

43rd GENEVA GRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMME

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THE UNITED NATIONS AT SIXTY: THE ROAD AHEAD



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

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Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva
Opening of the 43rd Geneva Graduate Study Programme**

**Palais des Nations, Salle VII
Monday, 4 July 2005, at 10:30 a.m.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen
Dear Friends:**

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to the **Palais des Nations** today for the 43rd Geneva Graduate Study Programme. I always appreciate meeting with young, bright minds – and I know that you are such bright minds because you have all been carefully selected to join this Programme. But, I appreciate it all the more today because of the subject of your discussions here. Over the coming three weeks, you will study and discuss the United Nations under the title **“The United Nations at sixty: the road ahead”**. And I think it is only appropriate that the future of this Organization be carefully examined and debated by those young minds that will lead our efforts one day. I have no doubt that you will be critical but also creative and constructive, and I very much look forward to hearing the outcome of your exchanges – both those among yourselves and with those officials that you will engage with during the Programme.

Because your debates are indeed very timely. You meet just as the commemorations of the 60th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter have commenced. You have probably already on your way here in the Hall des pas perdus seen parts of our exceptional international art exhibition that forms part of a series of events to mark the anniversary in Geneva. In September, the largest number ever of Heads of State and Government will gather in New York for the 2005 World Summit to discuss the challenges facing the international community and how we may strengthen our collective mechanisms, including the United Nations, to address these challenges in the future. It is an occasion to take stock, consider achievements and setbacks, and to look ahead.

The threats and challenges facing our world range from terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, genocide and civil war to extreme poverty, endemic disease and climate change – to mention only a few. The lectures and working groups

that you will take part in over the course of the Programme all reflect these threats and challenges that world leaders will also address when they come together. And as you discuss under the different headings, you will appreciate the complex linkages across the issues. Environmental issues, economic and social development, and human rights cannot be promoted in isolation; the issues are inter-related, and our efforts to confront the challenges in these fields must be sensitive and responsive to those connections for our strategies to be effective.

In March of this year, the Secretary-General released his report entitled “In Larger Freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all”. For those of you who may not yet be familiar with the details of that report, I am sure that you will be by the time you leave Geneva. The report contains a set of bold proposals to advance more effectively and efficiently the three objectives: development, security and human rights. The report thus provides a cohesive and concise framework for decisions by Member States at the 2005 World Summit. The report is based on a keen appreciation of the linkages across the three issues. The Secretary-General emphasizes that progress on development; security and human rights go hand-in-hand. Unless all three causes are advanced, none will succeed. It is also stressed that a threat to one is a threat to all. While some countries may feel most threatened by extreme poverty and others by global terrorism, we must recognize that we cannot confront any of the threats if we do not address them in parallel – because they are connected. And we must respond together. Overcoming our common vulnerabilities therefore calls for collective action.

Allow me to give a few examples of these critical linkages:

Addressing conflict and instability is an essential element in our development efforts, particularly given that the largest proportion of conflicts takes place in the poorest countries. According to a recent report by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, armed conflicts have become the leading cause of hunger. In the past five years alone, more than forty countries have suffered the devastating impact of violent conflict.

Poverty, ill health, disease and disempowerment, on the other hand, may also contribute to instability, and in some cases even create conditions that may be conducive to support for terrorist activities. Advancing the development agenda is therefore also an important element in our efforts to maintain international peace and security.

Progress on arms control and disarmament could also make a valuable contribution towards development. New figures indicate that in 2004 alone, the global total spent on munitions topped \$1 trillion. In contrast, the amount spent on aid over the same period was \$78.6 billion. Disarmament could thus liberate significant resources to be channelled towards development efforts, in

addition to building greater confidence among States and contributing towards stability, which, in turn, would also be conducive to further development.

Yet, neither security nor development can be attained unless based on a solid foundation of human rights. As you can see, the links are many, and we cannot afford to ignore them.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The development agenda is indeed central. In the year 2000, world leaders adopted eight Millennium Development Goals. These goals set specific targets for combating extreme poverty, providing primary education, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, fighting the HIV/AIDS pandemic, ensuring environmental sustainability and promoting global partnerships for development. The Goals are a blueprint for progress for the world's most vulnerable, with a deadline for achievement of 2015.

World leaders will also at the 2005 Summit consider how far we have come in the implementation of those critical commitments. In early June, the Secretary-General released The *Millennium Development Goals Report 2005*, an authoritative evaluation of progress towards meeting the Goals, both regionally and globally. The scoreboard so far is mixed:

Despite strong economic growth in several regions, in particular Asia, more than one billion people continue to live in extreme poverty; 20,000 die from it each day. If current trends persist, the poorest countries in Africa are likely to have, by 2015, an increasing proportion of those living in extreme poverty, lacking primary education and dying before the age of 5. Child mortality rates have generally declined, but progress has slowed in many regions and has even reversed in parts of Central Asia. By the end of 2004, an estimated 39 million people were living with HIV. These are only a few examples.

Much has been achieved in ensuring development for the world's poorest but much more remains to be done. As the Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, emphasized when he last week addressed the High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council – a principal organ of the United Nations that you will hear more about over the coming weeks – the World Summit offers a once-in-a-generation opportunity to give a major boost to our efforts to reach the development goals. If we are to meet the Goals by the target date of 2015, an all-out global effort is needed.

I have only touched upon the many, multidimensional issues before the international community. You will revisit them all in greater depth throughout your time here. And as you do, I hope that you yourselves consider what kind of world you want to live in and want to pass on. Today's leaders will give us

their answer when they come together in September. In only a few years, it will be your generation that will be the decision-makers.

I hope that your weeks here will not only enlighten you factually when it comes to the formal structures and the many activities of the United Nations family. I trust that your time here will spark fresh thinking among you and will encourage you to continue thinking and discussing the value and efficiency of multilateral mechanisms. I have no doubt that you will ask piercing questions of those who come to present their work to you – and I hope that you also will be prepared to answer their questions to you about what kind of world and what kind of United Nations you want.

Thank you very much.

THE UNITED NATIONS AT SIXTY: THE ROAD AHEAD

43rd Geneva Graduate Study Programme

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
PART I HUMAN RIGHTS	7
PART II ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	25
PART III ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	41

PART I HUMAN RIGHTS

TABLE DES MATIERES / CONTENTS

I. Introduction

II. Thematic recommendations

- A. Implementation Gap in the Field
- B. Human Rights Council
- C. Droits de l'homme et Pacte mondial (Global Compact)
- D. Les Droits économiques, sociaux et culturels, les mécanismes de Plaintes Individuelles.
- E. Treaty Based Bodies
- F. Indigenous Peoples
- G. Closing the Gender Gap; Equal Access to Human Rights for All
- H. Human rights components in peacekeeping operations
- I. The Security Council and the use of force for the protection of human rights
- J. Terrorisme et droits de l'homme

III. Conclusion

Annexe I : Ordre du jour et Programme de travail du GTDH /
Agenda and Work Programmed of the WGHR/

Annexe II : Documents examinés par le GTDH / Documents studied by the WGHR

I. Introduction

*“We will not enjoy development without security
we will not enjoy security without development,
and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights.”
(A/59/2005, para. 17)*

Soixante ans après la création de l'ONU, la géopolitique mondiale a bien changé. Accomplissant avec un certain succès sa mission d'instaurer la paix sur le globe, l'ONU est très critiquée dans ses institutions. Une réforme, voulue par le Secrétaire général, s'impose. A la lecture du rapport de Kofi Annan (« Dans une liberté plus grande » et ses trois additifs), du rapport du groupe de personnalités de haut niveau sur les menaces (« Les défis et le changement »), et des objectifs du millénaire, il convient d'envisager les perspectives d'avenir pour l'ONU. Le manque de véritable progrès montre clairement l'écart qui existe entre ce que l'on souhaiterait et la réalité. Pendant trois semaines, le Groupe de travail sur les droits de l'homme, composé de 31 membres, a débattu de l'état actuel des droits de l'homme dans le monde et du rôle des Nations Unies, en tenant compte particulièrement des propositions de réformes et des documents distribués au groupe. Le Groupe de travail a établi en son sein des sous-groupes de travail et des rapporteurs pour étudier des questions diverses qui ont donné lieu à des comptes rendus approuvés et ensuite inscrits dans le rapport. Le Groupe de travail considère que les moyens sont là, mais que le véritable enjeu se situe au niveau de la mise en application des normes universelles sur les droits de

l'homme : c'est là que se situe le fossé. Le groupe pense que la réforme proposée par l'Assemblée générale ne va pas assez loin. Après avoir débattu de ces différentes questions, le Groupe de travail soumet par conséquent les recommandations qui suivent pour permettre à tous les êtres humains de bénéficier des droits de l'homme.

II. Thematic recommendations

A. Implementation Gap in the Field

Introduction

Implementation gaps are the gaps between the lofty rhetoric of human rights in the halls of the United Nations and the sobering reality on the ground, as mentioned by the High Commissioner for Human Rights. She also notes that all components of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) can better work towards bridging implementation gaps, at the country-level, in a coordinated and sustained manner.

Challenges

Commitment gaps at the international level, where governments pursue policies that contribute or do not prevent human rights abuses. Trade regulations can act as a severe impediment for human rights implementation.

Security gaps arise when countries continue to abuse human rights.

Capacity gaps concern the capability of national human rights institutions.

Knowledge gaps can be closed by better means of informing the public through media and human rights education.

Recommendations

Implementation challenges can only be resolved if member States themselves assist in turning human rights commitments into reality. Faced with this challenge, it is essential for countries with consistent human rights legislations and technical expertise to assist the High Commissioner for Human Rights in her work. Regional organizations, such as the European Union (EU), can play an important role. Following the EU's policy of incorporating human rights clauses into external trade and cooperation agreements (preceded by formal human rights negotiations), it is recommended that there be an increase of joint ventures between regional organizations and the United Nations in countries of concern. With regards to United Nations initiatives, this could entail an offer of a targeted series of technical and human rights assistance to remedy the issues of concern (through United Nations Development Programme and OHCHR technical projects) and to encourage countries with human rights concerns to set up joint trade consortia that will allow greater investment and trade in accordance with chartered indicators for tangible improvements in human rights situations. The work conditions in many countries violate human rights, yet under the principle of non-discrimination put forth by the World Trade Organization (WTO), other member States are not allowed to ban the sale of these products. An additional protocol should be adopted that will allow them to opt out of importing products from countries and corporations that violate human rights.

Economically and politically powerful regional arrangements must offer incentives, which can compel governments to stop deliberate human rights abuses. Member States must show the political will to make membership in international economic regimes conditional upon the implementation and commitment of international human rights regimes. Genuine human rights conditionality in bilateral trade agreements and increased cooperation with special procedures will have an impact on governments that continue to violate human rights.

The capacity of national human rights institutions (e.g. national human rights commissions) is determined by political will. In order to strengthen the capacity of national institutions, the United Nations must engage these institutions in the development of knowledge. The financial and technical assistance of the OHCHR is needed to ensure the genuine independence, expertise and mandate of these national institutions. It would benefit the capacity to include non-governmental organizations and grassroots organizations in the treaty reporting and implementation process to a greater degree. Given the fact that certain non-governmental organizations, accredited to the Economic, Social and Cultural Council, are directed by governments to uphold the national agenda in the civic arena, it is recommended that the Human Rights Council should have the mandate to accredit non-governmental organizations according to criteria, which assure their non-governmental status and their autonomy.

Countries that violate human rights fear the attention of the global public. Broad and continuous media coverage of human rights violations is thus crucial to the enforcement and implementation of human rights. Fortunately, the interest of the media and the general public in human rights issues is constantly growing. It is therefore suggested that the United Nations support media and media agencies that provide objective, broad and continuous high quality coverage of the situations in countries of concern by offering incentives such as media awards. The number of information events both in the offices and in the field should be increased. The flow of human rights information should be expedited. Human rights issues should be made part of primary education in all countries.

B. Human Rights Council

Challenges

Critics from the international community assess that the United Nations Human Rights Commission suffers from “No Action Motion” and from a lack of credibility. The reform of the Commission, possibly into a Council, is therefore committed to meet a great challenge regarding these dysfunctions.

Recommendations

The Working Group recommends that the delegates of member States at the Council must be appointed by their respective States according to their competencies and expertise.

The Working Group recommends to the General Assembly to authorize the Human Rights Council to adopt a consultative status with non-governmental organizations (the Draft Outcome A/59/HLPM/CRP.1. confirms that the consultation of non-governmental organizations by the United Nations Human Rights Council should

remain operational). The Human Rights Council is seen as independent from the Economic and Social Council and would be a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly. Therefore the Charter needs to be revised accordingly.

C. Droits de l'homme et Pacte mondial (Global Compact)

En 2005, 1700 entreprises se sont engagées à promouvoir et faire respecter un ensemble de valeurs dans le domaine des droits de l'homme, des normes de travail, de l'environnement et de la lutte contre la corruption à travers la signature du Pacte mondial (Global Compact).

Recommandations

Sélection rigoureuse des entreprises dès l'adhésion par un groupe d'experts : le Groupe de travail propose de réaliser une sélection rigoureuse dès l'adhésion des membres, afin de permettre l'établissement d'un label « Pacte mondial ». Un rapport devra être rédigé par les entreprises désireuses de rallier le Pacte mondial et devra être soumis à l'approbation d'un groupe d'experts du HCNUDH (Haut Commissariat aux droits de l'homme), de l'OIT, du PNUE, du PNUD et de représentants d'entreprises déjà membres. Ceci induirait une responsabilité collective de tous les partenaires.

Suivi des progrès des entreprises et sanctions pour les « sociétés inactives » par le groupe d'experts : depuis juin 2004, le Bureau du Pacte mondial prévoit une sanction unique pour les entreprises ne communiquant aucun progrès aux Nations Unies: elles seront indiquées comme « sociétés inactives » sur le site du Pacte mondial. Cependant, à ce jour, sur le site Internet du Pacte mondial aucune entreprise n'est répertoriée comme inactive. Le Groupe de travail recommande que le Bureau du Pacte mondial tienne ses engagements. En outre, nous proposons la mise en place d'un audit aléatoire d'un échantillon représentatif d'entreprises avec une grille de sanctions préétablies.

