

## Southern Regional Model United Nations, Charlotte 2013

*Establishing Global Partnerships: Investing in the Present to Prepare for a Sustainable Future*

April 11-13, 2013 – Charlotte, NC

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Dear Delegates,

I would like to welcome you to the Southern Regional Model United Nations Conference (SRMUN) Charlotte and to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It is an honor for me to serve as the director of UNEP at SRMUN-Charlotte this year. My name is Devin McRae and joining me this year is Assistant Director Michael Oleaga. This is the second conference that I have been on staff for with SRMUN but I have competed in many all around the world. I look forward to meeting all of you and having a successful committee at the conference.

The United Nations Environment Program was created to lead the United Nations on environmental affairs and to provide leadership and encourage partnerships for Member States to improve their quality of life while taking into account the impact on the environment. The goal is to ensure a sustainable future without compromising future generations.

We have chosen the following topics to discuss at this year's conference due to the importance they play in achieving sustainable development through the establishment of global partnerships.

- I. Measuring the Role of International Development Programs in Stimulating Domestic Environmental Markets
- II. Addressing Global Migration and the Importance of Supporting Sustainable Food Production

Each delegation is required to submit a position paper which covers both 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 outline in your paper is the best course of action. The position papers are therefore critical in providing insight into not only the policies and positions of each country, but should also provide insight into the direction each country 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](http://www.srmun.org)). **All position papers MUST be submitted by Friday, March 29, 2013 11:59pm EST via the website.**

I look forward to the opportunity to serve as the director for the United Nations Environment Programme during the 2013 Southern Regional Model United Nations Charlotte Conference. I wish you all the best of luck and look forward to working with each of you. Please feel free to contact Cortney, Michael or myself if you have any questions.

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## History of the United Nations Environment Programme

As the United Nations lead organization on environmental affairs, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) is tasked “to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.”<sup>1</sup> Unlike most other UN bodies, UNEP is headquartered neither in New York City nor in Geneva. It shares the United Nations Office Complex (UNON) in Nairobi, Kenya with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements. UNEP is administered by an executive director and a deputy.

The policy-making body of UNEP is the Governing Council, which is made up of 58 Member States meeting biennially and in special sessions in alternate years, and reports to the General Assembly (GA) through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).<sup>2</sup> The GA elects members to UNEP’s Governing Council on a regional basis for four-year terms: sixteen seats are allocated to African states, thirteen seats to Asian states, six to Eastern European states, ten to Latin American states, and thirteen to Western European and Other states. In turn, the Council elects a Bureau with a president, three vice presidents, and a Rapporteur. The executive director of UNEP is nominated by the UN Secretary-General and chosen by the GA and reports to the Governing Council. Additionally, the Executive Director alerts the Council to any UN planning proposals dealing with the environment, implements the council’s decisions, and advises other UN bodies on environmental affairs.<sup>3</sup>

Created by General Assembly Resolution 2997 (XXVII), December 15, 1972 in response to the recommendation of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (UNCHE), UNEP began its work with limited expectations from the world community.<sup>4</sup> While the major industrial powers encouraged the creation of a UN structure to coordinate environmental activities, they feared paying for a massive new bureaucracy. Less developed countries were concerned that a new specialized agency would create international pressure to limit their development programs.<sup>5</sup> The result was a “programme,” not an “agency,” with a structure and duties carefully laid out in the authorizing resolution, and a “Voluntary Fund” to pay for most of the program’s expenses.<sup>6</sup> This dependence on contributions and the decision to base UNEP’s operations in Nairobi were steps taken to assuage the less developed world’s unease with UNEP and limited the likelihood that UNEP would be a major actor in world affairs.<sup>7</sup>

Because a majority of seats are held by developing states, concern has lessened towards the fact that UNEP will unduly serve rich Member States environmental interests. In fact, developing states have increasingly encouraged UNEP programs in their regions. For example, at its 19<sup>th</sup> session in January and February 1997, the Governing Council approved the Nairobi Declaration, which launched a new era of activism for UNEP. Responding to the momentum established by the 1992 UNCED, the Nairobi Declaration committed a “revitalized” UNEP to fulfilling its obligations under Agenda 21, passed by the Earth Summit. The council declared UNEP the “principal United Nations body in the field of environment.” It set a global agenda, which included developing international environmental law aimed at sustainable development, monitoring state compliance with environmental agreements and principles, serving as a link between the scientific community and policy makers, and strengthening its role as the Implementing Agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

The United Nations Environment Programme oversees a significant number of departments, special programs, and initiatives in many Member States around the world.<sup>8</sup> In cooperation with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), in the late 1980s UNEP launched two important initiatives. The first was the creation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which made its first assessment report in August 1990.<sup>9</sup> The

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP. United Nations Environment Programme. 2000. <http://www.ricap.unep.org/leadership/about/unep.cfm>

<sup>2</sup> Young, Oran. *International Governance: Protecting the Environment in a Stateless Society*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1994.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations Environment Programme. 2000. <http://www.unep.org/PDF/UNEPOrganizationProfile.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations Environment Programme. 2000. <http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?documentID=97>.

<sup>6</sup> Victor, David G., Kal Raustiala and Eugene Skolnikoff. *The Implementation and Effectiveness of International Environmental Commitments: Theory and Practice*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1998.

<sup>7</sup> Moore, John Allphin and Jerry Pubantz. *Encyclopedia of the United Nations*. Facts on File, Inc, 2002.

<sup>8</sup> United Nations Environment Programme. 2000. <http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=296>.

