodies and organizations go into depth about their functions and purpose. They also detail global conferences of social significance that will be of interest to delegates of the GA 2nd Committee. Of particular note is the information they provide on the Millennium Declaration.

Creech, Heather (2005). *Evaluation of UNESCO’s Community Multimedia Centres: Final Report*. (IOS/EVS/PI/54). Retrieved September 7, 2009, from http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=22129&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

On behalf of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), the author analyzed the WSIS 2003 scale-up initiative of UNESCO’s Community Multimedia Centres. Scaling up is a strategy used in the field of ICTs for Development to enhance current grass-roots level projects and make them accessible to the masses. This evaluation focuses on several challenges this specific scale up project has faced, challenges that many small scale projects are bound to encounter on the road to becoming large-scale. Also of importance are the declarations of success regarding this initiative in Africa.

Friedman, T. L. (2005). *The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Thomas Friedman’s book suggests that globalization and new innovations in ICT technologies have created a “flat” world, where opportunity is not inhibited by borders. According to Friedman, the internet, mobile phones and media allow for a limitless flow of knowledge that has leveled the global playing field. He details advances made by a few countries (India and China, for example) due to advancements in ICT usage.

Hamelink, C. J. (1997, June). *New information and communication technologies, social development and cultural change*. United Nation Research Institute For Social Development, DP 86, 37. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from [http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/httpNetITFramePDF?ReadForm&parentunid=398D6A861127084780256B640051A497&parentdoctype=paper&netitpath=80256B3C005BCCF9/\(httpAuxPages\)/398D6A861127084780256B640051A497/\\$file/dp86.pdf](http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/httpNetITFramePDF?ReadForm&parentunid=398D6A861127084780256B640051A497&parentdoctype=paper&netitpath=80256B3C005BCCF9/(httpAuxPages)/398D6A861127084780256B640051A497/$file/dp86.pdf)

In this source, the author places an emphasis on the social changes that need to take place in order for ICTs to reach their full capacity. He explores the social implications of digitization and disparities between developed and developing nations. He concludes that social and institutional frameworks have a large impact on the success rates of ICTs.

International Telecommunication Union. (2003, December). *Plan of Action. World Summit on the Information Society, WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/5-E*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/md/03/wsis/doc/S03-WSIS-DOC-0005!!PDF-E.pdf

One of the main goals of the World Summit on the Information Societies two conferences in Geneva and Tunis is to acknowledge the digital divide and devise strategies and ways to eliminate

such disparities. The WSIS noted the possibility of ICTs aiding in the MDG of achieving universal primary education. One of the main controversies debated during the WSIS conferences in Geneva and Tunis was the question of Internet governance and which country or organization would maintain ultimate control.

Locksley, Gareth. (2009). *The media and development: what's the story?* (World Bank working paper: no 158). Retrieved August 12, 2009 from <http://lnweb90.worldbank.org/ext/epic.nsf/ImportDocs/1750A64D87CACD2C75257584001D4D2D?opendocument&query=PK>

Locksley's paper describes the potential benefits the media can have on developing nations. He maintains that with proper infrastructure advancements and media sector growth, information sharing can increase dramatically and thus be a catalyst for development. He then goes on to suggest that because many developing countries are uncontrolled by legacy assets, they may be able to "leap-frog" to newly available, affordable technologies with the help of mobile and wireless networks.

Sachs, J. D. (2005). *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York, NY: Penguin Books.

This book describes the current state of poverty-stricken countries and ideas as to why certain areas of the world seem to be stuck in a continuous cycle of economic difficulty. He goes on to explain how various technologies and strategies can help to lift countries out of these cycles. Jeffrey Sachs has also been heavily involved with the promotion and implementation of the MDGs and was appointed as a special advisor to the United Nations Millennium Project.

United Nations. (1945). Article 57, International Economic and Social Co-Operation. In *Charter of the United Nations*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>
The United Nations Charter is a highly appropriate resource for all delegates. Articles forming many of the bodies and organizations of the UN are still highly significant today as the UN works to create a world that includes the same ideals that established it over 60 years ago. Delegates should take time to peruse the entire document as it is still maintains considerable relevance.

United Nations. (2002). Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico (UN Doc. A/CONF.198/11). In *Monterrey Consensus*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/monterrey/MonterreyConsensus.pdf>
The Monterrey Consensus was created during the Monterrey Convention in 2002. Over fifty Heads of State and two hundred Ministers of Finance, Foreign Affairs, Development and Trade attended the conference. The consensus focuses on the financial means to promote social development. This is an excellent source for the GA 2nd Committee, as the conference addresses the numerous financial concerns of developing nations.

United Nations Development Programme. (January, 2009). *The financial crisis and its impact on developing nations*. Retrieved July 23, 2009 from http://www.undp.org/economic_crisis/index.shtml

The present global financial crisis began in the financial centers of developed nations and spread quickly to the developing regions of the world. This report discusses exactly how these countries have been impacted. It also serves as a guide as to how developing nations can create regional partnerships to work through the global financial crisis. While regional partnerships are emphasized, the UNDP also stresses the need for global policy changes as well as International Monetary Fund (IMF) reform.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. (n.d.). *Communication and Information: CMC Scale-UP*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=16499&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

UNESCO's Community Multimedia Centres (CMCs) provide numerous services to developing regions. This website outlines the project to scale up and allow greater accessibility to these

CMCs. *Delegates can research the original CMC pilot projects and take note of the scale up process. Links to specific CMC's provide further information on the types of services provided as well as problems each individual center faces, ranging from lack of funding to technical constraints.*

United Nations. General Assembly. 56th Session. (2002). International conference on financing for development (UN Doc. A/RES/56/210-B). In *Financing for development documents 2002 conference*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/documents/2002.htm>
This resolution shows the General Assembly's support for topics discussed and actions taken during the Monterrey Consensus. The Financing for Development website also provides an excellent option for further research regarding the General Assembly's stance on economic development as evidenced by other resolutions and statements. This website has also posted information about conference following-up the Monterrey Conference.

