

Southern Regional Model United Nations XXII
Addressing the global financial crisis:
Restoring economic stability through international solidarity
November 17-19, 2011. Atlanta, GA
Email: csd@srmun.org



Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) for the 22nd annual Southern Regional Model United Nations Conference. My name is Christine Simpson and I will be serving as Director of the CSD. I graduated from Georgia State University with a degree in Political Science with a concentration in International Affairs. I have previously served at SRMUN as an Assistant Director and am thrilled to serve in this new capacity. Aiding me this year is my Assistant Director Nathaniel Johnston. Nathaniel is currently a senior at Florida State University, graduating this Fall with a BA in Religion with a minor in International Affairs. His focus lies in the international and religious affairs between Korea and Japan. He also fulfills the role of Secretary General for the upcoming Florida Model United Nations VI conference in October.

This year, the Topics before the Commission on Sustainable Development are:

- I. Investing in Sustainable Development Efforts in Developing Member States
- II. Responsible Management of Water Resources to Prevent Destruction of Ecosystems
- III. Improving Access to Healthcare in the Developing World.

The CSD was enacted through a General Assembly resolution in December of 1992 to act as a functioning commission of the Economic and Social Council, so that Member States could periodically meet and discuss various global developments. Through General Assembly Resolution A/47/191, the CSD works in coordination with other UN bodies and outside organizations to assist developing states to promote short term growth, and more importantly long-term organizational and capacity-building change. The CSD also addresses urgent and major emergent issues and works to implement sustainable development in the UN system. Your topics for discussion in this year's CSD were chosen with these goals in mind, and should provide you a most intriguing conference experience.

Each delegation is required to submit one position paper which covers each of the three topics. Position papers should be no longer than 2 pages in length and single spaced. Position papers are intended to showcase your country's position on each of the topics and a recommended course of action that your country would support in committee. It is vital that your position papers be concise, clear, and critical by demonstrating insight into the policies and positions of your country to provide solutions to the challenge topics before the committee. Strong, well developed position papers are an excellent foundation for conference preparation. More detailed information about how to write position papers can be found at the SRMUN website (<http://www.srmun.org>). **All position papers MUST be submitted by October 30th, 11:59pm EST using the submission system on the SRMUN website.**

Nathaniel and I look forward to the opportunity of chairing the CSD committee at SRMUN XXII. This year's conference will be the perfect medium for collective thinking and mediation in order to solve issues facing the international community's developing world. The CSD will provide an excellent simulation on the issues presently facing those who reside in developing states and allow for an interesting perspective on what mechanisms are required for improving an individual's quality of life. Nathaniel and I look forward to meeting and working with you prior to and during the conference. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions!

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History of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development

The beginnings of the CSD can be traced back to the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm, Sweden. This conference, attended by representatives from 113 Member States, was the “first major international gathering focused on human activities in relationship to the environment.”¹ The primary outcome of this meeting was the agreement that there would need to be a major investment on an international level to reduce the human impact on the environment. There were major concerns brought up that “industrialized” environmental problems, which include “habitat degradation, toxicity, and acid rain” were not factors in all countries, and that there needed to be a greater commitment towards development strategies for developing nations. This conference also resulted in the establishment of the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP).²

In 1983, the Brundlandt Commission, also referred to as the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) was created to discuss the “accelerating deterioration of the human environment and natural resources and the consequences of that deterioration for economic and social development.”³ There were a number of pressing ecological and environmental matters that were of great concern to the international community leading up to the WCED, including the “oil shocks of the seventies, droughts in Africa, concerns about tropical forests, the depletion of the ozone layer and several other problems...”⁴ This forum laid a foundation for the UNCED in 1992. Specifically, the Commission put forward the first definition of sustainable development, defining it “as development that meets the needs of the present without comprising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”⁵ In addition, it allowed for a stronger link between tangible concepts such as forestry and fisheries to much larger goals of linking “economic and ecological policies in an integrated framework.”⁶

In 1992, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with the ultimate objective of addressing “urgent problems of environmental protection and socio-economic development.”⁷ At the Earth Summit, world leaders agreed, signed on to, and endorsed major documents that would set the foundation for sustainable development strategies and cooperation for the next generation. Agenda 21 was negotiated and approved at the Conference, setting forward a blueprint and plan for environmental cooperation on issues such as combating poverty, changing consumption patterns, protecting and promoting human health, promoting sustainable human settlement development, and integrating environment & development in decision-making.⁸ The preamble of Agenda 21 best describes the strong need at the time for all the documents agreed to by the international community during the Commission:

“Humanity stands at a defining moment in history. We are confronted with a perpetuation of disparities between and within nations, a worsening of poverty, hunger, ill health and illiteracy, and the continuing deterioration of the ecosystems on which we depend for our well-being. However, integration of environment and development concerns and greater attention to them will lead to the fulfillment of basic needs, improved living standards for all, better protected and managed ecosystems and a safer, more prosperous future. No nation can achieve this on its own; but together we can - in a global partnership for sustainable development.”⁹

In addition to Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development was created, which outlined 27 principles that serve as the foundation for sustainable development throughout the international community. These

¹ “United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Sockholm, Sweden.” The Encyclopedia of Earth.

[http://www.eoearth.org/article/United_Nations_Conference_on_the_Human_Environment_\(UNCHE\)_Stockholm_Sweden](http://www.eoearth.org/article/United_Nations_Conference_on_the_Human_Environment_(UNCHE)_Stockholm_Sweden)

² Ibid.

³ A/RES/42/187. *Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development*. General Assembly Plenary. December 11th, 1987.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ “Framing Sustainable Development – The Brundtland Report – 20 Years On.” United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development. http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd15/media/backgroundunder_brundtland.pdf

⁷ “General Information.” United Nations. <http://www.un.org/esa/earthsummit/>

⁸ A/CONF.151.26/REV.1(VOL.1). United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. June 1992.

⁹ Ibid.

principles range from very broad statements, such as principle 1, “Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony and nature” to the more specific, such as principle 17 which notes that “Environmental impact assessment, as a national instrument, shall be undertaken for proposed activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment and are subject to a decision of a competent national authority.”¹⁰

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was also drafted at the Conference. The primary goal of the treaty was to come to an agreement on stabilizing greenhouse gas in the atmosphere.¹¹ The recognition of there being a problem with excessive greenhouse gas emissions was an important first step in the discussion of sustainable development. The over-arching goal of the Convention was to stabilize greenhouse gases “at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic (human induced) interference with the climate system.”¹² The treaty did not set a required cap on greenhouse gas emissions for Member States, and was not legally binding. However, the treaty did include the ability for there to be updates, referred to as “protocols” that would in turn set specific emission limits for Member States.¹³ This led to the Kyoto Protocol, which set binding targets for 37 States to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.¹⁴

In order to have an efficient and effective opportunity for States to follow-up on all of the above commitments, the Commission on Sustainable Development was created.¹⁵ The Commission is ultimately responsible for continuously reviewing these documents, along with providing guidance to local, national, regional, and international entities on the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI).¹⁶

The CSD meets annually in two year-cycles. Each cycle has a specific theme and cross-sectoral issues that are focused on.¹⁷ The CSD consists of 53 Member States that are divided by region: 13 from Africa, 11 from Asia, 10 from Latin America, 6 from Eastern Europe, and 13 from Western Europe and others.¹⁸ Other States as well as UN bodies, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations are permitted to attend all CSD session as observers.¹⁹ These members are elected for three-year terms.

The Members of the CSD are: ALGERIA, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BANGLADESH, BELGIUM, BENIN, CANADA, CHINA, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, COTE D’IVOIRE, CUBA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, DENMARK, ERITREA, ESTONIA, ETHIOPIA, FRANCE, GABON, GERMANY, ISRAEL, KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZTAN, LATVIA, LIBYA, LUXEMBOURG, MALAWI, MALAYSIA, MAURITIUS, MONGOLIA, NAMIBIA, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PERU, PHILIPPINES, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SWITZERLAND, THAILAND, TOGO, UKRAINE, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UNITED STATES, URUGUAY, AND VENEZUELA.

¹⁰ A/CONF.151/26. General Assembly. June 1992.

¹¹ “What is the UNFCCC & the COP?” Climate Leaders. <http://www.climate-leaders.org/climate-change-resources/india-at-cop-15/unfccc-cop>

¹² “Essential Background.” United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. http://unfccc.int/essential_background/feeling_the_heat/items/2914.php

¹³ “What is the UNFCCC & the COP?” Climate Leaders. <http://www.climate-leaders.org/climate-change-resources/india-at-cop-15/unfccc-cop>

¹⁴ “Kyoto Protocol.” United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php

¹⁵ “About the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.” United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_aboutsd.shtml

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ “Mandate of the Commission on Sustainable Development.” United Nations Division for Sustainable Development. http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_mandate.shtml

¹⁹ Ibid.

Topic I: Investing in Sustainable Development Efforts in Developing Member States

“Far from being a burden, sustainable development is an exceptional opportunity - economically, to build markets and create jobs; socially, to bring people in from the margins; and politically, to give every man and woman a voice, and a choice, in deciding their own future.”

-UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan

Introduction

As the international community nears two decades since the implementation of Agenda 21 in order to further Sustainable Development, how they finance and invest in such projects becomes an issue of increasing importance. In 1997, the passing of General Assembly (GA) Resolution A/S-19/2, “The Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21”, clarified the means by which the CSD might garner and utilize financial assistance. Paragraph 76 of the Resolution stipulated that “financing for the implementation of Agenda 21 will come from a country’s own public and private sectors. For developing countries, official development assistance is a main source of external funding.”²⁰ In the wake of the 2008 Global Crisis, monetary assistance contributed towards The Official Development Assistance (ODA) under the Millennium Development Goals (MDG’s) “remains well below the UN target of 0.7 percent of Gross National Income (GNI) for most donors.”²¹ Just in 2009 alone saw the approximate accumulation of only “0.31 percent of the combined national income of developed countries.”²² However, with recent reductions in trade barriers and the elimination of the Most Favorable Nation (MFN) treatment in 2004, Developing states as a whole are making gains in sustainable marketing and finances.²³ Through Agenda 21, Member States are provided methods and mechanisms by which funding may be collected. Stated in Chapter 33, paragraph 14, financing Sustainable Development should be provided by means of: multilateral development banks and funds, relevant specialized agencies, multilateral institutions increasing capacity-building, and bilateral assistance programmes.²⁴ The CSD works in conjunction with a number of UN affiliated organizations to accomplish this provision: the UN Regional Commissions, Financing for Development (FFD), the World Trade Organization (WTO), World Bank (WB) and ECOSOC.