Progrès dans les quatre domaines du Pacte mondial : chaque année, un rapport sur les progrès effectués doit être communiqué au Secrétaire général. La plupart des entreprises choisissent de porter leurs efforts sur l'environnement. Le Groupe de travail propose que des progrès soient réalisés dans les quatre grands domaines (droits de l'homme, normes du travail, environnement et lutte contre la corruption) afin que les entreprises ne choisissent pas, elles-mêmes, le ou les domaines à améliorer.

Demande de cotisations : le Groupe de travail recommande qu'une cotisation au Pacte mondial soit établie afin d'améliorer les services du Bureau et lui donner une dimension plus importante.

Délivrance d'un certificat : afin d'assurer au Pacte mondial une plus grande visibilité, le Groupe de travail conseille l'attribution d'un certificat sur le modèle de la certification ISO.

Propositions d'encouragements à travers des récompenses : le Groupe de travail propose l'instauration d'un système pour décerner des prix aux entreprises ayant fait le plus de progrès dans l'année.

D. Les Droits économiques, sociaux et culturels, les mécanismes de plaintes individuelles.

Enjeux

Les droits économiques, sociaux et culturels sont souvent perçus comme des droits de « seconde classe », qui ne sont pas obligatoires, ni susceptibles de recours judiciaire et qui ne peuvent être assurés que progressivement, avec le temps.

L'universalité, l'interdépendance et l'indissociabilité de tous les droits de l'homme avaient été réaffirmées dans la déclaration et le programme d'action de Vienne en 1993. Ceux qui estiment avoir été sujets de violations des droits garantis dans le Pacte n'ont pas la possibilité de présenter des plaintes formelles au Comité des droits économiques, sociaux et culturels.

Recommandations

L'élaboration le plus vite possible d'un Protocole facultatif au Pacte international relatif aux droits économiques sociaux et culturels, qui rendrait justiciables ces droits, « renforcerait l'application pratique du Pacte et permettrait d'attirer l'attention de l'opinion publique sur les droits économiques sociaux et culturels. » (E/1992/23/, par.362)

E. Treaty Based Bodies

Challenges

The United Nations' Human Rights Treaty System, consists of a collection of seven International Conventions and seven Bodies set up to monitor progress in implementation thereof and to provide authoritative guidance on the meaning of the treaty provisions and the measures needed to protect rights at the national level. All United Nations member States are parties to at least one of the Conventions, others participate evenly in six. The importance of the proper functioning of the system lies in the reporting process, which is a means to assess achievements and to identify the elements of non – compliance.

Recommendations

The existing Treaty Monitoring Bodies System should be strengthened with the aim to ensure effective enjoyment by all of rights guaranteed in the substantive parts of the seven Treaties. The effectiveness of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies should be improved by the following measures:

Treaty Bodies should function as a unified system. Their work should be consolidated and replaced by a unified standing treaty body, empowered to recognize and to consider all violations of the rights they cover. This would only be possible if all Committees were able to function in partnership, supported in their various mandates by the Office of High Commissioner of Human Rights, ensuring the holistic approach and jurisprudential coherence.

Human support is crucial. Significant resources raised outside the regular budget should be devoted to staffing the unit dealing with the treaty bodies.

Country engagement is also important to ensure a correct and efficient Treaty Body review process. Geographically-based desk officers and staff working in the field

should work more closely with governments to engage in the reporting process and to follow up on the recommendations presented by Treaty Bodies and the decisions on individual complaints.

F. Indigenous Peoples

“We the peoples of the United Nations.....”(United Nations Charter)

Throughout world communities native inhabitants are struggling to affirm their own identity as peoples; they seek respect for their cultures, traditions and religions, but above all, for the recognition of the rights related to every human being. The present phase of the United Nations reform must be regarded as an opportunity to finally bring the issue of indigenous peoples on top of both national and international agendas.

Challenges

Approval of the Draft Declaration on Indigenous Peoples

Implement legal and material measures in domestic affairs

Ensure complete, precise and reciprocal information between States and IP in order to create an appropriate place for debate

Avoid the loss of all the achievements of the working group in the possible transition from a human rights Commission to a Council

Establish an effective representation system at both national and international level

Face and solve the issue of the cross-bordering peoples

Recommendations

Towards member States

(1) States must recognize the position of indigenous peoples within the rest of the humanity; therefore, they must approve the Draft Declaration on indigenous peoples as soon as possible.

(2) Transforming this legal instrument into a Convention should also be considered.

(3) States must implement the necessary measures to turn the commitments of the Declaration and of their own national laws into reality.

(4) States should not use their economical difficulties as a pretext to neglect the protection of indigenous peoples rights.

(5) States must correctly inform the authorities as well as the civil society regarding the indigenous peoples and promote their rights.

(6) States should respect and promote the rights of the indigenous peoples to be informed and provide the appropriate information related to their rights.

(7) A suitable status should be given to the present working group on indigenous peoples in the future reform. It should be at least up-graded into a sub-commission.

(8) States must adopt the necessary measures to ensure that indigenous peoples are effectively and adequately represented in their national institutions.

(9) Member States should start debating together with indigenous peoples the question of cross-bordering people and actively search for a solution.

Toward Indigenous Peoples

(1) Indigenous peoples should endorse dialogue with governments and cooperate to find solutions locally before resorting to international measures.

(2) As is the case with member States, indigenous peoples should also be fully committed to the respect of human rights in order to establish a real harmonization among different cultures.

G. Closing the Gender Gap; Equal Access to Human Rights for All

Challenges

Decouple poverty, malnutrition, illiteracy and unsustainability from gender

To overcome political, economic and social discrimination against women

The United Nations reform of the human rights system – a chance to unite all United Nations organs working on women’s rights under one roof improving effectiveness of their work

Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals concerning women’s and children’s health to ensure the sustainability of families

War and conflict have culturally been regarded as a “gendered” activity. Women and young girls are at the greatest risk and danger, also facing the risks of rape, forced impregnation, sexual assaulted or sexual slavery.

This gender-based exclusion has detrimental effects on the long-term sustainability of a settlement, because the experiences, perspectives, and needs of 50 per cent of the populations are ignored. A few international agreements have recognized the significance of the role of women in these efforts.

Recommendations

Abolish school fees for primary school education to improve access to schools for girls. This will help to enhance the economic and social competitiveness of women and families as well as an increase of public health.

The non-discrimination of women is a general principle a State must implement into its national legislation not distinguishing between citizens and residents of the country. This has to be kept in mind considering the feminization of migration flows and the increase in human trafficking.

Institutional changes have to be considered:

- If the reform of the Commission to a Human Rights Council is considered (including an increase in funding), the integration of the Commission on the Status of Women into the Human Rights system should be considered.
- The Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women should be given sufficient means to be able to deal with all country reports in a timely manner following their submission.

All measures of international conduct should promote the principle of gender equality to start a process of awareness building.

Member States should ratify the Statute of Rome authorizing an International Criminal Court, which formally recognizes any form of sexual violence as crimes against humanity and war crimes, including as a form of torture and a grave war crime, whatever they occur in a systematic or non-methodical manner.

Member States should promote equitable participation of women in diplomatic conflict resolution and reconstruction initiatives at all levels, and to that end:

- recruit more women at the diplomatic services of member States

- train women within the diplomatic corps of member States in negotiation, facilitation and mediation skills, creating rosters of qualified women for peace and security related assignments
- nominate more women to international diplomatic assignments, specifically to senior positions (United Nations special representatives, peace commissions, fact-finding missions, etc...)
- increase the percentage of women in delegations of national, regional and international meetings concerned with peace and security, as well as in formal peace negotiations
- require international diplomatic peace teams to systematically consult with women's community-based peace groups and organizations, ensuring that their problems and priorities are reflected in the official peace process

H. Human rights components in peacekeeping operations

Introduction

United Nations Security Council mandated peacekeeping operations in the past lacked the overall capability to promote and protect human rights in the field. Reasons for this included, among other things, the varying standards of human rights awareness among the contributing troop sending nations and the absence of an explicit human rights component on the ground, which supplemented the ongoing peace building efforts. The OHCHR's role in implementing human rights activities in the field is the right step to address these shortcomings.

Recommendations

Peacekeeping operations should utilize existing capabilities and means with regard to the training and selection of peacekeepers under the auspices of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the OHCHR. The role of the existing human rights components for peacekeeping missions should be strengthened and eventually become a permanent, non-divisible aspect of any United Nations peacekeeping operation.

Bien que les opérations de maintien de la paix relèvent du Conseil de Sécurité (conformément au chapitre VII de la Charte des Nations Unies), il n'en reste pas moins que la question relative aux droits de l'homme doit demeurer un enjeu majeur dans ce contexte « militaire ». C'est ainsi qu'il existe plusieurs organes qui collaborent dans cette optique sur le terrain, tel le Département des opérations de maintien de la paix et le Haut Commissariat des droits de l'homme en vertu d'un accord signé en 1999. Le sous-Groupe de travail s'est orienté plus particulièrement sur les questions relatives aux institutions judiciaires nationales, aux personnels des opérations de maintien de la paix, à l'impunité et aux lois d'amnistie.

Les recommandations:

Au niveau institutionnel :

- La justiciabilité de tous les droits de l'homme (y compris les droits économiques sociaux et culturels).
- La révision du chapitre VII de la Charte des Nations Unies ou une application plus stricte de ce chapitre afin d'éviter des interventions non autorisées, comme au Kosovo ou en Afghanistan.

- L'accès du Haut Commissaire des droits de l'homme aux séances du Conseil de sécurité quand cela est nécessaire (révision de l'article 39 de la Charte au cas où le Haut Commissaire constate des violations flagrantes des droits de l'homme pouvant entraîner une rupture de la paix).
- (Une révision de l'article 51 de la Charte afin de prendre en considération les nouveaux défis liés au terrorisme)

Sur le terrain :

- Une collaboration plus étroite sur place entre le Haut Commissariat et le Département des opérations de maintien de la paix afin que le personnel militaire des Nations Unies fasse aussi l'objet de sanctions en cas de violations des droits de l'homme.
- Le renforcement du personnel juridique (avocats, juges, ...) et une meilleure rémunération de ce personnel sur le terrain ainsi que le renforcement des moyens logistiques (locaux) permettant une justice plus impartiale et non corrompue.
- L'établissement d'un pouvoir judiciaire indépendant et la formation d'une force de police et de sécurité de l'ONU dans le domaine des droits de l'homme en matière de maintien de l'ordre.
- Une meilleure « formation » du personnel militaire en matière de droits de l'homme et une meilleure sélection du personnel militaire afin de les rendre responsables de leurs actes en cas de violations flagrantes des droits de l'homme.

Au niveau de l'impunité :

- Renforcer l'information relative aux mécanismes de plaintes individuelles pour la société civile et lui permettre un accès facile à cette prérogative sur le terrain.
- En plus de la Cour pénale internationale, la création d'une Cour Universelle des droits de l'homme susceptible de recevoir des plaintes individuelles. Cette Cour pourrait juger de la responsabilité internationale des Etats (y compris des individus plus précisément concernés) et des questions relatives à l'indemnisation des victimes.
- Un renforcement effectif des sanctions pour les Etats (y compris celles prévues à l'article 41 de la Charte des Nations Unies), afin d'obtenir des résultats plus rapides et concrets et que cesse l'impunité lorsque les Etats sont en mesure d'agir pour faire cesser ces violations.

I. The Security Council and the use of force for the protection of human rights

Regarding peacekeeping and enforcement operations, the Security Council is the primary organ of the United Nations to decide on the use of force under Article 24 (1) and Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The use of force in order to protect human rights in cases of gross and widespread human rights atrocities, which may qualify as international crimes per se, constitutes such a legitimate means of Chapter VII in the case that the scale and intensity of these human violations constitute a threat to peace as stipulated in the Charter. Humanitarian intervention as a way of preventing gross human rights violations is as a concept not totally new under international law: the Kosovo military campaign of 1999 is such an example. Explicit reference is made to Security Council resolution 1244 which justified the use of force in order to protect human rights and prevent a possible humanitarian catastrophe.

Recommendations

New is the proposal of the Working Group, which calls for the explicit inclusion of human rights as a *casus actionis* in terms of Article 24 (1) and Chapter VII of the Charter. The proposed new Human Rights Council should be authorized to determine the existence of such gross human rights violations, request and eventually demand the United Nations Security Council to take forceful action to stop such human rights atrocities even with the use of force.

In his report, *In Larger Freedom*, Secretary-General Kofi Annan proposes that the Security Council adopt a resolution outlining its right to authorise the use of force for human rights protection, in extreme cases of widespread human rights violations such as genocide, and the principles that will guide this authorisation (p.43.) This proposition is particularly controversial in light of the historical importance of the State's sovereignty and the principle of non-intervention, as outlined in various significant international law cases and United Nations declarations. However, documentation suggests that the emergence of a new era of sovereignty in which sovereignty includes the duty of a State to protect its citizens. Secretary-General Kofi Annan suggests that if the State is unwilling or unable to fulfil this duty, the protection of the population becomes the responsibility of the international community.

There is an emerging consensus that, in extreme cases, as part of this international responsibility, the Security Council may authorise the use of force in accordance with its Chapter VII powers. United Nations and Security Council documents and trends in practices support this progression.

Challenges

The difficulty of reaching a consensus on matters of such importance
The subjectivity of finding any possible criteria present in a given situation; the need for individualized assessments of specific circumstances; the current hesitancy, inconsistency, lack of speed, and effectiveness of Security Council decisions

The heavy influence of individual State interests over the Council's decisions; the broader implications for the United Nations system of individual States or coalitions of States, asserting a right of humanitarian intervention without Security Council authorization.

Recommendations

The Security Council should acknowledge and affirm that circumstances of large-scale and gross human rights violations can constitute a threat to international peace and security, and thus may fall under the ambit of the Security Council's mandate and powers, including the authorization of the use of force under Article 42 of the Charter of the United Nations;

The Security Council should accordingly implement a policy regarding the authorization of the use of force for the protection of human rights –

- i) with an emphasis on the criteria suggested by the Secretary-General in his report;
- ii) that allows for dialogue between the Security Council and other United Nations bodies, particularly those charged with human rights promotion and protection;
- iii) that is part of general Security Council reform that aims to increase the efficacy of the body;

Work to counter forces promoting a right of unilateral or coalition military intervention without Security Council authorization by – i) adopting a resolution reaffirming that such acts are in breach of the Charter of the United Nations and international law; ii) promoting the use of international legal, political, and economic sanction mechanisms against breaching States; iii) implementing a policy of condemning such acts in the event of their occurrence; iii) themselves committing to respect this prohibition.