United Nations. General Assembly. 56th Session. (2002). Meeting of the General Assembly devoted to information and communication technologies for development. (UN Doc. A/RES/56/258). In *General Assembly*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from <http://www.undemocracy.com/A-RES-56-258.pdf>
In this resolution, the General Assembly notes that technologies do present both opportunities and challenges to LDCs. Challenges aside, the resolution clearly states that there is a necessity for the United Nations to aide in the expansion of ICTs world wide. This resolution also alludes to the fact that the private sector is not capable of bridging the digital divide on its own.

United Nations. General Assembly. 60th Session. (2006). World summit on the information society (UN Doc. A/RES/60/252). In *United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/60/252*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from <http://www.itu.int/wisd/2006/res-60-252.html>
In this resolution, the General Assembly declares support for the World Summit on the Information Society as well as the efforts of the International Telecommunications Union. In response to the Geneva and Tunis conferences, the GA also requested that the Secretary-General set up a forum on Internet governance. The GA also recognizes the need for ICTs in development efforts across the world.

United Nations. General Assembly. 61st Session. (2006). Role of innovation, science and technology in pursuing development in the context of globalization, Report of the Secretary-General. (UN Doc. A/RES/61/286). Retrieved July 22, 2009 from <http://www.un.org/ga/61/second/documentslist.shtml>
In this report the most urgent issues facing developing nations are considered as well as how ICTs can be used to create solutions to these issues. While the international digital divide is a valid concern, this report also establishes the problem of domestic digital divides. Existence of concentrated areas that house high tech industries in LDCs has the potential to prevent development of rural areas. The GA calls for concerted efforts to continue using ICTs to benefit citizens who need them most. Strategies involving ICTs in education, innovative agricultural capacities as well as the need for ICT supportive infrastructure are debated at length.

United Nations, & International Telecommunications Union. (2003, December 12). *Building the Information Society: a global challenge in the new Millennium* (UN Doc. WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/4-E). In *WSIS: declaration of principles*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from <http://www.itu.int/wsis/docs/geneva/official/dop.html>
The WSIS declaration of principles clearly outlines the purpose of the summits. All attendees of the Geneva conference agreed on ideals mentioned in this document. Delegates can use this as a resource to view how the international community places priority on access to ICTs and implementation of new technologies in developing nations.

United Nations Information and Communications Task Force. (n.d.). *About*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from <http://www.unicttf.org/about/>
This website can provide an introductory knowledge to the ICT Task Force, an organization

highly involved in the activity of attempting to rid of the world of a digital divide. The ICT Task Force also outlines their goals and current efforts under the Plan of Action section. Both short term and long term objectives of using ICTs in education are explained

United Nations, & United Nations Information and Communications Technologies Task Force. (2005, April). *Innovation and investment: information and communication technologies and the millennium development goals*. Retrieved August 10, 2009 from http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/Innovation_InvestmentMaster.pdf
This is a highly valuable resource, especially in regards to the topic of education and ICTs. This report describes how ICTs are influencing every MDG. The report also continues to address the digital divide and ways to combat this issue.

United Nations, & Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. (n.d.) *The Criteria for the Identification of the LDCs*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/special-rep/ohrls/lc/lc%20criteria.htm>
This is a highly useful resource in that it describes the determinants for classifying LDCs. Navigating through this website will also allow delegates to find a list of current LDCs. Resolutions and reports on the topic of LDCs are also available in this location. Delegates can benefit greatly from perusing the "statistics" tab, which offers economic and social development statistics of the LDCs.

United Nations ICT Task Force (2005). *The World Summit on the Information Society: Moving from the past into the future*. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from <http://www.unicttf.org/perl/documents.pl?id=1544>
This guide includes many chapters of interest regarding ICTs and development with particular emphasis on current projects and issues affecting the accessibility of ICTs on broad scale. WSIS works with organizations including the World Trade Organization (WTO), United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO) and many others to promote the use of ICTs in numerous sectors of developing nations. This report discusses these relationships at length and provides insight regarding ICTs and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

United Nations Partnership on Measuring ICT For Development (2005). *Core ICT Indicators*. Retrieved July 30, 2009 from <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/partnership/index.html>
The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development is an international, multi-stakeholder initiative, providing input on how to enhance the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, especially in developing nations. This report can be used as a guide for developing nations regarding ICT data collection methods; however, it also elaborates on current definitions of various ICTs indicators and establishes how current statistics have been obtained. ICT indicators measure current ICT infrastructures and access, the use of ICTs in households and by individuals, the use of ICT by businesses and the ICT sector and trade in ICT goods.