The UN Regional Commissions published a report in 2009, “The Global Financial Crisis: Impact and Response of the Regional Commissions” dictating the effects of the Global Crisis of 2008. This provides us a broad background of action each region has taken or will take, which ultimately impacts the nature of future investments in Sustainable Development for Developing States. Acting as a platform for multilateral dialogue and promoting practices of Sustainable Development, the UN Regional Commissions reported the implications of slowing growth for each of these regions: Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, and Western Asia.²⁵ Regarding the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), concerns are that most African countries are “likely to suffer a 2nd round of impacts; due to the tightening of credit and declining stock market.”²⁶ As a result, donor countries might reduce aid to developing countries of the region. ECA hopes to reduce such vulnerabilities to external shocks in developing productive capacities which will in turn diversify exports and production.²⁷ The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) has had to deal with effects of the Global Crisis from a wide spectrum of issues, as they vary due to different economic circumstances.²⁸ In short, states of this region (to include the United

²⁰ “Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21”. United Nations General Assembly, 19th Special Session, New York, 23-27 June 1997. http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_fin/fin_integovedeci.shtml#ga19

²¹ “Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development.” MDG Report 2010. 15 June, 2010
<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG%20Report%202010%20En%20r15%20-low%20res%2020100615%20.pdf>

²²Ibid.

²³Ibid.

²⁴“Section IV: Means of Implementation”. Agenda 21: Earth Summit. United Nations Programme of Action from Rio, 1993
http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/res_agenda21_33.shtml

²⁵“The Global Financial Crisis: Impact and Response of the Regional Commissions”. Regional Commissions and the Financial Crisis. United Nations Regional Commissions, 2009 <http://www.un.org/regionalcommissions/crisis/global.pdf>

²⁶Ibid., pg. 2

²⁷Ibid., pg. 3

²⁸Ibid., pg. 4

States), will deal with the meltdowns of their own financial sectors before attending to developing countries future policies on financial liberalization. Already six states have turned to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for assistance. ECE is responding with efforts to coalesce cross-border banking institutions and are seeking alternative sources of funding.²⁹ It is interesting to note that only a select few states of the Latin American and Caribbean region were grossly affected, as they were more integrated in the international economy; i.e Brazil, Argentina, etc. As they see a fall in commodity prices, direct foreign investment will suffer.³⁰ The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has responded with an adaptive combination of applied research, technical cooperation and training to boost development.³¹ This should in turn implement structural changes linked to the diversification and strengthening of productive structures. The Secretariat of the Economic and Social Committee for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) highlighted a number of vulnerabilities as a result of the 2008 Crisis, one being; the dependence on trade and investments with Developed countries.³² The responses of the ESCAP Secretariat were focused on protecting the economy, as well as preventing future food, fuel and climate changes crisis, by putting into effect “adequate and sustainable social protections systems.”³³ To date, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) are still addressing the effects of “[an] expected slowdown in global demand [which] will be translated into a global recession...[leading] to lower financing for development...and ODA inflows to the region.”³⁴ As Delegates, this is the backdrop which must be overcome in order to ensure financial funding is channeled into continued Sustainable Development for Developing Member States.

Developing Member States

Approximately two-thirds of the international community is recognized as a Developing Member State. A number of standards are utilized by which Member States may be classified in terms of development: indicators and data collected by the World Bank, and /or measurements of development as indicated by the MDG's. Through the WTO, mechanisms and protections are in place which benefits Developing States. Current data collected by the WB now determines whether or not a country is a: Low Income, Middle Income or High Income state, as determined by their Gross National Income (GNI) per capita.³⁵ Developing and Lesser Developed states generally fall in-between the Low Income-Middle Income classifications, set by the standards of Civil Works Preferences and eligibility by the International Development Assistance (IDA).³⁶ Working in conjunction with the MDG's programme, the “World Bank Atlas of the Millennium Development Goals” was implemented as an online atlas, to better keep track of indicators of progression in each of the MDG's eight goals.³⁷ Through the WTO, Developing States are given preferential treatment, as provided under Part IV of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). These principles, allow for Developing States to use trade “as a tool for advancing their development”³⁸, resulting in the commission of the Committee for Trade and Development.³⁹

Developing Member States face a unique set of challenges incurred through Globalization that often hinders the growth of advancing economies, ergo investments made in sustainable development. Since 1990, Developing countries must overcome ever evolving facets of Globalizing: Markets, Actors, and Tools.⁴⁰ The effects of each theme vary, yet center around the need for stronger governance by the international community. Marginalization is one result of global opportunities being unfairly shared and / or distributed. As the prices of commodities fall, and

²⁹Ibid., pg. 5

³⁰Ibid., pg. 7

³¹Ibid.

³²Ibid., pg. 9

³³Ibid., pg. 12

³⁴Ibid.

³⁵“Data: How We Classify Countries”. The World Bank, 2011 <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications>

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷“World Bank Atlas of the Millennium Development Goals”. The World Bank, 2011

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/stats.shtml>

³⁸“Understanding the WTO: Overview”. The World Trade Organization, 2011

http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/dev1_e.htm

³⁹“Part IV: Trade and Development”. The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, January 1948

http://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/gatt47_e.pdf

⁴⁰“Globalization with a Human Face”. Human Development Report: 1999. The United Nations Development Programme, Oxford University Press, New York, 1999.

markets get out of hand, we see the effects of worldwide repercussions. Developing countries are affected the most as they have yet to build buffers to absorb the impacts of global markets gone awry. The Financial Crisis of East Asia in 1998⁴¹ and our own Global Financial Crisis of 2008 are evidence of lacking governances effecting Developing countries. Direct Foreign Investments aimed at Developing countries will also falter as new threats to human security also rise. Financial volatility, job and income insecurities, and health insecurities are issues that must be addressed. The effects of Globalization on Actors and Tools are very much linked. The facilitation of knowledge and technology must abide by the agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), resulting in “tighter property rights [raising] the price of technology transfer, blocking developing countries from the dynamic knowledge sectors.”⁴² the WTO plays a strong role in advancing the interests of Developing countries in this regard, again through functions such as the Committee on Trade and Development. Yet there is still much more work to be done to benefit Developing Member States.

Sustainable Development

In June of 1992, the international community met at the UN Conference on Environment and Development, setting into motion the Commission on Sustainable Development. Best defined in the Brundtland Report, “Sustainable Development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”⁴³ This definition implies two ideas: the concept of needs (namely the needs of the poor), and the idea of limitations (how technology and social organizations affect the environments ability to meet these needs).⁴⁴

Assessing the progress of Sustainable Development and the means by which they can be implemented, focus around three key documents: Agenda 21, The Barbados Plan of Action (BPOA), and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI). In 1994, The Global Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), “set forth specific actions and measures for the sustainable development of SIDS.”⁴⁵ During the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), JPOI was a publication having evaluated “obstacles to progress and results achieved since the 1992 Earth Summit”⁴⁶ Supplementing these important documents are the: The Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the BPOA. The Programme for Further Implementation was an assessment of 5 years of progress since the implementation of Agenda 21, and reaffirmed States of the General Assembly in their commitment to Sustainable Development, while “accelerating progress in a comprehensive manner.”⁴⁷ The 2005, 10 year review of the BPOA for the Sustainable Development of SIDS was a culmination of five panel discussions addressing: Environmental Vulnerabilities, Special Challenges of Trade and Economic Development, the Role of Culture, Emerging Trends, and Resilience Building.⁴⁸

Such assessments and reporting could not be accomplished without the input of global partnerships working in coordination with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO’s). In attendance during the Panel Discussions that would make up The Mauritius Strategy for Further Implementation, “332 individuals, representing 48 accredited organizations, participated.”⁴⁹

Innovative cooperatives and organizations, such as the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation (SU/SSC) established under the UNDP, “is committed to expanding the understanding of the wide range of tools that can

⁴¹Ibid.

⁴²Ibid.

⁴³What is Sustainable Development?. The International Institute for Sustainable Development, 2011 <http://www.iisd.org/sd/>

⁴⁴Ibid.

⁴⁵UN Sustainable Development in Brief. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Sustainable Development, 2005 <http://www.un.org/esa/desa/aboutus/dsd.html>

⁴⁶Ibid.

⁴⁷“Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21”. United Nations General Assembly, 19th Special Session, New York, 23-27 June 1997. http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_fin/fin_integovedeci.shtml#ga19

⁴⁸Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. A/CONF.207/11. Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005 <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/237/16/PDF/N0523716.pdf?OpenElement>

⁴⁹Ibid., pg. 109

promote development.”⁵⁰ Through which, Public-Private Partnerships (PPP’s) were developed to bring together the “resources of the public and private sectors”, in order to further development “within an individual country, through technical cooperation, or through *triangular* cooperation.”⁵¹ The range and scope of PPP’s, in their successes and failures regarding a variety of issues, allows for an increase in knowledge sharing regarding Sustainable Development. Potential benefits in implementing PPP’s: Increased Capital for Projects, Cost-Effective Operations, Furthering the MDG’s, and Promoting Environmental Sustainability, are just a few of the outcomes possible.⁵²

Partnerships for Sustainable Development, acts as another resource by which the UN and CSD pools together information assistance programs for the benefit of Developing Member States. During the 11th Session of the CSD in 2003, the commission solved the issue of bringing together partnerships wishing to, “be associated with the follow-up to WSSD, and [are] interested in participating in partnership activities”, through the CSD Partnerships Database.⁵³ First launched in 2004, the database acts as an online resource “based on voluntary self-reports from partnerships registered with the Commission on Sustainable Development.”⁵⁴ Through these efforts, Partnerships for Sustainable Development is also another means by which MDG 8 may reach its target goals by 2012.

Sustainable Investment

In order to implement the mechanisms and functions outlined in Agenda 21 regarding Sustainable Development, the international community must address these two facets regarding the employment of Sustainable Investing: reforming the current framework of Sustainable Investing mandates, and promoting investments in Developing Member States.

First and foremost, innovations in the proactive approaches of Sustainable Investing need to be implemented. Terminology defining Sustainable Development has evolved since 1980. Once regarded as Socially Responsible Investments, to the more commonly used term Responsible Investing, donors and investors have come to utilize investment strategies that need updating.⁵⁵ Currently, Responsible Investments are implemented through the provisions of sound financial frameworks. UN sponsored organizations, such as the Principles of Responsible Investing (PRI) works to support Responsible Investing by addressing matters through a combination of Environmental, Social, and Governmental issues (ESG’s).⁵⁶ The traditional approach, “[decides] strategy, in terms of goals, asset allocation, mandates and managers, by optimizing...return, over a relatively near-term horizon.”⁵⁷ Shortcomings regarding Responsible Investments lie in their objectives and mandates. The emergent trend has shown us that many objectives utilized only short-term approaches, coincidentally mandates emphasized short-term relative returns.⁵⁸ Problems also arise regarding the employment and disbursement of Pension Funds. Unfortunately, outdated interpretations surrounding the fiduciary duties of said funds “require good short-term financial performance.”⁵⁹

How the international community reforms the functions of Responsible Investments into Sustainable Investing, and then change the prevailing attitudes of fiduciary duties, are two necessary steps in increasing Sustainable Investing as a whole. Changes in how we approach the implementation of Sustainable Investing can be tackled two-fold: increasing the breadth of mandates, and the depth of funding. Mandates should outline the specific details that will carry its responsibilities, whereas prioritizing how funding will work towards long-term value creation should also

⁵⁰The Special Unit for South-South Cooperation. The United Nations Development Programme, <http://ncppp.org/undp/index.html>

⁵¹Ibid.

