

2017 Baylor University Model United Nations High School Conference Delegate Guide



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Distinguished Delegates and Advisors,

Welcome to the 2017 Baylor Model United Nations Conference! The time has come to put into use all the research and preparation you have been doing for the past couple of months. Baylor hosts this conference to help develop the next generation of leaders and their skills in public speaking, research, writing, and negotiating abilities. The staff and I recognize the great importance of these talents as imperative to life in college and beyond, and hope that you take this opportunity to hone them.

Model UN and this conference, in particular, place a heavy emphasis on collaboration and negotiation abilities. Respectfully debating and corresponding with other delegates while maintaining the integrity of your nation's positions is your primary goal. To commit to your role as delegate, research on all aspects of your country, the issues at hand, and the United Nations landscape will be required. The most successful delegates are those who are the most confident in their positions and the general consensus on the topic.

You will without a doubt run into some difficult situations and challenging conversations, but remember that taking on the issues that plague our world is no easy task. As world citizens, I hope that you take these negotiations to heart as you learn how international discussions work themselves into solutions that have the potential to affect so many lives. Remember, awards are fantastic reminders of your hard work and preparation, but do not come to the conference with awards as your main goal. Instead, prepare to leave the conference with the best prizes of all - - new friends and the educational experience of applying what you have learned in conference.

On behalf of all of the Baylor Model United Nations staff I want to welcome you to our 2017 conference! You are the leaders of the future, and I cannot wait to see what solutions and plans you have to make our world a better place. I hope to see every one of you as I go from room to room throughout the day and see how you put all your hard work into place.

Sincerely,
Luis Torres
Secretary General,
2017 Baylor University High School Model UN Conference

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*ECOSOC, CSW, and the Security Councils do not have representation from every Member State. Check the country matrix on the Baylor MUN website to be sure your assigned Member State is seated on these committees before preparing for conference.

Committee Background Guides



Research Tips for Delegates

Each of the committee background guides includes:

- A brief introduction to the committee, including its membership and purpose;
- The history and past actions taken by the United Nations for the two topics (one topic scenario in Historical Security Councils) your committee will address;
- Questions and/or possible solutions to guide your research on these topics; and
- A bibliography, with some key sources annotated, to get you started on your research.

Each delegate should be prepared to work on **both** topics for your committee (or the full scenario of the Historical Councils), even if he/she has a partner. Depending on the pace of committee progress, you may only address one of these topics in committee. If the topic chosen by your committee members is not the topic you prepared, this means you will not be able to contribute to informed speech debate at conference.

In addition to the bibliography provided for each of the committees to get you started on your research, the following print and internet resources will also be helpful as you research your topics.

- Full-text of The Charter of the United Nations:
<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>
- The UN: <http://www.un.org/>
- UNA- USA's Global Classrooms: <http://www.unausa.org>
- United Nations Bibliographic Information System: <http://unbisnet.un.org/>
- United Nations Documents Center: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/index.html>
- Sustainable Development Goals: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>

General Assembly 1st Committee



Overview of the General Assembly 1st Committee

The General Assembly First Committee (GA 1) considers issues surrounding disarmament and international security (DISEC).¹ Thus, this committee is tasked with finding common ground on issues that are central to the UN Mission, including assessing threats to global security posed by weapons of mass destruction and conventional arms.

The First Committee maintains an egalitarian structure with all member states participating, and works towards deliberation, consensus building, and policy. Having the diverse interests of all member states represented in one committee encourages the body to search for areas of common ground. In fact, more than 75 percent of the GA resolutions since 1991 have passed by acclamation.

Unlike the Security Council, the General Assembly resolutions are non-binding and thus only as strong as the international support they garner. The GA1 seeks to build peace and security not by force, but through agreements among states for cooperative security, deescalating conflict through disarmament, and other peaceful means. Be sure to keep the committee's purview in mind as you work with delegates representing other Member States to develop resolutions responding to the challenges posed by this year's topics: piracy and chemical and biological weapons.

GA 1st Topic 1: Piracy and the Rule of Law

Background:

In the past two decades, political and economic instability in several coastal countries combined with lack of law enforcement in surrounding waters have led to the emergence of modern-day piracy. Violent pirates, often utilizing small skiff boats and guns, have increasingly targeted large, slow international shipping vessels, freighters, gas tankers, aid ships, and passenger liners. Pirates have been known to hijack vessels, steal resources, and kidnap passengers for ransom. This trend has grown into a network of organized crime that not only threatens international trade but also undermines any chance of economic and social stability in affected states. Modern piracy most commonly takes place in the Malacca Strait, the South China Sea, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Guinea, the Arabian Sea, the Indian Ocean, Benin, Nigeria, Somalia and Indonesia and often involves large shipping vessels of industrialized nations and international corporations.

Case Study: Somalia

Located on the Gulf of Aden where the Horn of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula nearly meet, the Federal Republic of Somalia contains roughly 1880 miles of coastline and extends over 200 nautical miles of maritime claims.² Many Somali communities heavily rely on the seafood-rich waters as a source of sustenance and livelihood, making the fishing industry a mainstay of the economy.³ Over the past three decades, civil war, state collapse, famine, and extremist terrorism have engulfed Somalia in endless

¹ <http://www.un.org/en/ga/first/>

² "Somalia." CIA World Factbook, 12 January 2017. Web. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/so.html>.

³ "2017 Index of Economic Freedom: Somalia." Heritage Foundation. 2017. Web. <http://www.heritage.org/index/country/somalia>.

conflict, classifying it as a failed state for years.⁴ Lack of strong governance has left Somalia's territorial waters unregulated.

Located on a major maritime shipping route between the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea, many international parties pass by Somali waters. Foreign fishing vessels and international companies have taken advantage of Somalia's abundant and unpatrolled waters by robbing local fisheries and dumping toxic waste off the coast. These ships are often illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUUs). They have decimated nearby ecosystems and significantly weakened the technologically-lacking Somali fishing industry.⁵ Without government protection, many poverty-stricken fisherman have sought to protect their livelihoods and seek justice by organizing raiding parties and hijacking the foreign ships.⁶ The first major attacks on international cargo ships and tankers began in 2005. Local pirates soon found the crime to be extremely lucrative, as international governments and corporations were willing to pay large ransoms for the release of their citizens and ships. This economic incentive and lack of maritime law enforcement caused piracy off the coast of Somalia to escalate between 2008 and 2012.⁷ In 2008 alone, Somali pirates captured more than 40 large vessels in the Gulf of Aden.

In response to the hijacking of a World Food Program (WFP) aid ship in 2008, the Security Council passed Resolution 1846, which temporarily allowed all Member States and regional organizations the right to enter Somali territorial waters in order to combat piracy.⁸ It also allowed actors the freedom to use any method, maritime or aerial, to fight piracy off the Somali coast.⁹ After two major hijackings in mid-2009 (the American Maersk Alabama and the German MV Hansa Stavanger) the Security Council passed Resolution 1851, which urged all able member states to actively participate in defeating piracy via naval vessels and military aircraft.¹⁰ This resolution also created the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS), which acts as an informant for the Security Council and as a coordination mechanism between all active parties.¹¹ Additionally, the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA) has created the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), which works to promote the role of law and political stability inside Somalia and works closely with the CGPCS.¹²

⁴ "FAILED STATES." Foreign Policy no. 180. 2010. Web. 20 April 2017.

⁵ "Ship Hijacking Shows Somali Piracy Risk Still High, UN Says." Bloomberg Politics. 16 March 2017. <https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2017-03-16/ship-hijacking-shows-somali-piracy-threat-remains-high-un-says>.

⁶ "How Somalia's Fishermen Became Pirates." *Time*. 18 April 2009. <http://content.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1892376,00.html>.

⁷ "A Guide to Somalia's Modern-Day Pirates," *About Travel*. 1 February 2016. <http://goafrica.about.com/od/africanews/a/pirates.htm>.

⁸ "Pirates Hijack Jordanian Ship off Somali Coast." *NBD News Africa*. 17 May 2008. http://www.nbcnews.com/id/24680748/ns/world_news-africa/t/pirates-hijack-jordanian-ship-somali-coast/#.WQgIr4nyvVo.

⁹ Security Council Resolution 1846. S/RES/1846 (2 December 2008).

¹⁰ Security Council Resolution 1851. S/RES/1851 (16 December 2008).

¹¹ "Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia." *Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS)*. 14 January 2009. http://www.lessonsfrompiracy.net/files/2015/03/Communique_1st_Plenary.pdf.

¹² "Piracy off the Coast of Somalia." *United Nations Department of Political Affairs*. <http://www.un.org/undpa/en/africa/piracy-coast-somalia>.

Increased international intervention led to a lull in attacks between 2012 and 2017¹³. During this time, many member states and regional organizations significantly reduced their commitments to combating piracy. The CGPCS met in 2016 in Mumbai to discuss reforming its mandate to address several maritime issues other than piracy.¹⁴ Then, in March 2017, gas tanker Aris 13, fishing vessel Asayr 2, and cargo ship Al Kaushar were hijacked off the coast of Puntland in northern Somalia, making them the first major hijackings of commercial vessels since 2012. These attacks and several others in early 2017 have shown that the threat of piracy off the Gulf of Aden never disappears, rather it has only been suppressed by international efforts.¹⁵

Past UN Action:

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Seas (UNCLOS) was adopted in 1982 in Montego Bay, Jamaica and created a branch of international law that governs the world's oceans. Described as "the constitution for the oceans," UNCLOS codifies the rights and responsibilities of nations as it relates to territorial waters, the high sea, sea-lanes, and ocean resources.¹⁶ The convention defines "piracy" in *Article 101* as "any illegal acts of violence or detention, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship."¹⁷ The convention describes the individual jurisdiction of member states in their territorial waters as well as the collective responsibility of all nations in the high-seas in *Article 105*.¹⁸ Additionally, *Article 100* of the convention iterates the obligation of all states to "cooperate to the fullest possible extent in the repression of piracy."¹⁹ As a result of increasing rates of piracy around the world in 2009, the General Assembly passed A/RES/64/71 *Oceans and the Law of the Sea* to express further commitment to the implementation of the UNCLOS. The resolution details capacity building and methods for states to execute specific sections of the convention, including maritime safety and security.²⁰

To address the piracy endemic to the Horn of Africa on a more global scale, the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) created the Global Maritime Crime Program (GMCP) (2009) to combat piracy via effective use of law enforcement and criminal justice systems.²¹ The goal of the GMCP has been to increase local government control over territorial waters. The Counter Piracy Program (CPP) within the GMCP created the "piracy prosecution model," which is used to train local law enforcement on

¹³ "Somali Pirates Just Hijacked a Commercial Ship for the First Time in 5 Years." *Washington Post*. 14 March 2017. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2017/03/14/somali-pirates-just-hijacked-a-commercial-ship-for-the-first-time-in-five-years/?tid=a_inl&utm_term=.153c15474b7c.

¹⁴ "What Future for the Contact Group on Somali Piracy? Options for Reform." *Piracy Studies*. 2 March 2016. <http://piracy-studies.org/what-future-for-the-contact-group-on-somali-piracy-options-for-reform/>.

¹⁵ "Somali Pirates Release Hijacked Tanker and Crew." *New York Times*. 16 March 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/16/world/africa/somalia-pirates-ship.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FPiracy%20at%20Sea&action=click&contentCollection=timestopics®ion=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=1&pgtype=collection.

¹⁶ *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*. 10 December 1982. http://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/closindx.htm.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ General Assembly. *Resolution 64/71, Oceans and the law of the sea*. 12 March 2010. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/7.

²¹ UNODC. "UNODC's Global Maritime Crime Programme." *YouTube*. 7 February 2017. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqXVZJkVmM&list=PLP1rrIC89eFCcOzBqR6a-ZO-bLAXZtCmn>.

how to appropriately arrest pirates.²² The UNODC extended these efforts in 2013 with “Supporting Regional States in Prosecuting Piracy,” which is a project that seeks to enhance the institutional capacity of criminal justice systems.²³

In response to the major hijackings, like the Saudi shipping vessel MV Sirius Star, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) passed the *Djibouti Code of Conduct Concerning the Repression of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden* (2009), which extended allowance to all Member states to pursue counter piracy missions in the territorial waters of any signatory state. It also afforded universal jurisdiction to all states to capture and prosecute pirates in their state.²⁴ Then in Security Council Resolution 2020 (2011), a new approach to combatting piracy was introduced: data sharing. The International Criminal Police Network (INTERPOL) created the “Global Database on Maritime Piracy,” in order to better analyze and preserve evidence of past hijackings as well as identify and arrest key individuals involved in pirate criminal networks.²⁵ Additionally, the UN Secretary General further emphasized the importance of member states criminalizing acts of piracy in domestic law in a letter written to the Security Council, S/2012/177 (2012), titled: *Compilation of information received from Member States on measures they have taken to criminalize piracy under their domestic law and to support the prosecution of individuals suspected of piracy off the coast of Somalia and imprisonment of convicted pirates*.²⁶

Though rates of piracy fell drastically after 2012, the Security Council has continued to emphasize the importance of international action via S/2015/2446 and S/2016/2316, which were unanimously adopted and detail continued efforts to combat piracy.²⁷ Most Security Council resolutions create temporary allowances and missions, thus many regarding piracy are now void.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation’s history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is “new,” you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- How can we establish more transparency and cooperation while respecting the sovereignty of each Member State?

²² "United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime." *United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime*.

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/piracy/index.html?ref=menuaside>.

²³ "UNODC's Global Maritime Crime Programme."

²⁴ "Sub-regional meeting to conclude agreements on maritime security, piracy and armed robbery against ships for States from the Western Indian Ocean, Gulf of Aden and Red Sea areas," *International Maritime Organization*. January 2009. <http://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/Security/PIU/Documents/DCoC%20English.pdf>.

²⁵ Security Council Resolution 2020. S/RES/2020. (22 November 2011).

²⁶ "Letter dated 23 March 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council." S/2012/177. (22 March 2012).

²⁷ Security Council Resolution 2446. S/2015/2446. (10 November 2015).
Security Council Resolution 2316. S/2016/2316. (9 November 2016).

- How can the international community find solutions that address the root of piracy yet remain in purview?
- How can member states and regional organizations reform their commitments to combating piracy to be less temporary?
- How can collaborative solutions take into account the capacity of the international community as well as the inabilities of the states most affected by piracy?
- How does infrastructure and law enforcement play a role in effectively combating piracy?

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http://www.lessonsfrompiracy.net/files/2015/03/Communique_1st_Plenary.pdf.

This document was written after Security Council Resolution 1851 about the subsequent creation of the Contact Group on Piracy Off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS). The CGPCS was created as a method of addressing piracy by facilitating conversations and coordinating actions on a local, regional, and international level. The CGPCS is an international cooperation mechanism between active parties. Piracy attacks escalated in 2008 off the coast, and the UNSC realized that more cooperation was needed to efficiently address the problem. Generally, this plenary laid out the structure and goals of the CGPCS for the future. CGPCS will address and inform the Security Council on a regular basis about its activities by providing relevant information to the Secretary General for incorporation in his reports.

"Djibouti Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden." *International Maritime Organization*. 29 January 2009.

<http://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/Security/PIU/Pages/DCoC.aspx>.

The Djibouti Code of Conduct calls all signatories to engage in the repression of piracy to the fullest possible extent. It calls for cooperation in arresting and prosecuting criminals involved in acts of piracy as well as the seizure and rescue of captured ships. The code extends rights to enter territorial waters of affected states to signatories. The code also set up the Djibouti Code of Conduct Trust Fund.

"Global Maritime Crime Programme: Annual Report 2015". *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*. December 2015. http://www.unodc.org/documents/Piracy/15-07385_AR_ebook_Small.pdf.

The Horn of Africa Programme chapter in this source highlights that maritime crime in the Indian Ocean is endemic. It explains how piracy has become a destabilizing crime in Somalia and consequently on the region as a whole. The chapter explores the root of Somali piracy as the injustice felt by local fishers when international fishing corporations enter their waters and steal their livelihoods. This chapter also goes into detail about the successful operations of the Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP) for the Horn of Africa.

"IMO: What it Is." *International Maritime Organization*. October 2013.

http://www.imo.org/en/About/Documents/What%20it%20is%20Oct%202013_Web.pdf.

This is an e-book explaining the history and purpose of the IMO. The overall objectives of the IMO are summed up in the IMO slogan: safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean oceans. The IMO has been addressing piracy and armed robbery on the waters since the 1980s. It recently has provided guidance to governments off the Gulf of Aden to better address piracy. The Djibouti Code of Conduct concerning the repression of piracy and armed robbery against ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden was created a meeting convened by the IMO.

"Letter dated 23 March 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council." S/2012/177. (22 March 2012).

This letter annexes a list of member states that have taken measures to criminalize piracy in domestic law and that have supported the arrest and prosecution of those suspected of committing acts of piracy. This was added in a letter from the UN Secretary General to the President of the Security Council. This is helpful to see what member states have taken steps to address piracy at home.

Security Council Resolution 1846. S/RES/1846 (2 December 2008).

This resolution decided that for a 12 month period, all of the Member States and regional organizations involved in combatting piracy in cooperation with the Somali transitional federal government (TFG) could enter Somalia's territorial waters and use any method to fight piracy and armed robbery off the coast. For example, it condones the use of deploying naval vessels and military aircraft as well as seizing and destroying boats and arms used for piracy. The resolution also encourages the EU's decision to launch a naval operation called Atlanta on December 8, 2008 to protect the all of the World Food Programme's maritime deliveries of humanitarian aid to Somalia (as well as other vulnerable ships in the area).

Security Council Resolution 2020. S/RES/2020. (22 November 2011).

This is the most recent resolution written specifically about piracy of the coast of Somalia. It begins by addressing the past UN action in regard to piracy and then describes the problem that remains. It highlights Somali instability as a root cause of piracy and urges the proper arrest and prosecution of all criminals associated with piracy. It also address ransom payments as an important and worrisome issue that ultimately encouraged piracy. The resolution also addresses work done by the CGPCS and asks it to created anti-piracy courts. Finally, it encourages member states to utilize INTERPOL's Global Piracy Database.

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. 10 December 1982.

http://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/closindx.htm.

This convention marked the first time the United Nations decided to address international law as it relations to the sea. In many ways, this convention made the international law that pertains to the seas. This detailed convention, which has been accepted by 165 of 193 member states, creates guidelines that make the use and patrolling of the seas just. Part VII of the convention, specifically, defines and discusses piracy.

“2017 Index of Economic Freedom: Somalia.” Heritage Foundation. 2017. Web.

<http://www.heritage.org/index/country/somalia>.

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http://www.nbcnews.com/id/24680748/ns/world_news-africa/t/pirates-hijack-jordanian-ship-somali-coast/#.WQgIr4nyvVo.

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“Somali Pirates Just Hijacked a Commercial Ship for the First Time in 5 Years.” *Washington Post*. 14 March 2017. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2017/03/14/somali-pirates-just-hijacked-a-commercial-ship-for-the-first-time-in-five-years/?tid=a_inl&utm_term=.153c15474b7c>.

“Somali Pirates Release Hijacked Tanker and Crew.” *New York Times*. 16 March 2017. <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/16/world/africa/somalia-pirates-ship.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FPiracy%20at%20Sea&action=click&contentCollection=time-stopsics®ion=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=1&pgtype=collection>

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"United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime." *United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime*. <<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/piracy/index.html?ref=menuseide>>.

UNODC. "UNODC's Global Maritime Crime Programme." *YouTube*. 7 February 2017. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqXVZJikVmM&list=PLP1rrIC89eFCcOzBqR6a-ZO-bLAXZiCmn>>.

“What Future for the Contact Group on Somali Piracy? Options for Reform.” *Piracy Studies*. 2 March 2016. <<http://piracy-studies.org/what-future-for-the-contact-group-on-somali-piracy-options-for-reform/>>.

GA 1st Topic 2: Chemical and Biological Weapons

Background:

Chemical weapons are defined by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) “as any toxic chemical or its precursor that can cause death, injury, temporary incapacitation or sensory irritation through its chemical action. Munitions or other delivery devices designed to deliver chemical weapons, whether filled or unfilled, are also considered weapons themselves.”²⁸ These weapons are categorized as choking (chlorine and phosgene), blister (mustard and lewisite), blood (hydrogen cyanide) or nerve (sarin, soman, and VX) agents.²⁹ These armaments, besides their extensive use in World War I, were stockpiled and manufactured in large capacities during the Cold War. Though there has been a reduction in the threat of biological and chemical weapons “as an increasing number of states still maintain commitments under international conventions,” there are still “a small amount of states (that) still maintain undeclared stockpiles and even active biological and chemical weapons programs”.³⁰ While a few countries, such as the United States and Syria, have openly admitted to having a chemical/biological weapons arsenal, a total of seventeen countries, including Russia, China, Iraq, and North Korea, are allegedly maintaining chemical and biological weapons arsenals.³¹ Although progress has been made, the possibility for further proliferation remains due to the increasing availability of information and technology in our world.

With a “bio-technology revolution taking place,” biotechnology “has become more readily available and presents a potential future proliferation of [biological weapons] risk”.³² Another reason that the proliferation of chemical and biological weapons remains a pertinent issue is that non-state entities, particularly terrorist groups, are beginning to attain, and in some cases independently produce, biological and chemical weapons, particularly the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).³³ Terrorist organizations, such as ISIS, have shown that they are able to stockpile and use these weapons, which they have done on multiple occasions.³⁴

Past UN Action

Following the end of World War One, many resolutions were passed by the United Nations to combat the usage and proliferation of chemical and biological weapons. The first treaty, *Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare*, was signed as the Geneva Protocol on 17 June 1925 by the League of Nations. The Geneva Protocol banned the usage of chemical and biological weapons on the battlefield due to the horrors that they inflicted upon the soldiers involved in World War One.³⁵

The General Assembly of the UN has passed many resolutions regarding the subject, but the most recent of these was A/RES/71/69 (2016), *The Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling, and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction*, and A/RES/71/87 (2016), *The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction*. Both of these resolutions

²⁸ <https://www.opcw.org/about-chemical-weapons/what-is-a-chemical-weapon/>

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Arms Control Association, *Chemical and Biological Weapons Status at a Glance*.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

³³ The Guardian, *Chemical weapons found in Mosul in Isis lab, say Iraqi forces*.

³⁴ CNN, *ISIS Suspected of Mustard Attack against US and Iraqi Troops*.

³⁵ The Geneva Convention, *Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare*.

emphasize the UN's stance against the usage and proliferation of biological or chemical weaponry; reminds the member states of the universality of the nonproliferation of these weapons, and emphasizes the importance of the Chemical Weapons Convention and Biological Weapons Convention respectively.

The Chemical Weapons Convention and Biological Weapons Convention are bodies within the United Nations that were created by the General Assembly in 1997. These conventions were created along with laws under the same names stating that it is illegal under international law to use chemical and biological weapons under any circumstance. These bodies serve the General Assembly by studying proliferation of chemical and biological weapons and help to enforce the prohibition of chemical and biological weaponry. Though they have both achieved a great deal in terms of non-proliferation, they are having trouble achieving necessary non-proliferation reform. The Biological Weapons Convention treaty has been very successful in creating “a robust norm against the use of disease as a means of warfare,” but “translating consensus into action has been difficult.”³⁶ Often, the convention “has often repeated broad generalities and failed to advance a common agenda.”³⁷ After its Eighth Review Conference, the convention wrote *Report from Geneva: the BTWC Eighth Review Conference: a Disappointing Outcome*. In it, they reported the fact that a single country, such as Iran, can stop the convention from making changes in international nonproliferation of biological weapons, even if it is the only country that is opposed to these changes.³⁸ The Chemical Weapons Convention has decreased the proliferation of chemical weapons, but is only able to take action with consensus rather than by vote.³⁹ So, like the Biological Weapons Convention, one country has the power to stand between the convention and making non-proliferation reform.

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has passed resolutions, such as Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), to limit the usage of chemical and biological weapons as well. SC Resolution 1540 determined “that all states shall refrain from supporting any means non-State actors that attempt to acquire, use or transfer nuclear, chemical or biological weapons.”⁴⁰ The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) creates reports for the UNSC regarding SC Resolution 1540 and focuses on the facilitation of implementation from the international level down to civil society and the private sector.⁴¹

Case Studies: ISIS and Syria

Two particular case studies illuminate the contemporary challenges posed by chemical weapons that delegates should keep in mind as they prepare for conference.

Reports claiming that ISIS is using chemical weapons in Iraq against United States and Iraqi forces heighten the organization's status as a threat to international security. Allied forces claimed that traces of mustard gas, a chemical weapon, were found on an artillery shell that ISIS is suspected to have fired at American and Iraqi forces at the Qayyarah Airfield on September 27, 2016.⁴² In a report written in November 2016, ISIS was accused of using chemical weapons “at least 52 times in Syria and Iraq” since 2014, with 19 of these attacks being in and around Mosul, Iraq.⁴³ Then on January 29, 2017, Iraqi forces

³⁶ Bulletin of the Atomic Sciences, *Keeping the Biological Weapons Convention Relevant*.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ The United Nations Office of Geneva, *Report from Geneva: the BTWC Eighth Review Conference: a Disappointing Outcome*.

³⁹ Arms Control Association, *No time for complacency: tackling challenges to the Chemical Weapons Convention*.

⁴⁰ <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/sc1540/>

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² CNN, *ISIS Suspected of Mustard Attack against US and Iraqi Troops*.

⁴³ The New York Times, *ISIS Used Chemical Arms at Least 52 Times in Syria and Iraq, Report Says*.

found a chemical weapons lab in the ISIS stronghold of Mosul.⁴⁴ These reports signify that ISIS has the ability to acquire and independently produce chemical weapons. While the United Nations has the ability to pressure state bodies that support terrorist groups as established by Security Council Resolution 1540, preventing non-state actors from producing their own chemical weapons is an area where much remains to be done.

More recently, on April 4, 2017, there was a chemical attack in the Idlib Province of northwestern Syria that killed as many as 100 civilians.⁴⁵ The Idlib attack was the latest in a series of chemical attacks that include a suburb in Damascus in August 2013 which killed hundreds of civilians and repeated chemical attacks on rebel-held areas between April and July of 2014.⁴⁶ Although the Syrian government claims that rebel forces are behind these chemical attacks, leaders across the world blame the Syrian government and President Bashar Al-Assad for being at fault in an attempt to maintain power while the country is in the midst of a revolution. Western leaders are pressuring “the Security Council to adopt a resolution that condemns the attack and orders the Syrian government to provide all flight logs, flight plans and names of commanders in charge of air operations, including those for Tuesday, to international investigators.”⁴⁷ The United States military has bombed the Syrian government airfield where the chemical weapons were suspected to have come from, have been equipping rebels focused on overthrowing the current Syrian President, and might put their own armed forces to overthrow Assad.⁴⁸ At the same time, the Russian Federation has supported the Syrian President and has aided him during the Civil War. This has caused tension between the United States and Russia.⁴⁹ The use of chemical weapons by the Syrian government would be a clear violation of many United Nations Resolutions, including Security Council Resolution 2209 (2015) which condemned the use of chemical weapons in Syria.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation’s history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is “new,” you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- What is the best method to ensure cooperation and friendly practices among nations that have or allegedly have chemical and biological weapon stockpiles and those that do not?
- What further action can the UN take to convince all nations to stop creating and stockpiling chemical and biological weapons and to disarm their current weaponry?
- How can the UN overcome single nation blockades of international chemical and biological weapons reform?
- How can the UN and the international community effectively enforce international law regarding nonproliferation of chemical and biological weapons upon a group like ISIS if it can work independently of a state-body?
- How can the UN effectively enforce non-proliferation of chemical and biological weapons in Syria without increasing international strife?

⁴⁴ The Guardian, *Chemical weapons found in Mosul in Isis lab, say Iraqi forces.*

⁴⁵ The New York Times, *Worst Chemical Attack in Years in Syria; U.S. Blames Assad.*

⁴⁶ BBC, *Syria: The story of the conflict.*

⁴⁷ The New York Times, *Worst Chemical Attack in Years in Syria; U.S. Blames Assad.*

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ BBC, *Syria: The story of the conflict.*

Bibliography

1. A/RES/71/69.

The Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling, and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction is a resolution passed by the General Assembly in 2016 and shows their current stances against the usage of chemical weapons and actions, the Chemical Weapons Convention, that the General Assembly is taking at this time to limit their proliferation and usage. It also provides background as to past actions and documents related to the UN regarding chemical weapons.

2. A/RES/71/87.

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction is a resolution passed by the General Assembly in 2016 and shows their current against the usage of biological weapons and actions, the Biological Weapons Convention, that the General Assembly is taking at this time to limit their proliferation and usage. It also provides background as to the past actions and documents related to the UN regarding biological weapons.

3. *Chemical Weapons found in Mosul in ISIS lab, Say Iraqi Forces*. The Guardian, January 29, 2017. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jan/29/chemical-weapons-found-in-mosul-in-isis-lab-say-iraqi-forces>

This source provides strong evidence that ISIS has the knowledge and resources available to independently produce chemical weapons within Iraq. This shows just how problematic chemical weapons are within Iraq, as well as how much of a danger ISIS is to the international community.

4. Everts, Sarah. "A Brief History of Chemical War." *Chemical Heritage Foundation*. N.p., 2015. Web. <<https://www.chemheritage.org/distillations/magazine/a-brief-history-of-chemical-war>>.

This resource will be useful for the background guide, particularly giving background about the use of chemical weapons during World War 1. It will give good background about why international nonproliferation was necessary due to what a chemical weapon does to a person.

5. *ISIS Suspected of Mustard Attack against US and Iraqi Troops*. CNN Politics. CNN, Web. <<http://www.cnn.com/2016/09/21/politics/mustard-gas-us-troops/index.html>>.

This report provides very strong evidence that ISIS has in their possession and have used mustard sulfur, a type of chemical weapon, against United States and allied forces within Iraq.

6. *Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare*. The Geneva Convention, 17 July 1925. https://unoda-web.s3-accelerate.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/assets/WMD/Bio/pdf/Status_Protocol.pdf

This was the first international treaty regarding the usage of chemical and biological weaponry. It is the beginning of international action to prohibit the usage and proliferation of the weaponry and is where a background regarding the international bodies such as the UN's stances on this weaponry would start.

7. *Report from Geneva: the BTWC Eighth Review Conference: a Disappointing Outcome*. The United Nations Office at Geneva, 2017.

[http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/\(httpAssets\)/96E73A407E36F9D0C12580ED00354AB3/\\$file/REPORT_FROM_GENEVA_46+E.pdf](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/96E73A407E36F9D0C12580ED00354AB3/$file/REPORT_FROM_GENEVA_46+E.pdf)

This is a report from the latest conference of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and their latest findings as to their efforts to battle the proliferation and usage of biological weapons. They found

that a single country had the power to keep the convention from being able to achieve international nonproliferation reform, even if the reform had overwhelming support.