II. Promoting Low-Carbon Economic Growth in the Developing World

Banuri, T., & Spanger-Siegfried, E. (2002). Equity and the Clean Development Mechanism: Equity, Additionality, Supplementarity. In L. Pingerelli-Rosa & M. Munasinghe (Eds.), *Ethics, Equity, and International Negotiations on Climate Change*. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing, Inc.
The book places emphasis not on the already well-established matter of preventing the climate change, but rather on the more practical aspects of cooperation on the issue, especially at the difficulties and challenges faced by developing countries. The chapter indicated above clearly points to and explains the intricacies of CDM's requirements that make it largely a tool expanded by the developed states. It concludes that the practical fairness of the opportunities for both developed and developing countries is not well balanced.

Beinhocker, E., & Oppenheim, J. (2008, December). *Economic Opportunities in a Low-Carbon World*. Retrieved August 19, 2009, from:

http://www.mckinsey.com/client/service/ccsi/economic_opportunities.asp

A short article by two renowned climate scientists summarizes economic prospects that will be open by adjusting economies and markets to operating on low-carbon emissions. The authors estimate the cost of such transfer and stress that after the initial cost, the return on investment would be quick and certain. Furthermore, the effect on the job market is also predicted to benefit from the transfer to low-carbon economy, as after the period of restructuring and adjustments, more employment opportunities in the clean energy sector are expected to arise.

Brizzi, A., & Ahmed, K. (2001). A Sustainable Future. In M. Giugale, O. Lafourcade, & V. H. Nguyen, *Mexico: A Comprehensive Development Agenda for the New Era* (pp. 117-121). Washington, DC.: The World Bank.

The book is a detailed account of the design for multi-sectoral development in Mexico. Separate chapters address the advancement of fiscal, agrarian, infrastructural and human capital objectives that, as Brizzi and Ahmed claim, 'cannot be achieved if sustainability is not factored into the development agenda.' The authors go on to offer institutional and policy options that may be indispensable in a successful continuation on the road to growth and prosperity.

European Commission. *Emission Trading System*. Retrieved on September 27, 2009 from Web site http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/emission/review_en.htm

This is the official Web site of the European Commission's on Environment. It not only provides an overview of the international obligations to which the EU is subjected, but most importantly of the EU's actions on climate change, national allocation plans, its emission trading scheme (ETS), and its monitoring, reporting and verification, ETS reviews and other publication on the topic. Insightful publications on the work of the commission are updated frequently and reflect the most recent developments on the European Union's climate policy.

Flavin, C. (2008). Building of a Low-Carbon Economy. In The Worldwatch Institute, *2008 State of the World: Innovations for a Sustainable Economy* (pp. 75-90). Retrieved August 11, 2009, from Web site http://www.worldwatch.org/files/pdf/SOW08_chapter_6.pdf

Flavin starts off with a short note on the past massive global environment changes such as ice ages, and periods of significant warming caused by only small alternations in the atmosphere. He concludes that in order to avoid the catastrophic climate changes, states must cut their emissions by roughly 80% - a claim that he supports by reviewing some of the major research in the field (Socolow & Pacala, McKinsey, and Stern). In a latter section, the author proposes a design for a new energy economy development, additionally devoting a short section to explaining why nuclear energy is not an option for CO₂ emission reduction.

Fisher, D. (2004). The History of Science and Policy of the Global Climate Change Regime. In *National*

Governance and the Global Climate Change Regime (pp. 21-40). Oxford, UK: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

Dana R. Fisher presents a comprehensive analysis of feasibility of the Kyoto Protocol from the time of its drafting in 1997 to 2004. The author evaluates the functionality and importance of it by a combination of interviews (qualitative data) and country case studies (quantitative data). In this chapter, Fisher starts the discussion on the intricacy of the international process and domestic challenges faced by states participating in the climate change debate leading up to and during drafting of the Kyoto Protocol.

Garibaldi, J. A., Hampton, K., Hohne, N., & Jung, M. (2009, January). *Scaling Up Investment in Climate Change Mitigation Activities: Interface with the World Bank's Carbon Partnership Facility*. (M. Ward, Ed.). The World Bank: Carbon Finance Unit. Retrieved August 16, 2009 from Web site

http://wbcarbonfinance.org/docs/Scaling_up_investment_in_Climate_mitigation_and_CPF.pdf

The publication aims at suggesting the most viable options of how and how fast can the emissions of carbon dioxide can be significantly curbed or even eliminated. It is a comprehensive guide to what constitutes 'scaling up' and the current state of policy and investment. Evaluation and criticisms of current international carbon market instruments is provided – from investments and financial flows, through carbon technology and transfer, CDM, JI, GIS, and the role and importance of the work of the Carbon Partnership Facility.

Goldenberg, S. (2009, September 23). *UN Climate Summit: Leaders Take Small Steps Towards Action on Climate Change*. Retrieved on September 1, 2009 from Web site <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/sep/22/un-general-assembly-climate-change>
The source reports on the proceedings and major developments during the UN climate summit that took place at the beginning of the 64th GA Session in 2009 in New York. Goldenberg discusses the focal points of the summit, highlighting statements of world leaders concerning the development of a new climate treaty, as well as pledges made on states' individual GHG emission cutbacks and expansion of assistance to developing countries.

