

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



Dear Delegates,

I would like to welcome you to Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) XXII and to the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee. My name is Jacques Pape and I will serve as your Director, and it is an honor for me to serve on the General Assembly Third committee of SRMUN. I have enjoyed participating in national, regional, and international Model United Nations (MUN) programs for the past five years. I have had the opportunity to serve in a staff position on the local and national MUN level for the past three years, and I have served with this organization since SRMUN XIX. What I most enjoy about MUN is the ability to interact with other like-minded individuals who don't hesitate to share their ideas with others for the betterment of humankind. Joining me this year are Dominique Meyer and LaTasha Bryant, both first time staffers. Welcome!

The United Nations General Assembly Third Committee (GA Third) was created in 1945 and operates under the auspices of the General Assembly Plenary. As the world faces an uncertain economic future coupled with growing humanitarian and social issues, GA Third must once again come together to resolve these difficult problems as it did in its recent sixty-fifth session. As the GA Third diligently works to ensure human rights are respected all over the world, we have chosen the following topics to discuss at this year's conference due to the importance they play in achieving long-lasting economic, cultural, humanitarian, and social accords that will help guarantee the well-being of this generation and those yet to come:

- I. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice System
- II. Rehabilitation of Multilateral Funding: Responding to the Economic Instability of the Global Economy
- III. Combating the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Increased Drug Trafficking and Black Market Trade

Each delegation is required to submit a position paper which covers each of the three topics. Position papers should be no longer than 2 pages in length and single spaced. The objective of the position paper is to convince and persuade the members of your committee that the approach outlined in your paper is the best course of action. The position papers are therefore critical in providing insight into the policies and positions of each delegation; however, it is also important that they provide insight into the direction each delegation will undertake in providing solutions to the challenges of this body.

Delegates are encouraged to use the position papers as an opportunity to state what your country plans to accomplish in this committee. Strong, well developed position papers are an excellent foundation for conference preparation. It is important to ensure all sides of each issue are adequately addressed and presented in a clear and concise manner that is easy for your audience to understand. More detailed information about how to write position papers can be found at the SRMUN website (www.srmun.org).

All position papers MUST be submitted by October 30, 2011 by 11:59pm EST using the submission system on the SRMUN website.

We look forward to the opportunity to serve you on the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee at SRMUN XXII. I wish you all the best of luck and look forward to working with each of you. Please feel free to contact Cortney, LaTasha, Dominique or me if you have any questions.

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Committee History of the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee

The United Nations General Assembly Third Committee (the GA Third) was created in 1945 and operates under the auspices of the UN General Assembly.¹ The General Assembly is one of the six principle organs of the United Nations (UN), established under the UN Charter and serving as the organization's chief deliberative, policymaking, and representative body.² Under Article 22 of the Charter, the General Assembly may create subsidiary bodies to assist in carrying out its functions.³ The General Assembly meets under the Secretary-General at the UN Headquarters in New York, NY.⁴ Regularly scheduled meetings take place yearly from September to December, and resume in January until all issues on the agenda are addressed.⁵ The GA Third is one of six main committees operating under the General Assembly Plenary (GA Plenary).⁶ Also referred to as the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee, the Third Committee addresses a broad range of topics relating to social development, humanitarian affairs and human rights.⁷ Issues discussed by the GA Third include the advancement of women's rights, the treatment of refugees, the elimination of racial discrimination, the promotion of the right to self-determination, and the promotion of indigenous freedoms.⁸

A large part of the GA Third's work focuses on the examination of human rights questions, including the review of reports issued by the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, which was established in 2009.⁹ The GA Third analyzes these reports with the goal of improving the condition of human rights around the world.¹⁰ As a main committee of the GA Plenary, the GA Third resides above other UN subsidiary bodies, advisory bodies, programs and funds, some of which are tasked with agenda items that address similar issues.¹¹ The GA Third often refers items to its sub-organizations, which include the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR), the United Nations Office of Drug and Crime (UNODC), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).¹² The GA Third also addresses important social development questions related to youth, aging, disabled persons, family, crime prevention, criminal justice, and drug control.¹³ A critical component to each of these issues addressed by the GA Third is the need to promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the resolutions passed by the GA Plenary and recent UN conferences emphasizing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).¹⁴

Although an important forum for multilateral discussion, the GA Third does face challenges stemming from the limitations of the UN Organizational Structure.¹⁵ Delegates in the GA Third prepare proposals to be considered and voted upon by the General Assembly as a whole.¹⁶ Like the GA Plenary, consensus on

¹ Charter of the United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter3.shtml>

² UN Structure and Organization <http://www.un.org/en/aboutun/structure/index.shtml>

³ Ibid

⁴ General Assembly (GA) Overview/Key Documents. United Nations Documentation: Research Guide.

<http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/gasess.htm#gaagen>

⁵ Ibid

⁶ UN Structure and Organization <http://www.un.org/en/aboutun/structure/index.shtml>

⁷ <http://www.un.org/ga/61/third/third.shtml>

⁸ United Nations General Assembly. Main Committees <http://www.un.org/ga/maincommittees.shtml>

⁹ United Nations General Assembly Main Committees <http://www.un.org/ga/maincommittees.shtml>

¹⁰ Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee History <http://www.un.org/ga/61/third/third.shtml>

¹¹ UN Structure <http://www.un.org/en/aboutun/structure/index.shtml>

¹² UN Structure <http://www.un.org/en/aboutun/structure/index.shtml>

¹³ UNGA Third Committee <http://www.un.org/ga/maincommittees.shtml>

¹⁴ United Nations General Assembly Sixty-first Session, Third Committee. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/527/02/PDF/N0652702.pdf?OpenElement>

¹⁵ GA 3rd Press Releases <http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/pr.shtml>

¹⁶ Peterson, M.J. *The UN General Assembly*. Routledge. New York, NY. 2006, pg 72.

most questions is found by a majority vote, with each Member State delegation receiving one vote.¹⁷ After proposals are passed by the GA Third, they must be sent to the GA Plenary for general agreement.¹⁸ The funding for the GA Third is also allocated and overseen by the GA Plenary.¹⁹ The effectiveness of the body is therefore restricted to the consensus of the GA Plenary. However, the GA Third, like the GA Plenary,, functions as a consensus-building body.²⁰

The GA Third has submitted many important resolutions to the GA Plenary, such as *Strengthening of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme* (A/C.3/61/L.2), the *Education for All Resolution* (A/C.3/61/L.3), and the *International Cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims* (A/C.3/61/L.3).²¹ More recently, in its sixty-fifth session the GA Third has addressed items such as International Drug Control, Human Rights Council Reports, and the Global Abolition of Racism.²² So far, a number of recent issues addressed by the GA Third have resulted in recommendations to the General Assembly Plenary Committee, including resolutions on social development, human rights, and illicit drug trafficking.²³

In response to the GA Third report on Social Development, A/65/448, the General Assembly Plenary Committee has approved a number of resolutions, including A/RES/65/186: *Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond*, which requests that the Secretary-General and Member States divert attention and resources to the advancement of disabled persons.²⁴ Additionally, the General Assembly Plenary Committee has adopted A/RES/65/208: *Extrajudicial, Summary, or Arbitrary Executions* and A/RES/65/206: *Moratorium on the Use of the Death Penalty*, on the report of the GA Third A/65/456/Add.2 (Part II), calling on Member States to abolish and prevent the execution of citizens as judicial penalty.²⁵ The GA Third also addressed International Crime Prevention and Illicit drug control with two reports to the General Assembly Plenary Committee: A/65/457 and A/65/458.²⁶

All UN Member States are represented in the GA Third.²⁷

Topic I. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice System

“The United Nations continues to make progress in strengthening its engagement on the rule of law at the national and international levels. The focus is on bridging the divide between international commitments and the realization of their potential to improve the lives of all. This is an enduring endeavor. Thus, we must consistently remind Member States of their international obligations, promote ratification of

¹⁷ Functions and Powers of the General Assembly. General Assembly of the United Nations.

¹⁸ <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml>

¹⁹ GA 3rd Press Releases <http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/pr.shtml>

²⁰ About the General Assembly. General Assembly of the United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/index.shtml>

²¹ Peterson, M.J. *The UN General Assembly*. Routledge. New York, NY. 2006, pg 72.

²² UN Third Committee <http://www.un.org/ga/61/third/proposalslist.shtml>

²³ Report of the Human Rights Council <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N10/664/22/PDF/N1066422.pdf?OpenElement>

International Drug Control <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N10/675/97/PDF/N1067597.pdf?OpenElement>

²⁴ Reports to the Plenary. Social, Humanitarian, & Cultural- Third Committee. The United Nations General Assembly. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/65/reports.shtml>

²⁵ A/RES/65/186. Resolution Adopted by the General Assembly. United Nations General Assembly. 4 February, 2011. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N10/523/70/PDF/N1052370.pdf?OpenElement>

²⁶ A/RES/65/208. Resolution Adopted by the General Assembly. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N10/525/02/PDF/N1052502.pdf?OpenElement>

²⁷ Reports to the Plenary. Social, Humanitarian, & Cultural- Third Committee. The United Nations General Assembly. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/65/reports.shtml>

²⁸ UN Structure <http://www.un.org/en/aboutun/structure/index.shtml>

international treaties and implementation of international norms and standards, and preserve in this regard effective multilateral engagement based on the rule of law.” - Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General²⁸

Introduction

The United Nations’ focus on crime prevention and criminal justice is governed by both the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the General Assembly (GA), specifically within the purview of the GA Third.²⁹ The GA Third makes recommendations within the scope of the UN Charter to Member States and to the Security Council on all questions, disputes, or situations relating to crime and the UN Criminal Justice System.³⁰ Since the inception of the United Nations, the GA Third agenda has dealt with topics surrounding crime prevention and the reinforcement of the global criminal justice system. The United Nations has strived to make “[a] considerable impact on the field of international crime prevention and criminal justice and [has] influenced national policies and professional practices” dating back to the opening of the first of ten Congresses on Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders in 1955 in Geneva, Switzerland.³¹ The GA Third works with an overall goal to “promote more effective crime prevention policies and criminal justice measures all over the world,” and in collaboration with this work, the UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice has formed a central pillar in the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice system.³²

Today, the need for international crime prevention efforts is more important than ever, as the global community has begun to fully understand the effects of crime on vulnerable populations. These populations range from those of women and children, to those already crippled from years of political stagnation, economic turmoil, and social unrest, particularly in the sub-Saharan African and South-East Asia regions.³³ Additionally, while the occurrence of some forms of conventional crime— homicide, burglary, and theft-- decreased in developed Member States over the last five years, other forms, such as piracy and drug-related crimes, have re-emerged and are increasing significantly according to the Twelfth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.³⁴

Although the trends for particular forms of crime over the last five years have varied, the increasing rate of crime nevertheless warrants the attention of the international community.³⁵ One of the visual representations of this increase in global crime is its reflection upon the growing number of prisons within Member States. The number of people being detained in prisons has drastically increased over the last ten years in most Member States, from 60 to 75 percent of countries in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania combined.³⁶ In addition to the increase of prison populations, there has been a significant increase in the number of people detained and pending trial, causing overcrowding in many prisons. Prison

²⁸ A/64/298. *Annual report on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities: Report of the Secretary-General*. United Nations General Assembly. August 17, 2009.
<http://www.unrol.org/files/A-64298%20Annual%20on%streghtening%20and%coordinating%20UN%20RoL%20act.pdf>

²⁹ “Social, Humanitarian and Cultural: Third Committee.” General Assembly of the United Nations.
<http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/index.shtml>

³⁰ “Functions and Powers of the General Assembly.” General Assembly of the United Nations.
<http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml>

³¹ “Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.” Salvador, Brazil. April 12-19, 2010.
<http://www.un.org.en.conf/crimecongress2010>

³² Ibid.

