



UNITED NATIONS SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME BACKGROUND GUIDE 2013

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NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

nmun.org



17 - 21 March - Conference A
24 - 28 March - Conference B

POSITION PAPER INSTRUCTIONS

Two copies of each position paper should be sent via e-mail by 1 MARCH 2013

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 here. Mail papers by 1 March to the e-mail address listed for your particular venue. Delegates should carbon copy (cc:) themselves as confirmation of receipt. Please use the committee name, your assignment, Conference A or B, and delegation/school name in both the e-mail subject line and in the filename (example: GA1st_Cuba_ConfA_MarsCollege).

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.nya@nmun.org or positionpapers.nyb@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 use the committee name, your assignment, Conference A or B, and delegation/school name in both the e-mail subject line and in the filename (example: GA1st_Cuba_Conf A_Mars College).

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General Assembly First Committee	ga1.nya@nmun.org
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General Assembly Fourth Committee	ga4.nya@nmun.org
Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations	c34.nya@nmun.org
ECOSOC Plenary	ecosoc.nya@nmun.org
Commission on the Status of Women	csw.nya@nmun.org
Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice	ccpcj.nya@nmun.org
Economic Commission for Africa	eca.nya@nmun.org
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	escwa.nya@nmun.org
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United Nations Development Programme	undp.nya@nmun.org
United Nations Settlements Programme	unhabitat.nya@nmun.org
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Human Rights Council	hrc.nya@nmun.org
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UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	unpfii.nya@nmun.org
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	ceirpp.nya@nmun.org
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Security Council B	scb.nya@nmun.org
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International Atomic Energy Agency	iaea.nya@nmun.org

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General Assembly First Committee	ga1.nyb@nmun.org
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General Assembly Fourth Committee	ga4.nyb@nmun.org
ECOSOC Plenary	ecosoc.nyb@nmun.org
Commission on the Status of Women	csw.nyb@nmun.org
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United Nations Children's Fund	unicef.nyb@nmun.org
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United Nations Settlements Programme	unhabitat.nyb@nmun.org
UN Conference on Trade and Development	unctad.nyb@nmun.org
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International Atomic Energy Agency	iaea.nyb@nmun.org
Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations	c34.nyb@nmun.org

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Entire Set of Delegation Position Papers	positionpapers.nya@nmun.org
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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2013 National Model United Nations Conference and welcome to our committee, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). This year's Directors are Michael Büchl (for the first venue), and Katharina Schmidt (for the second venue). Pauline Marcou (first venue) and Hannah Waggoner (second venue) will be serving as your Assistant Directors. Michael Büchl is doing his M.A. at Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich in Political Science, History and International Law. Katharina Schmidt graduated from the University of Bonn, Germany, in Political Science and Economics in 2009 and is currently studying in the Master of Environmental Governance at the University of Freiburg, Germany. Pauline Marcou is doing her M.A. at Sciences Po Lille, France, in International Relations, Strategy and Risk Management. Hannah Waggoner is currently teaching at the University of Texas at Tyler, while finishing her master's degree in Political Science and is planning to attend law school afterwards.

This year's topics under discussion for UN-HABITAT are:

1. Enhancing Sustainable Urban Mobility
2. Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums
3. Implementing Social Inclusion and Environmental Justice on the Agenda of Sustainable City Development

UN-HABITAT is the United Nations System's core body for addressing issues concerning a fair and balanced development of cities. Problems such as sanitation, urban mobility, social inclusion and environmental justice of cities affect more than half of the world's population, which is currently living in cities in developed as well as developing countries. Your creative ideas and innovative solutions, discussed and negotiated in the committee can therefore contribute to just and sustainable development in cities all over the world. As such, your work will be reflected in the resolutions you will adopt in committee. Nonetheless, we hope to see these ideas already encompassed in your position papers before and the working papers during the Conference.

In order to help you in your preparation for the Conference, this background guide will provide you with an overview of the topics at hand as well as the work of the Committee in general. Nevertheless, this should only be understood as an introduction to your preparation. The list of references given for each topic is a good starting point for your research, but is by no means exhaustive. We therefore encourage you to deepen your knowledge, especially considering your country's position. Your research should be reflected in the position paper, which each delegation is requested to submit prior to the Conference. Please take note of the NMUN policies on the [website](#) and in the [delegate preparation guide](#) regarding [plagiarism](#), [codes of conduct/dress code/sexual harassment](#), [awards philosophy/evaluation method](#), etc. Adherence to these guidelines is mandatory. If you have any questions concerning your preparation for the Committee or the Conference itself, feel free to contact us as substantive staff of UN-HABITAT or the Under-Secretaries-General for the Development Department, Meg Martin (Conference A) and Théo Thieffry (Conference B).

We wish you all the best for your preparation for the Conference and look forward to seeing you in March.

Sincerely,

Conference A

Michael Büchl
Director

Pauline Marcou
Assistant Director

Conference B

Katharina Schmidt
Director

Hannah Waggoner
Assistant Director



Message from the Directors-General Regarding Position Papers for the 2013 NMUN Conference

For NMUN-New York 2013, each delegation submits one position paper for each assigned committee. A delegate's role as a Member State, Observer State, Non-Governmental Organization, etc. should affect the way a position paper is written. To understand these differences, please refer to the [Delegate Preparation Guide](#).

Position papers should review each delegation's policy regarding the topics of 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 position papers of countries. 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 entirely original material. *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 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 may be given an award 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 and be of high substantive standard, using adequate language and showing in-depth research. While we encourage innovative proposals, we would like to remind delegates to stay within the mandate of their respective committee and keep a neutral and respectful tone. Similarly to the minus point-policy implemented at the conference to discourage disruptive behavior, position papers that use offensive language may entail negative grading when being considered for awards. Please refer to the sample paper following this message 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-sided 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 one inch for the whole paper
- Country/NGO name, school name and committee name must be clearly labeled on the first page,
- National symbols (headers, flags, etc.) are deemed inappropriate for NMUN position papers
- Agenda topics must be 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 format required) **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, 2012. 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, Conference A: positionpapers.nya@nmun.org or Conference B: positionpapers.nyb@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, 2013 (GMT-5)**.

Please use the committee name, your assignment, Conference A or B, and delegation/school name in both the e-mail subject line and in the filename (example: GA1st_Cuba_ConfA_Mars College).

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 Hannah Birkenkötter, Director-General (Conference A), or Nicholas Warino, Director-General (Conference B), 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 it 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,

Conference A
Hannah Birkenkötter
Director-General
hannah@nmun.org

Conference B
Nicholas Warino
Director-General
nick@nmun.org

**Delegation from
The United Mexican States**

**Represented by
(Name of College)**

Position Paper for the General Assembly Plenary

The issues before the General Assembly Plenary are: The Use of Economic Sanctions for Political and Economic Compulsion; Democracy and Human Rights in Post-Conflict Regions; as well as The Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa. The Mexican Delegation first would like to convey its gratitude being elected and pride to serve as vice-president of the current General Assembly Plenary session.

I. The Use of Economic Sanctions for Political and Economic Compulsion

The principles of equal sovereignty of states and non-interference, as laid down in the Charter of the United Nations, have always been cornerstones of Mexican foreign policy. The legitimate right to interfere by the use of coercive measures, such as economic sanctions, is laid down in Article 41 of the UN-charter and reserves the right to the Security Council.

Concerning the violation of this principle by the application of unilateral measures outside the framework of the United Nations, H.E. Ambassador to the United Nations Enrique Berruga Filloy underlined in 2005 that the Mexico strongly rejects “the application of unilateral laws and measures of economic blockade against any State, as well as the implementation of coercive measures without the authorization enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.” That is the reason, why the United Mexican States supported – for the 14th consecutive time – Resolution (A/RES/60/12) of 2006 regarding the *Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba*.

In the 1990s, comprehensive economic sanctions found several applications with very mixed results, which made a critical reassessment indispensable. The United Mexican States fully supported and actively participated in the “Stockholm Process” that focused on increasing the effectiveness in the implementation of targeted sanctions. As sanctions and especially economic sanctions, pose a tool for action “between words and war” they must be regarded as a mean of last resort before war and fulfill highest requirements for their legitimate use. The United Mexican States and their partners of the “Group of Friends of the U.N. Reform” have already addressed and formulated recommendations for that take former criticism into account. Regarding the design of economic sanctions it is indispensable for the success to have the constant support by all member states and public opinion, which is to a large degree dependent on the humanitarian effects of economic sanctions. Sanctions must be tailor-made, designed to effectively target the government, while sparing to the largest degree possible the civil population. Sanction regimes must be constantly monitored and evaluated to enable the world-community to adjust their actions to the needs of the unforeseeably changing situation. Additionally, the United Mexican States propose to increase communication between the existing sanction committees and thus their effectiveness by convening regular meetings of the chairs of the sanction committees on questions of common interest.

II. Democracy and Human Rights in Post-Conflict Regions

As a founding member of the United Nations, Mexico is highly engaged in the Promotion of Democracy and Human Rights all over the world, as laid down in the *Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR)* in 1948. Especially since the democratic transition of Mexico in 2000 it is one of the most urgent topics to stand for Democratization and Human Rights, and Mexico implements this vision on many different fronts.

In the Convoking Group of the intergovernmental Community of Democracies (GC), the United Mexican States uphold an approach that fosters international cooperation to promote democratic values and institution-building at the national and international level. To emphasize the strong interrelation between human rights and the building of democracy and to fortify democratic developments are further challenges Mexico deals with in this committee. A key-factor for the sustainable development of a post-conflict-region is to hold free and fair election and thus creating a democratic system. Being aware of the need of post-conflict countries for support in the preparation of democratic elections, the United Mexican States contribute since 2001 to the work of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), an intergovernmental organization operating at international, regional and national level in partnership with a range of institutions. Mexico’s foreign policy regarding human rights is substantially

based on cooperation with international organizations. The Inter American Commission of Human Rights is one of the bodies, Mexico is participating, working on the promotion of Human Rights in the Americas. Furthermore, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights is the regional judicial institution for the application and interpretation of the *American Convention of Human Rights*.

The objectives Mexico pursues are to improve human rights in the country through structural changes and to fortify the legal and institutional frame for the protection of human rights on the international level. Underlining the connection between democracy, development and Human Rights, stresses the importance of cooperation with and the role of the High Commissioner on Human Rights and the reform of the Human Rights Commission to a Human rights Council.

Having in mind the diversity of challenges in enforcing democracy and Human Rights, Mexico considers regional and national approaches vital for their endorsement, as Mexico exemplifies with its *National Program for Human Rights* or the *Plan Puebla Panama*. On the global level, Mexico is encouraged in working on a greater coordination and interoperability among the United Nations and regional organizations, as well as the development of common strategies and operational policies and the sharing of best practices in civilian crisis management should be encouraged, including clear frameworks for joint operations, when applicable.

III. The Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa

The United Mexican States welcome the leadership role the African Union has taken regarding the security problems of the continent. Our delegation is furthermore convinced that The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) can become the foundation for Africa's economic, social and democratic development as the basis for sustainable peace. Therefore it deserves the full support of the international community.

The development of the United Mexican States in the last two decades is characterized by the transition to a full democracy, the national and regional promotion of human rights and sustainable, economic growth. Mexico's development is characterized by free trade and its regional integration in the North American Free Trade Agreement. Having in mind that sustainable development is based not only on economic, but as well on social and environmental development, President Vicente Fox has made sustainable development a guiding principle in the Mexican Development Plan that includes sustainability targets for all major policy areas.

The United Nations Security Council has established not less than seven peace-keeping missions on the African continent, underlining the need for full support by the international community. In post-conflict situations, we regard national reconciliation as a precondition for a peaceful development, which is the reason why Mexico supported such committees, i.e. in the case of Sierra Leone. The United Mexican States are convinced that an other to enhance durable peace in Africa is the institutional reform of the United Nations. We therefore want to reaffirm our full support to both the establishment of the peace-building commission and the Human Rights Council. Both topics are highly interrelated and, having in mind that the breach of peace is most often linked with severest human rights' abuses, thus need to be seen as two sides of one problem and be approached in this understanding.

As most conflicts have their roots in conflicts about economic resources and development chances, human development and the eradication of poverty must be at the heart of a successful, preventive approach. Lifting people out of poverty must be seen as a precondition not only for peace, but for social development and environmental sustainability.

The United Mexican States want to express their esteem for the decision taken by the G-8 countries for a complete debt-relief for many African Highly-Indebted-Poor-Countries. Nevertheless, many commitments made by the international community that are crucial for Africa's sustainable development are unfulfilled. The developed countries agreed in the *Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development* (A/CONF.198/11) to increase their Official Development Aid (ODA) "towards the target of 0,7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) as ODA to developing countries and 0,15 to 0,20 per cent of GNP of developed countries to least developed countries". Furthermore, the United Mexican States are disappointed by the result of the Hong Kong Ministerial conference of the World Trade Organization, which once more failed to meet the needs of those, to whom the round was devoted: developing countries and especially African countries, who today, more than ever, are cut off from global trade and prosperity by protectionism.

Committee History

“Cities may be home to major problems, but they are also the places where solutions to some of the world’s most complex and pressing questions are being worked out. I am confident that, together, we can do much to improve the quality of life in all the world’s cities.”¹

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) is the United Nations (UN) lead agency for human settlements. The General Assembly (GA) mandates it to promote socially and environmentally sustainable cities and to provide adequate shelter for all.²

History and Defining Documents

UN-HABITAT was first created in 1978 as the Commission on Human Settlements, a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the main outcome of the first UN Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT I) that was held in June 1976 in Vancouver.³ The mandate of the Commission was first outlined in the *Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements*, adopted during the HABITAT I conference. This document developed the principles and guidelines for rural and urban settlements as well as 64 precise recommendations for national action.⁴ With only 37% of the world’s population living in urban areas in 1970, HABITAT I marked the first official recognition of the impacts of urbanization, especially in developing countries.⁵ This conference thus served as a starting point for the action of the international community in this domain: it established the concept of human settlements, “to consist of several elements that had been previously considered separately from one another - housing, building, planning and the relationship of these and such other activities as environmental change and national and international development.”⁶ As part of the commitment from Member States to improve the quality of life in human settlements, the declaration recommended that the work of the UN be strengthened through the creation of a single agency responsible for human settlement issues.⁷ Through its resolution 32/162, the General Assembly (GA) thus established in December 1977 the Commission on Human Settlements, which was to report to the ECOSOC.⁸ While the Commission had the mission to promote and ensure enhanced international cooperation on human settlements issues, its secretariat – the UN Centre for Human Settlements – would serve as a “focal point for human settlements action” and as a coordinator of all related activities within the UN system.⁹

In June 1996, the GA called a second UN Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II), held in Istanbul, to address two particular issues: “shelter for all” and “sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world”.¹⁰ This “City Summit” was the last in a series of world conferences organized in the 1990s by the UN to shape a global agenda for development for the new century to come.¹¹ In a context of rapid urbanization, with half of the world’s population expected to be urban in the beginning of the 21st century, this conference intended to reaffirm the commitments of HABITAT I, and to improve the action of the international community in addressing human settlements issues and urban development challenges.¹² It resulted in the adoption of the *Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements* and the *Habitat Agenda*, and a heated debate on the future of the Commission on

¹ UN-HABITAT, UN former Secretary General Kofi Annan on Habitat Day, October 1997, *Cities and Home for All: The Habitat Agenda*, 1997, p. 1.

² UN-HABITAT, *About us: Mandate*, 2011.

³ UN-HABITAT, *About us: History*, 2011.

⁴ UN-HABITAT, *Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements*, 1976.

⁵ UN-HABITAT, *Our Work*, p. 4; UN-HABITAT, *Annual Report 2011*, p. 7.

⁶ United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, *Human Settlements*.

⁷ UN-HABITAT, *Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements*, 1976.