<sup>9</sup> Imber, Mark. *Environment, Security and U.N. Reform*. New York: St. Martin's, 1994.

work of the panel led to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), shepherded through the negotiation process by UNEP, and signed at the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992.<sup>10</sup> The second was the promotion of a World Climate Conference that convened in November 1990, setting the stage for several climate agreements during the decade. The conference called worldwide attention to the problem of global warming and the need to limit carbon dioxide emissions.<sup>11</sup>

In addition to the UNFCCC, The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the Earth Summit, is notable for bringing together an unprecedented number of representatives from governments, civil society, and the private sector.<sup>12</sup> The purpose of the Earth Summit was to examine progress made since Stockholm, and to “elaborate strategies and measures to halt and reverse the effects of environmental degradation in the context of strengthened national and international efforts to promote sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries.”<sup>13</sup> Besides the UNFCCC, the Earth Summit also saw the creation the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.<sup>14</sup>

UNEP continues to work with governments, the private sector, and civil society to protect natural resources worldwide. As well as supporting assessments and developing institutional and legal capacity, UNEP promotes dialogue and cooperation among stakeholders, the exchange of best practices and success stories, the transfer of knowledge and technology, and the establishment of demonstration projects.<sup>15</sup> An example of this is the United Nations Environment Programme Financial Initiative, which was created in 2000. It is a global partnership between UNEP and the financial sector aimed at researching and understanding the impacts of environmental and social considerations of financial performance. Currently, over 180 institutions, including banks, insurers and fund managers, work within UNEP FI.<sup>16</sup>

The current members of the United Nations Environment Programme include:

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, CANADA, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHILE, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CONGO, CUBA, CZECH REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EGYPT, FRANCE, GABON, GEORGIA, GERMANY, INDIA, INDONESIA, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, ISRAEL, ITALY, JAPAN, LESOTHO, MALAYSIA, MAURITANIA, MEXICO, MOZAMBIQUE, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, POLAND, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SAUDI ARABIA, SENEGAL, SPAIN, SUDAN, THAILAND, TOGO, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, URUGUAY, ZAMBIA.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Victor, David G., Kal Raustiala and Eugene Skolnifoff. *The Implementation and Effectiveness of International Environmental Commitments: Theory and Practice*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1998.

<sup>11</sup> Moore, John Allphin and Jerry Pubantz. *Encyclopedia of the United Nations*. Facts on File, Inc, 2002.

<sup>12</sup> United Nations Environment Programme. 2000. <http://www.un.org/geninfo/bp/enviro.html>.

<sup>13</sup> United Nations Environment Programme. 2000. [http://www.unep.org/PDF/ABOUT\\_UNEP\\_ENGLISH.pdf](http://www.unep.org/PDF/ABOUT_UNEP_ENGLISH.pdf).

<sup>14</sup> United Nations Environment Programme. 2000. <http://www.un.org/geninfo/bp/enviro.html>.

<sup>15</sup> United Nations Environment Programme Organization Profile. [http://www.unep.org/PDF/ABOUT\\_UNEP\\_ENGLISH.pdf](http://www.unep.org/PDF/ABOUT_UNEP_ENGLISH.pdf).

<sup>16</sup> United Nations Environment Programme. 2000. <http://www.un.org/geninfo/bp/enviro.html>.

<sup>17</sup> United Nations Environment Programme. 2000. <http://www.unep.org/resources/gov/Membership.asp>.

## **Topic I: Measuring the Role of International Development Programs in Stimulating Domestic Environmental Markets**

*“We are confronted with a perpetuation of disparities between and within nations, a worsening of poverty, hunger, ill health and illiteracy, and the continuing deterioration of the ecosystems on which we depend for our well-being.*

*However, integration of environment and development concerns and great attention to them will lead to the fulfillment of basic needs, improved living standards for all, better protected and managed ecosystems and a safer, more prosperous future.”<sup>18</sup> -Preamble: Agenda 2, Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (1992)*

### ***Introduction***

In a struggling global economy, successful development programs are essential in the promotion of good governance to inspire change and create financial stability. Although a wide gap already exists between the developed and developing world militarily, economically, and environmentally, development programs are key when it comes to stimulating domestic markets.

The United Nations has taken a great interest in development, as demonstrated by the Millennium Declaration and the creation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Another key document aiming to achieve sustainable development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is Agenda 21, which came out of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992.<sup>19</sup> Over 100 world leaders met to discuss environmental protection and socio-economic development, with several documents coming out of the meeting: the Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Rio Declaration, and Agenda 21.<sup>20</sup>

Every ten years, the international community has met to discuss the progress and new needs facing the global community. This background guide offers delegates an overview of the history associated with sustainable development, but also introduces the concepts of environmental governance, green tourism and the important role that technology can play in the successful implementation of development programs and policies worldwide.

### ***History***

The World Summit on Sustainable Development, also known as the Johannesburg Summit in 2002, brought many participants together; heads of State, Government leaders, national delegates, NGOs, the business sector and others with the goal of addressing the need to meet the challenges of the world, namely the increasing need to conserve natural resources with a growing population.<sup>21</sup>

In 1992, the Earth Summit in Rio and the adoption of Agenda 21 set an unprecedented plan for sustainable development that included the entire world.<sup>22</sup> Although many strategies had come out of the meeting, the implementation of these strategies was less than desirable, so ten years later, the Summit in Johannesburg South Africa was an opportunity to take steps and make target goals that would lead to the true implementation of Agenda 21.<sup>23</sup> World leaders met and discussed the needs of the global community when it came to sustainable development and agreed on specific targets to attain in the quest for sustainable development.

The outcome document speaks to the fact that the children of the world are the future and they will inherit what we do to the earth now. “The children of the world spoke to us...challenged all of us to ensure that through our actions they will inherit a world free of the indignity and indecency occasioned by poverty, environmental degradation and

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<sup>18</sup> Agenda 21. United Nations Sustainable Development. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. 3-14 June 1992. <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/Agenda21.pdf>

<sup>19</sup> “General Information” United Nations Earth Summit+5. <http://www.un.org/esa/earthsummit/>

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> “Basic Information” Johannesburg Summit 2002. 26 August-4 September 2002. [http://www.un.org/jsummit/html/basic\\_info/basicinfo.html](http://www.un.org/jsummit/html/basic_info/basicinfo.html)

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

patterns of unsustainable development.”<sup>24</sup> A comprehensive plan of action was adopted and presented separated by topic and by region to assure the international community the United Nations and world leaders were going to do everything they could to ensure a successfully sustainable future.<sup>25</sup>