⁵²Guidelines for Public-Private Partnerships. The Special Unit for South-South Cooperation. The United Nations Development Programme, <http://ncppp.org/undp/guidelines.html>

⁵³“Partnerships Database: About”. UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs: Division for Sustainable Development, 2009 http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_par/par_about.shtml

⁵⁴Ibid.

⁵⁵Urwin, Roger. “Sustainable Investing Principles: Models for Institutional Investors”. Watson Wyatt Worldwide. Oxford University, pg. 3, Accessed 2011, http://www.unpri.org/files/Urwin_PRI2009.pdf

⁵⁶Ibid.

⁵⁷Ibid., pg. 5

⁵⁸Ibid.

⁵⁹Ibid., pg. 9

be carried out.⁶⁰ Investors need to realize and take into consideration the “externalities created by their investments (a reiteration of increasing breadth).⁶¹ After progress is made in outlining both the breadth and depth of Sustainable Investing mandates, partnerships need to implement methods or provide concrete evidence that Sustainable Investments will provide for better performance.⁶² Two arguments in support of the benefits for revising how we invest in Sustainable Development can be summarized in that: Sustainable Investing will incur lower costs than traditional strategies, and they are more aligned to inter-generational equity.⁶³ In moving towards long-term and sustainable investing approaches, investing institutions, [will be] part of the supporting financial apparatus by which poverty is alleviated.”⁶⁴

Ensuring that Sustainable Investing in Developing Member States is beneficial to both parties involved (the investor and the state), is the second obstacle facing the acquisition of monetary funds in the pursuit of Sustainable Development. The key objective here is to make Foreign Direct Investments (FDI’s) attractive expenditures. According to a report released by UNCTAD in April, 2011, titled “Foreign Direct Investment in Least Developed Countries: Lessons Learned from the Decade 2001-10 and the Way Forward”, FDI’s reached an estimated \$24 billion by 2010.⁶⁵ However, using Member States in the African Region as an example, FDI’s were focused more towards African resource rich states than in others.⁶⁶ Again, how we attract capital to these countries in need is key. One solution is to reform FDI’s policy measures, making them more effective in measures of good governance and long-term management.⁶⁷ To date, concrete initiatives by governments, businesses and civil societies need to be in place.⁶⁸ One effective partnership, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) was established in 2009 to bring together the above mentioned institutions, providing a platform where transparency is the immediate focus.⁶⁹ More still needs to be done in order to direct FDI’s towards Developing and Least Developed Countries.

Case Study: Brazil

In light of the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, the Federative Republic of Brazil enacted necessary actions to weather out a great deal of its effects on its economy. The Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) released an Economic Survey on Brazil in 2009, highlighting internal reforms that acted as a buffer in protecting its economy. For instance, the “central bank took decisive action to enhance liquidity in the domestic money market by reducing compulsory reserve requirements for banks.”⁷⁰ In the years leading up to 2008, Brazil was witness to an annual GDP average growth rate of 4.7%. Reforming policies aimed at indirect taxes and labour levies are now a primary focus for the State.⁷¹ Strong governance revolving around reforms to their macroeconomic policies continues to protect Brazil from vulnerabilities. Reforming the current Pension system is one area that policy makers are currently addressing, “initiatives have been taken to improve compliance and administration”. Progress in the areas of better performance-oriented budget-making so that governmental programmes become more cost-effective, need to be addressed.⁷² As it stands, Brazil had put into place effective policy measures to buffer the effects of the Global Crisis.

⁶⁰Ibid., pg. 2

⁶¹Ibid.

⁶²Ibid., pg. 12

⁶³Ibid., pg. 5-6

⁶⁴Ibid., pg. 23

⁶⁵Denton, John. “Sustainable Investment in Least Developing Nations”. Oxfam & Melbourne Business School Mining Symposium, 19 May, 2011, pg. 2 <http://www.corrs.com.au/assets/News/JDentonOxfamKeynoteMay2011.pdf>

⁶⁶Ibid., pg. 3

⁶⁷Ibid.

⁶⁸Ibid., pg. 7

⁶⁹Ibid.

⁷⁰“Economic Survey of Brazil, 2009”. Economics Department. The Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development. www.oecd.org/eco/surveys/brazil

⁷¹Ibid.

⁷²Ibid.

Conclusion

The establishment of the CSD continues to act as the platform for multilateral dialogue and the sharing of innovative methods in the promotion of Sustainable Development. In the spirit of MDG 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development, members of the international community have come together at summits and conventions to further the aims of Agenda 21, nearly two decades ago. With the Global Financial Crisis of 2008, having grossly affected the development of Developing and Least Developed States, the need for increased international cooperation and Sustainable Investments are needed now more than ever. Investing in Sustainable Development is the practical endeavor in today's reality, aided in part by global partnerships, landmark documents, and continued trade on an international scale.

Committee Directive

The CSD, having been established nearly two decades ago, continues its commitment in furthering efforts in Sustainable Development. As the diplomatic representatives of your respective countries, it falls to you to ensure future investments continually channel into Sustainable Development ventures. There are a number of ways this can be accomplished, whether they are implementing reforms to mechanisms stated in Agenda 21, promoting the idea behind Sustainable Investments, or establishing new partnerships addressing specific issues in furthering sustainable development as a whole. What are the major obstacles that your State or neighboring developing State face in implementing Sustainable Development programs? What examples of Private-Public Partnerships exist that can serve as a best practice for other States?

II: Preserving Ecosystems through the Responsible Management of Water Resources

Introduction

Today it is widely recognized that an integrated approach to freshwater management offers the best means of reconciling competing demands with supply and a framework where effective operational actions can be taken.⁷³ In the most recent decades, the international community has placed a strong emphasis on the importance of responsible management of water resources, particularly within developing countries. Not only is the presence of clean water essential to the vitality of human life, its development also contributes to a plethora of socio-economic issues. "The eight *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs) adopted by world leaders in the year 2000, which range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, all by the target date of 2015 – form a blueprint agreed to by all the world's countries and all the world's leading development institutions."⁷⁴ MDG 7 aims to ensure environmental sustainability by the year 2015. Under this goal there are multiple sub-targets in which the MDGs wish to achieve. The third sub-target of MDG 7 specifically relates to water resource management in efforts "to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation."⁷⁵

The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) is responsible for reviewing the progress of Agenda 21 which is a comprehensive plan of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the United Nations System, Governments, and Major Groups in every area in which human impacts on the environment.⁷⁶ Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the Statement of principles for the Sustainable Management of Forests were adopted by more than 178 Governments at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3 to 14 June 1992.⁷⁷ Section II, Chapter 18 of Agenda 21 specifically details the conservation and management of freshwater resources for sustainable

⁷³ "Areas of Work." UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs: Division for Sustainable Development. http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_wat/wat_index.shtml

⁷⁴ "Background." United Nations Millennium Development Goals. <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/bkgd.shtml>

⁷⁵ "Goal 7." United Nations Millennium Development Goals. <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/environ.shtml>

⁷⁶ "Agenda 21." UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs: Division for Sustainable Development. <http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/index.shtml>

⁷⁷ Ibid.

development. Agenda 21 introduced five major issues that highlighted the significance of effective water resource management including; economic productivity, water quality, safe drinking water, urban water demand, and sustainable food production.

In 1998, at the CSD's sixth meeting, governments with the technical and financial support in the international community were urged to address numerous shortcomings and gaps identified in the path towards integrated water resources development management, protection and use. The CSD advised that areas requiring further attention included meeting basic health education needs. Regarding water resource management the Commission noted further research and work must be done on the role of the ecosystem in the provision of goods and services; explicit linkages with development and efficient freshwater allocation; conserving biological diversity of freshwater ecosystems; conservation of sustainable wetlands; and mobilization of financial resources into all aspects of water resources management.⁷⁸ Moreover, strategic and integrated actions were still needed in order to adapt to ever-changing social and environmental circumstances and to address fundamental concerns for combating poverty,⁷⁹ ensuring adequate provision of public health, food security and energy, and to protect the environment better.

In order for the world to meet the agreed upon MDGs, specifically MDG 7. Member States of the Commission must utilize the mandates of Agenda 21 as well as other related conventions to focus agendas on water resource management. Specifically within developing nations who are still far behind meeting the goal of halving the number of individuals with access to basic water sanitation regional cooperation especially between developing and developed nations is necessary.⁸⁰ Nations must make water resource management a higher priority while working on initiatives related to sustainable growth and development. In order for sustainable economic and infrastructure-related growth to be achieved, citizens must have access to clean, sanitary drinking water and initiatives must be in place to maintain the quality of said water.

Water Quality

Clean and safe water supply is imperative to protecting the environment and maintaining a healthy standard of living. An estimated 80 per cent of all diseases and over one third of deaths in developing countries are caused by the consumption of contaminated water, and on average as much as one tenth of each person's productive time is sacrificed to water-related diseases.⁸¹ Concerted efforts during the 1980s, such as the 1981 *International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade* from the *Mar del Plata Action Plan*, brought water and sanitation services to hundreds of millions of the world's poorest people.⁸² The target of the Decade was to provide safe drinking-water and sanitation to underserved urban and rural areas by 1990; however, well into the 1990s one in three people in the developing world still lacked access to safe drinking water and sanitation.⁸³

Currently the world is on track to meet the safe drinking water goal (MDG 7) by 2015; however, much remains to be done in many regions.⁸⁴ However, with half the population of developing regions without sanitation, the latter of the 2015 target appears to be out of reach.⁸⁵ Major problems affecting the water quality of rivers and lakes arises from inadequately treated domestic sewage, inadequate controls on the discharges of industrial waste waters, loss and destruction of catchment areas, ill-considered siting of industrial plants, deforestation, uncontrolled shifting cultivation and poor agricultural practices.⁸⁶ The most significant source of negative water quality is poor human and agricultural waste management as more than 2 million tons of sewage drains into the waters of the world every day.⁸⁷

⁷⁸ *Report on the Sixth Session*. Commission on Sustainable Development. December 22, 1998.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

⁸⁰ *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2010*. The United Nations. June 15, 2010.

⁸¹ *Agenda 21*. United Nations Conference on Environments & Development Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. June 14, 1992.

⁸² *Ibid.*

⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁸⁴ *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2010*. The United Nations. June 15, 2010.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

⁸⁶ *Agenda 21*. United Nations Conference on Environments & Development Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. June 14, 1992.

⁸⁷ "Access to Sanitation" International Decade for Action Water for Life, 2005-2015. The United Nations.