J. Terrorisme et droits de l'homme

Les attentats commis à Londres le 7 juillet 2005 ont douloureusement rappelé à chacun à quel point la menace terroriste plane sur nos sociétés. Ce terrorisme aveugle porte atteinte aux droits de l'homme à double titre; non seulement du fait de l'attaque en elle-même, qui sème l'insécurité parmi la population, mais aussi du fait que les mesures prises par les gouvernements pour lutter contre le terrorisme comportent un risque d'écraser les libertés fondamentales de tous les individus.

Enjeux

Donner toute sa place à la lutte contre le terrorisme tout en préservant les valeurs fondamentales des droits de l'homme.

Veiller à ce que l'extension du pouvoir d'investigation donné aux unités anti-terroristes n'empiète pas sur les libertés fondamentales ni des civils ni des prisonniers. Soutenir les victimes des attentats et mieux accompagner la société civile dans son ensemble : information, dissuasion, contrôle.

Recommandations

Les Etats devraient être plus attentifs au plus grand défi qui s'impose à eux: lutter contre le terrorisme tout en préservant les valeurs fondamentales des droits de l'homme.

Les Etats doivent prohiber toute « régression » dans la défense des droits de l'homme et tenir compte de l'interdiction de la torture.

Les Etats doivent protéger toute personne contre le terrorisme, par conséquent, s'abstenir de toute mesure arbitraire et respecter la nécessaire légalité de toute mesure anti-terroriste.

Dans le traitement des données à caractère personnel et avant de prendre toute mesure d'ingérence dans la vie privée, les agents de l'Etat doivent respecter les limites imposées par le respect du principe de proportionnalité entre l'objectif visant à protéger le droit à la vie des victimes d'actes terroristes et le respect du droit à la vie privée.

Lors de l'arrestation, de la garde à vue et de la détention provisoire et pendant les procédures judiciaires, les Etats s'assureront que les libertés fondamentales sont protégées.

Les Etats devraient convenir de règles internationales en vue de faciliter l'extradition. A cet effet l'adoption d'une convention mondiale sur le terrorisme est souhaitable.

Les victimes d'actes terroristes devraient bénéficier de la solidarité et du soutien national et international. Une assistance d'urgence et une assistance à long terme devraient être mises en place. Il serait notamment nécessaire de leur accorder une indemnisation juste et appropriée, de leur faciliter l'accès à la connaissance de leurs droits et du droit, ainsi qu'à la justice, de protéger leur vie privée et familiale, leur dignité et leur sécurité.

Les Etats devraient établir des règles susceptibles d'entraver la criminalité organisée, complice du terrorisme en lui fournissant des moyens financiers.

Les Etats doivent fournir à la société civile une information claire sur le terrorisme.

Les Etats devraient, pour mettre fin au terrorisme, s'attacher à remédier à ses causes, c'est-à-dire essentiellement la pauvreté, en y affectant les ressources nécessaires ; par exemple en les prélevant sur des dépenses d'armement qui ne sont pas efficaces pour lutter contre le terrorisme.

Conclusions

The view of the Working Group on Human Rights is that a human rights machinery and legislation for improvement are in place; nevertheless, the challenges seem to be at the level of implementation; clearly there is a gap within implementation of the policies. The Working Group believes that the reform proposed to the General Assembly will not be enough, but a stronger commitment especially by States regarding human rights is needed. In this report, the Working Group has researched areas that need improvements to guarantee the respect of human rights universally. The areas of research in relation to human rights issues are: Multinationals, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Treaty Bodies, Indigenous People, Women, Peacekeeping Operations, Security Council and Terrorism. As we are facing all these issues today, can the proposed reform close the gap of the road ahead, to secure a life in dignity for all?

11.7	Components of Peacekeeping Forces” - II. Choix des recherches individuelles et en sous-groupe, approbation par le Groupe de travail et orientation par le Modérateur.	D. Prémont
No 5: 12.7	- I. Présentation des rapports par les Rapporteurs spéciaux et Coordonnateurs des sous-groupes - II. « La Commission et le Conseil des droits de l’homme » / “The Human Rights Commission and Council”	Bernd Kaussler Mr. Eric Tistounet, Secrétaire / Secretary, Commission
No 6: 13.7	- Présentation des rapports par les Rapporteurs spéciaux et Coordonnateurs des sous-groupes	Rapporteurs
No 7: 14 7	- Présentation des rapports par les Rapporteurs spéciaux et Coordonnateurs des sous-groupes	Rapporteurs
No 8: 15.7.	- I. Etat des rédactions en cours. - II. “Le Plan d’Action du Haut Commissaire des Nations Unies aux droits de homme” / “The HCHR’s Work Plan”	Ms. Hanna Wu, Member, Task Force on the OHCHR Work Plan
No 9: 18.7	- I : Rédaction de l'avant-projet de rapport	Rapporteurs
No 10: 19.7	- I. Révision du projet de rapport du GTDH - II. “Les défis au droit international des droits de l’homme au début du 21e siècle” / « The Challenges of the International Human Rights Law at the beginning of the 21st Century”	Mr. Carlos Villan Duran, Spécialiste des droits de l’homme
No 11: 20.7	I. Révision et adoption du Rapport	Rapporteurs

ANNEXE II

DOCUMENTS DE TRAVAIL

A) Documents de base distribués à tous les participants au Programme

1) Français

- « Dans une liberté plus grande : développement, sécurité et respect des droits de l'homme pour tous. Rapport du Secrétaire général. », Nations Unies, New York, 2005. A/59/2005 and numéro de vente: F.05.I.15
- « Dans une liberté plus grande : développement, sécurité et respect des droits de l'homme pour tous. Rapport du Secrétaire général. Conseil des droits de l'homme.. Note explicative du Secrétaire général», A/59/2005/Add.1
- « Dans une liberté plus grande : développement, sécurité et respect des droits de l'homme pour tous. Rapport du Secrétaire général. Commission de consolidation de la paix. », A/59/2005/Add.2
- « Dans une liberté plus grande : développement, sécurité et respect des droits de l'homme pour tous. Rapport du Secrétaire général. Plan d'action présenté par le Haut Commissaire des Nations Unies aux droits de l'homme. », A/59/2005/Add.3
- « Objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement. Rapport 2005. », Nations Unies, New York, 2005 (numéro de vente : F.05.116) .
- « Projet de texte à soumettre à la réunion plénière de haut niveau de l'Assemblée générale en septembre 2005, présenté par le Président de l'Assemblée générale », A/59/HLPM/CRP.1.
- « Un monde plus sûr : notre affaire à tous. Rapport de Groupe de personnalités de haut niveau sur les menaces, les défis et le changement. », Nations Unies, 2004 (numéro de vente : F.05.I.5).

2) English

- « A more secure world : Our shared responsibility. Report of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change », United Nations, 2004 (sales no E.05.I.5).
- « Basic Facts. About the United Nations », United Nations, New York, 2004 (sales no E.04.I.7).
- « High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly : 14-16 September 2005 », Draft Outcome Document.
- « In larger freedom : towards development, security and human rights for all. Report of the Secretary-General. », United Nations, New-York, 2005.
- « In larger freedom : towards development, security and human rights for all. Report of the Secretary-General. Human Rights Council. », A/59/2005/Add.1
- « In larger freedom : towards development, security and human rights for all. Report of the Secretary-General. Peace building Commission. », A/59/2005/Add.2
- « In larger freedom : towards development, security and human rights for all. Report of the Secretary-General. Plan of action submitted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. », A/59/2005/Add.3
- «Draft Outcome Document”, 3 June 2005, High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, 14/16 September 2005, presented by the Chairman of the General Assembly, A/59/HLPM/CRP.1.

- « The Millennium Development Goals Report 2005 », United Nations, New York, 2005 (sales no E.05.I16).

B. Documents de base distribués aux participants au GTDH

1) Français

- « Droits de l'homme. Recueil d'instruments internationaux», "Instruments universels" Volume I (1ère partie), Nations Unies, New York et Genève, 2002.
- « Droits de l'homme. Recueil d'instruments internationaux", "Instruments universels", Volume II (2ème partie): Nations Unies, New York et Genève, 2002.
- « La Charte Internationale des droits de l'homme» Fiche d'information No2
- « Combattre la torture», Fiche No 4
- « Procédures d'examen des procédures», Fiche No 7
- « Formes contemporaines d'esclavage», Fiche No14
- « Le Comité contre la torture», Fiche No17
- « Discrimination à l'égard des femmes: la Convention et le Comité», Fiche No 22
- « L'éviction forcée et les droits de l'homme», Fiche No 25
- « Le Groupe de travail sur la détention arbitraire», Fiche No 26
- « Dix-sept questions souvent posées au sujet des Rapporteurs spéciaux de l'ONU», Fiche No 27
- « Les défenseurs des droits de l'homme. Protéger le droit de défendre les droits de l'homme», Fiche No 29
- Communiqué de presse. HR/CT/05/3. Nations Unies. 11.07.2005.
- Communiqué de presse. HC/05/22. Nations Unies. 12.07.2005.
- Le Courrier, Therese Obrech, 13.07.2005, Genève.
- Le Courrier, Tanguy Verhoosel, 13.07.2005, Genève.
- Rapport sur le Comité des droits économiques, sociaux et culturels, Groupe de travail sur les droits de l'homme, du Stage d'étude des Nations Unies, juillet 2005, Genève,

2) English

- « The International Bill of Human Rights», Fact Sheet No 2
 - « Combating Torture», Fact Sheet No 4
 - « Enforced or involuntary Disappearances», Fact Sheet No 6
 - « Complaint Procedures», Fact Sheet No 7
 - « Contemporary Forms of Slavery», Fact Sheet No 14
 - « Civil and Political Rights: the Human Right Committee», Fact Sheet No15
 - « The Committee on Economics, Social and Cultural Rights», Fact Sheet No 16
 - « The Rights of Migrant Workers», Fact Sheet No 24
 - « Forced Eviction and Human Rights», Fact Sheet No 25
 - « Seventeen frequently asked Questions about United Nations: Special Rapporteurs. » Fact Sheet No 27
 - « The Impact of Mercenary Activities on the Right of People to Self-Determination. » Fact Sheet No 28
 - « Human Rights Defenders; Protecting the Rights to Defend Human rights » Fact Sheet No 29
 - Implementation Gap for Jurists, Sub-Working Group
 - Human Rights Components in UN Peace (-Keeping) Missions Sub-Working Group
 - The Rights of Indigenous Peoples Sub-Working Group
 - Special Procedures Sub-Working Group
-

- Global Compact Sub-Working Group
- Human Rights Council Sub-working Group

Note on UN Documentation for referencing and research:

Documents of the main and subsidiary bodies of UNO always indicate at the top of the first page: the organ reference letters and/or figures; the number of session number: the year: Ex : A- General Assembly; SC- Security Council; E: Economic and Social Council: S/ Secretary-General and Secretariat; etc.

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PART II ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

“Combine Our Efforts”: Report of the ‘Economic and Social Development’ Working Group of the 43rd United Nations Graduate Study Programme

Contents

- Introduction
- Changing the Paradigms of Development
- Strengthening Institutions and Civil Society
- Cooperation between Countries and the Global Community
- Enhancing the Delivery of Development Assistance
 - Proposal for the creation of the Office for the Coordination of Development Assistance (OCDA)
 - Assistance for Good Governance
- Raising Awareness and Increasing Funding
 - Influencing Donor Governments
 - Influencing Public Opinion
 - Improving Funding Mechanisms
- Cooperation for Development: Public Private Partnerships
 - Public Private Partnerships and Incentives
 - Guidance for Best Practice

Introduction

The Economic and Social Development Group was charged by the 2005 Graduate Study Programme with producing a report reflecting the delegates’ diverse responses to the challenges faced by the United Nations today. We found ourselves united in our conviction that the United Nations must play a central role in a global development strategy. Furthermore, we fully embrace the programmes and Declarations espoused by the United Nations, in particular the Millennium Declaration, noting the need for long-term commitment for the building of civil society, democracy and peace.

However, we see obstacles in the form of an implementation gap, structural problems and political unwillingness of many member states to live up to their promises.

We have comprehensively addressed these challenges with a range of approaches. First, we propose a paradigm change in the conceptual approach to development issues. This reappraisal acts as a prelude to concrete policy proposals. Next we propose methods of building the capacity of institutions and civil society within countries. Following this we put forward proposals to enhance cooperation between countries and the global community. We then focus on the potential for more efficient aid delivery, capacity building and additional funding mechanisms, including the creation of a new coordinating body. This is followed by proposals for a new approach to securing the political will of donor countries and the connected issue of how to overcome implementation obstacles in recipient countries, as well as suggestions on new funding mechanisms. Finally, proposals are put forward to

improve the role of private industry in assisting governments to discharge their obligations.

We hereby humbly submit our recommendations.

Changing the Paradigms of Development

We call for new ways of thinking, alternative approaches to development issues which will produce more sustainable, effective and collaborative development. What is lacking is not, we propose, effective plans or robust frameworks. What is missing is implementation. And the thing that is required to cause this implementation, we assert, is a shift in attitudes. How can we change the conversational momentum of what it is to be human such that it is natural for people to make different decisions, such as to feed the planet, be conflict free, grant human rights, and sustain the environment?

Kofi Annan states in *In Larger Freedom* “It is important to stress that this does not require the creation of any new instruments. All that is required is a different approach to their design and implementation” (p. 16). Knowledge of problems does not by itself lead to action. We believe that the existing plans and approaches are being ‘implemented’ from an expression of certain beliefs about what it is to be human. As such, they will fail to make any real difference because what is really being promoted is a series of background beliefs, not the ostensible declarations. We feel these background beliefs have acquired a sort of ‘momentum’, becoming enshrined in institutions, practices, and discourses. It is not more planning which is required, but a shift in the way we think. We believe this is the essence of sustainable global development.