2012 marks twenty years since the initial Earth Summit in Rio and again world leaders met to discuss the problems associated with the environment and sustainable development. This particular meeting invited Member States, civil society and citizens of the world to “lay the foundations of a world of prosperity, peace and sustainability” with three topics on the agenda; 1-to strengthen the political commitments to sustainable development; 2- to review the progress and difficulties associated with the implementation and; 3-to respond to the new and emerging challenges of society.<sup>26</sup> This summit was met with a great sense of urgency. We all know the state of the economy, the diminishing natural resources, pollution damaging water and air supplies, food shortages in many parts of the world and an increasing global temperature. This summit is viewed as a last resorts in some cases because if we really don’t start working towards a sustainable future, there will be nothing left to sustain.<sup>27</sup>

### ***Science and Technology***

Science and technology offers the international community opportunities for growth and development that can make a lasting impact for future generations. UNEP has its own Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE) which aims to encourage the use of current natural and scientific resources by international and domestic authorities for the common good.<sup>28</sup> The DTIE aims to do so by supporting the formation of partnerships that bring governmental authorities in contact with business and technology resources.<sup>29</sup> To carry out these ideas, the DTIE must, “influence decision-making through partnerships with other international organizations; facilitate knowledge management through networks; support implementation of conventions; and work closely with UNEP regional offices.”<sup>30</sup>

According to the International Conference on an Agenda of Science for Environment and Development into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (ASCEND/21), there are four areas that should be explored further in order to harness science and technology to ensure a successful future for our planet.<sup>31</sup> The four areas are: 1- strengthening the scientific basis for sustainable management; 2- enhancing scientific understanding; 3- improving long-term scientific assessment and; 4- building up scientific capacity and capability.<sup>32</sup>

Science and technology are undoubtedly important, but equal access to funding and distribution are problematic. For example, the conference personnel for ASCEND/21 estimate that the cost of implementing their proposals in just the first of the four key areas would cost \$150 million.<sup>33</sup> More must be done to ensure that all members of the global community have access to science and technology resources that would enhance the ability for sustainable development.

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<sup>24</sup> *A/CONF.199/20 Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development*. United Nations. Johannesburg, South Africa 26 August-4 September 2002.

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/636/93/PDF/N0263693.pdf?OpenElement>

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

<sup>26</sup> “On the Road to Rio+20” RIO+20 Portal: Building the Peoples Summit Rio+20. <http://rio20.net/en/on-the-road-to-rio20>

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> *Integrated Policymaking for Sustainable Development*. United Nations Environment Programme. August 2009.

<http://www.unep.ch/etb/publications/IPSD%20manual/UNEP%20IPSD%20final.pdf>

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> “Science for Sustainable Development” United Nations Environment Program: Environment for Development.

<http://www.unep.org/Documents.multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=52&ArticleID=85&l=en>

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

## *Environmental Governance*

UNEPs Environmental Governance Sub-Programme works to promote informed decision-making and cooperation based on environmental concerns at the local, regional and international level of governance.<sup>34</sup> ‘Environmental governance’ is defined as “the rules, practices, policies and institutions that shape how humans interact with the environment,”<sup>35</sup> and the Sub-Programme seeks to, “bridge the science and policy gaps by keeping the state of the global environment under review, identifying threats at an early stage, developing sound environmental policies, and helping States successfully implement these policies.”<sup>36</sup> Some of the goals of the sub-programme include developing answers to the following key questions with respect to environmental governance:

- “What if States could craft environmental policies based on up-to-date, accurate information on emerging issues and the state of the global environment?”
- What if environmental sustainability was an integral part of all national development planning, helping to reduce poverty and increase long-term security for vulnerable populations?
- What if States could cooperate effectively on the global stage, developing international agreements that moved us closer to a sustainable future?
- What if States could enter into lasting and effective strategic alliances with major groups and stakeholder to achieve common goals and objectives?<sup>37</sup>

The Sub-Programme has identified four areas of focus, including: international cooperation; Strengthened national laws and institutions; sustainable nation and regional development and; access to sound science.<sup>38</sup> The methods to attain these goals range from setting the global agenda to regional institutions and insist on the collaboration of many international organizations and governments.<sup>39</sup> One particular program, the Poverty and Environment Initiative (PEI) is where UNEP works with UNDP to implement a joint PEI or a global program that informs States on how sustainable management of their natural resources can improve the lives of their citizens and in the end reduce poverty. This program has already been implemented in 22 Member States and provides technical and financial support that is required to integrate the processes of environmental sustainability into both policy and the budget.<sup>40</sup>

## *Green Tourism*

“Green tourism” occurs when the activities and actions associated with travel for tourism and vacation purposes can be maintained/sustained indefinitely within social, economic, cultural and environmental contexts.<sup>41</sup> In fact, “sustainable tourism is tourism that takes full account of current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities.”<sup>42</sup>

Tourism is an industry that is growing exponentially. According to the Executive Director of UNEP, Achim Steiner, “By 2020 the number of international arrivals by air and by sea could reach 1.6 billion annually.”<sup>43</sup> In a struggling economy, this is good news as the prospects of more money and development increase, but a challenge arises in

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<sup>34</sup> *Environmental Governance*. United Nations Environment Programme.

<http://www.unep.org/pdf/brochures/EnvironmentalGovernance.pdf>

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> United Nations Environment Programme and World Tourism Organization (2012), *Tourism in the Green Economy- Background Report*, UNWTO, Madrid. Page 5.

[http://pub.unwto.org/WebRoot/Store/Shops/Infoshop/50C8/657A/E572/6016/C374/C0A8/0164/8D3E/121212\\_tourism\\_green\\_economy\\_excerpt.pdf](http://pub.unwto.org/WebRoot/Store/Shops/Infoshop/50C8/657A/E572/6016/C374/C0A8/0164/8D3E/121212_tourism_green_economy_excerpt.pdf)

<sup>42</sup> Ibid.

<sup>43</sup> Luca Del Buono. “UNEP launches Green Passport campaign” ClimateAction: Assisting business towards carbon neutrality. 10 March 2008. [http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/unep\\_launches\\_green\\_passport\\_campaign/](http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/unep_launches_green_passport_campaign/)

ensuring that the growth in tourism becomes more sustainable,<sup>44</sup> as an increase in tourists leads to an increase in the demand on the energy and resources in a given area. In order to ensure a sustainable future, one initiative is promote ways for tourists to adopt responsible and practical tips for reducing their social and environmental footprint when on vacation.<sup>45</sup> The Green tourism campaign encourages all travelers to: “choose responsible service providers, reduce the consumption of energy while on the road or in their hotel, and buy locally made and environmentally friendly souvenirs.”<sup>46</sup>

There are a few key areas associated with the campaign that hold tremendous potential for the success of the endeavor.