⁸ UN General Assembly, *Institutional Arrangements for International Cooperation in the Field of Human Settlements (A/RES/32/162)*, 1977, pp. 99-100; UN-HABITAT, *Overview of the Evolution of Governance and Reporting Structure of UN-Habitat*, 2011, p. 1.

⁹ UN General Assembly, *Institutional Arrangements for International Cooperation in the Field of Human Settlements (A/RES/32/162)*, 1977, pp. 99-100.

¹⁰ UN General Assembly, *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II) (A/CONF.165/14)*, 1996, p. 12.

¹¹ United Nations Regional Information Center for Western Europe, *Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali Inaugurates United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II)*, 1996.

¹² International Institute for Sustainable Development, *Second UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)*, 1996.

Human Settlements during the conference marked the beginning of a new revitalization for UN-HABITAT.¹³ As a Global Plan of Action, the *Habitat Agenda* enumerates over 100 governmental commitments reached at the conference, in the fields of sustainable urban development, gender equality, and international cooperation.¹⁴ As a follow-up to the Summit, the GA designated, in its resolution 51/177, the Commission as the focal point for monitoring the implementation of this Agenda. It also emphasized the need to review and strengthen the mandate of the Commission while undertaking “a comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the [Centre] with a view to its revitalization”.¹⁵ In June 2001, the GA held a special session to review and evaluate the implementation of the *Habitat Agenda*. The *Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium* thus reaffirmed the will and commitment of Member States to put in force the outcome documents of the conference as “the basic framework for sustainable human settlements development in the years to come.”¹⁶

The major turning point for UN-HABITAT occurred in 2002, when it became a fully-fledged program of the UN system. The GA resolution 56/206 transformed the Commission on Human Settlements and its secretariat into the UN Human Settlements Programme, a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly.¹⁷ As of January 1, 2002, the Governing Council, the highest policy-making body within the Programme, replaced the previous Commission.¹⁸

Structure and Functions

The Governing Council (GC) is the main organ of UN-HABITAT and acts as its “intergovernmental decision-making body.”¹⁹ It is composed of 58 UN Member States, elected by the ECOSOC for four-year terms, according to the following regional repartition: sixteen seats for African States, thirteen seats for Asian and Pacific States, six seats for Eastern European States, ten seats for Latin American and Caribbean States, and thirteen seats for Western European and other States.²⁰ The Council meets at the ministerial level every two years in order to set the policy, the guidelines, and the budget of the Programme.²¹ It regularly reports on the work, strategy, and policies of the Committee to the GA, through ECOSOC.²² Throughout the year, the implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the GC is monitored by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR), which serves as the GC’s permanent inter-sessional subsidiary body. Its membership comprises all Member States accredited to the Programme.²³ The UN-HABITAT secretariat is led by an Executive-Director, who is appointed by the GA at the level of Undersecretary-General.²⁴ The headquarters of the CPR are based in Nairobi, Kenya, and the Secretariat supervises four Regional Offices: the Regional Office for Africa and the Arab States (based in Kenya), the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (based in Japan), the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (based in Brazil) and the Office for Central European Countries (based in Poland). Recently, a new Regional Office for the Arab States was inaugurated in Egypt.²⁵

The missions of UN-HABITAT are organized according to two different pillars: its operational function and its normative function. On the ground, the Programme is implementing strategic field projects and building

¹³ UN-HABITAT, *About us: History*, 2011; International Institute for Sustainable Development, *Second UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)*, 1996.

¹⁴ UN General Assembly, *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II) (A/CONF.165/14)*, 1996.

¹⁵ UN General Assembly, *Implementation of the Outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II) (A/RES/51/177)*, 1997, p. 4.

¹⁶ UN General Assembly, *Declaration on Cities and other Human Settlements in the New Millennium (A/RES/S-25/2)*, 2001, p. 1.

¹⁷ UN General Assembly, *Strengthening the Mandate and Status of the Commission on Human Settlements, and the Status, Role and Functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (A/RES/56/206)*, 2002.

¹⁸ UN General Assembly, *Strengthening the Mandate and Status of the Commission on Human Settlements, and the Status, Role and Functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (A/RES/56/206)*, 2002, pp. 3-4.

¹⁹ UN General Assembly, *Strengthening the Mandate and Status of the Commission on Human Settlements, and the Status, Role and Functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (A/RES/56/206)*, 2002, p. 3.

²⁰ UN General Assembly, *Strengthening the Mandate and Status of the Commission on Human Settlements, and the Status, Role and Functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (A/RES/56/206)*, 2002, p. 3; UN-HABITAT, *Governing Council*, 2012.

²¹ UN-HABITAT, *UN-HABITAT for a better urban future*, 2011, p. 8.

²² UN-HABITAT, *UN-HABITAT for a better urban future*, 2011, p. 8.

²³ UN-HABITAT, *Overview of the Evolution of Governance and Reporting Structure of UN-Habitat*, 2011, p. 4.

²⁴ UN-HABITAT, *Executive Director*, 2012.

²⁵ UN-HABITAT, *Our work*, 2011, p. 6.

partnerships with public and private organizations. At the policy level, UN-HABITAT is providing policy and advisory services for local and national authorities, producing research and publications on human settlement issues and leading several advocacy campaigns, seminars and forums all around the world.²⁶

Recent Strategy and Evolutions

Since the beginning of the 21st century, and the adoption of the UN *Millennium Declaration*, the work of the Programme has been strongly focused on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7, which aims to ensure environmental sustainability for all.²⁷ UN-HABITAT is in charge of the implementation of Target 10, which calls for the reduction by half of the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015, and Target 11, which seeks to improve, by 2020, the life of at least 100 million slum dwellers.²⁸ These Targets are fully integrated within the general strategy of the Committee, as presented in its last Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP). This Plan was adopted in 2007 as the main guidance for the action of UN-HABITAT for the period 2008-2013, with the vision to create “the necessary conditions for concerted international and national efforts to realize more sustainable urbanization, including efforts to arrest the growth of slums and to set the stage for the subsequent reduction in and reversal of the number of slum-dwellers worldwide.”²⁹ Through the MTSIP, the Governing Council defined six Focus Areas on which the action of the Committee has to be concentrated: 1) advocacy, monitoring and partnerships; 2) national and local capacities for urban planning, management and governance; 3) pro-poor, gender and age-sensitive land and housing; 4) environmentally-sound basic infrastructure and services; 5) improved and reinforced human settlements finance systems and; 6) excellence in management.³⁰ Since the adoption of the Plan, more than ten progress reports have been submitted to the Governing Council, in order to follow and monitor the Committee’s performance in implementing the MTSIP.³¹ The latest report thus noted a very satisfactory progress for MTSIP’s Focus Areas 1, 2 and 3, and a more mixed improvement for Areas 4 and 5, while the advancement concerning Focus Area 6 remained relatively insufficient.³²

Every two years, UN-HABITAT publishes its *Global Report on Human Settlements*, which provides an up-to-date analysis of the current trends in urban and other human settlement issues.³³ In 2011, the *Global Report* focused on cities and climate change, highlighting the close linkages between urbanization and climate change effects and suggesting guidelines, strategies and directions for climate change mitigation and adaptation, at the international, national and local levels.³⁴ Along with this flagship report, UN-HABITAT carries out its advocacy mission through one global event, the biennial World Urban Forum, which gathers governmental and non-governmental actors, academics and private sector organizations in order to exchange and debate on rapid-urbanization related issues.³⁵ At the occasion of the 2010 World Urban Forum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the Programme launched the World Urban Campaign, to promote better cities for all.³⁶ This movement brings altogether public, private and civil society participants and intends to share knowledge and expertise in order to contribute to the 2016 forthcoming HABITAT III conference.³⁷ The next World Urban Forum will be held in September 2012, in Naples, Italy and will focus on four themes: institutions and regulations for urban planning, wealth and social equity, job creation and opportunities, urban mobility and energy and environment.³⁸

²⁶ UN-HABITAT, *Annual Report 2010*, 2011, p. 6.

²⁷ UN-HABITAT, *About us: Mandate*, 2012.

²⁸ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *The Millenium Development Goals Report 2012*, 2012, pp. 54-59.

²⁹ UN-HABITAT, *Mid-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan for UN-Habitat for the period 2008-2013*, 2007, p. 3.

³⁰ UN-HABITAT, *Our work*, 2011.

³¹ UN-HABITAT, *Annual Progress Report on the Implementation of the Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) 2008-2013*, 2012, p. 5.

³² UN-HABITAT, *Annual Progress Report on the Implementation of the Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) 2008-2013*, 2012, pp. 14-28.

³³ United Nations Human Settlements Programme. *Publications: Global Report on Human Settlements*, 2012.

³⁴ UN-HABITAT, *Global Report on Human Settlements 2011: Cities and Climate Change*, 2011, pp. vi-viii.

³⁵ UN-HABITAT, *UN-HABITAT for a better urban future*, 2011, p. 14.

³⁶ UN-HABITAT, *Annual Report 2010*, 2011, p. 54;

³⁷ International Institute for Sustainable Development / Sustainable Development Policy and Practices, *News: UNGA decides to convene Habitat III in 2016*, 2011.

³⁸ UN-HABITAT, *World Urban Forum 6*, 2012.

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United Nations General Assembly. (December 19, 1977). *Institutional Arrangements for International Cooperation in the Field of Human Settlements (A/RES/32/162)*. Retrieved August 7, 2012 from http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/32/162

The General Assembly resolution A/RES/32/162 is the first major landmark in the history of the UN-HABITAT Committee. It is organized in eight chapters, defining the guidelines and principles of international cooperation in the field of human settlements and presenting the missions, functions and terms of reference of the newly created Commission on Human Settlements and its Secretariat. This resolution should thus be the first UN document for delegates to consider to understand the mandate and purpose of UN-HABITAT.

United Nations General Assembly. (February 26, 2002). *Strengthening the Mandate and Status of the Commission on Human Settlements, and the Status, Role and Functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (A/RES/56/206)*. Retrieved August 7, 2012 from http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/56/206

The General Assembly resolution A/RES/56/206 is the second major landmark in the history of UN-HABITAT. It is the result of a long-term process of discussions and negotiations on the mission and efficiency of the Committee and thus strengthened its mandate and elevated its status to that of a fully-fledged Programme of the UN. Special attention should be given to this resolution, being the latest founding document for the Committee.

United Nations Human Settlements Programme. (March 6, 2007). *Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan for UN-Habitat for the period 2008-2013 (HSP/GC/21/5/Add.1)*. Retrieved August 7, 2012 from <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=HSP/GC/21/5/Add.1>

The Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) was adopted in 2007, following the resolution 21/2 of the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT, to define the orientation and objectives of the Programme over the period 2008-2013. This document identifies six key areas of its mandate to focus on. It thus gives the opportunity to easily apprehend the strategic context of the work of the committee in the present time.

United Nations Human Settlements Programme. (2011). *Annual Report 2010*. Nairobi, Kenya: UN-HABITAT. Retrieved August 7, 2012 from www.unhabitat.org/pmss/getElectronicVersion.aspx?nr=3105&alt=1

The Annual Report is the yearly publication of reference from UN-HABITAT. This latest edition provides the delegates with an extensive amount of information, concerning its current activities and the main challenges it has to face. Considering the length of the report, delegates should particularly look at the concise overview presented at the beginning: it helps understand the context of the creation of the Programme, its major evolutions since 1978 and its missions and functions.

United Nations Human Settlements Programme. (2012). *About us*. Retrieved August 7, 2012 from <http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?cid=2467&catid=1&typeid=24&subMenuId=0>

The Website of the UN-HABITAT committee is the first place where delegates can look for information on the history, mandate, strategy and structure of the programme. Only the descriptive and informative section of the Website is here mentioned, but an important number of policy and strategy papers, conference reports and almost all the publications of the committee can also be accessed through other sections.

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United Nations General Assembly. (December 19, 1977). *Institutional Arrangements for International Cooperation in the Field of Human Settlements (A/RES/32/162)*. Retrieved August 7, 2012 from http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/32/162

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I. Enhancing Sustainable Urban Mobility

*“Functioning transportation networks are a key element for cities and towns across the globe and are a precondition for economic activity and social participation. In the face of a rising global population, continuing urbanization and the emergence of megacities, there is heightened urgency to apply solutions in the urban transport sector that contribute to sustainable urban development.”*³⁹

Introduction

“The defining trait of urban areas is density: of people, activities, and structures. The defining trait of urban transportation is the ability to cope with this density while moving people and goods.”⁴⁰ Enhancing sustainable transportation is paramount for accommodating cities; however, the concept of a city is ambiguous and difficult to apply one single definition to. The criteria for defining a city and the concept of urban – from which city boundaries are determined – are interrelated and involve an abstraction of factors including: population size; population density; economic organization; social organization; economic function; labour supply and demand; government administration; and special boundaries.⁴¹ The Handbook of Urban Studies identifies urban cities today as a “functional community area.”⁴² Considering the variety of the worlds urban population today, the United Nations Statistics Division offers a definition of the requirements to be considered urban for each country.⁴³ In general, urban population growth is occurring more rapidly in less developed countries (LDC) than in more developed countries (MDC).⁴⁴ As urban populations increase, efficient modes of transportation are key components in supporting economic and social growth.⁴⁵ Sustainable Urban Mobility (SUM) is an initiative within the Sustainable Cities Programme (SCP) of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).⁴⁶ The importance of SUM has become an issue in urban populations worldwide.⁴⁷ Within the urban context, transportation is a key function.⁴⁸ Transportation is a fundamental mechanism that allows individuals the opportunity to become more efficient in their everyday lives such as going to and from work.⁴⁹ Further to this, several international conferences and organizations have recognized the need to support sustainable development including transportation.⁵⁰

The intent of SUM with regard to UN-HABITAT is to provide SCP areas with technical support and limited financial funding to build low-cost modes of transportation (such as bicycling or walking), sustainable city planning and management.⁵¹ In addition to this, increasing efficiency of the transportation infrastructure and safety of modes of transport in urban areas is part of the SUM development framework.⁵² However, governments face various issues in the implementation of SUM.⁵³ Small city governments are often constrained in their authority, due to lack of funding and limited human resources.⁵⁴ Thus, the aim to strengthen local authorities’ knowledge of SUM through UN-HABITAT’s SCP partnerships and environmental planning and management process reaches areas beyond mega-cities. These partnerships allow for smaller scale cities to also develop effective modes of SUM tailored to the city’s needs and capabilities.⁵⁵ In addition, physical barriers to implementation of SUM also exist.⁵⁶ This includes

³⁹ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I., (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 1

⁴⁰ Small, K., The Concise Encyclopedia of Economics: Urban Transportation. *The Library of Economics and Liberty*

⁴¹ Frey, W. and Zimmer, Z., (2001) Defining the City. In Paddison, R., *Handbook of Urban Studies*, 25

⁴² Frey, W. and Zimmer, Z., (2001) Defining the City. In Paddison, R., *Handbook of Urban Studies*, 14

⁴³ United Nations Statistics Division, (2005). *Definition of Urban*

⁴⁴ Frey, W. and Zimmer, Z., (2001) Defining the City. In Paddison, R., *Handbook of Urban Studies*, 24

⁴⁵ Boschmann, E., and Kwan, M., (2008). Toward Socially Sustainable Urban Transportation: Progress and Potentials. *International Journal of Sustainable Transportation*, 2 (3), 143

⁴⁶ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Mobility*

⁴⁷ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Mobility*

⁴⁸ Boschmann, E., and Kwan, M., (2008). Toward Socially Sustainable Urban Transportation: Progress and Potentials. *International Journal of Sustainable Transportation*, 2 (3), 143

⁴⁹ Boschmann, E., and Kwan, M., (2008). Toward Socially Sustainable Urban Transportation: Progress and Potentials. *International Journal of Sustainable Transportation*, 2 (3), 144

