UNAR 2017
United Nations Development Programme

Committee Overview

Cultural Resolution of Conflicts
Promoting Peace and Development in Central Africa
Treatment and Control of Tuberculosis in Afghanistan
Civilization and Development in Recently Accessible War-Torn Areas

Committee Description

This committee will be run Harvard Style, meaning that resolutions are not to be written until the date of the conference itself. Additionally, it is highly suggested that every delegate write at least one position paper on a topic, as doing so will be necessary to be considered for an award.

All delegates are expected to have an adequate knowledge of each topic, as well as the policies of their respective countries by the first day of the conference. Keep in mind that the purpose of the United Nations Development Programme is to aid developing nations in growing and advancing to the status of developed nations, following the Sustainable Development Goals. Most importantly, remember that Model UN is about exploring your interests, so have fun while you’re at it.

Chairs

Nyle Masoom
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Hi there, delegates! I’m Nyle Masoom, and this is my third time chairing UNDP! I am a senior at Pittsford-Mendon High School, where I serve as Vice President for Model UN in addition to participating in orchestra and the Literary Magazine. Outside of school, I am a member of Boy Scout Troop 167, and one can often find me pouring over philosophical literature. Feel free to contact me or Gabi with any questions or concerns.

Gabi Silverstein
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Hello! My name is Gabi Silverstein. This is my fourth year in Model UN and my first time chairing. I have been the Model UN president at my school for two years. I am a senior at Honeoye Falls-Lima High School where I play volleyball, participate in band, newspaper club, and serve on the board for National Honor Society.
Most conflict resolutions today are done in much the same way - a very rigid political structure of agreement and compromise, fully based on western systems and ideologies. Sometimes, this leads to problems when resolving conflicts across different cultures. Differing values and ways of doing things put up barriers to working together to achieve a common goal.

Though normal diplomatic procedure tries to cover this by being removed from cultural specificity, this does not always work. For example, certain tribes in Papua New Guinea, like the Maring, only come to peace agreements when both belligerents feast on as much pork as possible for several days; Hindu and Muslim communities clash in Pakistan and India, many of these conflicts being aggregated by the two different attitudes towards cows; China and Tibet both have very different approaches as to how to utilise and live on the land, and cannot come to a peaceful agreement.

Sometimes it can be better to seek resolution styles that take into account the cultures of those involved. Especially with developing countries, their different and special approaches to certain situations are often ignored. Instead, ways should be found to allow them to take care of conflicts in a manner that respects and utilizes their culture.

How can the UNDP help parties recognize each other’s culture when resolving conflicts?
How can the UNDP maximize the efficiency with which conflicts are resolved?

Sources:
Culture and Conflict Resolution
Can China’s Tibetan Crisis be Resolved?
Conflict Resolution in a Different Culture
Since the 1960s, the Great Lakes Region of Central Africa has been susceptible to some of the most violent conflicts on the continent. Chronic tensions over ethnicity and citizenship rights between the countries surrounding the Great Lakes have led to more issues about land and mineral resources. These continuous conflicts fail to permit governments (national or local) any power to create solutions. The Rwandan Revolution (1959) catalysed these struggles and many people have perished since.

Currently, a large number of people from the GLR take refuge in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Many of these refugees are displaced and stuck in a perpetual cycle of poverty in Africa. All of this conflict has led to problems in their economy as well. Previous peace deals including a combination of the following: UN, DRC, Rwanda, rebels and Uganda have failed in 1999, 2002, and 2008.

In 2013, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) met with representatives from 11 countries to provide an additional outline for peace and cooperation. Also, a resolution from the UN Security council was passed in 2013 to set up a peacekeeping brigade. Although all of these treaties generate progress, many more developments need to be in place to make a concrete solution.

**How can the UN create a long-term solution to keep peace in the GLR without infringing upon national sovereignty? How can the UN ensure that the conflict that has been occurring for so many years is over permanently?**

**Sources:**
- UNDP: Building Peace and Advancing Development in the Great Lakes Region
- Beyond Intractability: A Case of the Great Lakes Region
- Brookings Blog: Achieving Peace in the Great Lakes Region
In 2013, the World Health Organization deemed Afghanistan as one of 22 countries with high amounts of tuberculosis (TB) through a global TB report. The top quantities of TB cases are gathered in densely populated areas such as cities. Although TB is typically spread through prolonged contact, in compact areas and among people with weak immune systems, the disease of the past continues to be a concern.

Kabul, Herat, Nangarhar, Balkh, and Kandahar are five major provinces in Afghanistan and comprise about 40% of all TB cases documented in the entirety of Afghanistan. By the end of 2018, the UNDP wants to reduce TB mortality by 50% compared to the results of the 2013 report.

Unlike other countries, there are more cases of TB in women rather than men. This is a problem because typically women are not in control in their households and have trouble obtaining healthcare appointments, or cannot attend appointments from lack of transportation as a result of poverty.

Afghanistan’s national strategy, UNDAF outcome, and CPD Outcome area all aligned to try and improve healthcare. This has become a human rights problem because as the world advances, the health and well-being of Afghanistan and other TB infected countries regresses. There is concern for the rapid spread of TB among Afghanistan residents and travellers.

*How can the UN decrease amounts of TB without disrupting the largest cities in Afghanistan? What measures can the UN take to improve overall healthcare and access to healthcare in Afghanistan?*

**Sources:**

- UNDP: Project Document
- NPR Article: Why TB Remains a Modern and Deadly Problem
- WHO: Afghanistan
There are many ongoing and closing armed conflicts presently occurring around the globe, and as areas are freed from the horrors of war, they are faced with an entirely new set of challenges. Cities, regions, and sometimes whole countries are destroyed or set back after having been a combat zone for an extended period of time. This puts burdens on both the local and international community when trying to move forward. Recently, areas freed from ISIS control have had trouble regaining the stability they had before conflict. The Darfur conflict in Sudan has also affected many localities, displacing people before they can move back and start to rebuild, only to face displacement again.

These areas need long term solutions and plans to achieve stability once more. Communities that have been completely destroyed have to start from building viable shelter resistant to man-made and natural disasters. There needs to be better living conditions and opportunities available to the people of these regions, and local stability as a base for new initiatives is a must. Prevention of conflict returning to the area must also be considered.

How can the UNDP help recently accessible areas recuperate from war? What can the UNDP do to help these areas move forwards after conflict? What efforts can be put in place for the long term stability of these regions?

Sources:
- Christmas Reborn in Iraqi Town Freed From ISIS
- Nigeria Sending Peacekeeping Soldiers to Darfur
- Newly Accessible Areas Reveal Scale of Crisis in Nigeria