- “The private sector, especially small firms, can, and must be mobilized to support green tourism.
- Much of the economic potential for green tourism is found in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which need better access to financing for investing in green tourism.
- Destination planning and development strategies are the first step towards the greening of tourism.
- Government investment and policies can leverage private sector actions on green tourism.”<sup>47</sup>

While the ultimate impact of Green Tourism is unknown, the program represents one step towards sustainable consumption and production (SCP), a key goal that emerged from the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg 2002.<sup>48</sup>

### ***Conclusion***

Undoubtedly there is a huge difference in economic capability between Member States. There are tools and resources out there to even the playing field and ensure the environment is preserved and protected for generations to come. Problems inevitably arise when discussing access to these resources and payment for them. We have examined the attempts from the international community and UNEP in particular to address the issues of environmental sustainability. There are so many programs that have been addressed with little to no success, but the problems still exist and in fact in many cases are getting worse with the growth in population skyrocketing and the cost of living rising significantly.

Moving forward UNEP has endorsed programs and policies that incorporate the use of current natural resources, but also the use of technology and science to ensure a successful future for the planet. The Division of Technology and Industry encourages clean and safe practices by the international community<sup>49</sup> UNEP has also been working with UNDP and WTO to implement a “green passport” that will coincide with the growth in tourism and combat the environmental footprint that more inhabitants and visitors will bring.<sup>50</sup> UNEP is dedicated to ensuring the mission of the body is constantly at work.

### ***Committee Directives***

Delegates have the amazing opportunity to discuss a topic that has a tremendous impact on their own future stake in the global economy and environment. Delegates should be well versed on their Member States economic status, if

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<sup>44</sup> Ibid.

<sup>45</sup> Ibid.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>47</sup> United Nations Environment Programme and World Tourism Organization (2012), *Tourism in the Green Economy- Background Report*, UNWTO, Madrid.

[http://pub.unwto.org/WebRoot/Store/Shops/Infoshop/50C8/657A/E572/6016/C374/C0A8/0164/8D3E/121212\\_tourism\\_green\\_economy\\_excerpt.pdf](http://pub.unwto.org/WebRoot/Store/Shops/Infoshop/50C8/657A/E572/6016/C374/C0A8/0164/8D3E/121212_tourism_green_economy_excerpt.pdf)

<sup>48</sup> Luca Del Buono. “UNEP launches Green Passport campaign” ClimateAction: Assisting business towards carbon neutrality. 10 March 2008. [http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/unep\\_launches\\_green\\_passport\\_campaign/](http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/unep_launches_green_passport_campaign/)

<sup>49</sup> *Integrated Policymaking for Sustainable Development*. United Nations Environment Programme. August 2009. <http://www.unep.ch/etb/publications/IPSD%20manual/UNEP%20IPSD%20final.pdf>

<sup>50</sup> Luca Del Buono. “UNEP launches Green Passport campaign” ClimateAction: Assisting business towards carbon neutrality. 10 March 2008. [http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/unep\\_launches\\_green\\_passport\\_campaign/](http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/unep_launches_green_passport_campaign/)

they have signed on and implemented any target goals of Agenda 21 or subsequent Summit meetings. Where does your Member State stand on the idea of Agenda 21?

Additionally, delegates will be expected to have plans of action and a clear understanding on the direction they want this committee to go when it comes to the topic. How are international development programs perceived in your Member State? Have they stimulated the economy? If so how? If not, why?

What about tourism? Does your Member State have a dependency on tourism? What about foreign investment? How can you make the connection between the two while maintaining the ideals of sustainable development? On the surface this topic might seem easy, but we ask delegates to dig in deep and really come up with unique ideas to address the issue. Please don't reinvent the wheel or create another Summit to be held in another 10 years. What can we do now? If we don't figure it out we may not have a future to prepare for.

## **Topic II: Addressing Global Migration and the Importance of Supporting Sustainable Food Production**

### ***Introduction***

Today, one out of 33 persons is an international migrant.<sup>51</sup> United Nations Secretary General, Ban ki-Moon once stated, "As human mobility becomes more complex, and the journeys taken by many migrants more perilous, it becomes all the more urgent to forge national policy responses..."<sup>52</sup> Global migration has been a topic often overlooked within the realm of international academia; an alarming realization considering that the majority of migrants move from rural areas, areas with the globe's highest concentrations of poverty. These shifts in population, whether from rural to urban regions or across international borders, affect the entire ecosystem and substantially more. From the socio-economic impacts to the consequences that emerge in rural areas, migration affects our societies in multiple facets.<sup>53</sup> At the Global Forum of Migration and Development in November 2012, the Secretary General's Special Representative for Migration and Development spoke of the convolution surrounding global migration and the impacts of such within the international arena. "The complex factors driving migration are the same tough problems at the top of the global agenda: war, natural disasters, economic calamities and even climate change."<sup>54</sup> The phenomenon of international migration has escalated to a degree to which almost every Member State is a country of origin, transit, and/or destination within the complex web of global movement. Over the past 10 years, international migration has increased by 64 million to an estimated 214 million worldwide.<sup>55</sup> Our challenge, as an international community, is to provide the proper mechanisms necessary to enable migrants to benefit the countries and societies of both origin and destination.<sup>56</sup> From sexual exploitation to armed conflict, migration is a topic that encompasses a diverse multitude of issues and concerns for the international community. However, as the United Nations Environment Programme, we are charged with specifically addressing the environmental influences and impacts of global migration, with particular attention focused on sustainable food development. The discussion of international migration has appeared in multiple international documents, but was not the topic of primary concern until 14 September, 2006 when the General Assembly conducted the first High-level Dialogue on

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<sup>51</sup> International Organization for Migration. <http://www.iom.int/cms/en/sites/iom/home/about-migration/facts--figures-1.html>

<sup>52</sup> The Secretary General's Message on International Migrant's Day, 18 Dec 2012. <http://www.un.org/esa/population/migration/2012migrantsday-sge.pdf>

<sup>53</sup> MIGRATION: NEW DIMENSIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS, CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR

RURAL POVERTY, Taylor, J. Edgar. FAO. <http://www.fao.org/docrep/003/X9808e/x9808e07.htm#ff>

<sup>54</sup> Remarks to Global Forum on Migration and Development, Nov. 21, 2012.