8. *The Chemical Weapons Convention*. Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, United Nations, 1997. <https://www.opcw.org/chemical-weapons-convention/>

This was a ban that was put in place by the UN that made it illegal under international law to develop or use chemical weapons. The ban within this treaty is still in place today and is useful as background for the UN's work against chemical weapons. It is also significant due to the usage of chemical weapons in Iraq by ISIS. Due to this document, ISIS is breaking international law.

9. *Security Resolution 1540 (2004), Security Council Decides All States Shall Act to Prevent Proliferation of Mass Destruction Weapons*. United Nation: Meetings Coverage and Press Releases.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2004/sc8076.doc.htm>

This source provided valuable information regarding Security Council Resolution 1540, which made it illegal for countries to help non-state groups in attaining any type of weapon of mass destruction. This is particularly interesting in regard to Iraq and ISIS.

10. "Chemical and Biological Weapons Status at a Glance." ArmsControl.org. Arms Control Association, Feb. 2014. Web. <<https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/cbwprolif>>.

This source provides valuable information as to the current status of chemical and biological weapon proliferation in the world and the proliferation and accessibility of information today being the reason for the proliferation of these weapons.

11. "Keeping the Biological Weapons Convention Relevant." TheBulletin.org. The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, 1 Nov. 2016. Web. <<http://thebulletin.org/keeping-biological-weapons-convention-relevant10093>>.

This source showed the importance of the Biological Weapons Convention, but that the convention must be more proactive in nonproliferation than it has been in the past. It needs to start having a more focused agenda and not be held back by a non-specific agenda.

12. "No time for complacency: tackling challenges to the Chemical Weapons Convention."

ArmsControl.org. Arms Control Association, 8 June 2010. Web.

<<https://www.armscontrol.org/events/2010OPCWConfRemarks>>.

This source expressed the importance of the Chemical Weapons Convention, but that it only works effectively when the convention is in consensus.

13. "ISIS Used Chemical Arms at Least 52 Times in Syria and Iraq, Report Says." NYTimes.com. The New York Times, 21 Nov. 2016. Web. <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/21/world/middleeast/isis-chemical-weapons-syria-iraq-mosul.html?_r=0>.

This source talks about ISIS's many chemical weapons attacks within Iraq and Syria. It emphasizes ISIS's willingness to use chemical weapons in Iraq and that they have access to them.

14. "Worst Chemical Attack in Years in Syria; U.S. Blames Assad." NYTimes.com. The New York Times, 4 Apr. 2017. Web. <<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/04/world/middleeast/syria-gas-attack.html>>.

This source gives background as to the use of chemical weapons in Syria, many of the world's leaders blaming the Syrian government for it, and the United States' actions against the Syrian regime due to the use of chemical weaponry.

15. "Syria: The story of the conflict." BBC.com. BBC, 11 Mar. 2016. Web.
<<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-26116868>>.

This source gives background about the Syrian conflict. It will be useful as to its detail about chemical weapons attacks that occurred in Syria, Russia's support of the current regime in Syria, and the potential problems that might arise between the United States and Russia due to this.

16. Swift, John. "The Soviet-American Arms Race." History Today. History Today, Mar. 2009. Web.
<<http://www.historytoday.com/john-swift/soviet-american-arms-race>>.

This source provided effective background about the Cold War and about both sides stockpiling weapons, such as chemical and biological weapons. It will be useful in giving a background on the Cold War and the importance of nonproliferation due to the amount of danger that this stockpiling put the world into.

General Assembly 3rd Committee



Overview of General Assembly 3rd Committee

The General Assembly Third Committee (GA3), formally referred to as the General Assembly Social Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs Committee (SOCHUM), considers many topics, including:

- Advancement of women and protection of children
- Rights of indigenous peoples and status and treatment of refugees
- Elimination of racism and racial discrimination
- Crime prevention and drug control
- Rights of the elderly and disabled

As these issues are far-reaching and complex, the GA3 works with other UN organs and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), including ECOSOC and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to ensure that the resolutions passed are properly implemented. With the recent creation of the Human Rights Council (HRC), the Third Committee has taken a special interest in expanding human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Third Committee's scope is broad and can coincide with the issues addressed by the General Assembly Second Committee and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Unlike ECOSOC, however, every Member State has representation in the Third Committee. As you research and prepare for conference, keep in mind the committee's purview; General Assembly resolutions are non-binding and cannot encroach upon a nation's sovereignty. As you work with other delegates in conference, strive for consensus-based resolutions with wide support in your committee.

GA 3rd Topic 1: Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Persons

Background:

The United Nations (UN) does not define the term “indigenous persons”, as it denotes a range of incredibly diverse people groups. The UN does, however, provide a set of guidelines for identifying indigenous persons, including groups with close attachments to ancestral land and culture as well as groups that self-identify as indigenous or tribal.⁵⁰ Despite their diversity, indigenous peoples all share a common trait: they all face discrimination. While indigenous persons constitute approximately 5% of the world's population, they are approximately one-third of the world's extreme poor. Indigenous persons face higher rates of poverty, health problems, and human rights abuses. Additionally, indigenous peoples' life expectancy is 20 years lower than that of non-indigenous peoples.⁵¹ The indigenous persons of the world need better protections of their rights, better access to health care, including mental health care, and further promotion of their indigenous languages. By strengthening and promoting the rights of Indigenous persons, Member States experience positive growth and overall positive development within society through the recognition and appreciation of their diverse cultures.

One issue that indigenous persons face is the loss of culture and identity as a result of the loss of their language. It is estimated that 90% of existing languages will become extinct within the next century. Most governments recognize this threat, but funding to prevent this extinction through language revitalization

⁵⁰ Secretariat of the U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. *Partnering with Indigenous Peoples: Experiences and Practices*. 2014. Web.

⁵¹ UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). Report ST/ESA/328. *State of the World's Indigenous Peoples*, 14 January 2010.

programs is scarce.⁵² Some consider this loss of language to be the greatest issue that indigenous persons face in the modern age, as it results in the loss of culture and identity. Studies have found that when indigenous children have access to education in their mother tongue, they continue to communicate in that language, benefit academically, and are less likely to drop out of school.⁵³ Greater protection and use of indigenous languages in society, then, is a pathway to the preservation of indigenous cultures.

Past UN Action:

The UN has published most of the work to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples within the past 10 years. The General Assembly (GA) published its cornerstone work on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, in 2007. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* establishes the rights of indigenous persons, which include the rights to self-determination, to a nationality, to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, and to the enjoyment of the highest level of health available. It also protects indigenous cultures, identities, possessions, and land.⁵⁴

To address the issue of loss of indigenous languages, the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) published the ECOSOC Report c.19/2016/10, *Expert Group meeting on the theme "Indigenous languages: preservation and revitalization (articles 13,14 and 16 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)"*. This report emphasizes the need to persevere indigenous languages. It also provides recommendations to the indigenous peoples, which include a global fund to support indigenous languages and an informal network to collaborate. Additionally, it provided recommendations for the UN System, such as a global award for language revitalization, and the Member State, such as specialized indigenous language academies.⁵⁵

Additionally, the UNPFII published ECOSOC Report c.19/2016/5, *System-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. This plan outlines the different actions the UN will take to enforce the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which include raising awareness of the declaration, supporting the implementation of the declaration at the country level, supporting the realization of indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation of the SDGs, mapping the current standard and guidelines on the implementation of the declaration, developing the capacity of the personnel of those devoted to furthering these issues, and advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in the UN process.⁵⁶

There are three main bodies that promote the rights of indigenous peoples: the Expert Mechanism on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, the UNPFII, and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The UNPFII exists under the ECOSOC. It provides advice on indigenous issues to the UN through ECOSOC, raises awareness regarding indigenous issues within the UN system, and informs the

⁵² UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). Report ST/ESA/328. *State of the World's Indigenous Peoples*, 14 January 2010.

⁵³ United Nations. Economic and Social Council. Report c.19/2016/10, *Expert Group meeting on the theme "Indigenous languages: preservation and revitalization (articles 13,14 and 16 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)"*. 29 February 2016.

⁵⁴ United Nations. General Assembly. 61/295, *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. 13 September 2007.

⁵⁵ United Nations. Economic and Social Council. Report c.19/2016/10, *Expert Group meeting on the theme "Indigenous languages: preservation and revitalization (articles 13,14 and 16 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)"*. 29 February 2016.

⁵⁶ United Nations. Economic and Social Council. Report c.19/2016/5, *System-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. 19 February 2016.

public on indigenous issues. The UNPFII holds an annual two-week-long meetings to discuss a special theme regarding indigenous issues.⁵⁷ The Expert Mechanism on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples exist under the Human Rights Council. The Expert Mechanism on the rights of Indigenous Peoples provides advice on the rights of indigenous peoples and, upon request, assists Member States to enforce the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Persons*. It also provides an annual study on the status of the rights of indigenous peoples and coordinates its work with the UNPFII. It is also open to meeting with indigenous peoples with disabilities.⁵⁸ The Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples works with the UNPFII and exchanges best practices regarding the rights of indigenous peoples.⁵⁹

The GA established a Working Group to draft the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, but this group has not met since 2007. No other working group regarding the rights of indigenous peoples exists. The UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations exists under the GA to aid representatives of the indigenous populations to participate in UN meetings regarding the rights of indigenous persons.⁶⁰ Originally, it was established to allow representatives to work with the Working Group on Indigenous Populations. Through multiple UN resolutions, however, the mandate of the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations has expanded to aid representatives to participate in meetings of the UNPFII,⁶¹ the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,⁶² the Human Rights Council,⁶³ and the General Assembly.⁶⁴

None of the goals or targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) address the specific needs and issues of Indigenous peoples, as stated by indigenous peoples. Despite the exclusion of the needs of the indigenous peoples in the MDGs, the UN dedicates itself to the implementation of policies that promote the priorities of the indigenous peoples through the SDGs and the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.⁶⁵ The ECOSOC also published Report C.19/2016/5, *System-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (2016). This plan clearly outlines the different actions the UN will take to enforce the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which include raising awareness of the declaration, supporting the implementation of the declaration at the national level, supporting the realization of indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation of the SDGs, mapping the current standard and guidelines on the implementation of the declaration, developing the capacity of the personnel of those devoted to furthering these issues, and advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in the UN

⁵⁷ United Nations. Economic and Social Council. 2000/22. *Establishment of a Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*. 15 August 2000.

⁵⁸ United Nations. Human Rights Council. 33/25. *Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. 30 September 2016.

⁵⁹ United Nations. Human Rights Council. 15/14. *Human rights and indigenous peoples: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples*. 10 June 2010.

⁶⁰ United Nations. General Assembly. 40/131. *United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations*. 13 December 1985.

⁶¹ United Nations. General Assembly. 56/140. *International Decade of the World's Indigenous People*. 15 February 2002.

⁶² United Nations. General Assembly. 63/161. *Indigenous Issues*. 13 February 2009.

⁶³ United Nations. General Assembly. 65/198. *Indigenous Issues*. 21 December 2010.

⁶⁴ United Nations. General Assembly. 65/198. *Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. 16 February 2016.

⁶⁵ *Statement of Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Secretary-General for the International Conference on Small Island Developing States on the Indigenous People's Priorities for the Post 2015 Development Agenda, at the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples Panel discussion*. 23 September 2014.

process.⁶⁶ Apart from this document, there is no other document dedicated to the proper implementation of the SDGs tailored specifically to the needs of the Indigenous Peoples. While the inclusion of the needs of indigenous peoples in the SDGs is an improvement, there are many challenges to the implementation of these SDGs.⁶⁷

Case Study:

Australia today exemplifies one solution to the problem of indigenous language extinction. In the past, Australia has not adequately advocated for the rights of its indigenous peoples, but recently, it created a program to help preserve the many languages of the Aborigines. The Australian Curriculum provides the basic curriculum for all of Australian public schools.⁶⁸ The Australian Curriculum provides the Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages (the Framework), the most recent update from December 2015. Citing the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, the Australian Curriculum recognizes the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to have access to education in and about their own languages.⁶⁹ The goal of this framework is to provide a way for schools to teach Indigenous languages. Because there are at least 250 distinct Aboriginal languages and Torres Strait languages, some of which have various dialects, the Framework is flexible to tailor to the different languages. The Framework includes three different pathways tailored to the different language levels: First Language Learner, Language Revival Learner, and Second Language Learner.⁷⁰ While this curriculum is available, Australian Curriculum recognizes that each Indigenous group is the owner or custodian of its own language and culture. In order to teach a specific indigenous language, the school or educational system must first attain the permission of the guardians of the language, which include local Elders, individuals with historical links to the language, and relevant local community organizations.⁷¹ According to studies, over 16,000 Indigenous students and 13,000 non-Indigenous students located in 260 Australian schools participate in Aboriginal languages and Torres Strait Islander languages programs. Over 80 different languages are taught in schools as of 2008 (56).⁷² This is one of the first instances of a curriculum dedicated entirely to the education of an indigenous language, a significant step for the preservation of indigenous languages.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not

⁶⁶ Office of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Report c.19/2016/5, *System-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. 19 February 2016.

⁶⁷ http://www.ipsnews.net/2017/04/long-way-to-go-for-indigenous-rights-protection/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=long-way-to-go-for-indigenous-rights-protection

⁶⁸ Kohler, Michelle, Timothy Curnow, Robyn Spence-Brown, and Chris Wardlaw. *Senior Secondary Languages Education Research Project: Final Report*. N.p.: Asia Education Foundation, 2014. Print.

⁶⁹ Australian Curriculum. "Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages: Rationale." *Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages*. Education Services Australia, n.d. Web. 03 Apr. 2017.

⁷⁰ Australian Curriculum. "Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages: What is the Framework?." *Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages*. Education Services Australia, n.d. Web. 03 Apr. 2017.

⁷¹ Australian Curriculum. "Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages: Guiding Principles." *Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages*. Education Services Australia, n.d. Web. 03 Apr. 2017.

⁷² Purdie, N., T. Frigo, C. Ozolins, G. Noblett, N. Thieberger and J. Sharp. *Indigenous language programs in Australian schools: a way forward*. Canberra: Department of Education and Workplace Relations, 2008. Print.

a proposal is “new,” you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- How can developed countries assimilate the indigenous persons into their country while still preserving and respecting the culture of those indigenous persons?
- What steps can be taken to better educate the indigenous population as well as the non-indigenous population of indigenous languages?
- How can the United Nations integrate the needs and rights of Indigenous persons into the Sustainable Development Goals?
- Through what mechanisms can the rights of Indigenous persons be promoted and developed?
- What are the different views on how to strengthen and protect the rights of Indigenous persons?

Bibliography

“Statement of Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Secretary-General for the International Conference on Small Island Developing States on the Indigenous People’s Priorities for the Post 2015 Development Agenda, at the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples Panel discussion.” *Office of the United Nations Economic and Social Council*. 23 Sept. 2014.

In this statement, Mr. Wu Hongbo addresses the upcoming action on the policies of the indigenous peoples. The indigenous peoples stated that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) did not address any issues they faced and requested that they have their rights addressed in the SDGs. Hongbo agrees that the UN has been unable to address the issues that the indigenous peoples face, but the UN dedicates itself to the implementation of policies that promote the priorities of the indigenous peoples through the SDGs and the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

“Statement of Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, at the 71st session of the General Assembly.” *Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*. 17 Oct. 2016.

In this statement, Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz addresses the violation of the rights of indigenous persons through the seizure of land to create national parks and conservation areas. The seizure of indigenous land is in direct violation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in direct violation of international human rights laws, which state that indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination and the right to their land and all decisions related to that land.

Report c.19/2016/5, “System-wide action plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” *United Nations Economic and Social Council*. 19 Feb. 2016.

This plan clearly outlines the different actions the UN will take to enforce the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which include raising awareness of the declaration, supporting the implementation of the declaration at the country level, supporting the realization of indigenous peoples’ rights in the implementation of the SDGs, mapping the current standard and guidelines on the implementation of the declaration, developing the capacity of the personnel of those devoted to furthering these issues, and advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in the UN process.

Report c.19/2016/10, “Expert Group meeting on the theme ‘Indigenous languages: preservation and revitalization (articles 13,14 and 16 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)’” *United Nations Economic and Social Council*. 29 Feb. 2016.

This report holds that the indigenous languages are endangered and need to be preserved. It also provides recommendations to the indigenous peoples, which include a global fund to support indigenous languages and an informal network to collaborate. Additionally, it provided recommendations for the UN

System, such as a global award for language revitalization, and the Member State, such as specialized indigenous language academies.

Resolution 61/295, “United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” *United Nations General Assembly*. 13 Sept. 2007.

This resolution creates the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which establishes the rights of indigenous persons, which include the right to self-determination, the right to a nationality, the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, and the right to the enjoyment of the highest level of health available. It also protects the culture, identity, possessions, and land of indigenous persons.

Resolution 69/2, “Outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.” *United Nations General Assembly*. 22 Sept. 2014.

This resolution outlines the outcomes of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, which includes the prevention of violence and discrimination, the equal access to education, the development of policies to support the livelihoods of indigenous persons, and the creation of a system-wide action plan by the Secretary-General and other organizations related to indigenous persons to ensure the enforcement of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Resolution 70/232, “Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” *United Nations General Assembly*. 23 Dec. 2015.

This resolution reiterates the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989. It also expands the mandate of the United Nations (UN) Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples, encourages the World Health Organization (WHO) to research the prevalence of suicide among indigenous youth, and requests the President of the General Assembly (GA) to consult individual Member States on methods to enable indigenous persons.

Resolution 33/25, *Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. *United Nations Human Rights Council*. 30 Sept. 2016.

This resolution amends the mandate of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in order to better serve the indigenous peoples, incorporating an annual study on the status of the rights of indigenous peoples and encouraging the Expert Mechanism to coordinate its work with the UNPFII. Additionally, this resolution opens meeting to indigenous peoples with disabilities and requires that the Expert Mechanism be comprised of seven independent experts, one from each of the seven indigenous sociocultural regions.

“The United Nations Development Group’s Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues.” *United Nations Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues (IASG)*. 2009.

This publication from the IASG covers multiple facets of the indigenous peoples, including the characteristics of indigenous and tribal peoples and the issues they face. It explains that currently, the existing international human rights instruments cannot guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples because they protect the rights of the individuals, not the people groups. It establishes that indigenous peoples have the right to non-discrimination, equality, gender equality, self-determination, collective rights, and the right to development.

Report ST/ESA/328. “State of the World’s Indigenous Peoples.” *UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)*. 14 Jan. 2010.

In this publication, the UNPFII presents the first UN publication on the state of the world’s indigenous peoples and reveals statistics that show that indigenous peoples suffer from higher rates of poverty, health problems, crime, and human rights abuses, such as the higher risk of suicide, Type 2 diabetes, and incarceration. Additionally, it states that the 90 percent of all existing languages will become extinct

within the next century, which will damage the culture of the indigenous peoples and that few countries recognize indigenous peoples' land rights.

"End of Year Statement by UNPFII Chair", *United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*. 30 Dec. 2016.

In this statement, Álvaro Pop presents a review of the UNPFII over the course of 2016, addressing the successes, which include the creation of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan, the dialogues between the members of the Permanent Forum and indigenous persons, Member States, and UN agencies, and the declaration of 2019 as the International Year of Indigenous Languages. Pop also calls upon the UN to enhance the participation of indigenous persons in discussions and to include in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) an emphasis on addressing the issues that the indigenous peoples face.

GA 3rd Topic 2: Improving Research on the Root Causes and Impacts of Trafficking in Persons

Background:

The United Nations (UN) defines human trafficking as "the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons by improper means such as force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them."⁷³ Trafficking in persons goes back as long as history can tell, continuing through the Atlantic slave trade and indentured servitude. Human trafficking is modern-day slavery, but due to its hidden criminal nature, obtaining accurate information and statistics is extremely difficult. Trafficking in persons is the third largest criminal enterprise in the world and the fastest growing business of organized crime.⁷⁴ There are many factors that put a person at risk for being trafficked including, but not limited to, poverty, age, and gender. The hidden nature of human trafficking makes it difficult even for governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to obtain accurate data on the number of victims around the world.⁷⁵ Further complicating the matter, border crossings in conflict zones are not well regulated and the vast numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in conflict zones make keeping track of people even more challenging. However, the data collected to date says that there are more than 27 million victims of human trafficking in the world today and the average age of those victims is 12 years old. The majority of statistics and data focus on cross-border trafficking, as opposed to within country trafficking, and are imprecise.⁷⁶

Past UN Action:

In the past, the primary actions of the UN, various governments, and NGOs have been focused primarily on public awareness and prevention, prosecution, and assistance to victims.⁷⁷ The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is the sole UN entity focused on the criminal justice aspect of trafficking

⁷³ "Human Trafficking." National Institute of Justice. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Apr. 2017.

⁷⁴ "Human Sex Trafficking." FBI. FBI, 22 Feb. 2011. Web. 17 Apr. 2017.

⁷⁵ Flores, Theresa. "Panel on Human Trafficking." Panel on Human Trafficking. Baylor University, Waco, Texas. 21 Mar. 2017. Lecture.

⁷⁶ United Nations, Commission on the Status of Women, *High-level panel on "The Gender Dimensions of International Migration" Trafficking in Human Beings—CEE and SE Europe*, Commission on the Status of Women Fiftieth Session (27 February-10 March 2006), available from <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw50/statements/CSW%20HLP%20Monica%20Boyd.pdf>

⁷⁷ Ibid.

in persons and does much to work toward the elimination of this and related crimes.⁷⁸ This places strain on the resources of the UNODC and creates greater issues in the process of reducing and eliminating trafficking in persons. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) also works, “through the gathering of expertise and its ability for consensus-building on the basis of data and evidence,” to strengthen international cooperation and coordination to combat trafficking in persons.⁷⁹

The UN has adopted several conventions and protocols to increase its efforts to eliminate trafficking in persons. Article six of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which was adopted in 1979, calls on Member States party to the convention to increase work on eliminating the trafficking and exploitation of women.⁸⁰ In 2004 the UN adopted the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto. One of these was the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, often referred to as the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol. This set the minimum standards for the laws that nations should have in place to combat human trafficking, creating specific targets for laws on prosecution, prevention, and victim protection.⁸¹ The International Labor Organization (ILO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the UNODC, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) joined together to launch the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, or UN-GIFT, in 2007. The UN-GIFT works at all levels, in both the public and private sectors, with governments, businesses, academics, civil society and the media, to supplement and support each other’s work through partnerships for the development of tools to combat trafficking in persons. The overall aim of UN-GIFT is to reduce “both the vulnerability of potential victims and the demand for exploitation in all its forms,” to protect and support victims, and to promote “efficient prosecution of the criminals involved.”⁸²

Since 2009, the UNODC has released a report biannually on Trafficking in Persons (TIP) in which it ranks each nation on their standing in relation to the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol. This ranking system has three categories, Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3, with a Tier 2 Watch List. Each nation in full compliance with the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol is ranked in Tier 1. Nations in Tier 2 are those which have made substantial efforts toward compliance with the Protocol. The Tier 2 Watch List is comprised of nations that have been ranked in Tier 2 but have not shown significant improvement in the years since the previous TIP Report, which means that they may have passed laws in accordance with the standards set by the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol, but have failed to implement them in the years since. Tier 3 contains those nations which have not made any attempts to pass or implement laws in compliance with the Protocol, or have seen serious regression, in the years since the previous TIP Report,

⁷⁸ Irina.abzalova. "United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime." UNODC - Human Trafficking. N.p., n.d. Web. 17 Apr. 2017.

⁷⁹ Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), *Addition to the note on the contribution of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to the 2016 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development on “Ensuring that no one is left behind”*, (Vienna: United Nations, 2016), available from <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=30022&nr=240&menu=3170>

⁸⁰ *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, New York, 18 December 1979, *United Nations Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378, p. 17, available from <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%201249/volume-1249-I-20378-English.pdf>

⁸¹ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto* (Vienna: United Nations, 2004), available from https://www.unodc.org/documents/middleeastandnorthafrica/organised-crime/UNITED_NATIONS_CONVENTION_AGAINST_TRANSNATIONAL_ORGANIZED_CRIME_AND_THE_PROTOCOLS_THERETO.pdf

⁸² United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime. "About UN.GIFT." UN.GIFT.HUB. UNODC, n.d. Web. 15 Apr. 2017.

away from their earlier progress. Conflict zones tend to have a higher rate of human trafficking within the region. For example, Iran recently rose to the number one position on the UNODC's list of the world's worst trafficking nations, according to the 2016 edition of the Global TIP Report.⁸³

In 2010, the General Assembly (GA) adopted resolution 64/293 with the title *The United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons*. This Global Plan of Action is organized into four sections as follows: 1) Prevention of trafficking in persons, 2) Protection and assistance to victims of trafficking in persons, 3) Prosecution of crimes of trafficking in persons, and 4) Strengthening of partnerships against trafficking in persons.⁸⁴ In 2015, ECOSOC adopted resolution 2015/23, titled *Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons*, which called on the UNODC to continue research and fundraising, protection of victims, and other related work. It also emphasized the importance of the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons of 2014 and its various protocols for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons.⁸⁵ That same year, the General Assembly Third Committee (GA3) adopted resolution C.3/70/L.13, *Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons*, which noted that justice for all is a necessary predecessor to sustainable development. The resolution emphasizes the work of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, which functions to help various NGOs and IGOs cooperate and coordinate tactics for combatting human trafficking.⁸⁶

The Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants, abbreviated GLO-ACT, is a four-year joint project of the European Union (EU) and the UNODC for the period of 2015-2019. The EU and UNODC have partnered with the IOM and UNICEF to provide assistance to governments and law enforcement, civil society organizations, and to victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants in 15 strategically selected countries. Additionally, goal 16.2 of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda (SDGs), which was adopted in September 2015, contains specific targets on combatting trafficking in persons, providing an underpinning for the work of the UNODC.⁸⁷ The UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants, held at the UN Headquarters in New York on September 19, 2016, resulted in the New York Declaration, which made a set of commitments which apply to both refugees and migrants, as well as separate sets of commitments which apply to refugees and to migrants, independently. Several of these commitments were specific to concrete action combatting human trafficking, as it may relate to refugees and migrants, or either group individually.⁸⁸

Issues Facing the UN Regarding Research on Trafficking in Persons:

As previously mentioned, the hidden criminal nature of human trafficking makes it incredibly difficult to obtain accurate data on the issue. Matters are further complicated by conflict zones and refugee crises around the world, and by the unrestricted border crossings in some parts of the world. The UNODC and

⁸³ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* (Vienna: United Nations, 2016), available from https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2016_Global_Report_on_Trafficking_in_Persons.pdf

⁸⁴ General Assembly resolution 64/293, *United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons*, A/RES/64/293 (12 August 2010), available from https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/United_Nations_Global_Plan_of_Action_to_Combat_Trafficking_in_Persons.pdf

⁸⁵ Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/23, *Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons*, E/RES/2015/23 (11 September 2015), available from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/Resolutions_Decisions/Resolutions_2010-2019.html

⁸⁶ General Assembly Third Committee resolution C.3/70/L.13, *Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons*, A/C.3/70/L.13/Rev.1 (19 November 2015), available from <http://undocs.org/A/C.3/70/L.13/Rev.1>

⁸⁷ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* (Vienna: United Nations, 2016), available from https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2016_Global_Report_on_Trafficking_in_Persons.pdf

⁸⁸ General Assembly resolution 71/1, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants*, A/RES/71/1 (3 October 2016), available from undocs.org/A/RES/71/1

its resources are spread thin as the sole UN entity focused on combatting trafficking in persons. The CCPCJ, though separate from the UN, is also doing important work to combat human trafficking. Much of the work is left to NGOs, which do not have access to the same information that governments do. One of the largest obstacles to obtaining data on trafficking in persons for the UN is a lack of funding and lack of manpower. However, as the international community has come to recognize the enormity and rapid growth of the human trafficking industry, important efforts have been made to improve the fight against trafficking. Yet, despite the number of programs, resolutions and declarations that exist to combat human trafficking, there are still significant gaps in the process of eliminating trafficking in persons.

In order to effectively and efficiently eliminate trafficking in persons, we must first understand why it happens. The principle of supply and demand applies to the trafficking industry, just as it does to any legal enterprise. When the demand for cheap labor increases, an increase in the number of victims trafficked for labor increases as well. Therefore, questions surrounding the principle of supply and demand regarding trafficking in persons must be answered through research. According to a presentation given at the high-level panel on “The Gender Dimensions of International Migration,” held by the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in 2006, “there is still inadequate systematic analysis of [the] root causes and impacts,” of trafficking in persons, and the existing data, “tell us little about the market forces favoring trafficking, both in developed and developing countries.”⁸⁹ By starting at the source of the issue, the international community can work to truly eradicate trafficking in persons.

Questions for further research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation’s history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is “new,” you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- Has your Member State ratified the necessary agreements on ending trafficking in persons? Where does your nation stand in relation to the Protocol on Trafficking in Persons?
- How can individual Member States work together to improve research and data collection?
- How does the United Nations address transnational issues and crimes while maintaining respect for national sovereignty?
- How can the United Nations address the rapid growth of the human trafficking industry through research?
- How can the General Assembly develop a resolution that will be both manageable and useful for all Member States?
- How does human trafficking relate to and impact economic development and stability?
- How will addressing trafficking in persons aid in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16? In what ways can improved research methods and knowledge assist in reaching this goal?

⁸⁹ Omelaniuk, Irena. "Trafficking in Human Beings--CEE and SE Europe." High-level panel on "The Gender Dimensions of International Migration". Commission on the Status of Women Fiftieth session, New York City. 10 Mar. 2006. Presentation.

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<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=30022&nr=240&menu=3170>

This report addresses several topics, including transnational organized crime, which is discussed in relation to trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants. It discusses the work being done by the CCPCJ in several areas of crime prevention, including data and expertise collection, research and consensus-building.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, New York, 18 December 1979, *United Nations Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378, p. 17, available from

<https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%201249/volume-1249-I-20378-English.pdf>

Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/23, *Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons*, E/RES/2015/23 (11 September 2015), available from http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/Resolutions_Decisions/Resolutions_2010-2019.html

This resolution calls on the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to continue research and fundraising, protection of victims, and other related work. It emphasizes the importance of the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons of 2014 and its various protocols for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. Finally, the resolution reiterates the importance of victim protection and criminal prosecution.