<http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/sanitation.shtml>

Development models which rely on the releasing of waste into streams and rivers, which are fundamentally environmentally destructive, are perhaps the most damaging and threatening practices to the vivacity of aquatic ecosystems in developing areas. Additionally, aquatic ecosystems are also affected by agricultural water resource development projects such as dams, river diversions, water installations and irrigation schemes. Erosion, sedimentation, deforestation and desertification have led to increased land degradation, and the creation of reservoirs has, in some cases, resulted in adverse effects on ecosystems.⁸⁸ Agenda 21 recommended a preventive approach to ecologically unsound development by avoiding costly subsequent measures to rehabilitate, treat and develop new water supplies. Although this Agenda 21 initiative addresses the rising issue of industrialization contaminating the water supply it is imperative for the CSD to proactively address waste-management development models which destroy aquatic ecosystems.

Every year, more people die from unsafe water than from all forms of violence.⁸⁹ Drinking sources are under increased threat due to the economic growth and development of nations. Although many improvements have been made over the past few decades deteriorating water quality due to human contamination is threatening the long-term effectiveness of all these gains.⁹⁰ The Commission has worked with many Member States in implementing programs to aid in continuing and maintaining the work on water quality and sanitation. One such program is the Women Leaders for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for all (WASH). This program was launched at the 13th session of CSD in April 2005.⁹¹ Women Leaders for WASH is comprised of state heads and policy leaders of both developed and developing nations. The initiative promotes cooperation amongst nations for improved services and programs related to water quality.⁹² Since 2005, WASH has launched radio campaigns advocating practices which increase water quality in remote areas that would not normally have access to education material or have high literacy rates.⁹³

It is programs such as these which promote cooperation amongst developing and developed nations which are essential to sustainable improvement toward MDG 7 and a global increase in water quality. Member States of the Commission must promote further cooperation not only between developing and developed nations but also with other IGOs and NGOs in order to push forward and educate citizens of the importance of water quality and the maintenance of aquatic ecosystems.

Deforestation and Desertification

Forests play an essential role in water resource management. Evaporation in the rainforest accounts for more than 50 percent of the rainfall in Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Brazil. Rainforests in the Congo similarly provide significant amounts of water and ultimately rainfall for many western African nations as well.⁹⁴ Forests provide shelter to watersheds and prevent soil erosion. Deforestation increases surface waterflow and transports sediment into rivers and streams decreasing water quality for downstream communities.⁹⁵ Deforestation for the purpose of creating land space for agricultural use further adds to the degradation of aquatic ecosystems and water quality as the agricultural waste and pesticides often used ends up contaminating local water sources.⁹⁶ Deforestation not only harms ecosystems through pollution and contamination but also can lead to a decrease in availability to humans as well. In Haiti, deforestation has reduced the only major reservoir in the country, Lac de

⁸⁸ *Agenda 21*. United Nations Conference on Environments & Development Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. June 14, 1992.

⁸⁹ "Access to Sanitation" International Decade for Action Water for Life, 2005-2015. The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/sanitation.shtml>

⁹⁰ "Water, Sanitation and Hygiene." UNICEF. <http://www.unicef.org/wash/>

⁹¹ "Gender: Women Leaders for WASH initiative launched." IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre. <http://www.source.irc.nl/page/23642>

⁹² "Women Leaders for WASH Advocacy." Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council. <http://www.wsscc.org/wash-advocacy/campaigns-events/women-leaders-wash>

⁹³ "WASH Radio Campaign" Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council. <http://www.wsscc.org/wash-advocacy/campaigns-events/wash-radio-campaign>

⁹⁴ "Deforestation affects continental water resource management." Delft University of Technology. <https://intranet.tudelft.nl/live/pagina.jsp?id=dcaa4eb4-9800-41a8-812e-9fd1e63bbac1&lang=en>

⁹⁵ Deforestation and water quality inextricably linked." Totally Drinkable.com. <http://www.totallydrinkable.com/deforestation-and-water-quality.html>

⁹⁶ Ibid.

Paligre, by 30 percent over the past decade. In a country which is one of the most densely population countries in the world as well as one of the poorest, access to water is essential to the daily life of citizens.⁹⁷ Deforestation in Haiti causes not only a detriment to aquatic life but poses a deep threat to the lives of citizens.

Similarly, desertification is causing detriments to ecosystems through decreased access to water itself as well as contamination of existing water supplies in many countries. Desertification is defined as land degradation resulting from climate change and human activities.⁹⁸ Africa especially is affected with drought and desertification which leads to reduced agricultural productivity, loss of vegetation cover and elimination of biodiversity; all of which lead ultimately to extreme poverty.⁹⁹ Between 1970 and 2007 an estimated 887 rivers, 2096 spring and 1166 lakes have dried out as a direct result of desertification.¹⁰⁰ Especially within Africa, wide-spread poor health food scarcity and economic hardship is linked directly to a lack of available to clean water resources caused by desertification of much of the continent.¹⁰¹ One-quarter of the earth's land is affected by desertification causing farming and grazing land to become less productive and endangering the livelihood of not only over 1 billion people collectively, but entire ecosystems.¹⁰²

In June of 1994, The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (UNCCD) was opened for signatures and has since been ratified by over 60 countries. The convention establishes a framework for national and regional programs which work to counter the effects of desertification on ecosystems as well as economies.¹⁰³ In 2009 the UNCCD adopted an updated strategy for the next decade and called on nations to revise their national and regional programs to further the effort to combat desertification and its impact on sustainable growth.¹⁰⁴ Agenda 21 has recognized population growth, land and water as vital components to human life and sustainable development. A balance must be determined between the eradication of forests and desertification for the purpose of sustainable growth and development and the management of water resources. It is the management of water resources that are essential to human life and are vital in the promotion of economic growth. Similarly, a balance must be met between humans, economic growth and aquatic ecosystems as deforestation and desertification are destroying entire ecosystems which are critical to the survival of the human race.

Urban Ecosystem

The extent to which water resources development contributes to economic productivity and social well-being is not usually appreciated, although all social and economic activities rely heavily on the supply and quality of freshwater.¹⁰⁵ According to Agenda 21, as populations and economic activities grow, many countries are rapidly reaching conditions of water scarcity or facing limits to economic development. Statistics from the report demonstrated a severe strain on water demand and availability reporting 70-80 percent for irrigation, less than 20 percent for industry, and 6 percent for domestic consumption.¹⁰⁶ The holistic management of freshwater as a finite and vulnerable resource, and the integration of sectorial water plans and programs within the framework of national economic and social policy are of paramount importance.¹⁰⁷

⁹⁷ *Water Resources Assessment of Haiti*. US Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District and Topographic Engineering Center. August 1999.

⁹⁸ *Africa Review Report on Drought and Desertification*. Economic Commission for Africa. November 2007.

⁹⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰⁰ "National Action Program for Combating Desertification." North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation. http://www.neaspec.org/documents/dss_apr_2011/Mongolian%20National%20Programmes.pdf

¹⁰¹ *Africa Review Report on Drought and Desertification*. Economic Commission for Africa. November 2007.

¹⁰² "The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification: A new Response to an Age-Old Problem: Backgrounder." Earth Summit+5: Special Session of the general Assembly to Review and Appraise the implementation of Agenda 21. <http://www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/sustdev/desert.htm>

¹⁰³ Ibid.

¹⁰⁴ "National Action Program for Combating Desertification." North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation. http://www.neaspec.org/documents/dss_apr_2011/Mongolian%20National%20Programmes.pdf

¹⁰⁵ *Agenda 21*. United Nations Conference on Environments & Development Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. June 14, 1992.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid.

¹⁰⁷ Ibid.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the only regions in the world where poverty and has worsened between 1981 and 2001.¹⁰⁸ World Bprojections indicate that for many parts of Sub-Saharan Africa attaining MDG 1 relating to the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger is beyond reach. Within the region, 83 percent of total extreme poverty is directly related to rural areas and roughly 85 percent of the poor population in the region depends on agriculture for survival. It is key, therefore, that economic growth through agriculture occur in the region to aid in the reversal of the continuing trend of extreme poverty.¹⁰⁹

In 2005, the International Water Management Institute conducted a case study consisting of 8 programs in various countries demonstrating the effects of water resource management and the implementation of irrigation programs on economic growth. The studies measured the poverty impact of water management through irrigation and water-related technologies by tracking income changes in related households.¹¹⁰ In most cases, there was a substantial increase in income of residents especially in cases where treadle pumps were used to improve irrigation methods. Income increases came from improvements in labor, farm size and adjustment to cropping patterns and vegetation combinations. Over-all the studies demonstrated that although water resource management increased income in most cases, other investments must be made in local infrastructure in order to see significant effects in economic growth. Access to irrigation alone had less of an effect on a local economy than studies which included treadle pumps and other forms of technology.¹¹¹ Furthermore, the effects on the poorest of poor was difficult to conclude as many of these areas did not have the labor force or education to effectively use the irrigation system to the fullest advantage for their crops. Many farmers complained that although access to water for crops was beneficial for agriculture there were still not viable markets in the area from which to benefit economically from the increased production.¹¹²

This study demonstrates that water resource management is vital to the economic growth of an area but must also be coupled with investment in other areas. Investment in technology and infrastructure such as roads and railways is imperative to reaching the full potential of increased agricultural productivity due to effective water resource management. Regional support is essential in order to aid in the development of a market for agricultural trade. Special attention must be made for the poorest of regions especially in respect to education of water resource management and technology. This education must be supported by national governments and not simply by NGO's in order to be effective.¹¹³ This study is one of the first conducted in Sub-Saharan Africa regarding water-resource management and uncovers not only the income effects of water-resource management but highlights that management programs along are not sufficient to create exponential short-term benefits in such a resource-scare region.

Economic Productivity and Urban Water Demand

Agenda 21 also made stalwart predictions regarding the future of water supply demand and management in the developing community. According to the report, by the year 2025, more than 60 percent of the world's population will be living in urban areas; therefore, the rapid population growth and industrialization severely strains the water resources and environmental protection capabilities of many cities. Special attention needs to be given to the growing effects of urbanization on water demands and usage and to the critical role played by local and municipal authorities in managing the supply, use and overall treatment of water, particularly in developing countries for which special support is needed.¹¹⁴ Scarcity of freshwater resources and the escalating costs of developing new resources have a considerable impact on national industrial, agricultural and human needs to be given to the growing effects of urbanization on water demands and usage and to the critical role played by local and municipal authorities

¹⁰⁸ Barbara van Koppen, et al. "Reducing Poverty through Investments in Agricultural Water Management: Poverty and Gender Issues and Synthesis of Sub-Saharan Africa Case Study Reports." International Water Management Institute. August 2005.

¹⁰⁹ Ibid.

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹¹ Ibid.

¹¹² Ibid.

¹¹³ Ibid.

¹¹⁴ *Agenda 21*. United Nations Conference on Environments & Development Rio de Janerio, Brazil. June 14, 1992.

in managing the supply, use and overall treatment of water, particularly in developing countries for which special support is needed.¹¹⁵ Scarcity of freshwater resources and the escalating costs of developing new resources have a considerable impact on national industrial, agricultural and human settlement development and economic growth.¹¹⁶ Agenda 21 calls for better management of resources, elimination of unsustainable consumption patterns, and relocation of urban agglomerations near estuaries and coastal zones.