<http://www.un.org/esa/population/migration/migration-mauritius-nov2012.pdf>

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

<sup>56</sup> Ibid.



International Migration and Development.<sup>57</sup> Prior to 2006, the United Nations addressed migration in conferences such as the UN World Population Conference in 1974, the International Conference on Population in 1984, the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994, the UN Millennium Summit in 2000, and the World Summit in 2005, all of which included relevant conversations and subsequent language on international migration.<sup>58</sup> However, it was the 2006 High-level Dialogue that established a precedence to foster discussions on migration at the global level by establishing the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). In addition to GFMD, the Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM) and the Global Migration Group (GMG), also work in conjunction with various bodies of the UN to resolve the challenges associated with migration.<sup>59</sup>

### ***Global migration patterns and ensuing problems***

The UNEP is one of many UN entities working to address the circumstances surrounding global migration; but obviously focuses on environmental factors within the parameters of UNEP. UNEP has fought to bring environmental factors that influence cross-border movement to the forefront of international debate with such publications as the 2012 UNEP Year Book. Ranging from natural disasters and climate change to extreme weather anomalies, UNEP is dedicated to addressing the causes of internal and external migration. The term 'environmental migrant' has recently been defined by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) as "persons or groups of persons who, for compelling reasons of sudden or progressive change in the environment that adversely affects their lives or living conditions, are obliged to leave their habitual homes, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move either within their country or abroad."<sup>60</sup> Recently, UNEP has been working within Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia to address the most severe draught to occur in 60 years.<sup>61</sup> Nearly 13 million people are struggling with increased starvation, lack of clean water, and high food prices, causing mass migrations to refugee camps in the Horn of Africa. In 2011 alone, the Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya quickly became the new residence of 400,000 people escaping the draught and famine caused by extreme weather patterns.<sup>62</sup> The 2012 Year Book also acknowledges that the world population is expected to reach 9 billion by 2043 thus straining the Earth's capacity to provide necessary resources; an even more grueling notion considering the overall depletion of natural resources. Furthermore, resource consumption could potentially triple by 2050 which would require global agricultural production to increase by 70 percent. This demand for more agricultural workers and sustainable food production is becoming increasingly threatened due to the continuous movement out of rural areas, the areas containing the majority of the world's agricultural production. Therefore, the food security crisis is further perpetuated due to a threatened agricultural market, a shrinking workforce, unstable population fluctuations, and unsustainable agricultural practices.<sup>63</sup> The severity of these issues were also emphasized in the Results of the UNEP Foresight Process on Emerging Environmental Issues, in which the UNEP ranked *Coping with Migration Caused by New Aspects of Environmental Change* twentieth of the *21 Issues for the 21st Century*.<sup>64</sup> UNEP identifies that environmental impacts are substantially influential in global migration and outlines the need to improve prediction measures, incorporate environmental migration policies at the national and international levels, and address the grass-root causes of environmental migration.<sup>65</sup>

When addressing migration it is vital to acknowledge the various classifications of migratory patterns. Migration appears on the global stage in multiple forms and facets, varying based on the underlying causes or purposes of the

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<sup>57</sup> High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development.

<http://www.un.org/esa/population/migration/hlmimd2013/highlevelmim2013.htm>

<sup>58</sup> International Migration and Development at the United Nations.

<http://www.un.org/esa/population/migration/hlmimd2013/International%20migration%20and%20development%20at%20the%20UN.pdf>

<sup>59</sup> Ibid.

<sup>60</sup> International Organization for Migration (IOM). 2009. Migration, environment and climate change: assessing the evidence.

[http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/migration\\_and\\_environment.pdf](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/migration_and_environment.pdf)

<sup>61</sup> UNEP 2012 Yearbook. [http://www.unep.org/yearbook/2012/pdfs/UYB\\_2012\\_FULLREPORT.pdf](http://www.unep.org/yearbook/2012/pdfs/UYB_2012_FULLREPORT.pdf)

<sup>62</sup> Ibid.

<sup>63</sup> Ibid.

<sup>64</sup> 21 Issues for the 21st Century: Results of the UNEP Foresight Process on Emerging Environmental Issues. UNEP, 2012.

[http://www.unep.org/publications/ebooks/foresightreport/Portals/24175/pdfs/Foresight\\_Report-21\\_Issues\\_for\\_the\\_21st\\_Century.pdf](http://www.unep.org/publications/ebooks/foresightreport/Portals/24175/pdfs/Foresight_Report-21_Issues_for_the_21st_Century.pdf)

<sup>65</sup> Ibid.

movement, to the destinations of the move. Ultimately, migration can be divided into voluntary and involuntary with the latter including scenarios such as sex trafficking, forced labor, those seeking asylum, and refugees fleeing environmental or political unrest. Those who voluntarily leave their country/region of origin do so on their own accord often in search of high wages and financial stability, which is in return filtrated into the economy through remittances sent to the families left behind.<sup>66</sup> The geographical direction of the move or the development status of the Destination State also defines the type of migration. Internal migration refers to the movement of persons within the borders of a given State, typically a shift from rural to urban areas, and external migration is the movement across sovereign borders. When identifying the type of migration based on the level of development, the notation of "North" or "South" is determined depending on the status of the State of origin and destination.<sup>67</sup> "North" refers to the movement to a more developed region or country, and contrarily "South" refers to the movement to less developed countries.

In June 2012, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs published that South to South migration was just as frequent as South-North migration, reporting that in 2010 nearly 73 million international migrants were peoples born in the South and still resided in the South.<sup>68</sup> This figure was faintly smaller than the number of international migrants that originated in the South and lived in the North, which stood at 74 million. However, since 1990, South to North migration has remained the primary culprit to global migration with an increase of 85 percent in the past 20 years.<sup>69</sup> The number of migrants that moved from the North and still resided in the North was recorded at 53 million, whereas migrants that moved from the North to the South amounted to 13 million.<sup>70</sup> Migrants from Bangladesh residing in India constitute the largest "bilateral stock" of international migrants living in the South, whereas the United States has the largest "bilateral stock" in the North due to movements from Mexico.<sup>71</sup> All of these shifts, regardless of the destination or origin, or even the enormity of the migration itself, have an incredible influence on the societies involved.