The following is a list of seven new ways of thinking which can be adopted at every level of action and planning by every individual. We hold that if existing plans and new initiatives are enacted from these values, the ‘implementation gap’ would disappear.

1. Encourage a shift in our thinking towards an ‘abundance mentality’ rather than having a ‘lack mentality’. By an ‘abundance mentality’ we refer not to any particular abundance of resources or products, but a ‘stance towards life’ which encourages generosity, confidence, and creativity. This is not to assert that reckless consumption and depletion of resources is appropriate; finite does not imply lack. ‘Lack mentality’ refers to an attitude which arises from the belief in scarcity and the subsequent requirement to hoard and protect. In a ‘lack mentality’ one protects what one has because there is not enough for everyone, which creates fear of loss, and defensiveness. A continuous ‘lack mentality’ is incompatible with achieving a sustainable world.

Food security is a good example of a ‘lack mentality’ vs. an ‘abundance mentality’. Some estimates say that up to twice as much food is produced annually as is required to feed the world to an acceptable level of nutrition¹. The gap in distribution though, we think highlights not a logistical but a conceptual barrier, a belief in ‘lack’.

¹ Simon Pluess, ‘World Food Program Presentation to Graduate Study Program’, Geneva, 8 July 2005

Similarly, in the economies of countries, it is better for one country if other countries are thriving.

We also argue that an ‘abundance mentality’ is characterised by cooperation. The notion that ‘as we empower others around us, we ourselves become more powerful’ is an example of this way of thinking. We believe such a shift will change the momentum of global development.

2. Respect and use of local expertise. Regardless of someone’s educational, social, economic or other status, all people are worthy of our absolute respect. This must be borne in mind when being of service in the form of providing development and other assistance. At the same time, it is unrealistic and neglectful to expect people who have neither the training nor resources to meet development goals to do so unassisted. What is decisive in providing assistance is the context with regard to local engagement – there must be an equal, respectful balance in relationships. The aim is not to export living styles but allow people to express basic human values in their own style, and keep their cultures and styles of living. Even though most current development projects are participatory there is still a gap from true ‘bottom-up’ empowerment. Development is not effective if initiatives are not based on local ideas and knowledge at every stage, from conception and planning to implementation and review; then can collaborations and technology transfer between nations be effective and sustainable in development.

3. Favour rewards and incentives over punishment for motivation at every level. Punishment, threats, surveillance and other forms of ensuring ‘compliance’ are far less effective at producing a desired outcome than rewarding positive behaviours. While some legislative, reporting and even enforcement mechanisms may be required, these are only effective (in so far as they are effective) while they are being directly applied. Punishment can also lead to antipathy, anger, and lack of social cohesion. It feeds conflict, revenge, and poses a barrier to cooperation. It is also crucial to reward positive initiatives, such as public recognition of those countries who find ways to meet the 0.7 per cent net contributions to Official Development Assistance (ODA).

4. Allow people to feel and express what they are feeling. Many cultures heavily suppress the ability of men and women to feel or express their emotions. In the absence of feeling as a form of expression, what substitutes it is a panoply of alternatives such as violence, over-consumption, distraction or unconsciousness. It can disconnect people from the ability to access genuine feelings when making choices – in the absence of genuine feeling a human is left simply with a choice of “feel good or bad in this moment”. This combination of factors, we assert, plays a part in many of the world’s problems, including the over-consumption of resources and the abuse of women. It also feeds directly into the ‘lack mentality’ discussed in Point 1 (above). Forums in which people are encouraged to feel, and express what they are feeling, in a safe and respectful environment, demonstrate that when people are given the chance to confront and express their feelings a new set of actions become available and preferable – actions which include more sustainable approaches to family, environment, community, and self. Alongside the empowerment of women needs to be a sustained initiative to introduce sustainability to nature of masculinity.

It is an evident correlate that much conflict, terrorism and war arises not from a necessary or insoluble difference in objective circumstances, but from a lack of ability or willingness to accept different paradigms. A focus on encouraging the expression of feeling would increase tolerance, and have a clear impact on security.

5. Foster holistic awareness at every level and encourage sustainable actions. For a sustainable development, holistic awareness must be taken into account in the complex system of every issue. We assert that a holistic and sustainable approach must apply at every level, in every decision and action, by everyone involved. The United Nations provides excellent models of this, for example in the United Nations Development Programme and in the United Nations Environment Programme, in terms of sustainability analysis, in which they examine the system of related aspects to be addressed rather than simply the ‘problem’.

6. Leadership. We call for leaders who declare values and take actions for good global future, live by these values and hold others to them – and are seen to do such – and we need to start demanding this of our leaders and expecting it of our leaders. We do not see any shortcut to a good future for all; as such we also recognize the requirement to reward good leadership initiatives at all levels.

7. The cost of goods and services should reflect the true environmental and human cost, and ‘positive’ actions and options must be cheaper, more comfortable, and more rewarding. How can it be that in many places in the world it is cheaper to fly than to travel by train? When we want economic decisions to be socially optimal the environmental and human impact must be included in the price. We believe that money and effort are both key drivers for individual and organisational action. When, for example, a polluting technology is cheaper a profit maximizing company will choose it. But when it has to pay to clean the pollution or pay for the environmental impact it will choose the non-polluting technology, because it is cheaper. Or, there are cities where parking is free for cars classed environmentally friendly, thus the use of these cars has rapidly increased and access to alternative fuels has also increased. Similarly, councils which charge for garbage collection by weight often experience an increase in recycling and composting – assuming, of course, that recycling facilities are accessible and easy-to-use.

We have noticed that knowledge of what is ‘right’ or even what is ‘necessary’ does not, by itself, affect people’s actions – for instance around the issues of smoking for individuals, the use of public transport at the social level, or meeting the 0.7 per cent Official Development Assistance net disbursement goals at the international level. Education is necessary, but by itself it does not bring about change in people.

We think that many cultures put economic systems as a priority, which means ecological systems become secondary. However, ecological systems set the boundaries of human activity. This must be reflected in policy and practice for both producers and consumers. We believe this is a key shift in attitude for a sustainable future for all.

In conclusion, we assert that people usually do not make choices based on clearly expressed values. Rather they simply respond to the existing momentum in society, which is the articulation of background beliefs (the media industry obviously plays a

key role in the formation and dissemination of these beliefs). The conclusion we draw from this is that if we can affect these beliefs, a new set of actions will be favoured for humans at all levels. We do not think it is effective to force, coerce, or persuade people to 'do the right thing'.

These new ways of thinking do not substitute for the Millennium Development Goals or other plans. Planning and implementation is still necessary. We are suggesting a different type of discourse which applies to all people in all countries at all levels, one which will have different expressions in different cultures and organisations around the world. This sort of change in attitude will result in a positive 'civicness' - the propensity of a society to do things just because of social agreements, not because of some sort of compliance mechanism.

Finally, we see difficulties with the simple division of 'North-South', 'Developed-Developing', and other such divides. We believe that no matter where we are we are facing challenges which require development and cooperation, and we can learn from each other. Fundamentally, we should share our knowledge about the enterprise of being human.

Strengthening Institutions and Civil Society

We believe that in order to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), leaders of developed countries must be encouraged to increase their levels of ODA donation. Further politicians of least developed countries (LDC) must make better use of development assistance and strengthen institutions. There is no one-size fits-all explanation for why the Goals are failing. The report *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals* (also known as 'the Sachs report') identifies reasons for this, and we will try to give new, pragmatic ideas that could make a difference.

Sometimes the problem is poor governance, marked by corruption, poor economic policy choices, and denial of human rights. Economic development stagnates when governments do not uphold the rule of law. Accountable and efficient public administration requires transparency and administrators who are qualified, motivated and adequately paid. It also requires efficient management, monitoring and evaluation systems. There is no excuse for any country, no matter how poor, to abuse its citizens, deny them the equal protection of the law, or leave them victims of corruption, mismanagement, and economic irrationality. Some improvements in governance cost little in financial terms, and some, such as anti-corruption measures, actually save money.

Many well-governed countries are too poor to help themselves. Heavily indebted poor and middle-income countries are forced by creditor governments to spend large proportions of their limited tax receipts on debt service, undermining their ability to finance vital investment in human capital and infrastructure. The key to escaping this poverty trap is to raise the economy's capital stock to the point where the downward spiral ends and self-sustaining economic growth takes over. This requires a push of investments in public administration, human capital (nutrition, health and education) and key infrastructure.

Economic development leaves some parts of an economy, lagging regions and cities or some groups of a society, far behind. These pockets of poverty can be reduced by strategic investments. Finally, some goals are not being met simply because policymakers are unaware of the challenges, unaware of what to do, or neglectful of core public issues. This is known as policy neglect.

We see that corruption is an obstacle for economic growth. On the other hand corruption can be a result of low wages. Awareness that corruption, lawlessness and dishonesty are the core of social and economical problems of developing countries must be fostered by public awareness and educational campaigns. A shift in the social perception of corruption, lawlessness and dishonesty can only have effect on the actual behaviour when officials are in an economic situation in which honest behaviour is feasible.

Even when the social perception of corruption changes, officials who have wages under the level could be tempted to be corrupt. A culture of non-corruption together with the actual possibility to be faithful can break the vicious cycle.

In addition, institutions must be strengthened. An institutional, legal and judicial framework is necessary for sustainable economic development. To this end, a civil society is indispensable.

We believe that political awareness has to increase and the population has to be more involved in the decision making process. To achieve this, education and information campaigns can make a major difference. We prefer grass root democratic entities and decentralization, which guarantees effectiveness in the battle against corruption and creates a more balanced distribution of political influence and resources.

States must be encouraged to create laws that demand political leaders to lay down a statement of their financial situation before they enter in to power and after their period of office. An impartial financial organization should keep record of these statements and only discloses them when a problem of corruption arises.

International law must also try to address the problems of war profiteers. It should combat business making out of wars and inhibit safe havens for war-generated profit.

Microfinance must be used to encourage people to build up businesses and to strengthen the private sector. Money can be given to microfinance projects, where self-employed people provide public services. This mechanism gives them independence from government authorities, self-esteem, and it also enforces civil society. For example the micro-finance can enable a group to purchase the necessary tools to build up a street cleaning business. It allows them to work self-determined for the public good.

Cooperation between Countries and the Global Community

We stress the need to reform the economic and social development strategy of the United Nations and to include government, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Transnational Cooperation (TNC), Public Private Partnerships (PPP) and corporate activity in the development scheme. We remind all of them of their pledged commitment and believe in the ability of all stakeholders to make a crucial difference in maximizing the developmental impact of their activities in developing countries. The imbalance of tied aid contributions of developed countries, on the one hand, and unconditional business activity by the aforementioned players in developing countries, on the other, is one of the major challenges to be met. The issue of funding also needs to be addressed, perhaps through additional financing mechanisms, as voluntary contributions have proved insufficient and most of the United Nations member States have not lived up to their 0.7 per cent GNP pledge for development aid. For the coordination of these new mechanisms and the implementation of new policies we suggest the creation of a coordinating United Nations agency.

To alleviate the imbalance of tied aid and unconditional business activity, the role of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank is crucial. These institutions, and all other stakeholders must understand that they cannot continue to concentrate solely on trade facilitation and the creation of a business friendly legal and regulatory environment in the LDC. Rather, profit-oriented activities have to go hand in hand with developmental commitment, so that liberalization works for the good of all stakeholders, and especially for the benefit of civil society in host countries.

These activities need to be in line with country-led development / poverty reduction strategies which should concentrate on capital accumulation, structural change and technological progress.

Too much revenue returns to developed countries rather than staying in the developing countries. Human resources should be developed by providing market intelligence and strengthening the private sector and productive as well as institutional capacities through the linkage and spill-over to domestic suppliers. This includes using skills and knowledge of local structures, involving the local work force, encouraging entrepreneurship and stimulating innovation, instead of “outsourcing” service delivery, transport and consultancy to non-LDC-stakeholders. Profit repatriation, licensing fees should be kept at a minimum and inter-company trading should not be abused for tax evasion. Inter-company trade should not substitute goods which can be produced locally. In short, this implies the reintroduction of the local content requirements, banned by the World Trade Organization.

All stakeholders should be held responsible to contribute to the sectors of education, health care, housing, water and sanitation and infrastructure. This includes trade-related infrastructure, its operation and sustainable maintenance. But capacity building in all these sectors cannot work without the promotion of good governance, the fight against corruption and building and strengthening the public sector and local, regional and national institutions.

In the delivery of technical assistance and expertise transfer, aid should concentrate more on providing learning capacities, aiming at self-sustainable skilled local networks.

The increase in development aid should not fund debt repayments. Complete debt relief and the donation of grants must be prioritised. A minimum demand would be a debt moratorium.

In the areas of capacity building, technical assistance and debt, aid and assistance should be disbursed according to the recipient countries' absorptive capacity and should increase as development progresses.

Enhancing the Delivery of Development Assistance

The current situation of uncoordinated development assistance disbursement results in the loss of efficiency, transparency, and the ability to measure ODA. This dispersed distribution of ODA from different donors without any needs-based coordination causes many development projects to overlap, and other areas of development, sometimes of higher priority, to be overlooked.

The United Nations Development Group is currently the only agency, which comes close to coordinating the distribution of ODA. Unfortunately, its role is seen more as a forum for discussion between United Nations institutions and the United Nations Country Teams, without any real effort to coordinate development assistance. They also do not have any links with the Bretton Woods institutions, regional development banks, or civil society who are more familiar with the developing countries' needs.

Proposal for the creation of the Office for the Coordination of Development Assistance (OCDA)

We propose the creation of an Office for the Coordination of Development Assistance (OCDA), under the United Nations Secretariat. It will help coordinate ODA. Its tasks will resemble that of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in coordinating humanitarian aid. Its main function will be: to coordinate development assistance, financial management, and information management, provision of overall valid and applicable systems for procurement, environmental assessment and evaluation of performance and results. It will serve as the headquarters for coordination with current United Nations Country Teams. Unlike the United Nations Development Group, the OCDA will provide a coordination centre allowing donor countries to allocate resources to areas of development where it is actually needed.