In 1994, at the Commission on Sustainable Development's second meeting several recommendations were made to further highlight and implement water management proposals from the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). At its second meeting, The Commission recommended governments and the international community give priority attention to human settlements programs and policies to reduce urban pollution and to improve and expand urban services and infrastructure, particularly in low-income communities.¹¹⁷ Those efforts are necessary to safeguarding human health, preserving the integrity of the natural environment and ensuring economic productivity. The "brown agenda" (a concept that addresses urban pollution resulting from inadequate water supply, sanitation and drainage, poor industrial and solid-waste management, and air pollution) is also highlighted as an umbrella approach to urban pollution issues that can be used to link and better implement Agenda 21 in the urban context.¹¹⁸ Furthermore, the CSD recommended the conservation and sustainable use of water be given high priority, and invited the Subcommittee on Water Resources of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) to initiate model projects, to be carried out by relevant agencies, in order to examine and exemplify the feasibility of water-saving strategies in water-intensive agricultural, industrial, urban and domestic sectors.¹¹⁹

Studies by CSD fully demonstrate that improved water supply and sanitation and effective water resource management directly boost a countries' economic growth.¹²⁰ Poor countries with improved access to clean water and sanitation demonstrated an average of 3.7 percent growth annually.¹²¹ The economic benefits of improved water supply far outweigh the investment costs as studies show that countries benefit economically three to one for every dollar invested. These benefits are drawn from direct variables such as increased agriculture production to indirect benefits such as better health decreasing stress on governments.¹²²

It is important for the governments of Member States to re-focus on water resource management not only for the benefit of aquatic ecosystems also for the benefit of a nation's sustainable economic growth. A balance must be achieved between the need for economic growth, in developing and developed nations alike, and the strain such growth has on water resources. Public and private investment must not only concentrate on market-specific initiatives but must include the need for improved water supply and sanitation. Water resource management is vital to sustainable growth and development and is not a difficult feat to attain.¹²³ Member States of the Commission must work to incorporate the initiatives of Agenda 21 as well as other conventions related to water resource management into policies and frameworks which will aid countries in reaching MDG 7 by 2015.

Conclusion

These issues demonstrate some of the major challenges that initiated the discussion for Agenda 21 and the need for elimination of environmentally damaging development models. Since the 1992 Earth Summit, the United Nations and Commission on Sustainable Development have hosted various conferences and implemented multiple frameworks to achieve a comprehensive, integrated approach to effective and responsible water management. The international community's continual focus on promoting clean water resources and the protection of aquatic

¹¹⁵ Ibid

¹¹⁶ Ibid

¹¹⁷ *Report on the Second Session*. Commission on Sustainable Development. July 12, 1994.

¹¹⁸ Ibid

¹¹⁹ Ibid

¹²⁰ *Making Water A Part of Economic Development: The Economic Benefits of Improved Water Management and Services*. Commission on Sustainable Development. 2005

¹²¹ Ibid.

¹²² Ibid.

¹²³ Ibid.

ecosystems signifies the importance for responsible management of water resources and its subsequent affect on growth in developing countries.

Member states must focus on the need for globally increased water quality in order to not only achieve MDG 7 but other goals related to the health and wellness of individuals. Policies and frameworks must be developed to find the balance between economic growth and not only the damaging effects on the environment but also the residual effects on water resource management. Deforestation and desertification are destroying entire ecosystems and rendering land unproductive thus affecting the livelihood of billions of individuals. Sustainable growth and development is key in surviving in the global economy however it is important to not forget how vital basic needs such as clean water are to such development.

Committee Directive

Delegates must work to first understand the initiatives of Agenda 21 especially pertaining to water resource management. Special consideration should be made to further the work on Agenda 21 as well as other UN conventions on water quality and resource management. Delegates should consider ways to expand the initiatives in regards to water quality including combating deforestation and desertification. Are there partnerships which CSD can encourage with other IGOs and NGOs to help not only sustain the work done thus far in fresh water access but also increase the quality of the accessible water? Delegates should not only concentrate on the sustainability of human capital and infrastructure but should also take into consideration the drastic decrease in biodiversity and the eradication of entire ecosystems due to a lack of access to quality water. A balance between economic growth and development and the natural ecosystems within a Member State's borders must be considered. Furthermore, national and regional cooperation is imperative in maintaining the preservation of ecosystems. Delegates should work to find ways to implement policies and frameworks which create balance between sustainable development and this vital natural resource.

Topic III: Improving Access to Healthcare in the Developing World

Introduction

In 2004, Kofi Annan delivered a message stating, "As AIDS forces girls to drop out of school, whether they are forced to take care of a sick relative, run the household, or help support the family, they fall deeper into poverty. Their children in turn, are less likely to attend school and more likely to become infected."¹²⁴ Although this message was in light of the International Women's Day 2004, it is a note of the complexity of human health, gender equity and poverty. Improving access to healthcare promotes the quality of human lives and sustainable development. Dr. Brundtland's famous "Our Common Future" published in 1987 which was the framework for combating complex development issues by holistically assessing these issues relating to environment, economy, human rights, and poverty.¹²⁵ The Brundtland Report's emphasis on multilateral global issues was the starting point for Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration.

In 1992, Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development were adopted by nearly 180 Member States which attended the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the Earth Summit.¹²⁶ The Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 outlined goals of combating poverty, addressing population and sustainable settlements, development concerns of Africa, technology transfer and capacity building, human health, along with environmental conservation.¹²⁷ More specifically, Chapter Six of Agenda 21 protects and promotes human health under social and economic development. Many initiatives in subsequent summits such as the Millennium Summit and the Johannesburg Summit of 2002 reaffirmed these global concerns that contribute to human health, such as clean water and sanitation issues and fighting poverty.

¹²⁴ "Progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, 1990-2005: Goal 6 – Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases" Department of Social and Economic Affairs http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mi/goals_2005/goal_6.pdf

¹²⁵ "Our Common Future: The Brundtland Report" Northern Alliance for Sustainability <http://anped.org/index.php?part=176>

¹²⁶ Agenda 21: Earth Summit. Division for Sustainable Development <http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/index.shtml>

¹²⁷ Ibid.

To further elaborate a description of these goals that were formulated in 1992 were to eliminate guinea worm disease and polio by 2000; reduce the number of deaths from measles by 95 percent and reduce the number of measles cases by 90 percent by 1995; ensure universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation; reduce the number of childhood deaths from diarrhea in developing countries by 50 percent to 75 percent by 2000; reduce the incidence of childhood diarrhea by 25 percent to 50 percent by 2000; address and implement the HIV prevention programs, and institute anti-malaria programs by 2000.¹²⁸

Agenda 21 and the Rio principles established the foundation for the Earth summit and the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was created to review the progress of effective implementation of these principles.¹²⁹ After the Rio principles of 1992, the Millennium Declaration began in September 2000. At least four goals from Agenda 21 became a focus in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), such as child mortality, sanitation, access to clean water, and reducing HIV, malaria and other diseases. Thereafter, the Johannesburg Summit of 2002 and the World Summit of 2005 followed reaffirming many of the same goals and other sustainable development concerns. As the MDG imminent 2015 deadline approaches, it will be important for the Commission on Sustainable Development to focus some of its efforts to review the progress of sustainable development goals and address new challenges that coincide with the MDG.

Health and the Millennium Development Goals

Many bodies of the United Nations are working diligently towards the MDG but only a few States are on track to meeting the targets by 2015. The Fourth MDG aims to reduce child mortality rates by two thirds from 1990 to 2015 for all children under the age of five.¹³⁰ In 2010, The Millennium Development Goal Report was released noting that only “10 out of 67 countries with high child mortality rates were successfully on track to meet the 2015 targets.”¹³¹ As the international financial crisis has slowed development programs, it was also reported that many priority countries are mitigating the economic crisis and attempting to address the funding gaps for programs such as immunization campaigns.¹³²

The leading causes of child death under the age of five in developing countries, with the exception of birth complications, are the same illnesses which affected child mortality from over a decade ago. These illnesses are pneumonia, diarrhea, tetanus, measles, and malaria.¹³³ Fortunately, some health conditions have decreased over the past decade. The global rates of malaria have decreased so much that Europe in 2009 was able to announce that there were no cases of Plasmodium falciparum malaria that year.¹³⁴ However, for States such as Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe and Zambia malaria trends increased in 2009, and the reasons for the increase are unknown.¹³⁵ The two illnesses that affect child mortality the most are pneumonia and diarrhea, of which the latter is usually from unsafe drinking water.¹³⁶

In the developing regions of Southern Asia, Oceania, and sub-Saharan Africa have the largest numbers of child mortality caused by the aforementioned preventable illnesses. Immunizations have been considered the most

¹²⁸ Agenda 21: Earth Summit. Division for Sustainable Development <http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/index.shtml>

¹²⁹ Ibid.

¹³⁰ “Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality” We Can End Poverty: 2015 Millennium Development Goals <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/childhealth.shtml>

¹³¹ Millennium Development Goal Report 2010 <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG%20Report%202010%20En%20r15%20-low%20res%2020100615%20.pdf>

¹³² Ibid.

¹³³ “Causes of Child Death” Global Health Council http://www.globalhealth.org/child_health/child_mortality/causes_death/

¹³⁴ “Malaria elimination a step closer” Malaria News. World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/communicable-diseases/malaria/news2/news/2010/12/malaria-elimination-a-step-closer>

¹³⁵ *World Malaria Report 2010*. World Global Malaria Programme. http://www.who.int/malaria/world_malaria_report_2010/world_malaria_report_2010.pdf

¹³⁶ “Statistics by Area: Child Survival and Health” Childinfo, Monitoring the Situation of Children and Women. UNICEF. <http://www.childinfo.org/mortality.html>

successful and cost-effective intervention in public health, yet much of the rural populations and impoverished developing regions of the world lack access to immunizations.¹³⁷ Being such a cost effective method to combating morbidity and mortality, immunizations can easily prevent some communicable diseases that additionally lead to HIV-related deaths. In 2009, nearly a quarter of the 1.8 million people who died from HIV-related deaths were caused by tuberculosis.¹³⁸ Presently, tuberculosis is considered one of the most common causes of morbidity and mortality with people infected with HIV/AIDS.