Such drastic shifts in population, whether internal or external, impact a society both positively and negatively. One of the most common forms of migration is the movement from rural to urban areas, urbanization. An optimistic perspective to these phenomena highlights the ability of the migrant labor force to provide remittances directly to their households in the origin-economies.<sup>72</sup> In 2011, the World Bank estimated that remittances sent to developing countries reached USD 372 billion, which is why remittances often account for the majority of the total household income in less developed countries.<sup>73</sup> The economies of migrant's destinations also often improve from the increase in local economic activity; ranging from the labor force and level of production, to the gradual progress in the financial markets, urban locations regularly benefit from migration. On the other hand, global migration often insinuates a rather pessimistic view when considering the amount of capital lost (productive and human) compared to the relative influx of remittances. In this perspective, poverty is perpetuated if migrants originate from poor homes or if the labor becomes less productive with the loss of the migrant's labor contribution. Nevertheless, remittances are expected to reach USD 615 billion by 2014 and generally reduce the level of poverty, allow greater access to health and education, and improve the small business sector. Aside from the source repercussions, at the destinations, migrants often offer lower-wage labor thus driving the competitive market with the native workforce. Many societies have experienced native workers fleeing areas of high migrant population to avoid lower wage competition but too little research has been conducted in this area. Ultimately, migration is most beneficial when the individual originates from the middle to upper classes of income and has little impact on the production level of the rural poor.

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<sup>66</sup> The Global Economic Crisis and Migration: Where do we go from here? IOM, 2011.

[http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/where\\_do\\_we\\_go.pdf](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/where_do_we_go.pdf)

<sup>67</sup> Migrants by Origin and Destination: The role of South-South Migration. 2012.

[http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/popfacts/popfacts\\_2012-3\\_South-South\\_migration.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/popfacts/popfacts_2012-3_South-South_migration.pdf)

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

<sup>69</sup> Ibid.

<sup>70</sup> Ibid.

<sup>71</sup> Ibid.

<sup>72</sup> Ibid.

<sup>73</sup> Migration and Remittances. The World Bank.

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:20648762~pagePK:64257043~piPK:437376~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

### *On the synergy of climate change, global migration, and sustainable food production*

As mentioned previously, the UNEP ranked 'coping with migration caused by new aspects of environmental change' number 20 in the *21 Issues for the 21st Century*. Initial concern for this issue derives from the frequency of natural disasters such as coastal and river flooding, hurricanes, typhoons, and wind storms. Natural disasters such as these have more than doubled over the last two decades thus driving people from their households and even countries of origin. Furthermore, there are other long-term conditions gradually caused by shifting environmental circumstances that force citizens to relocate. Sea levels continue to rise threatening the world's coastlines and island states. Temperatures steadily increase as draughts become more severe posing insufferable risks to agricultural production. In 2008 alone, a minimum of 20 million people were displaced due to 'climate-induced sudden-onset natural disasters'.<sup>74</sup> The IOM estimates that by 2050, there will be nearly 200 million environmental migrants, but even this number is potentially skewed depending on the definition of environmental migrant and the available data from each Member State.

Climate change, in itself, does not directly force people to move, but rather produces environmental impacts that dramatically alter one's ability to survive safely and sustainably. Every corner of the Earth is affected by climate change and the environment, thus every person on Earth is a potential environmental migrant. Systems such as the sea ice biome, tundra, boreal forest and mountain regions are threatened due to sensitivity to warming. Mediterranean sectors and tropical rainforests are lacking appropriate rainfall. Regions at mid-latitudes are strained due to lacking water resources and changes in rainfall and evapotranspiration. Low-lying coastal systems are threatened by rising sea levels and shrinking land masses for overbearing populations. In order to address these concerns appropriately, the IOM has compiled four patterns in which climate change could affect international migration: "the intensification of natural disasters, increased warming and draught that affects agricultural production and access to clean water, rising sea levels which make coastal area uninhabitable and increase the number of sinking island states, and competition over natural resources may lead to conflict and in turn displacement."<sup>75</sup> Often, it is the onset of climate change, i.e. natural disasters, that is associated with the displacement of peoples; however, it is gradual changes such as desertification and coastal and soil erosion, that prove to have the largest impact on the larger amount of people. Similar to the destruction of crops by a sudden natural disaster, slow-onset scenarios also directly threaten the livelihood of those affected in the long-term. Specifically, those who have built a life dependent upon agricultural production are forced to pursue alternative measures of income thus leading many rural families to the option of migration. However, this can also take place in a seasonal context in which migrants move depending on the harvest season; during the off-season, migrants temporarily relocate in order to find means of income while their harvest lay fruitless. These migratory patterns have become evident in countries such as Mali, Senegal, Ethiopia, Argentina, and India when the growing season has ended.<sup>76</sup> One of the most terrifying slow-onset scenarios is evident within island states such as Tuvalu and the Maldives. Gradually sinking below sea level, these country's entire civilizations will eventually be destroyed thus procuring one of the most severe situations dealing with environmental migration.