³³ “UNODC, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/justice-and-prison-reform/index.html?ref-menuside>

³⁴ A/CONF.213/3. *State of crime and criminal justice worldwide: Report of the Secretary-General*. Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. February 1, 2010.
http://www.unodc.org/documents/crime-congress/12th-Crime-Congress/Documents/A_CONF.213_3/V1050608e.pdf

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Ibid.

overcrowding is most prevalent in African and American Member States, with over half of the prison population in pre-trial detention.³⁷

A safe and just society is a prerequisite for social development. Establishing and maintaining security within Member States is vital, as improving the standards of justice systems allows societies to halt the costs of crime and thereby enable the global community to more effectively address the needs for social development, the central pillar of the GA Third.³⁸ Crime worsens the quality of life for populations that are already impoverished by further degrading living standards, as well as by diminishing access to economic development by driving away business. The GA Third is one of the most well equipped bodies to find effective ways to strengthen the cooperation of the international community in combating crime.

History

The GA Third committee began its consideration of the international justice system following a request for a feasibility report by ECOSOC in 1946.³⁹ Specifically, ECOSOC requested the GA Third to consider recommendations for changes to criminal codes that had been drafted by the then Social Commission.⁴⁰ The GA third prepared a study to measure how easily recommendations to the criminal code could be implemented and how effective strategies would be if adopted.⁴¹ The outcome of the report and subsequent consultations led to the UN working as an international leader in the establishment of policies related to prisoner treatment and crime. The UN essentially replaced the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission (IPPC) by doing these works.⁴² The IPCC was the superior convention, which dealt with topics related to prison statistics and reformation efforts; the body began its work in 1872.⁴³ By the time the UN absorbed the IPCC it had minimal authority, with meetings held every five years.

In the 1950s, the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control was formed. The GA and ECOSOC created an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee of Experts that brought together seven experts on the issue of crime to serve as an advisory body.⁴⁴ These experts developed programs and policies in the form of recommendations to the GA and ECOSOC, aimed at improving the conditions of treatment of prisoners and crime prevention.⁴⁵ Since then, the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control has seen numerous changes in the status and responsibilities of its membership.⁴⁶ In 1991, membership of the committee expanded to 27 Experts selected by ECOSOC Member State nominations and elections.⁴⁷

The GA Third also extends its work to other UN offices, such as the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).⁴⁸ The GA Third serves as an oversight body for UNODC, and makes recommendations to the UNODC on the implementation of the UN's Criminal Justice System.⁴⁹ The recent focus of the UNODC has been to foster greater international cooperation on transnational organized crime, prevent and combat crime, and strengthen criminal justice systems against corruption, terrorism, and human trafficking.⁵⁰ The

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ "Social, Humanitarian and Cultural: Third Committee." General Assembly of the United Nations.
<http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/index.shtml>

³⁹ UN Crime and Justice Information Network. June 1993 Publication.
<http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/Newsletter/nl2021.pdf>

⁴⁰ Ibid

⁴¹ Ibid

⁴² United Nations Archives. International Penal and Penitentiary Commission.
<http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/Newsletter/nl2021.pdf>

⁴³ Ibid

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Ibid

⁴⁹ Ibid

⁵⁰ General Assembly Resolution A/63/99.
http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/policy_and_research/un/63/A_63_99.pdf

end of the Cold War saw a shift in policy within the GA, with the passage of a resolution titled “Creation of an Effective United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program.” This document began to examine the possibility for internal changes within the UN for laws protecting the rights of prisoners, while also beginning to work towards criminal prevention.⁵¹ The UNODC also established a subsidiary body known as the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) to oversee certain responsibilities of the office in 1992. The CCPCJ became an important resolution passed within the GA Third, and the committee itself became known as a vital organ in securing international cooperation for criminal justice, its prevention, and rights of prisoners.⁵²

Children, Youth and Crime

The perception of the general public in many Member States is that young people are increasingly the perpetrators of crime. Recent data collected in the United States proves that assumption to be incorrect, as children are much more likely to be the victims of crime than perpetrators.⁵³ Poll results collected in a public opinion poll in the UK in 2003 list 75 percent of participants as believing the number of young offenders had increased in the previous two years, while police reports from the same period note a decrease in young offenders.⁵⁴ Drawn from developed Member States, this data does not necessarily hold true for Member States with poorer economies. For instance, many Member States do have significant occurrences of conflicts between youth gangs, including an increase of involvement by girls in gangs, and young people committing serious crimes. UN studies list the major contributors to delinquent behavior as: economies, cultures, urbanization, and family.⁵⁵ Economically, children growing up in poverty have fewer opportunities for education and employment, eventually leading to delinquent behavior and in many cases, jail time. Cultures can also contribute to a rise of youth offenders when they de-stigmatize traditionally unacceptable behavior or actively create a tolerance of violent acts.⁵⁶ Data also suggests that Member States with more urbanized populations have higher registered crime rates than those with strong rural lifestyles. Additionally, family plays a critical role in positive child development, as they help determine a child’s access to social development opportunity, as well as the amount of supervision received by young adults.⁵⁷

When youth crime does occur, it then becomes necessary to determine what the proper course of action is for punishing young offenders. The UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice concluded in its twelfth session that, “the detention of children should be the last resort of a criminal justice system, not the first.”⁵⁸ In September 2009, Manfred Nowak, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on torture and inhumane treatment, submitted a report to the General Assembly that included dismal observations of child detention.⁵⁹ His report states that:

“... children remain particularly vulnerable in detention; according to cautious estimates, currently more than one million children are deprived of their liberty and held in police stations, pre-trial facilities, prisons, closed children’s homes and similar places of detention. The vast majority of these children are accused of or sentenced for a petty

⁵¹ Clark, Roger S. The United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program: Formulation of Standards and Efforts at Their Implementation. University of Pennsylvania Press.

⁵² General Assembly Resolution A/RES/46/152. < <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/46/a46r152.htm>>

⁵³ US Department of Justice. 1999 National Report Series. <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojdp/180753.pdf>

⁵⁴ Institute for Criminal Policy Research. Youth Crime and Youth Justice. <http://www.esc-eurocrim.org/files/summary.pdf>

⁵⁵ ECOSOC. Chapter 7 World Youth Report 2003. <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/ch07.pdf>

⁵⁶ Ibid

⁵⁷ Ibid

⁵⁸ Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Main text April 2010. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/V10/529/03/PDF/V1052903.pdf?OpenElement>

⁵⁹ Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Secretariat Working Paper. http://www.unodc.org/documents/crime-congress/12th-Crime-Congress/Documents/A_CONF.213_4/V1051035e.pdf

offence; contrary to popular belief, only a small fraction is held in relation to a violent crime. Most of them are first-time offenders."⁶⁰

Mr. Novak goes on to explain that not only are some Member State institutions flawed in their treatment of child offenders, but that these children are made more vulnerable to crime and punishment by their more fragile psychology.⁶¹ This puts detained children in a high-risk category for repeat offenses and criminal lifestyles. However for many Member States, detaining children becomes a matter of course, rather than a matter of last resort.⁶² Additionally, in many Member States the prison system substitutes for a true welfare process, creating a reality in which governments often detain children, such as street children, who have not committed a crime but instead require welfare assistance.⁶³

According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), between 500 million and 1.5 billion children are estimated to experience violence annually.⁶⁴ This alarming number, which represents between 25 and 70 percent of children worldwide, sheds light on a global trend that needs to be disrupted if we are to strengthen the global criminal justice system. Facts suggest that the majority of violence against children and young people is often committed by people known to the child.⁶⁵ This undermines a child's sense of safety and security during childhood development. In terms of broader criminal justice, Member States are hesitant to rigorously police occurrences of violence against children in families and communities due to the nominal costs of investigation and prosecution.⁶⁶

In order to address the issue of violence against children and its impact on the integrity of the global criminal justice system, Member States should consider steps that will allow governments to limit the detention of children and eliminating detention as a "first resort." Detention should be seen as a last resort, for the shortest possible time and when there is no alternative way to rehabilitate the child. The UN recommends the adoption of comprehensive approaches at restorative justice.⁶⁷ If communities and institutions can work together to minimize the damaging effects of crime, then crime committed both by and against youths can be greatly reduced.⁶⁸

Terrorism and the Establishment of a Global Criminal Justice System

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by the General Assembly in September 2006, is the guiding document for international legal frameworks on terrorism.⁶⁹ The document attempts to establish a basis for combating terrorism and prosecuting terrorists, while maintaining a commitment to human rights and the rule of law.⁷⁰ To further strengthen the legal international response to International Terrorism, more emphasis should be placed on the recent establishment of the common international legal framework of 16 conventions and protocols on the prevention and suppression of terrorism.⁷¹

⁶⁰ UN General Assembly. 64th Session, Item 71, Paragraph 63-64. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/437/92/PDF/N0943792.pdf?OpenElement>

⁶¹ Ibid

⁶² Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Secretariat Working Paper. http://www.unodc.org/documents/crime-congress/12th-Crime-Congress/Documents/A_CONF.213_4/V1051035e.pdf

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Ibid

⁶⁵ Ibid.