United Nations Country Teams will work with all stakeholders; the government of the recipient country, regional development banks, Bretton Woods institutions, other United Nations agencies, and civil society in identifying development needs, and create a database. Donor countries will then be encouraged to consult the OCDA on the usage of their ODA contribution. This process will prevent the overlapping of development projects and the misplacement of funds into areas that are not of higher priority. This coordinated effort will make disbursement more efficient with the database system, more transparent with documentation, and more measurable.

This new office will not only simplify the reporting process of feedback from recipient countries to donor countries, but also standardize feedback, allowing for measurability. The centralized database system will allow ODA disbursement to be more efficient. This record-keeping will also allow more transparency and accountability.

Assistance for Good Governance

Development assistance should be related to objective, non-imperialistic conditions. The framework of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness March 2005 is a worthy initiative but it not sufficiently concrete. We agree that the commitments from donors and partner countries in the Declaration have to be interpreted in the light of the specific situation of each partner country. While levels of ODA specified in the MDGs must be maintained, we also see the value in making additional resources available for developing countries who make progress on:

- an efficient public administration / institution building capacity
- a focus on the rule of law
- low levels of corruption

In order to implement this we think that an impartial international commission or an appropriate existing United Nations agency should collaborate with developing countries and evaluate these conditions. When the developing countries perform well they will be allocated additional assistance.

Raising Awareness and Increasing Funding

We have identified the issues of development assistance funding and implementation as central to the problems facing the developing countries. Our proposals are designed to create the necessary conditions to take the development assistance regime forward by improving the funding, targeting and implementation. Taking as our starting point Kofi Annan's call for the developed world to raise ODA levels to 0.7 per cent of GDP, we envision bold policy amendments revolving around a United Nations-sponsored awareness campaign, designed to raise support for developing countries.

We have developed strategies to increase funding for development assistance: the first of these focuses on the donor States' interest in providing increased development funding, meaning that States should be given an incentive to be more generous towards developing countries. The second element of our proposal centres around national public opinion, working on the basis that rich countries are in general democratic entities where the necessary will could be translated through political action into a more substantial assistance programme. As a consequence, raising the awareness of the electorate should compel them to elect a government that places development assistance high on its agenda. The final section proposes improvements to ODA funding methods.

Influencing Donor Governments

At the heart of our proposal is the conviction that donor States have it in their power to substantially increase the level of development assistance. Were this assistance to be delivered and implemented in an effective manner, we feel that the current levels of poverty in the developing countries could be drastically reduced. The starting point must therefore be at the source of funding – the development assistance budgets of the advanced democracies.

Rewards for generous governments: Governments who prioritise development assistance, or who are increasing their financial commitment to development assistance should be rewarded in a political sense. This reward should take a more visible form than a simple mention in an annual report by the Secretary-General. For instance, we propose that the Secretary-General visit and praise generous countries and their leaders at high-profile events or ceremonies. This would raise public awareness of States' records on development assistance, and consequently create a political imperative for development funding.

International UN Country Year: We believe that development assistance should be a sustained commitment on the part of wealthy countries rather than a sporadic response to periodic emergencies. To this end, we propose a new initiative designed to highlight the positive effect of development programmes, and reinforce awareness of governmental efforts. This would take the form of an annual focus on one particular least developed United Nations member State, concentrating on current development initiatives in that country with the aim of raising public knowledge and interest in development issues. The aim of this year is to launch initiatives for the consecutive years. An improvement in understanding of the United Nations' role in development would inspire confidence and improve public and governmental perception of the organisation. Highlighting the United Nations' role in a tangible sense might improve the prospects for increased funding by developed member States. We do not anticipate that such a campaign would damage the prospects of countries outside the focus initiative in any given year. On the contrary, we believe that neighbouring countries would also stand to benefit from the spillover effects of the scheme. If implemented, the "International United Nations Country Year" would showcase the effect of the work of the United Nations, donor countries, and non-governmental organizations in a particular country. We anticipate a place for private sector involvement in the scheme. This initiative could be a simple way of educating schoolchildren and society in general. Criteria for the choice of countries could include LDC status, variation of region, absence of conflict, low level of corruption and potential for good governance.

Influencing Public Opinion

The second part of our proposal consists of public awareness measures designed to connect the electorate to the problems that the United Nations is striving to ameliorate through its development initiatives. Once aid becomes an item on the political agenda, attitudes to funding levels should become an issue for debate at general elections. To achieve this, we suggest the following measures:

Touring exhibitions on the current situation in developing countries and the work of the United Nations and its agencies in these areas. These exhibitions could involve artists, journalists, people touched by aid initiatives and the like. The exhibitions could be financed by the United Nations in partnership with Global Compact companies. The United Nations should be prepared to use its name and 'brand image' for raising public awareness as well as to create political support. Visitors to the exhibitions should be reminded that the United Nations supports sustainable development, and that voters should encourage their elected representatives to accord more importance to development assistance.

Information campaign: We propose United Nations-sponsored documentaries in partnership with media companies, which would bring development success stories to the small screen. We would also endorse cooperation with the press to secure increased exposure of development issues. In addition to this, we would recommend that senior United Nations representatives liaise with the media regularly to promote interest in the United Nations' role in development. We envision a campaign of public awareness, which would dispel certain assumptions such as the misconception that funding levels currently constitute a significant part of the national budget, and present tangible advantages for developed democracies that southern growth would entail.

University and school level: Universities should be encouraged to organise well-publicised lectures on development related topics, ideally held by people with practical experience in the field or members of the national United Nations mission. Education ministers should be lobbied to include development issues in the national curriculum, and/or an 'aid and development day' for schoolchildren. It is unfortunate that the United Nations closed its information centres (UNIC) in the developed countries. We propose the re-establishment of these information centres.

Improving Funding Mechanisms

The lack of consistency in ODA funding needs to be addressed, leading to a more proactive rather than reactive funding. Indeed, experience has shown that events such as large-scale natural catastrophes can attract extensive amounts of aid. In the long term, however, this funding has proven to be insufficient for a complete and sustainable recovery. A large pool of resources is therefore essential to relieve poverty and suffering in regions which are often overlooked, but nonetheless in need of external assistance.

If all countries were to contribute the 0.7 per cent of their respective GNP to ODA, the Millennium Development Goals could be met in the time frame set by the United Nations. And not just that, countries can promote many other important aspects of development which are not necessarily captured by the MDGs. Even though pressure on the States who have committed themselves to this contribution should not decrease until they significantly change their policies and priorities, there is also an acute need to mobilize additional financial resources. An estimate by the Zedillo Panel sees an additional USD 50 billion needed annually to reach these objectives.

The additional funding mechanism proposed by the British Government and the International Finance Facility (IFF), is a fast way of fund-raising to meet the MDGs.

The IFF is a long-term commitment to international development assistance, in which governments agree to make a series of donations to be disbursed to the IFF once a year from now until 2015. After 2015, the IFF would enter its repayment period which would continue for about another 15 years after which the Facility would be disbanded. The contributing States would guarantee their future payment to the IFF. The IFF then would use these guarantees to issue bonds on the capital market. In this scheme, the donor countries and not the recipient countries are the credit seekers who are obliged to pay off the bonds and face stiff penalties for withdrawal.

This proposal has five clear benefits: first, it is legally binding; second, it raises the needed funding immediately; third, the IFF can secure the most attractive rating for the bonds; fourth, the IFF does not need all countries to participate in order to begin operations; and fifth, even donor countries facing short term fiscal constraints could fulfil their commitment to reach the 0.7 per cent of GNP.

However, it is apparent that the IFF has to establish entrance requirements, and will feel compelled to set these low in order to maximize donor participation. This will again only perpetuate the present culture of aid and make reaching the MDGs even more improbable. Therefore, it is important that the entrance requirements are set high enough to meet the MDGs and to show that the donors are genuinely committed. The additional ODA raised through the IFF should be disbursed in the form of unconditional grants and loans.

The goal of attaining the MDGs by 2015 provides a date on which to focus all development efforts. But it is also an arbitrary date; development assistance will not suddenly become unnecessary after 2015. It also raises the question of whether financing mechanisms can shoulder the burden when the IFF moves into its pay-back phase after 2015.

We welcome the introduction of a global environmental tax, for instance, on the use of carbon as one possible way of additional funding. The interest of this particular proposition lies especially in its inherent benefit on the environment in reducing the use of carbon fuels. The tax should reflect the environmental damage caused by an activity and thus influence directly the polluting activities.

Various other propositions of global taxes (e.g. Tobin tax, a tax on financial transaction, global lottery) all have substantial potential, even though their implementation and suitability may pose problems. In an economic environment seeking to eliminate all market regulations, the Tobin Tax could be hard to impose. A global lottery, on the other hand, would imply that poorer segments of society, known to be prone to gambling, would finance ODA. This can hardly be seen as fostering a serious image of the United Nations, not to mention the ethical issues involved.

Global taxation and other additional funding mechanisms have been discussed for some time already and it seems optimistic to think that some or even one of them could be implemented early enough to make a significant difference in reaching the MDGs by 2015.

It is also of great importance to address the question of whether the international community is able to coordinate the additional funds in an efficient way. The increased flows of ODA will need a high degree of coordination.

Cooperation for Development: Public Private Partnerships

We live in a world marked by increasing interdependence in which political, legal and economic governance mechanisms clash at multiple levels. With this knowledge it becomes increasingly important to engage the public and private sectors in pursuing a common goal, and in sharing all their knowledge and information required to solve the complex, dynamic and diverse problems of our contemporary society.

In many countries, Public Private Partnerships (PPP) are seen as an important element of “National Development Plans” and provide for an investment of a high-use public infrastructure that supports the continued growth of domestic economies. In recent years, the concept of PPP has been extended to embrace new and innovative ways of working with the private sector to improve the delivery of infrastructure and ancillary services to the community, by creating new infrastructure which is of a standard beyond that which could be delivered by the public sector alone; supporting the infrastructure with guaranteed services to ensure its continued usefulness, efficiency and longevity; taking advantage of innovative ideas and technology for the benefit of users of public infrastructure; generating synergies through the alignment of design, construction, maintenance and operation.

Not all projects, however, are suitable for PPP. Successful partnerships between the public and private sectors rely on the creation of a business opportunity, which in turn relies largely on the existence of sufficient consumer demand and the State is in power to impose the law. A proposed partnership arrangement must be affordable and must not compromise the governments’ financial targets. The government’s commitment is important because it signals that a need for infrastructure and ancillary services has been identified and approved, which in turn gives private sector proponents the confidence that a project will go ahead.

Public Private Partnerships and Incentives

The advantages of PPP could well be used in most developing countries and their economies. To date, however, there exists a certain degree of hostility between the public and private sectors, which relates to the fact that neither of the parties can foresee any substantial incentives for the need to cooperate. Moreover, the private corporations are often accused of abusing their market power by exploiting the resources and labour in the least developed regions. On the other hand, many governments in developing countries have for long treated private investors as a source of financing for declining public funds failing to recognize the minimum expectations of financial returns, without which the corporations are unlikely to maintain their commitments.

Some other reasons for foreign corporations to be unwilling to invest in the developing economies relate to the still existing structural, institutional, administrative and legal obstacles existing in these regions such as economic instability, *coups d’état*

and civilian conflicts, corruption of public officials, the lack of capital, infrastructure, and adequate environment for the attraction of the foreign investors. These and other reasons such as risk management, trade barriers, the lack of trade incentives and appropriate subsidies impose great financial threat for investors. While the problem of financial and fiscal incentives is well elaborated risk management is a new area.

Risk Management: The optimal allocation and management of financial and operating risks is fundamental to the success or failure of PPP. Governments may reduce the costs of these risks by agreeing that the private party should not bare risks relating to network interfaces outside its control and also retain the risks related to policy changes. Risks such as “latent defects” in existing structures, site contamination and *force majeure* causes may be subject to a risk sharing mechanism; whereas private parties may be expected to mitigate their risks through sub-contracting, insurance, financial instruments and diversification.

If too little risk is transferred to the private sector, there will be little opportunity to secure efficiency and innovation, which is undesirable for the public party. On the other hand, if too much risk is imposed upon the private company, their overall value for money will not be maximized. This may lead private parties to be unwilling to cooperate in such partnerships.

Guidance for Best Practice

Excessive use of incentives may result in the incentive-based competition, which could lead to financial pressure on the least developed countries, and also divert their resources that otherwise would be used more productively. To avoid these difficulties, further analysis in this area of trade development and facilitation is required.

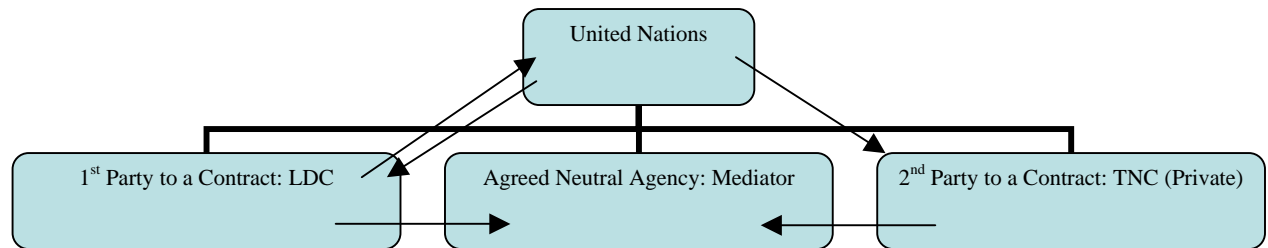
We propose to give guidance to the governments of the developing nations in formulating the detailed strategies for involving the private sector, for restructuring industries that could facilitate competition, and designing and establishing a legal, regulatory and institutional framework.

It is crucial to promote mutual respect, understanding, cooperation and commitment from a range of stakeholders – the consumers, government, private sector, service providers, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and international investors – through education, public awareness campaigns, United Nations conferences and seminars and other means of knowledge sharing.

Some great effort must be placed in identifying and disseminating global best practices, encouraging research, empirical analysis, and governmental participation in regional and international conferences. A key policy recommendation is to re-train government officials of the least developed countries. This does not necessarily mean that the developed countries should provide more technical assistance or cooperation; it means that they should assist in the transfer of skills and exchange of experience among poorer countries.