⁵⁰ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Mobility*

⁵¹ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Mobility*

⁵² United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Mobility*

⁵³ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Mobility*

⁵⁴ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Mobility*

⁵⁵ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Mobility*

inefficiencies in the existing transportation system, which if continuously conducted inefficiently, the general population will accept as normal.⁵⁷ As such, there is a potential lack of political will for change to the transportation infrastructure.⁵⁸ This effect may serve to prolong or increase urban ‘unsustainability’.⁵⁹ Moving forward, strategies such as strengthening communication and awareness campaigns with local governments, organizations and the public are key steps to enhancing SUM.⁶⁰

Sustainable Development as Framework Indicators for Urban Transportation

As a means of achieving and enhancing sustainable forms of transportation in urban areas, sustainability – although an ambiguous concept - is crucial for SUM.⁶¹ Sustainability is a broad and popular concept in the field of environmental economics, and thus is seen as an indicator for the way people act toward the environment.⁶² Although interpreted in a variety of ways, the *Brundtland Report* – a report issued by the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) in 1987 which examined environment and development issues – provides a popular and widely used definition of sustainable development: “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”⁶³ The *Brundtland Report*, published in 1987 by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) coined definition of sustainable development and gained political salience among the international community.⁶⁴ Therefore, in the urban context, identifying in theory and then putting to practice, sustainable development is necessary to properly promote SUM.⁶⁵

Sustainability in the urban context requires a healthy state of economic prosperity, environmental quality, and social justice over time without economic, environmental, or social paralysis or malfunction.⁶⁶ Although an official set of universally accepted indicators for sustainability does not exist, two common sustainability assessment features: “orientation towards the long-term and inherently uncertain future” and “concern for economic efficiency, understood as non-wastefulness, in the allocation of natural goods and services” provide a basic explanation of framework indicators needed for a city to sustain a transportation infrastructure with an unpredictable urban population.⁶⁷ Overall, “sustainable development – the satisfaction of human needs and the improvement of the quality of human life – depends upon conservation, and that conservation depends equally upon development.”⁶⁸

Framework Indicators for Urban Transportation: Sharing Knowledge and Experience

Based on the framework provided by the *Brundtland Report*, Member States gathered at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) adopted the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* creating 27 principles essential for enhancing global awareness and partnerships for sustainable

⁵⁶ Campbell, M., Dubbelin, M., Hoekstra, F., and Veenhuizen R., (2009). Building Resilient Cities. *Urban Agriculture*, 22, 3

⁵⁷ Fumega, J., (2010) Urban Sustainability and the Emergence of New (Old) Concepts: Analysis of the Sustainable Communities Concept through the Component of Transportation. *Journal of US-China Public Administration*, 7 (9), 59

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⁶⁰ Egan, J., (2004). Skills for Sustainable Communities, *The Egan Review*, 19

⁶¹ Mori, K. and Christodoulou A., (2011). Review of Sustainability Indices and Indicators: Toward a New City Sustainability Index (CSI). *Environmental Impact Assessment Review*, 95

⁶² Mori, K. and Christodoulou A., (2011). Review of Sustainability Indices and Indicators: Toward a New City Sustainability Index (CSI). *Environmental Impact Assessment Review*, 95

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⁶⁶ Mori, K. and Christodoulou A., (2011). Review of Sustainability Indices and Indicators: Toward a New City Sustainability Index (CSI). *Environmental Impact Assessment Review*, 96

⁶⁷ Mori, K. and Christodoulou A., (2011). Review of Sustainability Indices and Indicators: Toward a New City Sustainability Index (CSI). *Environmental Impact Assessment Review*, 96

⁶⁸ Allen, R., (1980). How to Save the World: Strategy for World Conservation, 9

development.⁶⁹ Under the recommendation of Principle 9, “states should cooperate to strengthen endogenous capacity-building for sustainable development by improving scientific understanding through exchanges of scientific and technological knowledge, and by enhancing the development, adaption, diffusion, and transfer of technologies, including new and innovative technologies.”⁷⁰ Keeping in mind the previously stated definition for sustainable development, achieving the status of “sustainability” in the urban context is the goal of sustainable development, capable of strengthening or creating the characteristics of a sustainable city: cultural, economic, environmental, and social characteristics.⁷¹ Ahmadi and Toghyani argue that in order to achieve sustainable urban development goals, “it is necessary to make some structural reforms and to create some deep and fundamental changes in all levels of society, especially in the three levels of: ‘government and management’, ‘technology’, and ‘life methods’.”⁷² Overall, knowledge sharing of these three reforms is essential to enhancing SUM.

Framework Indicators for Urban Transportation: Sharing Knowledge and Experience, Case Studies

Considering the importance of knowledge sharing and effective management needed to enhance SUM, the Sustainable Urban Transport Project (SUTP) strives to meet the necessity of reforms and changes (specifically, the preceding three levels: government and management, technology, and life methods) needed to enhance sustainable development goals. The SUTP was created to help developing cities achieve SUM goals.⁷³ Through dissemination of experience such as completed SUM projects and information, and dissemination of policy advice, sustainable development and SUM training, capacity building, and established goals to form as the base for transport projects within cities, SUTP is able to achieve such objectives in developing world cities.⁷⁴ The Asia SUTP based in New Delhi, India and Bangkok, Thailand was created through the partnership of Deutsche Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), CITYNET, UN-HABITAT, and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) to assist developing cities in reaching their SUM goals.⁷⁵ Based in Bogotá, Colombia, the Latin America SUTP was created through the cooperation of Cooperacion Andina de Fomento (CAF), Asistencia Recíproca Petrolera Empresarial Latinoamericana (ARPEL), UN-HABITAT, and TransMilenio.⁷⁶

Knowledge sharing is an important tool for successful implementation of SUM strategies.⁷⁷ However, due to lack of enthusiasm to begin or renew transportation infrastructures and fear of rapid population change, local authorities knowledge of SUM strategies may often be uninformed. A case study with a happy ending compared to its beginning is the case of the Monrovia Transport Authority (MTA).⁷⁸ MTA is an example of successful and persistent initiatives toward the transfer of knowledge in terms of public or non-motorized transport options for urban populations.⁷⁹ The MTA case is unique, and begins with the end of the Liberian civil war, which left the MTA buses vandalized and destroyed for more than 20 years.⁸⁰ Liberia faces a poverty level of approximately 64% (as of 2007) and an average life expectancy of 56 (as of 2010).⁸¹ With a poverty level this high, the limited financial

⁶⁹ United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. (1992). Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1

⁷⁰ United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. (1992). Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1

⁷¹ Ahmadi, F. and Toghyani, S., (2011). The Role of Urban Planning in Achieving Sustainable Urban Development. *Ontario International Development Agency International Journal of Sustainable Development*, 23

⁷² Ahmadi, F. and Toghyani, S., (2011). The Role of Urban Planning in Achieving Sustainable Urban Development. *Ontario International Development Agency International Journal of Sustainable Development*, 23

⁷³ Sustainable Urban Mobility Project. (2011), *SUTP Objectives*

⁷⁴ Sustainable Urban Mobility Project. (2011), *SUTP Objectives*

⁷⁵ Sustainable Urban Mobility Project. (2011), *SUTP Objectives*

⁷⁶ Sustainable Urban Mobility Project. (2011), *SUTP Objectives*

⁷⁷ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011) Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 5

⁷⁸ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 7

⁷⁹ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 7

⁸⁰ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 7

⁸¹ The World Bank. Liberia, *World Development Indicators*

resources for transportation infrastructure is clear.⁸² Therefore, the Spanish government donated 12 used buses to Liberia and within three years MTA was able to transport approximately 300,000 people per month throughout Monrovia, Liberia and the surrounding suburbs.⁸³ In response to questions of Liberia's originally desolate transport system to an efficient form of public transportation for the urban population, MTA recommends the "4E Process" for SUM: "educate government and political leaders; educate policy and decision makers; educate and train your consumers/population; and educate stakeholders like business people and consultants (foreign and local)."⁸⁴ Through the "4E Process", the MTA has continued to lobby and promote among policy makers the awareness of the transportation project.⁸⁵ The MTA case study is an example of continuous advocating in hopes of convincing policy makers to agree with the transport systems goals, which eventually were rewarded.⁸⁶ Furthermore, dissemination of knowledge and success that the MTA has achieved is a critical tool for lobbying, in terms of increasing support for enhancing sustainable transportation mechanisms.⁸⁷

Sustainable Development Initiatives: Urban Planning as a means of enhancing SUM

With a global population of approximately 7 billion people, the urban population accounts for a higher percentage of the global population than the rural population.⁸⁸ Due to increasing urbanization, urban planning is becoming more important than ever, as it is essential to urban development overall which is thus necessary for enhancing SUM.⁸⁹ The Vancouver Forum discussed ten principles of "new urban planning" which are appropriate steps to take in terms of enhancing SUM, these include: sustainability; integrated planning; integrated budgets; planning with partners; subsidiary; market responsiveness; access to land; appropriate tools; pro-poor and inclusive; and cultural variation.⁹⁰ Within each of these ten concepts, the Vancouver Forum explains new urban planning mechanisms.⁹¹ The basis of successful enhancement and development of SUM begins with sustainable urban planning.⁹² The following excerpt provides a comparison of international and local programs aimed at planning initiatives to enhance sustainable development, an important step in establishing and enhancing sustainable transportation programs in urban areas.

Sustainable Development Initiatives: A Glance at International and Local Programs as a means of enhancing SUM

SCP was established to promote sustainable urban development, targeting "urban local authorities and their partners."⁹³ With the participation of 29 active partner cities and 9 countries with SCP programmes, SCP successfully completed its "1991-2001, Phase One" goal with the following objectives: Operational support; Development of management tools; Networking, Information and awareness building; and Resource mobilization and management.⁹⁴ Building upon "Phase One", "2002-2007, Phase Two" was established to create long term strengthening initiatives for policy makers in urban planning objectives.⁹⁵ Highlighting the success of the "Phase

⁸² Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 7

⁸³ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 7

⁸⁴ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 7

⁸⁵ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 7

⁸⁶ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 7

⁸⁷ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I, (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 7

⁸⁸ United Nations Population Fund, (2011). *State of the World Population*, 77

⁸⁹ United Nations Population Fund, (2011). *State of the World Population*, 77

⁹⁰ Global Planners Network, (2006). Reinventing Planning: A New Governance Paradigm for Managing Human Settlements

⁹¹ Global Planners Network, (2006). Reinventing Planning: A New Governance Paradigm for Managing Human Settlements

⁹² Ahmadi, F. and Toghyani, S., (2011). The Role of Urban Planning in Achieving Sustainable Urban Development. *Ontario International Development Agency International Journal of Sustainable Development*, 23

⁹³ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Cities Programme*.

⁹⁴ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Cities Programme, History and Context: Phase One and Phase Two*.

⁹⁵ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Cities Programme, History and Context: Phase One and Phase Two*.

One” and “Phase Two” goals and accomplishments of SCP, it is apparent that a network of support and shared knowledge of urban planning strategies and successful SUM projects facilitates the path to enhanced SUM.⁹⁶

Similar to SCP, Localizing Agenda 21 (LA21) is an action programme that promotes sustainable development by assisting in urban development planning at the local level to improve urban mobility when implemented by governments or UN Agencies.⁹⁷ LA21 operates at the local level by helping local authorities of cities in order to strengthen management process to identify priority issues, implement environmental planning, support networking and partnerships with local institutions, and assisting in policy development.⁹⁸ LA 21 targets secondary cities, or cities lacking the competence and resources to needed to deal with environmental problems and development.⁹⁹ By taking action through planning, LA21 paves the way for enhanced SUM in urban cities.

A recent increase in terms of raising support and knowledge for SUM have become possible through SUD-Net (a UN-HABITAT program dedicated to improving urban cities and local partnerships).¹⁰⁰ Expanding from the LA21 focus on local partnerships, SUD-Net has developed global, regional, and national partnerships to promote urban development.¹⁰¹ Through the SUD-Net initiative, urban planning is crucial for developing and improving SUM to accommodate global trends in urbanization such as population changes.¹⁰² In 2009, SUD-Net conducted a workshop hosted by UN-HABITAT in collaboration with the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and the Africa Centre for Cities (ACC) in Cape Town, South Africa to promoted sustainable urban development planning and mobility.¹⁰³ Urban development in African cities is often unable to respond and accommodate to the growing urban population.¹⁰⁴ This workshop set the agenda for the SUD-Net initiative to identify priority actions to be taken in African cities to enhance urban development so that SUM may fall into place.¹⁰⁵ “Cities for Mobility” is an international network, sharing comparable goals a similar mission statement with SUD-Net, providing a forum for shared knowledge and experience to promote mutual cooperation of SUM planning and projects worldwide.¹⁰⁶ In an address to the annual World Congress of “Cities for Mobility” held on July 4, 2011 in Stuttgart, Germany, Christian Schlosser, Chief of UN-HABITAT’s Urban Transport Section emphasized the importance of improving urban planning, stating “we need to plan for walk-able streets and active neighborhoods; we should not waste space and thus plan for compact cities.”¹⁰⁷

Low-Cost and Non-Motorized Modes of Transportation, Case Studies

A large variance in urban population growth across the world persists.¹⁰⁸ For many years, the North-South divide of the world – the North composed of wealthy developed countries and the South composed of poor developing countries – was the major factor in the explanation of inequality and poverty in the world.¹⁰⁹ The North and the South experience different population growth rates.¹¹⁰ Every country has different climate conditions, economic status, and social status; thus, the costs of enhancing sustainability will not be evenly distributed.¹¹¹ Urban

⁹⁶ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Cities Programme*.

⁹⁷ Local Agenda 21, *Implications of the Local Agenda 21*.

⁹⁸ Local Agenda 21, *Implications of the Local Agenda 21*.

⁹⁹ Local Agenda 21, *Implications of the Local Agenda 21*.

¹⁰⁰ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Development Network, The Approach*.

¹⁰¹ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Development Network, Inter-Agency Partnerships*.

¹⁰² United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Urban Development Network, The Approach*.

¹⁰³ United Nations Human Settlement Programme (2009) *Sustainable Urban Mobility Development Network: Workshop on Networking for Sustainable Urban Development in African Cities*.

¹⁰⁴ United Nations Human Settlement Programme (2009) *Sustainable Urban Mobility Development Network: Workshop on Networking for Sustainable Urban Development in African Cities*.

¹⁰⁵ United Nations Human Settlement Programme (2009) *Sustainable Urban Mobility Development Network: Workshop on Networking for Sustainable Urban Development in African Cities*.

¹⁰⁶ Cities for Mobility, *Cities for Mobility, Projects*.

¹⁰⁷ United Nations Human Settlement Programme. (2011). *UN-HABITAT at the Cities for Mobility World Congress*.

