SRMUN CHARLOTTE 2019
Redefining the Role of International Organizations in the New Global Era
March 28-30, 2019
g77_charlotte@srmun.org

Delegates,

Welcome to SRMUN Charlotte 2019 and the Group of 77 (G-77). My name is Prix Berry and I have the pleasure of serving as your Director for the G-77. This is my fourth time as a SRMUN Charlotte staff member. Previously, I served as Assistant Under Secretary-General for SRMUN Charlotte 2017. In May 2018, I graduated from the University of Texas at Tyler with a MBA in Business Management and Finance. I currently live in Indiana and I work for one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the United States. Our committee's Assistant Director is Yara Al Bayyari. This is Yara's first time as a SRMUN staff member, but she is by no means new to Model UN, having been a delegate at multiple conferences, including SRMUN Atlanta 2018 where she was a delegate in the League of Arab States. Yara is double majoring in Political Science and Psychology Pre-med at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

As the largest intergovernmental organization of developing Member States, G-77 is designed to promote economic interests in the areas of trade and development while expanding its negotiation capacity at the United Nations. G-77 was established in 1964 at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. Originally composed of 77 Member States, G-77 has since expanded to 134 Member States. Much of the work of G-77 focuses on South-South cooperation and efforts to strengthen economic development for developing Member States.

By focusing on the mission of the G-77 and the SRMUN Charlotte 2019 theme of "*Redefining the Role of International Organizations in the New Global Era,*" we have developed the following topics for delegates to discuss at the conference:

    I. Combatting Poverty in Developing Member States through Agricultural Development
    II. Improving Inter-State Conflict Prevention Strategies

This background guide provides an introduction to the committee and the topics that will be debated at SRMUN Charlotte 2019. It should be utilized as a foundation for a delegate's independent research. However, while we have attempted to provide a general analysis of the issues, this guide should not be used as the single source of materials for research for the topics. Delegates are expected to go beyond the background guide and engage in intellectual inquiry of their own. The position papers for the committee should reflect the complexity of these issues and their externalities. Delegations are expected to submit a position paper and be prepared for a vigorous discussion at the conference.

Position papers should be no longer than two pages in length (single spaced) and must demonstrate your Member State's position, policies, and recommendations on each of the two topics. For more detailed information about formatting and how to write position papers, delegates can visit srmun.org. *All position papers MUST be submitted no later than Friday, March 8, 2019, by 11:59pm EST via the SRMUN website.*

Yara and I are very excited to serve as your dais for the G-77. We wish you all the best of luck in your conference preparation and look forward to working with you in the near future. Please feel free to contact Deputy Director-General Keith Brannum, Yara or myself if you have any questions while preparing for the conference.

Prix Berry	Yara Al Bayyari	Keith Brannum
Director	Assistant Director	Deputy Director-General
g77_charlotte@srmun.org	g77_charlotte@srmun.org	ddg_charlotte@srmun.org

Committee History of Group of 77

The Group of 77 (G-77) is the largest intergovernmental cooperation of developing Member States and was established on June 15, 1964 under the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva, Switzerland.[1] The establishment of the G77 was meant to highlight development and trade issues the Member States continually encountered.[2] Additionally, the Member States sought to create a sense of cooperation with the intention of raising the living standards of their population during a time of "adverse external conditions."[3]

Originally, 77 developing Member States were signatories to the "Joint Declaration of the Seventy-Seven Countries" issued at the conclusion of the UNCTAD meeting in Geneva, Switzerland in 1964.[4] The signatories of the G-77 accredited UNCTAD as a significant step towards a "new and just world economic order."[5] The Member States agreed that the collaboration would serve as an instrument for a larger co-operative venture and strengthen partnerships with the international community.[6]

The joint declaration was affirmed due to common interests among the developing Member States and classified the Group of 77 as an "instrument for enlarging the area of co-operative endeavor in the international field and for securing mutually beneficent relationships with the rest of the world."[7] With the "Joint Declaration of the Seventy-Seven Countries," the 77 Member States pledged to "maintain, foster and strengthen" the cooperation heading into the future by increasing methods of communication and consultations among themselves. The pledge also made it possible for the G-77's Member States to shape discussions, objectives, and articulate mutual programs of action.[8]

The G-77 defined their principles with the "First Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77: Charter of Algiers." The meeting took place from October 10 to 25, 1967, accentuating programs of actions such as commodity policies, exports expansion, economic integration, and measures aiding the least developed Members within the G-77.[9] The first Ministerial Meeting was based on a common course of action envisioned in the African Declaration of Algiers, the Bangkok Declaration of Asian countries, and the Charter of Tequendama of Latin American countries.[10]

The G-77 established chapters across five cities with corresponding liaison organizations. The five chapters are in Geneva with UNCTAD, Nairobi with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), Paris with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Rome with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and Vienna with the United

---

[1] "Historical Background," Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: The G77 and China Rome Chapter, 2013. http://www.fao.org/g77/g77-home/historical-background/en/ (accessed August 3, 2018)

[2] "Historical Background," Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: The G77 and China Rome Chapter, 2013. http://www.fao.org/g77/g77-home/historical-background/en/ (accessed August 3, 2018)

[3] *Joint Declaration of The Seventy-Seven Developing Countries Made at the Conclusion of The United Nations Conference on Trade And Development.* The Group of 77 at the United Nations. June 15, 1964.

[4] "Establishment," The Group of 77 at the United Nations: About the Group of 77. http://www.g77.org/doc/index.html#aim (accessed August 3, 2018)

[5] "Establishment," The Group of 77 at the United Nations: About the Group of 77. http://www.g77.org/doc/index.html#aim (accessed August 3, 2018)

[6] "Establishment," The Group of 77 at the United Nations: About the Group of 77. http://www.g77.org/doc/index.html#aim (accessed August 3, 2018)

[7] "Historical Background," Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: The G77 and China Rome Chapter, 2013. http://www.fao.org/g77/g77-home/historical-background/en/ (accessed August 3, 2018)

[8] "Historical Background," Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: The G77 and China Rome Chapter, 2013. http://www.fao.org/g77/g77-home/historical-background/en/ (accessed August 3, 2018)

[9] "Historical Background," Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: The G77 and China Rome Chapter, 2013. http://www.fao.org/g77/g77-home/historical-background/en/ (accessed August 3, 2018)

[10] *First Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77: Charter of Algiers*. The Group of 77 at the United Nations. October 1967. http://www.g77.org/doc/algier~1.htm (accessed August 3, 2018)

Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).[11][12][13][14][15] An additional chapter has been coordinated with the Group of 24 (G-24) in Washington, D.C., with support of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.[16] In addition to support from both financial institutions, activities of G-77 are financed through its Member States.[17]

The G-77 rotates the position of Chairmen, which is…. "the highest political body within the organizational structure of the Group of 77," between the following regions: Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, and the Caribbean. The Chairmen holds the position for one year. The current Chairman of the Group of 77 for 2018 is the Arab Republic of Egypt.[18]

Currently the South Summit is the supreme decision making body of the G-77, where the Summit takes place every five years. The First Summit was held in Havana, Cuba on April 10-14, 2000.[19] During the First Summit, G-77 formally adopted the Havana Programme of Action.[20] The Havana Programme of Action focuses on globalization, advancements of technological developments, South-South cooperation, and North-South relations.[21] The Second South Summit was held in Doha, Qatar, on June 12-16 2005 and it was at this Summit that G-77 formally adopted the Doha Plan of Action as well as the Doha Declaration.[22] The Doha Plan of Action and the Doha Declaration spells out the North-South relations, South-South cooperation, and "the shortcomings and economic inequities inherent in the international economic system which need to be rectified."[23] Following the geographical rotation, the Third South Summit was set to be held in Africa in 2011, but was canceled due to the political turmoil.[24] In addition, the Member States of the G-77 convene annually before the UN General Assembly in New York and periodically ahead of UNCTAD, UNESCO, and UNIDO sessions.[25]