Hamilton, K., Bayon, R., Turner, G., & Higgins, D. (2007, July 19). *State of the Voluntary Carbon Markets 2007: Picking Up Steam*. (The Ecosystem Marketplace, Ed.). Retrieved September 9, 2009 from Web site

<http://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com/documents/acrobat/StateoftheVoluntaryCarbonMarket17July.pdf>

Byron, Turner and Higgins draw attention to the – roughly until 2006 – largely unappreciated importance of the voluntary carbon markets. This article is one of the first most comprehensive report on the status of voluntary carbon market, as it is based on the wide-ranging research survey that yielded responses 'from over 70 organizations involving all stages of the supply chain.' It is concluded that the value of such market was closely estimated to US\$91 billion. Analysis of the origins of offsets discussed in chapter 5, points to areas like land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) that have the potential of generating significant income for developing countries.

Hoffman, N., & Twining, J. (2009). *Profiting from the Low-Carbon Economy*. Retrieved August 11, 2009, from Web site

http://www.mckinsey.com/client-service/ccsi/pdf/low_carbon_economy.pdf

This publication not only discusses the enormous returns on potential investments in the low-carbon economy – as illustrated by the examples of the Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs or Morgan Stanley, but also points to the question where, how, and how quickly to act. In addition to the private financial sector perspectives, this article also provides a section devoted to seventeen technologies to reduce emissions, as well as a global carbon abatement cost curve that may be very useful for pinpointing potential technologies.

International Atomic Energy Agency. *Energy and Environment Data Reference Bank (EEDRB): Mexico*. Retrieved September 25, 2009 from Web site

<http://www.iaea.org/inis/nkm/nkm/aws/eedrb/data/MX-enemc.html>

The IAEA Web site provides detailed information on any energy-related matter, with distinction as to states' energy consumption and GHG emissions. The site provides data on per capita emissions, which are important in the analysis of the factors contributing to the GHG emission, and identification of the sectors that need to be addressed.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2007). *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Summary for Policymakers*. Retrieved September 10, 2009 from Web site

<http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/wg1/ar4-wg1-spm.pdf>

This summary explains the fundamentals of the natural science phenomena of climate change. It presents the development of GHG concentrations and its consequences and compares the impact of natural factors and humanity. It further provides regional projections for changes in temperature and precipitation. The full report can be accessed at

<http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-wg1.htm>.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Organization, Working Groups/Task Force, Activities*. Retrieved August 12, 2009, from Web site

http://www.ipcc.ch/working_groups/working_groups.htm

This IPCC Web site articles are brief and explanatory, allowing for a quick grasp of the structure of the organization, the division of its agenda between three working groups concerned with the physical science of the climate change, vulnerability of the natural and socio-economic coordination to climate change, as well as assessing and adopting both positive and negative effects of it and assessing opportunities for mitigation respectively. The activities of the working groups, as well as two additional task forces are explained in numerous documents, reports, as well as information on outreach services and discussion on climate change scenarios.

Martinez-Fernandez, J., & National Institute of Ecology. (2009, June 9). *Mexico's Special Program for Climate Change (PECC)*. Presentation to Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD). Retrieved on September 1, 2009 from

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/4/25/42998840.pdf>

This power point presentation prepared by the Mexican National Institute of Ecology served as the fourth national communication to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). It outlines effects of the climate change on Mexico, the country's climate change scenarios, sectoral GHG, and particularly CO₂, emissions, and finally a roadmap for climate change policy. The introduction of environmental sustainability under the National Development Plan highlights initiatives such as the inter-ministerial climate change commission, the special program on climate change (PECC), as well as a potential path for the low-carbon growth for Mexico.

Michaelowa, A. (2005). Determination of Baselines and Additionality for the CDM: A Crucial Element of Credibility of the Climate Regime. In F. Yamin, *Climate Change and Carbon Markets: A Handbook of Emission Reduction Mechanisms*. (pp. 289-305). London, UK: Earthscan.

The chapter provides a detailed explanation of the concept of baseline determination as well as the concept of additionality in the Clean Development Mechanism, and subsequently the development of the Certified Emissions Reductions (CERs). The author further examines how the two concepts and issues related to them impact the integrity of the CDM through reflection in investments and public support. Further, a discussion of practical lessons drawn on the early experiences and tactics of the CDM initiatives is presented.

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. (2003). *Environmental Performance Reviews: Mexico*. Retrieved from Web site

<http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?CID=&LANG=EN&SF1=DI&ST1=5LMOCR2K1L5C>

The volume provides an analysis of Mexico's economic growth in the light of environmental considerations. Even though Mexico is one of the strongest economies among the Latin American states, it still has a number of developments and adjustments to make to meet international requirements and obligations. The book is divided in sections, with each addressing an area that needs to be addressed (e.g. environmental management, water/waste management or biodiversity).

Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD). (2004). *Greenhouse Gas Emission Trading and Project-based Mechanisms*. OECD Publication Services: Paris

The publication offers a collection of essays concerned with discussing foremost research and policy matters on GHG emissions and global climate change. Strong emphasis is placed on the experience of developing countries with the GHG emission trading and project-based mechanisms, emission permits, as well as the problems of transition. The papers support their cost-efficiency and flexibility and argue that they are applicable to the conditions of developing and transition countries.

Pacala, S., & Socolow, R. (2006, September). A Plan to Keep Carbon in Check. *Scientific American*, Vol. 295 Issue 3, 50-57.