General Assembly resolution 64/293, *United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons*, A/RES/64/293 (12 August 2010), available from https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/United_Nations_Global_Plan_of_Action_to_Combat_Trafficking_in_Persons.pdf

This resolution contains the Global Plan of Action, and underlines the importance of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN-GIFT), and of the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime. The focus of action taken by the resolution is to promote the human rights of victims, protection of victims, and prosecution of perpetrators.

General Assembly Third Committee resolution C.3/70/L.13, *Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons*, A/C.3/70/L.13/Rev.1 (19 November 2015), available from

<http://undocs.org/A/C.3/70/L.13/Rev.1>

The resolution notes that justice for all is a necessary predecessor to sustainable development. It also mentions the importance of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and of the Global Plan of Action. The resolution emphasizes the work of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, which functions to help various NGOs and IGOs cooperate and coordinate tactics for combatting human trafficking.

International Organization for Migration, UNICEF, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants (2015-2019)* (European Union, 2015), available from <https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/about-iom/GLOZ67-ProjectSummary-EN-2016.pdf>

The Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants, abbreviated GLO-ACT, is a four-year joint project of the European Union and the UNODC, in

partnership with the International Organization for Migration and UNICEF, to work in 15 strategically selected countries. The primary work of the initiative is to provide assistance to governments and law enforcement, civil society organizations, and to victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants.

United Nations, Commission on the Status of Women, *High-level panel on “The Gender Dimensions of International Migration” Trafficking in Human Beings—CEE and SE Europe*, Commission on the Status of Women Fiftieth Session (27 February-10 March 2006), available from <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw50/statements/CSW%20HLP%20Monica%20Boyd.pdf>
The panel presentation notes that growing globalization has increased the demand for cheap labor in various markets and as a result labor trafficking has increased. Additionally, the panel called for “new approaches to data collection and analysis to inform more comprehensive policies.” Experts say that the focus has been on victims, law enforcement, and public awareness, and does not diminish the importance of any of those areas, but says that there is lacking information on the root causes and impacts of trafficking in persons. The panel also discusses human trafficking as a development issue, the risk factors associated with it, related labor market aspects, what is currently being done, data and research on the issue, and what more should be done going forward.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* (Vienna: United Nations, 2016), available from https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2016_Global_Report_on_Trafficking_in_Persons.pdf
The report is divided into three chapters. Chapter one includes sections on patterns in human trafficking, trafficking flows, and legislative and criminal justice response. Chapter two discusses human trafficking, migration and conflict as they relate to one another and influence each other. Chapter three is regional overviews, providing statistics on a regional basis and specific facts and issues as they pertain to particular regions.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Human Trafficking Indicators*, (United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, 2016), available from <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/global-report-on-trafficking-in-persons.html>
This document provides indicators of human trafficking. These indicators are signs that people may see in others which could signal that the person is being trafficked. This is part of the public awareness raising function of the UNODC. It has sections on general indicators, children, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, labor exploitation, and begging and petty crime.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto* (Vienna: United Nations, 2004), available from https://www.unodc.org/documents/middleeastandnorthafrica/organised-crime/UNITED_NATIONS_CONVENTION_AGAINST_TRANSNATIONAL_ORGANIZED_CRIME_AND_THE_PROTOCOLS_THERE TO.pdf
The convention and its protocols are the specific and detailed plans for action, which nations may ratify and agree to implement within their borders. It also includes annexes of General Assembly resolutions 55/25 and 55/255. The purpose of the convention is to promote cooperation in the prevention of transnational organized crime.

United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime. "About UN.GIFT." UN.GIFT.HUB. UNODC, n.d. Web. 15 Apr. 2017.

Flores, Theresa. "Panel on Human Trafficking." Panel on Human Trafficking. Baylor University, Waco, Texas. 21 Mar. 2017. Lecture.

"Human Sex Trafficking." FBI. FBI, 22 Feb. 2011. Web. 17 Apr. 2017.

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Omelaniuk, Irena. "Trafficking in Human Beings--CEE and SE Europe." High-level panel on "The Gender Dimensions of International Migration". Commission on the Status of Women Fiftieth session, New York City. 10 Mar. 2006. Presentation.

Irina.abzalova. "United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime." UNODC - Human Trafficking. N.p., n.d. Web. 17 Apr. 2017.

General Assembly resolution 71/1, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants*, A/RES/71/1 (3 October 2016), available from undocs.org/A/RES/71/1

**United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural
Organization (UNESCO)**



Overview of UNESCO

In 1942 European countries part of the Allied forces met in the United Kingdom to establish a way to efficiently rebuild the education systems of the countries affected by World War II conflict. The nations represented met under the name of the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education (CAME)⁹⁰. Upon the request of the relatively new organization, the United Nations called for establishment of an educational and cultural organization named (ECO/CONF) and established a conference in November of that year⁹¹. By the end of this conference 30 nations had signed the Constitution of UNESCO, and the United Nations Economic, Scientific, Educational, and Cultural Organization was born.

UNESCO is classified as a specialized agency, which means it is an autonomous organization that works alongside the United Nations. Like other agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and International Monetary Fund (IMF), UNESCO coordinates with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on its myriad projects. Today, UNESCO has grown to 195 members along with 10 associate members⁹². UNESCO's main mission "is to contribute to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information"⁹³. UNESCO focuses on a number of issues, UNESCO's work is concentrated in five areas:

- Education for all
- Sustainable Development
- Addressing social and ethical challenges
- Cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and culture of peace
- Information and Communication.⁹⁴

For this year's conference, delegates will be researching and discussing UNESCO's work in two topic areas that reflect the diversity of the important work UNESCO does: preservation of World Heritage Sites and access to education for persons with disabilities.

UNESCO Topic 1: Preservation of World Heritage Sites

Background:

UNESCO designates certain important historical, cultural and religious areas as World Heritage Sites and leads international efforts to preserve these critical areas for future generations. UNESCO provides funding, research, and international support to these sites to maintain the shared human history they embody. UNESCO lists a total of 1,052 locations and of these 52 are considered in critical danger.⁹⁵ These locations face a variety of threats UNESCO actively works to overcome, but recent turmoil in the Middle East has resulted in the complete destruction of several sites by radical groups. Although UNESCO has taken steps to prevent the destruction of World Heritage Sites in conflict zones in the past,

⁹⁰ <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/about-us/who-we-are/history/>

⁹¹ <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/about-us/who-we-are/history/>

⁹² <http://en.unesco.org/countries/member-states>

⁹³ <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/about-us/who-we-are/introducing-unesco/>

⁹⁴ <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/about-us/who-we-are/introducing-unesco/>

⁹⁵ <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/>

active targeting is not something the organization is currently equipped to handle⁹⁶. Radical groups like ISIS have targeted the sites as a form of cultural terrorism. Militants plunder these sites for artifacts which are sold illegally online to further fund the group's goals. After ransacking these historic sites, they are destroyed as a form of cultural terrorism that irreparably harms our shared global heritage. This is a major problem, and the UN must take steps to prevent further harm from occurring to World Heritage Sites.

Significant Past UN Action:

The UN recognizes that international cooperation is vital and action must be taken to prevent the destruction of World Heritage Sites. The UN passed a comprehensive action in 1954 to help combat this problem with the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. This convention provides comprehensive regulations to prevent the further destruction of important religious and historical sites by combat forces. The Convention prevents state parties from targeting cultural objects or sites as a military objective.⁹⁷ The First Protocol, passed in the same year requires that state parties return any captured Cultural Property at the cessation of hostilities. The Second Protocol, adopted in 1999, sets tougher standards on state parties and requests that all nations locate military objectives a safe distance from cultural property and Heritage sites⁹⁸. The UN has also taken steps to combat the illegal trade of artifacts and cultural property that are stolen from heritage sites. In 1970 UNESCO's Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property set guidelines for preventing this black-market trade from continuing. Recognizing the irreparable harm to the cultural heritage of nations that the illicit trade of historical and cultural artifacts creates, the Convention outlaws the international trade or transport of these goods without an UN-produced Certificate, signed by appropriate authorities in the origin country⁹⁹. Finally, and most recently the Security Council passed Resolution 2347 which is the first Security Council first action on the subject. The resolution, unanimously adopted March 2017, strongly condemns the destruction of Heritage sites and the trafficking of cultural goods. The Security Council affirmed that these types of attacks are War Crimes punishable in International Courts. The Resolution also calls for states parties to take the lead in protecting their own sites and cultural artifacts, and applauded the efforts of numerous state parties in expanding domestic protections and legal consequences¹⁰⁰. The UN has adopted several resolutions in the past to prevent the destruction of Cultural Heritage sites, and the most recent efforts certainly look promising, but given the complexity of the problem, it remains to be seen if these actions will be enough to prevent further destruction.

Case Study: ISIS and Cultural Terrorism:

The preservation of World Heritage Sites has always been a priority for UNESCO, but in recent years the increase in non-state actors and radicalized militants has presented a huge problem for preserving these important historical areas. The rise of militant groups, such as ISIS, in the Middle East has drastically hurt ongoing efforts to preserve and study these crucial historic and archeological sites. Cultural terrorism and the illegal sale of cultural artifacts has damaged many sites in the region drastically. Perhaps the best example is ISIS's destruction of the Biblical city of Nineveh. When Mosul in Northern Iraq fell under the radical group's control in 2015, the ancient city of Nineveh located on the city's outskirts was first plundered of valuable artifacts and ancient art that the radical group sold illegally online. ISIS released footage online showing the destruction of priceless ancient carvings and art that were too large to be trafficked with sledgehammers and machine guns¹⁰¹. Then using a combination of high-explosives and

⁹⁶ http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=15391&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

⁹⁷ Ibid.

⁹⁸ <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001875/187580e.pdf>, Pg. 45-63.

⁹⁹ http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=13039&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

¹⁰⁰ <https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/sc12764.doc.htm>

¹⁰¹ https://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/28/world/middleeast/destruction-of-antiquities-by-militants-is-denounced.html?_r=0

stolen construction equipment the group completely leveled the ancient city. The loss of the previously well-preserved city is a tremendous loss to history, religion, and global heritage. While international outcry was significant, as a non-state actor ISIS was beyond the purview of the UN and unaffected by international condemnation¹⁰². It was too little too late, and a priceless piece of world history was lost forever.

ISIS has committed similar atrocities in the Syrian city of Palmyra, where the group looted and destroyed the 2000-year-old Temple of Bel. Although fighting in the region was fierce at the time, the International community was shocked in September 2015 when satellite imagery showed that the temple had been completely leveled¹⁰³. UN investigators would later conclude that the attacks were an intentional act of cultural terrorism by ISIS militants who utilized a large number of explosives to destroy the archeological site. These egregious actions were labeled as war crimes by the international community and condemned by UNESCO, but the damage had already been done. The temple, which was previously one of the best-preserved examples of Roman architecture and art in the region, has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1980 and has been categorized as in danger since 2003¹⁰⁴. The destruction caused to the site is extensive, but UNESCO experts have been unable to examine the destruction for themselves due to ongoing hostilities in the region and are relying on local partners to develop a plan for the site. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, has called for redoubled efforts to protect other sites in the region and reiterated the importance of all member states to take steps individually to protect UNESCO World Heritage sites within their own borders.¹⁰⁵ She affirmed the importance of international support and cooperation in preventing further cultural disasters from occurring.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- Recognizing that the destruction of World Heritage Sites is a global issue what steps can be taken on the regional and international scale that can help prevent the future destruction of these sites?
- While support for the preservation of these sites is widespread, in what ways can UNESCO prevent their rapid destruction by non-state bodies such as ISIS?
- How can individual member states protect the sites within their borders, and being mindful of purview, what can UNESCO do to help Nations achieve this goal?
- How does the illicit trade of Cultural Artifacts impact the destruction of World Heritage sites and how can the UN combat the growing trade of these goods online?

¹⁰² <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1245/>

¹⁰³ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/08/31/temple-bel-palmyra-syria/71497448/>

¹⁰⁴ <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/23>

¹⁰⁵ <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1634/>

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“Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed conflict 1954”, UN, 1954,1999. Web. 4 May. 2017.

http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=15391&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

This is the UN's first and most comprehensive action on the Issue of Cultural Property and the risks posed to it during conflicts. This page also includes links to the First and Second Protocols. The changes made to the resolutions over time are important to understanding how the issue has changed.

“Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property”, UN, 1970. Web. 4 May. 2017.

http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=13039&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

This UNESCO resolution illustrates the importance the illegal trade of cultural artifacts plays on this issue. Eliminating the trade of Cultural Property may be one way to limit the destruction of World Heritage Sites by radical extremists. Each countries reservations on this agreement also point to difficulty of getting each nations full support on this issue.

“Security Council Condemns Destruction, Smuggling of Cultural Heritage by Terrorist Groups, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2347” *UN Press*. UN, 2017. Web. 4 May. 2017.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/sc12764.doc.htm>

This is the UN's most recent action on the subject. It includes the full resolution and Security Council member's statements on the issue. It is a good source for identifying what is important to each Nation. It presents a possible solution to the issue, but what does it lack and in what ways could it be improved.

UNESCO Topic 2: Access to Education for Persons with Disabilities

Background:

Education has long been recognized as an overarching right for all; it is a human right in itself and is indispensable. While the international community has set standards to ensure the equality of education for every individual, persons with disabilities remain some of the few who face inequality in education. According to the United Nations, a person with disabilities is defined as “those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various attitudinal and environmental barriers, hinders their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.”¹⁰⁶ Globally, it is estimated that “over one billion people- approximately 15 percent of the world’s population” are living with some form of disability.¹⁰⁷ Of this one billion, it is suggested that there are 93 million children living with disabilities in this world.¹⁰⁸ Aside from the challenges they face in their own life, while in the pursuit of education, persons with disabilities often deal with the lack of “access to mainstream education” in an inclusive environment.¹⁰⁹

As a means to ensure an equal educational opportunity for all persons with disabilities, the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) supports the human rights based approach to providing educational opportunities for all.¹¹⁰ Under the provisions of Sustainable Development Goal 4, UNESCO has worked to ensure access inclusive quality education for individuals with disabilities.¹¹¹ The international community has taken action to ensure an equal opportunity to an inclusive educational environment to persons with disabilities.¹¹² Despite great international efforts however, “societies’ misperception of different forms and types of disability and the limited capacity of social actors to accommodate special needs often place these people on the margin.”¹¹³

Past Prevention Action, and Shortcomings:

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), Article 26 states, “everyone has the right to education.”¹¹⁴ In 1960, the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education was developed as the “first legally binding international instrument, which lays down core elements of the right to education,” prohibiting discrimination in education and promoting the principle of an inclusive and equal educational opportunities.¹¹⁵ Under Article 5, this Convention calls for the cessation of any discriminatory administrative practices in education and to ensure the equal treatment and admittance of pupils to educational institutions.¹¹⁶ It is important that States Parties to this Convention will make “primary education free and compulsory, make secondary education in its different forms generally available and

¹⁰⁶ UN Enable, *Frequently Asked Questions*, (2007).

¹⁰⁷ UNESCO, *Respecting the rights of persons with disabilities*, (2012).

¹⁰⁸ UNICEF, *Disabilities*, (2017).

¹⁰⁹ UNESCO, *Monitoring of the Implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (8th Consultation)*, (2015).

¹¹⁰ UNESCO, *Monitoring of the Implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (8th Consultation)*, (2015).

¹¹¹ UNESCO, *About the Education Sector*, (2016).

¹¹² UNESCO, *Examples of good practice in Special Needs Education & Community- Based Programmes*

¹¹³ UNESCO, *Monitoring of the Implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (8th Consultation)*, (2015).

¹¹⁴ UNESCO, *Monitoring of the Implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (8th Consultation)*, (2015).

¹¹⁵ UNESCO, *Monitoring of the Implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (8th Consultation)*, (2015).

¹¹⁶ UNESCO.org, *Convention against Discrimination in Education 1960*, (1960).

accessible to all” and ensure an equal opportunity for higher education to all “on the basis of individual capacity.”¹¹⁷ Finally, the States Parties to this Convention agree that, “education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.”¹¹⁸ General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/48/96) adopts the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities while urging Member States to implement these rules, which calls for the equal participation for all persons with disabilities.¹¹⁹ Resolution 7/9 of the Human Rights Council recognizes the importance of accessibility to education for all persons with disabilities.¹²⁰ It is important to promote and ensure for all persons with disabilities, the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.¹²¹ In 1994, the delegates of the World Conference on Special Needs, met in Salamanca, Spain to promote “the approach of inclusive education, namely enabling schools to serve all children, particularly those with special education needs.”¹²² These delegates also reaffirmed their commitment to recognize the necessity and urgency of providing education for all, urging for States to “ensure that the education of persons with disabilities is an integral part of the education system.”¹²³

According to the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), children with disabilities are amongst one of the most marginalized and excluded groups in today’s society.¹²⁴ Children with disabilities face different forms of discrimination daily, including the “lack of adequate policies and legislation,” which effectively bars them from realizing their own rights.¹²⁵ They are also at a higher risk of abuse and exclusion from “receiving proper nutrition or humanitarian assistance in emergencies.”¹²⁶ The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) reports, “persons with disabilities are more likely to be out of school or to leave school before completing primary or secondary education.”¹²⁷ The lack of information regarding the current situation of children, youth and adults with disabilities hinders the international community’s ability to effectively monitor the situation. Additionally, the misperception and misunderstanding of the different forms of disabilities limits the “capacity of social actors to accommodate special needs,” resulting in a lack of accommodation for special needs, leaving these individuals on the margin.¹²⁸ It is important to promote the equal and inclusive educational opportunities for all while providing necessary information regarding the current situation of all persons with disabilities in education to the international community.

Future/ Ongoing Actions:

Sustainable Development Goal 4

The global community has made some progress in education since 2000, with the establishment of the “six Education for All (EFA) goals and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).” But not all of these goals were reached by the 2015 deadline and continued action is necessary.¹²⁹ The new vision is the implementation of SDG4, which ensures “inclusive and equitable quality education and [the promotion

¹¹⁷ UNESCO.org, *Convention against Discrimination in Education 1960*, (1960).

¹¹⁸ UNESCO.org, *Convention against Discrimination in Education 1960*, (1960).

¹¹⁹ A/RES/48/96

¹²⁰ Resolution 7/9

¹²¹ Resolution 7/9

¹²² UNESCO, *The Salamanca Statement and Framework for Action on Special Needs Education*, (1994).

¹²³ UNESCO, *The Salamanca Statement and Framework for Action on Special Needs Education*, (1994).

¹²⁴ UNICEF, *Disabilities*, (2017).

¹²⁵ UNICEF, *Disabilities*, (2017).

¹²⁶ UNICEF, *Disabilities*, (2017).

¹²⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Education and Disability*, (2017).

¹²⁸ UNESCO, *Monitoring of the Implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (8th Consultation)*, (2015).

¹²⁹ Incheon Declaration and SDG4, *Education 2030 Framework for Action*.

of] lifelong learning opportunities for all and its corresponding targets.”¹³⁰ In a statement made by the Heads of the WEF 2015 Convening Agencies, Babatunde Osotimehin, the executive director of UNFPA states, “together we must promote and protect every person’s right to education and ensure that quality education reaches all, and instills values of peace, justice, human rights and gender equality.”¹³¹ The executive director pledges to bring forth the new agenda on education for all by 2030.

Inclusive Education in Action Project

In collaboration, UNESCO and the European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education (the Agency) developed the Inclusive Education in Action (IEA) project.¹³² This project focuses on providing resources to “international and European policy makers working to develop equity and equal opportunities within education systems globally.”¹³³ Through user-friendly websites, the IEA promotes and presents the “UNESCO ‘Policy Guidelines on Inclusion in Education’ in a concrete way,” which closely follows the principle of educating countries on the concept of inclusive education.¹³⁴

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

UNESCO has organized an International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Developed in 2012, this day is celebrated annually on December 3rd for the purpose of increasing awareness and support for the “dignity and welfare of persons with disabilities.”¹³⁵ As it is often difficult for persons with disabilities to assert their rights, making them vulnerable to discrimination and oppression, the celebration also stresses the fundamental freedoms and rights of persons with disabilities.

Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future

Education lies at the heart of the new vision for SDG4. Because teachers and educators are viewed as “vital actors” to successfully achieve the vision for SDG4, UNESCO places teacher education in the international community as a priority.¹³⁶ In response to the challenges of helping teachers globally understand the concept of sustainable development and the issues of learning disability, UNESCO developed the program *Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future*.¹³⁷ As it is accessible through the web and a CDROM, and is adaptable to certain local, national, and regional needs. It is, therefore, able to reach teachers worldwide.

Integrated Education Project in China

The Anhui Province in China is considered one of the most underdeveloped regions of central China. Estimates of about 134,000 children are in need of special education.¹³⁸ In 1998, China launched its first pilot project to begin the integration of special needs students into kindergartens of one province of China. After the success of the first pilot project, the Elementary Division of Anhui Provincial Education Commission (APEC) and Save the Children Fund UK (SCF) came together to collaborate on a pilot program in another province of the country.¹³⁹ The two successes of the pilot programs led to the expansion of integrating special needs students into kindergarten programs across all provinces. The program required necessary training and support from all areas of the province. The implementation of

¹³⁰ Incheon Declaration and SDG4, *Education 2030 Framework for Action*.

¹³¹ Incheon Declaration and SDG4, *Education 2030 Framework for Action*.

¹³² Inclusive Education in Action, *Project Framework and Rationale*.

¹³³ Inclusive Education in Action, *Project Framework and Rationale*.

¹³⁴ Inclusive Education in Action, *Project Framework and Rationale*.

¹³⁵ UNESCO, *Respecting the rights of persons with disabilities*, (2012).

¹³⁶ UNESCO, *Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future*.

¹³⁷ UNESCO, *Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future*.

¹³⁸ UNESCO, *Examples of good practice in special needs education & community-based programmes*.

¹³⁹ UNESCO, *Examples of good practice in special needs education & community-based programmes*.

the project to begin the integration process of special needs children was focused on three key aspects: training and expansion while developing a support system.¹⁴⁰ To successfully change the teaching methods in school adequate training for the teachers would be needed to assist them in understanding the specific needs of children with disabilities in their classroom. By integrating two disabled children into a kindergarten class, the expansion of this project would be successful, as it would serve as the beginning of a change throughout the entire school system. Finally, to develop a support system for this program, a Resource Center is developed to serve as the center of future expansion to this integration program and improvement on China's special education program.

Persons with disabilities are amongst one of the most marginalized and discriminated groups of individuals. These individuals not only face the challenges of discrimination, but the issue of exclusion in education programs worldwide. In order to meet the concerns of UNESCO to provide and ensure the equal access of quality education for all and the knowledge of information to educators, and for the new vision of education outlined in SDG4 to be successful, programs developed by international organizations should be attainable and recognized by educators and political leaders globally. If the goal for inclusivity and implementation of special needs in education is successful, it will be able to mitigate the issue of discrimination and exclusion of persons with disabilities in the education system internationally.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- Referring back to the integration system in China, an issue with integrating children with special needs into school systems is allowing the parents to understand their child's disability. Unfortunately, a lot of cultures often reject or deny the concept of disabilities due to their cultural beliefs or inadequate educational background. How should international organizations remedy this issue of cultural differences and differences in cultural beliefs to where every culture understands the challenges persons with disabilities face in society?
- Not all goals were achieved by the target year of 2015 when the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were established. With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which focuses on the equity, and inclusion of persons with disabilities, how can international organizations ensure the international community puts forth the effort in order to achieve the set goals of an inclusive and equal environment for persons with disabilities by 2030?
- How can UNESCO, along with other branches of international organizations involved with ensuring the equality and inclusion of education for all, urge member states to take the necessary actions to ensure these rights for all individuals residing in their country?
- The *Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future* is a program attainable through CDROMS and web services. How can UNESCO request all educators on a global scale, even countries that are considered underdeveloped, attain this program?
- In order to provide support to organizations for persons with disabilities and to allow non-governmental organizations to participate in the full implementation of persons with special needs in an inclusive environment, the United Nations offers funding through the UN Voluntary Fund on Disability. Is there a way to ensure the continued funding of this program?

¹⁴⁰ UNESCO, *Examples of good practice in special needs education & community-based programmes*.

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Education 2030 Incheon Declaration, *Towards Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education and Lifelong Learning for All*. Retrieved 27 March 2017 from:

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002456/245656E.pdf>

In cooperation with different international organizations, UNESCO hosted the World Education Forum 2015 in Incheon, Republic of Korea, to discuss the new vision of Sustainable Development Goal for Education 2030. Their vision is to provide an “inclusive and equitable quality education” for all while promoting lifelong opportunities in the educational system.

UNESCO.org, *Convention against Discrimination in Education 1960*. Retrieved 4 May 2017 from:

http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=12949&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Established in 1960, this human rights treaty prohibits any form of discrimination and limitation to persons with disabilities. It calls for the principle of non-discrimination and asserts that every individual has the right to education, regardless of his or her disability. It also established that any sort of discrimination in education is considered a violation of human rights.

UNESCO, *Monitoring of the Implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (8th Consultation)*. Retrieved 27 March 2017 from:

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002325/232592e.pdf>

An estimated number of one billion people around the world today suffer from some form of disability. About 93 million of those individuals are children. Despite the data on the amount of persons with disabilities available, additional information is needed in order for the international community to successfully provide adequate solutions to the challenge of providing an inclusive and equitable educational environment to persons with special needs.

UNESCO, *Respecting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*. Retrieved 4 May 2017 from

http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/resources/online-materials/single-view/news/respecting_the_rights_of_persons_with_disabilities/

In order to raise awareness on persons with disabilities, UNESCO developed an ‘International Day of Persons with Disabilities’ as an opportunity to raise awareness on such topic. This day is celebrated on the 3rd of December annually and successful implementation of an inclusive educational environment is showcased in such events.

UNESCO, *Examples of Good Practice in Special Needs Education & Community- Based Programmes*. Retrieved 27 March 2017 from:

http://www.unesco.org/education/pdf/281_74.pdf

Using China as a prime example, the implementation of children with special needs into the educational system is successful with three key aspects: training, expansion and developing a support system. With adequate training, educators are able to provide for the needs of children with disabilities in their classroom. When this project first started, it begins in a small region of China. However, due to its success, it could be expanded to other underdeveloped regions of the country. By creating a Resource Centre to focus on the future expansion and integration program on China’s special education system, the support system behind this program will further the success of it.

UNESCO, *Education and Disability*. Retrieved 3 May 2017 from:

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002475/247516e.pdf>

Not all goals developed in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) were achieved by target year of 2015. In cooperation with other international organizations, UNESCO developed set a new set of

international goals to achieve by 2030. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) focused more on education and to providing an equal and inclusive opportunity for all.

UNESCO, *The Salamanca Statement and Framework for Action on Special Needs Education*. Retrieved 3 May 2017 from:

http://www.unesco.org/education/pdf/SALAMA_E.PDF

92 government representatives and 25 international organizations met in Salamanca, Spain in June of 1994 to discuss the subject of Education for All. This may be done through the consideration of fundamental policy shifts in order to promote an inclusive educational system for all persons with disabilities. The 'Salamanca Statement on Principles, Policy and Practice in Special Needs Education and a Framework for Action' was adopted, calling for the principle of inclusion and providing a school system for all.

Division for Social Policy and Development Disability, *Human Rights Council- Resolution 7/9. Human Rights of persons with disabilities*. Retrieved 3 May 2017 from:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/human-rights-council-resolution-79-human-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html>

This resolution reaffirms the importance of promoting, protecting and ensuring the equal and full enjoyment of fundamental freedoms and human rights for all persons with disabilities. Additionally, this resolution calls for the prevention and prohibition of all forms of discrimination against persons with disabilities and to ensure the full and effective participation of these individuals in society.

Inclusive Education in Action, *Project Framework and Rationale*. Retrieved 27 March 2017 from:

http://www.inclusive-education-in-action.org/iea/dokumente/upload/dae5a_iea-framework_and_rationale.pdf

Based on the collaboration between two international organizations, the Inclusive Education in Action (IEA) project works focuses on inclusive education. This project aims to provide a resource for international bodies as well as European policy makers to develop equal opportunities for all persons with disabilities in the international education system. The IEA project follows the guideline of inclusive education and diversity amongst all learners.

UNESCO, *Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future*. Retrieved 27 March 2017 from:

http://www.unesco.org/education/tlsf/mods/theme_gs/mod0a.html

In order to successfully implement an inclusive and equitable educational environment for all persons with disabilities, educators must first understand the challenges these individuals face in their daily lives. *Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future* is a program developed by UNESCO to assist educators worldwide to not only comprehend the concept of sustainable development and issues, but also how to cope with the new curricula established for all persons with special needs.

United Nations General Assembly, *Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (A/Res/48/96)*. Retrieved 3 May 2017 from:

<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r096.htm>

This resolution called for the elaboration of the standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for children with disabilities in cooperation with other international organizations. Additionally, this resolution requests that member states apply the developmental programs for persons with disabilities. Lastly, this resolution calls for the financial support of all member states.

UNICEF, *Disabilities*. Retrieved 27 March. 2017 from:

<https://www.unicef.org/disabilities/>

UN Enable, *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)*. Retrieved 27 March. 2017 from:
<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/faqs.htm#definition>

UNESCO, *About the Education Sector*. Retrieved 3 May 2017 from:
<http://en.unesco.org/themes/education-21st-century/about-us>

World Health Organization



Overview of the World Health Organization

“Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.” -World Health Organization, 1948

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency in the United Nations led by the World Health Assembly.¹⁴¹ It provides leadership in understanding, documenting, and addressing the world’s most pressing health problems. From recommending new ways to treat AIDS/HIV patients in Africa to delivering life-saving vaccinations to people in the deepest parts of the Amazon, the WHO’s work is diverse and far-reaching. The WHO currently operates offices in 150 countries as it address six core areas of concern:

- promoting development
- fostering health security
- strengthening health systems
- enhancing partnerships
- improving performance
- harnessing research, information, and evidence.¹⁴²

These core functions are the guiding framework for the WHO and are set out in greater detail in the 12th General Programme of Work (2014 to 2019).

The WHO also serves as a primary resource for data and statistics involving water facts, disease, causes of death, life expectancy, mortality, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, immunizations, maternal and neonatal care, nutrition, and more. This information can be accessed on the Internet through the Global Health Observatory (GHO), the WHO Global InfoBase, and the Global Health Atlas. The Organization has all of its positions and opinions on the education, treatment, and prevention of health related issues accessible on the Internet along with its governing constitution and other important documents that are relevant to a delegate’s research and preparation for this committee.