The UN Secretary-General, António Guterres addressed the G-77 in September of 2017. He stated that progress comes with inequality, and it is up to the G-77 body to ensure that Member States are not left behind and that inequalities are not deepened. Secretary-General Guterres commented, "I commend your example of collective leadership that works together to promote fair multilateralism and advance sustainable development for all."[26]

---

[11] The Group of 77 at the United Nations: Geneva Chapter. http://www.g77.org/geneva/geneva.html
        (accessed August 3, 2018)
[12] The Group of 77 at the United Nations: Nairobi Chapter. http://www.unon.org/g77/ (accessed August 3, 2018)
[13] The Group of 77 at the United Nations: Paris Chapter. http://www.g77.org/paris/index.html
        (accessed August 3, 2018)
[14] The Group of 77 at the United Nations: Rome Chapter. http://www.fao.org/g77/g77-home/en/?no_cache=1
        (accessed August 3, 2018)
[15] The Group of 77 at the United Nations: Vienna Chapter. http://www.g77.org/vienna/ (accessed August 3, 2018)
[16] "About the G24 – 'What is the G-24,'" http://www.g24.org/about.html (accessed August 3, 2018)
[17] "About the Group of 77" Group of 77, http://www.g77.org/doc/ (accessed December 11, 2018).
[18] The Group of 77 at the United Nations. http://www.g77.org/doc/ (accessed August 3, 2018)
[19] "About the Group of 77" Group of 77, http://www.g77.org/doc/ (accessed December 11, 2018).
[20] "Group of 77 South Summit", Group of 77, http://www.g77.org/summit/ProgrammeofAction_G77Summit.htm
        (accessed December 11, 2018).
[21] "Group of 77 South Summit", Group of 77, http://www.g77.org/summit/ProgrammeofAction_G77Summit.htm
        (accessed December 11, 2018).
[22] "Doha Plan of Action", Group of 77, http://www.g77.org/southsummit2/doc/Doha%20Plan%20of%20Action%20(English).pdf
        (accessed December 11, 2018).
[23] "Doha Plan of Action", Group of 77, http://www.g77.org/southsummit2/doc/Doha%20Plan%20of%20Action%20(English).pdf
        (accessed December 11, 2018).
[24] Deen, Thalif "South Summit of World Leaders in Search of a Venue", Inter Press Service,
        http://www.ipsnews.net/2011/08/south-summit-of-world-leaders-in-search-of-a-venue/
        (accessed December 11, 2018).
[25] "Group of 77 and China (G77)," Earth Summit 2002: Building Partnerships for Sustainable Development.
        http://www.earthsummit2002.org/toolkits/women/otherforums/g77.html (accessed August 3, 2018)
[26] "Secretary-General's Statement to Annual Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the G77 and China [as delivered]," The United
        Nations Secretary-General. https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2017-09-22/secretary-generals-statement-
        annual-meeting-foreign-ministers-g77 (accessed August 3, 2018)

I. Combating Poverty in Developing Member States through Agricultural Development

Introduction

In developing Member States, one in ten people are living below the poverty line and over 767 million people continue to live in extreme poverty.[27] The United Nations (UN) has made strong efforts to combat extreme poverty throughout the world, which still persists despite calls for international efforts to address it. Extreme poverty was defined in the 2015 Millennium Development Goals Report as "any individual that lived on less than USD 1.25 a day."[28] Overall, global poverty has decreased, while regional to local communities have seen various and uneven levels of poverty reduction.[29] Those living in poverty in rural areas have not seen their livelihoods improve in the last 30 years.[30] The fight to end poverty in developing Member States has been a top priority for the UN for several decades.[31] Although significant progress has been made, poverty still exists in developing Member States. [32] Currently, the international poverty line is measured at USD 1.90 a day, and up to 42 percent of the population in Sub-Saharan Africa continues to live below the poverty line.[33] Poverty extends beyond the lack of income and resources; it can include "hunger and malnutrition, limited access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusion as well as the lack of participation in decision-making."[34] Agricultural development is pivotal in poverty reduction, as it is considered as a source of livelihood for nearly 2.5 billion people in developing Member States.[35] Therefore, it is imperative for Member States to work together in order to combat poverty while boosting agriculture development.

History

Reducing poverty and hunger has always been at the forefront of the UN.[36] Development became a central theme for the UN in 1960 under the leadership of Former Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold of Sweden. In 1960, the UN admitted 17 new members into the organization and not only did these new Member States drastically change the composition of the UN body, but they also brought attention to issues such as world hunger to the center stage.[37] One of the most urgent concerns at the time was reducing poverty and world hunger and as a result, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) led "international action to address the situation of these new UN members from Africa, parts of Asia, and the Pacific and the Caribbean, as well as that of other members in similar situations, by

---

[27] "Ending poverty and hunger by investing in agriculture and rural areas", Food and agriculture organization of the United Nations, http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7556e.pdf (assessed October 16, 2018).

[28] "The Millenium Development Goals Report 2015 Summary." United Nations, 2015. 3 https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20Summary%20web_english.pdf

[29] "Ending poverty and hunger by investing in agriculture and rural areas", Food and agriculture organization of the United Nations, http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7556e.pdf (assessed October 16, 2018).

[30] Ravallion, M. 2016. Are the world's poorest being left behind? Journal of Economic Growth, 21(139). http://www.ecineq.org/milano/WP/ECINEQ2015-369.pdf (assessed October 17, 2018).

[31] "Working together to for poverty eradication and sustainable development", United Nations Systems, https://www.unsystem.org/content/working-together-poverty-eradication-and-sustainable-development (assessed October 18, 2018).

[32] "Goal 1: End poverty of all forms everywhere", United Nations, https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/ (assessed October 18, 2018).

[33] "Goal 1: End poverty of all forms everywhere", United Nations, https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/ (assessed October 18, 2018).

[34] "Goal 1: End poverty of all forms everywhere", United Nations, https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/ (assessed October 18, 2018).

[35] "Agriculture and poverty reduction ", World Development Reports, http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/EXTWDRS/0,,contentMDK:21501332~pagePK:478093~piPK:477627~theSitePK:477624,00.html (assessed October 17, 2018).

[36] "A Prehistory of the Millennium Development Goals: Four Decades of Struggle for Development in the United Nations", UN Chronicle, https://unchronicle.un.org/article/prehistory-millennium-development-goals-four-decades-struggle-development-united-nations (accessed November 2, 2018).

[37] "A Prehistory of the Millennium Development Goals: Four Decades of Struggle for Development in the United Nations", UN Chronicle, https://unchronicle.un.org/article/prehistory-millennium-development-goals-four-decades-struggle-development-united-nations (accessed November 2, 2018).

launching on 1 July 1960 the "Freedom from Hunger" Campaign."[38] The purpose of the campaign was to draw international attention to the problem of hunger, while seeking support from governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).[39]

Millions globally suffer from poverty in both developed and developing Member States, however, the majority is concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.[40] The UN has created awareness regarding poverty by drafting several Resolutions in observance of the International Year for Eradicating of Poverty.[41] In 1993, the General Assembly adopted A/RES/48/183 while reaffirming resolutions such as A/RES/47/197 and A/RES/46/141, both relating to international cooperation on eradicating poverty in developing Member States.[42] Within these resolutions, the UN recognizes that "poverty is a complex and multidimensional problem with origins in both the national and international domains and that its eradication in all countries, in particular in developing Member States, has become the priority development objectives for the 1990s in order to promote sustainable development".[43] In 1997, the General Assembly adopted A/RES/51/178, which reminded Member States on the need for progress in inter-state cooperation to address poverty. The resolution also called for NGO and IGO cooperation, along with participation from financial institutions and individuals to contribute directly to the effort to eradicate extreme poverty.[44] At the national level, the Resolution expresses concern for the increase of poverty in developing Member States by stressing the importance of creating national poverty reduction programs.[45]