Pacala and Socolow discuss the danger coming from the ever-growing burning of fossil fuels. Building on their previous publications, they again point to the climate equilibrium and warn on the highway to the unprecedented, yet certainly not more advantageous climatic conditions. As in their 2004 article, the authors point to achieving GHG emission cutbacks by 'breaking the target into wedges', so that they can match and can be addressed by the already existent technology. In addition, an overview of global CO₂ emission shares by region (based on OECD membership) is presented.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. (2008). *The World in 2050: Can Rapid Global Growth be Reconciled with Moving to a Low Carbon Economy?* Retrieved August 12, 2009 from Web site http://www.pwc.com/es_UY/uy/publicaciones/assets/world2050.pdf

The report outlines the scale of dangers threatened by the advancing global warming. The authors provide analysis of the outcomes of continuing on a 'business as usual' path, which would not only result in doubling of the current levels of carbon dioxide, but also may destabilize of our highly energy-dependant economy due to increasing prices of gas and oil prices. Policy proposals offered are considerable of capacity differences between developed and developing countries, and outline specific paths that should be taken by both groups.

The World Bank. (2009, June 15). *Mexico: Seeking a Low-Carbon Growth Path*. Retrieved August 24, 2009 from Web site <http://beta.worldbank.org/climatechange/news/mexico-seeking-low-carbon-growth-path>

The article discusses Mexico's announcement of an ambitious GHG reduction plan, largely through the low-carbon economic growth, as well as role of the Clean Technology Fund as its main source of funding. Mexico plans to target the sectors responsible for the largest share in the CO₂ emissions, namely urban transportation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. Mexican officials highlight that 'the money created a lot of momentum to commit resources, which makes the decision making process much easier.'

Trumper, K., Bertzky, M., Dickson, B., van der Heijden, G., Jenkins, M., & Manning, P. (2009). *The Natural Fix? The Role of Ecosystem in Climate Mitigation. A UNEP Rapid Response Assessment*. Retrieved August 11, 2009 from Web site http://www.unep.org/pdf/BioseqRRA_scr.pdf

The publication offers a brief synthesis of the current understanding of the ecosystem in carbon sequeencing. Special consideration is given to climate change impacting nature's ability of carbon absorption. Introduced policy proposals highlight the necessity of understanding the economic, social and ecological aspects involved in successful trade-offs.

United Nations. (1992, May 9). *Framework Convention on Climate Change*. 1771 U.N.T.S. 107, 165; S. Treaty Doc No. 102-38 (1992); U.N. Doc. A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1; 31 I.L.M. 849 (1992). Retrieved July 17, 2008 from Web site <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf>

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is the legal frame for international climate policy. It was agreed upon in 1992 as a result to growing scientific evidence that anthropogenic influences lead to a change in climate and came into force in 1994. The convention formulates as the central goal of international climate policy the stabilization of "greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system" – even in the absence of full scientific evidence. In the absence of binding reduction goals, the framework convention remained ineffective – in order to correct this shortcoming, the Kyoto Protocol was adopted in 1997 in order to concretize the framework convention.

United Nations. (2009, June 12). *Ambitious Global Climate Change Agreement in Sight, Says Top UN Official*. Retrieved on September 1, 2009 from Web site <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=31119&Cr=climate+change&Cr1>

The article briefly reports on the progress of the meeting – second of the five scheduled for 2009 – attended by delegates from 183 countries that took place in Bonn, Germany. The purpose of the extensive negotiations was to reach an agreement on a greenhouse gas emission reduction plan, that could serve as a blueprint for a ‘global deal’ that is hopefully to be reached during the Copenhagen summit.

United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). (2008, March 7). *Second Review of the Kyoto Protocol Pursuant to its Article 9*. Retrieved: October 1, 2009 from Web site <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/smsn/igo/002.pdf>

This communiqué highlights two important issues that need to be addressed in order to increase mitigation and face adaptation costs by developing countries: extending the shares of proceeds of emission trading and joint implementation and increasing the effectiveness of CDM. With regard to CDM, it is important to reduce the costs of developing countries for absorbing the technological knowledge transferred through CDM projects in order to build regional capacity. The document discusses and explains the proposals in great depth.

United Nations Development Programme. MDG Carbon Facility. (2008). *The Clean Development Mechanism*. Retrieved August 13, 2009 from Web site <http://www.mdgcarbonfacility.org/facility/finance.html>

The UNDP's MDG Carbon Facility features this comprehensive overview of the CDM and its role in the project-based carbon trading between countries and organizations. It also explains well the CDM process cycle and provides links to project development services, and the process of determining GHG reductions under the CDM. It is pointed out that CDM projects play a significant role in the GHG emission reductions in developing countries, especially in the sectors of renewable energy, biomass residues, energy efficiency measures, and waste management practices.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (2008, June 5). *Towards a Low-Carbon Economy: World Environment Day*. Retrieved on August 19, 2009 from Web site <http://www.unep.org/wed/2008/downloads/documents/WED%20BOOKLET%202008%20PRINT%20ENGLISH%20WEB.pdf>

This brief UNEP publication aims at popularizing the issue of global warming among people of the Member States, and educating on simple, little steps that may be undertaken by individuals to try and protect the environment. In 2008 the main focus was placed on low-carbon economic development. A full section is dedicated to reviewing the significance of transferring to ‘green economy, as well pointing to specific measures to cut down on the CO₂ emissions that are largely applicable to individual decision-making.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). (n.d.). *Green Economy Initiative*. Retrieved August 10, 2009, from Web site <http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/>