¹⁰⁸ Rodrigue, J., Population, Resources, and the Environment; *Case Study: Global Population Trends*

¹⁰⁹ Therien, J., (1999). Beyond the North-South Divide: the Two Tales of World Poverty. *Third World Quarterly*, 20 (4), 723

¹¹⁰ Eickmans, L. and Nasei, I. (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. *People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport*, 3

¹¹¹ Marcuse, P., (1998). Sustainability is Not Enough, *Environment and Urbanization*, 10 (2), 108

population growth in developing areas increases at a rate ten times faster than that of developed areas.¹¹² Consequently, urban population growth increases the use of transport – generally motorized transport.¹¹³ Parallel to this, the demand for oil and fossil energy will grow.¹¹⁴ Thus, not only low-income residents, but poorer urban areas overall are barred by default from safe and high quality transportation options.¹¹⁵ Limited funding often serves as a primary issue of enhancing SUM and thus, developing or enhancing urban transportation infrastructure must accommodate governments with limited funding.¹¹⁶

In poorer urban populated areas, finding means of travel can become expensive.¹¹⁷ However, urban transport routes are engineered to primarily service motorized vehicles.¹¹⁸ In efforts to deal with rising prices of fuel, combat pollution in concentrated urban areas, and discourage excessive use of individual automobile traffic when traveling in compact cities, an “Expert Group Meeting” was organized in Dakar, Senegal by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Union Africaine des Transports Publics (UATP), African Bicycles Network (ABN), and UN-HABITAT.¹¹⁹ The meeting promoted sustainable forms of non-motorized transportation options, and strategies to better utilize the practice and policies of both non-motorized and public transport systems in West Africa. The meeting outlined five areas vital to enhancing sustainable transport systems in urban areas: “linking transportation to urban planning to reduce motorized trips”; “non-motorized transport infrastructure”; “public transport systems”; “car traffic demand management”; and “vehicle and fuel technologies and efficiency.”¹²⁰ ABN continues to promote the non- motorized urban transportation shift of 2010 in Dakar, Senegal; however, ABN does not limit its focus to one country. The main goal of ABN (founded in 2009 to combat cycling challenges in Africa) is to provide support to African regions lacking resources and information so that non-motorized transport can be better incorporated into society.¹²¹

Trending 21st century efforts to promote lower-cost modes of transportation – public transport systems and specifically non-motorized forms of transportation – have been successful due to localized partnerships and programs, and also international support through knowledge sharing regarding effective policy and transportation programs. Cycling is a low-cost and environmentally friendly mode of transportation in urban areas. However, considering benefits beyond the increasing cost of fuel, implementation of bicycle lanes or sidewalks providing cyclers an equal destination route to the motorized transport route will aid in the reduction of pollution produced by motor vehicles in urban populations.¹²² Expanding on the five priorities necessary to increase non-motorized transportation and use of public transport systems (as established previously by the 2010 “expert group meeting” in Dakar, Senegal), cycling initiatives across the world have succeeded tremendously in urban populations.¹²³ Cyclers in the United States increased by 64% in the United States from 1990-2009 and a 42 % increase in Canada from 1996-2006.¹²⁴ Case studies among nine major Canadian and US cities (Chicago; Minneapolis; Montreal; New York;

¹¹² Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I. (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 3

¹¹³ Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I. (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 3

¹¹⁴ Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I. (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 3

¹¹⁵ Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I. (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 3

¹¹⁶ Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I. (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 3

¹¹⁷ Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I. (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 3

¹¹⁸ Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I. (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 3

¹¹⁹ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Mobility for African Cities*

¹²⁰ Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I. (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 2

¹²¹ African Bicycle Network, *Introduction*, 2010.

¹²² Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I., (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 4

¹²³ Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I., (2011). Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport, 1

¹²⁴ Buehler, R., and Pucher, J., (2011). Analysis of Bicycling Trends and Policies in Large North American Cities: Lessons for New York. *University Transportation Research Center*, vi

Portland; San Francisco; Toronto; Vancouver; and Washington) that implemented different transportation infrastructure, cycling safety awareness, training programs for bike transit integration in the urban transport infrastructure, bicycle sharing, and improved cycling lanes produced high results of the urban population and bicycling trends.¹²⁵ Thus, the case studies in Canada and the United States (US) on bicycling trends show that bicycle initiatives should not be considered a last resort for developing countries or underdeveloped cities, and can potentially prove effective no matter the economic standing of an urban population.

Non-motorized transport initiatives are also trending in Europe, and Münster, Germany, is a particularly successful case study. From 1982 to 2007, bicycle traffic increased by 8.4%, public transport use increased by 3.8%, while individual motorized traffic decreased by 2.9%.¹²⁶ The components of bicycle infrastructure in Münster, Germany, first began with cycle ways on sidewalk levels.¹²⁷ Streets marked with bicycle symbols on the pavement often exist when the width of sidewalks is not enough for the proper use of bicycle and are easier to create and cost less than paving new sidewalks.¹²⁸ Cycle lanes at the street level exist in two forms: identified by a dotted white line which indicates that cars are permitted to drive within the lane if it does not interfere with cycling, or by a solid white line which indicates that cars are not permitted to drive within the lane.¹²⁹ Approximately 2,000 people switched from individual motorized transport or public transport systems to cycling after the bicycle stations opened in Münster.¹³⁰ Overall, the initiatives for a high quality bicycle infrastructure in Münster have shown that through higher quality bicycle infrastructure – specifically bicycle stations and cycling lanes – and regulations, the percentage of cyclists in cities will increase.¹³¹

In terms of cycling initiatives in developing countries, Kisumu, Kenya participated in an SCP initiative.¹³² In 2005 the first initiative for SUM in Kisumu was implemented.¹³³ The Kisumu City Council (KCC) signed a project agreement in July, 2004 with UN-HABITAT to implement SUM and sustainable development strategies through participatory processes.¹³⁴ Further to this, the Kisumu City Development Strategy – created by Kisumu citizens in accordance with KCC – aims to create and promote sustainable development in Kisumu through mutual cooperation and participation.¹³⁵ Low-cost forms of transport were the primary objective in the case of Kisumu.¹³⁶ Because of the SUM project in Kisumu, developed rules and regulations for two-seater bicycles or bicycle taxis (boda boda's) were created and thus, 'boda boda's' grew to approximately 10,000 due to the success of initiatives to create and enhance low-cost modes of transportation in Kisumu.¹³⁷

Overall, UN-HABITAT has provided resources for the development and enhancement of SUM whether non-motorized transport system or public transport bus system for developing or developed cities. The case studies of Kisumu, Kenya, Münster, Germany, and large North American cities are three diverse examples of successful SUM case studies. However, SUM initiatives are not limited to the regions of these case study examples and continue to happen across the world.

¹²⁵ Buehler, R., and Pucher, J., (2011). Analysis of Bicycling Trends and Policies in Large North American Cities: Lessons for New York. *University Transportation Research Center*, vi

¹²⁶ Doehn, G., (2011). Muenster, Germany: An Example of Promoting Cycling in Cities- Components of a High Quality Bicycle Infrastructure. *Case Studies in Sustainable Urban Transport*, 2, 1

¹²⁷ Doehn, G., (2011). Muenster, Germany: An Example of Promoting Cycling in Cities- Components of a High Quality Bicycle Infrastructure. *Case Studies in Sustainable Urban Transport*, 2, 3

¹²⁸ Doehn, G., (2011). Muenster, Germany: An Example of Promoting Cycling in Cities- Components of a High Quality Bicycle Infrastructure. *Case Studies in Sustainable Urban Transport*, 2, 3

¹²⁹ Doehn, G., (2011). Muenster, Germany: An Example of Promoting Cycling in Cities- Components of a High Quality Bicycle Infrastructure. *Case Studies in Sustainable Urban Transport*, 2, 3

¹³⁰ Doehn, G., (2011). Muenster, Germany: An Example of Promoting Cycling in Cities- Components of a High Quality Bicycle Infrastructure. *Case Studies in Sustainable Urban Transport*, 2, 14

¹³¹ Doehn, G., (2011). Muenster, Germany: An Example of Promoting Cycling in Cities- Components of a High Quality Bicycle Infrastructure, *Case Studies in Sustainable Urban Transport*, 2, 16

¹³² Wasonga, G., (2005). Sustainable Urban Mobility in Kisumu, 2

¹³³ Wasonga, G., (2005). Sustainable Urban Mobility in Kisumu, 4

¹³⁴ Wasonga, G., (2005). Sustainable Urban Mobility in Kisumu, 6

¹³⁵ Wasonga, G., (2005). Sustainable Urban Mobility in Kisumu, 7

¹³⁶ Wasonga, G., (2005). Sustainable Urban Mobility in Kisumu, 2

¹³⁷ Wasonga, G., (2005). Sustainable Urban Mobility in Kisumu, 2

Conclusion

Sustainable urban mobility is an important goal, especially in a world of increasing technology. It remains important to consider the mechanisms necessary to encourage, implement, and improve sustainable development, so that transportation may properly be developed. Because obstacles to implementation of SUM exist, including limited funding, physical barriers, and uninformed policy makers, the transfer of knowledge is key to enhancing sustainable urban mobility. Considering demographic, environmental, economic, socio-spatial, and institutional challenges are important in terms of enhancing sustainable urban mobility in the 21st Century.¹³⁸ Considering the various backgrounds, needs, and status of each represented country – beyond the idea of developed or developing countries – delegates should consider the notion of sustainable development, which balances economical, environmental, and social factors in their country. How can sustainable urban mobility initiatives be integrated into your country's specific urban transport needs? What are the implications of urban planning on sustainable urban mobility? How can cities create a solid urban transport infrastructure while remaining open to future changes and needs in urban populations? Through mutual cooperation, initiatives for sustainable urban mobility projects often are achieved through such programs as previously stated: UN-HABITAT Sustainable Cities Programme; The Localizing Agenda 21 Programme; The Sustainable Urban Development Network; and "Cities for Mobility." Are these participatory processes with international programs crucial for city development? Will shared knowledge of non-motorized transport success strategies, awareness, and planning change today's stereotypical image of non-motorized transport use over time? What mechanisms can your country take to change this stereotype? What approaches might be helpful in shifting urban populations to increase the use of either non-motorized transport or public transport systems such as a city busing system?

¹³⁸ United Nations Human Settlement Programme. (2009). Global Report on Human Settlements 2009: Planning Sustainable Cities,

Annotated Bibliography

I. Enhancing Sustainable Urban Mobility

Carmona, Matthew. (2008). *Public Places: Urban Spaces*. Burlington, MA: Architectural Press.
This book provides basic principles and guidelines on urban design. As a source, delegates can reference it to determine different planning principles and transfer this knowledge in order to support local initiatives. In addition, this book examines the benefits and impacts of certain urban designs and the role that efficient transportation planning can have on the public.

Sustainable Urban Transport Project. (2011). *SUTP Objectives*. Retrieved August 6, 2012 from <http://www.sutp.org/index.php/about-us?showall=&start=2>.
SUTP is an organization that is involved in supporting developing countries with sustainable transport goals. The organization supports projects in Asia, Latin America and Africa. The source provides articles on various projects. This source will demonstrate to delegates the role of organizations in meeting SUM objectives.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme. (2012). *UN-HABITAT: Sustainable Cities Programme – Sustainable Urban Mobility*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from <http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?typeid=24&catid=369&id=948>.
SCP provides an overview of UN-HABITAT's sustainable urban mobility program including the program's history, mandate and goals. This source provides delegates with the connection between UN-HABITAT's Sustainable Cities Programme, Agenda 21 and SUM. This is a key starting point for delegates in understanding the role of SUM.

Wasonga, G., (2005). *Sustainable Urban Mobility in Kisumu*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from <http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/P-SUMKisumu%202.pdf>.
Wasonga provides a concise and comprehensive presentation, covering the first SUM initiative in Kisumu. Basic facts of the region are presented and the progress has been made thus far through SUM. The presentation also examines some of the challenges faced by Kisumu in the implementation of programs. Delegates can utilize this resource to see how SUM has been implemented, how it operates and some of the key challenges of implementation.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme. (2009). *Global Report on Human Settlements 2009: Planning Sustainable Cities*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/GRHS_2009Brief.pdf
Planning Sustainable Cities excerpt from this report focuses on urban challenges of rapidly growing cities and poor cities located in developing countries. Unplanned urban development is a major problem for many urban populations. This report discusses the consequences of failure to engage in urban planning and also effective examples of sustainable urbanization to counteract the problems created by unplanned urban development. This report will be a good source for delegates to use when wanting to research the “other” side of urban development planning – the unplanned urban cities.

Eickmans, L . and Nasei, I., (2011). *Sustainable Mobility for African Cities. People and Mobility: Promoting Non-Motorized Transport Options and Compact Cities as Complements to Public Transport*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3209>
This report is a summary of the seminar ‘Sustainable Development of Public Transport in Africa’ following the “Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Mobility for African Cities.” The seminar discussed issues related to the challenges faced by Africa, sustainable urban mobility, and some of the actions that Africa has taken. For delegates, the report will show the opportunities that the international community can take to support SUM.

Marcuse, P. (1998). *Sustainability is Not Enough*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from

<http://eau.sagepub.com/content/10/2/103.full.pdf>

Marcuse analyzes the scope of sustainability by stressing the importance of “good” sustainable programmes, taking into consideration the dangers of “bad” sustainable programmes that potentially limit “good” sustainable programmes. Furthermore, Marcuse discusses sustainable city programmes, which will be useful for delegates when looking for examples of projects or programmes for position papers. The author’s use of language is very concise and comprehensible, and will serve as a good tool for delegates to reference when discussing SUM in terms of the importance of sustainable urban governance in order to implement SUM strategies.

Hook, Walter. (2003). Sustainable Transport: A Sourcebook for Policy-Makers in Developing Cities- Preserving and Expanding the Role of Non-motorized Transport. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from

<http://www.itdp.org/documents/NMTmodule.pdf>

This sourcebook is organized into categorical sections of non-motorized transport with sub-headings for every category such as the different regulations for planning, road use, or vehicles. To conclude the sourcebook, the author provides advice on how to achieve implementation of sustainable transport and resources of other non-motorized initiatives such as the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Centre.

United Nations Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme. (2009, April 3). Resolution 22/9. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from

http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/6701_1_592248.pdf

Resolution 22/9 stresses the importance of South-South cooperation in order to help developing countries achieve their goals. Further to this, Resolution 22/9 requests the South-South cooperation engage in more activities with the United Nations Development Programme and other international organizations to strengthen international cooperation and support to developing countries struggling in development initiatives. This resolution will provide delegates with a UN resolution to cite in their position paper as pertains to the perspective of their position paper on Topic I.

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (2011). *Bicycle-Sharing Schemes: Enhancing Sustainable Mobility in Urban Areas*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from

http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_pdfs/csd-19/Background-Paper8-P.Midgley-Bicycle.pdf

In terms of a specific form of transportation –bicycling – this resource is great for understanding the rationale and successful use of bicycle sharing or “public-use bicycles.” The author discusses the way the system of bicycle sharing operates, the financial costs of implementing such a program, policy recommendations for cities, and also the challenges and opportunities of bicycle-sharing for urban populations. This paper will be helpful for delegates that encourage the use of bicycle sharing as greener SUM initiatives.

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. (1992). *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Volume I)*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from

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

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on June 3-14, 1992, Volume I of the Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development provides resolutions adopted by the Conference. This conference outlined a wide range of issues concerning: economical problems and developments; humanitarian issues; and environmental problems and developments such as conservation measures and prevention of hazardous waste transmitted through traffic; and sustainable means of implementation for development such as international cooperation in developing countries and providing information for the public and policy makers. This is an excellent collection of adopted UN resolutions for delegates to reference in position papers.