World Health Organization Topic 1: Malnutrition

Background:

Malnutrition can be defined simply as “poor nutrition.” It can be categorized in the following three ways:

- undernutrition, defined as “when a person does not get enough food to eat, causing them to be wasted¹⁴³,” which means that a person is too thin for his or her height¹⁴⁴;
- micronutrient deficiency, defined as “when person does not get enough important vitamins and minerals in their diet”; or
- overweight and obesity, defined as “linked to an unbalanced or unhealthy diet resulting in too many calories and often associated with lack of exercise”.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴¹ <http://www.who.int/about/en/>

¹⁴² <http://www.who.int/about/what-we-do/en/>

¹⁴³ World Health Organization, *What is Malnutrition?*

¹⁴⁴ World Health Organization, *Levels and Trends in Child Malnutrition*, 2106

¹⁴⁵ World Health Organization, *What is Malnutrition?*

Because of this multi-faceted definition, malnutrition encompasses a wide spectrum of problems pertaining to nutrition, and it continues to be a prominent problem today. It applies to various regions of the globe, in levels that are alarming.

Undernutrition and micronutrient deficiency are the two problems that are more frequently associated with malnutrition. This is more evident especially in developing countries. Currently, nearly half of all child deaths are related to undernutrition, which is more than any other cause of mortality¹⁴⁶. Furthermore, poor nutrition also hinders the development of children. This is because poor nutrition in the first 1000 days of a person's life can result in stunted growth with irreversible consequences, such as impaired cognitive ability¹⁴⁷. Worldwide in 2015, there were 156 million stunted children, with approximately 45% of them living in conflict-affected countries¹⁴⁸. Finally, the burden of undernutrition is unevenly distributed, with “those in low-income countries, pregnant women, and children being most affected”¹⁴⁹. The problem still very much persists in developing countries due to lack of resources and awareness, where a reduced quality of life results in a vicious cycle of undernutrition.

Overweight and obesity are also persistent problems related to malnutrition, with the prevalence of obesity having more than doubled between 1980 and 2014¹⁵⁰. This is a result of various environmental and societal changes that lead to an over consumption of calories, and low consumption of micronutrients¹⁵¹. This then can lead to increased risk of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as heart disease, diabetes, and osteoporosis, along with other health consequences. In fact, it is not unusual to find that undernutrition and obesity exist within the same country, the same community, or even the same household.¹⁵²

It is evident that malnutrition is a problem that cannot be taken lightly. In 2016, nearly 800 million people remain chronically undernourished and 159 million children under 5 years of age are stunted. Additionally, approximately 50 million children under 5 years of age are wasted¹⁵³, and over 2 billion people suffer from micronutrient deficiencies. On the other hand, “a rapidly increasing number of people are affected by obesity in all regions, with more than 1.9 billion overweight adults, of whom over 600 million are obese”¹⁵⁴. While some forms of malnutrition are more prominent in certain regions than others, this problem has a very strong impact globally. There is a double burden of malnutrition in which there is the coexistence of undernutrition along with overweight and obesity, and both aspects of malnutrition need to be addressed for a healthier global community.

Past Action:

The United Nations (UN) first recognized the importance of addressing malnutrition through the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition in 1974, which was adopted World Food Conference convened under General Assembly resolution 3180. Through this declaration, the UN made eliminating hunger and malnutrition a prime objective. Furthermore, this declaration encourages member states not only to work toward eradicating malnutrition at the national level, but also to assist

¹⁴⁶ World Food Programme, *Nutrition*.

¹⁴⁷ UNICEF, *The Faces of Malnutrition*.

¹⁴⁸ World Health Organization, *Q&A: Malnutrition and Emergencies*, 2017.

¹⁴⁹ United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition, *Global Governance for Nutrition and the role of UNSCN*.

¹⁵⁰ World Health Organization, *What is Malnutrition?*

¹⁵¹ United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition, *Global Governance for Nutrition and the role of UNSCN*.

¹⁵² World Health Organization, *What is Malnutrition?*

¹⁵³ World Health Organization, *Levels and Trends in Child Malnutrition*, 2016.

¹⁵⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2015-2025)*, 2016.

other member states in any way possible¹⁵⁵. In continuation of this, the International Conference on Nutrition (ICN) took place in 1992 as the first global conference solely focused on the world's nutrition problems. This conference, which was spearheaded by WHO and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), involved “representatives from 159 countries and the European Community, 15 United Nations organizations and 144 non-governmental organizations (NGOs)”, which led to discussion of combined efforts and aligning national agendas to achieve to overall goals established at the ICN. Furthermore, the World Declaration on Nutrition was made during the ICN, and it states that “Hunger and malnutrition are unacceptable in a world that has both the knowledge and the resources to end this human catastrophe.... We recognize that globally there is enough food for all and... pledge to act in solidarity to ensure that freedom from hunger becomes a reality”¹⁵⁶. Lastly, the inception of the UN System Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN) demonstrated UN efforts to create specialized bodies to tackle malnutrition.

The United Nations continued their efforts to tackle malnutrition into the 21st century, where the Second International Conference on Nutrition took place in 2014. This conference outlined various recommendations on how to improve nutrition, including recommending the declaration of a Decade of Action on Nutrition from 2015 to 2025. This recommendation was then put into action during the UN General Assembly's Seventieth Session in 2016, where the General Assembly proclaimed the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition from 2016 to 2025. The session resulted in a resolution calling for the FAO and the WHO to lead the implementation of policies to combat malnutrition, encouraging governments to address issues of malnutrition, and calling on international partners and the private sector to support governments in this endeavor.

Additionally, malnutrition is also mentioned in the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which were developed in 2015 as a successor to the Millennium Development Goals. Sustainable Development Goals are part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with the High-level Political Forum as the main UN platform reviewing this agenda. Sustainable Development Goal 2 aims to “end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture”¹⁵⁷. This goal highlights the commitment made to end all forms of malnutrition by 2030, while also addressing how ending malnutrition is dependent on sustainable food production and agricultural practices. One of the goal's specific targets is to end, by 2030, “all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children, under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons”¹⁵⁸. This goal highlights the sense of urgency taken by the UN in regards to addressing malnutrition.

Case Study:

Sub-Saharan Africa is home to some of the most nutritionally insecure people in the world (UNDP report), where various factors such as limited resources, HIV, and poor access to health services contribute to the increased level of malnutrition. Chronic malnutrition is a major problem in the region, where 43% of children in the region are “stunted” because of it and have shown little improvement (prb.org). The UN and Food Agricultural Organization estimates that in 2014-6, roughly 233 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are hungry/undernourished (worldhunger.org). Maternal education also contributes to the problem, as mothers are unaware of the nutritional needs that children have, and so the health of their children becomes jeopardized (USAID). While there have been efforts made by UN bodies through educational campaigns and provision of ready-to-use therapeutic foods, much more can still be

¹⁵⁵ United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner, *Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition*.

¹⁵⁶ Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, *World Declaration and Plan of Action for Nutrition*, 1992.

¹⁵⁷ United Nations Sustainable Development Knowledge Forum, *Sustainable Development Goal 2*.

¹⁵⁸ Ibid.

done to reduce malnutrition in the region. Furthermore, this case study exemplifies the need for further action, and how collaboration between member states may be needed to tackle this issue.

Conclusion:

Malnutrition has been recognized as a global issue for many years, and its alarming rise has brought it to the forefront of the United Nations agenda. The efforts made by numerous UN bodies and other parties are commendable, but more can be done. In the ongoing Decade of Action on Nutrition, it is crucial for member states to utilize this time to take greater efforts to address malnutrition, and to cooperate with UN bodies in doing so. Increased dialogue and cooperation between member states, and further expansion of existing programs may be necessary to effectively address this issue. Malnutrition directly impacts the health of future generations, and the well-being of our global community, and thus is of the utmost importance.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- What are strategies that can be used to address the various types of malnutrition, especially the double burden of undernutrition and obesity?
- What are the different sources of malnutrition that need to be tackled, and how can that be done with existing WHO programs? Are there other existing programs that can be expanded on to better address the problem?
- How can WHO assist Member States in better identifying malnutrition, and thus preparing better solutions to address it?
- How can Member States better coordinate and share information with one another regarding the issue of malnutrition?
- What other UN bodies, external parties and organizations can contribute to finding solutions for malnutrition?
- How can maternal education be improved and contribute to the solution for malnutrition?

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<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/EradicationOfHungerAndMalnutrition.aspx>

This is the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition, which is adopted by the World Food Conference convened under General Assembly resolution 3180, and endorsed by General Assembly resolution 3348. In this declaration, the conference recognizes the right for people to be free from malnutrition. This declaration also highlights the relationship between malnutrition and food production.

United Nations, United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition (n.d.). *What We Do* [website]. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from: <https://www.unscn.org/en/about/what-we-do>

The United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN) is an administrative coordinating committee that was put in place through a UN Economic and Social Council resolution. With the vision "a world free from hunger and all forms of malnutrition is attainable in this generation," the UNSCN has

4 objectives pertaining to nutrition. The objectives include (1) maximize UN policy coherence and advocacy on nutrition, (2) support consistent and accountable delivery by the UN system, (3) explore new and emerging nutrition-related issues, (4) promote knowledge sharing across the UN system.

United Nations, Second International Conference on Nutrition (2014). *Conference Outcome Document: Rome Declaration on Nutrition (ICN2 2014/2)*. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-ml542e.pdf>

This was the declaration outcome out of the Second International Conference on Nutrition which was held by FAO and WHO. This document outlines the multiple challenges that malnutrition presents to development and health. The document also reaffirms the commitment of various parties such as FAO and WHO in addressing malnutrition. This document recommended the declaration of a Decade of Action on Nutrition from 2016 to 2025.

United Nations, Second International Conference on Nutrition (2014). *Conference Outcome Document: Framework of Action (ICN2 2014/3 Corr.1)*. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mm215e.pdf>

This document highlights the outcome of the Second International Conference on Nutrition held by FAO and WHO. It specifically outlines a framework of action, by giving specific purpose and targets, and listing recommended actions for various areas of issues. It is complementary to the previous document mentioned.

United Nations, World Health Organization, Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly (2015). *Resolutions and Decisions*. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from: http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA68-REC1/A68_R1_REC1-en.pdf?ua=1#page=27

This is a resolution adopted by the World Health Organization on the outcome of the Second International Conference on Nutrition. It outlines budgeting for WHO programs, especially in issues pertaining to malnutrition. This page is a part of a greater document that compiles various resolutions from the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-ninth session (2015). *Follow-up on Second International Conference on Nutrition (A/RES/69/310)*. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from: http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/69/310

This is a resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 6 July 2015, as a follow-up to the Second International Conference on Nutrition. This resolution recognizes the concern to prevent all forms of malnutrition, and invites governments, agencies, and programs of the UN systems to implement the Framework of Action. This resolution was adopted prior to the proclamation of the Decade of Action on Nutrition, and so this contributed to the formulation of that.

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session (2016). *United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) (A/RES/70/259)*. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from: http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/259

The General Assembly proclaimed the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition from 2016 to 2025. This resolution calls upon Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) to lead the implementation, encouraging governments to address issues such as undernourishment, and calling on parties such as international partners and private sector to support the government in this endeavor. This resolution highlights the importance of addressing malnutrition and invites member states to push for this.

United Nations, Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform (n.d.). *Sustainable Development Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture*. Retrieved

24 March 2017 from: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg2>

Sustainable Development Goals are part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The main UN platform for follow-up and review of this agenda is the High-level Political Forum. Sustainable Development Goal 2 aims to “end hunger, achieve food security improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. This goal highlights the commitment made to end all forms of malnutrition by 2030. It also emphasizes how ending malnutrition is dependent on sustainable food production and agricultural practices.

United Nations, World Health Organization (n.d.). *Facts for life (4th edition)*. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from: http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/documents/9789280644661/en/

This document is released by WHO and is a joint publication between UNICEF, WHO, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNDP, WFP, UNAIDS and the World Bank. It is the fourth edition of the document, and it is published for families to better understand how they can improve the lives of children. the document has a section dedicated to nutrition and growth. this document demonstrates one of the attempts made to address malnutrition, by educating families.

United Nations, World Health Organization (2006). *WHO, UNICEF and SCN Informal onsultation on Community-Based Management of Severe Malnutrition in Children*. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from:

http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/documents/pdfs/fnb_v27n3_suppl.pdf?ua=1

This document is a SCN nutrition policy paper published in 2006 by WHO, UNICEF, and UNSCN, based on a meeting of experts in 20015 to review recent developments and formulate recommendations on nutrition. This document discusses the threat severe malnutrition poses, and how to cater to the community of large number of children who are severely malnourished.

United Nations, World Health Organization (2009). *WHO child growth standards and the identification of sever acute malnutrition in infants and children*. Retrieved 24 Mach 2017

from: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44129/1/9789241598163_eng.pdf?ua=1&ua=1

This is a joint statement made by WHO and UNICEF. It was published in 2009, and it is aimed to make identifying malnutrition in children easier. The document includes different criteria such as weight and height to measure malnutrition. It also outlines WHO standards and the different programs that can be implemented in order to address malnutrition.

United Nations, World Health Organization (2007). *Community-based management of severe acute malnutrition*. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44295/1/9789280641479_eng.pdf?ua=1&ua=1

This is a document authored by WHO, UNICEF, WFP, and UNSCN. It was published in 2007 and is a joint statement that outlines various community-based interventions that can be utilized to combat acute malnutrition. It gives various statistics and case studies pertaining to malnutrition, as well as implementable solutions that incorporates ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF).

United Nations, International Funds for Agricultural Development (2001). *Need for Concerted Efforts to Reduce Malnutrition*. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from:

https://www.ifad.org/newsroom/press_release/past/tags/y2001/2229175

This document is released by the International Funds for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a specialized agency of the United Nations. This agency’s main focus is on eradicating rural poverty, and malnutrition is one of the issues that goes along with it. This document highlights how chronic malnutrition is something that needs to be considered when framing strategies of poverty reduction. It demonstrates the emphasis of tackling malnutrition even in other UN bodies aside from WHO.

“Malnutrition Fact Sheet.” *Starved for Attention*. Blue Cadet. Retrieved 24 March 2017 from: <http://www.starvedforattention.org/inc/en/press/Malnutrition-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

This is a malnutrition fact sheet that was released in the “Starved for Attention” campaign, a campaign spearheaded by Doctors Without Borders in 2010. This document highlights the different definitions of malnutrition and ways to combat it. This fact sheet also outlines attempts that are currently made by Doctors Without Borders, as well as by other organizations.

“Malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa: burden, causes and prospects.” *The Pan African Medical Journal*. Retrieved 1 April 2017 from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3830470/>

This article discusses the case study of malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa. It outlines various statistics regarding malnutrition, as well as various factors that play a role in the issue. The factors mentioned include poverty, food security, and education.

United Nations, United Nations Children’s Fund (2013). *Evaluation of Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM): Global Synthesis Report*. Retrieved 1 April 2017 from:

https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/files/Final_CMAM_synthesis_FINAL_VERSION_with_ExSum_translations.pdf

This document is an evaluation report published by UNICEF in order to examine the efforts made to combat undernutrition. The program Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) has been developed over the past decade, and this document examines the overall progress of its implementation, and possible ways to expand it. The document uses case studies of five countries, namely Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nepal and Pakistan.

“Reducing Child Malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa: Surveys Find Mixed Progress.” *Population Reference Bureau*. Retrieved 1 April 2017 from:

<http://www.prb.org/Publications/Articles/2008/stuntingssa.aspx>.

This published article discusses how chronic malnutrition, especially in children, is a persistent problem in the region of Sub-Saharan Africa. It draws comparison between Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia, who over the same course of time, have dropped their percentage of children who are stunted. This article mainly focuses on stunting as a result of malnutrition, and how it is represented in Sub-Saharan Africa.

United Nations, World Health Organization (2016). *What is Malnutrition?* Retrieved 25 April 2017 from: <http://www.who.int/features/qa/malnutrition/en/>

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United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund (2016). *Levels and Trends in Child Malnutrition*. Retrieved 25 April 2017 from: http://www.who.int/nutgrowthdb/jme_brochure2016.pdf.

World Health Organization Topic 2: Access to Healthcare

Background:

Since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948, the United Nations (UN) has considered healthcare to be a fundamental entitlement belonging to every person.¹⁵⁹ The passage of the *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015)* represents the next step towards filling the UDHR’s vision for healthcare.¹⁶⁰ Within this General Assembly (GA) resolution is Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Three, which includes the following target: “Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.”¹⁶¹ The obstacles that must be overcome in order to achieve this 2030 target remain formidable. Globally, 1.4 billion individuals do not receive basic medical services and 100 million people fall below the poverty line because of out-of-pocket spending on healthcare.¹⁶² Additionally, 35% of the public medical facilities located in developing nations do not have access to critical medicines.¹⁶³

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines universal healthcare as the following: “Ensuring that all people have access to needed promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative health services, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that people do not suffer financial hardship when paying for these services.”¹⁶⁴ The expected benefits from achieving universal healthcare are immense. Among these anticipated results are increased life expectancies, reduced destitution, greater equality, and more progress towards achieving other SDGs.¹⁶⁵ In order to attain these benefits, many aspects of healthcare delivery must be reconsidered and greater efficiencies developed. Foremost among the items that must be reevaluated are mechanisms for pooling risk, the equitable distribution of healthcare providers, and health technology assessment (HTA).¹⁶⁶

Summary of Past UN Action

In 2000, the GA adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration, outlining eight goals the institution would aim to achieve by 2015.¹⁶⁷ Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 4 called for a reduction in child mortality; MDG 5 sought an improvement in maternal health and MDG 6 aimed to reduce HIV, AIDS, and malaria infection rates.¹⁶⁸ By 2015, child mortality had declined by more than 50% around the globe.¹⁶⁹ The rate of maternal mortality declined by 45% and new HIV and AIDS infection rates declined

¹⁵⁹ UN General Assembly, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (*A/RES/3/217A*), 1948.

¹⁶⁰ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015.

¹⁶¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁶² World Health Organization, *Ministerial-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage 18-19, Feb. 2013*.

¹⁶³ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁴ Dr. Marie-Paule Kieny. “Universal Health Coverage.” World Health Organization.

¹⁶⁵ World Health Organization, *Universal Health Coverage at the center of sustainable development: contributions of sciences, technology and innovations to health systems strengthening*, 2013.

¹⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁷ UN General Assembly, United Nations Millennium Development Goals, 2000.

¹⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁹ UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *The Millennium Development Goals Report*, 2015.

by more than 40%.¹⁷⁰ Thus, the UN has been highly successful at targeting and reducing specific healthcare issues in the past.

Recognizing the profound need for greater healthcare coverage, the GA adopted resolution 66/288 (2012).¹⁷¹ Within this document, Member States pledged to either develop or strengthen healthcare systems that provide universal coverage. Furthermore, delegates recognized the necessity of a multisectoral approach to healthcare expansion that includes all pertinent actors.¹⁷² Responding to the adoption of this resolution, the World Bank (WB) and the WHO held a joint ministerial-level meeting to discuss universal healthcare.¹⁷³ Twenty-seven ministers of finance participated in a dialogue that centered on discussing lessons from their current, national healthcare policies.¹⁷⁴ All participating nations committed themselves to accelerating their transition to a universal healthcare system.¹⁷⁵ In March of 2013, the High Level Dialogue on Health in the Post-2015 Agenda was held in Gaborone in order to discuss universal healthcare as an operational goal of the UN.¹⁷⁶ The participants concluded that universal health coverage should be an operational goal of the UN, but must include the following areas of intervention: promotion, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliation.¹⁷⁷

On December 12, 2012, the General Assembly adopted resolution 67/81 (2012).¹⁷⁸ Designed to build upon resolution 66/288(2012), this document includes the following critical provisions:

- Urges Member States to recognize the connection between the advocacy for universal healthcare and other foreign policy objectives,
- Recognizes the invaluable role primary care providers play in healthcare delivery,
- Acknowledges the need for continued development of mechanisms designed to protect individuals from healthcare related financial risk,
- Emphasizes the importance of providing comprehensive medical services to all people, regardless of their geographical location,
- Encourages Member States to develop healthcare delivery systems that limit out-of-pocket expenses at the point of delivery,
- Tasks the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) with considering the issue of universal healthcare in partnership with other pertinent stakeholders.¹⁷⁹

Resolution 67/81 serves as the primary guiding document for ECOSOC discussions on the issues of universal healthcare. In compliance with the GA's request, ECOSOC held a 2013 high-level panel discussion labeled, "Universal Health Coverage at the center of sustainable development: contributions of sciences, technology and innovations to health systems strengthening."¹⁸⁰ The panels consisted of national ministers, UN executive agency heads, and civil society representatives. The discussion focused heavily on the potential role technology can play in overcoming many of obstacles modern health systems face.¹⁸¹

¹⁷⁰ Ibid.

¹⁷¹ UN General Assembly, *The Future We Want (A/Res/66/288)*, 2012.

¹⁷² Ibid.

¹⁷³ World Health Organization, *Universal Health Coverage at the center of sustainable development: contributions of sciences, technology and innovations to health systems strengthening*, 2013.

¹⁷⁴ Ibid.

¹⁷⁵ Ibid.

¹⁷⁶ World Health Organization, *High Level Dialogue on Health in the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Meeting Report*, 2013.

¹⁷⁷ Ibid.

¹⁷⁸ UN General Assembly, *Global Health and Foreign Policy (A/Res/67/81)*, 2012.

¹⁷⁹ Ibid.

¹⁸⁰ World Health Organization, *Universal Health Coverage at the center of sustainable development: contributions of sciences, technology and innovations to health systems strengthening*, 2013.

¹⁸¹ Ibid.

Panels such as these allow Member States to understand different institutional perspectives, as well as disseminate ideas that have succeeded in their own nation. For example, several developing nations elaborated on how the use of information and communication technology (ICT) has led to an increase in health literacy rates and disease surveillance.¹⁸²

Case Study 1: Mobil Health Services

Kenya's Samburu County is located 300km north of the nation's capital in Nairobi. In order to reach this rural population, vast expanses of desert, with rocky paths and shifting sands, must be crossed.¹⁸³ Such a remote place characterizes one of the major challenges policymakers must overcome when designing universal healthcare systems: how do you reach such an insulated population? The people of Samburu County suffered from many preventable diseases. For example, malaria, tetanus, and eye infections were common throughout the region.¹⁸⁴ In addition, maternal deaths resulting from childbirth were higher than the national average. The Communities Health Africa-Trust (CHAT) decided to solve this healthcare gap through the use of mobile camel clinics.¹⁸⁵ Although archaic, the camel is capable of crossing the extreme desert terrain better than modern vehicles. The mobile clinic typically consists of seven to ten camels, medical workers, camel handlers, and two family planners.¹⁸⁶ Through CHAT's innovative approach, the basic medical needs of this isolated population have been met and many lives have been saved.

Case Study 2: eHealth

The WHO defines eHealth as, "The use of information and communication technologies (ICT) for health."¹⁸⁷ Globally, the WHO estimates that there is a shortage of 2.3 million physicians.¹⁸⁸ As the global population continues to grow, innovative methods for maximizing the amount of patients a single doctor can care for must be created. In Malawi, the government has stated its desire to reduce maternal mortality rates. In order to accomplish this goal, the government has turned to the telecommunications company Airtel. Through the use of a text messaging system, Airtel can expand the reach and effectiveness of local clinics.¹⁸⁹ For example, pregnant women will receive regular text messages reminding them to take their medications or instructing them on how best to cover their newborns with a mosquito net.¹⁹⁰ Today, more than 500,000 women rely on the Airtel system for much of their regular medical needs.¹⁹¹

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

¹⁸² Ibid.

¹⁸³ Oyaró, Kwamboka. "Taking Health Services to Remote Places." *Africa Renewal*, Mar. 2017.

¹⁸⁴ Ibid.

¹⁸⁵ Ibid.

¹⁸⁶ Ibid.

¹⁸⁷ WHO, "Atlas of eHealth Country Profiles," 2015.

¹⁸⁸ Scheffler, Richard, "Forecasting the global shortage of physicians: an economic- and needs-based approach," World Health Organization, 2006.

¹⁸⁹ Oyaró.

¹⁹⁰ Ibid.

¹⁹¹ Ibid.

- What steps has your nation taken in order to achieve the goals established in SDG 3 and resolution 67/81? What would your nation propose to resolve the issue of access to healthcare at the global level?
- How can information and communication technologies be used to alleviate the physician shortages?
- What role can eHealth play in helping Member States transition to a universal healthcare system? What challenges might arise in implementing such a program and how can they be averted?
- How can the WHO better assist Member States in providing healthcare services to all individuals, regardless of geographical location? What infrastructure might be necessary, and what role can the WHO play in providing it?
- How can the UN better facilitate the sharing of best practices and ideas in order to achieve the goals established in SDG 3 and resolution 67/81?

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This publication provides a valuable overview of the health care systems in eighteen developed nations. In particular, it highlights the methods of funding, quality metrics, and the institutional structures used to deliver medical services. This report also highlights disparities that exist within these systems.

"New online portal helps World Health Organization track global access to universal health coverage." *UN News Centre*, 12 Dec. 2016, http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=55784#.WNWFV_21vZs.

The World Health Organization (WHO) is launching a new data portal designed to track and disseminate information on global progress towards achieving universal coverage. All 194 members of WHO are expected to participate in the program. In the future, the data portal is expected to be able to track the financial impact of acquiring healthcare services. Eventually, this tool will assist nations in further building their health care infrastructure.

Cabieses, Baltica. "Glossary to Access to Health Care and Related Concepts for Low-and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs): A Critical Review of International Literature." *National Institute of Health*, 1 Oct. 2014, <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.2190/HS.44.4.j>.

This report provides key definitions of concepts that pertain to the topic of health care access. The publication is targeted towards developing nations and is designed to help local officials develop equal access health care systems. This source provides a valuable introduction into the administrative jargon of the medical field.

"Tracking Universal Health Coverage: First Global Monitoring Report." *World Health Organization*, June 2015, http://www.who.int/healthinfo/universal_health_coverage/report/2015/en/.

This report revealed that 400 million people around the globe lack access to minimum levels of health care services. Furthermore, 6% of people in low- and middle-income countries are falling deeper into poverty because of health care spending. Overall, this report measures each nations progress towards achieving a health care system that provides universal coverage.

"World Health Statistics 2016: Monitoring health for the SDGs Report and Annexes." *World Health Organization*, 19 May 2016, http://www.who.int/gho/publications/world_health_statistics/2016/en/.

Global life expectancy increased 5 years between 2000 and 2015; however, major health care inequalities continue to persist both within and between countries. This report details all 194-member states' progress towards United Nations' related health system performance goals. Furthermore, it lists valuable health related metrics such as life expectancy and life expectancy at birth for each member state.

“Global Health Observatory Data: Map Gallery.” *World Health Organization*.
<http://www.who.int/gho/mapgallery/en/>.

This resource provides valuable visual tools on all major health related issues. These maps detail the percentages and countries greatest affected by ongoing disease outbreaks and chronic illnesses. Additionally, these maps detail country level health system success on vital issues such as child health, mental health, and road safety.

“Research Report: Promoting Universal Health Care for all Citizens.” *Economic and Social Council*, 28 Aug. 2014, <http://www.munish.nl/pages/downloader?code=ecosoc01&comcodeecosoc&year=2014>.

Although the twenty-first century has ushered in many technological advancements, a large percentage of the human population continues to live without access to health care services. This report attempts to articulate the problem and provide a pathway for developing nations to achieve universal health coverage. In addition, this report provides the arguments for and against a Universal Health Care system.

“Universal Health Coverage at the Center of Sustainable Development: Contributions of Sciences, Technology and Innovations to Health Systems Strengthening.” *Economic and Social Council*,
http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/julyhls/pdf13/concept_paper-uhc_during_ecosoc_amr.pdf.

This report highlights new information and communication technology that is revolutionizing health care delivery. For example, new medical records allow health care workers to better track and coordinate the vaccinations and primary care checkups individuals need. Furthermore, these technologies allow developing nations to better manage their medical resources and decide which technologies are best to acquire.

“Sustainable Development Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.”
United Nations, <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/health/>.

This SDG most applies to the issue of universal health care, as it sets specific targets for reducing illness and promoting healthy lives. For example, by 2030 global maternal mortality is supposed to be reduced to 70 per 100,000 births. Significant progress has been achieved in previous decade, as 17,000 less children die every day than in 1990.

“Global Health and Foreign Policy (A/RES/67/81).” *United Nations General Assembly*, 6 Dec. 2012,
http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/67/L.36.

Adopted by consensus, the United Nations General Assembly resolution calls for all member states to adopt health care systems that limit out of pocket expenses for citizens at the initial point of contact with domestic health care systems. Furthermore, this resolution calls for member states to develop mechanisms for pooling risk in order to limit family spending in the aftermath of a catastrophic incident. Additionally, this resolution calls upon the Secretary General to formulate a report that details member state successes in implementing universal health coverage systems.

“Adolescents and Youth (Res/2012/1).” *The Commission on Population and Development*. 27 Apr. 2012, http://www.un.org/esa/population/cpd/cpd2012/Agenda%20item%208/Decisions%20and%20resolution/Resolution%202012_1_Adolescents%20and%20Youth. Pdf. *Adolescents and youth are afflicted by many of the globe’s most serious issues. In particular, many of the planet’s youth suffer from a lack of health care. This resolution attempts to address this issue by encouraging all nation states to invest in health care infrastructure. In addition, it calls on all national governments to eliminate racial or gender barriers to access.*

“Health, Morbidity, Mortality, and Development (E/2010/25).” *The Commission on Population and Development*. 12 Apr. 2010, http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/commission/pdf/43/CPD43_Res2010-1.pdf. *Aimed at reducing the mortality rate around the globe, this resolution encourages the adoption of reform measures such as a greater emphasis on public health and the strengthening of health care systems. Furthermore, this resolution calls for more South-South cooperation designed to share best practices. In addition, the empowerment of women within the health care system is vital to achieving universal coverage and is a fundamental aspect of this resolution.*

Ministerial Declaration of the 2009 High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council: Implementing the Internationally Agreed Goals and Commitments in Regard to Public Health.” *Economic and Social Council*, 9 July 2009, http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/declarations/ministerial_declaration-2009.pdf. *Adopted by consensus, this resolution aims to engage all community stakeholders in reaching the agreed upon goals related to public health. For example, this resolution contains key provisions designed to reduce the maternal morbidity rate across the planet. In addition, the ministerial declaration calls on all nations to strengthen their health care systems in order to comply with international standards.*

“The Future We Want (A/Res/66/288).” *United Nations General Assembly*, 2012, http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/rio20_outcome_document_complete.pdf. *This resolution contains a section that discusses universal healthcare. In addition, Member States recognized the need for an approach that included all relevant actors and all those involved in healthcare.*

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)



Overview of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) will be simulated for the first time at Baylor MUN in 2017. The CSW is a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) that was established in 1946 to promote gender equality and women's empowerment.¹⁹² In 1996, fifty years after its creation, the CSW's mandate expanded to encompass monitoring the implementation progress of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.¹⁹³ In 2015 with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, CSW's scope expanded again to include promoting achievement of the 2030 goal targets, generally, and Goal 5, specifically.¹⁹⁴ Each year the CSW adopts a priority theme, and for 2017, this theme is "women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work." Related to this theme, delegates preparing for Baylor MUN 2017 will consider focus on two topics: equal pay and women's political participation.