The AIDS epidemic being one of the most difficult global health issues to address as we approach 2015, the United Nations has affirmed to halt and reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS. The HIV/AIDS epidemic will always be a continuous global issue until there is a cure, but gradual steps have been made allowing people to live with HIV even in the developing world. It is possible through the treatments of AZT, nevirapine, and antiretroviral therapy to survive daily. Despite the many successes of HIV treatment options, the transmission of the virus and HIV-related deaths will continue to spread particularly throughout developing regions with little or no access to healthcare and HIV/AIDS education for girls and women. Prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmissions (PMTCT) is not progressing quickly enough to reach the MDG targets within the next few years, particularly in parts of sub-Saharan Africa. The United Nations has committed to reduce the levels of HIV transmission from mother to child to under five percent (5%), and without intervention it would be anywhere from fifteen to forty-five percent (15-45%).¹³⁹

The correlation between the poor or the impoverished and HIV/AIDS is another example of the effects poor infrastructure, lack of general education, preventive interventions and health education can become this cyclical pattern of illness and poverty. UNAIDS described the effects in a more simplified view of the HIV epidemic. It noted in a report that not addressing the issues of infrastructure, education, healthcare, and preventative measures led to increased rates of HIV.¹⁴⁰ The increase of people infected became the population that was dependent on the family, community and government, causing more families to fall into poverty.¹⁴¹ This epidemic also increases the costs of healthcare, the number of orphans, and the level of dependency on the government.¹⁴² Furthermore it reduces productivity, national income, government funding and resources, making it difficult for the government to address these issues of poverty and HIV.¹⁴³ Thus, the cyclical pattern continues. The HIV epidemic also makes it more difficult to address the other health concerns if all efforts and funding are focused on the epidemic.

As of 2009 it has been reported by UNAIDS that an estimated twenty percent (20%) or more of the adult population in Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland (in the age group of 15 to 49) are infected with HIV/AIDS. These Member States which have over twenty percent (20%) have the highest percentages of adult population infected.¹⁴⁴ Furthermore, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe have over ten percent (10%) of their adult population in the same age group living with HIV/AIDS.¹⁴⁵ The number of children (0-17 years) who lost one or both parents due to AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa has reached over 14 million.¹⁴⁶ In 2009, the number of people newly infected by HIV has been reduced by seventeen percent (17%) within eight (8) years. That number of people in 2009 was at 2.6 million whereas in 1999 it was over 3 million.¹⁴⁷ HIV prevention programs are working but at a very slow rate.

¹³⁷ Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia "Health & MDG Booklet: Target 5. Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate" <http://www.escwa.un.org/divisions/scu/healthMDG/Goal4.pdf>

¹³⁸ *HIV/TB Facts 2011*. World Health Organization http://www.who.int/hiv/topics/tb/hiv_tb_factsheet_june_2011.pdf

¹³⁹ World Health Organization: Topics Mother-to-child transmission of HIV <http://www.who.int/hiv/topics/mtct/en/index.html>

¹⁴⁰ "AIDS, Poverty Reduction and Debt Relief : A Toolkit for Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS Programmes into Development Instruments" UNAIDS. http://data.unaids.org/publications/irc-pub02/jc536-toolkit_en.pdf

¹⁴¹ Ibid.

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ Ibid.

¹⁴⁴ "Global Report: UNAIDS Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic 2010" http://www.unaids.org/globalreport/documents/20101123_GlobalReport_full_en.pdf

¹⁴⁵ Ibid.

¹⁴⁶ Millennium Development Goal Report 2010. <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG%20Report%202010%20En%20r15%20-low%20res%2020100615%20.pdf#page=28>

¹⁴⁷ "2009 AIDS Epidemic Update." UNAIDS <http://www.unaids.org/en/dataanalysis/epidemiology/2009aidsepidemicupdate/>

The Fifth Millennium Development Goal is to reduce the maternal mortality ratio by three quarters. Along with promoting health education policies, the infrastructure and accessibility of prenatal care is necessary. Basic healthcare and the general prenatal visits can reduce possible diseases or illnesses that can complicate the pregnancy, such as malaria, and anemia, along with identifying risks for troublesome deliveries.¹⁴⁸ Developing States account for ninety nine percent (99%) of the maternal mortality rate, of which Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia account for eighty seven percent (87%). Prenatal care, labor, delivery, and postpartum care are the necessary health services needed for a pregnant woman. However, many women in rural areas of Lao People's Democratic Republic, Sierra Leone, and Chad have little access to these healthcare services.

The gap in Developing States between the urban rich to the poor and rural is significant, showing large differences of access to medical services and education. Reiterating the Rio Principles of 1992, it is important to address these human health issues that affect a higher number of women and children. In 2000, statistics showed that women who lived in urban populations were twice as likely to obtain four or more prenatal visits during the time of their pregnancy.¹⁴⁹ It was also determined that women who had reached secondary school were twice as likely to attain prenatal care as well.¹⁵⁰ Education for the youth is a large influential factor for economic growth and poverty reduction, particularly in rural areas.

Girls and women suffer the most from health conditions due to poverty and unequal opportunities, gender-based violence that increases the rates of HIV for young women,¹⁵¹ and less access to healthcare. Primary education is one of the significant factors for girls to reduce their chances of falling into poverty, and the cyclical pattern of the impoverished and poor health. Additionally, concentrating on women being the forefront of global change and increasing education for women can increase the possibilities of economic growth. Women have already started bridging the gap in healthcare as midwives or skilled birth attendants. The gap between hospitals and rural or marginalized areas would be far greater and the maternal health and child health would be severely affected without midwives or skilled birth attendants in developing States.

Bolivia: Bridging the gap through education and skilled healthcare workers

Bolivia is a country that has large gender disparities and a large marginalized population, causing indigenous women to stay in poverty with little education, and increased health issues. Bolivia has been ranked with one of the highest maternal mortality rates in South America since the 1990s.¹⁵² However, drastic changes have been made. The government of Bolivia had been advocating for universal healthcare for women and children. The State enacted the National Maternal and Childhood Insurance (SNMN), The Basic Health Insurance (SBS), and Universal Mother and Child Insurance (SUMI) to assist covering several concerns of maternal health and children.¹⁵³

The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that Bolivia reduced mortality results in two indigenous communities by seventy-five percent (75%) through education, gender equity, and training to healthcare workers.¹⁵⁴ Bolivia's indigenous women face many challenges due to the cultural barriers and these women generally avoided medical professionals due to insensitive treatment.¹⁵⁵ The training provided to healthcare workers addressed the

¹⁴⁸ "The World Health Report 2005" Chapter 3: Great expectations making pregnancy safer World Health Organization <http://www.who.int/whr/2005/chap3-en.pdf>

¹⁴⁹ "Antenatal Care in Developing Countries: Promises, achievements and missed opportunities" *An analysis of trends, levels and differentials, 1990-2001*. World Health Organization 2003. http://www.childinfo.org/files/antenatal_care.pdf

¹⁵⁰ Ibid.

¹⁵¹ "Issue Brief: Gender-Based Violence and HIV Among Women: Assessing the Evidence" amfAR AIDS Research. Issue Brief No. 3. June 2005 http://www.amfar.org/uploadedFiles/In_the_Community/Publications/Gender%20Based%20Violence%20and%20HIV%20Among%20Women.pdf

¹⁵² *Global Health Observatory Data Repository: Maternal mortality ratio*. World Health Organization <http://apps.who.int/ghodata/?vid=93000>

¹⁵³ "Social Protection in Health Schemes for Mother, Newborn, and Child Populations" Mother & Child Universal Insurance (SUMI) – Bolivia. Pan American Health Organization. http://publications.paho.org/english/Bolivia_OP_213.pdf

¹⁵⁴ "Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health" World Health Organization. http://www.who.int/pmnch/topics/maternal/20100914_gswch_en.pdf

¹⁵⁵ "Latin America: Bolivia" Family Care International. <http://www.familycareintl.org/fr/places/7>

issues of mistreatment. Additionally, midwives were trained to recognize emergencies and provide quick referral services.¹⁵⁶ Furthermore, despite a high level of illiteracy in these regions, maternal health education and information to family members to seek out emergency healthcare became a positive change in reducing the mortality rates.¹⁵⁷

Skilled birth attendants who are formally trained have been a significant solution in combating maternal mortality. However, only 62% of pregnant women in most developing States have a skilled attendant by their side during delivery, and the rest birth without a formally trained healthcare attendant to help.¹⁵⁸ Skilled birth attendants can decrease the rates of mother to child HIV transmission and decrease maternal mortality rates. In addition to the need to have skilled attendants, access to basic healthcare services regardless of income, reproductive health education for the mothers, and gender equity provided sustainable development in the case of Bolivia.

The Environment and Healthcare

As the world endures a global economic crisis, along with food and fuel price increases, it diminishes the abilities of Developing States to invest in local programs for education, healthcare and the environment.¹⁵⁹ Infrastructure is very poor in rural regions of sub-Saharan Africa, making it difficult to provide health services such as prenatal care, delivery, and emergency services, especially to the rural, poor. In a more recent study, many health facilities have very little resources available, including electricity and water, unexpired medicines, materials for sanitary practices, and proper disposal of hazardous waste.¹⁶⁰ Research conducted through field surveys and examinations of 2,000 facilities amongst five States -- Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda provides example of the many necessities these healthcare facilities. Some information provided in this report was additionally supplemented by the World Health Organization.

The scope of the research was to assess basic infrastructure, equipment maintenance, medicine storage, infection control, healthcare workers' education and quality systems. It aimed at assessing the healthcare facilities and the infrastructure that supports emergency and surgical care in Developing States. Although the research focuses on emergency care, it is more important in providing information regarding the main infrastructure elements of healthcare facilities and the affects facilities can have on the environment. It was noted out of 2,000 facilities that were government run, private, or private public, less than half (roughly 22%-46%) had running water and electricity.¹⁶¹ The availability of infection control materials (soap, running water, sharp box, latex gloves, and disinfectant) across all countries was dismal, showing less than ten percent (10%) of all health facilities for every State.¹⁶² Tanzania's hospitals and Uganda's health centers ranked at zero percent (0%) in carrying basic infection control materials and it was emphasized that it was not because of missing data.¹⁶³ In Tanzania, it was recorded that the medicines that were checked at the medical facilities for expiration dates showed that only 14% of the health centers and 18% of the hospitals had medicines that were not past the expiration date.¹⁶⁴ Lastly, safe disposal of hazardous wastes was also less than 50% of all medical facilities surveyed.¹⁶⁵

¹⁵⁶ Ibid.

¹⁵⁷ Ibid.

¹⁵⁸ World Health Organization "Making pregnancy safer: skilled birth attendants"

http://www.who.int/making_pregnancy_safer/topics/skilled_birth/en/index.html

¹⁵⁹ World Bank Group "G20: Global Financial Crisis Responding Today, Securing Tomorrow"

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:21972885~pagePK:64257043~piPK:437376~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

¹⁶⁰ Hsai, Renee Y., Margaret E. Kruk, Sarah Macfarlane, and Naboth A. Mbembati "Access to emergency and surgical care in sub-Saharan Africa: the infrastructure gap" Health Policy and Planning Advance Access 2011; 1-11. Oxford University and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. March 26, 2011.

<http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2011/03/25/heapol.czr023.full.pdf+html>

¹⁶¹ "Needs Assessment for Hospitals in African Countries in Relation to Infectious Waste Treatment" AGENDA May 2009.

<http://gefmedwaste.org/downloads/Report:%20Needs%20Assessment%20for%20Hospitals%20in%20African%20Countries%20in%20Relation%20to%20Infectious%20Waste%20Treatment.pdf> Id.