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<http://www.globalplannersnetwork.org/pdf/reinventingplanningenglish.pdf>
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<http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?typeid=19&catid=570&cid=5996>

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II. Improving Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure in Slums

*Perhaps no two issues are more important to human health, economic development, and peace and security than basic sanitation and access to sustainable supplies of water.*¹³⁹

Introduction: Drinking Water Availability and Sanitation Infrastructure

The Importance of Accessible Drinking Water and Sanitation

Water is one of the bases for human life. Per day, an average human needs around five litres of drinking water (in a moderate climate and with average activity levels).¹⁴⁰ It is further estimated that one needs 20 litres of water for sanitation services, 15 litres for bathing and 10 litres for food preparation, in total 50 litres per person per day (lpcd) with the water needed to grow food excluded.¹⁴¹ As of today, approximately 783 million people – around 11% of the world’s population - do not have access to improved drinking water, and around 2.5 billion – 37% of the world’s population – lack access to improved sanitation.¹⁴² Though progress has been made over the last 20 years, these figures show that this topic is still of utmost importance. The availability of safe drinking water and sanitation infrastructure has a huge impact of people’s lives as well as great economic and social effects. Improving drinking water access and quality as well as sanitation infrastructure can significantly “reduce the rates of morbidity and severity of ascariasis, diarrhoeal diseases, dracunculiasis, hookworm infection, schistosomiasis, and trachoma.”¹⁴³ Introducing safe drinking water and advanced sanitation facilities can reduce child mortality significantly as water-related disease is the second most common reason for child deaths after respiratory diseases.¹⁴⁴

The Groups Worst Affected: Women, Children and Disabled Persons

Women, children and people with disabilities are the groups most affected by the lack of drinking water and sanitation infrastructure. In many developing countries it is mostly women and children who are tasked with collecting drinking water, which often means carrying heavy water tanks over long distances leading to postural deformity and other related diseases.¹⁴⁵ Contact with the often-polluted water of open wells also increases the probability of catching water borne diseases such as schistosomiasis.¹⁴⁶ Additionally this task consumes a lot of the daily work time that could be used more productively and often hinders school attendance if children, especially female students, are obliged to perform this task.¹⁴⁷ Pregnant women (and their unborn children) and children are also more severely affected by low water quality, with 1.8 million children per year dying of diarrhoea and other diseases linked to low drinking water quality and lacking sanitation.¹⁴⁸ Water polluted with noxious chemicals also affects this group more due to their lower body mass.¹⁴⁹ Poor urban communities are affected worst due to especially bad sanitation infrastructure combined with the concentration of many people in one place.¹⁵⁰

Lacking sanitation infrastructure has severe effects on women’s lives as often even existing sanitation facilities lack consideration for the special needs of women. Shared latrines and open defecation make women especially vulnerable to harassment, violence and rape.¹⁵¹ In addition, cultural factors need to be considered in the context of the disparity in school attendance by girls as they are regularly denied the ability to go to schools by their parents if the facility lacks toilets for each gender.¹⁵² Both women and children are often not involved in decision-making

¹³⁹ Rodham Clinton,(2009), Introductory Words, in: *Report to Congress of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act*.

¹⁴⁰ Gleick, (1998), *The Human Right to Water*, p. 496

¹⁴¹ Gleick (1998), *The Human Right to Water*, p. 496.

¹⁴² Esrey, Potash, Roberts, (1991), *Shiff, Effects of Improved Water Supply and Sanitation on Ascariasis, Diarrhoea, Dracunculiasis, Hookworm Infection, Schistosomiasis, and Trachoma*, p. 616.

¹⁴³ Esrey, Potash, Roberts, (1991), *Shiff, Effects of Improved Water Supply and Sanitation on Ascariasis, Diarrhoea, Dracunculiasis, Hookworm Infection, Schistosomiasis, and Trachoma*, p. 616.

¹⁴⁴ Buttenheim, (2008), *The Sanitation Environment in Urban Slums: Implications for Child Health*, p. 43.

¹⁴⁵ Geere, Hunter and Jagals, (2010), *Domestic Water Carrying and its Implications for Health: A Review and Mixed Methods Pilot Study in Limpopo Province, South Africa*, p. 11.

¹⁴⁶ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 19.

¹⁴⁷ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 19.

¹⁴⁸ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 13.

¹⁴⁹ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 21.

¹⁵⁰ Bartlett, (2003), *Water Sanitation and Urban Children: The Need to Go Beyond “Improved” Provision*, p. 58.

¹⁵¹ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 13.

¹⁵² Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 21.

processes on water and sanitation issues and thus cannot contribute and voice their needs in communal discussions on building new sanitation infrastructure.¹⁵³ Bringing safe drinking water and advanced sanitation facilities to large populations is thus also closely connected with Millennium Development Goals one, four and five to reduce child mortality and improve maternal health.¹⁵⁴ Also, persons with disabilities particularly face challenges in accessing clean drinking water and advanced sanitation facilities due to often used designs rendering standard infrastructure inaccessible and thus depleting them from the possibility of an independent life.¹⁵⁵

Water and Sanitation and Urban Slums

Rapid urbanization in many developing states will put already existing infrastructure under stress.¹⁵⁶ While the percentage of city inhabitants in developing regions living in slums has declined considerably over the last 20 years from 46.1% to 33%, due to the fast growth of urban populations, the total number of urban slum dwellers has increased from 656 to 828 million in 2010.¹⁵⁷ As of today, more than half of the world's population is living in cities.¹⁵⁸ Besides the general growth of urban centres, the world has seen the development of so-called mega cities - urban agglomerations with more than 10 million inhabitants and some even exceeding 20 million inhabitants, most of them situated in developing countries.¹⁵⁹

While wealthier parts of the population mostly benefit from urgently needed refurbishment of existing and/or the construction of entirely new infrastructures in the cities of developing countries, the growing number of the urban poor, especially those in illegal or unplanned settlements, often lack access to basic infrastructure including fresh water and sanitation infrastructure. One of the main problems for the urban poor not living in informal settlements is that they often lack the money to pay for the community providing water and sanitation infrastructure and are thus dependent on either buying more expensive water of often doubtful quality on the street or use polluted water from rivers or wells.¹⁶⁰

The Human Right to Water and the Legal Situation

While the importance of water has long been recognized, the topic has only recently been treated from a human rights rather than from a development perspective. The human right to water was finally embraced in General Assembly (GA) resolution 64/292 (2010) explicitly recognizing “the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights.” The resolution, however, remains rather vague about the obligations on states to implement this human right, and:

“[c]alls upon States and international organizations to provide financial resources, capacity-building and technology transfer, through international assistance and cooperation, in particular to developing countries, in order to scale up efforts to provide safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all;”

It has previously been argued that a human right to water is implicitly part of the human rights canon established as early as in 1948 through important human rights sources such as the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR) as well as regional human rights conventions such as the *Inter-American Convention on Human Rights* and the *European Convention on Human Rights*.¹⁶¹

¹⁵³ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 20.

¹⁵⁴ United Nations World Health Organization, (2012), *Factsheet N°178. Children: Reducing Mortality*.

¹⁵⁵ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 21.

¹⁵⁶ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 22.

¹⁵⁷ United Nations Human settlement Programme, (2010), *State of the World's Cities 2010/2011: Bridging the Urban Gap. Overview and Key Findings*, p.9.

¹⁵⁸ United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), (2011), *State of the World Population 2011*, p. 121.

¹⁵⁹ UNHABITAT, (2003), *Slums of the World: The Face of Urban Poverty in the New Millennium?*, p. 11.

¹⁶⁰ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 19.

¹⁶¹ Gleick, (1998), *The Human Right to Water*, p. 489.

Since the Mar de La Plata Water Conference in 1977, water has been routinely included in Human Rights treaties, though not implemented as a 'right to water' and regularly addressed at UN conferences.¹⁶² It was included in the 1979 *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*; the 1985 International Labour Organization (ILO) *Convention No. 161 concerning Occupational Health Services*; the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* and most recently in the *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*.¹⁶³ Water was also addressed in the International Conference on Water and Sustainable Development in 1992, the Rio Summit, the United Nations International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002.¹⁶⁴ The General Assembly first addressed the right to water in Resolution 54/175 on the *Right to Development*.¹⁶⁵ In 2002, the Monitoring Body for the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, interpreted Articles 11 and 12 ICESCR as to include a Right to Water.¹⁶⁶ The 2006 Human Rights Council decision 2/104 set the stage for a wider acceptance of the right to water in the Human Rights Council by requesting a Report by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which was delivered in August 2007.¹⁶⁷ The report stated that it was “time to consider access to safe drinking water and sanitation as a human right, defined as the right to equal and non-discriminatory access to a sufficient amount of safe drinking water for personal and domestic uses... to sustain life and health.”¹⁶⁸ The Human Rights Council subsequently appointed an Independent Expert on the Issue of Human Rights Obligations Related to Access to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation.¹⁶⁹ In resolution 12/8 (2009), the Human Rights Council recognized for the first time that states have an obligation to address and eliminate discrimination with regard to access to sanitation, and urged them to address effectively inequalities in this area.¹⁷⁰ Following GA resolution 64/292, the Human Rights Council confirmed that the rights to water and sanitation are part of existing international law and further confirmed that these rights are legally binding upon states.¹⁷¹ It also called upon Member States to develop appropriate tools and mechanisms to achieve progressively the full realization of human rights obligations related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation.¹⁷²

Water as a Good? Water as a Right? The Question of State Obligations

Though the Human Rights Council has confirmed the Human Right to Water, it remains conflicted on the subject of how far state obligations go in providing access to safe drinking water and sanitation infrastructure.¹⁷³ This lies first

¹⁶² United Nations Office to support the International Decade for Action ‘Water for Life’ 2005-2015/UN-Water Decade, (2011), *The Human Right to Water. Milestones*. p. 1.

¹⁶³ United Nations, (1979), *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, art. 14 (2). International Labour Organization (ILO), (1985), *Convention No. 161 concerning Occupational Health Services*, art. 5. *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, (1989), arts. 24 and 27 (3). *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, (2006), art. 28.

¹⁶⁴ International Conference on Water and the Environment (ICWE), (January 31, 1992), *The Dublin Statement on Water and Sustainable Development*.

United Nations, (April 23, 1993), *Agenda 21*.

United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, (October 18, 1994), *Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*.

United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), (September 04, 2002), *Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development*

¹⁶⁵ United Nations General Assembly (February 15, 2000), *Resolution 54/175: The Right to Development*.

¹⁶⁶ United Nations Economic and Social Council Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, (January 20, 2003), *General Comment No. 15 (E/C.12/2002/11)*.

¹⁶⁷ United Nations Human Rights Council, (November 27, 2006), *Decision 2/104 Human Rights and Access to Water*.

¹⁶⁸ Human Rights Council, (2007), Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the scope and content of the relevant human rights obligations related to equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation under international human rights instruments (A/HRC/6/3).

¹⁶⁹ United Nations Human Rights Council, (March 28, 2008), *Human Rights and Access to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation (Resolution 7/22)*.

¹⁷⁰ United Nations Human Rights Council, (October 12, 2009), *Resolution 12/8. Human Rights and Access to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation*.

¹⁷¹ United Nations Human Rights Council, (October 06, 2010), *Resolution 15/9. Human Rights and Access to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation*.

¹⁷² United Nations Human Rights Council, (October 06, 2010), *Resolution 15/9. Human Rights and Access to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation*

¹⁷³ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*, p. 25.

in the nature of water and whether it is regarded as a full public good, a market good or a club/toll good.¹⁷⁴ One must distinguish between water resources in general and their provision through services and infrastructure.¹⁷⁵ While water as a resource per se can be seen a free good unless pumped from exhaustible sources, urban water in the context of infrastructure and services to actually deliver water to people is an impure public good: almost all water resources are renewable and freely floating and thus treated as common property. Contrary to this principle, water services such as the maintenance and provision of infrastructure are usually treated as a club good with ideally all people of a certain territory (a city, a county or a state) having access for a fixed and equal connection fee and prize per volume of consumed water.¹⁷⁶ The provision of water services can therefore be differentiated from water rights concerning the allocation of water resources and the general right to water of every human.¹⁷⁷ The Human Rights Council points out that all Member States have the obligation to respect, protect and fulfil the right to water.¹⁷⁸ Furthermore, states have to ensure that any form of service provision, state run, public or private, “guarantee equal access to affordable, sufficient, safe and acceptable water.”¹⁷⁹ Thus, though all people must have the possibility to get enough water for their daily needs, this does not imply that the provision must be free, but the providers, be they public or private, only need to make sure that the charge is fair and affordable.¹⁸⁰ However, it is generally questioned whether a rights-based approach is the most effective way in building up water and sanitation infrastructure.¹⁸¹

Water and sanitation infrastructure can be provided through different organization models: by the public sphere with again major differences in organisation on (federal), state, regional or municipal level or by private enterprises and public private partnerships again with different organisation schemes depending on the licence under which the respective company operates.¹⁸² It is highly contested whether sanitation and especially water infrastructure should be run by the public as for example in the Netherlands and Uruguay, where privatization is forbidden by the law, in Pakistan, in Japan or in the Scandinavian States, through public private partnerships - through management contracts, lease or concessions which are at least partly used in a multitude of different states as for example in Brazil, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, France, Morocco, Senegal and in the Megacities Manila and Jakarta, or - more seldom - fully privatized systems operated by private companies in a market system as for example in England and Wales, in Chile and some cities in Poland and the US.¹⁸³ While some of the privatizations carried out in the 1990s were praised for improving water supply as for example in Manila and in Colombia, others are deemed failures such as the project in Cochabamba, Bolivia.¹⁸⁴

The Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Goal 7 Target 10

During the Millennium Development Summit in 2000, all UN Member States agreed on achieving the so-called Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) - a list of benchmarks for development issues to be fulfilled by 2015.¹⁸⁵ The Goals split into several sub-targets with Goal 7 (Ensure environmental sustainability) Target 10 aiming to “Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation” and Goal 7 Target 11 to “[B]y 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers”.¹⁸⁶ The MDGs are currently the most important benchmark for progress in the field of development within the UN system. Besides Goal 7 of ensuring safe drinking water, sanitation infrastructure is also

¹⁷⁴ Barraqué, (2012), *Urban Water Conflicts: Background and Conceptual Framework*, p. 6.

¹⁷⁵ Barraqué, (2012), *Urban Water Conflicts: Background and Conceptual Framework*, p. 4.

¹⁷⁶ Barraqué, (2012), *Urban Water Conflicts: Background and Conceptual Framework*, p. 9.

¹⁷⁷ Barraqué, (2012), *Urban Water Conflicts: Background and Conceptual Framework*, p. 9.

¹⁷⁸ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*. p 27.

¹⁷⁹ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*. p. 35.

¹⁸⁰ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, (2010), *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*. p. 11.

¹⁸¹ Anand, (2007), *Right to Water and Access to Water. An Assessment*, .p. 518f.

¹⁸² Barraqué, (2012), *Urban Water Conflicts: Background and Conceptual Framework*, p.12.

¹⁸³ Budds and McGranahan, (2003), *Are the Debates on Water Privatization Missing the Point? Experiences from Africa, Asia and Latin America*, p. 87; Marin, (2009), *Public-Private Partnerships for Urban Water Utilities*, p. 2; Baker and Kooy, (2012), *Governance failure: Urban Water and Conflict in Jakarta, Indonesia*. p. 195.

¹⁸⁴ Marin, (2009), *Public-Private Partnerships for Urban Water Utilities*, p. 56; Forero, (2005), *Bolivia Regrets IMF Experiment*.

¹⁸⁵ United Nations.,(2012), *Millennium Development Goals*.

¹⁸⁶ United Nations, (2012), *Millennium Development Goals*.

necessary for achieving other development goals, notably Goal 2 of achieving universal education, Goal 4 on child health and Goal 5 concerning maternal health.¹⁸⁷

Access to Drinking Water

Among those without access to safe drinking water, most live in urban areas with coverage of 80% access to piped water, although the rate of increase has stagnated over the last 20 years.¹⁸⁸ However, due to massive urban population increases, the total number of people without access to improved water has risen from 109 million to 130 million.¹⁸⁹ Although the MDG related to drinking water was claimed to have been fulfilled by 2010 and the trend is positive, many tasks remain. Most prominently, there is no complete information on the actual quality of “drinking water,” as whether water is contaminated with microbes or chemicals cannot be estimated on a global scale.¹⁹⁰ The term “access to drinking water” might thus be misleading as the 'drinking' water often provided - through tank trucks and bottled water but also in form of piped water - might indeed also be harmful to people's health until the implantation of control mechanisms for drinking water quality and their fulfilment.¹⁹¹

Access to Sanitation

Contrary to the relative success in the field of drinking water, the goal to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation still lags behind and will probably not be fulfilled by 2015.¹⁹² In 2010, still 37% of the world's population – 2.5 billion people – lacked improved sanitation with 15% still practising open defecation. In 1990, the share was still 51% of the population.¹⁹³ However as in the case of drinking water the total number of persons without access to basic sanitation increased from 109 million people living in urban areas without access to safe drinking water in 1990 to 130 million in 2010.