⁶⁶ Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Secretariat Working Paper.

http://www.unodc.org/documents/crime-congress/12th-Crime-Congress/Documents/A_CONF.213_4/V1051035e.pdf

⁶⁷ Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Main text April 2010. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/V10/529/03/PDF/V1052903.pdf?OpenElement>

⁶⁸ Ibid

⁶⁹ United Nations Information Centre. Background Notes.

http://www.un.org.in/Hindi_12thUNCongressOnCrimePreventionAndCriminalJustice.pdf

⁷⁰ Ibid

⁷¹ United Nations. *International Instruments Related to the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism*. http://www.unodc.org/documents/terrorism/Publications/Int_Instruments_Prevention_and_Suppression_Int_Terrorism/Publication_-_English_-_08-25503_text.pdf

Between 1963 and 1999, the international community agreed upon the first 12 international legal instruments related to terrorism, but these 12 legal instruments were largely created in response to specific terrorist incidents – aircraft hijacking and acts of hostage taking.⁷² Until 2001, limited progress had been made in the ratification and implementation of the 12 legal instruments. This changed drastically after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, when the Security Council adopted Resolution 1373, which called on Member States to become parties to these conventions and protocols.⁷³

The international legal framework for combating terrorism has further evolved since the Eleventh Crime Congress. The International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism was adopted in 2005 and entered into force on July 7, 2007, which aims to strengthen international cooperation in the investigation, prosecution, and extradition of those who commit terrorist acts involving radioactive materials or a nuclear device.⁷⁴ As of June 1st 2010, 58 Member States have become parties to the Convention.⁷⁵

Universal ratification of the 16 existing legal instruments has not yet been achieved despite significant progress. However, it is not just a question of signing and ratifying conventions, as it has been noted that “Members States need adequately functioning national counter-terrorism legal regimes, as well as the capacity to implement them, if the instruments are to be effective.”⁷⁶ Since the start of its “Global Project on Strengthening the International Legal Regime against Terrorism” in January 2003, 168 Member States have benefited from the specialized legal technical assistance services offered by UNODC’s Terrorism Prevention Branch.⁷⁷ Its work has contributed to some 515 new ratifications of the 16 international legal instruments undertaken by assisted Member States, and has enabled 67 Member States to draft new or amended counter-terrorism legislation.⁷⁸ Furthermore, The UN General Assembly Third Resolution A/C.3/62/L.12 goes on to show that with proper anti-terrorism consensus, Member States can come together and draft resolutions that strengthen the UN Crime Prevention Criminal Justice Programme by focusing on regional technical cooperation capacity.⁷⁹

Still, more work must be done to reach universal ratification and full implementation of the international legal instruments. As of June 1, 2011, only three of the 192 UN Member States have become parties to all 16 international legal instruments and only 120 are parties to 12 or more of the legal instruments.⁸⁰ Moreover, ratification alone is not enough. Increased attention also needs to be given to providing assistance to strengthen the capacity of national criminal justice systems to apply the provisions of the legal regime against terrorism in full conformity with the rule of law and human rights.

International cooperation continues to be crucial as often the suspect, victim, evidence, witnesses, expertise or the proceeds of crime are outside the jurisdiction of a single Member State. Criminal justice practitioners need to be able to deal with terrorist crimes, as well as those linked to terrorism such as trafficking and smuggling drugs and firearms, money laundering, corruption, cybercrime and identity-related crime, through the use of internationally established organizations, such as INTERPOL.⁸¹

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ United Nations Security Council. Press Release SC/7158. 9/28/2001. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2001/sc7158.doc.html>

⁷⁴ United Nations Treaties. *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism*. <http://treaties.un.org/doc/db/Terrorism/english-18-15.pdf>

⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁶ United Nations. *UN Action to Counter Terrorism*. <http://www.un.org/terrorism/strategy-counter-terrorism.shtml>

⁷⁷ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. *United Nations Counter-Terrorism Conventions*. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/conventions.html>

⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ General Assembly Resolution A/C.3/62/L.12. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/N07/538/93/PDF/N0753893.pdf?OpenElement>

⁸⁰ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. *United Nations Counter-Terrorism Conventions*. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/conventions.html>

⁸¹ United Nations. *UN Action to Counter Terrorism*. <http://www.un.org/terrorism/strategy-counter-terrorism.shtml>

Pursuant to the GA Resolutions A/63/99, A/C.3/62/L.13/Rev.1, A/C.3/62/L.12, and A/C.3/62/L.2, the GA Third has undertaken many international measures to combat the spread of crime and terrorism, but it still lacks sufficient technical assistance programs and protocols to effectively combat their diffusion.⁸²⁸²⁸³⁸⁴⁸⁵ Moving forward, the GA Third must consider ways to build inter-State cooperation and international conventions to strengthen existing UN Technical Assistance programs that aim to reinforce the global criminal justice system.⁸⁶

The aim of the UN General Assembly Third is not to “combat” terrorism, as it is not within the mandate of this Assembly, but rather to focus on the criminal implications related to terrorist activities. As shown by UN Resolutions A/RES/65/221, entitled Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms While Countering Terrorism and A/RES/60/288, entitled The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the imprint of the GA Third on UN resolutions addressing terrorism has remained within the scope of its mandate by focusing on the relevant humanitarian and social implications.⁸⁷⁸⁸ With increased international awareness, terrorism should not serve as a central pillar of argument, but rather as a supporting example to any resolutions that will strengthen the current UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme.

Conclusion

To strengthen the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice system, the GA Third must take a global approach to security while acknowledging that the costs of inaction coupled with a growing crime and ineffective criminal justice system can lead to divergence of funds from much needed social programs, including global access to education, water, and other basic human needs. A safe and just society is a prerequisite for development. With the impact of crime felt mostly by poor and marginalized communities, crime prevention should be part of the rule of law system of every Member State. It is not feasible, ethical or prudent to respond to crime with deterrent or judicial measures alone. Effective crime prevention is critical to ensuring sustainable development, as reducing crime and insecurity improves the conditions for business and employment and permits channeling resources into socio-economic progress instead of crime control –the core mission of the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee.

Committee Directive

Specific examples of an ineffective criminal justice system such as the ones above – children and terrorism – should not only be used as research aids, but also as practical guidelines to how the current UN system tackles global criminal issues, and whether or not they are effective. Also, throughout the research process, delegates are encouraged to consider the following questions: Should the UN have an overarching criminal justice response that deals with every type of crime, or should agencies such as the UNODC tailor their focus on specific issues such as youth crime or terrorist prevention? Should the UN’s criminal justice branches be regionally based so that they have a better idea of the needs of the region when dealing with specific types of crime – regardless of the type of crime? How can a legal framework be implemented on a regional and global scale?

⁸² General Assembly Resolution A/63/99.

http://www.ion.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/policy_and_research/un/63/A_63_99.pdf

⁸³ General Assembly Resolution A/C.3/62/L.13/Rev.1. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/N07/569/38/PDF/N0756938.pdf?OpenElement>

⁸⁴ General Assembly Resolution A/C.3/62/L.12. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/N07/538/93/PDF/N0753893.pdf?OpenElement>

⁸⁵ Ibid.

⁸⁶ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. *United Nations Counter-Terrorism Conventions*. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/conventions.html>

⁸⁷ General Assembly Resolution A/RES/65/221. http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/65/221

⁸⁸ General Assembly Resolution A/RES/60/288. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/504/88/PDF/N0550488.pdf?OpenElement>

Topic II. Rehabilitation of Multilateral Funding: Responding to the Economic Instability of the Global Economy

“As Secretary General of the United Nations, I write to you today with a strong concern that unless urgent and decisive action is taken to buffer the blows of the global downturn on the most vulnerable, the economic crisis may soon be compounded by an equally severe crisis of global instability”

- Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon⁸⁹

Introduction

By 2009, the shocks of the economic crisis of the first decade of the millennia were being felt around the globe. What began as the collapse of the U.S. housing market has progressed into a recession that has thrown the world economy into chaos. The effects of the global economic crisis have now spread well beyond the borders of high-income economies, and they are quickly becoming a major obstruction to development in the most vulnerable parts of the world. As bank bailouts, job loss, and foreclosures become routine among developed Member States cuts in foreign aid and charitable contributions become similarly routine for developing Member States which rely on them.⁹⁰ In order to address this problem, the GA Third has been encouraged to take an active role in garnering support for the protection of social needs during periods of unemployment and reductions in donor financing.⁹¹

While the financial crisis is certainly a fiscal problem, the consequences run deep for social indicators. At the sixty-fourth meeting of the General Assembly, Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, spoke to the General Assembly Third Committee (the GA Third), warning of “unparalleled negative consequences to human development” that could be caused by the financial crisis.⁹² Developing Member States must now deal with losses created in the developed world. For example, efforts to propel the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are being thwarted by decreases in government spending in health and social protection due to losses in revenues from aid, taxes, and lending.⁹³ The consequences are dire: in 2009, The World Bank’s chief economist for Africa predicted that 700,000 children would likely die as a result of the financial crisis and the ensuing recession.⁹⁴

In 2009, over two trillion dollars was spent to boost the economies of developed Member States after the crash, but developing Member States received just one twentieth, or US \$12 billion, of the additional development financing needed to compensate for the losses resulting from the crisis.⁹⁵ A 2008 report by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), discusses the potential consequences of this shortfall: “The debate in rich countries about the impact of the global financial crisis has largely ignored its impact on

⁸⁹ Ban Ki-moon. Pre-summit letter to G20 leaders. March 20, 2009 <http://media.ft.com/cms/1f749b5e-194c-11de-9d34-0000779fd2ac.pdf>

⁹⁰ “Global Health Perspectives Series: How will the global economic crisis impact the health of the world’s poor?” USAID. April 2009

⁹¹ Ibid

⁹² GA/SHC/395. “World Economic Crisis Could Have ‘Unparalleled Negative Consequences’ On Human Development’ Third Committee Told, As Debate Begins for Current Session.” United Nations. October 5, 2009. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2009/gashc3945.doc.htm>

⁹³ “Where does it hurt?” ActionAid. March 2009. http://www.actionaid.org.uk/doc_lib/where_does_it_hurt_final.pdf

⁹⁴ “A sub-prime crisis in the US and infant deaths in Africa”. The World Bank. <http://blogs.worldbank.org/african/a-sub-prime-crisis-in-the-us-and-infant-deaths-in-africa>

⁹⁵ “G20: additional emergency funding required to mitigate crisis impacts on poor countries”. European Network on Debt & Development (EURODAD). April 2009. http://www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/News/Eurodad_G20_Rescue_Package_Low_Income_Countries_FINAL.pdf

developing countries but it is vital that policymakers... understand how this crisis may impact developing countries and the implications for development policy.”⁹⁶ The report predicted that the economic crisis would specifically affect developing Member States through seven main distinct, yet intertwined pathways: Exports, Foreign Investment, Exchange Rate, Higher Interest Rates, Remittances, Declining Aid, and Lower Growth.⁹⁷

Many international and regional bodies including the World Bank, the G20, the African Development Bank, and UN organs, have undertaken initiatives to combat the disastrous effects of the global economic crisis on developing Member States.⁹⁸ Since 2009, efforts have been geared towards analyzing current economic and development growth prospects while ensuring a smooth transition from economic crisis to recovery.⁹⁹ But to overcome the immediate impacts of the crisis on the most vulnerable, much must be done between Member States to rehabilitate multilateral funding.¹⁰⁰