¹⁶² Ibid.

¹⁶³ Ibid.

¹⁶⁴ Ibid.

¹⁶⁵ Ibid.

The safe disposal of hazardous materials is particularly problematic in any State with the high rates of HIV/AIDS. A separate case study was completed in 2009 of sub-Saharan Africa reviewing the healthcare waste management programs of twelve Member States – Botswana, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The waste management in these States only allotted two means to direct their waste -- open dumps or landfills.¹⁶⁶ In Abuja, Nigeria the healthcare institutions dispose of the medical waste with municipal dumpsites, but take no precautions in pre-treating the waste.¹⁶⁷ States such as Senegal, Lesotho, Tanzania, and Gambia have no sanitary landfills or lack control or security of their landfills and these States amongst others lack policy implementation of proper healthcare waste disposal.¹⁶⁸

While some larger municipalities of these Member States may be following protocols, the broader concern is the gap between urban development, marginalized human settlements, and rural areas. The capital of Nigeria functions without any medical waste pre-treatment options, but this will not work for rural populations of the State without causing severe consequences. Developing States with open dumps have more problems to tackle if their medical waste is accessible. Improper medical waste management and open dumps increases the chances that used and untreated needles will be accessible to people.¹⁶⁹ Therefore, increasing the likelihood for urban, poor settlements or the people of urban slums get infected with a life-threatening illness.¹⁷⁰

The improper disposal of needles is a problematic concern for human health; however, so is the old technology of De Montfort incinerators that burn medical wastes and release toxins such as dioxin and furans. De Montfort incinerators were only intended for small scale use but have been widely utilized throughout developing States. The disposal of this very medical waste which is now safe from spreading infectious diseases poses the risk of dumping higher levels of mercury, dioxin, and furan into the soil, and nearby water.¹⁷¹ Many workers worldwide who operate these incinerators generally burn all medical waste, which can contain polyvinyl chloride plastic, mercury from used and broken thermometers, along with other chemicals from other medical equipment.¹⁷² Additionally, De Montfort incinerators normally function at lower temperatures due to its small scale purpose, and over the course of 1 to 2 years can start to deteriorate, causing other toxins to be released due to lower temperatures.¹⁷³

Releasing pharmaceutical waste or residues is an additional problem that applies to States that have pharmaceutical manufacturing companies. Drugs produced through fermentation have been creating organic materials that are biologically toxic and can affect changes when released into the environment.¹⁷⁴ Research shows that pharmaceuticals have been changing the environment so much that residues of acetaminophen and several other drugs are found in water resources, drinking water and fisheries.¹⁷⁵ Pharmaceutical waste was suspected of being the culprit in the Potomac River in the United States when intersexed fish were found.¹⁷⁶ In Asia, vultures have died due to eating dead cattle that had the drug diclofenac in the bodies of the cattle.¹⁷⁷ As developed States continue to advance with several pharmaceutical companies ranking in the largest profits in healthcare it would be important to reduce the environmental changes, pharmaceuticals may be creating.

¹⁶⁶ Ibid.

¹⁶⁷ Ibid.

¹⁶⁸ Ibid.

¹⁶⁹ “Health of Children Living in Urban Slums in Asia and the Near East” USAID. http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNACQ101.pdf

¹⁷⁰ Ibid.

¹⁷¹ “Needs Assessment for Hospitals in African Countries in Relation to Infectious Waste Treatment” AGENDA May 2009. <http://gefmedwaste.org/downloads/Report:%20Needs%20Assessment%20for%20Hospitals%20in%20African%20Countries%20in%20Relation%20to%20Infectious%20Waste%20Treatment.pdf>

¹⁷² Batterman, S. “Findings on an Assessment of Small-scaled Incinerators for Health-care Waste” World Health Organization 2004. http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/medicalwaste/smallincinerators/en/index.html

¹⁷³ Ibid.

¹⁷⁴ “Dosed Without Prescription: Preventing Pharmaceutical Contaminatoion of Our Nation’s Drinking Water” United States National Resource Defense Council http://docs.nrdc.org/health/files/hea_10012001a.pdf

¹⁷⁵ Ibid.

¹⁷⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷⁷ Ibid.

The Economy and Healthcare

Healthcare is vitally important for Developing States not only to address the needs of human health, but education, environment and the economy. Research has shown that good governance and relatively stable economies contribute to increasing the chances of attracting foreign direct investments in developing States.¹⁷⁸ Good healthcare is a relative sign of good governance and economic stability. Furthermore the healthcare industry in developing States has more recently become an explored foreign based company investment.

South African companies Netcare and Linmed have recently expanded to its regional neighbors such as Mozambique, and Netcare has approached other governments to open private-public hospitals in Ghana, Zimbabwe, and Swaziland.¹⁷⁹ South Africa, India, Australia and Thailand have a well developed medical industry, and qualified doctors to perform less expensive, but quality procedures. These States have been paving the way to medical tourism in the global market. Additionally, with Netcare and its 54 hospitals opened in South Africa and the United Kingdom, South Africa may be the start to transforming Africa's medical industry.¹⁸⁰

If Developing States create a focus on the healthcare industry, expanding its services to global markets is possible as long as medical standards are being met. Additionally with private companies expanding its healthcare services, the most likely rewards will be sustainable developments in healthcare, even for the rural and poor. The healthcare industry in developing States is not yet widely explored due to economic concerns. Human capital is one of the many ways States can increase economic growth. Developing States have only recently started transforming their healthcare education and with States that have large gender equity concerns, this industry may be the possibility to transforming the workforce by introducing women into the opportunities of higher education and healthcare.

Conclusion

Sustainable development is to address multi-faceted issues of health, gender equity, education, environmental sustainability, and economic growth. Focusing on sustainable development and human health is not to recapitulate development programs created by organizations like the World Health Organization and the United Nations Development Program, but to examine and combat the correlative effects of global problems. In the case of Bolivia, much of the maternal mortality rate was decreased due to better healthcare worker training, gender equity and basic education in maternal health. It is also arguably due to policy changes that allowed the healthcare industry of Bolivia to change.

Over the past ten years, the world has decreased its rates of maternal mortality, child mortality and drastically reduced mother to child HIV transmission. There has been considerable progress made in maternal mortality rates of Bolivia, Bangladesh, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Bhutan, and Niger decreasing by nearly 50% from 1990 to 2008.¹⁸¹ However, the positive statistics provided by the MDG Report 2011 do not signify the results of sustainable changes and developments in each State. Bolivia and Haiti still run the highest maternal mortality in South America and each region and State has its healthcare development concerns.

While much progress has been made since 1990, most of sub-Saharan Africa is not on track to meet Millennium Development Goals (4-6) that deal with human health. As in the case study of Bolivia bridging the gap between urban and indigenous communities, it exemplifies the methods a State was able to address the maternal and child mortality rates. As well as the healthcare industries of South Africa and Thailand, it exemplifies the possibilities of developing States to expand their markets through the healthcare industry. Furthermore, the progress of human health is not all daunting and it is possible to accomplish the Millennium Development Goals. In certain regions of

¹⁷⁸ "Incentives for attracting foreign direct investments: An overview of OECD work" Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development, Investment Statistics and Analysis.

http://www.oecd.org/document/37/0,3746,en_2649_33763_11082405_1_1_1_1,00.html

¹⁷⁹ "Private hospitals could reap rewards in Africa" Healthcare Travel: News Details. Dubai, United Arab Emirates. November 2010. http://www.healthcare-travel.com/hct/news_detail.asp?prid=5

¹⁸⁰ "Netcare Limited" Bloomsburg Businessweek. Last updated August 1, 2011.

<http://investing.businessweek.com/research/stocks/private/snapshot.asp?privcapId=4493654>

¹⁸¹ *Global Health Observatory Data Repository: Maternal mortality ratio* World Health Organization. <http://apps.who.int/ghodata/?vid=93000>

Sub-Saharan Africa, it would be significant to address these issues more thoroughly by reviewing and addressing the complexities of healthcare, education, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, access to sanitation and clean drinking water, governance, and economic stability.

Committee Directive

Review CSD's Indicators of Sustainable Development: Guidelines and Methodologies along with the current progress in all global health concerns and how it affects the Member State you represent. Reviewing the history of CSD sessions and the differences between policy sessions and review sessions will additionally assist in assessing the CSD's role in addressing global health and current and future challenges. Positive development changes can certainly continue but more importantly will the global community see significant sustainable changes in human health or are these developments only temporary solutions?

This body can certainly assist in private public sector collaboration, development suggestions that will look at sustainability for the developing States, and correlations between healthcare, environmental affects, and the economy. The Commission on Sustainable Development will need to focus on assisting the developing States which are behind in meeting MDGs targets for 2015, while also assisting with developments that will have positive affects as we pass that year. The newest topics of climate change and green energy can affect healthcare as well. Are there ways to integrate solutions for climate change, green energy and healthcare together through CSD? As delegates of Member States review the dilemmas of healthcare in each State, consider the role of the Commission of Sustainable Development to create developments that will last for future generations.

Technical Appendix Guide (TAG)

Topic I: Investing in Sustainable Development Efforts in Developing Member States

Buthe, Tim, Helen V. Milner. "The Politics of Foreign Direct Investment into Developing Countries: Increasing FDI through International Trade Agreements?" *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 52, No. 4, October 2008, pp. 741-762. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1540-5907.2008.00340.x/pdf>

Reviewing the existing standard research on foreign direct investment (FDI), it suggests that individual investment decisions are based on market size, stages of economic development, and the potential economic growth of each State. Buthe and Milner produce evidence noting that preferential trade agreements (PTAs) increase FDI by improving transparency, implementation and compliance. Thus, membership with the WTO/GATT shapes the political-economic model of each State. Thus, joining a PTA ensures government commitments to liberal economic policies and encourages foreign investment. This research supplements any discussion on identifying trade and FDI barriers and possibly open dialogue between investors and developing States.

Dupasquier, Chantal, Patrick N. Osakwe. "Foreign Direct Investment in Africa: Performance, Challenges and Responsibilities" Africa Trade Policy Centre: Work in Progress, No. 21. Economic Commission for Africa September 2005. <http://www.uneca.org/atpc/Work%20in%20progress/21.pdf>

This document illustrates the dilemmas that Africa faces in attracting foreign direct investments (FDIs). Reviewing the economy and FDIs of Africa from 1996 to 2000, and regional FDI index from 1988 to 2003, this analysis shows a comparison and factors that affect FDI. The factors listed to affect the investors decisions are weak infrastructure, poor governance, economic instability. Dupasquier and Osakwe discuss solutions for Africa to attract FDI. Providing a groundwork to dilemmas that Africa has in beckoning FDIs this document provides additional investment discourse.

"Globalization with a Human Face." Human Development Report: 1999. The United Nations Development Programme, Oxford University Press, New York, 1999.

Established in 1990, the Human Development Reports (HDR's) have played a critical role in the way development theorists have assessed and addressed issues facing the developing world. These reports also feature the Human Development Index, measuring a States development not just in the terms of economic growth, but with factors such as education, health, and present infrastructures.