The UNEP Green Economy Initiative is designed to ‘assist governments’ in adopting environment friendly economic approaches ‘by refreshing and refocusing policies, and advising on investment’ towards a ‘green’ economy. The source features information on research products, partnerships, relevant reports and briefs, as well as a focus on the job opportunities springing from the shift to green economy. The Web site offers an abundance of resources for business people, civil society, as well as journalists and scientists.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). (n.d.). *Mitigation - Responding to Opportunity*. Retrieved August 11, 2009, from Web site <http://www.unep.org/climatechange/UNEPsWork/Mitigation/tabid/242/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

UNEP climate change mitigation works aim at ‘mainstreaming investment allocation in sustainable energy and removing market distortions’ towards transition to clean energy sources. The Web site is especially useful for preliminary research on clean energy projects and partnerships, finance and international networks. A list of noteworthy examples and close-ups of

the UNEP mitigation undertakings in developing countries are given, such as the Rural Energy Enterprise Development (REED), or the Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), *CDM Registration*. Retrieved October 1, 2009 from Web site

<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Statistics/Registration/AmountOfReductRegisteredProjPieChart.html>

This UNFCCC Web site is an excellent comprehensive source of any information regarding CDM. Not only does it list program and project activities, and data on the issuance of CER's, but also offers an abundance of reference sources. What may be especially useful is the CDM statistics section, which allows for the insight into registration and issuance of the projects.

United Nations. (1998). *Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*. Retrieved August 18, 2009, from Web site

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/kpeng.pdf>

The file contains the full text of the Kyoto Protocol as adopted in 1997 as a binding international treaty. It not only attempts at filling in the gaps of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, but also at enhancing it. The Protocol not only places emission reduction targets on 37 developed states, but also obliges them to leadership and significant assistance to developing states in accordance with the statute of 'common but differentiated responsibility.'

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). (n.d.). *Kyoto Protocol*. Retrieved August 11, 2009, from Web site http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php

In addition to the full text of the Kyoto Protocol, the UNFCCC Web site presents a brief history, purpose and explanation of its technical importance, as well as the status of ratifications. A concise discussion of the Kyoto mechanisms, monitoring and reporting apparatus may be very useful for the initial familiarization with the topic. A list of key links for further research is also provided.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). (n.d.) *The Kyoto Protocol Mechanisms: International Emissions Trading, Clean Development Mechanism, Joint Implementation*. Retrieved August 12, 2009, from Web site

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/mechanisms.pdf>

This comprehensive yet concise UNFCCC publication aims at explaining the Kyoto Protocol (KP) mechanisms in an easily-understandable language. Starting from the explanation of the origin of CO₂ emissions becoming a new commodity – due to the cost of exceeding allotted CO₂ release, and identifying the participants of the new market, the text goes on into brief discussion of the mechanisms: the international emissions trading (IET), joint implementation (JI), and the clean development mechanism (CDM). It also presents very simplified tables on the emission trading, which are a great onset for understanding the concepts.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). (2007). *Investment and Financial Flows to Address Climate Change*. Retrieved on August 18, 2009 from Web site

www.unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/application/pdf/background_paper.pdf

This UNFCCC publication is a thorough and comprehensive overview composed in collaboration with other UN agencies, international financial institutions, IGOs, NGOs, as well as representatives from the private sector. It presents an analysis of the current financial mechanisms and measures undertaken, as well as projected adjustments and/or new fiscal policy with special consideration for developing states. Financial assistance to those states is deemed necessary in order to facilitate combined international effort in addressing the climate change.

United Nations. General Assembly. 62nd Session. (2008, January 31). *Protection of Global Climate for Present and Future Generations of Mankind (A/RES/62/86)*. Retrieved July 16th, 2008 from Web site <http://www.un.org/ga/62/resolutions.shtml>

The General Assembly underscored the international community's view that climate change is a problem common to all States, which carry differentiated responsibilities in accordance with their

capabilities, and calls upon Member States' governments "to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases." It draws further attention to the situation of developing countries, which will have to carry the largest part of the costs of climatic changes and calls for "financial and technical resources, as well as capacity building and access to and transfer of technology, to assist those developing countries adversely affected by the climate change.

Ward, M., Garibaldi, J. A., Hampton, K., Hohne, N., & Jung, M. (2009, January). *Scaling Up Investment in Climate Change Activities: Interface with the World Bank's Carbon Partnership Facility*. Retrieved from World Bank Carbon Finance Unit Web site: http://wbcarbonfinance.org/docs/Scaling_up_investment_in_Climate_mitigation_and_CPF.pdf
This work is concerned with the ability and pathways of carbon market policy design and the importance of scaling up of carbon finance and investments. The authors provide an overview of existent fiscal mechanism and propose aggregation models based on similar activities in a given sector, or presence of the same actor across sectors (vertical and horizontal respectively), projected post-2012 schemes, as well as application of them into the current carbon financial system. The publication devotes its final section to the discussion of the World Bank Carbon Partnership Facility's (CPF) role in the scaling up activities, especially on advancing aggregated approach on the horizontal and vertical alignments.

III. Protecting Developing Countries during the Current Financial Crisis

African Renewal (April 200). *Does Financing Benefit African Women: New Initiatives to Track the Gender Impact of Development Funds*, 23, 1, p. 16. Retrieved September 18, 2009 from <http://www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/vol23no1/231-financing-women.html>
This is an extremely poignant article exploring and critiquing the role of systematic aid and development by the IMF, World Bank and developed world. The article critiques Structural Adjustment Policies (SAPs) and its effects on women. The article brings to light the gendered bias of programs such as SAPs have when implementing methods to restructure macroeconomic levels developing countries. Highlighting this particular case study is important so that delegates recognize the need to ensure vulnerable groups are protected during this economic recession.