As you prepare for conference, we encourage you to start with three important websites linked in the footnotes below: the CSW's homepage, the Beijing Platform, and materials on the Sustainable Development Goals website. Also, as you prepare, note one very important difference between how the CSW operates in real life and how our conference simulation will proceed. While the CSW prepares an annual report with "agreed conclusions," at the conference delegates in this committee will write resolutions. To help you to prepare for resolution writing, consult materials in the Delegate Guide below, and read resolutions written by ECOSOC, examples of which you will find linked on the CSW's webpage.

The 45 Member States with representation in the CSW are:

Albania	Bahrain	Bangladesh
Belgium	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Brazil
Canada	Chile	China
Colombia	Congo	Egypt
El Salvador	Equatorial Guinea	Eritrea
Estonia	Ghana	Guatemala
Guyana	India	Iran
Ireland	Israel	Kazakhstan
Kenya	Kuwait	Liberia
Liechtenstein	Malawi	Mongolia
Namibia	Niger	Nigeria
Norway	Peru	Qatar
Republic of Korea	Russian Federation	Spain
Tajikistan	Trinidad and Tobago	Tunisia
United Kingdom	United Republic of Tanzania	Uruguay

Important note for Baylor MUN 2017 Conference Preparation: CSW is not a committee with universal membership for all Member States. If your Member State does not appear in the list above, that means you should not prepare the CSW topics for this conference, as your nation is not part of this committee at this time.

¹⁹² <http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw>; see founding document E(Res)11:II (1946).

¹⁹³ <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/>

¹⁹⁴ <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/>

CSW Topic 1: Women’s Political Participation

Introduction:

Around the world, there remains significant gender inequality in politics. The basis of a woman’s right to participate politically is rooted in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.¹⁹⁵ The International Organization of Parliaments (IPU) works to increase awareness of gender sensitivity and increase women’s ability to participate in politics.¹⁹⁶ In 2008 the IPU conducted a survey about gender equality in politics. The survey showed that women tend to focus more on social issues than men; furthermore, it also reported that around 50% of women believe men cannot accurately represent women’s interests, that women are not well represented in the policy-making of their political parties, and that women lack significant influence in many areas including finance, foreign affairs, and national defense.¹⁹⁷ In 2011 the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights reported slow progress of political participation by women in the Americas, and in 2012 the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality of the European Parliament stated that women are underrepresented in leadership positions in the European Union (EU).¹⁹⁸ Also in 2012, the World Bank noted that the economic growth experienced by the Asia-Pacific region could largely be attributed to the increasing number of women in the work force, but the World Bank also declared that this alone, without women’s political participation, is not enough to reach true gender equality.¹⁹⁹

Many departments in the United Nations (UN) encourage Member States to implement gender equality in their constitutions.²⁰⁰ Although 143 constitutions guarantee gender equality, in 2014 52 Member States still remained without this assurance.²⁰¹ Furthermore, only 23 Member States have quotas in their constitutions requiring a certain number of women to be nominated as candidates for political positions.²⁰² The number of women as the heads of state has increased slightly, but this area of government is still male dominated.²⁰³ The percent of women who hold a position in a parliamentary house is 23.3%,²⁰⁴ women in ministerial position is 16.7%, and women as peace negotiators is 9%.²⁰⁵ Over recent years, there has been significant progress in attaining the universal right to vote for women.²⁰⁶ Examples of progress around the world include Pakistani female voter registration reaching 86% in 2012, which increased from 44% in the past, and the legislator of Timor-Leste reaching 38% female representation,

¹⁹⁵ United Nations, *Measures Taken and Progress Achieved in the Promotion of Women and Political Participation*, 2013.

¹⁹⁶ Inter-Parliamentary Union, *Equality in Politics: A Survey of Women and Men in Parliaments*, 2008.

¹⁹⁷ Inter-Parliamentary Union, *Equality in Politics: A Survey of Women and Men in Parliaments*, 2008.

¹⁹⁸ UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Issue of Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice*, 2013.

¹⁹⁹ UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Issue of Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice*, 2013.

²⁰⁰ United Nations, *Measures Taken and Progress Achieved in the Promotion of Women and Political Participation*, 2013.

²⁰¹ UN Women, *SDG 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls*.

²⁰² United Nations, *Measures Taken and Progress Achieved in the Promotion of Women and Political Participation*, 2013.

²⁰³ United Nations, *Measures Taken and Progress Achieved in the Promotion of Women and Political Participation*, 2013.

²⁰⁴ Women in Parliaments: World and Regional Averages, *Women in National Parliaments*, 2017.

²⁰⁵ United Nations, *Measures Taken and Progress Achieved in the Promotion of Women and Political Participation*, 2013.

²⁰⁶ UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Issue of Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice*, 2013.

which is the highest proportion in Asia.²⁰⁷ Additionally, Kenya reached 20% female representation in its legislator in 2013, and Zimbabwe created a new constitution firm on women's rights, resulting in an increase of female participation in politics.²⁰⁸ These cases, while showing important progress around the world, are a small start. Women have made progress in their role in non-government and grass-root organizations, this progress has not been matched in government positions.²⁰⁹ The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) set goals to increase the percent of women in leadership to 30% by 1995 and 50% by 2000. These goals were not met.²¹⁰ More concrete action must be taken in order to meet future goals.

Past Action:

The UN first addressed the issue of women's rights in 1946 when it created the UN Commission on the Status of Women.²¹¹ This Commission has played an active role in working toward the end of discrimination against women. In 1952 the Commission on the Status of Women created the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, which resulted in Member States committing themselves to achieving the political equality of women by allowing them to both vote and work in public office.²¹² The year of 1975 was International Women's Year, and the UN celebrated International Women's Day, a day to recognize the achievements of women, for the first time.²¹³ The first world conference on women was also held in 1975 in Mexico and has been followed by other world conferences on women in Copenhagen (1980), Nairobi (1985), and Beijing (1995).²¹⁴ After the International Women's Year, the UN dedicated 1976-1985 as the Decade for Women.²¹⁵

In 1979 the UN Commission on the Status of Women held the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly (GA) with the purpose of discussing women's right to participate in politics. It resulted in an international bill and agenda meant to develop, advance, and ensure the equality of women as well as ensure the equal opportunity of women to be in government and work free of discrimination.²¹⁶ The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women was formed in 1982 as a result of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination.²¹⁷ In 1994, the IPU created a Plan of Action meant to correct imbalances in political participation by emphasizing the necessity of political participation by women.²¹⁸ The Fourth World Conference on Women was held in 1995, and it resulted in the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, which argues that gender equality and justice should be important to all people because equality and justice are essential to a sustainable and developed society.²¹⁹ It also pushes for the guarantee of equal access and participation in power for women as well as recognizing the need for an increase in the

²⁰⁷ UN Women, *Women's Leadership and Political Participation*.

²⁰⁸ UN Women, *Women's Leadership and Political Participation*.

²⁰⁹ UN Women, *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action: Beijing +5 Political Declaration and Outcome*.

²¹⁰ United Nations, *Measures Taken and Progress Achieved in the Promotion of Women and Political Participation*, 2013.

²¹¹ UN Women, *Commission on the Status of Women*.

²¹² WomenAid, *UN Action for Women*.

²¹³ United Nations, *International Women's Day*.

²¹⁴ United Nations, *Beijing and Its Follow-up*.

²¹⁵ United Nations, *International Decades*.

²¹⁶ United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, 1979.

²¹⁷ United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, 1979.

²¹⁸ Plan of Action, *Plan of Action to Correct Present Imbalances in the Participation of Men and Women in Political Life*, 1994.

²¹⁹ UN Women, *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action: Beijing +5 Political Declaration and Outcome*.

number of women in decision-making roles.²²⁰ The Security Council adopted resolution UNSCR 1325 in 2000, which recognizes that women must play central roles in politics.²²¹

In 2010, the GA formed UN Women, a body meant to empower women and work toward gender equality.²²² One year later, the GA created A/RES/66/130, which calls on Member States to increase the political participation of women and their efforts to reach gender equality through reviewing their systems to look for anything that may negatively impact women or bar their political participation.²²³ The Secretary-General wrote a follow up report on this resolution. In it he noted that although poor progress has been made, organizations such as UN Women and UNDP are taking active steps such as holding trainings about gender and elections, and he urged Member States to have a stronger commitment to promoting gender equality.²²⁴

In 2013, a report was written on the achievements and challenges to women's political participation. The Working Group that wrote the report held sessions with many Member States, UN-Women, the UN Secretariat, and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women in order to discuss ideas, learn about specific regions, and learn about the legal system views of different Member States.²²⁵ In 2014, UN Women created the HeForShe initiative, which works toward getting more men involved in advocating for women's rights.²²⁶ The UN Women also plays an active role in working to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5. SDG was created in 2015 with the goal of reaching true gender equality.²²⁷ Having women in government can help achieve SDG 5 because women will have a louder voice and will bring different ideas, opinions, and concerns to the attention of the government.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- What role has your delegation played in promoting and improving the political participation of women?
- Keeping in mind state sovereignty, what can be done to encourage Member States to take action if they have not yet done so?
- How has your delegation's region promoted women's political participation?
- How can different UN bodies partner to encourage and foster the growth of the percentage of women in government leadership positions?
- How can the UN build upon its past actions to yield more results?

²²⁰ UN Women, *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action: Beijing +5 Political Declaration and Outcome*.

²²¹ UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Issue of Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice*, 2013.

²²² UN Women, *About UN Women*.

²²³ United Nations, *66/130. Women and Political Participation*, 2011.

²²⁴ United Nations, *Measures Taken and Progress Achieved in the Promotion of Women and Political Participation*, 2013.

²²⁵ UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Issue of Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice*, 2013.

²²⁶ UN Women, *SDG 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls*.

²²⁷ UN Women, *SDG 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls*.

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"Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action: Beijing +5 Political Declaration and Outcome." *UN Women*. Web.

http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/pfa_e_final_web.pdf?vs=800

This declaration has been impactful in reaching equality for women. Each action laid out is accompanied by concerns and related action. This declaration makes clear the importance of increased and equal representation and participation by women in politics. It then lays out strategic objectives and actions for each objective, but also notes that many obstacles still remain.

"Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women." *United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner*. 18 Dec. 1979. Web.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CEDAW.aspx>

This source discusses the background information about the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. The Convention created an international bill of rights for women and created an agenda that will guarantee the rights. It required all State parties to take necessary measures to lead to the development and advancement of women and equality with men. The source then discusses the different articles of the bill.

"Measures Taken and Progress Achieved in the Promotion of Women and Political Participation." *United Nations*. United Nations, 24 July 2013. Web.

http://dag.un.org/bitstream/handle/11176/272858/A_68_184-EN.pdf?sequence=3&isAllowed=y

This report by the Secretary-General discusses A/RES/66/130 and focuses on the political participation of women and the actions undergone by Member States to guarantee equal participation of women. It includes recommendations of how to continue and further the equality between genders in regards to political participation. It discusses the importance of constitutions guaranteeing gender equality. The Secretary-General wrote, asking Member States to have a stronger commitment to this and laid out several actions to be taken.

"Report of the Working Group on the Issue of Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice." *UN Human Rights Council*, 19 Apr. 2013. Web.

<http://www.refworld.org/docid/51d423c44.html>

The report contains achievements and challenges to women's political participation. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson have participated in meetings and consultations around the world on the issue. The report notes the increase that occurred in the global commitment to women's equality, and it acknowledges achievements in this area. The report notes the A/RES/59/201 and the importance of human rights in democracies. It states that women's political participation is essential for the existence of true gender equality.

"SDG 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls." *UN Women*. Web.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs/sdg-5-gender-equality>

This source lays out the goal of SDG 5 and the progress still required. UN Women works to increase the political participation and leadership and economic empowerment of women. Supporters are pushing to see more women on ballots, in political office, and voting. UN Women helps women find good work and promote the role of women in leading humanitarian action as well as including men in the fight for gender equality through the HeForShe initiative.

"Women's Leadership and Political Participation." *UN Women*. UN Women. Web.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/leadership-and-political-participation>

The political participation of women is restricted and women are not represented well in voting. Women face many issues that encourage them not to participate politically. This source contains many past actions that have been working to solve this issue. The UN-Women also has training for women candidates and encourages men to get involved in the fight for gender equality. It works for legislative and constitutional reforms. The source contains information on gains it has seen in certain countries.

“About UN Women.” *UN Women*. UN Women, Web.
<http://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/about-un-women>

"Beijing and Its Follow-up." *United Nations*. United Nations, Web.
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/>

“Commission on the Status of Women.” *UN Women*. UN Women, Web.
<http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw>

"Equality in Politics: A Survey of Women and Men in Parliaments." Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2008. Web.
<http://www.ipu.org/PDF/publications/equality08-overview-e.pdf>

“International Decades.” *United Nations*. United Nations, Web.
<http://www.un.org/en/sections/observances/international-decades/>

“International Women’s Day 8 March.” *United Nations*. United Nations, Web.
<http://www.un.org/en/events/womensday/history.shtml>

"Plan of Action To Correct Present Imbalances in the Participation of Men and Women in Political Life." *Plan of Action*. Inter-Parliamentary Union, 26 Mar. 1994. Web.
<http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/planactn.htm>

“UN Action for Women.” *WomenAid International*. WomenAid International, Web.
<http://www.womenaid.org/press/info/general/unaction.html>

"Women in National Parliaments." *Women in Parliaments: World and Regional Averages*. 1 Mar. 2017. Web.
<http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>

"66/130. Women and Political Participation." *United Nations*. United Nations, 19 Dec. 2011. Web.
http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/130&Lang=E

CSW Topic 2: Equal Pay

Introduction:

At its root, the global economic empowerment of women is about transforming the way women are valued around the world. The current patriarchal workforce around the world consists of structural barriers that keep women from enjoying full participation and leadership in society. Women's participation in the global workforce decreased more than 5% between 1995 and 2015.²²⁸ Gender discrimination in employment denies women the opportunity to find decent work, which forces them to turn to low-wage, part-time, or underpaid jobs. This economic inequality not only forsakes the world of the contributions women could make to society and also wastes the education and capabilities of millions of women.²²⁹ Around the world, women are paid 23% less than men.²³⁰ As a result, women are subjected to significant income inequality, causing a deficit of over \$400,000 in the course of a woman's career.²³¹ As defined by Chidi King, Director of the Equality Department of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), the global gender pay gap is "an expression of persistent inequalities between men and women in our societies and our places of work."²³² The gender pay gap widens for women of color, mothers, and immigrant women, placing them at a greater risk for living in poverty. Studies on pay equity and discrimination show that, across all racial and ethnic backgrounds, there has been a significant and stagnant wage gap.²³³ Though the United Nations and other international organizations have made noteworthy efforts to reduce this gap, there is room for progress.

This year, United Nations held the sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61) in New York. The priority theme of the session was "Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work." The session also reviewed the challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals related to women and girls. The session considered the wage gap as well as the unequal distribution of job types between men and women, specifically noting that female-dominated sectors are undervalued and underpaid.²³⁴ At the current rate of progress, it is estimated that women will not achieve equal pay with men until 2069, which will significantly slow all global efforts to reach a full realization of gender equality. With this in mind, students are encouraged to find innovative solutions to closing the gender gap and furthering the progress of women's economic equality.

Regional and International Framework:

On December 10, 1948, the General Assembly adopted The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) as the common standard of freedoms for all citizens of the global community. This foundational human rights document guarantees several protections that directly relate to female participation in the global workforce, including the protection from discrimination based on sex (Article 2), the right to favorable work conditions (Article 23.1), the right to just remuneration (Article 23.3), and the right to

²²⁸ ILO, *Women at Work, Trends 2016*, 2016, p. 6.

²²⁹ The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OESC) Gender Initiative., *C/MIN(2012)5, Gender Equality in Education, Employment and Entrepreneurship: Final Report to the MCM 2012*.

²³⁰ #StoptheRobbery campaign, UN Women, March 2017

²³¹ *Wage Gap Costs Women More Than \$430,000 Over a Career, NWLC Analysis Shows*, National Women's Law Center, 2016.

²³² *Take Five: At the current rate of progress, no equal pay until 2069*, UN Women News Stories, 24 Feb 2017

²³³ *The Gender Wage Gap: Differences by Race and Ethnicity, No Growth in Real Wages for Women*. Institute for Women's Policy Research. 13 March 2014.

²³⁴ *Ibid.*

education (Article 26).²³⁵ In December of 1966, the General Assembly adopted The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), which contains articles that recognize the dignity and protection of women in the workforce. Article 3 establishes that State Parties of the Covenant agree to ensure the equal right of men and women of all economic, social and cultural rights. Article 7 establishes fair wages and equal remuneration for equal work among both men and women, and Article 10 recognizes and addresses issues unique to women, such as discrimination on the grounds of marriage or pregnancy.²³⁶ Then in 1979 the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which is often referred to as the international bill of rights for women, was ratified. It became the second most ratified UN human rights treaty, containing fourteen articles and provisions that focus on “bringing in the female half of humanity.”²³⁷ Like the ICESCR, it addresses issues specific to women, such as reproduction, and calls for State Parties to follow provisions to realize the full civil rights and legal status of women.

In 1995, Fourth World Conference on Women took place in Beijing. This conference resulted in adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which recognized the progress made for women and girls. The declaration also brought about significant notes on the inequalities between men and women, pointing out twelve critical areas of concern. Four key areas were women in the economy, education for women, women’s human rights, and women in power and decision-making roles. This document also notes that the unpaid labor done by women hinders their participation in the economy and causes a lack of opportunities for girls in the private sector.²³⁸ Several of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015 also directly relate to the global fight for equal pay. One of the targets of SDG 5 is to ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership in the political, economic and public life.²³⁹ It focuses on empowering women and girls around the world. Currently, there are 143 Member States that have established equality between men and women in their national constitutions, leaving 52 Member States that have not taken this necessary step toward eliminating gender inequality. SDG 8 calls for economic growth, decent work for all and equal pay for equal work. Additionally, SDG 10 seeks to “empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex.”²⁴⁰

Conclusion:

The fact remains: women suffer from economic inequality, making many of them vulnerable in the workplace and in society at large. Despite UN initiatives and treaties in the past decade, several barriers remain in the way of Member States’ progress. Insufficient enforcement for international treaties, ineffective justice systems, and lack of education and awareness all pose unique challenges to ending gender inequality. Moreover, while equal pay has become an important issue for some Member States’, many member states have not yet constitutionally extended full rights to women, as proposed by SDG 5.²⁴¹

²³⁵ UN General Assembly, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III)), 1948.

²³⁶ UN General Assembly, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI)), 1966.

²³⁷ UN General Assembly, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/RES/34/180), 1979.

²³⁸ UN Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 1995

²³⁹ Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5: Achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls, United Nations General Assembly, 2015

²⁴⁰ Ibid.

²⁴¹ UN Progress and Info. SDG 5. 2017.

All over the world, women and girls spend an average of 19% of their time in unpaid labor, compared to 8% for men. This, plus additional responsibilities of paid work and domestic work, creates a strenuous environment for women and girls to reach their full potential. The pay gap also has long-term negative effects on women's lives, affecting their credit-worthiness, lifetime savings, social security benefits and retirement funds. Globally, 200 million women are living without any regular income from an old age or survivor's pension.²⁴² In the European Union, for example, elderly women are 37% more likely to live in poverty than elderly men.²⁴³ Additionally, the motherhood penalty, or the frequent difficulties of balancing the responsibilities of paid work and home life, often creates challenges to female progress in the workforce. The motherhood penalty is larger for low-wage workers, like part time, casual or underpaid jobs. Furthermore, since women make up majority of illegal workers, they are more at risk for abuse because they are less likely to report law violations in the workforce.²⁴⁴ Failure to address minimum living wages and universal social protection also leave low paid female workers at risk. Universal social protection covers issues like security for unemployed or underemployed, paid maternity leave, childcare, insurance and pensions in retirement.

While the framework for progress exists, some Member States lack the awareness of guaranteed rights in this area. Freedom of association and right to organize both play a key role in the path towards economic empowerment. Efforts to close the pay gap must also address quality childcare and elderly services and family-friendly work environments. Change can be brought about by implementation of paternity leave and encouragement of men to take on responsibilities that challenge traditional gender norms that enable the wage gap. In conclusion, when women's rights become a priority for States, economies will become more inclusive, and women will be able to realize their full potential in the workforce, domestic and family life, and States will experience overall economic growth.

Further Questions for Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- How can Member States address gender bias collaboratively in order to develop more inclusive economic environments around the world?
- How can Member States ensure minimal living wages and universal social protection for women who are already in the work force?
- How can including men in conversations and initiatives help in the fight against the gender wage gap?
- How can the implementation of SDGs further the rights of women in the workforce?
- What provisions can be enacted to empower marginalized groups like women of color, rural women, domestic workers, migrants and low-skilled women?
- How can this conference influence laws and practices that work towards the dissolution of the pay wage gap?

²⁴² International Labour Organization. Large gender gaps remain across broad spectrum of global labour market. 8 March 2016.

²⁴³ European Commission. Why older women are much more exposed to the risk of poverty than older men. 14 September 2015.

²⁴⁴ The vanished: the Filipino domestic workers who disappear behind closed doors. The Guardian. 24 October 2015

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International Labour Organization. "Women at Work: Trends 2016." Geneva. 2016.

This report focuses on the large gaps in gender equality that need to still need to be addressed. It discusses how the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can speed the progress. It also reports on a variety of challenges women face in the workforce, such as gender gaps in participation, declining employment rates, challenges in the quality of women's jobs, sectoral segregation, unpaid household and care work, access to social protection, and more. It encourages finding integrated policy framework that would promote women's access to better quality jobs, and ultimately, work to close the gender wage gap.

'Stop the Robbery Campaign, UN Women, March 2017.

The 'Stop the Robbery' Campaign is a worldwide initiative to raise awareness on gender pay gap. Across the world, women only make \$0.77 cents for every dollar a man earns. It is estimated that women are "robbed" of 23 per cent of their work earnings during their lifetime. UN Women launched this campaign to encourage women and men to support women's economic empowerment.

UN General Assembly. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/RES/34/180). 1979

This international treaty was adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly. Its preamble acknowledges the discrimination against women that is still prevalent and states that this discrimination violates "equality of rights and respect for human dignity." It spells out what constitutes as discrimination against women. Countries who have ratified CEDAW are required to put its provisions into practice to promote women's rights. Additionally, the countries are required to submit national reports every 4 years. The Committee also makes general recommendations to States on how to eliminate discrimination against women. CEDAW is the foundational document for women's rights.

UN General Assembly. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (A/RES/2200(XXI)). 1966.

This establishes that labor rights are fundamental to the very definition of work. Article 3 states that State Parties of the present Covenant agree ensure the equal right of men and women of all economic, social and cultural rights, and Article 7 establishes fair wages and equal remuneration for equal work among both men and women. Additionally, Article 10 brings in issues that are unique to women, such as elimination of discrimination on the grounds of marriage or maternity leave.

United Nations. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Fourth World Conference on Women. 1995.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is one of the most foundational documents for women and gender equality. It was adopted in 1995 and is one of the first documents to give full perspective as to the status of women and girls. It outlines and recommends strategies for Member States to implement. This can help Member states recognize the progress that has been made as well as bring light to the challenges that gender inequality presents.

United Nations. Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform, Progress and Info. SDG 5.

This website contains pertinent information on the progress that is being made for SDG 5 and other SDGs. There have been advances in gender equality and women's rights in recent decades, but many challenges still remain. Some examples are ensuring women's rights through legal framework, ending violence against women and girls, ending child marriage and changing social norms, ending the practice of female genital mutilation, and increasing participation in politics and the economy.

"Wage Gap Costs Women More Than \$430,000 Over a Career, NWLC Analysis Shows". National Women's Law Center, 28 March 2016.

Hartmann, Heidi. Hegewisch, Ariane. Phil M., Williams, Claudia. "The Gender Wage Gap: Differences by Race and Ethnicity, No Growth in Real Wages for Women." Institute for Women's Policy Research. 13 March 2014.

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Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)



Overview of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Introduction:

The Economic and Social Council was established in 1945 under Section X, Articles 61-72 of the Charter of the United Nations with a membership of eighteen states. Today, there are 54 Member States elected by the General Assembly for three-year overlapping terms.²⁴⁵ As one of the six primary organs of the United Nations, ECOSOC's main responsibility has been to organize and oversee the economic and social work of UN specialized agencies, functional commissions and regional commissions and to act as the central forum for the discussion of these topics.²⁴⁶ In particular, ECOSOC focuses on:

- promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress;
- identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems;
- facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation; and
- encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The ECOSOC is responsible for over 70 percent of both human and financial resources of the United Nations. The 54 Member States that serve on the ECOSOC meet every July for four weeks to conduct its business.²⁴⁷

The 54 member states who currently have representation in ECOSOC are:

Afghanistan	Algeria	Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina	Australia	Bangladesh
Belgium	Botswana	Brazil
Burkina Faso	Chile	China
Congo	Czech Republic	Democratic Rep. of Congo
Estonia	Finland	France
Georgia	Germany	Ghana
Greece	Guatemala	Guyana
Honduras	India	Iraq
Ireland	Italy	Japan
Kazakhstan	Lebanon	Mauritania
Nigeria	Pakistan	Panama
Peru	Portugal	Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova	Russian Federation	Rwanda
Serbia	Somalia	South Africa
Sweden	Switzerland	Togo
Trinidad and Tobago	Uganda	United Kingdom
United States of America	Viet Nam	Zimbabwe

Important note for Baylor MUN 2017 Conference Preparation: ECOSOC is not a committee with universal membership for all member states. If your member state does not appear in the list above, that means you should not prepare the ECOSOC topics for this conference, as your nation is not part of this committee at this time.

²⁴⁵ <https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/content/members>

²⁴⁶ <https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/about-us>

²⁴⁷ United Nations Economic and Social Council, <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/>.

ECOSOC Topic 1: SDG 1, Technology and Poverty

Reduction

Background:

According to *No Poverty: Why It Matters*, extreme poverty affects more than 700 million people globally, making it difficult for them to satisfy their most basic needs.²⁴⁸ Due to this staggering number, the United Nations has made the global eradication of poverty a priority. In 1992, resolution 47/134 (1992) acknowledged that extreme poverty is a violation of rights that all humans are entitled to²⁴⁹. This violation directly opposes the UN Charter, which places “faith in fundamental human rights and in dignity and worth of the human person”.²⁵⁰ This led to the creation of resolution 47/196 (1992) calling for the observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on October 17th of every year²⁵¹ as a means to raise awareness.

Poverty is not simply the lack of resources to maintain a sustainable living, it also includes “hunger and malnutrition, limited access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusion as well as the lack of participation in decision-making”.²⁵² In fact, according to the article *Science, Technology and Innovation for Poverty Reduction*, more than one third of the world’s population does not have access to the means and information to meet fundamental human needs.²⁵³ In order to combat the pervasiveness of poverty, there must be continued innovation. Progress in scientific fields, including electronics and nanotechnology, can help provide solutions that will enable technologies to reduce poverty.²⁵⁴ According to the UN, efficient implementation that will allow the promotion of economic growth must be inclusive in order to enable sustainable growth that supports equality.²⁵⁵

Past UN Action:

Extensive efforts have been made to reduce poverty over the last few decades. In 1969, General Assembly resolution 24/2542 (1969) noted the lack of progress that had been made to combat poverty both regionally and globally, despite efforts of the international community.²⁵⁶ Utilizing technology as a means of eradicating poverty was not addressed until 1989, when General Assembly resolution 44/54 (1989) was adopted. The resolution declared the importance of scientific and technological advancement as a significant component in social and economic development.²⁵⁷ In order to better understand the utilization of technology, in 1992 a subsidiary of ECOSOC called the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)²⁵⁸ was established. The CSTD was mandated to provide assistance related to science and technology issues with the hope that people could harness new technologies to aid in the alleviation of poverty. Since its conception through General Assembly resolution 46/235 (1992), Member States meet annually for weeklong sessions to discuss and report upon a variety of topics. In

²⁴⁸http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/1_Why-it-Matters_Poverty_2p.pdf

²⁴⁹ http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/47/134

²⁵⁰ <http://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/preamble/index.html>

²⁵¹ <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/47/a47r196.htm>

²⁵² <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/>

²⁵³ http://www.iop.org/publications/iop/2009/file_44076.pdf

²⁵⁴ Ibid.

²⁵⁵ <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/>

²⁵⁶ <http://www.un-documents.net/a24r2542.htm>

²⁵⁷ http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/44/54

²⁵⁸ <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/CSTD.aspx>

2010 the CSTD adopted ECOSOC report 2010/2 (2010), this established the Working Group on the Internet Governance Forum²⁵⁹.