Hong, Nguyet Vu Xuan, Ngo Minh Tuan, Ho Cong Hoa. "Sustainable Development Impacts of Investment Incentives: A Case Study of the Mining Industry in Vietnam". International Institute for Sustainable Development, 2009. http://www.iisd.org/TKN/pdf/sd_incentives_vietnam.pdf

This is a case study of Vietnam's mining industry and the impact of investment incentives. Research provided in this study shows Vietnam's corporate legal framework and policies attracted foreign direct investments (FDIs). It also portrays that significant legal improvements and implementation such as The Law on Foreign Investment in 1987 in Vietnam along with laws that liberalized export-import duties and corporate income taxes created the opportunities for FDIs to invest capital into the mining industry of Vietnam. It further argues that through controlled, government-provided corporate incentives and an improved legal system, all countries can have the opportunities such as Vietnam to attract foreign invested enterprises. As a case study it can assist with ideas of attracting FDIs that can work for the Member States of CSD.

"Investing for Sustainable Development? A review of investment principles" *Just Economics 2011*. International Institute for Environment and Development. <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/16505IIED.pdf>

This report from the International Institute for Environment and Development assesses the patterns of production, investment principles and impacts on sustainable development. As described in the report, many investors are basing their investment decision on financial criteria usually found in developed States. This report reviews the investments with developing States, Equator Principles, project finance, engaging in socially responsible investments (SRI), mitigating the worst effects of investments, and ensuring a commitment to shaping sustainable markets. This document is important in reviewing the collaborative efforts of corporate investors and developing States.

Jang, Kyunghwa, Hongshik Lee. "The Effect of Heterogeneous BITs on FDI Inflows: The Case of Developing Asian Countries" <http://www.apeaweb.org/confer/bus11/papers/Jang-Lee.pdf>
Another look into attracting foreign direct investments (FDIs), Kyunghwa and Lee review the affects of bilateral investment treaties (BITs) on FDIs through their data and case studies of Asia. They argue through their research that BITs with higher indications of liberalization increased FDIs into developing States. They additionally argue that BITs can function as a separate indicator of investor's decision-making, rather than a State's domestic factors.

Krishna, Anirdh., etc. "Reasons for Hope: Instructive Experiences in Rural Development". Kumarian Press. West Hartford, Connecticut, 1997.

A collection of Rural Development success stories, Reasons for Hope outline a broad range of issues and provide examples as models to handle future struggles. Instructive experiences range from multisectoral development, agriculture-based development, social services, and use of natural resources. Take note of the experiences highlighted: The Grameen Bank in Rural Bangladesh, Establishment of the Six-S in Francophone West Africa, and the Self-Help Rural Water Program in Malawi.

Tam, Le. "Northern Hai Phong City: Dynamic Growth" Vietnam Business Forum. Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry http://www.vccinews.com/news_detail.asp?news_id=22536

This article celebrates the efforts of Vietnam's successful economic developments and FDIs in infrastructure construction. Hai Phong, and international port of Vietnam has invested well into its airport and seaport, along with other industrial infrastructure. The article further highlights the percentages of growth and the new projects in 2010 that reached combined, known investment capital of US\$200 million. Celebrating its success, Tam discusses a few other options for Vietnam and pursuing sustainable development measures with raw materials, technologies, electronics, and energy.

Urwin, Roger. "Sustainable Investing Principles: Models for Institutional Investors". Watson Wyatt Worldwide. Oxford University, Accessed 2011, http://www.unpri.org/files/Urwin_PRI2009.pdf

This article was highly informative and used extensively in the "Sustainable Investing" section of the topic. I urge you as delegates to critically analyze the approach presented by Mr. Urwin, for use as a backdrop or model for your own work in committee.

"Women in Business Program". World Bank Group: International Finance Corporation, <http://www.ifc.org/ifcext/sustainability.nsf/Content/WomeninBusiness>

Research has shown us that empowering women in the Formal Sector improves a States Development. The World Bank has proven to us that micro-loans see a higher return rate from women, as they often have the necessary management and social skills required of running a business.

Yujuico, Emmanuel & Betsy DuBois Gelb. "Marketing Technological Innovation to LDCs: Lessons from One Laptop per Child". California Management Review, Vol. 53, No. 2 (Winter 2011), pp. 50-68
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1525/cmr.2011.53.2.50>

Providing future generations, the tools and skills necessary for development is key in the understanding of furthering sustainability. One Laptop per Child (OLPC) was innovative in attempting to utilize communications technology for the advancement of development, yet failed to align their objectives with the needs of the people.

Topic II: Responsible Management of Water Resources to Prevent Destruction of Ecosystems

Dunn, Alexandra D., Erin Derrington. "Investment in Water and Wastewater Infrastructure: An Environmental Justice Challenge, a Governance Solution" Natural Resources & Environment, Vol. 24, Number 3, Winter 2010. <http://digitalcommons.pace.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1646&context=lawfaculty&sei-redir=1#search=%22UN%20water%20management%20infrastructure%22>

Dunn and Derrington detail a compilation of global problems due to the lack of water infrastructure and the issues between public or private water management. Drinking water, sewer overflows, and diminished water quality are the many issues summarized in this short article. Although this resource advocates for

certain law and governance measures, it is particularly useful for any delegate to review this article for a quick assessment on global water management issues.

Molden, David, ed. "Water for food, Water for life: A Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture." International Water Management Institute 2007.

http://www.fao.org/nr/water/docs/Summary_SynthesisBook.pdf

An assessment provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization regarding agriculture and water, this summary provides information about irrigated agriculture, food prices, and consumption. A summarized document of water management concerns and agriculture, this brief of trends and statistics was intended for decision-makers to assess complex issues about the demands for food and water. The document also provides information of the water management infrastructure, poverty, and sustainable development. This document adds more information about water that can be valuable in assessing the possibilities of water management.

Perez, Angela Andrade, Bernal Herrera Fernandez, Roberto Cazzolla Gatti. "Building Resilience to Climate Change: Ecosystem-based adaptation and lessons from the field"

This data provided by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) covers climate change, vulnerability assessments, biodiversity, and ecosystem adaptation. Building upon ideas of preparing for climate change and assessing vulnerability, this document adds to the plethora of information regarding ecosystems. This is another document to assist delegates in obtaining a broader perspective of sustainable development and water management.

The CEO Water Mandate: An initiative by business leaders in partnership with the international community. United Nations Global Impact. January 2011.

http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/news_events/8.1/Ceo_water_mandate.pdf

A directive to business leaders for social responsibility provides a general scope of the issues in economic and sustainable development. This information provided to businesses or corporations reviews transparency, community engagement, public policy and watershed management. Reviewing this Water Mandate may assist delegates in assessing the roles of private public relationships in relation to economic growth and water management.

Water Disclosure Global Report Carbon Disclosure Project 2010. <https://www.cdproject.net/CDPResults/CDP-2010-Water-Disclosure-Global-Report.pdf>

This global report was completed by the Carbon Disclosure Project noting the response of corporate policy and water management. This report provides statistics on several large corporations and the negative effects it can have on water quality and water resources. As the private sector utilizes new technologies in water treatment, it provides a source of information to review as delegates of Member States looking at possibilities of corporate or private contributions to water management. This report will be a great guide to delegates to address the topic of water management and sustainable development.

"Water Resource Management in the Petroleum Industry" International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) 2005. http://www.circleofblue.org/waternews/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/water_mngt.pdf

As a forum for environmental conservation, the international petroleum industry has initiated water resource management through refining wastewater, and proper water disposal. Noting the work Shell, BP, ChevronTexaco and other petroleum corporations have completed, the IPIECA has formulated information regarding some of the water management developments. Reviewing their workshops can provide the delegates ideas to actively involve water conservation and management.

Topic III: Improving Access to Healthcare in the Developing World.

"An Assessment of Progress in Promoting Sustainable Rural Development in the Asian and Pacific Region" Regional Implementation Meeting for Asia and the Pacific for the sixteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Jakarta, Indonesia. November 2007.

http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd16/rim/escap_rural.pdf

This paper reviews the rural development in Asia and the Pacific. Addressing some of the issues in Asia regarding the poverty levels in the most populous States, China and India, this paper reviews the correlative issues of poverty, gender equity, hunger, food security, and the agricultural industry. As an implementation meeting for Asia and the Pacific many suggestions were made of policy options to tackle some of these development goals. Delegates will find this document to be a great resource in tackling the topic of human health and sustainable development.

“Health Care in Developing Countries Could be Greatly Improved by Nanotechnology” *Medical News Today*. March 5, 2007. <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/64124.php>

Healthcare nanotechnology might be the resourceful tools to prevent or treat the human illnesses around the world. The article criticizes that despite the technologies available, many businesses have little incentive to invest time in learning about nanotechnologies. The article further details the possibilities of allotting nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to direct new technologies to developing States. The author seemed generally interested in finding out if the technologies could affect the global health concern but left it to the NGO

Merten, Marianne. “Pricing in health sector under fire.” *Business Report* July 31, 2011. <http://www.iol.co.za/business/business-news/pricing-in-health-sector-under-fire-1.1108960>

An article on South Africa’s concerns about private healthcare sector. In a meeting with private hospitals, the Health Department requested transparency of the costs and pricing of health care services. Goqwana confirmed that there would be other meetings to address the concerns of the healthcare over-pricing. Noting the importance of affordable medical services, South Africa is moving towards regulations on private hospitals and negotiate pricing structures. This article is a great piece of information discussing some of the current private public relationships in healthcare.

Ravishankar, Nirmala, Paul Gubbins, Rebecca J Cooley, Katherine Leach-Kemon, Catherine M. Michaud, Dean T. Jamison, Christopher JL Murray. “Financing of global health: tracking development assistance for health from 1990 to 2007” http://ts-si.org/files/LANCET_FinancingGlobalHealth_TrackingDevelopmentAssistance.pdf

This article examines financing of global health from 1990 to 2007. It introduces several different funding resources mostly provided by the United States for global health programs. It is noted that from 1990 to 2007 that funding quadrupled and only increased more after 2002. The authors do not fully divulge the reasons why there was an influx of funding, other than possibly new initiatives from the MDG. The article concludes noting that there needs to be more data collected about government expenditures from the international funding for global health.

“Women, Sexual Violence, and Health” An amfAR Symposium. The Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR), Rio de Janeiro, July 25, 2005. http://www.amfar.org/uploadedFiles/In_the_Community/Publications/Women%20Sexual%20Violence%20and%20HIV.pdf

A symposium held by The Foundation for AIDS Research focused on gender based violence and its effects on women and HIV. The Symposium was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on July 25, 2005 to review the high number of women with HIV/AIDS and to discuss the research that displayed these findings. The symposium organized data from around the world, identifying the correlations between gender based violence, HIV, and sexual health. This symposium was a milestone in HIV research in addressing the high rates of HIV/AIDS and women, along with discussing the issues that cause it.