History

Often referred to by economists as the worst financial crisis since the 1930s, the current recession was triggered by a liquidity shortfall in the United States banking system that resulted in the collapse of large financial institutions, bank bailouts, downturned stock markets and problems within the sub-prime mortgage market.¹⁰¹ The effects of the crisis are comparable to a natural disaster, as earthquakes and storms are both sufficient metaphors for the scale and destructive power of the financial forces that have altered the economies of Member States around the world. However, the financial crisis is the product of decisions made by companies and governments.¹⁰²

According Neil McCulloch of the IDS, there are three main factors that contributed to making the financial system susceptible to crisis.¹⁰³ First, the accumulation of surplus reserves in Member States such as China and the Middle East Region, mirrored by fiscal and current account deficits in the United States, allowed for excessive saving to fund excessive consumption.¹⁰⁴ Second, expansionary monetary policies in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), an international economic organization comprised of 34 countries, gave rise to low interest rates that helped to create and burst the housing market bubble.¹⁰⁵ And third, major financial institutions became dangerously exposed by financial innovation in developing Member States, such as securitized mortgages and poorly regulated derivative instruments.¹⁰⁶

For many developing Member States, the seven-year period prior to the crisis was one marked by rapid growth, rising commodity prices, and, most importantly, reduced poverty.¹⁰⁷ However, those that were tied

⁹⁶ Neil McCulloch, IDS Fellow. “Voices of the South: The Impact of the Financial Crisis on Developing Countries.” Institute of Development Studies. November 2008.

http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/MCFC_19_EN_Voices%20from%20the%20South%20-%20The%20Impact%20of%20the%20Financial%20Crisis%20on%20Develoing%20Countries.pdf

⁹⁷ Ibid

⁹⁸ “Financial Crisis: What the World Bank is doing”. World Bank. <http://www.worldbank.org/financialcrisis/>

⁹⁹ “New bank report assesses the likely impact of the recent global crisis on medium-term growth prospects of 10 diverse developing countries.” The World Bank. <http://go.worldbank.org/UZQL861X50>

¹⁰⁰ Ibid

¹⁰¹ “Three top economists agree 2009 worst financial crisis since great depression; risks increase if right steps are not taken. February 2009. Reuters. Business Wire News Database.

¹⁰² “Where does it hurt?” ActionAid. March 2009. http://www.actionaid.org.uk/doc_lib/where_does_it_hurt_final.pdf

¹⁰³ Neil McCulloch, IDS Fellow. “Voices of the South: The Impact of the Financial Crisis on Developing Countries.” Institute of Development Studies. November 2008.

http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/MCFC_19_EN_Voices%20from%20the%20South%20-%20The%20Impact%20of%20the%20Financial%20Crisis%20on%20Develoing%20Countries.pdf

¹⁰⁴ Ibid

¹⁰⁵ Ibid

¹⁰⁶ Ibid

¹⁰⁷ Ibid

to the financial institutions of the developed Member States through Multi-National Corporations (MNCs), liberalized trade barriers, or global financing institutions found themselves susceptible to the costs of reduced financial flows and decreasing foreign aid.¹⁰⁸

Foreign aid can be divided into both bilateral and multilateral components, where bilateral assistance is administered directly by agencies of donor governments, such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).¹⁰⁹ Conversely, multilateral funding is administered by “international financial institutions organized to provide financial and technical assistance to foster economic development in less developed countries [and] financed by member contributions and borrowings in the world financial market.”¹¹⁰ Out of all foreign aid, roughly one-third is multilateral.¹¹¹ Multilateral funding institutions may be global, like the World Bank, regional, like the Latin American Development Bank and Asian Development Bank, or specialized like the Caribbean Development Bank or the East African Development Bank.¹¹²

Frequently, aid that makes up multilateral funding is measured by Official Development Assistance (ODA); official financing and assistance given by government sources to developing Member States and multilateral institutions to promote development.¹¹³ Foreign aid is typically associated with ODA and is usually targeted to the poorest Member States.¹¹⁴ Although foreign aid rose steadily during the 1970s and 1980s, ODA peaked at \$69 billion in 1991.¹¹⁵ Three main events have been identified to have lowered the absolute and relative importance of foreign aid in the 1990s, due to the decline of the strategic importance of aid: fiscal problems within OECD member States, the end of the Cold War, and the dramatic growth in private capital flows to developing Member States.¹¹⁶ In recent years, decreases in foreign aid are common where OECD Member States are struggling to control fiscal deficit and contain spending growth.¹¹⁷ However, even prior to the financial crisis, between 1991 and 1997, all major OECD donors reduced aid expenditures relative to their GNP.¹¹⁸

Current Situation

For developed Member States and their institutions, the blows of the financial crisis have been felt through stagflation, unemployment and low growth. The World Bank has estimated that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in these countries contracted by approximately 3.3% in 2009, and is only estimated to grow at a pace between 2.1% to 2.3%.¹¹⁹ Global GDP, however, is expected to expand between 2.9% and 3.3% in 2010 and 2011, as a result of an estimated growth rate of between 5.7% and 6.2% for developing countries.¹²⁰ This estimate, while hopeful, is not enough to compensate for the sharp loss of growth, which caused initial losses in international aid to developing Member States. Moreover, while the effects of many past economic crises to developing Member States could be offset by international aid, this crisis is different because it began in the developed world, where the international aid would typically originate.¹²¹ In fact,

¹⁰⁸ “Where does it hurt?” ActionAid. March 2009. http://www.actionaid.org.uk/doc_lib/where_does_it_hurt_final.pdf

¹⁰⁹ “Assessing Aid: What Works, What Doesn’t and Why”. The World Bank. 1998. Pg 6.

¹¹⁰ Thomas P. Fitch. Multi-lateral Funding. Dictionary of Banking Terms, 5th edition. Barron's Educational Series, Inc.

¹¹¹ “Assessing Aid: What Works, What Doesn’t and Why”. The World Bank. 1998. Pg 6.

¹¹² Thomas P. Fitch. Multi-lateral Funding. Dictionary of Banking Terms, 5th edition. Barron's Educational Series, Inc.

¹¹³ OECD, The DAC in Dates, 2006.

¹¹⁴ “Assessing Aid: What Works, What Doesn’t and Why”. The World Bank. 1998. Pg 6.

¹¹⁵ Ibid “Assessing Aid”.

¹¹⁶ Ibid “Assessing Aid”.

¹¹⁷ Ibid “Assessing Aid”.

¹¹⁸ Ibid “Assessing Aid”.

¹¹⁹ “Financial Crisis: What the World Bank is Doing”. The World Bank. 2010.

<http://www.worldbank.org/financialcrisis/bankinitiatives.htm>

¹²⁰ Ibid

¹²¹ Hai-Anh Dang, Steve Knack, Halsey Rogers. International aid and financial crises in donor countries. Policy Research Working Paper. The World Bank. 2009.

http://econ.worldbank.org/external/default/main?pagePK=64165259&theSitePK=469372&piPK=64165421&menuPK=64166093&entityID=000158349_20091229212514

because donor state incomes have fallen and the banking and financial sector face eminent reforms, these states are even less inclined to increase aid due to the heavy fiscal cost.¹²²

Econometric calculations by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) confirm a correlation between banking crises and shrinking ODA, such that ODA can shrink by up to 30 points by the fifth year of a crisis.¹²³ Additionally, since donors often set their aid targets as a percentage of their GDP, drops in GDP automatically equate to reductions in aid.¹²⁴ Estimations by the World Bank predict that developing Member States face a financing gap of \$270-\$700 billion per year as a result of the economic crisis.¹²⁵ For Member States that rely heavily on foreign aid for domestic spending, this could result in an incapacity to take advantage of reviving opportunities even once developed Member States have recovered from the crisis.¹²⁶ Moreover, if this projection proves to be true in the years following the recession of 2009, the financial crisis will likely dampen prospects for achieving the MDGs by 2015.¹²⁷ The slowdown in growth as a result of the crisis will inevitably deepen the degree of poverty for the impoverished communities, who are the most vulnerable to temporary slowdowns.¹²⁸ Developing Member States will face the challenge of pursuing policies that protect essential expenditures while operating with fewer resources, including social safety nets, human development, and critical infrastructure.¹²⁹ Ensuring that aid flows are sustainable is essential to helping developing Member States cope in the aftermath of the crisis.¹³⁰

Significant attention has been drawn to the effects that the financial crisis has had, and will have, on the achievement of the MDGs. In his pre-summit letter to G20 leaders in March 2009, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged G20 states to meet existing commitments of increased aid in order to ensure that progress toward achieving the MDGs did not stall during or after the crisis, stressing that “social recovery often takes longer than economic recovery.”¹³¹ Globally, progress towards achieving MDGs has varied by target. Progress has been stronger in terms of poverty reduction, access to education, and access to improved water sources, whereas advancements in other areas, such as in achieving food security and universal primary education, have been more challenging.¹³²

Data from 2010 show that just over one-half of Member States have made some progress on reducing undernourishment, but for most Member States reductions have been small and disparities have been great.¹³³ In Africa, progress is stalled; in 2004, the average percentage of people undernourished in Sub-Saharan Africa was 28%, down only slightly from 31% in 1990.¹³⁴ Another challenge is reducing child mortality. Progress in mortality rates for children under five years of age have been relatively slow, with many Member States unlikely to meet the MDG target of reducing this number by two-thirds before 2015.¹³⁵ Additionally, while progress has been made on increasing access to education, the MDG target of

¹²² Ibid

¹²³ “Financial crisis will put a damper on ODA flows.” Third World Network (TWN). 25 March 2009.

<http://www.twinside.org.sg/title2/finance/2009/twninfofinance20090304.htm>

¹²⁴ Ibid

¹²⁵ “Swimming Against the Tide: How Developing Countries are Coping with the Crisis”. World Bank. 2009.

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/NEWS/Resources/swimmingagainstthetide-march2009.pdf>

¹²⁶ Keeping ODA Afloat: No Stone Unturned. UNCTAD. 2009. http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/presspb20092_en.pdf

¹²⁷ “Financial crisis will put a damper on ODA flows.” Third World Network (TWN). 25 March 2009.

<http://www.twinside.org.sg/title2/finance/2009/twninfofinance20090304.htm>

¹²⁸ “Swimming Against the Tide: How Developing Countries Are Coping with the Global Crisis”. Background Paper. World Bank. 2009. Pg 1.