These UN actions created integrated agency efforts to address poverty as a common global responsibility. Also, there had been stagnant investments in agricultural development over the previous 30 years.[46] However, in 1977, the General Assembly created the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD),[47] an international financial institution that is dedicated to eradicating poverty in rural areas of developing Member States by providing "low-interest loans and grants to developing Member States to finance innovative agricultural programmes and projects."[48] For example, IFAD's Agriculture Sector Development Programme was a project created for Nepal in 2017 by IFAD, for the purpose of increasing incomes while improving livelihoods.[49] The agriculture sector within Nepal saw a sharp decline from 4.6 percent to 1.9 percent in the recent years.[50] The project seeks to increase access to different economic opportunities for poor farmers and to improve the community infrastructure and services in hill and mountain areas.[51] The program is part of IFAD's continued responsibility to ensure that those located within

---

[38] "A Prehistory of the Millennium Development Goals: Four Decades of Struggle for Development in the United Nations", UN Chronicle, https://unchronicle.un.org/article/prehistory-millennium-development-goals-four-decades-struggle-development-united-nations (accessed November 2, 2018).

[39] "A Prehistory of the Millennium Development Goals: Four Decades of Struggle for Development in the United Nations", UN Chronicle, https://unchronicle.un.org/article/prehistory-millennium-development-goals-four-decades-struggle-development-united-nations (accessed November 2, 2018).

[40] "Ending poverty and hunger by investing in agriculture and rural areas", Food and agriculture organization of the United Nations, http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7556e.pdf (assessed October 16, 2018).

[41] "General Assembly", United Nations, http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/51/ares51-178.htm (accessed October 16, 2018).

[42] "General Assembly", United Nations, http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r183.htm (accessed November 2, 2018).

[43] "General Assembly", United Nations, http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r183.htm (accessed November 2, 2018).

[44] "General Assembly", United Nations, http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/51/ares51-178.htm (accessed October 16, 2018).

[45] "General Assembly", United Nations, http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/51/ares51-178.htm (accessed October 16, 2018).

[46] "Ending poverty and hunger by investing in agriculture and rural areas", Food and agriculture organization of the United Nations, http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7556e.pdf (assessed October 16, 2018).

[47] "International Fund for Agricultural Development", UN Systems, https://www.unsceb.org/content/ifad (accessed November 4, 2018).

[48] "International Fund for Agricultural Development", UN Systems, https://www.unsceb.org/content/ifad (accessed November 4, 2018).

[49] "Marketing/Storage/Processing: Agriculture Sector Development Programme", IFAD, https://www.ifad.org/web/operations/project/id/2000001418/country/nepal (accessed November 10, 2018).

[50] "Marketing/Storage/Processing: Agriculture Sector Development Programme", IFAD, https://www.ifad.org/web/operations/project/id/2000001418/country/nepal (accessed November 10, 2018).

[51] "Marketing/Storage/Processing: Agriculture Sector Development Programme", IFAD, https://www.ifad.org/web/operations/project/id/2000001418/country/nepal (accessed November 10, 2018).

poor rural areas have access to local and national economic assistance programs, as well as natural resources such as land and water, agricultural technologies and production services, and opportunities to engage in competitive markets for agricultural inputs and produce.[52] Since its creation, IFAD invested over USD 12 billion in 860 projects that reached nearly 370 million people and governments.[53]

Such actions are also being emulated at the regional level. One of the most successful programs in poverty reductions is the comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) which is an African Union led initiative framework policy towards agricultural transformation, wealth creation, food security and economic growth for all.[54] The goal of CAADP is to "achieve annual agricultural growth rates of more than 6 percent as a means of promoting food security and economic development".[55] In 2003 the African Union Summit made its first declaration on CAADP as an important and integral part of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).[56] Ibrahim Assane Mayaki of the NEPAD agency mentioned that agriculture is a business for all, where Member State's independence depends on the development of agriculture. He noted, "…it is the sector offering the greatest potential for poverty and inequality reduction, as it provides sources of productivity from which the most disadvantaged people working in the sector should benefit".[57] CAADP provides a set of principles to help define strategies to help countries reform the agricultural sector. Some of the targets include: allocating ten percent of public spending to the agriculture sector while obtaining a six percent growth of agricultural GDP.[58]

At the start of the 21st century, the UN drafted the Millennium Developmental Goals (MDGs), the first truly comprehensive framework to address poverty in the framework of development. These goals covered a wide range of areas such as: eradicating hunger and poverty, universal primary education, ensuring environmental sustainability, etc. The MDGs have helped to make an improvement on poverty statistics overall with their target of reducing extreme global poverty five years before their 2010 deadline. To date, initiatives born from the MDGs have brought more than a billion people out of extreme poverty.[59] Former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon stated, "while the 15-year push to meet the eight goals on poverty, education, gender equality, child mortality, maternal health, disease, the environment and global partnership had yielded some astonishing results, it had left too many people behind".[60]

International Efforts

The MDGs ended its 15-year push in 2015; as a result, UN Member States launched its successor, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The eight goals within the MDGs expanded into 17 goals which make up the SDGs. The first two goals focus on a wide range of topics from ending poverty to sustainable agriculture. Goal one seeks to reduce poverty by "half the proportion of men, women, and children of all ages living in poverty in all its

[52] "International Fund for Agricultural Development", UN Systems, https://www.unsceb.org/content/ifad
          (accessed November 4, 2018).
[53] "International Fund for Agricultural Development", UN Systems, https://www.unsceb.org/content/ifad
          (accessed November 4, 2018).
[54] "Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)", Office of the Special Advisor on Africa,
          http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/peace/caadp.shtml (accessed November 13, 2018).
[55] "CAADP: Policy advice to support agricultural transformation in Africa", Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale
          Zusammenarbeit, https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/14606.html (accessed December 11, 2018).
[56] "Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)", Office of the Special Advisor on Africa,
          http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/peace/caadp.shtml (accessed November 13, 2018).
[57] "Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)", Office of the Special Advisor on Africa,
          http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/peace/caadp.shtml (accessed November 13, 2018).
[58] "Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)", Office of the Special Advisor on Africa,
          http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/peace/caadp.shtml (accessed November 13, 2018).
[59] "UN: 15-year push ends extreme poverty for a billion people", The Guardian, https://www.theguardian.com/global-
          development/2015/jul/06/united-nations-extreme-poverty-millennium-development-goals
          (accessed November 3, 2018).
[60] "UN: 15-year push ends extreme poverty for a billion people", The Guardian, https://www.theguardian.com/global-
          development/2015/jul/06/united-nations-extreme-poverty-millennium-development-goals
          (accessed November 3, 2018).

dimensions according to national definitions".[61] Food production and agriculture-based activity are important aspects within goal two. Agriculture is the largest employer in the world as it provides a livelihood for nearly 40 percent of the global population and the largest source of income for poor rural households.[62] Over 500 million small farms worldwide provide almost 80 percent of the food consumed in the developing world.[63] The targets of goal two can include: doubling agricultural productivity by 2030, ensuring sustainable food production systems while implementing resilient agricultural practices with the idea of increasing productivity and production, and increase investments through international cooperation in rural infrastructure and agricultural research.[64]

Since the implementation of the SDGs, the UN is on track towards combatting poverty. Current figures indicate that 11 percent of the global population lives in extreme poverty and less than 10 percent of the global population lives on less than USD 1.90 per person per day.[65] Although there has been a significant reduction in poverty, world hunger is on the rise while the focus of agricultural development has declined. According to the UN, agricultural aid to developing Member States fell to six percent in 2016, a drastic reduction compared to the nearly 20 percent that the agricultural sector received in the mid-1980's.[66]