Aslanbeigui, N. (1994). *Women in the Age of Economic Transformation: Impact of Reforms in Post-Socialist and Developing Countries*. Routledge Publishing: New York.
This is an excellent resource to understand the ramifications of economic development of developing countries. In focusing on vulnerable populations – women and children, the book provides in depth chapters examining social services – health care, education, unpaid labor, and the stresses of these unattended services on women in the developing world. Delegates should focus on Part II of the book, "Less developed countries" pertaining to Africa with Chapters 6 (The impact of economic reforms on women's health and healthcare in Sub-Saharan Africa by Meredith Turshen) and Chapter 7 (Structural adjustment, the rural-urban interface and gender relations in Zambia by Gisela Geisler and Karen Tranberg Hansen. Delegates should be prepared to account for all aspects of economic development and ensure that their own propositions do not ignore vulnerable communities.

Australian Government (July 2009). *The Global Recession*. Retrieved September 30, 2009 from <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/makediff/gec.cfm>
The AusAID provides a variety of report briefings on particular regions/countries in East Asia and Africa. The Web site also provides up to date information on repercussions of the global recession and global responses. Aside from UN sites, government aid agencies such as AusAID provide up to date information that would be beneficial for delegates.

Bretton Woods Project (2009). *Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs): A Rough Guide*. Retrieved September 29, 2009 from

<http://www.brettonwoodsproject.org/topic/adjustment/PRSP%20rough%20guide/PRSP%20rough%20guide.htm#A>

The Bretton Woods Project works to report and address the World Bank and IMF initiatives. The Web site contains an abundance of information regarding the environmental and social impacts of World Bank and IMF programs in developing countries. The Web site also provides information on Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, or Structural Adjustment Policies, etc.

Deen, T. (2009). *Migration: Financial Crisis Eroding Remittance Lifeline*. Retrieved April 17, 2009, from Inter Press Service News Agency Web Site <http://ipsnews.net/asp?idnews=46545>
Reporting on the policy research of the Geneva-based International Organization for Migration (IOM), this article discusses the effects immigration restraints will have on foreign remittances. Journalist Thalif Deen reports on the effects a decline of remittances has had on several countries in the Middle East, East Asia and South Asia. Delegates are strongly encouraged to research international news service reports on the effects on the financial crisis for up to date information.

G-20. (2009, April 2). *The Global Plan for Recovery and Reform*. Retrieved August 16, 2009, from <http://www.londonsummit.gov.uk/en/summit-aims/summit-communicue/>
This outline plan put forth by the G-20 discusses the necessary steps needed in moving forward from the financial crisis and restoring confidence in the global economic structures. The G-20 plan discusses restoring growth and jobs, financial supervision and regulation, strengthening financial institutions, and promoting global trade and investment. Delegates should read up on documents put out by the G-20 in order to understand what commitments the Global North have made to protecting the developing countries.

Moyo, D. (2008). *Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There is Another Way for Africa*. Penguin Books: New York.
Moyo's book has received wide reaching acclaim over its straight forward and unapologetic perspectives regarding aid to Africa. Moyo's work is extremely timely in moving forward and determining the best methods of restructuring the global financial architecture and its implementations towards the developing world. Delegates should read critical works such as Dead Aid in order to understand the discourse surrounding development currently and the need to de-colonize the dialogue by integrating the developing world's perspective.

Ohno, K. (2008, June 13). *Latecomer Countries and the Global Market Economy: The Risk of Premature International Integration Disrupting the Development Process*. Retrieved August 14, 2009, from Web site: <http://www.grips.ac.jp/vietnam/OhnoArchive/pdfs/Sekai.pdf>
This article is an important read in understanding the implications of integrating developing countries into the global market economy. It provides a realistic understanding of the vulnerabilities and risks that a overall global market economy poses on developing countries. Delegates will find this article informative when understanding the method by which they have been integrated into the global economy.

Press Trust of India (October 7, 2009). *IMF Forecasts Positive Outlook for Sub-Saharan Africa*. Retrieved September 25, 2009 from http://www.ptinews.com/news/316368_IMF-forecasts-positive-outlook-for-Sub-SaharanAfrica#
This brief article explains the projected outlook of increased development in sub-Saharan Africa. Such news articles are valuable resources for delegates in providing specific information on particular countries in an up to date manner. However, while these news articles are effective in providing the most current information, it is important that delegates contextualize information presented in isolated news articles with the greater factors of socio-economic issues etc. Delegates should be mindful that while projected growth maybe determined by bodies such as the IMF, the level of poverty has continuously increased.

The World Bank. (2008). *Second Bank - Civil Society Roundtable on the Global Food Crisis*. Retrieved August 17, 2009, from <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/CSO/0,,contentMDK:21849239~pagePK:220503~piPK:220476~theSitePK:228717,00.html>
This article discusses the second roundtable meeting between UN IMF, World Bank, and CSO representatives. The article summarizes the agenda of the meeting and outcomes and initiatives forged by the working partners. Amongst the four roundtables there is a clear connection between the food crisis and emerging financial crisis through the evolution of the meeting's agenda.

The World Bank. (2009). *Bank-CSO Forth Roundtable on Food and Financial Crisis*. Retrieved August 18, 2009, from <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/CSO/0,,contentMDK:22131611~pagePK:220503~piPK:220476~theSitePK:228717,00.html>
This article discusses the fourth roundtable on food crisis. During this time the financial crisis was mounting and attention was focused on integrating a comprehensive response system to address the interlinkages between the economic crisis and the human development effects of the food shortage. Delegates are encouraged to examine the role of civil society organizations and the importance they play in establishing strong relationships.