Generally, whether the migration is in response to a sudden or slow-onset event, the move takes place internally but often spills over to the closest border. These moves may result in settling within various other countries; however the financial burdens associated with international transit often prohibits migrants from fleeing their country or region of origin. Many of the shifts following disasters tend to be of short-distance and on a temporary basis, but follow various migratory patterns based on the nature, intensity, and duration of the event. Regardless, it is important to note the critical role of various economic factors in regards to the risk awareness and response to such disasters. Developing countries are especially vulnerable to such occurrences due to the lack of resources to predict, prevent, respond, and rebuild following an aforementioned event. Many countries lack the adaptive ability to secure their citizen's safety and livelihood when their national policies do not reflect the proper protocol to address such circumstances. However, these anomalies are not just limited to less developed countries. The United States, for

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<sup>74</sup> 21 Issues for the 21st Century: Results of the UNEP Foresight Process on Emerging Environmental Issues. UNEP, 2012. [http://www.unep.org/publications/ebooks/foresightreport/Portals/24175/pdfs/Foresight\\_Report-21\\_Issues\\_for\\_the\\_21st\\_Century.pdf](http://www.unep.org/publications/ebooks/foresightreport/Portals/24175/pdfs/Foresight_Report-21_Issues_for_the_21st_Century.pdf)

<sup>75</sup> Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Assessing the Evidence. IOM, 2009. [http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/migration\\_and\\_environment.pdf](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/migration_and_environment.pdf)

<sup>76</sup> Ibid.

example, encountered numerous hardships following the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 ranging from a criticized national response, to significant changes in the demographics within the affected regions.<sup>77</sup>

### *On the impact of global migration on sustainable food development*

While addressing the circumstances and factors that surround global migration, it is also the purpose of this committee to consider the severity of the international food crisis and the pursuance of sustainable food development. Food security has been a challenging topic dating back to the infancy of mankind and the dilemmas that influence food security range in a multitude of factors. For the purposes of this UNEP session, it is necessary to address sustainable food production as it relates to global migration. The most obvious link between these two topics is the relevance of labor force productivity when there are substantial shifts from rural to urban regions. The agriculture sector is the world's largest employer enabling the livelihood of over 40 percent of the global population.<sup>78</sup> Additionally, the majority of the world's poor rural families depend solely on the income derived from agricultural practices, not to mention nearly 80 percent of the developing world depends on food from 500 million small rural farms.<sup>79</sup> Regardless, in 2010 alone, 925 million people lived undernourished due to food insecurity even though global food production consumes nearly one quarter of the world's habitable land.<sup>80</sup> This reality is even more daunting considering the 9 billion people expected to inhabit the earth in 2050 and the 70 percent increase in agricultural production required to sustain such a robust population.<sup>81</sup>

One of the most relevant indicators of the relationship between environmental factors, migratory practices, and food security rest in the research of 17 countries in the Sahel, the region of Africa expanding across the northern part of the continent between the Atlantic Ocean and the Red Sea.<sup>82</sup> The UNEP developed a study in conjunction with the IOM and UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United Nations University (UNU) to expose the dangers that threaten the millions of lives within this region. In the Sahel, 80 percent of the inhabitants depend on natural resources for their livelihoods and unequivocally rely on the sustainability of their environment. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) classifies the Sahel and West Africa among the most vulnerable regions to climate variations; not unbelievable considering the looming risk of armed conflict accompanied by disruptions within the ecological, social, and economic sectors caused by shrinking natural resources. In 2008, Jan Egeland, Special Advisor to the UN Secretary-General for Conflict Prevention and Resolution identified three primary risks for the Sahel: (i) threatening impacts of potential climate fluctuations on people's livelihoods; (ii) Increasing migratory patterns due to disasters, conflicts and the subsequent loss of livelihood; and (iii) rising tensions and conflicts resulting from competing for natural resources.<sup>83</sup> This study identified that environmental factors, specifically fluctuations in climate, severely impact the livelihoods of those who directly depended on natural resources thus threatening their food security. Aside from the standard environmental impacts, (i.e. natural disasters, draught, flooding) factors such as the decrease in crop yields, insufficient grazing land, and lacking water sources further perpetuates the vulnerability of this region ultimately leaving households with little to insufficient food. The study also found that due to shrinking natural resources and environmental variability, migration is less likely to follow traditional seasonal or circulatory patterns thus refusing migrants opportunities for trade and the sharing of agricultural practices and techniques. Traditional migration patterns in the Sahel are being replaced by permanent South to South movements, again decreasing rural productivity and intensifying the food crisis.<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>77</sup> Ibid.

<sup>78</sup> Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture; Rio+20. <http://www.un.org/en/sustainablefuture/food.shtml#facts>

<sup>79</sup> Ibid.

<sup>80</sup> The Critical Role of Global Food Consumption Patterns in Achieving Sustainable Food Systems and Food for All; UNEP.

<sup>81</sup> UNEP 2012 Yearbook. [http://www.unep.org/yearbook/2012/pdfs/UYB\\_2012\\_FULLREPORT.pdf](http://www.unep.org/yearbook/2012/pdfs/UYB_2012_FULLREPORT.pdf)

<sup>82</sup> Livelihoods Security: Climate Change, Migration, and Conflict in the Sahel; UNEP.  
[http://www.unep.org/pdf/UNEP\\_Sahel\\_EN.pdf](http://www.unep.org/pdf/UNEP_Sahel_EN.pdf)

<sup>83</sup> Ibid.

<sup>84</sup> Ibid.

## *Conclusion*

Sustainable food production is paramount in achieving the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG) to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.<sup>85</sup> Over the past few decades, food production has been at the forefront of the international agenda thus procuring a multitude of strategies and techniques for success. Between the advances of modern technology, the sharing of best practices and the use of bio-solutions, sustainable food production has the capability of drastically reducing the 860 million people suffering from chronic hunger.<sup>86</sup>

Before addressing the complex nature of global migration and sustainable food production it is necessary to acknowledge that this topic is still lacking sufficient empirical research at the international level. Although neither global migration nor food production is a new phenomenon demanding the attention of the international community, the correlation among these issues is continuously developing and changing. Furthermore, these topics are individually broad in nature and both encompass a wide array of factors and variables to be considered which involve social, economic, political, and cultural levers. However, it is imperative to remain focused on the parameters of the UNEP in discussing the solutions to these issues. It is the purpose of this committee to address global migration and sustainable food production in an environmental context, ranging from the underlying influences caused by environmental factors to the impact of said problem on the environment as a whole.