There are huge regional differences in progress toward using improved sanitation, with Sub-Saharan Africa having the lowest share of improved sanitation access (30%) and Southern Asia having the highest share of open defecation (41%). India and East Asia, despite the enormous success in the growth of sanitation access – from 27% in 1990 to 66% in 2010 - still has a huge number of people without access to proper sanitation (477 million) due to its huge population. The largest population without access to improved sanitation can be found in Southern Asia with 814 million still lacking improved sanitation and only 41% of the population having access to improved sanitation.¹⁹⁴ This figure is only surpassed by sub-Saharan Africa, where a mere 30% have access to improved sanitation and 19% rely on shared sanitation facilities.¹⁹⁵ In all regions with the exception of Oceania, improvements can be seen with a steep improvement in the rates of overall sanitation access. There is a clear urban – rural split in the use of improved sanitation with 79% of the urban population but only 47% of the rural having access to improved sanitation facilities.¹⁹⁶

Open defecation seems to be mainly a rural problem, however, still 105 million people living in an urban environment – notably urban slums and poor neighbourhoods - lacked even very basic sanitation infrastructure forcing people to practice open defecation and drink polluted water from open sources such as rivers.¹⁹⁷ In cities, even in slums, shared sanitation facilities - facilities of an otherwise acceptable type that are shared between two or more households, including public toilets - are mainly found in cities with 464 million people relying on such facilities in urban environments (60% of this form of sanitation).¹⁹⁸ Their total number is growing, as with population increases in urban areas, they are often the only alternative to open defecation.¹⁹⁹

¹⁸⁷ United Nations, (2012), *Millennium Development Goals*.

¹⁸⁸ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 12.

¹⁸⁹ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 12.

¹⁹⁰ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 4.

¹⁹¹ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 5.

¹⁹² WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 15.

¹⁹³ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 15.

¹⁹⁴ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 19.

¹⁹⁵ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 19.

¹⁹⁶ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 23.

¹⁹⁷ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 20.

¹⁹⁸ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 21.

¹⁹⁹ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 21.

The availability of advanced sanitation infrastructure also has a clear class dimension. Though in almost every country a considerable share of the population has gained access to clean drinking water and (advanced) sanitation infrastructure the poorest are next to always do not take part in this progress. In South Asia, the poorest 40% of the population have barely benefited from the general trend with still only 14% having access to sanitation infrastructure compared to 6% in 1995.²⁰⁰ However the improvements in drinking water accessibility were equally distributed.²⁰¹ A similar class division can be observed in sub-Saharan Africa.²⁰²

Problems Concerning the MDGs Statistics

The positive figures of the MDG report might be a sign for optimism, they are however not unproblematic. First of all, millions of people living in informal settlements, mainly urban slums, are simply missing in many national statistics, which might account for a number of the urban population still missing drinking water and sanitation infrastructure in their homes.²⁰³ Furthermore, as the MDGs often set out the benchmark to reduce the share of people lacking a good, the total number of people affected often increases as populations in developing countries often still have high growth rates.²⁰⁴ Furthermore, the MDGs as such just look at the total world populations. Thus improvements in large countries such as India or China have major effects on fulfilling the benchmarks while progress towards the MDGs in smaller countries can and in some cases is stagnating.²⁰⁵

UN Organizations and the Right to Water

A multitude of different UN organizations and programs are involved in the goal of improving water and sanitation accessibility assembled under the umbrella of UN Water. In addition to the 30 UN organizations, several international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) are partners of UN Water.²⁰⁶ To further strengthen and focus the efforts towards achieving MDG goal 7 in 2003, the General Assembly launched the Water for Life Decade.²⁰⁷ The General Assembly has additionally drawn attention to the issue by declaring the year 2003 the International Year of Freshwater and 2008 the International Year of Sanitation.²⁰⁸

UN Water and the Water for Life Decade (2005-2015)

In 2004, the General Assembly introduced the Water for Life Decade from 2005 to 2015.²⁰⁹ The 2005-2015 water decade referred to the successful first International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade from 1981-1990 and aims to further promote the commitments made by the international community in the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Agenda 21.²¹⁰ Therefore, two programs were introduced: the UN Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) and the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC).²¹¹

UNHABITAT and the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund

Purpose and Organization

²⁰⁰ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 30.

²⁰¹ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 30.

²⁰² WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 29.

²⁰³ Satterthwaite, (2003), *The Millennium Development Goals and Urban Poverty Reduction: Great Expectations and Nonsense Statistics*, p. 184.

²⁰⁴ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 11.

²⁰⁵ WHO and UNICEF, (2012), *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update*, p. 27.

²⁰⁶ UN Water. (2012). *UN-Water Members & Partners*.

²⁰⁷ United Nations General Assembly, (2003), *Resolution 58/217: International Decade for Action, "Water for Life" 2005-2015*.

²⁰⁸ United Nations General Assembly, (2001), *Resolution 55/196. International Year of Freshwater, 2003*.

United Nations General Assembly, (2007), *Resolution 61/192. International Year of Sanitation, 2008*.

²⁰⁹ General Assembly, (2004), *Resolution 58/217. International Decade for Action, "Water for Life" 2005-2015*.

²¹⁰ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), (2012), *International Decade for Action "Water for Life" 2005-2015. About the Decade*.

²¹¹ UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC), (2012), *About us*.

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), (2012), *International Decade for Action "Water for Life" 2005-2015 UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC)*.

The Water and Sanitation program run by UNHABITAT is funded by the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund.²¹² The Water and Sanitation Trust Fund was founded by UN HABITAT in 2002 with the goal to “help governments meet their commitment to the water target of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).”²¹³ The Water and Sanitation Trust fund is a Technical Cooperation Trust Fund under the delegated authority of UNHABITAT’s Executive Director, working with an Advisory Board, which meets annually to review progress of program activities and provide policy direction.²¹⁴

Projects and Activities

The focus of the UNHABITAT Water and Sanitation program is improving water and sanitation infrastructure in Africa and Asia. The Water and Sanitation Trust Fund is currently supporting three regional programs: Water for African Cities, Water for Asian Cities and Water for Cities in Latin America and the Caribbean.²¹⁵ Additionally, the Water and Sanitation Trust fund is supporting two model-setting initiatives, the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative in cooperation with Lake Victoria’s riparian states and the Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiative focusing on the urban poor along this river system.²¹⁶ The Water and Sanitation Trust Fund is also publishing reports on topics related to its work, most recently on *Solid Waste Management in the World’s Cities: Water and Sanitation in the World’s Cities 2010*.²¹⁷

Conclusion

Bringing safe drinking water and sanitation to all people is a necessity for all states and can now be considered a legal obligation stemming from the now broadly accepted human right to water. Some success can be recorded in bringing water and sanitation to huge parts of the population worldwide. However, it must also be seen that the total number of people lacking the very basic supply of water is as high as ever. At first glance, this problem could be viewed as related primarily to rural areas. However, facing the enormous growth rates of cities and megacities especially in developing and least developed countries, including the spread of slum settlements, it is clear that drinking water and sanitation availability is one of the major problems of today’s and tomorrow’s cities, and a problem that differentially affects vulnerable populations such as women, children and persons with disabilities. Drinking water and sanitation are two sides of the same coin: without proper sanitation infrastructure, it is highly problematic to provide access to safe drinking water. For this reason, efforts to address a lack of sanitation and drinking water should consider both issues comprehensively. Though there is disagreement on best practices for operating and building infrastructure the ultimate goal must be to reach the highest share of the population possible and fulfilling the human right to water. Throughout their preparation, delegates may consider the following questions: How is the drinking water system of the country I represent organized? Which experiences did the country gain from its practice? How can the cost of providing water and sanitation infrastructure be dispersed in a society facing the lack of money of the poorest especially in slums? How to raise special awareness to the needs of women and children in the field of building up and improving drinking water and sanitation infrastructure? What role can and should UNHABITAT have in managing and planning growing cities especially in the field the provision of water and sanitation infrastructure? How can UNHABITAT contribute to the implementation of the human right to water? How progressive should the human right to water be interpreted?

²¹² UNHABITAT, (2012), *Water and Sanitation Programme*.

²¹³ UNHABITAT, (2012), *Water and Sanitation Trust Fund. Overview*.

²¹⁴ UNHABITAT, (2012), *Water and Sanitation Trust Fund. Overview*.

²¹⁵ UNHABITAT, (2012), *Water and Sanitation Trust Fund. Activities*.

²¹⁶ UNHABITAT, (2012) *Water and Sanitation Trust Fund. Activities*.

²¹⁷ Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, (2011), *Solid Waste Management in the World’s Cities: Water and Sanitation in the World’s Cities 2010*.

Annotated Bibliography

Annad, P.B. (2007). Right to Water and Access To Water: An Assessment. *Journal of International Development*, Vol. 19: 511 – 526.

This article examines the implementation of a human right to water focusing on governance mechanisms to achieve that goal. It criticises the practise of declaring laws without providing the necessary policy practises to put the human right of water into practise. The paper can also be regarded as a more theory -driven approach towards the topic that might be especially interesting for delegates with a background in political science.

Barraqué, Bernard. (2012): *Urban Water Conflicts*. Paris: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

This book, published by the UNESCO is part of the 'Urban Water Series' of publications, which might provide useful in giving very profound background insights for delegates. This volume addresses the issue of conflicts related to the distribution of water and sanitation in urban areas. While delegates might be interested mainly in the first chapter, which provides a good summary of the background and conceptual and theoretical framework of urban water conflicts the multiple case studies should be of interest to those wishing to explore this topic further.

Gleick, P.H. (1998). The Human Right to Water. *Water Policy*, Vol. 1: 487-503.

Being the most cited article on the topic of a human right to water this can be a good starting point for delegates to familiarize themselves with the discussion and normative principles behind the human right to water. Focusing on a legal argumentation towards a human right to water, the article also heavily draws from the moral position of the author. The author, National Academy of Science Member Peter H. Gleick is one of the most prominent advocates for the human right to water and a renowned academic in the field of environment and economic development, especially focusing on (fresh)water issues.

Pink, R. (2012). Child Rights, Right to Water and Sanitation, And Human Security. *Health and Human Rights*. 14 (1): 1-10.

In this article, Ross Pink examines the relationship between child rights, water scarcity, sanitation, and the human security paradigm. Spotting a development gap in terms of child access to clean and secure water sources for basic human development needs, the article brings in an often-neglected dimension of the issue. The article can therefore be a starting point for delegates to bring in further dimensions, e.g. focusing on children or gender to the topic.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme. (2010). *State of the World's Cities 2010/2011: Bridging the Urban Gap. Overview and Key Findings*. Retrieved September 04, 2012 from <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3016>.

This is the most recent of the UNHABITAT's reports on the state of the world's cities. UNHABITAT publishes one report ever two years so the 2012/2013 (The Prosperity of Cities) report is due soon and should be looked upon by all delegates. Though all reports are focused on one particular topic - the urban/rural gap and growing numbers of poor city dwellers from rural areas in this case - all address the topic from different angles, including drinking water and sanitation infrastructure. Each of these reports is thus worth reading in preparing to discuss this topic.

United Nations General Assembly. (August 03. 2010). *Resolution 64/292: The Human Right to Water and Sanitation(A/RES/64/292)*. Retrieved august 08, 2012 from: <http://undocs.org/A/Res/64/292>.

This Resolution is one of the core documents for this topic. Though passing without a vote, the resolution was not uncontested and was criticised for lacking proper definition and being arbitrary. Nevertheless, it can be regarded as a milestone. As normally the Resolution also references all relevant previous resolutions, it is therefore a good start for delegates to check if their research on topic related documents is complete.

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). (2012). *Water and Sanitation Programme*. Retrieved August 08, 2012 from: <http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=270>.

This is a subsection of the UN-Habitat's web page on the Water and Sanitation Programme. It gives an overview of the programme's different fields of action but also allows deeper research. The webpage provides an overview of and links to all regional programmes as well as special initiatives of UN –Habitat in the field of Water and Sanitation. Furthermore, all related resolutions are listed and publications of UN – Habitat can be accessed. The Web site can therefore be regarded as the first address for delegates when doing research on the topic.

UNICEF and World Health Organization.(2012). *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation. Update 2012*. Retrieved September 01, 2012 from: <http://www.unicef.org/media/files/JMPreport2012.pdf>.

This is the most recent report on the progress made on MDG goal 7 (10). It provides very rich and detailed statistics on the different aspects of MDG goal 7 (10) splitting up the data in the access to safe drinking water and the availability of advanced sanitation. It also draws on the social and regional differences in the advancement of MDG goal 7 (10). Furthermore ,it presents an alternative approach in measuring the progress of the MDGs. As this is the most recent and comprehensive collection of data on the topic, the report must be a key source in delegate preparation on the topic. Delegates should however be aware of the limits of the provided data as it may lack including informal settlements and often depends on not necessarily precise government data.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. (2010). *The Right to Water. Factsheet No. 35*. Retrieved September 02, 2012 from: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/FactSheet35en.pdf>.

This publication of the Office of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR) provides a very good summary of the status of the Right to Water. It further also discusses the obligations of states in fulfilling this human right, arguing in favour of a rather weak interpretation. The paper also includes an overview of the current situation concerning water and sanitation accessibilities and the related problems. The paper is thus an essential read for all delegates of this committee.

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III. Implementing Social Inclusion and Environmental Justice on the Agenda of Sustainable City Development

*“While cities consume a major share of the planet’s resources and have often been the locus of the planet’s most serious environmental problems, they also symbolize a hope for a sustainable future. Indeed, environmental sustainability in this urban millennium can only be achieved through cities’ leadership, especially on issues such as climate change, biodiversity conservation or water resource use.”*²¹⁸

Introduction

In order to promote urban development, environmental destruction in the form of cleared forests, leveled mountains, and polluted air and rivers has taken place for centuries.²¹⁹ Indeed, it is the cities around the globe which consume the most fossil fuels worldwide, produce the largest amount of waste, emit the biggest percentage of greenhouse and other toxic gases, and seal agriculturally useful land.²²⁰ Additionally, cities are the center for migratory communities and host an ever-growing percentage of the world’s population.²²¹ The complex process of the development of cities determines economic, social, and environmental livelihoods for more than fifty percent of the world’s population.²²²

In shaping this complex process, sustainability has become an important goal and a simple criterion for urban planners around the world trying to solve contradictions represented in environmental, economic, and social objectives of a city.²²³ Hosting the largest percentage of the world’s population, the sustainability of cities has become of major importance for the achievement of global sustainable development.²²⁴ Worldwide universal acceptance of the concept has become a powerful attraction for sustainability.²²⁵ Nonetheless, a common understanding of the concept has not yet been developed.²²⁶

Therefore, a variety of interpretations of sustainable urban development, resulting in policies mostly focusing on economic development with only smaller considerations of environmental and social objectives can be found in cities around the globe.²²⁷ Focusing on the economic paradigm eclipses questions of environmental justice and social inclusion leading to imbalanced development among city dwellers.²²⁸ In order to not further the urban divide but bridge it, the United Nations Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) amongst others agrees that there is a need for a reinterpretation of the concept of sustainable development in order to strengthen environmental justice and social inclusion.²²⁹ As the main organ of the United Nations for urban development questions, UN-HABITAT can play a major role in shaping this reinterpretation and putting it into practice.²³⁰ In order to do so, the theoretical ideas of the concepts and their implementation into practice so far need to be considered and will therefore be discussed in the following.

Sustainable Development, Environmental Justice, and Social Inclusion in Theory

²¹⁸ ICLEI, United Nations Environment Programme & United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Tale of Two Cities – Partnership for Urban Sustainable Development*, 2007.

²¹⁹ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, 297.

²²⁰ Roseland, *Sustainable Community Development: Integrating Environmental, Economic, and Social Objectives*, 2000, 74.

²²¹ Agyeman and Evans, *Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions*, 2003, 38.

²²² United Nations Population Fund, *State of the World Population 2011*, 2011, 77ff.

²²³ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, 301.

²²⁴ Haugton, *Environmental Justice and the Sustainable City*, 1999, 234.