In 2000, during its first South Summit in Havana Cuba, the Group of 77 (G-77) drafted the Declaration of South Summit.[67] Within the Declaration, the G-77 emphasized the idea of development as a continued process that is also a contributor to global peace. One of the highest agenda items for G-77 was to overcome underdevelopment, which includes the eradication of hunger and poverty.[68] In addition, the declaration mentions the shared benefits of globalization for both developed and developing Member States, while emphasizing that globalization will not provide lasting solutions unless the core issues of extreme poverty within developing Member States are resolved.[69] According to the G-77, agriculture is a fundamental and key sector for most Member States. More than 800 million people, 78 percent of the global poor, rely on farming, livestock, aquaculture, and other forms of agriculture for their livelihood.[70] As a result, G-77 links the importance of poverty eradication and hunger to agriculture development. G-77 urges the international community to step up efforts toward the creation of a comprehensive approach to immediately tackle poverty by establishing long term, sustainable agricultural and rural development programs "to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, in order to leave no one behind".[71]

In an effort to vouch their commitment toward sustainable development, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted E/RES/2016/6 and stressed the importance of the 2030 Agenda for the SDGs. As a result, ECOSOC decided that the theme for the 55th session of the Commission on Social Development (CsocD) was "Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all".[72] In conjunction with goal one of

[61] "Sustainable development goals: changing the world in 17 steps", The Guardian, https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/ng-interactive/2015/jan/19/sustainable-development-goals-changing-world-17-steps-interactive (accessed November 3, 2018).

[62] "Goal 2: Zero Hunger", United Nations, https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/ (accessed November 4, 2018).

[63] "Goal 2: Zero Hunger", United Nations, https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/ (accessed November 4, 2018).

[64] "Goal 2: Zero Hunger", United Nations, https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/ (accessed November 4, 2018).

[65] "The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018", UN Stats, https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2018/overview/ (accessed November 2, 2018).

[66] "The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018", UN Stats, https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2018/overview/ (accessed November 2, 2018).

[67] "Group of 77 South Summit," Group of 77 http://www.g77.org/summit/Declaration_G77Summit.htm (accessed December 10, 2018).

[68] "Group of 77 South Summit," Group of 77 http://www.g77.org/summit/Declaration_G77Summit.htm (accessed December 10, 2018).

[69] "Group of 77 South Summit," Group of 77 http://www.g77.org/summit/Declaration_G77Summit.htm (accessed December 10, 2018).

[70] "For Up to 800 Million Rural Poor, a Strong World Bank Commitment to Agriculture." World Bank. November 12, 2014. http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2014/11/12/for-up-to-800-million-rural-poor-a-strong-world-bank-commitment-to-agriculture (accessed December 22, 2018).

[71] "Statement on Behalf of the Group of 77 and China", Group of 77, http://www.g77.org/statement/getstatement.php?id=161024 (accessed December 11, 2018).

[72] "55th Session of the Commission for Social Development", Department of Economic and Social Affairs, https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/united-nations-commission-for-social-development-csocd-social-policy-and-development-division/csocd55.html (accessed November 14, 2018).

the SDGs, CSocD highlighted the importance of international cooperation on current commitments to combatting poverty in all forms, ensuring that no one is left behind.[73] CSocD notes that human dignity must be at the center of all sustainable development processes since poverty is not exclusive and extends to all groups of people in both developed and developing Member States. CSocD suggested that no Member State has been able to rapidly reduce poverty levels without economic growth, because economic growth is the main source of progress towards combatting poverty. Finally, economic growth provides the resources for increased public investment in education, health, infrastructure, and social protection.[74]

Case Study: Agricultural Development in Vietnam

One of the most important success stories in international and national cooperation on poverty reduction is in East and Southeast Asia, which saw dramatic economic growth between 1975 and 2000. Within the last 30 years, Viet Nam has been able to reduce poverty levels while boosting economic growth. Much of the growth is attributed to the Doi Moi process, which is a series of national economic reforms initiated in the 1980s.[75] These reforms combined governmental planning with free market incentives while abolishing "agricultural collectives, price controls on agricultural goods, and enabled farmers to sell their goods in the marketplace."[76] The reforms encouraged the establishment of private businesses while relaxing regulations in order to increase foreign investment.[77] As a result of these reforms, Viet Nam saw a significant increase in its gross domestic product (GDP) ratio in the 1990's, where the turnover GDP ratio increased to 160 percent from 40 percent.[78]

Viet Nam saw a rapid decrease in poverty rates where the population living on less than USD 1.25 per day declined from 64 percent in 1993 to 13 percent in 2008.[79] At the same time, undernourishment declined from nearly 50 percent in the early 1990's to less than ten percent in 2010.[80] The success in poverty reduction comes from the increase in food availability and food security. A majority of their population lives in rural areas where agriculture is the primary source of income. There has been rapid agricultural growth of nearly 25 percent in 2000, which has been attributed to an increase of budget expenditures by five to seven percent.[81] [82] Along with rapid GPD growth, Viet Nam has also seen a rise in agricultural exports in terms of rice and coffee. As a result of this, there has been a slow movement to urban areas.[83] The Doi Moi process allowed Viet Nam farmers easier access to agricultural inputs, new technologies, and capital through foreign investments.[84]

---

[73] "55th Session of the Commission for Social Development", Department of Economic and Social Affairs, https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/united-nations-commission-for-social-development-csocd-social-policy-and-development-division/csocd55.html (accessed November 14, 2018).

[74] "Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all Report of the Secretary-General" Economic and Social Council, http://undocs.org/E/CN.5/2017/3 (accessed November 16, 2018).

[75] "Doi Moi and Human Development in Viet Nam", National Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, 2001 http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/vietnam_2001_en.pdf (accessed December 7, 2018).

[76] "Doi Moi and Human Development in Viet Nam", National Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, 2001 http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/vietnam_2001_en.pdf (accessed December 7, 2018).

[77] "Doi Moi and Human Development in Viet Nam", National Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, 2001 http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/vietnam_2001_en.pdf (accessed December 7, 2018).

[78] "Viet Nam at a Glace", FAO, http://www.fao.org/vietnam/fao-in-viet-nam/viet-nam-at-a-glance/en/ (accessed December 7, 2018).

[79] "Viet Nam at a Glace", FAO, http://www.fao.org/vietnam/fao-in-viet-nam/viet-nam-at-a-glance/en/ (accessed December 7, 2018).

[80] "Viet Nam at a Glace", FAO, http://www.fao.org/vietnam/fao-in-viet-nam/viet-nam-at-a-glance/en/ (accessed December 7, 2018).

[81] "Viet Nam at a Glace", FAO, http://www.fao.org/vietnam/fao-in-viet-nam/viet-nam-at-a-glance/en/ (accessed December 7, 2018).

[82] Barichello, Rick, "Agricultural Development and Poverty Reduction in East Asia: The Impact of OECD Agricultural Policies", May 2004, http://www.oecd.org/pcd/31857434.pdf (assessed October 21, 2018).

[83] "Viet Nam at a Glace", FAO, http://www.fao.org/vietnam/fao-in-viet-nam/viet-nam-at-a-glance/en/ (accessed December 7, 2018).

[84] "Doi Moi and Human Development in Viet Nam", National Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, 2001 http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/vietnam_2001_en.pdf (accessed December 7, 2018).

One of the largest drives behind agricultural development for Viet Nam was the adoption of the New Land Law of 1993.[85] This law gave farmers 20 year rights on land usage for annual crops and 50 year rights on lands used for perennial crops.[86] The law allows Viet Nam to move away from a monopoly trade towards a domestic commodity market through competition and price liberalization.[87] Through agricultural reforms, "agricultural products can now be sold across the country, and fertilizers, petrol, and other agricultural inputs have become widely available in rural areas."[88] Viet Nam's success in reducing poverty and increasing agricultural development is tied to its domestic policies.