In 2000, the UN introduced the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with one of the goals calling for the eradication of extreme hunger and poverty²⁶⁰. In 2005, ECOSOC report 2005/52 (2005) was adopted. The report encouraged further international cooperation to help Member States “receive scientific information and practical advice to enable them to take advantage of those technologies, as appropriate, to promote economic growth and development”²⁶¹. In addition, General Assembly resolution 60/1 (2005) regarding the 2005 World Summit Outcome called for the development of innovation and transfer of technology in order to eradicate poverty as a means of respecting human rights.²⁶² In 2007, General Assembly resolution 61/16 (2007) strengthened ECOSOC with the implementation of the Development Cooperation Forum.²⁶³ The Development Cooperation Forum was first convened in 2008 with the key function of reviewing trends and analyzing progress in order to foster development through international cooperation. In 2015, when the results of the MDGs were reviewed, the conclusion was that “extreme poverty rates [was] cut by more than half since 1990.”²⁶⁴

Upon the closure of the MDGs in 2015, The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were introduced. SDG 1 is a call to end poverty in all its forms everywhere²⁶⁵. In 2016, at the Economic and Social Council’s first Multi-Stakeholder Forum on leveraging science and technology, former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon stated, “progress in science, technology and innovation would be key to delivering the Sustainable Development Goals.”²⁶⁶ Furthermore, in 2016, General Assembly resolution 71/251 (2016) was adopted. This resolution called for the Establishment of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries in hopes to continue to reduce poverty in the most undeveloped Member States²⁶⁷. In May 2016, at the 19th session of Science and Technology for Development, one of the priority themes for the 2016-2017 intercessional period was “New innovation approaches to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”²⁶⁸. During the discussions according to the theme, participants discussed the influential role science, technology and innovation have on the achievement of several SDGs, including the eradication of poverty. They also recognized the vital role that information and technologies play in promoting and empowering science, technology and innovation in development, taking into consideration the significance of interrelated development strategies and programs.²⁶⁹

Issues Facing UN Regarding Technology and Poverty Reduction:

One of the main issues regarding technology as a means of poverty reduction is the technology gap between developed and underdeveloped countries. This issue was addressed in a report by former Secretary-General Kofi Annan, E/CN.16/2006/2. The report stated that this disparity is one of the main “causes of the rapidly expanding socio-economic gap between rich and poor nations and constitutes a

²⁵⁹ <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2010/res%202010-2.pdf>

²⁶⁰ <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/poverty.shtml>

²⁶¹ <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2005/resolution%202005-52.pdf>

²⁶² <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/ods/A-RES-60-1-E.pdf>

²⁶³ http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/cdp_res_dec/ares61_16.pdf

²⁶⁴ <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/poverty.shtml>

²⁶⁵ <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

²⁶⁶ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?page=view&nr=1086&type=230&menu=2059>

²⁶⁷ http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/71/251

²⁶⁸ http://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/ecn162017d2_en.pdf

²⁶⁹ http://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/ecn162016d4_en.pdf

major challenge for developing countries in their efforts to achieving the development goals.”²⁷⁰ Furthermore, a report by the UNCTAD discussed how transferring technology is essential for inclusive development. The report acknowledged that technology is pivotal for economic growth, and developing countries lack the resources to access and utilize science and technology²⁷¹. In 2001, Press Release PI/1339 discussed different solutions proposed by Member States on how to address the divide between developed and developing countries.²⁷² While there has been past dialogue regarding the technology divide, there is still significant work to be done.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation’s history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is “new,” you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- What can your Member State do to facilitate integration of technology to help reduce poverty locally?
- What role can the United Nations play in technology regulation and innovation?
- How can technology be implemented and used to reduce poverty most effectively for your Member State?
- How can regional groups collaborate to help drive sustainable and inclusive growth through technology?
- Has your Member State had past success with the utilization of technology as a means to reduce poverty?
- How can the UN bridge the technology gap between developed and undeveloped nations?

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Institute of Physics, *Science, Technology and Innovation for Poverty Reduction*. 9 December 2009, https://www.iop.org/publications/iop/2009/file_44076.pdf.

This report highlighted how the scientific applications can be utilized in improving least developed countries. It gives a rich background on the issue that will be useful in becoming more knowledgeable about the topic. It also discusses how new technologies can be used to meet global challenges in the future.

ECOSOC resolution 2005/52, Science and Technology for Development, A/RES/2005/52 (27 July 2005), <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2005/resolution%202005-52.pdf>.

The resolution discusses the usage of technology for development. This is a critical resolution for this topic because it is perfectly correlated. It also allows for further research as it notes other important documents and resolutions. Overall, this resolution will add a resource for adding history and promoting more research materials.

United Nations, Department of Public Information, Leveraging Science, Technology Critical for Achieving Sustainable Development, Speakers Say, as Economic and Social Council Opens Multi-

²⁷⁰ http://unctad.org/en/Docs/ecn162006d2_en.pdf

²⁷¹ <http://unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=1093>

²⁷² <https://www.un.org/press/en/2001/pi1339.doc.htm>

Stakeholder Forum. 6 June 2016,

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?page=view&nr=1086&type=230&menu=2059>.

This report takes into consideration the progress in science, technology and innovation. It notes how the innovations can be used to increase equality around the globe. The report will be useful because it gives in depth opinions of educated scholars on the matter and can help provoke thought on the issue.

Report of the Secretary-General, Commission on Science and Technology for Development, The Role of Science, Technology and Innovation in Ensuring Food Security by 2030. 27 February 2017,

http://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/ecn162016d4_en.pdf

This report discusses and analyses key issues regarding the role of science and technology in ensuring food security by 2030. The report will be useful in adding dialogue to how technology is used presently and how it can be implemented in the future in the aid of reducing inequalities.

Report of the Secretary-General, Commission on Science and Technology for Development, New Innovation Approaches to Support the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. 27 February 2017, http://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/ecn162017d2_en.pdf.

This report deals with the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through the use of development and innovation. It also discusses how funding and additional resources are necessary in the furthering of innovation to complete the SDGs by 2030.

General Assembly resolution 47/134, Human rights and extreme poverty, A/RES/47/134 (18 December 1992), available from http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/47/134.

This resolution is key to this guide as it sets up the issue of extreme poverty. It states the United Nations view on poverty, examines past action that is critical to understanding his issue. Most importantly, it allows for further research to see where the UN goes after the adoption of this resolution.

General Assembly resolution 47/196, Observance of an international day for the eradication of poverty, A/RES/47/196 (22 December 1992), available from <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/47/a47r196.htm>.

This resolution is past action taken by the United Nations. It is helpful because it shows the events and information that led up to this and also gives opportunities for further research. It is a good starting point to begin looking for other actions taken to address extreme poverty.

General Assembly resolution 24/2542, Declaration on Social Progress and Development, A/RES/24/2542 (11 December 1969), available from <http://www.un-documents.net/a24r2542.htm>.

This resolution has a lot of information that can help further research and help add context to the overall goal of development. It deals with a lot of different types of development, which is very informational, and a good tool to understanding why it is important to the UN.

General Assembly resolution 44/54, Social welfare, development and science and technology, A/RES/44/54 (8 December 1989), available from

http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/44/54.

This resolution was one of the first resolutions that addressed technology. It will be a very good starting place to continue research about how to use technology for development. It also gives some of the past action that can be important to adding context to the issue.

Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/2, Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

ECOSOC/RES/2010/2 (19 July 2010), available from

<http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2010/res%202010-2.pdf>.

This resolution has a lot of information regarding past action taken by both ECOSOC and the GA. It will be really helpful in establishing past action. It also has a lot of statements made by the Secretary-General, which can be helpful in the future.

"Bridging Digital Divide Between Industrialized And Developing Countries Stressed In Committee On Information Debate." www.un.org/press/en/2001/pi1339.doc.htm.

This press release examines the different solutions from different Member States on how to dress the digital divide. This will be helpful for understanding what a particular Member States views are. It will also spur further research.

No Poverty: Why It Matters.

www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/1_Why-it-Matters_Poverty_2p.pdf.

This short report establishes why SDG1 is so important to the United Nations. It gives key statistics and elaborates on what it means to live in extreme poverty. Overall, this gives a brief background to the issue of extreme poverty.

Sustainable Development Goals. United Nations,

www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/.

This website discusses the first goal of the SDGs. It will be incredibly helpful to start understanding the actions taken to fight poverty and potential actions that could be taken to fight poverty. It gives statistics and related news to give more depth to the issue.

Sustainable Development Goals: 17 Goals To Transform Our World. United Nations,

www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/.

This is the website that deals with the SDGs. It will be a good portal for further research. It will also be helpful with understanding poverty and what has been done to combat it.

Transfer of technology and knowledge-sharing for development: Science, technology and innovation issues for developing countries. Report no. 8,

unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=1093.

This report depicts the importance of technology in economic growth that will reduce poverty. It also discusses the gap between those who have the technology and those who need it. It is a very comprehensive report that can guide further research.

United Nations. www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/preamble/index.html.

The charter of the United Nations was used to depict how extreme poverty goes against the beliefs of the UN. This can be helpful as it lays the groundwork for future research and resolutions.

"United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)." United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, unctad.org/en/Pages/CSTD.aspx.

This webpage talks about the CSTD and why it was started by ECOSOC. It plays an important role in the use of technology in the United Nations, and will be helpful to see what role it plays in other Member States development. It also has information that can lead to further research.

"We Can End Poverty." We Can End Poverty: Millennium Development Goals and Beyond 2015, www.un.org/millenniumgoals/poverty.shtml.

This website is dedicated to the MDGs. This can be a portal for further research and more understanding about extreme poverty. It also links to past action taken which can be helpful.

General Assembly resolution 60/1, 2005 World Summit Outcome, A/RES/60/1 (24 October 2005), <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/ods/A-RES-60-1-E.pdf>.

This resolution is less about past action and more about current action. This can be incredibly helpful when researching the topic. It is very technical and can give some information regarding how to combat poverty through finance and development.

General Assembly 61/16, Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council, A/RES/61/16 (9 January 2007), available from http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/cdp_res_dec/ares61_16.pdf.

This resolution can be very helpful because it notes multiple resolutions and also discusses a lot of past action. Lastly, it addresses the importance of ECOSOC, which plays a big role in development.

U.N. Economic and Social Council, Commission on Science and Technology for Development, 19th session, Bridging the Technology Gap Between and Within Nations, E/CN.16/2006/2 (31 March 2006), available from http://unctad.org/en/Docs/ecn162006d2_en.pdf.

This report discusses the technology gap and will be helpful when researching how to address this issue. It gives examples and insights on how to combat this issue. It will be a good starting point for further research.

General Assembly 71/251, Establishing of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, A/RES/71/251 (26 January 2017), available from

http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/71/251

This resolution can be very helpful because it has a lot of information about past action on the topic of technology utilization. Specifically, it notes resolutions and programs, which can be used to understand what a Member State's stance is on technology.

ECOSOC Topic 2: Developing Sustainable Agriculture

“Achieving Zero Hunger is our shared commitment. Now is the time to work as partners and build a truly global movement to ensure the Right to Food for all and to build sustainable agriculture and food systems.”²⁷³

Background:

In September 2015, the United Nations (UN) took formative steps in addressing food scarcity and malnutrition by adopting *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).²⁷⁴ Universal access to nutritious food and the eradication of poverty, hunger, and malnutrition are just some of many focal points under SDG 2.²⁷⁵ The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the World Food Program (WFP) all hold a common objective: to further develop sustainable agriculture in order to reduce food scarcity and stimulate economic development. According to the WFP, the organization has provided food assistance to 82 million people across 76 countries, yet, 795 million people remain undernourished.²⁷⁶ As a result, engaging in the “Zero Hunger Challenge” includes delivering on the *2030 Agenda* through the creation of food systems and investments in sustainable agriculture.

²⁷³ UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, *Committee on World Food Security*, 2015.

²⁷⁴ *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (A/RES/70/1), 2015.

²⁷⁵ “Sustainable agriculture, better-managed water supplies, vital to tackling water-food nexus.” *UN News Centre*. UN, 2017.

²⁷⁶ “WFP Year in Review 2015.” *WFP’s Key Achievements Towards Zero Hunger*. World Food Programme, 2015.

In order to eradicate food scarcity and malnutrition, better development and implementation of sustainable agriculture is needed. As defined by the WFP, food security ensures that all people “have availability and adequate access at all times to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life.”²⁷⁷ Without further improvements to sustainable agriculture, developments can decline and extreme poverty will continue to plague those most effected.²⁷⁸ The FAO highlights the importance of achieving food security for all. In order to meet this increasing demand for food, agricultural production must increase, particularly in rural areas. Developing sustainable agriculture and increasing agricultural productivity are important to reducing food insecurity while also ensuring economic growth. A productive and sustainable agricultural landscape can lead to a “transformation of local economies”²⁷⁹ Although the *2030 Agenda* calls on Member States to achieve Zero Hunger, regenerating agricultural farming techniques and diminishing the amount of post-harvest food waste are just two of the many areas that require continued efforts.

Significant Past UN and Global Action:

Since the 1974 World Food Conference, the UN and the FAO have emphasized that every human being has the right to “be free from hunger and malnutrition.”²⁸⁰ As a result of FAO Resolution 1/79, World Food Day was created to remind the international community that poverty, hunger, and malnutrition are issues that continue to impact Member States across the world.²⁸¹ Nearly two decades later, the *Rome Declaration on World Food Security* was presented at the World Food Summit to promote the use of advanced agricultural farming techniques in order to reduce the number of undernourished people by 2015.²⁸² The *Rome Declaration* was unanimously adopted due to its renowned commitment to “reduce by half the number of undernourished people.”²⁸³

In 2000, the *UN Millennium Declaration* was adopted, introducing the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs).²⁸⁴ Under MDG 1, Member States take a multi-pronged approach to addressing the issue of food scarcity, where targets include reducing one-half of the amount of people suffering from poverty, malnutrition, and hunger.²⁸⁵ To build upon the MDGs, the FAO created the Committee on Agriculture (COAG), which aimed to implement the UN Earth Summit Agenda 21 by conserving the use of natural resources and adopting agricultural technology to increase food production.²⁸⁶ COAG along with the Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) and the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), encouraged the use of adaptive farming techniques and systems so that all Member States could address food scarcity and malnutrition. Building on the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of 2015 focuses on regenerating agricultural farming techniques. To achieve agricultural sustainable development for future generations, the Agenda seeks to encourage partnerships with regional initiatives to provide tailored solutions to pressing global issues.²⁸⁷

²⁷⁷ “What is food security.” World Food Programme, 2017.

²⁷⁸ UN General Assembly, *Agriculture development and food security: Report of the Secretary-General (A/67/294)*, 2012.

²⁷⁹ Ibid.

²⁸⁰ FAO, *First World Food Conference*, 1974.

²⁸¹ FAO, *World Food Day*, 1979.

²⁸² FAO, *Rome Declaration on World Food Security*, World Food Summit, 1996.

²⁸³ Ibid.

²⁸⁴ General Assembly, *United Nations Millennium Declaration*, 2000.

²⁸⁵ Ibid.

²⁸⁶ FAO, *Committee on Agriculture (COAG)*, 2005.

²⁸⁷ General Assembly, *Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development*, A/RES/69/313, 2015.

Agricultural Research and Development for Long-Term Economic Growth:

The international community needs long-lasting alternatives so that developing regions can better provide themselves with the necessary resources and technologies to maintain a permanent and sustainable agricultural landscape. Long-term solutions, however, require that definitive measure be taken, such as: advanced farming techniques, improved agricultural technologies, agricultural policies, and resource distribution. By investing in long-lasting changes, food shortages and crises can be avoided for future generations. Often overlooked as an effective area of investment is that of agricultural research. By developing agricultural practices and new technologies, growth will be seen within the productivity and economic sectors. Furthermore, implementing techniques that have been previously researched and tested by experts allows for investors to feel confident when providing monetary funds to the program. Take for example the field of biotechnology, which has accelerated its production of generation crops. With the collaboration of local farmers and biologists, crops have been re-engineered to reduce the amount of energy consumed by three cereal groups: rice, wheat, and maize, which normally account for 50% of nitrogen-fertilizer consumption.²⁸⁸ The breakthrough of this research includes the reduction of biomass waste and land consumption with increased return investments. Successful research initiatives such as the abovementioned example serve as frameworks for long-term economic growth within local communities. However, agricultural research and their initiatives require significant financial support. Organizations such as the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) serves as a backbone to many countries seeking to pursue long-term economic growth via agricultural methods. As a result, Member States should move toward modernizing NARS and similar agricultural research systems to receive greater financial support for investment strategies.

Case Study: Improving Regional Agricultural Initiatives in Bangladesh

Bangladesh serves as a success story in its ability to meet the MDG hunger target despite many hardships. Working in Bangladesh's agricultural sector has many challenges, these include its lack of access to markets, farming technologies, and information. As a result, most local farmers face significant difficulties in using the agricultural sector as a means of employment. These challenges also hurt the country's overall economy given that over 50% (or 16 million families) of the Bangladesh population depends on agriculture as a source of income.²⁸⁹ The first steps toward using agriculture as a means of aiding the situation in Bangladesh include:

- eradicating hunger and malnutrition,
- improving sustainable agricultural techniques,
- reducing rural poverty, and
- implementing efficient food systems.

The goal of the FAO, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and the Technical Assistance (TA) Component of the Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project (IAPP), was to bring agricultural knowledge and training to local Farmer's Organizations (FOs). Additionally, the IAAP helped to facilitate dialogue between FOs and investors to discuss the best ways to tackle agricultural issues and insecurities. Through the use of collaboration and partnerships between local FOs and NGOs, Bangladesh was able to receive tailored regional solutions to their problems. Furthermore, by increasing engagement between FOs and stakeholders, farmers were able to receive agricultural training. Stakeholders also had the opportunity to learn from FOs' deep knowledge of the local communities, which only furthered the assessment and allocation of aid which each community needed. As a result, the FAO's goal of addressing rural poverty and partnering with organizations to ameliorate issues was achieved. The

²⁸⁸ Von Caemmerer, S., Quick, W.P. & Furbank, R.T. The development of C4 rice: Current progress and future challenges, 1671-1672, 2012.

²⁸⁹ FAO, Farmer's Organizations in Bangladesh: A Mapping and Capacity Assessment, *Bangladesh Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project Technical Assistance Component*, 2014.

program in Bangladesh not only reduced rural poverty, it also met the MDG hunger target, increased food production levels, brought an increase in agricultural investments, and advanced irrigation systems.

Questions for Further Research

As you begin your research on this topic, two objectives are essential: an accurate representation of your Member State and its policies on the topic and collaborating with your fellow delegates in formulating resolutions which will provide a new solution to the international problem. To provide a “new” proposal to the issue, researching previous UN action is imperative. Your research may be guided by reading past UN resolutions and considering relevant successful or unsuccessful case studies – which will give you an idea of what has or has not been successful in the past. It is important to keep in mind that a “new” proposal may build upon a pre-existing framework or program, so long as it is providing additional substance and ideas to further the work. Here are some questions to guide your research:

- How is your nation addressing sustainable agriculture? Could any of your nation’s domestic policies be used as an international framework to build upon?
- How can the United Nations and NGOs improve sustainable agriculture in rural and developing regions?
- How can Member States better implement agricultural farming techniques among smallholder family farmers, forest communities, and fisher folk? How could educational training be used to incorporate such practices?
- How can Member States implement and encourage efficient agricultural practices while also promoting societal inclusivity in eradicating poverty, hunger, and malnutrition?
- What are the ways in which Member States can improve agricultural practices during natural disasters and sudden climate change?

Bibliography

“Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.” (A/RES/69/313). 17 August 2015. Retrieved 23 March 2017 from:

http://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/ares69d313_en.pdf

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda tackles several posing world issues ranging from climate change, gender equality, and infrastructure. To provide a plan of action for development post 2015, the Addis Ababa Agenda seeks to end poverty, hunger, and malnutrition to achieve sustainable development for future generations. The action agenda focuses on eradicating poverty specifically by regenerating agricultural farming techniques and working in partnerships with regional initiatives to diminish the amount of post-harvest food waste.

“Agricultural technology for development.” (A/RES/62/190). 11 February 2008. Retrieved 23 March 2017 from: <http://www.worldlii.org/int/other/UNGARsn/2007/230.pdf>

The General Assembly recognizes several notable sustainable agricultural implementations, such as the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. The resolution calls upon the international community to contribute to the eradication of poverty by sharing best agricultural practices, technology, and agricultural research. The General Assembly also works to encourage Member States who are financially able, to aid developing nations on their path to sustainable agricultural development.

“First World Food Conference”. FAO. FAO. Rome, November 1974. Retrieved 23 March 2017 from: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/007/F5340E/F5340E03.htm>

In 1974, the first World Food Conference was established to examine the global problem of food scarcity. The conference convened in Rome to discuss the ways in which poverty could be eradicated within a decade. The World Food Conference is renowned for its declaration that every human being has the right to “be free from hunger and malnutrition.”

“Make food systems climate resilient now or future production will be compromised – UN warns.” *UN News Centre*. UN, 13 February 2017. Retrieved 23 March 2017 from:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56161#.WRB5-1K-KRs>

The United Nations believes that failing to create effective agricultural food systems today, could be detrimental for future generations. The FOA warns that food systems need to support small farms while simultaneously adapting to drastic changes in climate. The FOA and the WMO are working to improve the resiliency of current food systems, and work toward bettering water management to reduce the amount of wasted water. The FAO is working to launch a global framework on how developing countries can move toward advanced agricultural sustainability. Retrieved

“Millennium Development Goal 1.” *Millennium Declaration*. Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger.

Retrieved 23 March 2017 from: <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/poverty.shtml>

By pledging to work toward the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG), Member States are aspiring to eradicate poverty and malnutrition in all its forms. To ensure that MDG 1 is met, the goal takes a multi-pronged approach in addressing the issue of food scarcity. Target one includes reducing one-half of the amount of people who earn less than \$1.25. Target two works to achieve a full employment rate, to ensure equal opportunities for all. Target three includes reducing one-half of the amount of people suffering from poverty, malnutrition, and hunger.

One Acre Fund. 2006. Retrieved 23 March 2017 from: <https://www.oneacrefund.org>

The One Acre Fund is an NGO that works in partnership with the United Nations to end hunger and achieve food security (SDG 2). The One Acre Fund aims to empower smallholder farms by providing financial assistance and educational training initiatives. Currently the One Acre Fund works in developing countries, more specifically in Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Kenya. The NGO has provided aid to over 200,000 farm families since 2006.

“Rome Declaration on World Food Security.” *FAO World Food Summit*. Rome, November 1996.

Retrieved 23 March 2017 from: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/003/w3613e/w3613e00.htm>

The Rome Declaration was presented at the World Food Summit in 1996. The Summit pledged to eliminate poverty, malnutrition, and hunger as a means of achieving sustainable development for all. Not only did the Summit bring further awareness to the global issue of poverty, the Rome Declaration was created as a plan of action to integrate advanced agricultural farming techniques to reduce the number of undernourished people by 2015. The Declaration, with the help of supportive Member States, took formal steps in acknowledging that everyone has a “right to food.”

“Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).” *Committee on Agriculture (COAG)*. Nineteenth Session. Rome, April 2005. Retrieved 23 March 2017 from: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/009/J4236e/j4236e00.htm>

The FAO Committee on Agriculture aims to implement Agenda 21 by reducing food insecurity and rural poverty, as well as increasing the availability of agricultural and fishing techniques. COAG also seeks to conserve the use of natural resources and adopt agricultural technology to increase food production. COAG believes that the use of adaptive farming techniques and systems will lead to advanced agricultural practices for all Member States.

“Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” (A/RES/70/1). 21 October 2015. Retrieved 23 March 2017 from:

http://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/ares70d1_en.pdf

The General Assembly adopts transformative targets to eradicate all forms of poverty through a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To overcome the universal challenge of extreme poverty, this

resolution seeks to attain sustainable development in the economic, environmental, and social sectors by 2030. This universal plan of action aims to further enhance the accomplishments of the current Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

“World Food Day.” *FAO*. *FAO*, 28 November 1979. Retrieved 23 March 2017 from:

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/x5565E/x5565e05.htm>

FAO Resolution 1/79 established the creation of World Food Day. In 1945, 42 countries met to create the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). World Food Day was created not only to celebrate the creation of the FAO, but also to remind the international community that poverty, hunger, and malnutrition are posing issues that continue to plague various Member States across the world. World Food Day is celebrated each year on October 16th to promote awareness and action to eradicate poverty, and to share best practices to ensure food security.

Contemporary Security Council



Overview of the Security Council

The United Nations Security Council is one of the six Principal Organs of the United Nations and is the only Principal Organ with authority to make binding resolutions for Member States.²⁹⁰ The Security Council has 15 members, five of which are permanent members (P-5):

China	France	Russian Federation
United Kingdom	United States of America	

Individual P5 members possess a veto on any measure considered by the Security Council. The ten non-permanent members of the Security Council are elected by the General Assembly for two year terms and do not possess veto power. The ten current non-permanent members and the year their terms end are:

Bolivia (2018)	Egypt (2017)	Ethiopia (2018)
Italy (2018)	Japan (2017)	Kazakhstan (2018)
Senegal (2017)	Sweden (2018)	Ukraine (2017)
Uruguay (2017)		

States that are members of the United Nations but not of the Security Council may sit in on discussions and take part in mediation but are not allowed to vote on resolutions passed by this body.

According to Article 24 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Security Council's primary responsibility is to maintain international peace and security. The function, powers, and procedural guidelines for the Security Council are outlined in Chapter Five of the Charter of the United Nations, and Chapters Six and Seven outline the procedures for mediating international conflicts.

When the Security Council is advised about a situation threatening international peace or security, the Council will first attempt to affect a peaceful solution. However, if violence has already broken out, then the Security Council will help mediate between the parties involved by issuing cease-fires, implementing sanctions or sending United Nations troops to enforce Security Council resolutions. It is important to note that presence of conflict does not guarantee that the Security Council will intervene. During the Cold War, the Security Council was often unable to act given the competing interests of veto-bearing P5 members. In the post-Cold War era, the Security Council has become more active, responding to conflicts in Iraq, Somalia, and Bosnia in the 1990's, Afghanistan, and North Korea in the 2000's, and recently, the war in Yemen, to name a few.

Security Council Topic 1: The Situation in South Sudan

Background:

South Sudan is the newest nation to have been formed. After years of armed conflict, the sub-Saharan Member State won its independence from the larger, Arab-dominated Sudan in 2011. The newly-formed Member State has a wide variety of ethnic groups, and the war against Sudan acted as a uniting force to join all ethnicities in the effort for independence. Once independence was gained, however, ethnic divide

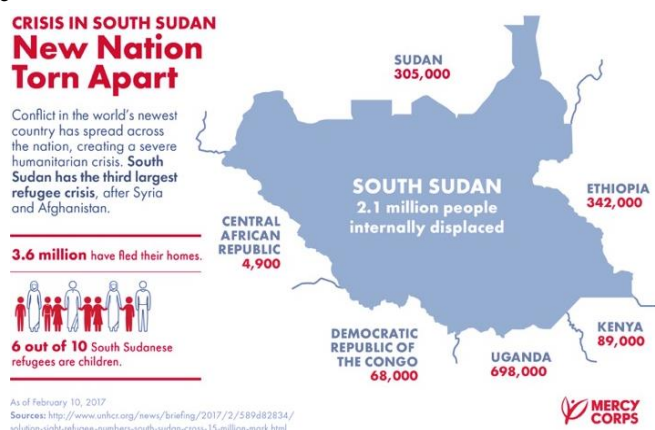
²⁹⁰ <http://www.un.org/en/sc/>

ensued once more. This is notable in the election of President Salva Kiir, member of the largest ethnic group, the Dinka, and Vice President Riek Machar of the second-largest ethnic group, the Nuer.²⁹¹

The South Sudanese civil war began in 2013, when political struggle between the President and Vice President led to the removal of the latter.²⁹² Conflict between the two did not take long to acquire an ethnic character, and when Kiir declared a coup d'état attempt by Machar, their ethnic groups allied around them.²⁹³ Fighting in South Sudan was able to reach a cease fire in 2015, but on July of 2016, there was a return to violence that has not yet ceased. The conflict in South Sudan is characterised for its violations of human rights and international conventions of war.

Civil war in South Sudan has spiraled out of convention, and has taken a barbaric turn, with the government and opposition forces engaging in violence against civilians. Reports coming from the ground shed light on the humanitarian and human rights crisis currently taking place in. The attacks on civilians are drawn along ethnic lines, with both government and rebel forces targeting certain ethnicities as supporters of the other faction. As such, South Sudan's ethnic groups are target of indiscriminate violence from both sides.²⁹⁴ Among the many human rights violations, sexual and gender-based violence has been used as a strategy of war, with soldiers having violated hundreds of mostly Nuer refugee women near a UN base in Juba, and many more throughout the nation, especially so in the city of Mundri, which has been deemed the epicentre of this problem.²⁹⁵ Many of the women and children victims to sexual or physical violence could not access physical or mental healthcare because of insecurity and limited services on the ground.²⁹⁶ Women and girls are not the only affected by the war. In South Sudan, both government and opposition forces have been (and are) using children as soldiers, with as many as 16,000 boys estimated to be involved in the conflict.²⁹⁷²⁹⁸ Children are forcibly recruited and abducted by the belligerents, and schoolhouses are used as barracks for the children being trained for conflict.²⁹⁹ Atop massive violations of human rights, the situation of South Sudan has created one of the worst refugee crises in modern history. Since the war began, estimates say 3.6 million people have fled

Figure 1. UNHCR Map showing distribution of South Sudanese refugees among its neighbouring nations.



²⁹¹ "Civil War in South Sudan" Global Conflict Tracker

<http://www.cfr.org/global/global-conflict-tracker/p32137#!:conflict/civil-war-in-south-sudan>

²⁹² Ibid.

²⁹³ Ibid.

²⁹⁴ "South Sudan's Civil War Spirals into Genocide, Leaving Ghost Towns in its Wake"

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/south-sudans-civil-war-spirals-genocide-leaving-ghost-towns-wake/>

²⁹⁵ "Rape Reaches 'Epic Proportions' in South Sudan's Civil War". Sam Mednick, AP.

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/0ed9bcd4d641ddae1184babbf4ffef/rape-reaches-epic-proportions-south-sudans-civil-war>

²⁹⁶ "South Sudan 2017 Report" Human Rights Watch

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2017/country-chapters/south-sudan>

²⁹⁷ Ibid

²⁹⁸ "A Generation Made to Fight: Saving South Sudan's Child Soldiers"

<https://www.unicefusa.org/stories/generation-made-fight-saving-south-sudans-child-soldiers/30738>

²⁹⁹ Ibid

their home, making 1.5 million of them refugees in neighbouring Member States.³⁰⁰ Each month, an average of 63,000 people are forced to leave their homeland escaping violence and famine, making South Sudan currently Africa's biggest refugee crisis, and the world's third worst after Syria and Afghanistan.³⁰¹

UN Action:

Security Council

The situation in South Sudan is an event that has affected an entire nation and an entire region. These events fall under the mandate of the Security Council (UNSC), as they pertain to international peace and stability, and action needs to be taken. The Security Council has made its condemnation of the events taking place in South Sudan very clear.³⁰² The body issued declarations calling for a return to the Status of Forces Agreement between the two belligerents and the UN.³⁰³ The UNSC has also focused on the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and its security needs after the 2016 return to hostilities on the ground.³⁰⁴ The body tasked a Regional Protection Force (RPF) to ensure the security in and around the capital city of Juba, authorising the use of "all means necessary" to carry out this task.³⁰⁵ Focusing on the UNMISS, the UNSC extended its mandate until December of 2017, and its protection forces increased to 17,000. The mandate of the UNMISS was made explicit to include the protection of all civilians, monitoring the development of human rights within the borders of the Member State, deliver humanitarian assistance, and support the peace process and a cease-fire.³⁰⁶

UNHCR

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has taken steps to mitigate the negative effect of the refugee and displacement crisis currently plaguing South Sudan. On December of 2016, the UNHCR created the South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan for January-December of 2017. This comprehensive plan assesses the conditions of the nation's 6 neighbouring states, and their capacity to receive and properly care for the refugees. The plan is set to benefit 1.8 million refugees coming from South Sudan in the year 2017, with estimated costs of \$1.2 Billion USD.³⁰⁷ Currently Uganda has been the Member State receiving the most displaced South Sudanese people, and has been commended for its welcoming refugee policy, accepting 489,000 people in 2016, and having inside its borders a total of 698,000 as of February 2017.³⁰⁸ Still much is needed in terms of resources and capacity building for the neighbouring countries to successfully look after the welfare of the displaced people escaping civil conflict in South Sudan.