## *Committee Directive*

This committee must take into account both the positive and the negative impacts of global migration, looking for ways to provide Member States with adequate mechanisms to address the dilemmas associated with migration. This can include incorporating improved national policies that specifically outline necessary procedures for handling environmental migrants, both domestically and internationally. In doing so, delegates should address the various classifications of migratory patterns and the impacts of each type of migration on their domestic socio-economic sectors. Member States need to improve national capabilities to predict, prevent, respond, and rebuild following any natural disaster or environmental calamity. Consider what steps Member States can take in order to prevent migrants from leaving their country of origin in the first place, whether this involves strengthening infrastructure, alleviating potential conflicts, or providing the necessary resources to support people's livelihoods. Bear in mind, that not all migration negatively impacts either the country/region of origin or destination, but can also procure positive results for both locations. Delegates may consider how to better foster bilateral relationships between countries of origin and destination in order to achieve the most optimum result for both parties. It is also important to correlate the significance of sustainable food production when discussing global migration. Consider the relationship between food production and migration and how implementing sustainable measures could drastically alter migration patterns both internally and externally. As discussed, urbanization has an undeniable influence on this topic and directly correlates to agricultural production; thus we must anticipate the growing demand for agricultural production as the world's population continues to increase and the agricultural labor force continues to migrate out of rural farming communities. Practices and techniques in achieving sustainable food production are welcome to this discussion, but do not ignore the parameters of UNEP and the roles of other relevant UN bodies within this topic area.

Addressing the global migration phenomena while highlighting the importance of sustainable food production is no small feat. However, as the United Nations Environmental Programme, it is our duty to work towards cohesive solutions to solving the hindrances associated to migration and food production. As an international community, it is our responsibility to work collectively with respect and diplomacy to provide the steps necessary for a sustainable future for all.

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<sup>85</sup> UN Millennium Development Goals; UN.org. <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/poverty.shtml>

<sup>86</sup> Food Sustainability; UN.

[http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/news\\_events/9.1\\_news\\_archives/2008\\_09\\_24/food\\_sustainability.pdf](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/news_events/9.1_news_archives/2008_09_24/food_sustainability.pdf)

## Technical Appendix Guide (TAG)

### Topic I: Measuring the Role of International Development Programs in Stimulating Domestic Environmental Markets

*The Global Environmental Goods and Services Industry.* OECD.

<http://www.oecd.org/industry/industryandglobalisation/2090577.pdf>

This is a valuable resource for delegates to look at the industry of global environmental goods and services. There is a wealth of information on what the industry consists of and all the intricacies that go along with it. Did you know that the industry is estimated to consist of over \$250 billion and is growing at about 5% per year? Take a look at this document and you can get great statistics and material for your position papers and speeches for the conference.

Cavusgil, S. Tamer (1993) "Globalization of Markets and Its Impact on Domestic Institutions," *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies*: Vol. 1: Iss. 1, Article 5.

<http://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1004&context=ijgls>

This is a great article for delegates to get an academic perspective on the impact that globalization of markets has on domestic institutions. This perspective offers a lot of insight and could be really helpful for delegates when beginning their research and even when formalizing their position.

Joke Waller-Hunter and Tom Jones (2002) "Globalization and Sustainable Development" *International Review for Environmental Strategies*. Vol. 3 No. 1, P\pp. 53-62,

[http://unfccc.int/files/press/news\\_room/unfccc\\_in\\_the\\_press/application/pdf/int-01sep02.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/press/news_room/unfccc_in_the_press/application/pdf/int-01sep02.pdf)

Globalization is a complex term. We argue all the time that the world seems like it is getting smaller and smaller with the introduction of the internet and other technologies. This resource is a look at the link between globalization and sustainable development. This is a great starting point for delegates that are unsure of what globalization has done to the environment sector. Additionally, looking at this resource should get delegates thinking about plans of action and proposed ideas for committee.

*Globalization for Development: The International Trade Perspective.* (2008) The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. [http://unctad.org/en/Docs/ditc20071\\_en.pdf](http://unctad.org/en/Docs/ditc20071_en.pdf)

This is a resource that delegates should at least take a look at. It offers a unique look at the trade perspective of globalization and could help when researching for position papers and formulating plans of action during the conference. Trade is often difficult to understand, but this paper brings the topic to life and can be followed easier than some other sources.

## **Topic II: Addressing Global Migration and the Importance of Supporting Sustainable Food Production**

*The critical role of global food consumption patterns in achieving sustainable food systems and food for all.* United Nations Environment Programme. <http://fletcher.tufts.edu/CIERP/~media/Fletcher/Microsites/CIERP/Publications/2012/UNEP%20Global%20Food%20Consumption.pdf>

Did you know that if current food consumption rates continue, humanity will need the equivalent of two Earths to support it by 2030. This research paper is filled with vital information in food production patterns and statistics that can be utilized by delegates. There are case studies and concrete examples to support the main idea. Take advantage of such a great resource.

*Organic Agriculture and Food Security in Africa.* UNEP-UNCTAD Capacity-building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development. UNCTAD/UNEP. New York and Geneva. 2008. [http://unctad.org/en/Docs/ditcted200715\\_en.pdf](http://unctad.org/en/Docs/ditcted200715_en.pdf)

This document discusses the need for food security and although concentrates in Africa is useful for all Member States. The Statistics provide valuable information and the case studies bring the topic to life. The need to feed 6 billion people is getting more and more difficult and with a growing population, the need is even greater.

*21 Issues for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Results of the UNEP Foresight Process on Emerging Environmental Issues.* United Nations Development Programme. Feb. 2012. [http://www.unep.org/publications/ebooks/foresightreport/Portals/24175/pdfs/Foresight\\_Report-21\\_Issues\\_for\\_the\\_21st\\_Century.pdf](http://www.unep.org/publications/ebooks/foresightreport/Portals/24175/pdfs/Foresight_Report-21_Issues_for_the_21st_Century.pdf)

In 2010, coinciding with the road to Rio+20 and UNEPs work in the Green Economy, a process was formed to answer a set of critical scientific questions as to what will be the biggest issues over the next few years. The findings are in this document and are very useful for delegates.

*Livelihood Security: Climate Change, Migration and Conflict in the Sahel.* United Nations Environment Programme 2011. [http://www.un.org/en/events/environmentconflictday/pdf/UNEP\\_Sahel\\_EN.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/events/environmentconflictday/pdf/UNEP_Sahel_EN.pdf)

This report was produced through a partnership between UNEP, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the UN University. Climate trends, migration, conflict and other issues are also very pertinent to our discussion of this topic. Delegates are encouraged to take a look.