Providing for a Fair and Independent Dispute Resolution Mechanism. In every contract made between the government of a Least Developed Country (LDC) and a trans-national corporation (TNC), a compulsory “Dispute Resolution Clause” should

be introduced. In this clause the parties identify the law applicable to their contract, relevant jurisdiction, and a neutral mediating body, such as an international arbitral institution. United Nations involvement in these private contracts should be minimal. However, it should always remain in a position of an observer, ensuring that most vulnerable parties to a contract possess an adequate knowledge and capacity to enter into major legal transactions, and whenever requested, assign its specialists to provide legal and economic assessment of the proposed contract. Such “upon request” assistance will enable the most vulnerable party to make a fair assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of the pending transaction and refrain from entering into a contract if it considers such a contract to be unsuitable.



Financial and structural development assistance can play a vital role in ensuring that developing countries have the institutional capacity to benefit fully from delivered assistance and re-emerging relations with the private investors by creating the appropriate incentives for all parties, enabling investment in infrastructure, and addressing the critical issues of poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

Improving regulations and infrastructure in host countries will reassure the local governments that there exists a balance between public and private profitability. Such a balance can be achieved through targeted subsidies and an appropriate allocation of risks.

The role of cooperation between governments, donor communities and the private sector is important. However, such partnerships should only be used in an appropriate and efficient manner, and in light of the ideologies of humanity, equality, partnership and peace.

Working group on economic and social development

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PART III ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

We, the participants of the 43rd Annual Graduate Study Programme, are encouraged by the efforts of the United Nations in building international dialogue over the past 60 years on worldwide environmental concerns. On this anniversary we are reflecting on the role of the United Nations for the future sustainability of the global environment. Looking at the road ahead we have identified three critical areas to take into account.

- **Natural Resources**

Innovative and sustainable use of natural resources is a key issue if we are willing to improve the situation of rural and urban areas without worsening the climate change problem.

- **Policies**

Since the United Nations is the representation of its member States, the burden of responsibility for global environmental action rests upon national governments and their abilities to design policies of cooperation and technological implementation.

- **Civil Society**

If we are to successfully tackle the environmental challenges in today's world, we need to create platforms of public participation where civil society can actively intervene in the decisions concerning the future of the planet.

When we acknowledge that environmental concerns are the shared responsibility of all peoples of the world, we have the basis to create a common goal. The United Nations must continue its effort to bring all the world's nations together to discuss equitable solutions to our mutual problems.

We have identified the problems and proposed solutions to address our most pressing environmental concerns. Now it is time for States to take action, ensure the safety and health of our environment, and leave the earth in a sustainable position for future generations.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY

Energy and Poverty

Approximately two billion people throughout the world do not have electricity. About the same number rely on traditional fuels, such as wood, charcoal, dung, and agricultural residues, for cooking and heating. Many problems are rising with use of traditional fuels. This practice produces greenhouse gases, causes health problems, and depletes the natural resources (i.e. deforestation). Lack of electricity and heavy reliance on traditional biomass are hallmarks of poverty in developing countries. Grid-based electrical power does not reach many rural and poor urban areas in developing countries, nor is there adequate distribution of cooking and heating fuels. Lack of electricity exacerbates poverty and contributes to its perpetuation, as it precludes most industrial activities and the jobs they create. Of the 1.2 billion people living on the equivalent of one dollar a day, 70 percent are women. Because of their traditional responsibilities for collecting and managing fuel and water, in many developing countries women would benefit the most from access to improved energy services².

Electric light extends the day, providing extra hours for reading and work. Modern cook-stoves save women and children from daily exposure to noxious cooking fumes. Refrigeration allows local clinics to keep needed medicines on hand. And modern energy can reduce poverty by raising a poor country's productivity and extending the quality and range of its products. Increased access to reliable and affordable energy services is a critical factor for achieving the seven Millennium Development Goals, to ensure environment sustainability, adopted by the United Nations.

Access to electricity and other modern energy sources is a necessary, but not sufficient requirement for economic and social development. The escape from poverty also requires, among other things, clean water, adequate sanitation and health services, a good education system and a communication network. In order to lift the income levels of poor families and communities, energy policies and projects must be targeted to reach those who are most in need.

Accès à l'Énergie

A l'heure actuelle, près de deux milliards de personnes dans le monde – concentrées dans les zones périurbaines et les zones rurales isolées – n'ont pas accès à des services énergétiques de base³. Cette inégalité devant l'énergie affecte notamment les deux tiers de la population africaine, qui dépend très largement de la biomasse traditionnelle pour son approvisionnement énergétique⁴. Par ailleurs, les énergies

² The Challenge of Rural Energy Poverty in Developing Countries. www.worldenergy.org

³ On entend par services énergétiques de base l'accès à l'électricité pour l'éclairage, la réfrigération, le téléphone, la radio, la télévision, ainsi qu'à des combustibles, du kérosène ou du GPL pour la cuisine et le chauffage.

⁴ La biomasse traditionnelle comprend le bois utilisé comme combustible, les résidus agricoles, les déjections animales, le charbon de bois, etc.. En Afrique subsaharienne, à l'exception de l'Afrique du Sud, la biomasse traditionnelle représente plus de deux tiers de la consommation énergétique totale.

fossiles (pétrole, charbon et gaz naturel) utilisées dans les pays industrialisés produisent du dioxyde de carbone qui concourt au réchauffement de la planète. Le besoin mondial en énergie ira en s'accroissant de 60 % durant les 25 prochaines années⁵, restant basé sur ces énergies polluantes à forte émission de CO₂ et aux prix fluctuants selon la situation géopolitique des pays fournisseurs. Une remise en question de l'accès global à l'énergie s'avère donc nécessaire pour atteindre notamment les Objectifs de Développement du Millénaire fixés par les Nations Unies (Millennium Development Goals)⁶.

Les principales causes de la demande en énergie sont dues à la prédominance de l'industrie tertiaire, à l'utilisation de carburants pour le transport ainsi qu'à l'usage de l'électricité, il devient alors évident que les pays en voie de développement n'ont pas les mêmes besoins en énergie que les pays développés. De ce fait la question des coûts suscités par les énergies renouvelables doit être analysée en fonction de ces besoins minimales en énergie dont ont besoin les pays en voie de développement (PVD). Par exemple, la question du choix entre énergie nucléaire et énergie fossile ne se posera pas dans la plupart des PVD où de toute façon la sécurité nécessaire aux infrastructures nucléaires ne pourra pas être observée.

En ce qui concerne l'accès à l'énergie dans les pays industrialisés, les actions devront se concentrer sur une consommation énergétique maîtrisée alors qu'en ce qui concerne les pays développés, les actions devront se concentrer sur l'utilisation immédiate « d'énergies propres » afin d'éviter les émissions de gaz à effet de serre que tentent actuellement de contrôler les pays industrialisés.

La notion de « développement économique à intensité énergétique réduite » doit donc prévaloir dans les deux cas.

Les Etats doivent par ailleurs retenir des leçons des échecs subis après la privatisation des entreprises énergétiques comme aux Etats-Unis et au Sénégal, mais doivent aussi admettre que le développement des économies pauvres ne doit pas obligatoirement passer par une industrialisation intensive nécessitant de forts besoins en énergie fossile.

Les Etats devront, pour ce faire, favoriser de différentes manières, les crédits à la recherche : de ce fait, le principe pollueur-payeur pourra se focaliser non pas uniquement sur des taxes « indirectes », mais aussi sur des subventions directes à des organismes de recherche spécialisés en énergies renouvelables, par exemple.

Source : "L'énergie, instrument de développement durable pour les pays ACP" (Energy as a Tool for Sustainable Development for ACP countries) 1999, Commission européenne et PNUD.

⁵ Climate change, clean energy and sustainable development; G8 Gleneagles 2005

⁶ Les Objectifs de Développement du Millénaire sont au nombre de sept : (1) réduire de moitié l'extrême pauvreté et la faim, (2) parvenir à l'éducation primaire universelle, (3) promouvoir l'égalité des sexes, (4) réduire la mortalité infantile, (5) réduire la mortalité maternelle, (6) combattre le SIDA et autres épidémies, (7) garantir un développement environnemental durable, et (8) établir un partenariat mondial pour le développement. Le lien entre l'accès aux services énergétiques de base et ces objectifs est étroit.

De plus, les Etats doivent faciliter les démarches administratives en vue d'installations favorisant l'énergie verte sachant que ces démarches sont, dans certains pays comme la France, très discriminantes du fait de la lourdeur des procédures.

Les programmes d'aide au développement comme ceux promus par l'Union Européenne doivent répondre à ces deux objectifs et doivent par ailleurs annuler toute aide destinée à une industrialisation aveugle de ces pays basée sur les énergies fossiles comme principales sources. En effet, on peut penser que les politiques de mise en place d'infrastructures privilégiant les énergies propres seront plus facilement applicables dans les PVD que dans les pays industrialisés ayant atteint une phase de maturité industrielle importante.

Pour être considérées comme renouvelables, il faudrait que les sources énergétiques traditionnelles se renouvellent à la vitesse à laquelle elles sont consommées. La reforestation pourrait donc être aussi considérée comme solution lorsque l'on sait que certaines sociétés sont réticentes à l'utilisation de différentes sources énergétiques. De plus, des innovations telles le GPL (gaz de pétrole liquéfiés, carburant fossile propre) doivent être privilégiées pour répondre aux besoins de préparation des aliments propres. Ces innovations permettraient d'éviter les 2,5 millions de personnes qui meurent chaque année suite à des émanations de poêles mal ventilés brûlant des combustibles traditionnels⁷.

Les PVD doivent absolument mettre en place une politique énergétique : sachant que l'utilisation des énergies renouvelables est plus importante dans ces pays que dans les pays industrialisés, il y a pour eux la possibilité d'effectuer un bond en matière d'innovation environnementale et de créer ainsi un avantage certain au sein du marché mondial.

Enfin, le statut juridique des ressources énergétiques mondiales doit être revu afin de créer un organisme fédérateur tel qu'un Fonds International Energétique en vue de favoriser l'accès à l'énergie des populations pauvres.

Address Climate Change

The production and use of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas, are the major source of greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs, SF₆). Without clean and sustainable supplies of energy the world faces a future in which climate change and fuel shortages could combine with catastrophic results. Therefore a crucial change in energy supply and production has to be achieved within the near future.

Energy efficiency of fossil fuels through improving isolation techniques is one possibility to reduce, but not stop, greenhouse emissions. However, renewable energy sources like solar, wind, geothermal, small-scale hydropower, and biomass are pollutant-free and in theory meet the world's energy needs. The costs of implementation and production between those are varying. On an electricity cost level, wind-generated energy is competitive and sometimes even cheaper than fossil fuels. The geographic situation of a country is also a fundamental aspect that can lead to a low installed cost per kilowatt hour (i.e. solar energy in countries with high

⁷ « Le PNUD lance des partenariats visant à élargir l'accès des populations rurales à l'énergie » ; official site UNDP

radiation, wave and tidal generated energy in coastal areas). Energy needs are diverse with common uses including hot water heating, house heating, fuel and electricity among others. A functional renewable energy would correspond and fulfil precisely one of those requirements (i.e. geothermal energy for hot water need).

Therefore renewable energy supply must be diversified in order to match all needs and be low-cost competitive. Research on new type of renewable energy production contributes significantly to the diversification and efficiency of “green” energy. Production of renewable energy is a promising way to solve the climate change problem as well as to create new markets and employment opportunities. Generally, it has been proven that, for a long-term approach, the use of fossil fuels and nuclear energy are more expensive (implementation and ongoing costs) than utilizing a renewable energy power plant of any kind.

Nuclear power has been promoted as a solution to climate change and an answer to energy security. On the one hand, as a response to global warming it is too slow, expensive, and limited. On the other hand, it is rather a security risk in an age of terror-related threats. Practically, a broader combination of renewable energy sources than is currently utilized is needed. The environmental impacts of a renewable energy plant should not be neglected so as to avoid additional problems. In developing countries where energy production is small, the use of renewable energy should be preferred. First, it is the right answer to climate change and, second, it is a bright issue for the economy of the countries as the cost for switching from fossil fuels to renewable energy are relatively high.

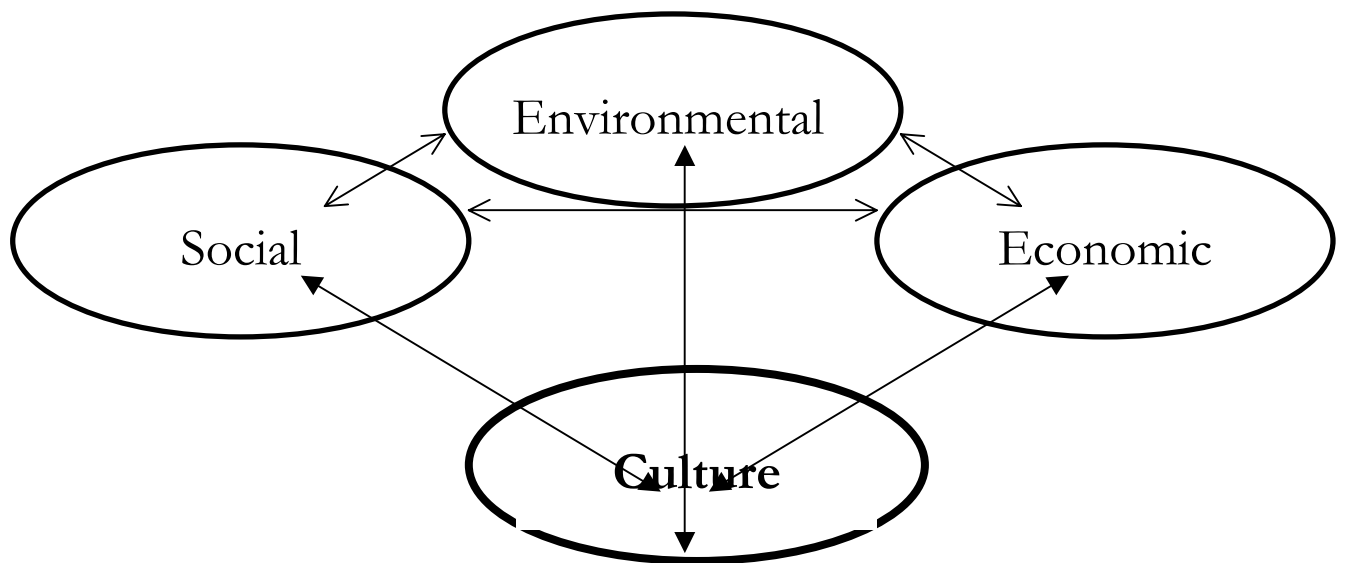
The United Nations should continue steering project developers and the investment community toward greater support for renewable energy, but should first make sure that the energy used in its own administrative buildings is coming from renewable sources.