²²⁵ Marcuse, *Sustainability Is Not Enough*, 1998, 104.

²²⁶ Haugton, *Environmental Justice and the Sustainable City*, 1999, 234.

²²⁷ Agyeman and Evans, *Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions*, 2003, 38.

²²⁸ Agyeman and Evans, *Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions*, 2003, 37.

²²⁹ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *State of the Worlds Cities 2010/ 2011 – Bridging the Urban Divide*, 2008.

²³⁰ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Planning Sustainable Cities – UN-HABITAT Practice and Perspectives*, 2010, 6.

Although sustainable development is a contested concept in the sense that its interpretation varies amongst scientists, politicians, and activists the first definition of sustainable development presented by the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) in 1987, also known as the Brundtland Report, is widely accepted.²³¹ The WCED defines sustainable development as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”²³² Following this definition, the major question at stake is what the needs are and what the limits to these needs are.²³³ A mutual understanding that a triangle of economic, social, and environmental issues should be included in these needs and limits can be identified.²³⁴ However, the balance of these needs and limits in this triangle is a question of individual interpretation.²³⁵ While the environmental movement calls for a strong interpretation of sustainability in order to protect the environment and future generations’ natural resources, social movements specializing in the allocation of resources focus on an interpretation of sustainable development emphasizing a just and equitable development.²³⁶ In practice, a strong tendency for emphasizing the economic aspect of sustainable development can be observed.²³⁷ It is argued that economic development will decrease poverty and thereby protect the environment because wealthier people have less of an incentive to degrade the environment for income.²³⁸ Following this argumentation, the logic is that economic development automatically induces social development and environmental protection at the same time and therewith balances the triangle of sustainability by spillover effects.²³⁹

This interpretation is strongly contested by various social movements.²⁴⁰ In the beginning of the 1980s several studies were conducted in the United States of America, identifying that the amount of exposure to air pollution and other environmental hazards depend on criteria such as the race and class of people.²⁴¹ Being socially excluded by race and class would not only mean to not benefit from economic development but additionally to suffer from an unbalanced distribution of environmental hazards, therewith contesting the economically focused interpretation of sustainable development.²⁴² These findings led to the rise of the environmental justice paradigm and the concept of social inclusion.²⁴³

Following the social movements in North America the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines environmental justice as follows: “Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.”²⁴⁴ This view was also reaffirmed by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro (also known as the 1992 Earth Summit), stating that a clean and healthy environment is a basic right to all inhabitants on earth.²⁴⁵ Thus, justice is included into the call for sustainable development strengthening the importance of environmental issues by considering social equity (as just distribution among society), generational equity (as just distribution between generations) and procedural equity (as just access to all political and social procedures).²⁴⁶ Nonetheless, in order to

²³¹ Haugton, *Environmental Justice and the Sustainable City*, 1999, 234.

²³² World Commission on the Environment and Development, *Our Common Future*, 1987.

²³³ Redclift, *Sustainable Development: Needs, Values, Rights*, 1993, 4.

²³⁴ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, 303.

²³⁵ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, 306.

²³⁶ Brulle and Pellow, *Environmental justice: human health and environmental inequalities*, 2006, 108.

²³⁷ Mohai et al., *Environmental Justice*, 2009, 407.

²³⁸ Mohai et al., *Environmental Justice*, 2009, 407.

²³⁹ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, 308.

²⁴⁰ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, 308.

²⁴¹ Szasz & Meuser, *Environmental Inequalities: Literature Review and Proposal for New Directions in Research and Theory*, 100.

²⁴² Brulle & Pellow, *Environmental justice: human health and environmental inequalities*, 2006, 107.

²⁴³ Szasz & Meuser, *Environmental Inequalities: Literature Review and Proposal for New Directions in Research and Theory*, 100.

²⁴⁴ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Environmental Justice*.

²⁴⁵ United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, *Rio Declaration for Environment and Development*, 1992, Principle 13.

²⁴⁶ Cutter, *Race, Class and Environmental Justice*, 1995, 112.

implement environmental justice into practice, the concept of social inclusion needs to be considered.²⁴⁷ The concept of social inclusion analyzes exclusion of people based on economic, social and political terms, leading to decreased livelihood opportunities and an unjust distribution of economic, social and environmental risks and assets.²⁴⁸ Simply decreasing resource consumption and waste production as well as protecting the environment does not lead to an equitable distribution of environmental resources, services, and hazards among all people.²⁴⁹ Especially in urban areas where a huge amount of resources is used, waste produced, and people from different social backgrounds form a variety of neighborhoods, balancing economic, the environmental, and social objectives becomes of utmost importance for sustainable development.²⁵⁰ This balance is difficult to realize since different objectives contradict each other, as the following example of transportation in cities illustrates.

Transportation in urban areas has several objectives: Socially speaking, transportation can be a barrier for employment or access to healthcare if it is not sufficiently provided publically or affordable privately and therewith can exclude people.²⁵¹ Environmentally speaking, transportation, especially private cars, can be a source of pollution, distributed unjust within the city among different neighborhoods.²⁵² Economically speaking, transportation is needed for business purposes but it is expensive for a city when provided publically.²⁵³ When a new route of public transportation is build, several neighborhoods could be better included into city life, but at the same time the redirection of traffic routes to other neighborhoods can lead to an unjust exposure to pollution.²⁵⁴ Economically, only some routes of public transportation are considered financially beneficial, which then might exclude several neighborhoods again.²⁵⁵ This example demonstrates how contradictory the objectives of sustainable development are when a decision for urban development needs to be made. Improving public transportation in a sustainable manner has to take all objectives into consideration in the planning process and needs to balance them, keeping in mind that concessions have to be made.²⁵⁶

Linking environmental justice and social inclusion to the concept of sustainable development makes sustainable development in theory an attractive concept and goal for urban planners.²⁵⁷ Nonetheless, balancing all objectives of sustainable development is difficult, especially when theory is put into practice.²⁵⁸

Sustainable Development, Environmental Justice and Social Inclusion in Practice

In the early days of discussing environmental justice and social inclusion within the context of urban sustainable development, five main issues were considered: land use planning, solid waste, toxic chemical use, residential energy use, and transportation.²⁵⁹ These key areas were recognized from social movements as well as politicians as problematic on the one hand, but answerable towards questions of environmental justice and social inclusion in the context of sustainable development on the other hand.²⁶⁰ Especially the empowerment of communities and local governments in decision making processes seemed to be a successful strategy.²⁶¹ Several so-called community-

²⁴⁷ Mohai et al., *Environmental Justice*, 2009, 407.

²⁴⁸ Beall, *Globalization and Social Exclusion in Cities: Framing the Debate with Lessons from Africa and Asia*, 2002, 42.

²⁴⁹ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, 300.

²⁵⁰ Campbell, *Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development*, 1996, 300.

²⁵¹ Lucas, *Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice*, 2006, 801.

²⁵² Lucas, *Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice*, 2006, 801.

²⁵³ Lucas, *Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice*, 2006, 801.

²⁵⁴ Lucas, *Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice*, 2006, 804.

²⁵⁵ Lucas, *Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice*, 2006, 801.

²⁵⁶ Agyeman and Evans, *Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions*, 2003, 37.

²⁵⁷ Marcuse, *Sustainability Is Not Enough*, 1998, 104.

²⁵⁸ Boone, et.al., *Parks and People: An Environmental Justice Inquiry in Baltimore, Maryland*, 2009, 769.

²⁵⁹ Agyeman and Evans, *Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions*, 2003, 41.

²⁶⁰ Agyeman and Evans, *Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions*, 2003, 41.

²⁶¹ Agyeman and Evans, *Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions*, 2003, 48.

based participatory research projects (CBPR) tried to involve community members and local governments into the research and implementation process, leading to a broadened research and policy agenda.²⁶²

To this initial agenda, the following topics were added in recent years: water pollution affecting drinking water, fishing areas, and waterways; open space, habitat preservation, and recreation facilities in urban areas; brownfield cleanup and redevelopment in formerly industrial areas; and sustainable agriculture, small-scale farming, and community food security.²⁶³ Additionally, special attention was drawn to women, racial minorities, the poor and the sick, those with disabilities, children and youth, which had been recognized as the most vulnerable groups to social exclusion.²⁶⁴

In the realization of sustainable urban development, cities around the globe tried to implement various policy strategies at the local as well as the national level, participatory and non-participatory.²⁶⁵ The overall outcome of these policies is very mixed, nonetheless two major shortcomings can be identified: Sustainable Development is still strongly linked to the economic paradigm and monitoring the outcome of these policy strategies is very difficult.²⁶⁶

In its strategies for social inclusion adopted at the EU-summit in Laeken in 2001, the European Union recognizes social inclusion and social policies as productive factors facilitating risk-taking and entrepreneurship and therewith degrades social inclusion to a tool for economic development instead of a goal on its own.²⁶⁷ Similar problems can be found in the definition of indicators for sustainable development of urban public policy strategies, when environmental justice and social inclusion are measured by economic performance indicators such as income distribution and costs for environmental services.²⁶⁸ Clearly, the economic paradigm is put first.²⁶⁹ Also, the environmental movement is criticized for ignoring social justice and equality issues, by focusing on strict conservationist ideas.²⁷⁰

These difficulties are reflected in sustainable development strategies of cities around the globe.²⁷¹ Depending on the interpretation of sustainable development, cities sometimes consider environmental justice and social inclusion as goals in their urban development strategies worth monitoring, but often only as means towards sustainable development measured only in economic terms.²⁷² This leads to a general call for standardized methodologies in order to make results of sustainable urban development more comparable between cities.²⁷³ Nonetheless, the main question among activists and politicians remains, namely which role the market and the economy should play in urban sustainable development: does the market serve the people or do people serve the market?²⁷⁴ Answering this question also provides the answer for the question, whether or whether not new indicators to measure urban sustainable development need to be defined.²⁷⁵

Overall, the practical implementation of urban sustainable development seems to show major shortcomings in including environmental justice and social inclusion on the agenda of sustainable city development, a status quo which UN-HABITAT tries to address.

²⁶² Shepard et al., Preface: Advancing Environmental Justice through Community-Based Participatory Research, 2002, 139.

²⁶³ Agyeman and Evans, Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions, 2003, 49.

²⁶⁴ Labonte, Social inclusion/exclusion: dancing the dialectic, 2004, 117.

²⁶⁵ Agyeman and Evans, Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions, 2003, 38.

²⁶⁶ Harner et al., Urban Environmental Justice Indices, 2002, 318.

²⁶⁷ Atkinson&Nolan, Indicators and Targets for Social Inclusion in the European Union, 2004, 49.

²⁶⁸ Atkinson&Nolan, Indicators and Targets for Social Inclusion in the European Union, 2004, 54ff.

²⁶⁹ Labonte, Social inclusion/exclusion: dancing the dialectic, 2004, 119.

²⁷⁰ Mohai et al., *Environmental Justice*, 2009, 407.

²⁷¹ Beall, Globalization and Social Exclusion in Cities: Framing the Debate with Lessons from Africa and Asia, 2002, 41.

²⁷² Agyeman and Evans, Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions, 2003, 48.

²⁷³ Harner et al., Urban Environmental Justice Indices, 2002, 318.

²⁷⁴ Labonte, Social inclusion/exclusion: dancing the dialectic, 2004, 118.

²⁷⁵ Harner et al., Urban Environmental Justice Indices, 2002, 318.

UN-HABITAT and Sustainable Cities

UN-HABITAT recognizes the shortcomings of current urban development in its Mission, which is the following: “The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-HABITAT, is the United Nations agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all.”²⁷⁶ This mission clearly indicates a strong interpretation of sustainability towards social and environmental developments.²⁷⁷ Hence, the implementation of environmental justice and social inclusion as separate goals on the sustainable development agenda has been recognized and UN-HABITAT is working towards it.²⁷⁸

In 2009, UN-HABITAT’s annual *Global Report on Human Settlements* focused on sustainable cities.²⁷⁹ In this report the key challenges for urban settlements can be closely connected to environmental justice and social inclusion.²⁸⁰ Due to fast demographic growth and a deepened socio-spatial split, social exclusion in cities has increased rapidly, especially for the 32 % of the world’s population living in slums today.²⁸¹ Here, UN-HABITAT recognizes that especially women and young people suffer from exclusion.²⁸² Additionally, environmental challenges, such as climate change and solid waste, as well as weak institutional arrangements at the national and local levels lead to an increased unbalanced distribution of environmental risks and hazards among city dwellers, again disproportionately affecting the poor.²⁸³ According to UN-HABITAT, these challenges are accompanied by conservative urban planning policies, based on early European planning strategies, which require strong institutional arrangements.²⁸⁴ Since these strong institutional arrangements do not exist in many developing countries and conservative urban planning strategies disregard local communities, urban planning for sustainable development does not function in many cities around the world, therefore furthering the problems of environmental injustice and social exclusion.²⁸⁵ In order to solve these problems and to improve the status-quo, UN-HABITAT implements several programs in the environmental and social field.

In order to increase the efforts towards environmental sustainability with regards to human settlements, the United Nations General Assembly adopted A/RES/53/242 as early as in 1999, strengthening the cooperation of UN-HABITAT and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).²⁸⁶ This cooperation was implemented in 2001 through Resolution HSP/GC/18/4 by the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT, introducing the Sustainable Cities Programme (SCP).²⁸⁷ The SCP is a technical assistance program, which tries to strengthen capabilities for environmental planning and management on a city level through collaboration and partnership on the local level between cities worldwide.²⁸⁸

Apart from these efforts in the environmental field, UN-HABITAT also launched in 1999 the Global Campaign on Urban Governance with its theme ‘Inclusive Cities’, defining an inclusive city as “a place where everyone, regardless of their economic means, gender, race, ethnicity or religion, is enabled and empowered to fully participate in the social, economic and political opportunities that cities have to offer.”²⁸⁹ In order to improve social inclusion UN-HABITAT suggests the implementation of a City Consultation Methodology, which aims to create campaigns

²⁷⁶ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Our Mission*.

²⁷⁷ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Our Mission*.

²⁷⁸ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Our Mission*.

²⁷⁹ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Global Report on Human Settlements*, 2009.

²⁸⁰ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Global Report on Human Settlements*, 2009, 23-26.

²⁸¹ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *The Challenge of Slums*, 2003, 15.

²⁸² United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Women in Cities*, 2003; UN-HABITAT, *Young People in an Urbanized World*, 2005.

²⁸³ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Global Report on Human Settlements*, 2009, 25.

²⁸⁴ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Global Report on Human Settlements*, 2009, 27.

²⁸⁵ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Global Report on Human Settlements*, 2009, 29.

²⁸⁶ United Nations General Assembly, Report of the Secretary General on Environment and Human Settlement, 1999.

²⁸⁷ Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/242 and cooperation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme*, 2001.

²⁸⁸ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Sustainable Cities Programme*, 11.