The World Bank. (2009). *Global Development Finance 2009: Charting a Global Recovery*. Retrieved August 16, 2009, from http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGDF2009/Resources/gdf_combined_web.pdf
Another document that succinctly explains the factors, issues and origins associated with the crisis and its outreaching effects on the global financial system. The paper also provides information on developing countries, explaining their decline in growth, and foreign investments. Delegates should read through this document before engaging in their own research in order to understand the full effects of the crisis.

The World Bank. (2009, January 30). *Zoellick Calls for 'Vulnerability Fund' Ahead of Davos Forum*. Retrieved August 17, 2009, from <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22049582~pagePK:64257043~piPK:437376~theSitePK:4607,00.html>
This news article provides information of the World Bank's proposed Vulnerability Fund and the purposes of the initiative. While providing the basic information about the initiative, delegates are encouraged to research more about the fund and its creative measures such as cash transfer mechanisms and micro financing support. The cash transfer initiative, born out of Mexico, is of growing interest that may be further enabled by such a fund. Delegates are encouraged to research such prospects further.

United Nations. Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (n.d.). *Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus*. Retrieved December 15, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/doha/index.htm>
This Web site is a good place for delegates to learn more about the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development and its follow-up process. The Web site contains full statements from Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, as well as information on the Doha Declaration (A/CONF.212/L.1/Rev.1). Delegates should familiarize themselves with this Web site and its containing documents prior to writing their position papers.

United Nations. Development Fund for Women (July, 13, 2009), *The World Economic and Financial Crisis: What Will It Mean for Gender Equality?* Retrieved October 6, 2009 from, http://www.unifem.org/news_events/story_detail.php?StoryID=901#
UNIFEM's Web site contains a lot of reports, briefings and speeches regarding the gendered effect of the financial crisis. There is also a great deal of information regarding the effects of the crisis on developing countries. Delegates should ensure that they research subsidiary organizations of the UN in order to cover a cross section of important data and research regarding the mounting effects of the financial crisis. The speech by Executive Director Ines

Alberdi discusses the special affectedness of girls and women through the financial crisis and potential setbacks in efforts to promote gender equality.

United Nations. General Assembly. 63rd Session. (2009, July 13). *Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (A/RES/63/303)*. Retrieved August 16, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/ga/econcrisissummit/docs.shtml>
GA resolution (A/RES/63/303) discusses the outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis as well as its impacts on development. This resolution is very detailed and provides important information to delegates wishing to understand the role the UN is taking in coordinating and centralizing response to the crisis. It underscores that developing countries – though not the cause of the crisis – are seriously affected by its consequences, which threatens to be even further delayed in the achievement of the MDGs.

United Nations. General Assembly. 63rd Session. (2009, March 19). *Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: Outcome Document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (A/RES/63/239)*. Retrieved October 16, 2009, from <http://www.un.org/ga/63/resolutions.shtml>
GA Resolution 63/239 explains the general dialogue outcomes of the Follow-up conference to the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development. The declaration does go into detail in breaking down key aspects of the conference's outcome regarding key responses proposed by Member States. Delegates should familiarize themselves with documents from this important and substantively in-depth conference.

United Nations. General Assembly. 63rd Session. (2009). *The Commission of Experts of the President of the UN General Assembly on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System*. Retrieved August 19, 2009 from http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/commission/financial_commission.shtml
This is an excellent and detailed report of the origins of the crisis and responses by the global community. In addition to the experts' report, delegates should read through the documents to understand the extent of the crisis and its ramifications. Important information regarding proposed steps forward have also been discussed by the commission.

United Nations. General Assembly. Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development. (2009). *Organizational and Procedural Matters*. Retrieved August 17, 2009 from <http://www.un.org/ga/econcrisissummit/docs.shtml>
Although this information may seem more administrative than informative, the organizational and procedural developments of the conference may be important to delegates wishing to research the role of their country at the conference. This information also provides information on how Member States participated in the conference and how the conference was arranged.

United Nations. General Assembly. Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development. (2009). *Anatomy of the Crisis*. Retrieved August 15, 2009 from http://www.un.org/ga/econcrisissummit/docs/Anatomy_26May_EN.pdf
Delegates will find this document extremely useful as it explains in depth the system of the crisis and its effects globally. While other UN documents focus on the response, this document is an excellent starting point in understanding the global recession by explaining the housing market burst in the USA and its effects that were felt all over the world. Delegates should read through this briefing as a starting point for greater, in-depth research.

United Nations. General Assembly. Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development. (2009, May 8). *Draft Outcome Document*. Retrieved October 16, 2009 from <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/interactive/financialcrisis/outcomedoc80509.pdf>
The draft outcome document circulated in May 2009 proposed and discussed six "lines of action" to be addressed as priorities, ranging global stimulus to debt relief and regulation of international institutions. It is noteworthy, that the draft was not adopted as the conference's outcome

document, but was nearly completely changed and shortened. Delegates will find valuable insight in comparing this draft outcome and the adopted outcome document.

Rules of Procedure General Assembly Economic and Financial Committee (GA 2nd)

Introduction

1. These rules shall be the only rules which apply to the General Assembly Economic and Financial Committee (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 role 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.

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.