POLICIES AND TECHNOLOGIES

A Way of Life: Move from Policy to Cultural Approach of Sustainability

While policies play an instrumental role in promoting responsible environmental stewardship within a society, we feel sustainable habits are most effectively executed when they become part of the culture. Attempting to enact critical environmental action plans are especially challenging because of an insufficient link between the policies and the people that should carry them out. The challenge for world leaders is a matter of improving education on sustainability and increasing access to facilities that make environmentally responsible activities, such as recycling, easy. Governments play the most important role in making sustainable options available to their respective societies.

We recommend that the United Nations, in conjunction with other proposed or currently operational education programmes, promote environmental education and the creation of environmentally responsible practices amongst member countries. A programme should be in place that provides information and resources for nations interested in building a culture of environmental responsibility.



Child Education

Over the past century, humans have created a perilous habit of consumption. As a result of this, the need to strike a balance between our daily requirements and the consequent over-stretch of our natural resources has engendered an endless list of activities.

While there are many efforts towards sustainable existence and development, it remains pertinent to encourage a simple “bottom up” approach that focuses on the education of children.

One major course of action that should serve such a global concern to benefit our future generations is our ability to encourage good environmental practice in children right from the age of learning.

The issue of education is often limited to short seminars in rural areas, or least developed countries (LDCs), yet a more inclusive line of action is required on a global scale to ensure that good environmental practices become a culture or a way of life for all. To achieve the stated objective we recommend:

- Governments should promote ethical and responsible environmental practices in school curriculums right from the age of learning, as children need to understand the delicate nature of the environment they live in and the need to treat it with care;
- Commitment to the Millennium Development Goal to foster the education of children in least developed countries or rural areas should be pursued with a more vigor.

Enhancing Regional Cooperation among Developing Countries

According to the New Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Report, two thirds of the world's ecosystems are "either degraded or being managed unsustainably"⁸. It is clear that when two or more countries confront similar or overlapping environmental problems such as trans-boundary pollution risks, it is to their mutual advantage to join their forces.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has been working on ways of transforming trans-boundary pollution risks into opportunities for regional cooperation among developing countries through joint initiatives with other United Nations programmes such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) or the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The Environment and Security Initiative, which was launched in 2002 in response to demand from governments of Central Asia, Southeastern Europe and Southern Caucasus, has resulted in common training workshops, information exchange and capacity building in those regions. This kind of regional cooperation among developing countries provides a number of benefits to those countries:

- Trans-boundary pollution cases can be a source of both domestic and regional conflict; where there is conflict, there cannot be development, and therefore regional co-operation has a role in preventing pollution and reducing the risk of industrial accidents through the transfer of management skills for developing countries officials.
- Regional cooperation for training programmes increases the efficiency of those programmes compared to the individual training of each country.

⁸ The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Report, "Ecosystems and human well-being: Opportunities and Challenges for Business and Industry", July 2005, available at www.maweb.org/documents/PrivateSectorFinal.pdf

- By focusing on the most immediate risks that the countries confront or perceive, the technical assistance and capacity building provided by UNEP can serve as a basis for future regional cooperation between countries, by enabling them to identify together what could be their common needs and how they could complement each other in preventing risks and managing pollution cases.

The secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions were linked in 2002 with the development of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management for a better coordination at the international, regional and national levels. To increase the efficiency of these regional co-operations, more focus must be given to the local level in order to reach the rural areas and to consolidate the complementary relationship between central and local authorities. The transfer of adequate management skills must be extended to local government officials.

- Information exchange between national agencies and local authorities must be reinforced for better regulation of industrial activities to limit the occurrence of industrial accidents such as the Baia Mare disaster⁹.
- Local authorities of a given country must be encouraged to share information and collaborate with the local authorities of neighboring countries whenever such collaborations are relevant.
- Empowerment of local authorities is crucial in promoting public-private partnerships: the involvement of the private sector in rural areas of developing countries should not result in a public-private division of labor; therefore the public sector in rural areas must have the knowledge, awareness and necessary skills to cooperate with private actors.

Regional cooperation for trans-boundary risk management can also be a basis for future cooperation for research and innovation, as well as for the introduction of new waste management technologies and safer alternatives.

The most important of all is to extend these kinds of regional or sub-regional co-operations into other parts of the world. Since the United Nations is its member States, and the UNEP can act only in response to the governments' demands, we should find ways of increasing the responsiveness of governments to environmental risks and opportunities.

- We can build institutional or legislative linkages between the Aarhus Convention and UNEP's, or UNECE's, capacity building and training programmes in order to promote partnerships among countries that are threatened by trans-boundary pollution. Whenever there is collaboration between civilians or non-governmental organizations of neighboring countries concerning an environmental degradation problem which leads them to make use of the Aarhus Convention, UNEP's Capacity Building Task Force, in the framework of its "information exchange" pillar, could

⁹ The Report of the International Task Force for Baia Mare can be found at www.reliefweb.int/library/documents/eubaiamare.pdf

have a mandate not to impose, but only to propose a common technical assistance to the governments of certain countries for domestic and regional conflict prevention; the governments would therefore be free to choose to cooperate or not.

- This link could be first tried in the European region, and then extended to other regions of the world; or it could even serve as a means to extend these four Conventions to other countries.

Economic Instruments for Environmental Protection

Eradicating extreme poverty & hunger as well as ensuring environmental sustainability are among the primary challenges for our societies, as identified in Secretary-General Kofi Annan's report on the Millennium Development Goals Report.¹⁰ Many times, these two goals are perceived as a contradiction. Consequently governments often believe that they have to make a choice between economic growth and protection of the environment. However, economists from the most recognized institutions do today agree that quite on the contrary wise economic policies can promote both, economic growth and environmental sustainability.

Unsustainable consumption of natural resources, waste disposal and environmental pollution represent negative externalities, as the decision-makers do not bear the full costs of their action. Companies do for example contribute to environmental destruction while not incurring the costs of their behaviour.

One of the alternatives available to governments is the so-called "green tax shift". "A green tax shift is a fiscal policy which lowers the taxes on income including wages and profit, and raises taxes on consumption, particularly the unsustainable consumption of non-renewable resources."¹¹

Economists agree that a "green tax shift" is a powerful instrument in order to promote both, economic growth and environmental protection. Taxing unsustainable consumption and other behaviour that is not environmentally friendly will generate a source of income for governments and decrease demand for these goods. As a "green tax shift" is by definition revenue neutral, taxes, for example income taxes, need to be lowered in order to contribute to a reduction in unemployment and increase sustainable productivity.

Economists do in this context talk about the double or even triple dividend.¹² The environmental dividend will be realized as costs of environmental destruction are reduced. Employment and welfare will be increased since the former market distortion through income taxes will be remedied. The international competitiveness of a country will be increased, as its local productivity will rise.

¹⁰ Kofi Annan, The Millennium Development Goals Report 2005, New York, 2005

¹¹ Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_tax_shifting, access: July 19, 2005

¹² Compare with Koskela, Erkki, Schöb, Ronnie and Sinn, Hans-Werner, 'Green Tax Reform and Competitiveness,' National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper No. 6922, February 1999.

Despite the benefits that could be realized by adopting this approach, only few countries have redesigned their fiscal policies; the reason for that stems from different concerns that countries are faced with.

To promote long-term green fiscal policies, we encourage UNEP to strengthen its activities in the field of Economic Incentives for Environmental Protection, for example through the creation of a specific UNEP consultancy unit. The aforementioned branch should provide pro bono counselling to governments who seek to redesign their economic instruments according to a long-term sustainable development approach. The consultancy should only become active upon the request of member States. However, they should also be enabled to provide States with their confidential analyses if they deem it critical. To offer the best available advice, tailored to the specific needs of each individual country, this unit should be comprised of academic scholars for economic and technical analysis as well as experienced consultants for their practical implementation.

Technology Transfer Policy

Global warming is one of the most important environmental issues. It is directly linked to energy consumption because of the emission of CO₂ when energy is produced or consumed. Future electricity must be green to ensure social and economic development for the two billion people lacking electricity and to combat global warming. Thus, we would like to place an emphasis on the importance of innovative zero emission energy technologies and the improvement of the energy efficiency of buildings and their implementation in developing countries. As a matter of fact, developed countries perform research to meet their own needs, which does not necessarily meet the needs in developing countries. Thus developed countries can provide assistance for developing countries and promote them to build joint research platforms adjusted to their needs. Research should then focus on technologies, which are adapted to the geographical location and climate of developing countries. Among other renewable technologies such as combined heat cycle, hydro-, wind- and solar power we would like to award research priority to the following two subjects:

- Developing and establishing a new power plant concept for the generation of electricity - the so-called “solar tower power plant”. This concept was approved by a pilot project in Spain in the late 1980s and an Australian feasibility study in 2003. The Australian Government already gave its support to build such a power plant. This concept is ideal for all countries with high solar radiation such as North Africa, which could also export decentralized electricity to Europe.
- Enhancing the energy efficiency of buildings. About 40 per cent of the primary energy consumption is used in buildings including offices and dwellings. By using traditional architecture, energy consumption can be reduced in buildings, mainly reducing cooling and heating energy. Traditional building materials are the subjects of research in several institutions; these are ideal to substitute concrete and have better thermal insulating properties, which lead to significant energy savings. In addition, traditional materials are exploited locally. This has a positive economic and environmental impact.

We would like to see a United Nations' strategy that promotes neighbouring developing countries to pursue joint investments on the above subjects and a strategy to promote OECD countries to participate in financing these projects. With this approach we see multiple goals such as

- Reducing CO₂ emissions to combat global warming;
- Independency from fossil fuel and their rising prices;
- Supporting traditional technologies and architecture which will have a positive social impact;
- Boost a sustainable and environmentally friendly economy in developing countries;
- Involvement of the private sector in investments, construction and technology transfer;
- Promoting joint research creates a common interest as a basis for peace.

Once an attractive research activity is established, further activities can be developed. Initiating such cooperation projects in oil producing countries would be a strategic plan not only because these countries can afford research investments but also because of the tremendous need of research in fossil energy sector for cleaner and more efficient production. Some of these projects could include promoting new and renewable energy sources, oil recovery, methane flair reduction, geological carbon capture and carbon trading.

Importance of Participating in Multilateral Environmental Agreements

As we learn more about the consequences of human activities on the health and sustainability of our world environment, it is critical that we continue to implement preventive measures to curb further degradation. There currently exist multilateral environmental agreements on important international concerns such as hazardous waste, ozone, biodiversity, endangered species, wetlands, chemicals, climate, and desertification. Progress must continue if we are to address the environmental issues of today and avoid risks in future.

The critical factor in the success of multilateral agreements lies in the participation of all stakeholders. Environmental degradation is a global concern because of the delicacy and interdependency of the earth's natural systems. In the grand scheme of global environmental impacts no population is exempt. Accordingly, we find it essential that all nations, regardless of size, location, or geopolitical position, participate in the drafting and ratification of these agreements.

It is clear that every nation is not equal in its responsibility for environmental degradation or in its capability to cope with the challenges. Therefore, we call upon all nations with the means to abide by these international agreements to sign and fully comply with the guidelines set forth. To fully achieve the goals identified in these agreements, worldwide participation, ratification, and compliance are necessary. We hereby declare the importance that:

- Nations that prospered at the expense of our global environment assume a particular responsibility to rectify degradation by partaking in a worldwide solution;
- Nations with limited means be afforded leniency as they develop and receive assistance in attaining sustainable growth;
- All developed nations exhibit leadership by example, taking the initiative to lead the world on a path of sustainable development.

Restoring the global environment requires a coordinated effort amongst all the nations of the world. Through these multilateral environmental agreements we can become responsible stewards of this earth. By entering into these pacts we are building trust amongst nations and expressing our commitment to future generations.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Active participation of civil society in the decision-making processes on environmental matters cannot in today's world be overemphasized. Key environmental issues, such as the climate change and clean energy development, require extensive public participation for the effective implementation of strategies and policies.

On this matter, the Aarhus Convention, which deliberately calls for civil society participation in the decision-making processes concerning environmental sustainability goals, proves to be the boldest and most innovative political framework to deal with environmental problems. This is because previous conventions and agreements did not quite take into account the crucial role that public participation plays in the success of decision-making processes that, like the ones related with environmental matters, directly concern every single person on the planet.

Subsequently, we would like to propose a set of key interventions that seek to enhance the fundamental role of these civil societies on the worldwide struggle for environmental sustainability. Facing the various scales of the environmental problems, the proposed measures cover a wide range of governance levels, from the global and inter-governmental issue of external debt cancellation to localized matters of citizenship.

Cancellation of External Debts for Environmental Sustainability

Experience has proven that, in many cases, the aid supplied to developing countries does not correspond to the needs that motivated it to be earmarked for those countries. Due to several external reasons, which often correspond to a country's political situation or its governance structures, the aid that is intended to help a population and which aims to cover the needs of people in several vital aspects of their lives, does not always reach the intended recipient and is on many occasions used for other less justifiable ends.

Additionally, as it was discussed at the last G8 Summit, the cancellation of the external debt that exists between developed countries and those in process of reinforcing their economies is once again to be postponed to future meetings. This heavy charge that remains a recurrent asphyxia for many economies is not a subject to be resolved in the short-term and still constitutes a powerful weapon in many industrialized countries.

Therefore, it is our purpose to encourage debt relief in order to free those nations to spend funds on national environmental concerns. Following many years of external debts relieving as a way to force the implementation of structural adjustment programmes, we conversely propose the use of unconditional indirect aid. It is our view that the direct relation between aid and correct use of state budget could enable the advancement of civil societies throughout the world.

Transparency and Good Governance in Environmental Issues

Our success in tackling the challenge of climate change, in promoting the use of renewable energies and in the achievement of sustainable development on a global scale depends significantly on the transparency of governments in the implementation of global agreements and conventions to which they entered into and ratified, namely in what concerns their honesty and accountability.