³⁰⁰ With no solution in sight, refugee numbers from South Sudan cross 1.5 million mark.

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/news/briefing/2017/2/589d82834/solution-sight-refugee-numbers-south-sudan-cross-15-million-mark.html>

³⁰¹ Ibid

³⁰² "Security Council Press Statement on Fighting in South Sudan"

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/sc12713.doc.htm>

³⁰³ S/RES/2304 (2016); S/RES/2327 (2016)

³⁰⁴ Ibid

³⁰⁵ S/RES/2304 (2016)

³⁰⁶ S/RES/2327 (2016)

³⁰⁷ South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan- 2017. UNHCR

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/partners/donors/589497987/2017-south-sudan-regional-refugee-response-plan-january-december-2017-23.html?query=south%20sudan>

<http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/17166>

³⁰⁸ "Hundreds of Thousands of People Have Fled South Sudan for Uganda" The Economist.

<http://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21719117-young-countrys-southern-neighbour-provides-refuge-famine-and-violence>

UNMISS And the July 2016 Return to Hostilities:

On July of 2016, the terms of the cease-fire were broken, and South Sudan once again fell into armed conflict between the government and rebel forces. This crisis saw three days (July 8-11) of fighting between the two groups, and resulted in the death of many civilians in the capital city of Juba. Amid this conflict, the UNMISS safe houses were compromised by the belligerent forces, and personnel was beaten, robbed, and raped in one of the Terrain Camp.³⁰⁹ Prior to the crisis, the UNMISS “saw timely and accurate warning signs” that hostilities were bound to occur and did not take the necessary steps to properly prepare.³¹⁰ During the hostilities, the UNMISS UN House, its headquarters was caught in the cross-fire, which resulted in chaos due to lack of leadership and communication.³¹¹ The security force did not operate under unified orders, and rather, multiple and at times conflicting orders were issued between the four troop contingents.³¹² On July 11, government forces entered the Terrain Camp, a mere 1.2km away from UN House. The camp was housing civilians and many international aid workers falling under UN protection. When the soldiers broke into the camp, the residents notified the security forces, but their response was negligent, resulting in the unopposed violation of human rights, including murder. Sexual violence against civilians was reported to increase in and the Protection of Civilian camps managed by the UNMISS, and allegation of peacekeepers’ lack of response upon seeing such violations happen in front of them.³¹³ Coming upon these findings, recommendations were made by the investigative body. Such recommendations were:

- Addressing the failure of peacekeepers to act when civilians were attacked.
- Develop an action plan with short-term goals to restore the UN and UNMISS credibility and regain trust from civilians, and international players
- Ensure the UNMISS has a rigorous contingency plan which is rehearsed often through exercises.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation’s history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is “new,” you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

Tackling the Refugee Crisis

- How can the UN agencies and SC help maintain the cease fire and prevent further escalation of the conflict?
- What can other nations /regional bodies do to facilitate the accommodation of the refugees displaced in South Sudan’s neighbouring countries?
- How can the International Community aid the displaced South Sudanese people within their borders?

Human Rights Violations

- How to end/mitigate sexual violence against women?

³⁰⁹ Executive Summary of the Independent Special Investigation into the violence which occurred in Juba in 2016 and UNMISS response. 1

http://www.un.org/News/dh/infocus/sudan/Public_Executive_Summary_on_the_Special_Investigation_Report_1_Nov_2016.pdf

³¹⁰ Ibid, 1

³¹¹ Ibid, 1

³¹² Ibid, 3

³¹³ Ibid, 4

- How can the UN and International Community protect children from being kidnapped and forced to engage in armed conflict?

UNMISS

- How can the mission improve its care of Sudanese civilians?
- What resources can the international community provide for a better fulfilment of the UNMIS mandate within the borders of the Member State?
- What steps can/ should the UN and the international community take to secure civilians are protected during the conflict?

Bibliography

From the Security Council Report Website:

<http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/south-sudan/>

S/PV.7737 (July, 2016) Briefing on South Sudan

This report of the secretary general on South Sudan details events that happened in July of 2016 and the events as seen on the ground. Mr. Lasdous reports estimates of displaced civilians, possible human rights violations, and increased difficulty for international missions to assist civilians in the area. The Intergovernmental Authority in Development (IGAD) in a communiqué demanded that the mandate of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) be reviewed to create an intervention brigade as well as increase the number of troops in the ground to protect the capital city.

S/RES/2304 (2016)

Security Council Resolution demanding a permanent ceasefire between the belligerent forces, and the compliance of the Status of Forces Agreement between the Government of South Sudan and the UN. This resolution further urges the UNMISS as well as other agencies to determine their security needs, and tasks a Regional Protection Force to ensure a secure environment in and around Juba. The same also extends the mandate of the UNMISS and authorises it to use all means necessary to carry out its task.

S/RES/2327 (2016)

The Security Council's resolution demands South Sudan's leaders to implement a permanent ceasefire and protect civilians from any violence. It considers all appropriate measures against those who threaten the peace and stability process of South Sudan. The mandate for the UNMISS is extended until December of 2017 and increases its forces to 17,000. The Security Council thus authorises UNMISS to use all necessary means to protect civilians, monitor and investigate human rights, delivery of humanitarian assistance, and supporting the implementation of the Agreement.

“Security Council Press Statement on Fighting in South Sudan”

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/sc12713.doc.htm>

The SC issued a statement regarding the current situation in S. Sudan condemning the violence and violations of human rights. The members stressed the importance of a ceasefire to resolve this conflict, and expressed their commitment to work with the IGAD and the African Union (AU) to achieve a peace process in the nation.

Executive Summary of the Independent Special Investigation into the violence which occurred in Juba in 2016 and UNMISS response

http://www.un.org/News/dh/infocus/sudan/Public_Executive_Summary_on_the_Special_Investigation_Report_1_Nov_2016.pdf

This summary investigates the events which happened in July from July 8-11 in Juba, and the UN agencies' response to it. Many mistakes were made by the UN leadership on the ground, which led to the compromising and violation of the UN camps' integrity by the armed forces, which resulted in the removing of civilians, sexual assault of women, and the loss of significant human life, both native and

international. This investigation found the leadership guilty of inaction, despite clear warning signs of hostilities, and lack of pre-emptive preparation for any outbreak of violence.

South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan- 2017. UNHCR

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/partners/donors/589497987/2017-south-sudan-regional-refugee-response-plan-january-december-2017-23.html?query=south%20sudan> <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/17166>
<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/partners/donors/589497987/2017-south-sudan-regional-refugee-response-plan-january-december-2017-23.html?query=south%20sudan>

Detailed plan of action outlining Refugee Response to the ongoing South Sudan Civil War. The six neighbouring states to South Sudan present their response strategy as well as the necessary financial and logistic preparations each would require. This Response Plan highlights the human rights violations happening in South Sudan, of which disappearing of civilians as well as sexual and gender-based violence are prevalent and pervasive. As of the date of publication, an estimate of 4.8 million South Sudanese are food insecure, and currency devaluation is only accelerating its growth. This Response Plan presents a detailed plan of action on how to make avail for the South Sudanese Refugees for the year 2017.

“Rape Reaches ‘Epic Proportions’ in South Sudan’s Civil War”. Sam Mednick, AP.

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/rape-reaches-epic-proportions-south-sudans-civil-war-46368626>

Sexual violence as a mode of warfare has reached incredible proportions in the ongoing South Sudanese Civil War. The rebel opposition forces kidnapped women and brought them to their headquarters, where women were victims of sexual violations and kept in deplorable conditions. South Sudanese claim to be taking steps to prevent the cases of sexual violence.

“Hundreds of Thousands of People Have Fled South Sudan for Uganda” The Economist.

<http://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21719117-young-countrys-southern-neighbour-provides-refuge-famine-and-violence>

More than 785,000 people have fled South Sudan to Uganda, escaping the violence created by the civil war and the mass murder of civilians in the territory. Violence broke in 2013, but although a peace agreement was signed in 2015, violence erupted again in 2016, this time with an ethnic agenda to engage in ethnic cleansing and engineering. The massive number of people fleeing the country has created a refugee crisis, as refugee camps find themselves filled at an ever-fast rate. For the time being, the system put in place in Uganda seems to be working.

“Civil War in South Sudan” Global Conflict Tracker

<http://www.cfr.org/global/global-conflict-tracker/p32137#!/conflict/civil-war-in-south-sudan>

This source offers an overview of the South Sudanese Civil war as well as background information on the conflict. The civil war began in 2013, over a split between the President and vice-President, who belonged to the two main ethnic groups in S. Sudan. The UN sent a peacekeeping force to the nation in 2014 for civilian protection, and authorised the use of force for that end. The United States as a mediator has taken a back seat in the S. Sudanese Civil War, allowing the IGAD to mediate between the government and the opposition forces.

“South Sudan 2017 Report” Human Rights Watch

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2017/country-chapters/south-sudan>

This report outlines and expands on Human Rights Violations perpetrated by the South Sudanese Government and Rebel forces against civilians. Categories include recruitment of child-soldiers, sexual violence, restriction of freedom of expression and others.

“With no solution in sight, refugee numbers from South Sudan cross 1.5 million mark.” UNHCR website

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/news/briefing/2017/2/589d82834/solution-sight-refugee-numbers-south-sudan-cross-15-million-mark.html>

This is a summary of what was said by UNHCR spokesperson William Spindler at today's (2-10-17) press briefing at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

“A Generation Made to Fight: Saving South Sudan’s Child Soldiers”

<https://www.unicefusa.org/stories/generation-made-fight-saving-south-sudans-child-soldiers/30738>

Security Council Topic 2: The Situation in Libya

Background:

On December of 2010, the actions of a Tunisian street car vendor sparked the beginning of a series of civil revolts against authoritarian governments all over the Arab world. This “Arab Spring” did not take long to reach Libya, and on February 2011 demonstrations against the regime of Muammar Qaddafi flared in Benghazi. In response, the regime attempted to quell the dissenting demonstrations with violent use of force. Seeing the events taking place and the response of the regime, the United Nations Security Council (SC) issued S/RES/1970 (2011), “demanding an end to the violence and fulfilling the wishes of the people,³¹⁴” as well as arms embargo, asset freeze, and travel bans. Soon after, the Interim Transitional National Council (NTC) established itself as the official representative of Libya³¹⁵ and gained international recognition as the legitimate government authority of the Member State. Despite the existence of the NTC, Qaddafi continued in power, with repression and human rights violations continuing. These events prompted the UN, the African Union, the European Union, and several other international organizations to call for Qaddafi’s resignation and a cease to the violations of human rights being carried against the Libyan people and dissenters. The situation in Libya reached a breaking point on 20 October 2011 when Muammar Qaddafi was captured and eliminated. This left Libya in a political vacuum. With Qaddafi no longer in power, the General National Congress (GNC) succeeded the NTC as the government authority in Libya. To aid in the stability of the Member State, in 2015 the UN brokered the Libyan Political Agreement (LPA) among the many parties found in the Member State. However, disagreement arose between the Presidency Council and the House of Representatives over the agreement which has led to political division in the government coalition amidst a civil war dividing the country.

Although the UN has provided Libya with extensive support, Libya continues to face difficulties. The main issue on the table is how to achieve political stability. In a recent statement before the Security Council, Special Representative of the Secretary General and Head of United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) Martin Kobler outlined the issues Libya is currently facing. According to Kobler, the decreasing trust in the LPA has “worsened the political vacuum and political division. This overarching issue has also contributed to violent clashes, social unrest, and crime.³¹⁶” Libya’s public infrastructure has also suffered. In some regions, access to public services such as electricity, health, education, and water are limited, if not non-existent.³¹⁷ In addition to these issues, the current situation has also weakened Libya’s economy. The current instability in the nation has also prompted violations of Human Rights within the borders of the Member State, further fueling the already existent instability.

³¹⁴ S/RES/1970 (2011).

³¹⁵ UN Chronology of events, 1-10.

³¹⁶ Kobler, 2.

³¹⁷ Kobler, 2-3.

Summary of UN Action

Over the course of the situation in Libya, the Security Council has issued a series of resolutions. On 26 February 2011, the Security Council issued S/RES/1970 referring the situation in Libya to the International Criminal Court and imposing sanctions. Afterward, the Security Council passed S/RES/1973 which called for the protection of civilians, the enforcement of the arms embargo, and for a cease-fire. This resolution is significant because it was the main resolution that further UN action was based on until October 2011. In October 2011, the Security Council passed S/RES/2016 and S/RES/2017. S/RES/2016 “lifted the no-fly zone and the provisions for the use of force for the protection of civilians.” S/RES/2017 addressed chemical weapons, small arms and weapons, and Man-Portable Air-Defense Systems (MANPADS). MANPADS pose a significant security risk, and as such, the Security Council has called for the UNSMIL to assist Libya in addressing this issue. In August 2014, the Security Council passed S/RES/2174, sanctioning those that interfered with the completion of the transition process and the arms embargo.³¹⁸ The Security Council then followed up with S/RES/2214 which focused on counter-terrorism. Then on 9 October 2015, the Security Council issued S/RES/2240, authorizing the interdiction of vessels used for human trafficking off the Libyan coast³¹⁹. In 2016, the Security Council passed several resolutions which extended the mandate of the UNSMIL and the Sanctions Committee. Furthermore, the Security Council also issued resolutions addressing the disposal of Libya’s chemical weapons and human trafficking. These recent resolutions are extensions of previous resolutions.

The UNSMIL is the main UN operation in the Member State. This body was established and given its mandate in 2011 after the Security Council passes S/RES/2009 (2011). Under its current mandate, established by S/RES/2323 (2016), the UNSMIL is tasked with assisting the Member State in supporting Libya in the enactment of the Libyan Political Agreement.³²⁰ Furthermore, the UNSMIL is responsible for “monitoring and reporting on the condition of human rights; providing assistance in securing uncontrolled arms and countering arms proliferation; coordinating international assistance;” and assisting the Government of National Accord (GNA) with securing post-conflict zones.³²¹ Part of the assistance offered to the Member State by the mission in Libya includes aiding the GNA in steps to include women in the government building process and help it address the Human Rights violations being committed.

In addition to the Security Council resolutions, the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly have also issued reports and resolutions on the situation in Libya. In March 2011, the General Assembly passed A/RES/65/265 which removed Libya from the Human Rights Council (HRC). In 2016, the annual report from the High Commissioner for Human Rights (HCHR) presented to the HRC its “Investigation by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Libya” (A/HRC/31/47) detailed all the violations committed within the borders of the Member State. Among many, the report found extrajudicial and unlawful killings, attacks on civilians, torture, and gender based violence crimes were being perpetrated by the warring factions.³²²

³¹⁸ S/RES/2174 (2014).

³¹⁹ S/RES/2240 (2015).

³²⁰ UNSMIL Mission Background/Mandate.

³²¹ UNSMIL Mission Background/Mandate.

³²² A/HRC/31/47

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session31/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session31/Documents/A_HRC_31_47_E.doc&action=default&DefaultItemOpen=1

Summary of Issues

Human Rights

A report S/2017/283 to the Security Council describes a series of “abductions and killings; detention, torture, and death in custody; and vulnerable groups such as migrants, women, and children”.³²³ Armed groups, including the Libyan National Army, have been responsible for carrying out abductions and killings. The victims of these abductions and killings were those with differing “political opinions, affiliations” to those of the LNA, family or tribal identity, and for ransom or prisoner exchange”.³²⁴ There have been reports of detentions, torture, and death in custody. While in custody, people have been subject to deplorable conditions. There have also been reports of due process violations, such as judicial delays. There have also been deaths in custody. Vulnerable groups such as migrants, women, and children have been subject to detentions, abductions, and other forms of mistreatment.

UNSMIL

The UNSMIL reports that Libya needs a national reconciliation process. To this end, tribal leaders, women, other social groups have initiated reconciliation processes and have met with some success. They are responsible for resolving local conflicts, which has contributed to some level of stability. However, trials for former members of the Qaddafi regime have failed to meet international standards.³²⁵ Regarding security, armed forces remain divided with the Libyan National Army (LNA) in control of the east and the Presidency Council in the west.³²⁶ UNSMIL is working to assist Libyan authorities with building its capacity to govern its armed forces and maintaining control over the region. Additionally, arms and weapons continue to pose a risk. Former conflict zones contain explosive devices and mines, posing a safety hazard to civilians.

The Framework: The Libyan Political Agreement

The LPA seeks to provide a framework for stability and government. There are four main principles that underlie the LPA. These are “ensuring democratic rights of the Libyan people, the need for a consensual government based on the separation of powers, oversight and balance between the government powers, and respect for the Libyan Judiciary and its independence”.³²⁷ The LPA established the Government of National Accord, the Presidential Council, the House of Representatives, and the High Council. The Government of National Accord is the interim government throughout the transition process. The Presidency Council functions as the main executive body and is supposed to have authority over the LNA; the House of Representatives functions as the main legislative body. The High Council functions as an advisory body to the Government of National Accord.

Although the international community and the Libyan people agree that the LPA is the key to resolving the issues in Libya, the LPA has not been able to fulfill its duties. The main issue is ensuring that the parties agree on a consensual solution to end the political deadlock that addresses the issues raised by those refusing to support the LPA.³²⁸ The UN has responded by attempting to broker negotiations among the respective groups. In the last few months, Special Representative Kobler met with Agila Saleh Issa and President of the High State Council, where they agreed to form a joint committee to work towards consensus.³²⁹ However, division within the House of Representatives prevented the proposed amendments from passing through.

³²³ S/2017/283, 7-10.

³²⁴ S/2017/283, 7.

³²⁵ S/2017/283, 9.

³²⁶ S/2017/283, 10.

³²⁷ Libyan Political Agreement, 2.

³²⁸ Security Council Report Monthly Forecast April 2017, 13.

³²⁹ S/2017/283.

The United Nations, the Libyan authorities, and other groups consider the LPA as the solution to achieving political stability. However, it is not enough. Presently, there are two major issues with the LPA: “the composition and role of the Presidency Council and the supreme command of the Libyan National Army”.³³⁰ In a letter to the Security Council, President of the House of Representatives Agila Saleh Issa proposed a series of amendments to the LPA, including restructuring the Presidency Council’s composition and decision-making process as well as making the LNA independent of political control.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation’s history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is “new,” you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- What is your nation’s position concerning Libya?
- What kind of resolutions can be created to facilitate Libya’s path toward political stability without infringing on national sovereignty?
- What can be done to strengthen the Libyan Political Agreement (LPA)? Consider House Speaker Agila Saleh’s amendment proposals in his letter to the Security Council.
- Regarding insurgent groups, what can be done to minimize their influence?
- One of the current problems is the inclusion of various groups in the path towards political stability. What can be done to include groups such as women and minorities in the government building process?

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“Chronology of Events: Libya.” *Security Council Report*, <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/chronology/libya.php>. Accessed 29 March 2017.

The Security Council Report provides a detailed timeline of events along with links to significant documents and Security Council resolutions.

Kobler, Martin. “A Return to Politics.” Statement to the Security Council, United Nations. United Nations, New York, 2017.

Kraikish, Nazar. *Post-Revolution Islamist Movements in Libya: Transformation and Future*. Al Jazeera Center for Studies, 2016.

“Mission Background/Mandate.” *United Nations Support Mission in Libya*, <http://unsmil.unmissions.org/default.aspx?tabid=3544>. Accessed 1 April 2017.

Libyan Political Agreement, 2015, Skhirat.

The Libyan Political Agreement is an agreement amongst various representatives across Libya. This agreement is an attempt to resolve conflict in the post-Gaddafi years by creating a democratic state. There are four main principles to this agreement: “ensuring democratic rights, need for a consensual government, empowerment of state institutions, and respect for the judiciary and its independence” (Libyan Political Agreement, 2).

³³⁰ S/2017/283, 2.

Pack, J., ed. *The 2011 Libyan Uprisings and the Struggle for the Post-Qadhafi Future*. New York, US: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013. ProQuest ebrary. Web. 25 March 2017.

Sadiki, Larbi, ed. *Routledge Handbook of the Arab Spring: Rethinking Democratization*. Florence, US: Routledge, 2014. ProQuest ebrary. Web. 25 March 2017.

Qsiyer, Kamal. *Dynamics of the Maghreb Geopolitics in 2014*. Al Jazeera Center for Studies, 2015.

Quartet. *Joint Communiqué*, 2017, Cairo.

United Nations, Security Council. *Monthly Forecast: April 2017*. United Nations, New York, 2017.

United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) (S/2016/1011)*. United Nations, 2016.

This report addresses the political and security developments as well as the summary of the human rights situation in Libya. This report also provides a summary of the UNSMIL (S/2016/1011, 1). Additionally, this report covers the implementation of the 2015 Libyan Political Agreement (LPA), the constitutional drafting process, and recommendations for further actions. One particular issue concerns the success of the LPA. The LPA has met with considerable obstacles.

United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Secretary General on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) (S/2017/283)*. United Nations, 2017.

This report provides an update on the situation in Libya. Additionally, this report provides an update on issues pertaining the LPA, human rights issues, security issues, and political stability.

United Nations, Security Council. *Resolution 1970 (2011) (S/RES/1970 (2011))*. United Nations, 2011.

The Security Council calls for an end to the violence under the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. This resolution calls for the following: the safety of Libyan citizens, foreign nationals and diplomats, respect for human rights, safe passage of humanitarian and medical assistance, and lift restrictions on social media.

United Nations, Security Council. *Resolution 2174 (2014) (S/RES/2174)*. United Nations, 2014.

United Nations, Security Council. *Resolution 2213 (2015) (S/RES/2213)*. United Nations, 2015.

United Nations, Security Council. *Resolution 2240 (2015) (S/RES/2323)*. United Nations, 2015.

United Nations, Security Council. *Resolution 2323 (2016) (S/RES/2323)*. United Nations, 2016.

United Nations, Security Council. *Resolution 2278 (2016) (S/RES/2278)*. United Nations, 2016.

United Nations, Security Council. *The Situation in Libya Security Council Report (S.PV.7879)*. United Nations, New York, 2017.

This is one of the most recent Security Council meetings on the Situation in Libya. Mr. Kobler (Special Representative of the Secretary-General), Mr. Rosselli (Uruguay), Mr. Llorenty Soliz (Bolivia), Mr. Elmajerbi (Libya) each gave speeches before the Security Council on the situation in Libya. Mr. Kobler provided a briefing on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya.

“Investigation by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Libya”
(A/HRC/31/47)

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session31/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session31/Documents/A_HRC_31_47_E.doc&action=default&DefaultItemOpen=1

Historical Security Council, I: The Six-Day War 1967



Historical Security Council I: The Six-Day War 1967

Notes on the Simulation:

Do not presume to know anything that your member-state would not know on June 5th, 1967. Delegates should not expect history to unfold exactly as it did in 1967. For the purpose of the simulation there will be counterfactual incidents and events.

The members of the Security Council for the duration of the simulation are:

Argentina	Brazil	Bulgaria	Canada
China	Denmark	Ethiopia	France
India	Japan	Mali	Nigeria
Soviet Union	United Kingdom	United States	

Iran, Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Israel, and Jordan will also have the option to participate as a non-voting observer, pursuant to UN Security Council rules: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/members/>.

Background:

It is 5 June 1967 and you have been summoned to an emergency Security Council Meeting concerning a crisis in the Middle East. There has been an unresolved issue in the region since the 1956 Suez War in which Israel invaded the Sinai Peninsula. The Suez War began after Britain and France announced their joint enterprise of the Suez Canal Company in order to perpetuate their influence in the region.³³¹ After the initial invasion, Britain and France joined Israel in order to protect the Canal. This nearly brought the Soviet Union into the conflict, which would have damaged the relationship with the United States. As a result, there was serious concern that the regional conflict could escalate to a global scale.³³² The war saw the defeat of Egypt, however, international pressure remained on Britain, France and Israel to withdraw from the Sinai. The war led to the first emergency special session of the General Assembly to meet under the resolution 377/A (1950).³³³ At this meeting, the General Assembly passed resolution 997. This resolution called for a ceasefire. The resolution passed in part because of the support of the United States, which publicly condemned the invasion. The United States was also a strong advocate for the creation of a United Nations peacekeeping force that was present in the Sinai Peninsula up until early 1967.³³⁴

Conditions have deteriorated within the last month. This began on May 13, when Soviet officials informed the Syrian and Egyptian Governments that Israel was moving troops to the Syrian border. In response, Egyptian President Nasser deployed Egyptian soldiers into the Sinai.³³⁵ On May 16, Egypt demanded the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) withdraw its troops from the Israeli border. Secretary General U Thant agreed to withdraw UNEF troops from all its positions with the hope that

³³¹ Shah, Anup. "The Middle East conflict-a brief background." *Global Issues*. July 30, 2006. Accessed May 06, 2017. <http://www.globalissues.org/article/119/the-middle-east-conflict-a-brief-background>.

³³² Six Day war. "Six Day War - Role of United Nations." *Six Day War*. Web. 06 May 2017.

³³³ United Nations General Assembly Resolution 377 (A/RES/377), 3 November 1950.

<https://unispal.un.org/DPA/DPR/unispal.nsf/0/55C2B84DA9E0052B05256554005726C6>

³³⁴ "FIRST UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY FORCE (UNEF I) - Background (Full text)." *United Nations*. United Nations, Web. 06 May 2017.

³³⁵ Zamarti, Dimendo. "HSC: Position Paper from Foreign Minister of Israel." *D'AMUN XIX*. N.p., 08 June 2016. Web. 06 May 2017.

President Nasser would do the same. However, President Nasser did not pull back Egyptian forces. Instead, the situation became even tenser with the inclusion of Jordan into the Arab coalition.³³⁶

This morning, Israel launched its first airstrike on Egypt and has continued its attack on other members of the Arab coalition including Jordan and Syria. In response, Syria, Jordan, and Iraq have begun air strikes of their own on several cities in Israel including Haifa, Netanya, and Tel Aviv. In addition, Jordan is reported to be firing artillery shells into the Israeli city of Tel Aviv.³³⁷

Notes on the Simulation

Directives are statements released by the committee, which need to be specific, but not as specific as working papers as they are a means to action in the short term.

Communiqués are a means of communication between a country, person, organization or committee. They are useful during negotiations or when there is a need for intelligence, and need a majority to pass. They do not need to be voted on if they are private.

Press Releases are official remarks made by the committee or member state to justify actions to the public. They are used to show the progress of the meeting to the public and straighten out any misleading facts or information.

During the session if there are any wires to delegations or press releases from the current situation students are encouraged to use these in speeches and discussions with other delegates.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- How would interference by outside forces affect the conflict?
- How are UN agencies affected by this conflict?
- What other Member States have ties to the Middle East? How does this affect them?
- How affective was the UN response during the Suez war?
- How are the Member States surrounded by the conflict being affected?
- What are the strategies that could be used to end the conflict?

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³³⁶ Ginor, Isabella. "How Six Day war almost led to Armageddon | World news ..." *The Guardian*. The Guardian, 9 June 2000. Web. 6 May 2017.

³³⁷ "Timeline: The Six Day War." NPR. June 04, 2007. Accessed May 06, 2017. <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=10694216>.

This source will be used to help write my questions during the conference. I will see the steps the UN took with dealing with the war and pair that with what I want to happen. This will mostly be a reference.

Black, Eric. "Resolution 242 and the Aftermath of 1967." PBS. 1992. Accessed May 06, 2017.
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/oslo/parallel/8.html>.

This source is used to better explain the resolution created by the Security Council in response to the Six Day War. This is helpful when determining the action that took place in order to reach this resolution. The cables represent the influence of the Security Council but ultimately this source is used as a reference. The actions and steps will not be identical to what occurred in real time.

"FIRST UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY FORCE (UNEF I) - Background (Full text)." *United Nations*. United Nations, Web. 06 May 2017.

This source illustrates the actions taken place during the first emergency general assembly during the Suez war. It is useful to understand what actions and steps were taken in order to understand the implications of their action.

Ginor, Isabella. "How Six Day war almost led to Armageddon | World news ..." *The Guardian*. The Guardian, 9 June 2000. Web. 6 May 2017.

With this source, I am better able to illustrate the global impact the Six Day War had. This source allows for further research into determining the role other countries outside of the Middle East had. This is helpful in determine how those outside of the major conflict zone play a role in the Six Day War.

Goldfoot, Nadene. "Jewish Bubba." *Charles de Gaulle Turns Europe Against Jews*. 01 Jan. 1970. Web. 06 May 2017.

This source portrays the connection between European countries and the Middle East. Specifically, the source depicts how Jews were treated and why that added to the Six Day War.

"Introduction." The Miracles of the Six-Day War. Accessed May 06, 2017.
http://www.chabad.org/multimedia/timeline_cdo/aid/525341/jewish/Introduction.htm.

With this source, I was able to create the story line that students will follow during the conference. The source conveys what happened during the Six Day war and helps show the timeline of the war. This source is helpful because it shows what occurred each day, which allowed for the creating of the cables that will be released throughout the conference.

Shah, Anup. "The Middle East conflict-a brief background." *Global Issues*. July 30, 2006. Accessed May 06, 2017. <http://www.globalissues.org/article/119/the-middle-east-conflict-a-brief-background>.

This source illustrates the full scope of what occurred prior to the six-day war. Specifically, this portrays the conflict that began in the Middle East after World War II. It is important to note what occurred in order to fully see the scope of the conflict and why things escalated to the point of war.

Six Day war. "Six Day War - Role of United Nations." *Six Day War*. Web. 06 May 2017.

This source will depict the resolutions and other major movements made by the United Nations prior to the Six Day War. This source gives insight on how the United Nations actions led to the war as well as helped escalate it.

"Timeline: The Six Day War." NPR. June 04, 2007. Accessed May 06, 2017.
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=10694216>.

This source is used as a foundation for the day-to-day timeline during conference. This source illustrates what occurred each single day and is used as a reference. The cables represented during conference will

not depict the situation as it occurred in real time. This source is solely a reference in order to stay true to the conflict.

"Understanding UN Security Council Resolution 242." *Jerusalem Center For Public Affairs*. 23 May 2002. Web. 06 May 2017.