¹²⁹ Ibid

¹³⁰ “Keeping ODA Afloat: No Stone Unturned.” UNCTAD. 2009. http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/presspb20092_en.pdf

¹³¹ Ban Ki-moon. Pre-summit letter to G20 leaders. March 20, 2009 <http://media.ft.com/cms/1f749b5e-194c-11de-9d34-0000779fd2ac.pdf>

¹³² “Millennium Development Goals Report Card: Measuring Progress Across Countries”. Overseas Development Institute. September 2010. <http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/5027.pdf>

¹³³ Ibid

¹³⁴ Ibid

¹³⁵ Ibid

universal primary education completion is unlikely to be reached.¹³⁶ Progress in reducing gender equality in terms of health has also been slow, with only 32% of Member States having achieved gender parity by recent data, compared to 27% initially.¹³⁷

More alarmingly, the World Bank estimates that an additional 53 million people in developing Member States will fall into poverty as a result of the economic crisis, and the number of people living on less than 2 USD per day is expected to increase to 1.5 billion globally.¹³⁸ According to UNESCO estimates, the percentage of workers earning less than 2 USD per day in Africa increased from 82.2% in 2007 to 86.6% in 2009.¹³⁹ Cumulatively, these numbers represent 27 million people who became poor in 2009 as a result of the crisis.¹⁴⁰ For Member States in Africa, this is largely due to the amplification of the Food Crisis.¹⁴¹ For food importing Member States, the crisis has weakened current account and fiscal balances and has accelerated the depreciation of currencies.¹⁴² Member States relying heavily on food imports, such as Lesotho at 67%, Gambia at 82%, and 32% for Mauritania, have suffered drastically, as attempts by governments to cushion the food crisis have been costly.¹⁴³ In Kenya, the decline in remittances in conjunction with crop failures has generated hundreds of thousands of additional people without steady access to food.¹⁴⁴ Food insecurity is also amplified by a decline in food aid. In 2009, out of the 12.3 billion USD that was pledged by donors in 2008, only 1 billion USD of food aid was disbursed.¹⁴⁵

Developing member states that have been negatively impacted by the economic crisis have found it increasingly difficult to cushion the effects on their populations without the assistance of outside aid.¹⁴⁶ However, some success stories have emerged where multilateral funding is used to supplement existing government resources.¹⁴⁷ In one specific case study, the central government of India acted in response to deteriorating growth by allowing the India Infrastructure Finance Company (IIFCL) to raise 400 billion Rs. to assist in financing projects that would target infrastructure development.¹⁴⁸ Implemented as private-public partnerships before the financial crisis took effect, the infrastructure projects were at risk of being delayed or cancelled as the financial crisis took shape.¹⁴⁹ However, the additional resources made available through multilateral funding coordinated by the IIFCL helped to refinance loans and get the projects back on track.¹⁵⁰ These initiatives will help address infrastructure bottlenecks that pose challenges for India's long-term growth, as well as help to mitigate poverty through access to water, sanitation, roads, and electricity.¹⁵¹

There is widespread acknowledgement that most developing Member States have a very limited fiscal space to react to the crisis, and thus need external support when it comes to social development.¹⁵² Poverty reduction at the global level was in reach until the impact of the crisis made it unlikely that many of the

¹³⁶ Ibid

¹³⁷ Ibid

¹³⁸ "The MDGs after the Crisis." Global Monitoring Report. The World Bank. 2010.

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGLOMONREP2010/Resources/6911301-1271698910928/GMR2010WEB.pdf>

¹³⁹ "Africa and the Global Economic Crisis: Preserving the Foundations for Growth". African Development Bank Group. Working Paper No. 98. July 2009, Pgs 7-10.

<http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/WORKING%2098.pdf>

¹⁴⁰ Ibid

¹⁴¹ Ibid

¹⁴² Ibid

¹⁴³ Ibid

¹⁴⁴ Ibid

¹⁴⁵ Ibid

¹⁴⁶ "Swimming Against the Tide: How Developing Countries are Coping with the Crisis". World Bank. 2009. Pg 12.

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/NEWS/Resources/swimmingagainsthethide-march2009.pdf>

¹⁴⁷ Ibid

¹⁴⁸ Ibid

¹⁴⁹ Ibid

¹⁵⁰ Ibid

¹⁵¹ Ibid

¹⁵² "G20: additional emergency funding required to mitigate crisis impacts on poor countries". European Network on Debt & Development (EURODAD). April 2009.

human development MDGs, including child mortality and primary school completion, will be met by 2015.¹⁵³ While the magnitude of the setback is difficult to assess, evidence suggests that growth collapses are costly for human development, which deteriorates more quickly during decelerations than they improve during growth accelerations.¹⁵⁴ Attention must therefore be directed to protecting the poor through targeted social spending and to maintaining and expanding infrastructure assets.¹⁵⁵ Developing Member States must receive the ODA necessary to pursue counter-cyclical policies, counteract wage reductions, and continue to make efforts towards eradicating severe poverty.¹⁵⁶

Actions Taken by the United Nations

A number of actors including the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, the G20, and regional bodies like the African Development Bank, have taken steps to address the global financial crisis and its consequences, particularly the consequences for developing Member States. In October 2008, the Chief Executive Board of the United Nations, composed of executive heads of United Nations specialized agencies, funds, and programs, and the World Bank and IMF, met to assess the crisis for the first time and address its risk for the impoverished communities within developing Member States.¹⁵⁷ At this meeting, the UN implored Member States to safeguard the norms and human values that define the multilateral system to ensure that help was guaranteed to those requiring it most.¹⁵⁸ The UN also called upon Member States to strengthen commitments for development and humanitarian assistance, drawing attention to the importance of ODA for developing Member States.¹⁵⁹ Additionally, the topic of mitigating the crisis's effect on social indicators has been brought up in several UN committees, notably in the General Assembly Plenary Third Committee.¹⁶⁰

At the sixty-fifth meeting of the General Assembly in October of 2010, the GA Third discussed the residual effects of the global financial, food, and fuel crises as part of its debate on social development, noting how the aftershocks have impeded progress towards achieving the MDGs.¹⁶¹ A youth representative from Tunisia present at the meeting remarked on the interrelated challenges of the global financial crisis and social development, and highlighted the need to focus further on education initiatives by stating that youth were one of the most vulnerable groups to the global imbalances posed by aftershocks.¹⁶² A representative from Malaysia expressed the need for greater coherence between work undertaken in social development, and the work related to overall economic and sustainable development, remarking that progress remains hostage to international instability.¹⁶³ Additionally, a representative from Ethiopia conveyed his regret that despite global progress of recent years in reducing extreme poverty, the number of people living in poverty in sub-Saharan Africa has been increasing.¹⁶⁴ The GA Third has published a number of resolutions on the topic of social development pertinent to this issue, including A/RES/65/219: The Right to Development,

¹⁵³ "Swimming Against the Tide: How Developing Countries Are Coping with the Global Crisis". Background Paper. World Bank. 2009. Pg 10.

¹⁵⁴ Ibid

¹⁵⁵ Ibid

¹⁵⁶ "G20: additional emergency funding required to mitigate crisis impacts on poor countries". European Network on Debt & Development (EURODAD). April 2009.

¹⁵⁷ Response of United Nations Chief Executive Board to Global Financial Crisis. UN Department of Public Information, News and Media Division. New York. 24 October 2008.

¹⁵⁸ <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2008/sg2144.doc.htm>

¹⁵⁹ Ibid

¹⁶⁰ Ibid

¹⁶¹ GA/SHC/395. "World Economic Crisis Could Have 'Unparalleled Negative Consequences' On Human Development' Third Committee Told, As Debate Begins for Current Session." United Nations. October 5, 2009.

¹⁶² <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2009/gashc3945.doc.htm>

¹⁶³ GA/SHC/3974. "Residual Effects of Global Crisis- Financial, Food, Fuel- Impeding Progress Towards Achieving Millennium Development Goals, Third Committee Told". United Nations. October 5, 2010.

¹⁶⁴ <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2010/gashc3974.doc.htm>

¹⁶⁵ Ibid

¹⁶⁶ Ibid

¹⁶⁷ Ibid

which emphasizes the need for an “international environment that is conducive to the realization of the right to development” and calls for the increased establishment of global partnerships aimed at mitigating the effects of the “ongoing energy, food, and financial crises”.¹⁶⁵ Additionally, A/RES/65/220: The Right to Food, addresses the current state of food insecurity among the poor and urges states to give adequate priority to food security in their development strategies, highlighting advancements reached in programs such as the South-South cooperation.¹⁶⁶ Moreover, A/RES/65/214: Human Rights and Extreme Poverty, reaffirms that “extreme poverty and exclusion from society constitute a violation of human dignity”, and encourages states to focus on establishing social protection floors to consolidate development gains, as well as to ensure gender mainstreaming when designing and implementing social programs.¹⁶⁷ The GA Third has also passed A/RES/65/184, which calls for a plenary meeting of the General Assembly devoted to launch the International Year of Cooperatives, to be held in its 65th session.¹⁶⁸

The World Bank has also played a significant role in mitigating affects of the crisis and advocating for assistance to developing Member States.¹⁶⁹ Since the start of the crisis, the World Bank has committed \$138 billion to its members, disbursing \$81 billion so far, with just \$21 billion disbursed to 79 of the world’s poorest countries and a remaining \$60 billion to its higher income members.¹⁷⁰ Assistance from the World Bank has focused primarily on investing in the maintenance of long-term infrastructure, sustaining private sector growth, and job creation. The Bank has also advocated for maintaining growth in human development and achieving the MDGs, with investments that target schools, health clinics, and micro-finance loans for women and small businesses.¹⁷¹

Another international organization, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has been working on several fronts to help Member States deal with the crisis.¹⁷² In addition to tracking and analyzing economic developments worldwide, the IMF has sought to provide policy advice to Member States and regions coping with reduced financial flows, as well as loans to assist emerging markets.¹⁷³ Additionally, the IMF is assisting developed Member States and the G20 with recommendations for the reform of international regulation and governance to help prevent the occurrence of similar crises in the future.¹⁷⁴ The IMF is also developing a framework to assist Member States in managing capital inflows, which will help them deal with surges in capital that can pose challenges such as currency appreciation and sector fragility.¹⁷⁵ This framework is expected to help prevent vulnerability to risk as economies recover from the crisis and will also strengthen the IMF’s ability to evaluate the economies of developed Member States, where the crisis began.¹⁷⁶

Additionally, regional commissions are addressing the challenges posed by the financial crisis through individual and joint actions to support their governments.¹⁷⁷ The UN has established five Regional Commissions stationed around the world to foster economic integration, implement development goals at

¹⁶⁵ A/RES/65/219: The Right to Development. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N10/525/68/PDF/N1052568.pdf?OpenElement>

¹⁶⁶ A/RES/65/220: The Right to Food. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N10/525/74/PDF/N1052574.pdf?OpenElement>

¹⁶⁷ A/RES/65/214: Human Rights and Extreme Poverty. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N10/525/38/PDF/N1052538.pdf?OpenElement>

¹⁶⁸ A/RES/65/185: Cooperatives in Social Development. <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N10/523/58/PDF/N1052358.pdf?OpenElement>

¹⁶⁹ “Financial Crisis: What the World Bank is Doing”. The World Bank. 2010. <http://www.worldbank.org/financialcrisis/bankinitiatives.htm>