Conclusion

Although international awareness and cooperation has increased in reducing poverty levels and agriculture, there is still work to be done. Much of the world still lives in extreme poverty and hunger, while agricultural development has remained stagnant. UN initiatives such as the MDGs and, its successor, the SDGs have increased awareness and brought the issues back to the center stage. The creation of the IFAD as a financial institution can help bridge policies for the eradication of poverty alongside the investment in agricultural development. However, the IFAD cannot do this alone. The IFAD also relies on Member State contributions and the success of its projects relies heavily on contributions from other Member States and financial institutions. Poverty cannot be decreased without increasing investments in agricultural development. It should be noted that even though there has been a reduction in poverty, recently, the percent decline in poverty rates have slowed. Therefore, global poverty remains a critical challenge.

Committee Directive

The continuation of combatting poverty and agricultural development is important for the G-77. Delegates should consider the barriers in eliminating all forms of poverty while promoting agricultural development and how the committee can address these underlying issues. How can Member States learn from each other's success in poverty reduction? How can Member States collectively come together to promote agricultural development? What poverty reduction policies have been implemented at the national level? Are there any regional alliances? Consideration should be given when drafting resolutions to developing Member States. How can G-77 expand on the existing policies? How will initiatives be financed? How can the committee create inclusiveness in agricultural development? Delegates are encouraged to use these questions as a platform when creating Resolutions.

---

[85] "Doi Moi and Human Development in Viet Nam", National Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, 2001
http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/vietnam_2001_en.pdf (accessed December 7, 2018).
[86] "Doi Moi and Human Development in Viet Nam", National Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, 2001
http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/vietnam_2001_en.pdf (accessed December 7, 2018).
[87] "Doi Moi and Human Development in Viet Nam", National Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, 2001
http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/vietnam_2001_en.pdf (accessed December 7, 2018).
[88] "Doi Moi and Human Development in Viet Nam", National Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, 2001
http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/vietnam_2001_en.pdf (accessed December 7, 2018).

II: Improving Inter-State Conflict Prevention Strategies

"*Saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war*"[89]

Introduction

The Group of 77 (G-77) was established to enhance negotiations in the United Nations (UN). Since its inception, the UN was seen as the leader in the prevention of disputes (most notably in North Africa and the Middle East), the escalation of conflicts, and the restoration of peace once an armed conflict breaks out.[90] In addition, the UN is a promoter of peacebuilding and most notably in its efforts with peacekeeping operations in regions recovering from the aftermath of conflicts.[91] The most distinguished dispute the UN has been able to arbitrate is the nuclear disarmament measures that took place during the Cold War. The UN lists the two essential components in preventing conflict resurgence as preventive diplomacy and preventive disarmament.[92] Preventive diplomacy was first used in the 1960 Annual Report and was defined as "diplomatic action taken to prevent disputes from escalating into conflicts and to limit the spread of conflicts when they occur."[93] Preventive disarmament was introduced as the act of reducing, limiting, or abolishing weapons.[94] Strategies are important in the prevention of conflict, but the key is to efficiently and effectively combine different strategies in the fight against conflicts, and success is primarily based on the cooperation of Member States.

History

Early conflict prevention efforts can be traced back to the 1815 Congress of Vienna, which established principles such as the creation of neutral states and demilitarized war zones, as well as the introduction of peaceful settlements to conflict outbreaks.[95] Chapters VI - VII of the UN Charter grants committees such as the Security Council with the power to settle disputes in a peaceful manner while preventing the outbreak of war and armed conflicts.[96] Furthermore, Charter VI outlines the series of preventive devices such as fact finding, negotiation, mediation, conciliation, judicial settlements, and finally arbitration, as conflict resolution measures. The influence of conflict and crisis prevention can be cited as an integral aspect in preventing a nuclear confrontation between global superpowers during the Cold War.[97]

In 1992, former UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali redefined the meaning of preventive diplomacy in response to the changing international climate of the post-Cold War era.[98] In his 1992 annual report, Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali defined preventive diplomacy for the post-Cold War context as a "policy aimed at preventing

---

[89] "Preamble", United Nations, http://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/preamble/index.html
(Accessed November 3, 2018).

[90] "Peace and Security", United Nations http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/peace-and-security/
(Accessed November 3, 2018).

[91] "Peace and Security", United Nations http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/peace-and-security/
(Accessed November 3, 2018).

[92] "Peace and Security", United Nations http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/peace-and-security/
(Accessed November 3, 2018).

[93] "Peace and Security", United Nations http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/peace-and-security/
(Accessed November 3, 2018).

[94] "Peace and Security", United Nations http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/peace-and-security/
(Accessed November 3, 2018).

[95] Ackermann, Alice. "The Idea and Practice of Conflict Prevention." *Journal of Peace Research* 40, no. 3 (2003): 339-47.
http://www.jstor.org/stable/3648335. (Accessed November 4, 2018).

[96] "Peace and Security", United Nations http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/peace-and-security/
(Accessed November 3, 2018).

[97] National Research Council, *International Conflict Resolution* after the *Cold War*, Washington D.C.: National Academy Press,
2000, https://www.nap.edu/read/9897/chapter/1. (Accessed November 12, 2018).

[98] "Preventive Diplomacy: Regions in Focus", IPI
https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/ipi_epub_preventive_diplomacy.pdf (Accessed November 12,
2018).

conflicts from emerging, and also escalating into violence".[99] Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali further broke down his definition by creating a series of specific measures for dealing with conflict prevention: confidence building, fact-finding missions, early warning networks, preventive deployment, and the establishment of demilitarized zones.[100] He also mentioned that the true underlying triggers of violent conflict must first be addressed economically and socially, in order to find an everlasting solution.[101] Under the leadership of former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the UN was focused more on preventing deadly conflicts within Member States, while still trying to maintain peace and security amongst them.[102] The UN experienced two of its darkest chapters under the leadership of Secretary-General Annan: the Rwanda Genocide and the Bosnian War.[103] As a result of these conflicts, he pushed for the advancement of conflict prevention strategies and he transitioned the UN from a culture of reaction to a culture of prevention.[104] In order to achieve conflict prevention, Secretary-General Annan understood the importance of incorporating the civil society as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In the 2001 annual report, Secretary-General Annan urged "NGOs with an interest in conflict prevention to organise an international conference of local, national and international NGOs on their role in conflict prevention and future interaction with the United Nations in this field."[105]

In 2010, the president of the Security Council acknowledged the importance of preventive diplomacy with the presidential statement S/PRST/2010/14.[106] The president requested a report with "recommendations on how best to optimize the use of preventive diplomacy tools within the UN organization and in cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations and other actors."[107] In response to the statement, the Secretary-General released a report in 2011 stressing the importance of strengthening the use of preventive diplomacy while also stabilizing the strategic partnership with regional and sub-regional organizations, including national institutions and NGOs.[108] Sustaining peace has been the topic of discussion within the last few years for the UN. In 2016, the General Assembly and the Security Council drafted twin resolutions A/RES/70/262 and S/RES/2282, respectively, which focus on sustaining peace.[109] Both resolutions emphasize the importance of sustaining peace through conflict prevention while addressing the root causes of conflicts.[110] The President of the 72nd session of the General Assembly, H.E. Miroslav

---

[99] Ackermann, Alice. "The Idea and Practice of Conflict Prevention." *Journal of Peace Research* 40, no. 3 (2003): 339-47. http://www.jstor.org/stable/3648335. (Accessed November 4, 2018).

[100] Ackermann, Alice. "The Idea and Practice of Conflict Prevention." *Journal of Peace Research* 40, no. 3 (2003): 339-47. http://www.jstor.org/stable/3648335. (Accessed November 4, 2018).