It is our belief that democratic governments can provide the machinery through which civil societies can channel their own contributions towards cleaner energy and sustainable development. But civil societies throughout the world will only participate in government-initiated programmes on tackling these environmental problems if trust exists for their ruling bodies.

It is therefore apparent that for governments to effectively implement successful programmes on climate change and other environmental issues, they need to have public trust for effective participation of the civil society. In order to earn this trust, it is our view that governments throughout the world need to be open and accountable in governance, which by and large is the proof of actual democratic governance.

Environmental Incentives to Private Sector

One of the most striking environmental problems in the contemporary world is the use of non-renewable energy. Coal-based energy, because of the great amount of CO₂ emissions, causes major impacts on the environment. Consequently, there is an international consensus regarding the environmental impacts of these emissions, which has been followed, in the Kyoto Protocol, by a general governmental commitment to reduce CO₂ emissions. However, until today, this commitment had no real effects. Energy from renewable resources could be an alternative to reduce the use of traditional energy. However, the replacement of energy resources has high costs regarding the initial investments and the profits deriving from it can only be perceived in the long-term. Consequently, the private sector doesn't recognize these forms of energy as profitable and therefore desirable ones.

We would then propose the implementation of mechanisms of incentives or governmental subsidies to 'renewable energy projects' in order to make them attractive to private sector investment. These projects are to be implemented specially in the developed countries, since they have higher rates of emissions. In our view, these replacements need to be implemented in a progressive way, and should be initiated in the developed world, allowing less developed countries to keep using non-renewable energy, particularly those that depend on it.

Addressing the environmental problems from the supply side is only a part of the solution. Given their importance and complexity, they also need to be addressed by taking into account the demand. Both ends of civil society should, in our view, be addressed. In that sense, we recommend the implementation of these mechanisms of incentives to the consumers, which play a very important part in the global

environmental problem. Consumers have to reduce their demand of energy and be attracted to use renewable energy forms. These incentives can serve as a means of reducing taxes and by making the cost of renewable forms of energy competitive with the traditional ones.

Strengthened Environmental Education

In order to make people aware of the importance of their own role in protecting the environment they enjoy, it has always been considered to be necessary to introduce and implement environmental concerns through education. However, this concern has only been addressed to a satisfying extent a few times. Environmental education has only been implemented on the basis of sporadic campaigns, which had little effect on actual behavior of people in what concerns their lifestyle with regards of becoming more self-conscious on environmental topics. Consequently, we recommend decision makers to go one step further.

Following the increasing consideration of introducing the constitutional right to have a healthy environment that permits human beings to develop in full capacity, we hereby recommend the establishment of environmental education as part of regular study programmes. Through an interdisciplinary perspective with a theoretical and practical scope, we aim to present key environmental issues to students, giving them a deep understanding of the real importance of such issues in their everyday lives. This goal, which could be implemented throughout all levels of education, could most definitely promote a holistic vision of green issues, making the citizens of tomorrow more aware of how important the environmental factor is and will be in their own lives.

Environmental Citizenship

Although an important increase in people's concern on environmental issues has taken place in the last years, if compared with many others, like labor market or terrorism, there is still a certain reluctance to consider 'green affairs' as a top rank subject in the political and social agendas. A remaining gap between civil society and the environmental agenda finds its justification in many explanations. One of these is the observance of the environment and its care with regard to a higher scale issue. It is generally believed that only big actions, carried out by the governments or big corporations, will really matter in the struggle for a more pleasant and cleaner nature.

Nevertheless, it becomes more and more evident that it is only the sum of many daily actions that can have relevant positive consequences for the environment. Following the chaos theory statement that it takes one butterfly shaking its wings in Tokyo to create a tornado in New York, it is the small and collective action of a group that can determine in great measure the final result. By a concrete measured action or just by conditioning their vote to a particular political force, one human being can determine his or her future and contribute to make his or her environment safer.

One way of attaining this objective is to bring environmental issues closer to citizens by involving them in everyday "green affairs" and to generate some sensibility about

these kinds of questions through direct experience, thus helping the citizen get in touch with the “green reality”.

Our purpose consists of encouraging governments to offer tax advantages for those who participate in a wide range of regulated activities (i.e. educational, regenerating, prevention, etc...) that may result as a benefit for the environment.

By contributing through various ways to help securing healthier local environments, the common citizen could receive better tax treatment in a first stage. Thus, through this incentive, he or she would have the opportunity to get in touch with organizations, people and a whole set of issues that would at the same time allow them to know this green framework and to be more sensitive to the work that is carried out by the people as well as the importance of environmental conditions on everyday life. Further than a *quid pro quo* interchange, it pursues to create an extraordinary sensibility in people than goes far beyond business and aspires to create a ‘green conscience’.

CONCLUSION

The objective of the proposed set of measures is to empower civil societies worldwide in order to participate actively in the decision-making processes concerning environmental matters. However, it is essential to have in mind that the situation and position of human life in historical socio-political contexts create conditions that are highly contingent and beyond individual or collective will; established power relations can only be challenged through contextually bounded actions. In that sense, we think that it is fundamental to carefully study the particularities of the socio-political settings in which these multi-scaled recommendations are to be followed.

Following that, the use of conditional indirect aid that promotes the acquisition of environmental-friendly technologies needs to be accessed in terms of imposed conditions and its suitability in the recipient countries. At a different level, in the promotion of transparency and good governance, it is important to acknowledge the existence of different perceptions on concepts like openness and accountability of governmental structures. In what concerns environmental incentives to the private sector, it is crucial to evaluate the probable impacts of such measures in the specific economic contexts in which they are to be implemented. Finally, it is also essential to take into account geographical circumstances and natural contexts in the establishment of the proposed regularization of environmental study programmes and in the activities to be supported in the enhancement of environmental citizenship.

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43rd GENEVA GRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMME

4 - 22 JULY 2005

"THE U.N. AT 60: THE ROAD AHEAD"

PLENARY MEETINGS:

CONFERENCE ROOM VII

WORKING GROUPS:

Environmental issues: Room A 206

Moderators:

Mr. Michael Williams

Ms. Nicole Dawe, Information Officer of the Secretariat of the
Basel Convention, Geneva *

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Economic and Social Development: Room VII

Moderator:

Mr. Michael Herrmann, Policy Analysis and Research Cluster
Special Programme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
(UNCTAD)

Human Rights: Room H-3

Moderator: Mr. Daniel Prémont, Human Rights Officer
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

* Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary
Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their disposal.

.../...

Monday 4 July 2005

10:15 a.m.

Information about the Graduate Study Programme: Room VII

Ms. Marie Heuzé, Director, United Nations Information Service, Geneva (UNIS)

Ms. Elena Ponomareva-Piquier, Chief, Press and External Relations Section, UNIS, and Coordinator of the Programme

Mr. Rolando Gomez, Information Officer, Press and External Relations Section

Ms. Rachel El Haloui-Deléglise, Press and External Relations Section

10:30 a.m.

Welcome address Mr. Sergei Ordzhonikidze, Director-General, United Nations Office at Geneva

2:00 p.m.

Guided Tour of the Palais des Nations: Meeting room VII

3:45 p.m.

Visit to the UN Library and League of Nations Museum

Ms. Ruth Hahn-Weinert, Chief, Users Services Section

5:15

Reception: Bar de l'Escargot

Tuesday 5 July 2005

9:30 a.m.:

Introduction to moderators and set-up of Working Groups: Room VII

1. Environmental issues
2. Economic and Social Development
3. Human Rights

2:30 p.m.:

Working Groups

Wednesday 6 July 2005

10.30 a.m. **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**

Mr. Andrew Harper, Bureau for Asia-Pacific

2:30 p.m.: Visit to **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**

Mr. Jacques Forster, Vice-President

Thursday 7 July 2005

9:30 a.m.: **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)**

Mr. Anders Pedersen, Coordinator
Europe, North America and Central Asia Unit
Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch

11 :15 a.m.: Group Photo

2:30 p.m.: Working Groups

Friday 8 July 2005

10:00 a.m.: **Conference on Disarmament (CD)**

Mr. Jerzy Zaleski, Political Affairs Officer

11:30 a.m. **World Food Programme (WFP)**

Ms. Christiane Berthiaume, Spokesperson

2:30 p.m.: Working Groups

Monday 11 July 2005

9:30 a.m.: **UN Recruitment -Office of Human Resources**

Mr. Sergei Raskalei, Human Resources Officer (tbc)

11:00 a.m.: **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)**

Mr. Ricardo Espinosa, NGO Liaison Officer, Office of the Director-General, UNOG

Ms. Bruna Faidutti, World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)

2:30 p.m.: Working Groups

Tuesday 12 July 2005

9.30 a.m.: **World Trade Organization (WTO)**
Mr. Hans Peter Werner, Counsellor, Development
Division

11:00 a.m.: **Association of United Nations Correspondents
(ACANU)**
Mr. Jan-Dirk Herbermann, President

2:30 p.m.: **Working Groups**

Wednesday 13 July 2005

9.30 a.m.: **United Nations Conference on Trade and
Development (UNCTAD)**
Mr. Taffere Tesfachew, Chief, Policy Review Section,
Division of Investment, Technology and Enterprise
Development, UNCTAD
Ms. Catherine Cattell, Public Information and Outreach
Unit, UNCTAD

11.00 a.m.: **UNAIDS – Joint United Nations Programme on
HIV-AIDS**
Ms. Annemarie Hou, Chief, Communication and Public
Information

2:30 p.m.: **Working Groups**

Thursday 14 July 2005

9:30 a.m.: **Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
(OCHA)**
Mr. Sergio Piazzi, Chief, External Relations

11.00 a.m.: **International Organization for Migration (IOM)**
Mr. Jean-Philippe Chauzy, Spokesperson

2:30 p.m.: **Working Groups**

Friday 15 July 2005

9.30 a.m.: **United Nations/International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR)**

Mr. Praveen Pardeshi, Senior Adviser, UN/ISDR

11: 00 a.m.: **United Nations Office at Geneva**

Mr. Fabrice Arlot, Cultural Activities Coordinator at the Palais des Nations
(Tour of United Nations 60th Anniversary Exhibit)

2:30 p.m.: **Working Groups**

Monday 18 July 2005

9.30 a.m.: **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE)**

Mr. Patrice Robineau, Deputy Executive-Secretary, Senior Adviser to the Executive-Secretary, ECE

11.00 a.m.: **International Labour Organization (ILO)**

Mr. Stephen Pursey, Senior Adviser, Office of the Director General
Mr. Philippe Egger, Senior Economist, Bureau of Programming and Management

2:30 p.m.: **Working Groups**

Tuesday 19 July 2005

9:30 a.m.: **World Health Organization (WHO)**

Dr. Ian Smith, Adviser to the WHO Director-General

11:00 a.m.: **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**

Ms. Valerie Etim, Programme Officer, Genetic Resources, Biotechnology and Associated Traditional Knowledge, WIPO

2:30 p.m.: **Working Groups**

Wednesday 20 July 2005

9:30 a.m.: **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**

Mr. Jean-Ludovic Métenier, Planning Officer

11:00 a.m.: **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**
Ms. Lara Srivastava, Director, New Initiatives
Programme

2:30 p.m.: Working Groups

Thursday 21 July 2005

11:00 a.m. Plenary: Discussion of Working Groups' proposals
Adoption of the final document
Debate co-ordinated by Moderators of Working Groups

2:30 p.m.: Ad hoc drafting group to edit final document

Friday 22 July 2005

9:30 a.m. **Closing ceremony, Room VII, Presentation and adoption of
the final document, concluding remarks and distribution of
certificates**

Ms. Elena Ponomareva-Piquier, Chief, Press and
External Relations Section and Coordinator of the
Programme, Press and External Relations Section

Mr. Rolando Gomez, Information Officer, Press and
External Relations Section

Mr. Jon Herbertsson, Chief, Visitors Service, United
Nations Information Service

* * * * *

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Farah	Dega	USA
Gueye	Ababacar	France
Harrach	Flavia	France
Iommi	Gabrio	Italy
Ipek	Selim Volkan	Turkey
Iwunze	Juliet	Nigeria
Jacquat	Olivier	Switzerland
Jankechova	Zuzana	Slovakia
Johanson	Randall	USA
Kaussler	Bernd	Germany
Kim	Yoon Jung	Korea
Kingsley	Odiete	Nigeria
Lundehn	Christina	Sweden
Mailly	Grégory	France
Manson	Hernan Alfredo	Argentina
Masmoudi	Fériel	Tunisia

Murillo	Karem	Bolivia
Narbett	Daniel	Australia
Nitu	Camelia	Romania
Njokou Tchoutang	Gautier	Cameroon
Noah Ngoumou	Sebastien Simon	Cameroon
Nsoumb Nee Mbeh	Doris Antoinette	Cameroon
Oliveira E Silva	Antonio Jose	Portugal
Olsen	Anne Sofie Westh	Denmark
Orders	Daniel	United Kingdom
Ouedraogo	Soukeyna	Burkina Faso
Park	Joon-Ui	Korea
Pekari	Nicolas	Finland
Punchihetti	Subhashinie	Sri Lanka
Pyrka	Andrzej	Poland
Ruffo	Nicola Fabiano	Switzerland
Salazar	Maria Carolina	Colombia
Samaraee	Tallha	Germany
Sauer	Alison Deborah	USA
Schmalz	Andreas Marc	Canada
Schwab	Barbara	Switzerland
Seven	Asli	Turkey
Solis Fernández	Carolina	Venezuela
Sun	Ting	China
Sutoyo	Jedut	Indonesia
Svensson	Katarina	Sweden
Taghawi-Nejad	Davoud	Iran
Thelot	Fils-Lien Ely	Haïti
Torbicz	Anna	Poland
Traore	Garantigui	Mali
Tumurbaatar	Odgerel	Mongolia
Tutluoglu	Cihan Ahmet	Turkey
Ugolini	Giorgia	San Marino
Vujinovic	Lejla	Germany
Weber	Alexandra	Germany
Werner	Pär	Sweden
Weston	Rachel	USA
Weychert	Joanna	Poland
Willocx	Kris	Belgium

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