¹⁷⁰ Ibid

¹⁷¹ Ibid

¹⁷² “Key Issues: Financial Crisis”. International Monetary Fund. <http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/key/finstab.htm>

¹⁷³ Ibid

¹⁷⁴ Ibid

¹⁷⁵ “IMF Develops Framework to Manage Capital Inflows”. International Monetary Fund. April 5, 2011. <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/survey/so/2011/NEW040511B.htm>

¹⁷⁶ Ibid

¹⁷⁷ “The Global Financial Crisis: Impact and Response of Regional Commissions”. United Nations. Pg 2. <http://www.un.org/regionalcommissions/crisis/global.pdf>

the regional level, and support sustainable regional development.¹⁷⁸ To complement actions taken within their individual regions, the commissions have undertaken joint approaches in two key areas: promoting political consensus on reforming the global financial architecture, and emphasizing the need to maintain resources for financing development though increased budgetary pressure for developed Member State governments.¹⁷⁹

In addition to these UN Regional Commissions, many regional bodies have taken up initiatives to map out a strategy for sustainable recovery, including the African Development Bank (AfDB).¹⁸⁰ As part of a report on the impact of the crisis on African economies, a committee of African Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors laid out the efforts undertaken by African Governments to minimize the impact of the crisis.¹⁸¹ These include: establishing special monitoring units, providing fiscal stimulus packages, revising budgets, targeting assistance to key sectors, strengthening banking sector regulation, implementing expansionary monetary policies, and controls to protect exchange rates.¹⁸² The main concern among African governments is the disproportionate toll that the crisis will take on the poorest African people, any progress made on meeting the MDGs prior to the crisis will likely to be undermined by factors outside of their economic control.¹⁸³

Conclusion

Although the most acute phase of the global financial crisis has passed, there still exists a rocky road to recovery for developed Member States.¹⁸⁴ It is now widely accepted that the crisis will have severe consequences for developing Member States, but it remains to be seen how drastic and for how long the affects will take their toll. Developing Member States are expected to account for almost one-half of the global growth of the next few years, but they still face enormous challenges in recovering from the crisis and propelling development further.¹⁸⁵

Effective mitigation of the damage wrought by the crisis can be tackled only through coordinated global responses that involve not just developed but also developing economies.¹⁸⁶ Policy responses to the crisis must take into account that individual Member States will be effected differently by the six main pathways of impact as identified by the IDS: Exports, Foreign Investment, Exchange Rate, Higher Interest Rates, Remittances, Declining Aid, and Lower Growth.¹⁸⁷ For successful mitigation, Member States must pursue policies that reflect the need for increased aid flows and enhanced social protections.¹⁸⁸ For developing

¹⁷⁸ "About the Regional Commissions". The UN Regional Commissions: Voicing regional perspectives on global issues. <http://www.un.org/regionalcommissions/about.html>

¹⁷⁹ "The Global Financial Crisis: Impact and Response of Regional Commissions". United Nations. Pg 2. <http://www.un.org/regionalcommissions/crisis/global.pdf>

¹⁸⁰ "Impact of the Crisis on African Economies- Sustaining Growth and Poverty Reduction". African Perspectives and Recommendations to the G20. African Development Bank. March 21, 2009.pg 1. <http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Generic-Documents/impact%20of%20the%20crisis%20and%20recommendations%20to%20the%20G20%20-%20March%2021.pdf>

¹⁸¹ Ibid

¹⁸² Ibid

¹⁸³ Ibid

¹⁸⁴ "Financial Crisis: What the World Bank is Doing". The World Bank. 2010. <http://www.worldbank.org/financialcrisis/bankinitiatives.htm>

¹⁸⁵ Ibid

¹⁸⁶ Financial crisis will put a damper on ODA flows. Third World Network (TWN). 25 March 2009. <http://www.twinside.org.sg/title2/finance/2009/twninfofinance20090304.htm>

¹⁸⁷ Neil McCulloch, IDS Fellow. "Voices of the South: The Impact of the Financial Crisis on Developing Countries." Institute of Development Studies. November 2008. http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/MCFC_19_EN_Voices%20from%20the%20South%20-%20The%20Impact%20of%20the%20Financial%20Crisis%20on%20Develoing%20Countries.pdf

¹⁸⁸ Ibid

Member States, foreign aid in the form of ODA and multilateral funding will provide the bulk of the financing needed to prevent their sliding into deep recession.¹⁸⁹

Committee Directive

Both developed and developing Member States are dealing with the fiscal strain of the financial crisis, but developing Member States are bearing the brunt of the consequences. Most relevant to the GA Third is the alarming correlation between reductions in ODA and the increase in of global poverty, as well as the affect of the crisis on social development and the achievement of MDGs. As developing Member States attempt to recover from the crisis, they face the challenge of recovery through increasingly limited resources. Member States must work together to identify a means of rehabilitating multilateral aid in order to preserve human development and progress towards the MDGs.

A significant challenge facing delegates to the GA Third will be to approach the issue of rehabilitating multilateral funding within the scope of the GA Third mandate, which is to address social, humanitarian, and human rights issues affecting people around the world.¹⁹⁰ Delegates should attune their research to understanding how reductions in multilateral funding correlate to setbacks in social development, and should focus on developing responses that mitigate reductions in aid and counteract those setbacks. Delegates should explore options that promote social development and emphasize poverty alleviation amid the effects of the global financial crisis.

Questions to include in your research while working towards a strategy to rehabilitate multilateral funding include: What will reductions in ODA mean for your Member State or region? For developed Member States, what will be the impact of the global crisis on your commitment to ODA in the future, and how will that affect those Member States that depend on multilateral aid for development and domestic spending? For developing Member States, how have you adjusted to the reduction in aid: what has worked and what hasn't? In what way has your Member State's region been involved in aid rehabilitation? What is your Member State's current status on achieving the MDGs, and how does ODA contribute? How can assistance be expanded to protect critical expenditures and prevent an erosion of progress in reducing poverty? Should the framework of multilateral funding be adjusted to better suit the needs of Member States during a crisis? How can strategies to further preserve human development efforts implemented by regional bodies, such as the AfDB, be utilized elsewhere? Should a new fund be established between Member States with the express purpose of rehabilitating aid and fostering progress towards human development, or should existing funds be better utilized? How can multilateral funding be restored and siphoned to help Member States meet the targets of the MDGs by 2015?

Topic III. Combating the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Increased Drug Trafficking and Black Market Trade

Today there is widespread recognition among Member States and United Nations entities that drugs, together with organized crime, jeopardize the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. In some countries and regions, the value of the illicit drug trade far exceeds the size of the legitimate economy.

-Yury Fedotov
UNODC Executive Director, 2011¹⁹¹

¹⁸⁹ Financial crisis will put a damper on ODA flows. Third World Network (TWN). 25 March 2009.

<http://www.twinside.org.sg/title2/finance/2009/twninfofinance20090304.htm>

¹⁹⁰ Social, Humanitarian & Cultural- Third Committee. General Assembly of the United Nations.

<http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/index.shtml>

¹⁹¹ "World Drug Report: 2011." *United Nations Office on Drugs and crime*. 2011.

http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/WDR2011/World_Drug_Report_2011_ebook.pdf

Introduction

In a time of great financial uncertainty, drug trafficking may be one of the world's most recession-proof industries. In fact, low unemployment rates and maximum profits have enabled the drug trade to become perhaps the healthiest market in the world. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has stated that the illicit drug trade moves approximately USD 300 billion globally, in comparison to the mere USD 40 billion that has been spent to fight it.¹⁹² Some economists suggest that the drug trade is even larger. Hugo Cabieses, an economic advisor to the Peruvian government, has argued that the drug trade generates USD 1 trillion per year, more than triple the UNODC estimate.¹⁹³ As a result, the drug trade attracts many individuals because of the economic benefits it offers: a job, income, and an ability to survive in the current fiscal climate.

The alarming statistics above reinforce the need for the international community to combat drug trafficking and the black market—a fight which has been ongoing for decades. Since its inception, the General Assembly Third Committee (GA Third) has been dedicated to improving the welfare of all people, and to reach this goal necessitates that the GA Third assess illicit drug trafficking and how we can end it. The GA Third has highlighted the need for global cooperation to end drug trafficking and has noted that the international community must also address the varied issues that contribute to trafficking such as examining supply and demand aspects, focusing on crime prevention and criminal justice for traffickers, and promoting international drug control.¹⁹⁴ And since the inception of the current fiscal crisis, the GA Third must also address the level to which the crisis has assisted in the increase in illicit trafficking.

Background

Often referring to the trade of illegal goods, the black market is a facet of the “Informal Sector” (IS), a concept that encompasses a range of labor market activities generally caused by job scarcity or a desire to evade government regulation.¹⁹⁵ Typically consisting of small-scale, unregulated economic activity, the IS is widely popular in most developing Member States where it is the primary source of employment for many living in poverty.¹⁹⁶ In fact, 50 to 80 percent of urban populations in developing Member States participate in the IS through informal housing (slums) or economic activity.¹⁹⁷ Within Africa, South and Southeast Asia, 60 to 80 percent of nonagricultural work is comprised of informal industries. In Latin America, 30 to 60 percent of agricultural work can be considered informal.¹⁹⁸ Thus, the IS accounts for a considerable portion of total economic output in many developing Member States. Moreover, since most IS work is associated with low skilled labor and often is seen as a survival strategy for those living in poverty. The global financial crisis has caused even more people to turn to the IS as unemployment and reductions in aid and social protection become widespread.¹⁹⁹

¹⁹² United Nations Secretary General. *Remarks to Security Council Meeting on Drug Trafficking as a Threat to International Peace & Security* United Nations Security Council. 8 December 2009

¹⁹³ *Afghanistan Opium Survey: Executive Survey*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. 2007. http://www.unodc.org/documents/crop-monitoring/AFG07_ExSum_web.pdf.

¹⁹⁴ GA/SHC/3528. *Illegal Drug Traffic An Urgent Global Problem, Say Third Committee Speaker*. 15 October 1999. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/1999/19991015.gashc3528.doc.html>.

¹⁹⁵ “Concept of Informal Sector.” *The World Bank Group*. <http://lnweb90.worldbank.org/eca/eca.nsf/Sectors/ECSPE/2E4EDE543787A0C085256A940073F4E4?OpenDocument>.

¹⁹⁶ Niels-Hugo Blunch, et al. “The Informal Sector Revisited: A Synthesis Across Space and Time.” *Social Protection Discussion Paper*. July 2001. http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSCContentServer/WDSP/IB/2002/01/17/000094946_01120804004891/Rendered/PDF/multi0page.pdf.

¹⁹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹⁹ Ibid.

An outgrowth of the IS, the black market is often referred to as an illegal, unreported, unrecorded, or informal economy.²⁰⁰ Illegal drug trade and trafficking is an integral component of the global black market, which encompasses the development, production, supply, and transaction of substances subject to drug prevention laws. Currently, the most heavily trafficked black market drugs include cannabis (marijuana), heroin, tobacco, ecstasy, cocaine, opium, methamphetamine, and temazepam.²⁰¹ As stated by the World Drug Report 2007:

Profits accrue to a wide range of actors, from poor rural farmers to affluent urban dealers. But, in many instances, the single most profitable sector of the market is the process of transporting the drugs internationally. The funds raised by trafficking groups can be used to underwrite other criminal activity and even political insurgency.²⁰²

Drug trading can be traced to the First Opium War of 1839, when the British Empire forced the trade of opium in China despite a Chinese ban, due to the commodity's high profitability. As a result of the illegal trade, an estimated two million Chinese people became addicted to the opium drug. Under the British Crown (via the treaties of Nanking and Tianjin) large amounts of money from the Chinese government were circumvented through this illegal trade which they referred to as reparations.²⁰³ Today, the perception persists that ancient China was a civilization defeated by imperial Britain's most desirable trade commodity, opium—a drug that turned the Chinese people into cadaverous addicts under the iron grip of dependence. The United Kingdom, in an effort to reverse the damage caused by the opium addiction, launched its own version of the "war on drugs," which lasted roughly sixty years, from 1880 to World War II and through the beginning of Chinese communism.²⁰⁴ The international community has been working to combat illicit drug trafficking and to limit the influence of black market trade for over a century, since the 1909 Shanghai International Opium Commission was convened to address the millions of people worldwide who had developed an addiction to the once hotly-traded commodity.²⁰⁵ The commission passed resolutions that urged those using opium to stop and measures that were intended to, "stop the smuggling of narcotics, including opium, especially by prohibiting their export to territories which did not legally admit them."²⁰⁶ Even though this commission was not legally binding, it did speed up the process and, "led to the conclusion of The Hague Opium Convention of 1912, establishing narcotics control as an institution of international law on a multilateral basis."²⁰⁷

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) was created on 16 February 1946 by the Economic and Social Council and named the policymaking body pertaining to drugs.²⁰⁸ The CND works with ECOSOC and advises on controlling drugs which incorporate the production, trafficking and money-laundering having to do with abuse.²⁰⁹ The UNODC, is the secretariat of the CND and offers a tremendous perspective on Member States situations regarding drug abuse and illicit and black market trade by reports and special case studies pertinent to the drug trade.²¹⁰ Additionally, the CND monitors three drug control conventions;

²⁰⁰ "As Drug Trafficking Undermines Peace and Security, UN Calls for Global Measures. *UN News Centre*. 8 December 2009. <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=33180&Cr=drugs&Cr1>.

²⁰¹ Ibid.

²⁰² "World Drug Report: 2007." *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*. 2007. http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/wdr07/WDR_2007.pdf.

²⁰³ Dikötter, Frank. *Narcotic Culture The History of Drugs in China* http://web.mac.com/dikotter/Dikotter/Narcotic_Culture_2.html

²⁰⁴ Ibid.

²⁰⁵ "The Shanghai Opium Commission." *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*. http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/bulletin/bulletin_1959-01-01_1_page006.html

²⁰⁶ Ibid.

²⁰⁷ Ibid.

²⁰⁸ "This day in History—Commission on Narcotic Drugs Established." *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/this-day-in-history-commission-on-narcotic-drugs-established.html>

²⁰⁹ Ibid.

²¹⁰ Ibid.

the Single Convention, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and the Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.²¹¹

The international community has been working to combat illicit drug trafficking and to limit the influence of black market trade for over a century. Of particular note are the three drug-related treaties: the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961), the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971), and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988), which provides enforcement for the former two.²¹² The Single Convention sets forth a number of terms and definitions used throughout the international debate on multiple levels.²¹³ The Convention is also designed to be a very general overview of possible ideas to deal with the international illicit drug trade and how to enforce laws that prohibit drug trafficking on the international level.²¹⁴ The Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971) lists Four Schedules of substances covered under this Convention.²¹⁵ There are four schedules of illicit substances; Schedule I, Schedule II, Schedule III and Schedule IV.²¹⁶ The Schedules measure the addictive properties of the substance, the danger or abuse and the need to monitor the use and dispensing of the drugs.²¹⁷ Schedule IV is considered the most dangerous substances and are heavily monitored with little to no therapeutic value. Schedule I is also very strictly monitored with highly addictive properties and a serious risk of abuse. Schedule II is still monitored carefully, but has many therapeutic uses and considered to have the least likelihood of abuse and addiction. Schedule III drugs are not monitored very strictly, leniently in fact and pose little risk of abuse and are used in the pharmaceutical setting on a regular basis.²¹⁸ The third treaty, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988) specifically addressed drug trafficking and all associated activities, including money laundering, exploitation of children, manufacturing, etc.²¹⁹

The GA created the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) in 1991, and expounded upon the work already being done by CND, making it a governing body.²²⁰ Today, the UNDCP is considered part of the UNODC and is handled as such.²²¹

Current Situation

Statistically, drug flows remain unchanged and the current international financial crisis has contributed to this ongoing problem. In the 2010 World Drug Report, the Executive Director for the UNODC stated that “drug production and trafficking are both causes and consequences of poverty,” and further noted that “22 of the 34 countries least likely to achieve the Millennium Development Goals are in the midst – or emerging from– conflicts, located in regions that are magnets for drug cultivation and trafficking.”²²² Though poverty levels are difficult to accurately assess,, it has been estimated that the number of people

²¹¹ Ibid.

²¹² “Legal Framework for Drug Trafficking” United Nations Office on Drug and Crime.

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/legal-framework.html>

²¹³ “Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.” United Nations. 1961. http://www.unodc.org/pdf/convention_1961_en.pdf.

²¹⁴ “Legal Framework for Drug Trafficking” United Nations Office on Drug and Crime.

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/legal-framework.html>

²¹⁵ “Convention on Psychotropic Drugs.” United Nations. 1971. http://www.unodc.org/pdf/convention_1971_en.pdf.

²¹⁶ “Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.” United Nations. 1961. http://www.unodc.org/pdf/convention_1961_en.pdf.

²¹⁷ Ibid.

²¹⁸ “Classification of Controlled Drugs.” European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.

<http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/html.cfm/index5622EN.html>

²¹⁹ “United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. United Nations. 1988. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/illicit-trafficking.html>.

²²⁰ “This day in History—Commission on Narcotic Drugs Established.” United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/this-day-in-history-commission-on-narcotic-drugs-established.html>

²²¹ Ibid.

²²² “World Drug Report: 2010.”

living in less than USD 2 per day will increase by at least 120 million as a result of the global financial crisis²²³ This is further complicated by a decrease in the flow of financial aid from developed countries which are also struggling to recover. Africa alone had received 27 billion USD less in aid by the end of 2009.²²⁴ Because increased development can reduce the cultivation of drugs to the benefit of all Member States, the UNODC is placing development as a high priority in combating the drug problem by working with regional organizations, Member States, and regional and international banks to support development through cooperation regarding drug policies.²²⁵ According to the Special Session of the GA, the drug problem must be addressed from two ways: “(a)-development assistance to reduce supply, and (b) more attention on health to lower demand. Further progress in these two areas would affect the intermediate stage: (c) it would curtail the drug trade.”²²⁶

One example of successful regional cooperation is provided by the participation of the UNODC in West Africa. Between 2004 and 2007, two shipping hubs emerged in West Africa, enabling Colombian traffickers to bring in illegal drugs, mainly cocaine, to be divided and sent out to other states via smaller ships.²²⁷ The drug trade in Africa increased and regional cooperation was needed to stem the problem and its social effects. The UNODC partnered with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which produced the Political Declaration on the Prevention of Drug Abuse, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crimes in West Africa in 2008. The Declaration was written as the ESOWAS and highlights economic and social development as a priority and simultaneously calls for a united front on combating the drug trafficking problem in West Africa.²²⁸

Additionally, the UNODC has reached out to Latin America and European groups to gain support for the Law Enforcement and Intelligence Cooperation against Cocaine Trafficking from Latin America to West Africa, which is meant to share intelligence to intercept drugs along the South America – Africa routes.²²⁹ These partnerships are designed to directly combat drug trafficking issue while recognizing that many problems have contributed to continued drug distribution--including the economic benefits that the drug trade provides impoverished peoples during times of financial crisis, such as jobs. The UNODC is also active in other regional areas and will continue to address economic development in those areas.

Recent Actions Taken by the United Nations

In 1998, a special session of the General Assembly convened to address the growing drug trade. At the conclusion of the session, known as the “Drug Summit,” the GA adopted a Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction.²³⁰ The Declaration demanded that by 2003, participating Member States establish new programs and methods for addressing the issue, and that they strengthen national legislation aimed at reducing the manufacturing, trafficking and abuse of certain drugs.²³¹ The Declaration also called upon participating Member States to be able to demonstrate a reduction in the development and

²²³ Anna McCord, “The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Social Protection in developing Countries,” *International Social Security Review* 63 (2010), 32.

²²⁴ Heather Eggins & Peter West, “The Global Impact of the Financial Crisis,” *High Education Management and Policy* 22, no. 3 (2010), 65.

²²⁵ “World Drug Report: 2010.”

²²⁶ “Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation Towards and Integrated and Balanced Strategy

To Counter the World Drug Problem.” United Nations Office on Drug and Crime. New York. Pg. 10.

<http://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND-Uploads/CND-52-RelatedFiles/V0984963-English.pdf>

²²⁷ “West and Central Africa.” *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/west-and-central-africa.html>.

²²⁸ “Political Declaration on the Prevention of Drug Abuse, Illicit Trafficking, and Organized Crimes in West Africa.” Joint ECOWAS-UNODC Document. 2008.

<http://www.unodc.org/westandcentralafrica/en/ecowaspoliticaldeclaration.html>

²²⁹ “West and Central Africa.”