[101] Ackermann, Alice. "The Idea and Practice of Conflict Prevention." *Journal of Peace Research* 40, no. 3 (2003): 339-47. http://www.jstor.org/stable/3648335. (Accessed November 4, 2018).

[102] "Kofi Annan understood the limits of diplomacy, as well as why it's important never to give up", The Conversation, https://theconversation.com/kofi-annan-understood-the-limits-of-diplomacy-as-well-as-why-its-important-never-to-give-up-101792 (accessed December 12, 2018).

[103] "Kofi Annan understood the limits of diplomacy, as well as why it's important never to give up", The Conversation, https://theconversation.com/kofi-annan-understood-the-limits-of-diplomacy-as-well-as-why-its-important-never-to-give-up-101792 (accessed December 12, 2018).

[104] Bellamy, Alex J. "Conflict Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect." *Global Governance* 14, no. 2 (2008): 135-56. http://www.jstor.org/stable/27800699 (Accessed September 28, 2018).

[105] "Kofi Annan: the Loss of a Peace Icon", GPPAC, https://www.gppac.net/news/-/asset_publisher/fHv91YcOz0CI/content/kofi-annan-the-loss-of-a-peace-icon/ (accessed December 12, 2018).

[106] "Preventive Diplomacy: Regions in Focus", IPI https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/ipi_epub_preventive_diplomacy.pdf (Accessed November 12, 2018).

[107] "Preventive Diplomacy: Regions in Focus", IPI https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/ipi_epub_preventive_diplomacy.pdf (Accessed November 12, 2018).

[108] "Preventive Diplomacy: Regions in Focus", IPI https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/ipi_epub_preventive_diplomacy.pdf (Accessed November 12, 2018).

[109] "Sustaining Peace: Partnerships for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding", Center for International Cooperation, https://cic.nyu.edu/events/sustaining-peace-partnerships-conflict-prevention-and-peacebuilding (accessed December 12, 2018).

[110] "Sustaining Peace: Partnerships for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding", Center for International Cooperation, https://cic.nyu.edu/events/sustaining-peace-partnerships-conflict-prevention-and-peacebuilding (accessed December 12, 2018).

Lajcak, stressed that peacebuilding and sustaining peace were key priorities for his term.[111] The General Assembly acknowledged the role of establishing strategic and operational partnerships with key stakeholders in assisting Member States. These stakeholders can and should include the civil society, such as NGOs, and the private sector who possesses the indispensable capabilities and elements in pursuing a comprehensive approach towards peace.[112]

International Efforts

Increased awareness on conflict prevention has brought new issues into the arena, and as a result, preventative actions today are different in several ways.[113] Preventive diplomacy has expanded to include international, national, and local actors such as: non-governmental organizations, regional and other international organizations.[114] The UN is no longer the sole actor within preventive diplomacy and conflict resolution; today, much of the preventive strategies reside within local actors.[115] Local communities are becoming more "proactive in expanding their roles" in support of preventive strategies within their own national borders. Due to this, international actors are more focused on strengthening the national and regional capacities and the processes for these preventions.[116]

Partnership with key stakeholders has increased within the last few years as local governments are understanding the importance of utilizing the private sector along with NGOs as they work collectively toward conflict prevention. In response to the UN's urgency of sustaining peace, the International Peace Institute (IPI) found gaps in recognition, resources, and solutions within the partnership of local governments and various stakeholders. IPI notes that nearly 32 percent of local governments lack the funds, which is one of the biggest challenges towards sustaining peace. Additionally, practical solutions offered by the local civil society are often disregarded where local communities are typically undervalued by UN interventions.[117] Decision making at the local level is important towards sustaining peace and the prevention of conflicts. The Nigeria Peace Institute mentions, "local peacebuilders know the obstacles to peace because they endure them every day. We want you to engage local communities who know the issues and come up with tangible solutions, not… a template."[118]

Through the adoption of the Doha Plan of Action, the G-77 is committed towards supporting developing Member States emerging from conflict by enabling them to rehabilitate and reconstruct political, social, and economic infrastructures thereby assisting them in achieving their developmental priorities.[119] In 2017, the G-77 urged the UN to address the needs of developing Member States through peace and sustainable development. Ambassador Horacio Sevilla Borja, Ecuador's Permanent Representative to the UN issued a statement on behalf of the G-77 by noting

[111] "Sustaining Peace: Partnerships for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding", Center for International Cooperation, https://cic.nyu.edu/events/sustaining-peace-partnerships-conflict-prevention-and-peacebuilding (accessed December 12, 2018).
[112] "Sustaining Peace: Partnerships for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding", Center for International Cooperation, https://cic.nyu.edu/events/sustaining-peace-partnerships-conflict-prevention-and-peacebuilding (accessed December 12, 2018).
[113] "Preventive Diplomacy: Regions in Focus", IPI https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/ipi_epub_preventive_diplomacy.pdf (Accessed November 12, 2018).
[114] "Preventive Diplomacy: Regions in Focus", IPI https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/ipi_epub_preventive_diplomacy.pdf (Accessed November 12, 2018).
[115] "Preventive Diplomacy: Regions in Focus", IPI https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/ipi_epub_preventive_diplomacy.pdf (Accessed November 12, 2018).
[116] "Preventive Diplomacy: Regions in Focus", IPI https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/ipi_epub_preventive_diplomacy.pdf (Accessed November 12, 2018).
[117] "Connecting the View of Local Peacebuilders on Sustaining Peace", International Peace Institute, https://www.ipinst.org/2017/10/local-peacebuilders-on-sustaining-peace#5 (accessed December 12, 2018).
[118] "Connecting the View of Local Peacebuilders on Sustaining Peace", International Peace Institute, https://www.ipinst.org/2017/10/local-peacebuilders-on-sustaining-peace#5 (accessed December 12, 2018).
[119] "Doha Plan of Action", Group of 77, http://www.g77.org/southsummit2/doc/Doha%20Plan%20of%20Action%20(English).pdf (accessed December 12, 2018).

that, "peace is not only the absence of war."[120] The statement adds, "we are encouraged by the recent positive achievements on the efforts on peaceful resolution of complex conflicts in Africa, as well as for the general understanding to adequately resort to preventive diplomacy as a mean to avert conflicts before its outbreak."[121] Preventing conflicts can and should be achieved above and beyond conflict prevention, and must be achieved through cooperation on other policy issues, including economic development, scientific and technology exchanges, promotion of education, and promotion of the human rights of individuals, including women.[122]

The World Bank is a strong example of how prevention strategies are being utilized and implemented within our current system of international diplomacy and conflict prevention. Recently, the World Bank partnered with the UN to create "Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflicts."[123] The purpose of the pathway report is to refocus the attention on "preventing violence as a means to achieving peace."[124] The critical first step is identifying the risks early while working closely with governments to improve their response to those risks.[125] "It is estimated that violent conflict could cost up to 13 trillion USD per year globally, a figure equivalent to 13.3 percent of the world's gross domestic product (GDP)."[126] According to the World Bank, conflict results in economic loss for Member States, where there is a two to eight percent loss of GDP growth.[127] Those Member States that share borders with conflict zones are also affected: there is a one percent decline in annual GDP growth and nearly two percent growth of inflation.[128] In addition, the costs exceed USD 1 billion for managing a crisis, and nearly USD 12 billion in aid is spent on refugees.[129] Conflict prevention can be cost effective, where Member States could save upwards of USD 5 billion per year.[130] According to the Pathway Report, currently much of the spending is geared towards crisis response, which leaves a small fraction of the spending on prevention.[131]