²⁸⁹ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Global Campaign on Urban Governance*.

involving stakeholders from local authorities and government in urban areas in order to improve local urban planning strategies.²⁹⁰

Overall, UN-HABITAT recognizes the lack of appropriate urban planning as a major source of unsustainable city development.²⁹¹ Therefore in 2006 at the Third Urban Forum in Vancouver, 10 principles to reinvent urban planning were adopted.²⁹² These Principles include the promotion of sustainable development (Principle 1), pro-poor inclusive planning (Principle 9), and integrated planning considering environmental issues (Principle 2).²⁹³ With these principles, social inclusion and environmental justice are recognized as separate goals next to sustainable development.²⁹⁴ Through technical assistance, cooperation on local and national level, and various campaigns, UN-HABITAT tries to support this New Strategy of Urban Planning.²⁹⁵ In China for example, Environmental Justice is supported through assisting the national government in the development of an Environmental Planning and Management (EPM) process and helping local communities to implement this process.²⁹⁶ In Douala, Cameroon, UN-HABITAT assisted in the conduction of a safety diagnosis study including local residents in the research process in order to analyze how safety issues in a city exclude people from city life.²⁹⁷ Many best practice examples can be found in UN-HABITAT's report *Planning Sustainable Cities - UN-HABITAT Principles and Practices*.²⁹⁸

Overall, UN-HABITAT is committed to implementing environmental justice and social inclusion on the Agenda of sustainable city developments, especially by the means of a reinvented urban planning strategy, focusing on local participatory approaches as well as global knowledge exchange and assistance.²⁹⁹ Nevertheless, a full implementation of the concepts of environmental justice and social inclusion on the Agenda of sustainable city development cannot be stated, since the concepts are treated as equally important but not integrated as objectives together on one agenda.³⁰⁰

Conclusion

Sustainability has been an attractive concept to integrate economic, social, and environmental issues on the development agenda for a long time.³⁰¹ Especially in urban areas, which host the majority of the world's population, sustainable development has become the major goal for policy strategies.³⁰² Even though, sustainable development is defined as a concept which balances economic, social and environmental objectives, a common understanding on how to balance these objectives has not been developed yet, leaving room for various individual interpretations.³⁰³ Depending on these interpretations, environmental justice and social inclusion are very important concepts that are either neglected or considered.³⁰⁴ Since it is the strong will of UN-HABITAT to implement these two concepts on the agenda of urban sustainable development as equal goals, several initiatives have been started of which the most promising one is to reinvent urban planning.³⁰⁵ Although, environmental justice and social inclusion are recognized as important goals, the two concepts are in practice, especially during campaigns, still treated separately from each other and not integrated into one concept of sustainable development. How to practically integrate these two concepts on the urban sustainable development agenda balancing out economic, social, and environmental

²⁹⁰ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *UMP – A Proposed Approach*, 2003, 2.

²⁹¹ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Planning Sustainable Cities*, UN-HABITAT Principles and Practices, 2010, 5.

²⁹² Global Planners Network, *Reinventing Planning*, 2006.

²⁹³ Global Planners Network, *Reinventing Planning*, 2006.

²⁹⁴ Global Planners Network, *Reinventing Planning*, 2006.

²⁹⁵ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Planning Sustainable Cities*, UN-HABITAT Principles and Practices, 2010, 6.

²⁹⁶ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Planning Sustainable Cities*, UN-HABITAT Principles and Practices, 2010, 30.

²⁹⁷ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Planning Sustainable Cities*, UN-HABITAT Principles and Practices, 2010, 32.

²⁹⁸ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Planning Sustainable Cities*, UN-HABITAT Principles and Practices, 2010.

²⁹⁹ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Planning Sustainable Cities*, UN-HABITAT Principles and Practices, 2010, 6ff.

³⁰⁰ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Social inclusion*.

³⁰¹ Marcuse, *Sustainability Is Not Enough*, 1998, 104.

³⁰² United Nations Population Fund, *State of the World Population 2011*, 2011, 77ff.

³⁰³ Haughton, *Environmental Justice and the Sustainable City*, 1999, 234.

³⁰⁴ Agyeman and Evans, *Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions*, 2003, 38.

³⁰⁵ United Nations Human Settlement Programme, *Planning Sustainable Cities*, UN-HABITAT Principles and Practices, 2010.

objectives is the task of the delegates of this committee to negotiate. Therefore the following questions might be helpful to consider: How can urban planning better integrate social inclusion and environmental justice in different urban planning fields such as transportation, housing, solid waste, or food supply? How can cities and towns on a local level be supported in implementing and developing their own sustainability strategy? Are participatory approaches helpful to implement sustainable social and environmental development? Is there a need for new indicators, which measure sustainability, environmental justice, and social inclusion in other than economic terms? How could these indicators be defined? What would be the task of UN-HABITAT on local, national, and global level be in urban planning? Are partnerships between cities in developed and developing countries a helpful tool to improve urban planning and how can UN-HABITAT assist? How can localizing Agenda 21 help UN-HABITAT to realize their goals?

Annotated Bibliography

Agyeman, J., & Evans, T. (2003). Toward Just Sustainability in Urban Communities: Building Equity Rights with Sustainable Solutions. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 590(1), 35–53. Retrieved August 28, 2012 from <http://ann.sagepub.com/content/590/1/35.short>

The article provides a theoretical introduction into the concepts of sustainability and environmental justice and the overlap of both concepts. Additionally, it discusses the application of these concepts in practice by analyzing US community development programs towards sustainability and environmental justice. This connection between a theoretical description and practical examples can be a valuable source for delegates helping to understand and evaluate different urban policies.

Brulle, R. J., & Pellow, D. N. (2006). Environmental Justice: Human Health and Environmental Inequalities. *Annual review of public health*, 27, 103–24. Retrieved August 28, 2012 from

<http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~brullerj/Annual%20Review%20of%20Public%20Health%20Brulle-Pellow.pdf>

The authors discuss environmental justice in terms of environmental inequalities. Therefore, a review of the structural problem of environmental inequalities is presented, discussing in how far environmental inequalities affect human health in urban areas. An analysis of environmental movements to decrease inequalities is included. Even though, the article focuses only on the impact of environmental inequalities on human health, it tackles fundamental questions of the debate on urban planning and environmental inequalities and can therefore be seen as a good case study, especially since practical policy implications are included.

Campbell, S. (1996). Green Cities, Growing Cities , Just Cities ? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 6(3), 296–312. Retrieved August 28, 2012 from http://www.cnr.uidaho.edu/css386/Readings/Campbell_Greencities.pdf

Sustainability in the context of urban planning can be defined in a triangular concept. Taking into consideration the critiques that sustainability often lacks social and environmental justice this new model tries to revise the concept of sustainability thereby trying to supplement the critiques. The paper offers delegates a revised position on sustainability and in consideration with the critiques helps to build strong arguments for sustainable urban planning.

Global Planners Network. (July 2006). *Reinventing Planning: A New Governance Paradigm for Managing Human Settlements*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from

<http://www.globalplannersnetwork.org/pdf/reinventingplanningenglish.pdf>

At the Third World Urban Forum in Vancouver 2006, a widely accepted forum for urban planners around the globe, experts redefine or reinvent Urban Planning. The document states ten principles, which need to be considered in urban planning processes. These principles include Sustainability, pro-poor Inclusiveness, and integrated planning including environmental considerations. Therefore, the document is recognized as an important commitment for the discussion on environmental justice and social inclusion on the agenda of sustainable urban development.

Haughton, G. (1999). Environmental Justice and the Sustainable City. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 18, 233–243. Retrieved August 28, 2012 from

<http://arroyofilms.com/ftpuser/2nd%20wknd/Haughton.pdf>

Haughton discusses different interpretations of sustainable development in order to show how these interpretations are linked to the implementation of environmental justice. Therefore five equity principles are introduced, as well as four different models for sustainable city development. He then analyzes in how far these city development models obey to the five equity principles, trying to understand if equity is implemented in urban planning. This article is a great source to understand the conceptual links of the discussion on the 'Implementation of Environmental Justice and Social Inclusion on the Agenda of Sustainable City Development'.

Marcuse, P. (1998). Sustainability is not enough. *Environment and Urbanization*, 10(2), 103–111. Retrieved August 28, 2012 from <http://eau.sagepub.com/content/10/2/103.full.pdf>

Sustainability can be discussed as a goal or as a criterion for urban planning policies. Therefore Marcuse introduces the concept of sustainability and critically evaluates its usefulness and impact on urban

governance taking into considerations competing goals such as social justice and inclusion. It provides a great introduction into the discussion on sustainable city programs and their impact on social and environmental justice. This is a good source for delegates to start their research with, since it provides the background to the argumentation of sustainable development and social inclusion.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme. (June 2003). *Habitat Debate – Young People in an Urbanizing World*. Retrieved August 8, 2012 from <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=1945>

The youth in general is one target group for UNHABITAT to improve social inclusion. Young people in cities are identified to suffer most or be most likely excluded from development programs in cities, including sustainable development. This UNHABITAT document provides a good overview on the problem of youth inclusion in general and should therefore be considered as basic for the committee's discussion.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme. (March 2005). *Habitat Debate – Women in Cities*. Retrieved August 8, 2012 from <http://ww2.unhabitat.org/hd/hdv11n1/habdeb11.pdf>

This document by UNHABITAT makes the case for the inclusion of women in city development. Identified as extremely vulnerable, women as a group are one main focus of UNHABITAT in strengthening social inclusion. Therefore this document is a basic source for the discussion of social inclusion from a sustainable development perspective and should be taken into consideration by delegates.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme. (2009). *Global Report on Human Settlements 2009 – Planning Sustainable Cities*. Retrieved August 23, 2012 from <http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/GRHS2009/GRHS.2009.pdf>

The Global Report on Human Settlements 2009 is a detailed review on sustainable cities and how urban planners around the globe deal with it. It mainly recognizes economic, environmental, and social issues as future challenges for sustainable urban planning. Especially bridging the so called urban divide is a key challenge. The report provides information on Global Trends and Policy Directions for sustainable urban planning. Therefore, it is a great resource for delegates in order to get a basic understanding of key challenges and the status quo as well as ideas for future challenges for the urbanized world.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme. (N.D.). *Social Inclusion*. Retrieved August 8, 2012 from <http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=298>

In order to provide practical advice for sustainable urban planning UN-HABITAT publishes a series of short research papers including this one. Via case studies the document provides a best practice guide for cities in sustainable urban planning from a UN-HABITAT perspective. Additionally, it discusses UN-HABITAT's view on sustainable city development and is therefore the basis of a discussion to include environmental justice and social inclusion into sustainable city development.

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Rules of Procedure

United Nations Human Settlements Programme Governing Council

Introduction

1. These rules shall be the only rules which apply to the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (hereinafter referred to as “the Council”) and shall be considered adopted by the Council prior to its first meeting.
2. For purposes of these rules, the 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 Council.
5. All decisions of the Council shall be communicated to the General Assembly Plenary.

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1 - Dates of convening and adjournment

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

Rule 2 - Place of sessions

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

II. AGENDA

Rule 3 - Provisional agenda

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

Rule 4 - Adoption of the agenda

The agenda provided by the Director-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.

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 Member States and observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote. Should the Council not reach a decision by conclusion of the first night's meeting, the agenda will be automatically set in the order in which it was first communicated.

Rule 5 - Revision of the agenda

During a session, the Council may revise the agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only important and urgent items shall be added to the agenda during a session. Debate on the inclusion of an item in the agenda shall be limited to three speakers in favor of, and three against, the inclusion. Additional items of an important and urgent character, proposed for inclusion in the agenda less than thirty days before the opening of a session, may be placed on the agenda if the Council so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. No additional item may, unless the Council decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, be considered until a commission has reported on the question concerned.

For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item of an important and urgent character is subject to the discretion of the Director-General, or his or her designate, and any such determination is final. If an item is determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Council to be placed on the agenda. The votes described in this rule are substantive votes, and, as such, observers are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, —the members present and voting — means members (not including observers) in attendance

at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 6 - Explanatory memorandum

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

III. SECRETARIAT

Rule 7 - Duties of the Secretary-General

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

Rule 8 - Duties of the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall receive, print, and distribute documents, reports, and resolutions of the Council, and shall distribute documents of the Council to the Members, and generally perform all other work which the Council 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 Council 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 Council for the duration of the session, unless otherwise decided by the Secretary-General.

Rule 11 - Replacement of the President

If the President is unable to perform 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 Council.

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

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

For purposes of this rule, members of the Council 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 Council, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Council and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. He or she shall rule on points of order. He or she may propose to the Council the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times the representative of each member may speak on an item, the adjournment or closure of the debate, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting.

Included in these enumerated powers is the President's power to assign speaking times for all speeches incidental to motions and amendment. Further, the President is to use 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 and is limited to entertaining motions.

Rule 16 – Authority of the Council

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

Rule 17 – Voting rights on procedural matters

Unless otherwise stated, all votes pertaining to the conduct of business shall require a majority of the members present and voting in order to pass.

For purposes of this rule, the members present and voting mean those members (including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this rule is applied. Note that observers may vote on all procedural votes; they may, however, not vote on substantive matters (see Chapter VI). There is no possibility to abstain on procedural votes.

Rule 18 - Points of order

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order, and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with the rules of procedure. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting. A representative rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Such points of order should not under any circumstances interrupt the speech of a fellow representative. They should be used exclusively to correct an error in procedure. 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 (including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 19 - Speeches

No representative may address the Council without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

In line with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN, in furtherance of its educational mission, and for the purpose of facilitating debate, the Secretariat will set a time limit for all speeches which may be amended by the President at his/her discretion. Consequently, motions to alter the speaker's time will not be entertained by the President.

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 Council, declare the list closed. When there are no more speakers, the President shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by decision of the Council.

The decision to announce the list of speakers is within the discretion of the President and should not be the subject

of a motion by the Council. A motion to close the speakers list is within the purview of the Council 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 Council 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 to the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to the vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. After adjournment, the Council shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

As this motion, if successful, would end the meeting until the Council's next regularly scheduled 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 Council.

Rule 24 - Adjournment of debate

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. Two representatives may speak in favor of, and two against, the motion, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.

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 Council favors the closure of debate, the Council shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

Rule 26 - Order of motions

Subject to rule 18, 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 amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretariat. Any proposal or amendment that relates to the substance of any matter under discussion shall require the signature of twenty percent of the members of the Council [sponsors]. The Secretariat may, at its discretion, approve the proposal or amendment for circulation among the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be put to the vote at any meeting of the Council unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the

discussion and consideration of amendments or of motions as to procedure, even though such amendments and motions have not been circulated. If the sponsors agree to the adoption of a proposed amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the proposed amendment. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the Council 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 Council 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 during formal speeches. After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft resolution and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Council. These draft resolutions are the collective property of the Council and, as such, the names of the original sponsors will be removed. The copying and distribution of amendments is at the discretion of the Secretariat, but the substance of all such amendments will be made available to all representatives in some form.

Rule 28 - Withdrawal of motions

A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting has commenced, provided that the motion has not been amended. A motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any member.

Rule 29 - Reconsideration of a topic

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

VI. VOTING

Rule 30 - Voting rights

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

For purposes of this rule, proposal means any draft resolution, 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 – General principles

1. The Governing Council may decide any question without a vote and shall normally make decisions by consensus. A vote shall, however, be taken if a representative of a member of the Governing Council so requests.
2. Decisions of the Council taken with a vote shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.
3. For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase “members present and voting” means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

All members declaring their representative States as “present and voting” during the attendance roll call for the

meeting during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain on substantive votes.

Rule 33 - Method of voting

1. The Council shall normally vote by a show of placards, except that a representative may request a roll call, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is randomly selected by the President. The name of each 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 a yes or no vote. 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 Council 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 Council 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 34 - 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 35 - Conduct during voting

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

For purposes of this rule, there shall be no communication amongst delegates, and if any delegate leaves the Council room during voting procedure, they will not be allowed back into the room until the Council has convened voting procedure.

Rule 36 - Division of proposals and amendments

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

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

Rule 37 - Amendments

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

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

Rule 38 - Voting on amendments

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

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

Rule 39 - Order of voting on proposals

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

Rule 40 - 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 41 - Credentials

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

Rule 42 - Authority of the General Assembly

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

VII. PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Rule 43 - Participation of non-Member States

The Council shall invite any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Council and any other State, to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.

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

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

Rule 45 - Participation of national liberation movements

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

Rule 46 - Participation of and consultation with specialized agencies

In accordance with the agreements concluded between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the specialized agencies shall be entitled: a) To be represented at meetings of the Council and its subsidiary organs; b) To participate, without the right to vote, through their representatives, in deliberations with respect to items of

concern to them and to submit proposals regarding such items, which may be put to the vote at the request of any member of the Council or of the subsidiary organ concerned.

Rule 47 - Participation of non-governmental organization and intergovernmental organizations

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