²³⁰ “Assembly Special Session on Countering World Drug Problem Together Concludes at Headquarters, 8-10 June.” Press Release. GA/9423. United Nations. http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/1998/19980610_ga9423.html

²³¹ Ibid.

trafficking of certain manufactured substances, as well as the reduction in production of grown substances such as the coca bush, cannabis plant and opium poppy.²³² The 1998 Declaration called for each Member State to report bi-annually to the UNODC on their progress in fulfilling goals and targets to end drug trafficking.²³³

In 2009, the General Assembly adopted the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, which called for the reduction and eventual elimination of the illicit drug supply and demand by 2019.²³⁴ The UNODC has provided comprehensive assessments of the global drug problems and their annual evolution since 1999 and will continue to fulfill its mandate as long as it receives support from GA Third through drug trafficking oriented resolutions.²³⁵

In its report on International Drug Control (A/65/458), which was adopted by the General Assembly as Resolution A/RES 65/233, the GA Third recognized that the impact of the drug trade and use was significant and undermines development.²³⁶ The General Assembly called for the promotion of bilateral, regional, and international efforts regarding intelligence sharing to combat drug trafficking.²³⁷ In an effort to address the financial concerns, preventative developmental strategies should be utilized, such as long term investments by Member States into developing and struggling economies, to support sustainable poverty reduction in an effort to reduce the reliance on the global black market.²³⁸

Conclusion

Drug control and anti-black market regulations are increasingly taking a more balanced approach, focused on development, security, justice and health to reduce overall supply and demand. However, there are still many challenges that remain, including official corruption, incomplete legislation, poor law enforcement, non-transparent financial institutions, regional geopolitical issues, and poor economic conditions within the formal sector--all factors that can contribute to drug trafficking and the growth of the black market. Additionally, there are many other aspects of the black market that could and should be addressed. Human trafficking, slaves, organs, and even diamonds are pertinent parts of the black market that play a crucial role in some Member States' economies. These issues are particularly important in the midst of recovery from the recent financial crisis,. The international community must commit to providing alternative means for development in order to reduce the economic need for drug production and trade.

Committee Directive

To achieve the 2019 objectives, the international community must interweave drug supply and demand reduction interventions with national efforts to support the framework of renewed international anti-drug trafficking strategies.²³⁹ It is important for every international actor, Member States as well as NGOs, to improve their understanding of how illicit transnational drug economies, and eventually black market trading economies, operate

Throughout the research process, delegates are encouraged to consider the following questions: How connected is the black market to the financial crisis in your particular Member State? Do individuals in

²³² Ibid.

²³³ "Political Declaration on Countering the World Drug Problem." *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*. 1998. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/political-declaration-1998.html>.

²³⁴ "Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem." *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*. 2009. <http://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND-Uploads/CND-52-RelatedFiles/V0984963-English.pdf>.

²³⁵ "Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs."

²³⁶ A/RES/65/233. *International Cooperation Against the World Drug Problem*. United Nations General Assembly. 6 April 2011.

²³⁷ Ibid.

²³⁸ Ibid.

²³⁹ "Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs."

your Member State place a high priority on the presence of the black market for survival? Should the UN restructure their current drug trafficking and anti-black market trade policies, or should agencies such as the UNODC tailor their focus on specific issues such as preventing the spread of specific drugs? How can an anti-drug trafficking and anti-black market regulations implemented on a regional and global scale? What sort of preventative alternative development strategies can Member States utilize to reduce the necessity of relying on black market trade and drug production? How should the international community address the growing Informal Sector, and what policies can be put into place to encourage transparency, specifically for the sale and trafficking of illicit substances? What needs to be done to drug trafficking so it is not as beneficial in times of economic downturn?

Technical Appendix Guide (TAG)

Topic I: Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice System

United Nations Bibliographic Information System. Dag Hammarskjöld Library United Nations.
<http://unbisnet.un.org/>

Delegates should use this Web site to gather more information regarding their country's stance on issues to be discussed at the SRMUN 2011 conference. Bibliographic records, voting records, and an index to speeches made in UN Committee meetings can also be found. This Web site provides delegates with a great amount of information concerning voting patterns on the various CCPCJ themes and should be used as a general resource when beginning country and topical research.

The Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime-congress/12th-crime-congress.html>

The theme for the Twelfth Congress was Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and their Development in a Changing World. The report underlines some of the main features of the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. The report also includes a summary of the deliberations on the conclusions and recommendations of the Twelfth Congress that took place during the 19th session of the CCPCJ. Crime congresses have been held every five years since 1955 in different parts of the world and have aided in influencing international and domestic policies and original thinking and approaches to multifaceted issues at the core of the criminal justice system.

United Nations General Assembly. General Assembly GA/11041. Sixty-fifth General Assembly Plenary Meeting <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2010/ga11041.doc.htm>

This Web site provides delegates with more information regarding the General Assembly's discussion on the role and framework of the UNODC. Although many resolutions were passed that are relevant to the work of the General Assembly Third, delegates should pay special attention to the report on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, specifically draft decisions A/C.3/62/L.12, A/C.3/62/L.2, A/63/99, and A/C.3/62/L.13/Rev.1. Delegates should also familiarize themselves with the following report topics and their corresponding resolutions: UN Action to Combat Terrorism, Promotion and Protection of Children's Rights, and International Drug Controls.

International News Network. Report on Juvenile Justice and Criminology Journal
<http://www.onlinenews.com.pk/details.php?id=173041>

Written by an online news agency from Pakistan, this short article is akin to a press release to notify academics of recent work released in Pakistan on the issue of child victims and juvenile offenders. The article highlights the role of the Pakistan Society of Criminology and stresses that the new Report on Juvenile Justice Indicators is "the first ever comprehensive and detailed document" based on a new collection system from a regional policy department. In particular, the article is of interest because it highlights the need to understand and quantify the issue of juvenile justice to achieve reform.

Topic II. Rehabilitation of Multilateral Funding: Responding to the Economic Instability of the Global Economy

Anderson, Phillip R. D., Anderson Caputo Silva, and Antonio Velandia-Rubiano. "Public Debt Management in Emerging Economies: Has this Time Been Different?" The World Bank. August 2010.
http://treasury.worldbank.org/bdm/pdf/PDMinEM_HasThisTimeBeenDifferent_Anderson.etal.pdf

This paper is a product of the Banking and Debt Management Department and the Global Capital Markets Development Department of the World Bank, and is part of a larger effort to research trends and disseminate practices on public debt management and policy development. This paper reviews improvements in macroeconomic fundamentals and the composition of debt portfolios in emerging market countries prior to the global financial crisis, concluding that the policies and strategies pursued by governments provided them with a buffer when the crisis hit.

"Causes of the Crisis: Key Lessons" G20 Workshop on the Global Economy". May 2009.
http://www.g20.org/Documents/g20_workshop_causes_of_the_crisis.pdf

This document summarizes the work completed at the G20 Workshop on the Global Economy in Mumbai, India on May 24-26, 2009. The topics are split into 5 sections, which include: 1) How the global economy headed into crisis; 2) Did the international monetary system contribute to the crisis?; 3) Should the structure of the international monetary system be reformed?; 4) Reform of the international institutions; 5) Panel discussion with financial dignitaries.

Dewatripont, M. Balancing the banks: global lessons from the financial crisis. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. 2010.

This book brings together three leading financial economists to provide an international perspective on the critical lessons from the crisis. The book proposes sound guidelines for reforms, including aid reform, and stresses the numerous and complex challenges of dealing with economic shocks while preserving social protection.

"The Global Financial Crisis: Poverty and Social Protection". Overseas Development Institute. Briefing Paper. August 2009. <http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/3282.pdf>

This briefing paper provides evidence from 10 country case studies to assert that the financial crisis will exacerbate poverty and inequality and undermine progress towards the MDGs. The paper explains that developing Member States need to address the needs of the poor and invest in growth and stabilization packages for social protection.

Mustapha K. Nabli. The Great Recession and the Developing Countries: Economic Impact and Growth Prospects. The World Bank. Washington, D.C. 2010 <http://go.worldbank.org/UZQI.86IX50>

Published by the World Bank, this 12-chapter book examines the effects of the global financial crisis on the medium term growth prospects of 10 developing countries. These include, Brazil, China, Ethiopia, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines, Poland, Turkey, and Vietnam. The key messages of this book are 1) post-crisis growth is diverse; 2) real-time analysis of country policies may avert crisis in the future; and 3) lessons from the most successful emerging markets are important to securing economic recovery.

Reaching the Marginalized. EFA Global Monitoring Report. UNESCO. 2010.
<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/themes/leading-the-international-agenda/efareport/reports/2010-marginalization/>

This report analyzes the affects of the global financial crisis on education systems in the world's poorest countries. The 2010 Education for All Global Monitoring Report argues that the crisis may create a lost

generation of children whose life chances are damaged by a global failure to protect their rights to education. The report discusses solutions to making sure all children have access to education.

“Soaring Food Prices and Africa’s Vulnerability and Responses: An Update”. African Development Bank Group. Working Paper Series. 2009.

<http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/WORKING%2097.pdf>

This paper analyzes the affects of the global financial crisis on food insecurity in Africa. It reviews current food prices on the continent and presents a country level vulnerability analysis, which serves as the basis for the Bank’s policy responses to food crisis.

“United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development.” The United Nations. June 24-26, 2009. <http://www.un.org/ga/econcrisissummit/>

This website provides very helpful information about the 3-day summit of world leaders at the UN Headquarters in New York, NY to assess the global financial crisis. The Website details the agenda of the meetings and provides links to multiple documents explaining the outcome of the summit, including it’s recommendations, resolutions, and reports.

Topic III. Combating the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Increased Drug Trafficking and Black Market Trade

Financial Flows and Drug Trafficking in the Amazon Basin. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. <http://www.unesco.org/most/ds22eng.htm>

This is a UNESCO study on the financial realities of drug trade in the Amazon Basin. This is a somewhat difficult document to read as an introduction to drug trade but is a valuable secondary resource to delegates who are researching more specific elements of the black market. Delegates will gain a better understanding of the effects of geography on the relationships between financial institutions and the illicit drug trade.

Get The Facts: Drug WarFacts.org. Economics <http://www.drugwarfacts.org/cms/Economics>

This is a well cited list of drug war facts. Delegates will find it a useful resource to begin their understanding of the finances of the drug trade and provides a jumping off point for further research in the area. Delegates are advised not only review the included text but follow the links themselves for further analysis.

Burrus, Robert, William Sackley, and David Sollars. Illicit Drugs and Economics: Examples for the Principles Classroom. Journal of Economics and Financial Education. Volume 6: Number 2: Winter 2007. <http://www.economics-finance.org/jefe/econ/BurrusSackleySollarspap.pdf>

An in depth discussion of illicit drug economics from the perspective of traditional economic principles. This resource is useful for a delegate who comes from an economics background or is interested in advancing their understanding of the economics drug issue for discussion in conference.

Brecher, Edward. The Consumers Union Report on Licit and Illicit Drugs. Why our narcotics laws have failed: The economics of the black market. Schaffer Library of Drug Policy. <http://www.druglibrary.org/Schaffer/library/studies/cu/CU11.html>

The other sources of the TAG approach the relationship of illicit drugs and the economy but this source specifically discusses the black market. Delegates with a weak understanding of the black market and the way that drug laws contribute to the functioning of this market will find this source very useful.

Organization of American States. Secretariat for Multidimensional Security: Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission. Democracy for peace, security, and development.
http://www.cicad.oas.org/Main/Template.asp?File=/main/aboutcicad/basicdocuments/strategy_2010_eng.asp

This is an OAS discussion of the hemispheric drug trade. This is limited to the western hemisphere but still gives delegates a better understanding of the realities of international drug trade. Drug traffic across borders with different drug and economic laws is a major burden to a unified solution to the drug trade.