[120] Banerjee Santo, "G77 Urges UN to Address Developing Countries Needs." Third World Network
https://www.twn.my/twnf/2017/4489.htm (accessed December 12, 2018).
[121] Banerjee Santo, "G77 Urges UN to Address Developing Countries Needs." Third World Network
https://www.twn.my/twnf/2017/4489.htm (accessed December 12, 2018).
[122] Group of 77. *G-77/SS/2005/2 Doha Plan of Action*. June 16, 2005. 2-3
http://www.g77.org/southsummit2/doc/Doha%20Plan%20of%20Action%20(English).pdf (accessed December 22, 2018)
[123] "As Conflicts Surge Around the World, New Approaches to Prevention Can Save Lives and Money - Up to US$70 Billion Per Year", The World Bank, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/03/01/as-conflicts-surge-around-the-world-new-approaches-to-prevention-can-save-lives-and-money-up-to-us70-billion-per-year
(Accessed November 12, 2018).
[124] "As Conflicts Surge Around the World, New Approaches to Prevention Can Save Lives and Money - Up to US$70 Billion Per Year", The World Bank, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/03/01/as-conflicts-surge-around-the-world-new-approaches-to-prevention-can-save-lives-and-money-up-to-us70-billion-per-year
(Accessed November 12, 2018).
[125] "As Conflicts Surge Around the World, New Approaches to Prevention Can Save Lives and Money - Up to US$70 Billion Per Year", The World Bank, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/03/01/as-conflicts-surge-around-the-world-new-approaches-to-prevention-can-save-lives-and-money-up-to-us70-billion-per-year
(Accessed November 12, 2018).
[126] "As Conflicts Surge Around the World, New Approaches to Prevention Can Save Lives and Money - Up to US$70 Billion Per Year", The World Bank, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/03/01/as-conflicts-surge-around-the-world-new-approaches-to-prevention-can-save-lives-and-money-up-to-us70-billion-per-year
(Accessed November 12, 2018).
[127] "The Economic Cost of Conflict", World Bank, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2018/03/01/the-economic-cost-of-conflict (accessed December 12, 2018).
[128] "The Economic Cost of Conflict", World Bank, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2018/03/01/the-economic-cost-of-conflict (accessed December 12, 2018).
[129] "The Economic Cost of Conflict", World Bank, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2018/03/01/the-economic-cost-of-conflict (accessed December 12, 2018).
[130] "The Economic Cost of Conflict", World Bank, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2018/03/01/the-economic-cost-of-conflict (accessed December 12, 2018).
[131] "As Conflicts Surge Around the World, New Approaches to Prevention Can Save Lives and Money - Up to US$70 Billion Per Year", The World Bank, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/03/01/as-conflicts-surge-around-the-world-new-approaches-to-prevention-can-save-lives-and-money-up-to-us70-billion-per-year
(Accessed November 12, 2018).

Regional Efforts

The European Union (EU) made major strides towards a regional approach in conflict prevention and peacebuilding. To further their efforts, the European External Action Service (EEAS) was created to deal with conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and development. The EEAS is tasked with delivering a more effective and coherent approach towards these challenges and handle an array of agenda items, from diplomatic engagement to its ability to deploy civilian and military operations.[132] Through Europe's collective experience of conflict, state-building, and peacebuilding, the EU has the ability to become a global actor for conflict prevention strategies. "The EU has a significant set of instruments at its disposal to prevent conflict and promote peace-building that spans the diplomatic, security, defense, financial, trade, development cooperation, and humanitarian aid fields".[133] The Comprehensive Approach is a joint endeavor of the EEAS and the European Commission to make the EU's external actions more consistent, effective, and strategic and it places a strong emphasis on preventing the conflict in the first place.[134] Since 2011, the EU Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa has guided the EU's engagement in the region, most notably in Somalia, through a means of active diplomacy and support in the political process, developmental assistance, and humanitarian aid.[135] The EU has contributed to the work "on establishing a peaceful, stable and democratic Somalia."[136] In addition, the EU actively pursued open political dialogue and partnership with Somalia through the engagement of the EU Special Envoy and the EU Delegation, along with joint efforts of the EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa.[137]

Case Study: South Africa

South Africa places peace and security engagements as a priority for the continent and has long advocated for a more efficient use of conflict prevention, including resources such as mediation, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding support to be better unified. In the 1990s, South Africa had undergone political transformation. Traditionally, foreign policy was built on principles of solidarity, internationalism, and pan-Africanism.[138] South Africa plays an active diplomacy role in the response to conflicts in Burundi, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In response to these conflicts, South Africa employed mediation measures, deployment of peacekeepers, as well as direct financial and technical assistance.[139] Drawing from its own experiences, South Africa created the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, set up under the Promotion of National Unity and Reconciliation Act No. 34 of 1995 by

[132] "The Growing Role of Conflict Prevention in Support of the EU's Efforts in Peacebuilding and State building", European Centre for Development and Policy Management, https://ecdpm.org/great-insights/peacebuilding-statebuilding/growing-role-conflict-prevention-support-eus-efforts-peacebuilding-statebuilding/ (accessed December 12, 2018).

[133] "The Growing Role of Conflict Prevention in Support of the EU's Efforts in Peacebuilding and State building", European Centre for Development and Policy Management, https://ecdpm.org/great-insights/peacebuilding-statebuilding/growing-role-conflict-prevention-support-eus-efforts-peacebuilding-statebuilding/ (accessed December 12, 2018).

[134] "The Growing Role of Conflict Prevention in Support of the EU's Efforts in Peacebuilding and State building", European Centre for Development and Policy Management, https://ecdpm.org/great-insights/peacebuilding-statebuilding/growing-role-conflict-prevention-support-eus-efforts-peacebuilding-statebuilding/ (accessed December 12, 2018).

[135] "The Growing Role of Conflict Prevention in Support of the EU's Efforts in Peacebuilding and State building", European Centre for Development and Policy Management, https://ecdpm.org/great-insights/peacebuilding-statebuilding/growing-role-conflict-prevention-support-eus-efforts-peacebuilding-statebuilding/ (accessed December 12, 2018).

[136] "The Growing Role of Conflict Prevention in Support of the EU's Efforts in Peacebuilding and State building", European Centre for Development and Policy Management, https://ecdpm.org/great-insights/peacebuilding-statebuilding/growing-role-conflict-prevention-support-eus-efforts-peacebuilding-statebuilding/ (accessed December 12, 2018).

[137] "The Growing Role of Conflict Prevention in Support of the EU's Efforts in Peacebuilding and State building", European Centre for Development and Policy Management, https://ecdpm.org/great-insights/peacebuilding-statebuilding/growing-role-conflict-prevention-support-eus-efforts-peacebuilding-statebuilding/ (accessed December 12, 2018).

[138] "South Africa's conflict prevention efforts must be more strategic", Institute for Security Studies https://issafrica.org/iss-today/south-africas-conflict-prevention-efforts-must-be-more-strategic (accessed December 12, 2018).

[139] "South Africa's conflict prevention efforts must be more strategic", Institute for Security Studies https://issafrica.org/iss-today/south-africas-conflict-prevention-efforts-must-be-more-strategic (accessed December 12, 2018).

the Government of National Unity to address the violence and human rights abuses under Apartheid rule.[140] The mandate of the Commission is to bear witness, record or grant amnesty to perpetrators of crimes relating to human rights violations, and also offers reparations and rehabilitation to victims.[141] The Commission serves as an entry point for South Africa to promote their national initiatives that have proven successful abroad.