This source is used to better explain the resolution created by the Security Council in response to the Six Day War. This is helpful when determining the action that took place in order to reach this resolution. The cables represent the influence of the Security Council but ultimately this source is used as a reference. The actions and steps will not be identical to what occurred in real time.

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 377 (A/RES/377), 3 November 1950.

<https://unispal.un.org/DPA/DPR/unispal.nsf/0/55C2B84DA9E0052B05256554005726C6>

This is the resolution by the emergency General Assembly that was created prior to the Suez War and what allowed the Assembly to meet. It is used as a reference to the Suez War and how the United Nations was able to handle that.

United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 (S/RES/242), 2 November 1967.

http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/242%281967%29

This is the resolution that was created in response to the Six Day War. This is helpful when determining the action that took place in order to reach this resolution. The cables represent the influence of the Security Council but ultimately this source is used as a reference. The actions and steps will not be identical to what occurred in real time.

Zamarti, Dimendo. "HSC: Position Paper from Foreign Minister of Israel." *D'AMUN XIX*. N.p., 08 June 2016. Web. 06 May 2017.

This source is the press release given by the Foreign Minister of Israel in which he depicts the war and the actions caused by his nation. This is a useful document as it allows a better insight into the countries standpoint during the war.

Historical Security Council, II: Iran-Iraq 1987



Historical Security Council II: Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988)

Notes on the Simulation:

Do not presume to know anything that your member-state would not know before 20 July 1987. Delegates should not expect history to unfold exactly as it did in between 1980 and 1987. For the purpose of the simulation there will be counterfactual information and events.

The members of the Security Council for the duration of the simulation are:

Argentina	Bulgaria	China
Congo	France	Germany
Ghana	Italy	Japan
USSR	UAE	United Kingdom
United States of America	Venezuela	Zambia

Iraq & Iran will also have the option to participate as a non-voting observer, pursuant to UN Security Council rules: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/members/>.

Background:

It's 20 July 1987, and you have been summoned for an emergency Security Council Meeting in regard to the deteriorating situation between Iran and Iraq. On 22 September 1980, Iraq launched a full-scale invasion of Iran.³³⁸ UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim asked both governments to seek a peaceful solution to their disputes.³³⁹ According to Iraqi President Hussein, the two countries went to war over three issues. These issues include the boundary line in the Shatt al-Arab waterway, the boundary line in the area of Musian, and sovereignty over the three islands that guard the entrance to the Strait of Hormuz.³⁴⁰ Since the outbreak of the war in 1980, war tactics have included indiscriminate ballistic-missile attacks, extensive use of chemical weapons and attacks on third-country oil tankers in the Persian Gulf.³⁴¹ The two have engaged in border clashes and disputes for many years.³⁴² The United Nations has been physically present in the Persian Gulf since 1984 as Iran agreed to allow the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) to inspect civilian areas; both Iran and Iraq have agreed to end attacks on civilians. The war, however, has not ended as Iran states that it will not participate in the U.N. sponsored negotiations.³⁴³

As of 6 January 1981, Iran claims to have killed approximately 550 Iraqis and captured an additional 1,700 in two battles.³⁴⁴ Iraq disputes this claim by stating that Iranians are retreating and leaving behind a

³³⁸ *Iran-Iraq War*, <https://www.saylor.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/HIST35111.1.4Iran-IraqWar.pdf>

³³⁹ Khaloozadeh, Salid. *Iran-Iraq War: Legal and International Dimensions*, Iran Review. 2011, http://www.iranreview.org/content/Documents/Iran_Iraq_War_Legal_and_International_Dimensions.htm

³⁴⁰ Ferretti, Matthew. *The Iran-Iraq War: United Nations Resolution of Armed Conflict*, 35 Vill. L.Rev. 197 (1990), <http://digitalcommons.law.villanova.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2908&context=vlr>

³⁴¹ "Iran-Iraq War." History.com. A&E Television Networks, 2009. <http://www.history.com/topics/iran-iraq-war>

³⁴² *Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988)*, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/war/iraniraq.htm>

³⁴³ *Iran-Iraq*, UNIIMOG, <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/past/uniimogbackgr.html>

³⁴⁴ "Iran-Iraq War Timeline". https://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/Iran-IraqWar_Part1_0.pdf

large number of weapons, military equipment, and prisoners. A few days later, Tehran accuses Iraq of using napalm and chemical bombs. Immediately, the United Nations Special Envoy Olof Palme visits both Iran and Iraq in hopes of bringing the conflict to a peaceful conclusion.³⁴⁵ This visit, on 16 January 1981, will be the United Nations' first attempt at ending the conflict. The next time the United Nations becomes involved is on 5 September 1983, as the UN tells Iran to conform to international conventions and must stop recruiting child soldiers.³⁴⁶ The United Nations then establishes a physical presence with the UNTSO in 1984 and sends a mission to investigate claims that Iraq has used chemical weapons. All of these attempts at establishing peace between Iran and Iraq are proven unsuccessful and the war continues.

On 24 February 1986, in recognition of the atrocities of the war, the United Nations Security Council passes resolution 582, which denounced the bombing of civilian population centers, attacks on neutral shipping or civilian aircraft, the violation of international humanitarian law, and the use of chemical weapons.³⁴⁷ The resolution also sought an immediate cease-fire, a cessation of all hostilities of land, at sea and in the air, withdrawal of all forces to the internationally recognized boundaries, and exchange of prisoners-of-war. Iran in turn boycotted the Security Council.³⁴⁸ The resolution was unsuccessful as the following day, 25 February 1986, Iran launched a new offensive in northeastern Iraq to threaten to Iraq's oilfields.³⁴⁹

In an attempt to force Iran to the negotiating table, the United States tried to persuade the United Nations to impose a worldwide arms embargo against Iran on 7 May 1987. The U.N. Security Council failed to agree to this proposal, however, on 1 June 1987. The war wages on, and the Iranian press reports the use of mustard gas in a Kurdish region of Iran that was dropped by Iraq, killing ten and wounding over 650.³⁵⁰ Thus far, each side has sustained hundreds of thousands of casualties.³⁵¹ Additionally, Iraq has largely financed the war through loans, and owes tens of billions of dollars to Gulf creditors.³⁵²

Notes on the Simulation:

Directives are statements released by the committee, which need to be specific, but not as specific as working papers for they are a means to an action in the short term. They require a majority vote to pass, but private directives may just be sent up to the chair.

Communiqués are a means of communications to between a country, organization, a person, or even a committee which are useful during negotiations or need for intelligence. They need a majority to pass, but do not need to be voted on if they are private.

³⁴⁵ Timeline

³⁴⁶ Timeline

³⁴⁷ General Assembly resolution 582, *Iraq-Islamic Republic of Iran*, S/RES/582, (18 February 1986), [http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/582\(1986\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/582(1986))

³⁴⁸ Chitalkar & Malone, Poorvi & David. *The UN Security Council and Iraq*, United Nations University, (2013), https://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:5/wp01_theunscandiraq1.pdf

³⁴⁹ Timeline

³⁵⁰ Timeline

³⁵¹ Ali, Javed. *Chemical Weapons and the Iran-Iraq War: A Case Study in Noncompliance*, The Nonproliferation Review, 2011, <http://www.nonproliferation.org/wpcontent/uploads/npr/81ali.pdf>

³⁵² *The Gulf War, 1991*, Office of the Historian, <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1989/1992/gulf-war>

Press Releases are official remarks by the committee or member state to justify actions to the public. They are able to show the progress of the meeting to the public and straighten out any misleading facts or information.

During the session if there are any wires to delegation or press releases from the current situation you are encouraged to use these in speeches and actions.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- How should the United Nations react to and proceed with the reported use of chemical warfare?
- Does the use of chemical weapons suggest that noncombatants are also targets? How does the death of civilians change the response of the United Nations?
- How can external foreign involvement support/prolong the war?
- How do foreign fighters change the United Nations need to interfere? How do child soldiers change the United Nations need to interfere?
- How can the United Nations promote peace without interfering with state sovereignty?
- What actions can be taken to persuade Iran and Iraq to come to the negotiating table to create lasting peace?
- How does the destruction and warfare between Iran and Iraq affect my nation?
- When is the UN able to use force? See UN Charter.
- What were the warning signs of the outbreak of the war? Could this war have been prevented by peaceful discussion facilitated by a third party or the UN? What could they have done to stop the war earlier on or before it started?
- Who should be financially responsible for damages caused by the war? Should this be a shared responsibility? To what extent?

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This article explains each nation's account of how the war began as well as the United Nations involvement. The paper is broken down into sections titled "How the War Began," "Basis of the Dispute" and "An Evaluation of the United Nations Performance During the Iran-Iraq War."

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[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/582\(1986\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/582(1986))

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Iran-Iraq, UNIIMOG,

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This website starts from the beginning and documents details of the war until 1991. It's main sections are titled "Background," "Establishment and Operations of UNIIMOG" and "Implementation of Mandate."

Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988),

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This link also narrates the Iran-Iraq War. This link begins with events as far back as the 1970's that explain the tensions between the two states and concludes with 1999.

Iran-Iraq War,

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This article very descriptively tracks the war including the origins of the war, the details of the war, a comparison of the states' military strengths, foreign support, the use of chemical weapons and concludes with the aftermath.

Iran-Iraq War, New World Encyclopedia,

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The Encyclopedia includes important information dating from 1980-1990. Details included sections titled "Background," "Invasion and Repulse," "The Tanker War and US Entanglement," "Social Response" and "Aftermath."

“Iran-Iraq War.” History.com. A&E Television Networks, 2009.

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Khaloozadeh, Salid. *Iran-Iraq War: Legal and International Dimensions*, Iran Review. 2011,

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This article contains helpful information summarizing the war. The most useful section is titled “Role of the UN Security Council in the Iran-Iraq War.”

The Gulf War, 1991, Office of the Historian,

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Delegate Handbook



Baylor MUN Delegate Policies

Code of Conduct

Delegates are expected to remain in character at all times during committee sessions by adhering to the policies and interests of their assigned country. This entails displaying respect for the opinions and ideals of fellow delegates, even if these opinions and ideals conflict with their own priorities or the interests of their own assigned country.

Decorum

Delegates are expected to maintain decorum by displaying utmost courtesy and professionalism at all times. Delegates are expected to behave as professional adults both in respect for fellow delegates, respect and courtesy toward Baylor MUN staff, and respect for the facilities at Baylor MUN. In this regard, delegates are responsible for their own trash and may not bring food into the committee rooms. After each committee session, each delegate is to clean his/her own area before leaving the room.

Note Passing

Note passing is allowed, except during voting procedure. Note passing allows delegates to send formal notes to fellow delegates in order to ask questions, inform another delegate about an opinion or to ask for support for your own resolution, and as such it is an extremely effective tool to network for your resolution. As note passing is intended to support the diplomatic discussion, informal, personal, or notes otherwise deemed inappropriate will be collected by the chair and the delegate may be dismissed from committee immediately, at the discretion of the chair.

Dress Code

The dress code for the conference is Western business attire: a blazer, dress slacks or skirt, dress shirt (with tie for men), and dress shoes. It is not appropriate for delegates to display national symbols such as flags, pins, crests, etc. on their person during sessions, but UN symbols or pins are acceptable. Delegates whose culture or religion requires that they wear particular articles of clothing such as head-coverings, are welcome to do so; however, Baylor MUN will not tolerate any delegate's attempt to portray a character using traditional cultural attire as costume.

Awards Philosophy

Awards are not intended to promote a spirit of hostile competition. Rather, they recognize excellence in committee, which is evaluated based upon consideration of the delegate's participation in all aspects of the committee's work in formal session and unmoderated caucus. The best delegates will be those who stay in character as their assigned country and contribute not simply through giving speeches but also through working alongside other students to negotiate and formulate resolutions in caucuses.

There will be awards given for Best Delegate in each committee as well as for the overall "Best Country Delegation," which recognizes excellence across committees. There will be awards given for Best Large Delegation and Best Small Delegation, which take into consideration the overall excellence of the entire team while factoring in the total number of students on the team. The categories for these awards will be announced prior to the conference once registration is closed and the size of all the delegations attending the conference is known. Past examples are available on the website. Finally, there will be an award for Position Papers, which are optional, completed prior to conference, and considered separately from the at conference awards.

Academic Dishonesty and Other Unauthorized Assistance

Plagiarism will not be tolerated, nor should “prewritten” resolutions be brought to conference. Resolutions should be the product of work at the conference. While advisors and coaches are welcome to attend the sessions as observers if there is space in the committee room, they should not interfere with the formal proceedings or participate in caucuses. Delegates may ask their advisors or coaches questions during a suspension of the meeting, but at no time should advisors or coaches take part in writing or editing the delegates’ resolutions.

Electronics Policy

In our attempt to foster environmental sustainability and limit paper waste, delegates may use laptops, iPads, etc. during unmoderated caucus to access research completed *before* conference that is saved on the computer in lieu of bringing paper copies of this material. However, these devices may not be used during formal session. Internet access will not be available in the conference rooms, nor should delegates use their own internet plans on their tablets or phones at any time. If delegates have questions about resolution content, they are welcome to ask their chairs or rapporteurs for guidance.

At no time should Delegates be using cell phones during committees. Delegates are encouraged to leave their phones with their adult chaperones to eliminate the temptation to send texts or check phones during committee.

Baylor Model United Nations Parliamentary Procedure

Rules

Rules Philosophy

These rules will be used for all committees at the Baylor Model United Nations High School Conference. Each conference on the high school and collegiate level adopts its own rules of procedure. This set of rules was formulated with two primary goals in mind: 1) to simulate as closely as possible the procedures of the United Nations, and 2) to provide rules that facilitate quality participation in the limited time available at conference.

Rules are intended to make sessions run smoothly and thus should not be abused or used in such a way that disrupts the primary purpose of the conference, which is to have an informed consideration of important global issues. Delegates should be familiar with these rules when they arrive at conference and should not rely on “points of information” to learn the rules at conference.

Rule 1: Duties of the Chair

The chair of the committee will open and close the committee’s meetings, oversee the debate and discussion, enforce the rules of procedure, delegate speaking privileges, count votes, and announce results. The chair may also propose motions including closing the speaker’s list, closing debate, and suspending or adjourning the meeting.

Rule 2: Conference Agenda

The Secretariat establishes the topic agenda for each committee, which is announced prior to the conference on the website and is outlined in the committee background guides. No additional topics may be added to the agenda during committee sessions, unless the committee’s agenda is specified as an “open” one.

Rule 3: Quorum

The chair may open a meeting or allow a procedural vote when at least one-fourth of the committee is present. However, one-half of the committee is required to be present before substantive votes shall be taken.

Rule 4: Voting

Each Member State will have one vote. Members who are “present and voting” must vote on all resolutions and amendments; others may abstain during substantive votes. All members must vote on all procedural motions (e.g. setting the time limits for speakers, setting topic order for the agenda). Votes shall be cast by show of placards unless a member requests a roll-call vote. However, the chair may deny the request for a roll-call vote if it is clear this is being requested to be disruptive, or if the privilege is abused. During voting procedure, proper decorum will be maintained, and members may not speak, pass notes or leave and enter the room.

Rule 5: Agenda Setting in Committee

Members of the committee may vote on the order in which to address the agenda topics, requiring a simple majority in order to pass. Proposed agendas will be voted on in the order they were first received.

Rule 6: Time Limits for Speeches

The committee shall vote on the time limit for the speaker after setting the agenda. The chair may appoint two members, one for and one against, to speak on the time limit proposed before putting the motion to vote; these procedural speeches will be limited to 30 seconds. The committee needs a simple majority to

set a limit on the speaker's time. The chair may entertain additional motions later during the session to change the speaker's time at his/her discretion.

Rule 7: Formal Session and the Speaker's List

Once the agenda is set and speaker's time decided, the chair will create a speaker's list for members to address the committee in an orderly fashion during formal sessions of committee; this is the process that is used by the United Nations during their sessions. Speakers will be given the floor in the order that their names appear on this list. Members may withdraw themselves from the speaker's list at any time and request to be added to the list by sending a note to either the chair or rapporteur. However, members may not trade spots on the speaker's list with other delegations, nor may they request to be added to the speaker's list if they are already on the list and are waiting to speak. After a delegate has spoken and are removed from the list, they may immediately request to be added again via a note to the chair or rapporteur.

After a speech is given, there will not be a formal period for questions or "points of inquiries" for the individual who delivered the speech. These queries can be made via note to the delegate or addressed during unmoderated caucus. At the chair's discretion, after a number of speeches are delivered, the chair will ask if there are any motions. At this time, delegates may request a suspension of the meeting for an unmoderated caucus or other motion that is in order. If there are no motions, the speeches will continue as ordered on the speaker's list.

Members of the committee may vote to close the speaker's list by earning a majority vote according to the amount of members present and voting. This means no additional names can be added to the list. Members of the committee may vote to reopen the speaker's list by the same qualifications given there was at least one member remaining on the speaker's list. Once the speaker's list is exhausted, the committee automatically moves into the voting process.

Rule 8: Unmoderated Caucusing and Suspension of the Meeting

At this conference "unmoderated caucuses" will be utilized for the purpose of facilitating discussion among delegates as they work together to write resolutions. Unmoderated simply means that unlike "formal sessions" which are organized using the speaker's list, the chairs and rapporteurs will not recognize delegates and give them "turns" to speak. Rather, the delegates will need to work cooperatively and engage in small group negotiation at this time. This method not only simulates how UN negotiation works, but it also affords delegates the opportunity to practice leadership and teamwork skills as they collaborate with other delegates. *Note that unmoderated does not mean unsupervised.* The chairs and rapporteurs will circulate in the room and observe the caucusing process to see that students are both being diplomatic and participating in the caucus. Unmoderated caucuses are a *key* part of the awards evaluation process. Members who are rude to fellow delegates, overbearing and attempt to dominate the caucus, or do not contribute to discussion in these caucuses will hinder their chance for an in-committee award, even if they are the best public speaker in formal session. Bottom line: being a good public speaker is not the only part of success at a Model UN conference.

To request an unmoderated caucus, members should move for a "Suspension of the Meeting" and specify an amount of time requested for caucusing. For example, a delegate may say, "I move for a 15 minute suspension of the meeting for a caucus". This motion requires a second, and there will be no speakers for or against these motions. As these are procedural votes, all delegates must cast a vote, and if a majority of the delegates vote in favor of the motion, the formal session is suspended and an unmoderated caucus begins immediately.

Rule 9: Working Papers, Draft Resolutions, and Amendments

A “working paper” is the rough draft of a resolution that students work on in caucuses. In order to achieve the status of a “draft resolution”, these working papers must have a requisite number of sponsors or signatories. For this conference, 20% of the committee members present must be listed as either a sponsor or signatory before the paper becomes a draft resolution. The specific number required to achieve this 20% will be announced in committee. All working papers and amendments will be submitted to the chair or rapporteur before being distributed to the whole committee. Once the chair or rapporteur checks the working paper to see that it has proper sponsorship and all of the proper components (i.e. preambular and operative clauses), the working paper becomes a “draft resolution” and is distributed to the committee.

Amendments to the draft resolution must be approved by all of the resolution’s sponsors; approval of signatories is not required. If all of the sponsors do not agree to an amendment, the full committee shall vote on the amendment, and if it passes by a majority vote, it becomes part of the draft resolution. This amended draft resolution must then be voted on and receive approval of the majority of members before it becomes a “resolution”. If the amendment fails, the original version of the draft resolution will be voted on, and if it achieves approval by the majority of the members, it becomes a “resolution”.

Rule 10: Precedence of “Disruptive” Motions

Disruptive motions are those that will alter the regular committee proceedings by ending or postponing discussion in some way. The following represents the order in which these motions take precedence with one being the highest in priority:

1. Point of Order and Information
2. Suspension of the Meeting (discussed above – rule 8)
3. Adjourn the debate on the topic
4. Closure of debate
5. Closure of speaker’s list (discussed above – rule 7)

Members of the committee may raise points of order to bring the chair’s attention to an error in procedure. Points of information may be raised if the delegate is confused about procedures. If a delegate is disruptive to committee proceedings and abuses points of information, the chair reserves the right to refuse to acknowledge these requests.

Members may move to adjourn the debate on the current topic. This means that all discussion on the current topic ends, including any debate on draft resolutions. The chair shall entertain two speakers for and two against a motion to adjourn the debate. After these speeches, the motion shall be put to a vote. If two-thirds of the committee members present votes to adjourn the topic, discussion ends immediately on this topic and beings for the next topic. If a two-thirds majority vote is not achieved, then the business of the committee resumes where it left off with motions on the floor, speaker’s list, etc. Later, the committee may vote to resume discussion of the topic, and this shall occur by the same process – motion, second, speakers for and against, and a two-thirds majority vote.

Members may call for a closure of debate, which takes precedence over the speaker’s list. This means that all discussion on the current topic ends, and any motions on the floor are put immediately to a vote. The chair may appoint two members to speak for or in opposition to the closure, after which the committee shall vote. The committee needs a two-thirds majority for closure of debate. Note that closure of the debate occurs automatically once the speaker’s list is exhausted.

Rule 11: Technology Policy

Use of computers or iPads is prohibited during formal session. Using the internet on any laptops or iPads brought into committee is prohibited at all times. All research should be completed before conference.

Delegates are welcome to use laptops or iPads for typing working papers during unmoderated caucuses or to access their research completed before conference that is saved on the computer. If students do this, they must bring a flash drive to transfer the files to the rapporteur's computer, as internet will not be available in the conference rooms. However, laptops are not required, nor will any student be penalized if they do not type their working paper. Resolution worksheets and paper will be provided for handwriting working papers, and the rapporteurs will type these resolutions once they are accepted as draft resolutions.

At no time should Delegates be using cell phones during committees. Delegates are encouraged to leave their phones with their adult chaperones if they cannot avoid the temptation to send texts or check phones during committee.

Rules of Procedure (Short From)

Motion	Purpose	Debate	Vote
**Point of Order	Correct an error in procedure	None	None
**Point of Information	Request clarification of rules	None	None
**Appeal of the Chair	Challenge a decision of the Chair	None	Majority
Suspension of the Meeting	Suspends the meeting for recess to allow informal discussions	None	Majority
Adjournment of Debate	Ends discussion on the topic without a vote and moves to the next topic (sometimes referred to as “tabling” the topic)	2 pro/ 2 con	2/3
Closure of Debate	Move to immediate vote	2 pro/ 2 con	2/3
** Amendments and 1st Vote of Division of the Question	Vote on sections separately prior to voting on entire draft resolution or report segment	2 pro/ 2 con	Majority
**Roll Call Vote	Vote by roll call, rather than show Placards	None	None
**Adopt by Acclamation	Pass a draft Resolution or draft Report Segments a body by consensus	None	ALL
Reconsideration	Re-open debate on an issue (Motion must be made by member who voted for “Adjournment of Debate”)	2 con	2/3 majority
Set the Speakers Time	Set or change the Speakers’ Time Limit	1 pro/ 1 con	Majority
Close the Speaker’s List (also applies reopening the list)	No additional speakers can be added to the speakers’ list once the list is closed.	None	Majority
Adoption of the Agenda	Approval of agenda order	None	Majority

**** Only these Motions are accepted during voting procedure**

Writing a Resolution

The anatomy of a resolution:

A *resolution* is a formal statement adopted by one of the organs of the United Nations. Resolutions have diverse purposes and forms depending upon both which body is adopting the resolution and the issue at hand. A resolution could simply be an official statement taking a stand on a particular issue. Other resolutions make recommendations for policies that nations could develop, or the resolution could charge a subsidiary group within the United Nations with researching and reporting on a particular issue. In the case of the Security Council, a resolution can demand that a nation take action or face sanctions.

Resolutions typically have two sections. The first section is composed of *perambulatory clauses*, which announce the purpose of the resolution and acknowledge past action in a particular area, including referencing prior resolutions. The most important part of the resolution is the *operative clauses*. These announce the action that the committee recommends be taken to address a particular issue. Wording of these clauses is important for the overall tone and impact of the resolution. For example, if the committee “recommends” action, this signifies less urgency than “requesting” that particular steps be taken. Only the Security Council should use strong language such as “demands”, as they are the only body whose resolutions are binding on member nations under the UN Charter. While resolutions need not have the same number of perambulatory and operative clauses, the most effective resolutions will have symmetry and a logical structure.

Common Preambulatory Clauses:

Affirming
Appreciating
Bearing in mind
Desiring
Expecting
Having adopted
Noting with deep concern
Noting with regret
Realizing
Seeking
Welcoming

Common Operative Clauses:

Adopts
Approves
Authorizes
Calls upon
Declares
Encourages
Invites
Reaffirms
Recommends
Suggests
Urges (*suitable only for Security Council)

The process of writing a resolution:

One of the goals of this Model UN conference is to work with other delegates to discuss solutions to world problems and to reach a compromise suitable to as many nations as possible. As member states begin to come to a consensus on the solution to a topic during informal debate they should begin to work on writing a *working paper*, which simply refers to your rough drafts of a resolution.

The main authors of a resolution are known as *sponsors*. It is understood that these individuals approve of the plans set forth in the working paper, and they plan to vote in favor of this draft resolution when it reaches the committee floor. Along with sponsors a resolution may have *signatories*. Signatories are individuals who may or may not agree with all of the proposals made in a resolution and are not necessarily expected to vote in favor of the draft resolution when it reaches the floor; however, they wish for the topic to be debated and voted upon by the full committee.

No successful resolution can be the work of a single delegate or even a few delegates. Indeed, to be approved by the dais as a ***draft resolution*** at this conference, 20% of the committee members present must be listed as either a sponsor or signatory on the working paper. Draft resolution simply refers to a working paper that has been approved by the dais and that may be presented to the entire committee for debate and vote. The most successful resolutions will have many sponsors and signatories. However, there can be trade-offs to consensus. As the number of sponsors increases, it is more likely that the content of the resolution becomes narrower in order to gain broad support.

When the draft resolution is debated in the committee, it is not uncommon for ***amendments*** to be proposed. The process for proposing amendments varies depending upon whether or not all of the original sponsors approve of the amendment. If all of the sponsors approve, the amendment automatically becomes part of the draft resolution. If all of the sponsors do not approve of the amendment, this amendment must be voted on separately by the committee prior to voting on the draft resolution itself. Rules concerning amendments and voting are explained in the parliamentary procedure section above.

When a draft resolution is voted on and approved by the committee, it may then be formally called a ***resolution***. Knowing the difference between a working paper, a draft resolution and resolution will enable delegates to better understand and properly use parliamentary procedures.

Guidelines for Resolution Writing at Baylor MUN:

Pre-written resolutions

Since the purpose of resolutions is to demonstrate your ability to work alongside other delegates to reach mutually agreed upon compromises, resolutions should be the product of the work of delegates at conference. ***Thus, no prewritten resolutions should be brought to conference, as this is contrary to the conference goals.***

Role of advisors at conference

While advisors and coaches are welcome to attend the sessions as observers, they should not intervene in the formal proceedings or participate in caucuses. Delegates may ask their advisors or coaches questions during a suspension of the meeting, but at no time should advisors or coaches take part in writing or editing the delegates' resolutions.

Electronics policy

In our attempt to foster environmental sustainability, delegates may use laptops, iPads, etc. during unmoderated caucus to access research completed *before* conference that is saved on the computer in lieu of bringing paper copies of this material. However, these devices may not be used during formal session. Internet access will not be available in the conference rooms, nor should delegates use their own internet plans on their tablets or phones at any time. If delegates have questions about resolution content, they are welcome to ask their chairs or rapporteurs for guidance.

Resolution writing

Students should formulate working papers during unmoderated caucuses. Delegates will be provided with resolution worksheets and paper for handwriting their working papers, and the rapporteurs will type these for the delegates once they are accepted as draft resolutions. If students wish to use their computers as they draft their working paper, they should bring a USB flash drive to transfer the files to the rapporteur's computer for final editing. However, laptops are neither required nor expected, and students who bring computers and type their working paper will not receive any special advantages in committee award scoring over those who handwrite their working papers.

2017 Position Paper Guidelines

A *position paper* is a short, succinct statement of your nation's stance on a given issue. Writing a position paper is optional, and it will have no bearing on the awards scoring at conference. However, writing a position paper is a great way to prepare for conference. It also provides you with a plan that you can then share with other delegates at conference as you work on writing a resolution. A position paper is different from a speech, however. Delegates who simply read their position papers in committee will be less successful orators than those students who speak extemporaneously, using their speaking time to engage issues presented in other delegates' speeches and to communicate to the entire committee progress made in your working groups during unmoderated caucus.

Position Paper guidelines – Follow carefully to be eligible for awards

- **Format:** papers should be ½ to 1 single-spaced typed page per committee including any footnotes you choose to include. *If you write more, the judges will read only the first page.* Papers should use 11 or 12 pt. Times New Roman Font and 1 inch margins. In the header, include your school's name and the nation you are representing. Include headings within the document to identify the committee and topics addressed. Use page breaks in your document to separate committees. (See sample document template on our website for guidance.)
- **Content:** papers should state your nation's position on the issue. For example, discuss your nation's history on this issue, or any resolutions or conventions you have supported in the past. The information in these papers should not simply restate the information provided in the committee background guides. It should be a reflection of the research you have done on the nation you are representing.
- **Submission:** *Combine the papers for all of the committees into a single document per nation delegation.* Thus, if your school is representing multiple nations, you should submit one document *per nation* not one document per school or multiple documents per nation. Documents will be accepted in these formats: .doc, .docx, or .pdf. Submit position paper documents to: baylorunivmun@gmail.com by **5:00 PM (CST) on Wednesday, October 25**. We will begin formally accepting submissions on October 16th, and for papers sent on this date or following, you will receive a confirmation email within two business days. If you receive no confirmation email, this means there was an error with your submission.
- **Judging:** Awards will be given to the top nations who submit a *complete* set of position papers. *A complete position paper must include positions for each of the topics for all of the committees your member nation is participating in at the conference to be eligible.* Check the matrix on our website for the list of committees each member nation participates in. Papers will be judged based upon these criteria:
 - *quality of analysis;
 - *demonstration of research excellence;
 - *consistency with your nation's past policies;
 - *recommending policies that are within the constraints of the UN;
 - *recommending policies that take into account the constraints of geopolitical blocs your nation is a member of (e.g. NATO, EU, OAS);
 - *and quality of the writing/presentation of the ideas, including grammar.
- **Academic Integrity/Citation:** The papers should be the work of the delegates. Plagiarism, including copying and pasting from internet sources, will result in disqualification for the entire delegation's position paper. A bibliography is not required, but students may cite specific documents using footnotes, if they use direct quotes. If footnotes are used, they will be counted as part of the page length.

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