South Africa played a pivotal role in the transitional process of Burundi in the early 2000s. During much of the 1990s and into the 2000s, Burundi was in the middle of an armed conflict stemmed from ethnic divisions between the Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups.   The conflict began following Burundi's first multi-party elections in 1993 in transition from a military dictatorship towards democracy. South Africa was able to provide humanitarian response to Burundi while efforts were made to find a permanent political solution. In 2000, South Africa and Tanzania established the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi, also known as the Arusha Accords.[142] The Arusha Accords were a transitional peace treaty that brought the armed conflict in Burundi to an end. The Accords point out four areas of agreements that include: representation of all parties in the state bureaucracy, restrictions to prevent any single party from possessing absolute power, integration of rebels and minority groups into the Burundian armed forces, and ethnic quotas in politics.[143] The Accords also called for security assurance through international troop deployment and as a result, South Africa was able to deploy over 1500 of its own troops into Burundi.[144] In order to sustain peace, former South African President Nelson Mandela undertook the role of facilitating the peace process. President Mandela served as the mediator and was charged with approaching African leaders for the deployment of troops to Burundi.[145] Through South Africa's deployment of troops in Burundi, the Burundi conflict came to an end in 2005. South Africa's peacebuilding response and regional cooperation have delivered positive results both nationally and abroad.

Conclusion

Conflict prevention is a multifaceted and multilateral challenge, reflecting a desire to prevent conflicts from arising between Member States and communities, as well as a desire to ease the suffering of those impacted by it's consequences. Lessons learned from Member States such as South Africa demonstrate that states and communities can not only create conditions for successful conflict resolution within their own borders, but can successfully use those experiences to help other Member states address them as well. Through the utilization of preventative measures such as active diplomacy and mediation along with the cooperative strength of the international community, intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and private parties, conflict prevention is conceivable. Finally, conflict prevention cannot only be preventative, but also be proactive, encouraging dialogue and communal cooperation beyond the government to include individual communities affected by the scourge of ware, to spare future generations from its harmful and debilitating effects.

Committee Directive

When composing your materials, delegates should consider all forms of conflict prevention strategies. Delegates should come prepared with knowledge on the previous conflict prevention method utilized in the resolution of interstate conflict in both pre and post-Cold War era. Furthermore, Delegates will be tasked with evaluating the effectiveness of currently utilized preventative measures and third party mediation tactics. This will also include analyzing where current strategies have proven to be ineffective and how these strategies can be improved upon. Delegates should also understand the roles of intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and private parties in mediating conflict. Delegates should ask themselves what are the appropriate funding methods and

[140] "South Africa's conflict prevention efforts must be more strategic", Institute for Security Studies https://issafrica.org/iss-today/south-africas-conflict-prevention-efforts-must-be-more-strategic (accessed December 12, 2018).

[141] "South Africa's conflict prevention efforts must be more strategic", Institute for Security Studies https://issafrica.org/iss-today/south-africas-conflict-prevention-efforts-must-be-more-strategic (accessed December 12, 2018).

[142] "South Africa's conflict prevention efforts must be more strategic", Institute for Security Studies https://issafrica.org/iss-today/south-africas-conflict-prevention-efforts-must-be-more-strategic (accessed December 12, 2018).

[143] "South Africa's conflict prevention efforts must be more strategic", Institute for Security Studies https://issafrica.org/iss-today/south-africas-conflict-prevention-efforts-must-be-more-strategic (accessed December 12, 2018).

[144] "South Africa's conflict prevention efforts must be more strategic", Institute for Security Studies https://issafrica.org/iss-today/south-africas-conflict-prevention-efforts-must-be-more-strategic (accessed December 12, 2018).

[145] "South Africa's conflict prevention efforts must be more strategic", Institute for Security Studies https://issafrica.org/iss-today/south-africas-conflict-prevention-efforts-must-be-more-strategic (accessed December 12, 2018).

aid packages for conflict prevention. Delegates should also understand the roles played by both state and non-state actors in conflict prevention. Finally, Delegates will also be asked to formulate policies which focus on addressing prevention and protection tactics.

Annotated Bibliography

Topic I: Combatting Poverty in Developing Member States through Agricultural Development

Marker, Phil, Kerry McNamara, and Lindsay Wallace. "The significance of information and communication technologies for reducing poverty." *London, UK: DFID* (2002).
http://scholar.google.com/scholar_url?url=http%3A%2F%2Fftp.unpad.ac.id%2Forari%2Flibrary%2Flibrary-ref-ind%2Fref-ind-1%2Fapplication%2Fpoverty-reduction%2F!%2520ICT4PR%2Fict_poverty.pdf&hl=en&sa=T&oi=ggp&ct=res&cd=24&d=14442250090200741536&ei=KdoSXL_pKI7UygSj1ZagDA&scisig=AAGBfm16kzpOZglUdtJoeI1KGhVmxs4G3Q&nossl=1&ws=1600x782&at=The%20significance%20of%20information%20and%20communication%20technologies%20for%20reducing%20poverty

> This article focuses on the role of information and communication technology (ICT) in combatting poverty while fostering sustainable development. There has been some experimentation in the international community for incorporating ICT's into poverty measures, but there are also contrasts between the two subjects in the matter of complexity and expense. There is an understanding within the international community that in order to bridge the gap of digital divide, ICTs must be relied upon. Addressing the information as well as communication needs of those in developing Member States is an essential part of tackling poverty.

Gordon, David. "The concept and measurement of poverty." *Poverty and Social Exclusion in Britain. The Millennium Survey, Policy Press, Bristol* (2006): 29-69.
https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/dc08/7ce73248c59084d4b0a8844c019cb2e74fea.pdf

> This article seeks to define poverty on a foundational level. Poverty is a widely used term amongst all Member States and considered as a universal concept. The definition of poverty is often contested as the term has several different or overlapping meanings depending on the subject area. The purpose of this article is the describe how the concept of poverty is defined and to show how poverty is actually measured in the Poverty and Social Exclusion Survey.

Cervantes-Godoy, Dalila, and Joe Dewbre. "Economic importance of agriculture for poverty reduction." (2010).
https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/content/paper/5kmmv9s20944-en

> With the adoption of the Millennium Declaration, Member States set 2015 as the target date for halving the number of people living in extreme poverty. Although there has been a global reduction in the number of people living in poverty, some Member States fell short of the goal. This article examines why some developing Member States are doing better than others in combatting poverty by looking at their shared characteristics. The article compares indicators such as macro-economic characteristics as well as agricultural economic characteristics. Surprisingly, those who saw success in poverty reduction also saw an increase in economic growth, most notably within the agriculture sector.

Topic II: Improving Inter-State Conflict Prevention Strategies

Brune, Sophie-Charlotte, et al. "Crisis and conflict prevention strategies." An international comparison (2015).
https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR959.html

This article provides an excellent analysis of the crisis and conflict prevention strategies and approaches of the four major western powers, as well as the national cases each was involved in. The article provides a brief introductory insight into the concepts, and methodology of crisis management. It explains how the international approaches to crisis and conflict prevention have shifted over the past two decades. The article also introduces the readers to the French White Paper on Defenses and its implications for crisis management and conflict prevention.

Hamburg, David A., et al. The Price of Peace: incentives and international conflict prevention. Rowman & Littlefield, 1997.

This book attempts to establish a working framework in the fields of security and conflict prevention during the post-cold war era through a series of analytical case studies. The book is also filled with the insights of specialists from a vast array of fields such as nuclear nonproliferation, regional dispute resolution, diplomacy, and international finance who have all come together in the form of case studies to explain the reasoning behind the use of incentives in preventing conflict.

Leatherman, Janie, et al. Breaking cycles of violence: Conflict prevention in intrastate crises. Janie Leatherman, Raimo Väyrynen, William Demars and Patrick Gaffney. (1999). Breaking Cycles of Violence: Conflict Prevention in Intrastate Crises, West Hartford, Connecticut: Kumarian Press., 1999.

This book explains and studies how through working closely with local organizations, the international community could dive deep into finding a rational solution to preventing the creation of violent conflict. The book does a great job of providing the building blocks necessary for identifying and explaining the intricate makeup of both internal and intrastate conflicts as a means of exploring solutions to ending violence and human injustices. It explains the importance of noticing the early warning signs of conflict and the importance of containing the situation early on, as well as what to do in the event of a conflict arising.