



Dear Delegates,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 2018 University of Central Punjab MUN.

The following pages intend to guide you in the research of the topics that will be debated at UCPMUN 2018 in committee sessions. Please note this guide only provides the basis for your investigation. It is your responsibility to find as much information necessary on the topics and how they relate to the country you represent. Such information should help you write your Position Paper, where you need to cite the references in the text and finally list all references in the Modern Language Association (MLA) format.

The more information and understanding you acquire on the two topics, the more you will be able to influence the Resolution writing process through debates [formal and informal caucuses], and the UCPMUN'18 experience as a whole. Please feel free to contact us if and when you face challenges in your research or formatting your Position Papers.

We encourage you to learn all you can about your topics first and then study your country with regard to the two selected topics. Please remember that both committee members need to be well versed and ready to debate both topics.

Enjoy researching and writing your Position Papers.

We look forward to seeing you at the Conference!

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

AGENDA

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND PEACEBUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Introduction

One of its most debated and controversial mandates, UNDP seeks to aid the growth and national development of civil societies. On UNDP's home page, the Organization states “our ultimate goal is to bring effective and equitable delivery of service to citizens helping countries in peaceful settlement of disputes and progress towards democratic governance”

Throughout the past three years, UNDP has concentrated its efforts in accordance with a single document, the 2014-2017 Strategic Action Plan*. However, a sole year later, the landmark 2030 Agenda with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals were introduced, with slightly differing aims and objectives than aforementioned document

This Strategic Action Plan elapses at the end of this year. It is your task to draft a new action plan in the form of a comprehensive resolution. This should address and incorporate the SDG's and the post 2015 development agenda. 2 years after their introduction, you incorporate recent developments into the methods you propose to achieve the aims set out by the SDG's. We expect this committee to discuss, address and provide sustainable solutions in the new 2017-2020 Strategic Action Plan. Difficulties arise in that the UNDP recognizes itself as being neutral, and a sole impartial facilitator to cooperation and dialogue. You, the delegates, therefore have to compose international mechanisms of advancing governance without interfering with the sovereignty of individual states.

A central topic in your debate throughout the weekend will concern securing a social contract: How to govern for peace? According to Thomas Hobbes, delegates should submit their individual rights to a sovereign institution such as the UNDP to exit a State of War (*Leviathan*, 165 l). According to John Locke, delegates should ensure the provision of their private property by

tacitly consenting to the UNDP, which should act as an impartial judge when administering development (*Second treatise of Governmmt* 1689). According to Jean-Jacques Rousseau, delegates should form a General Will to be forced to be free (fiu *Central Social*, 1762). But how should UNDP act according to your delegation? We look forward to hearing your perspectives, your ideas, and your solutions.

Topic History

The first major record of a concept relating to an international community promoting peace and inclusive governance relates back to 1795, when German Philosopher Immanuel Kant published his “Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch”. In this work, Kant argues that an international community, founded on the principles of unitary states declaring themselves free, can promote a worldwide society enforcing sustainable and prosperous peace.

1815-1914: The Concert of Europe and the International Gold Standard

The role of international institutions in the process of peacekeeping precedes the history of the United Nations Development Program. The change in the role of an international organization in the peacekeeping process has been integrally shaped by conflict and war throughout the 20 centuries. Prior to the First World War, international Peacekeeping was dependent on the initiative of individual states and the economics of international trade.

The Concert of Europe, founded ensuing the 1815 Congress of Vienna, was very limited in its power. Only larger powers could call for an international peace conference, and could only occur when every party involved would agree for a conference to be held. In this sense, the Concert of Europe is best understood in the context of the modern-day Security Council — Every power had a right to block a proposed solution, and smaller nations could only be invited to the table at the discretion of larger powers.

Moreover, the Concert of Europe failed to be based on any constitution, and thus had no effective *modus operandi* of dealing with. Though its arguable successes lie in the 1906 Algeciras Conference, which resolved the First



Moroccan Crisis through peaceful means, and the 1913

London Conference, which formally ended the first Balkan War, it inherently failed to foster an international climate conducive of peace.

Most notably, amidst the 1914 July Crisis, British Foreign Minister Sir Edward Grey called for a peace conference on July 25s, 20143,

This proposal was promptly rejected by the Austro-Hungarian Chief of Staff, Conrad von HötzendoW. Three days later, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. In this pre-war system, the currencies of the Big Nations were fixed and exchangeable in gold. This “International Gold Standard” created stability for large nations, whilst smaller nations had no possibility of increasing the global value of domestic currency. The Gold Standard influenced international peacekeeping in a similar way to the Concert of Europe: stability and peace could only be guaranteed if all stakeholders supported this arbitrary international standard.

1918-1919: Wilson’s 14 Points

In a Speech to the United States Congress on January 18a, 1918, President Woodrow Wilson outlined a statement of fourteen principles for proposed peace negotiations to end “The Great War”. This document became the touch paper for interwar peacekeeping and the establishment of the forerunner of the UN, the League of Nations. In this speech, Wilson formulated principles of both democratic governance and peacekeeping, stating:



Caricature, Uncle Sam and Wilhelm II, (1918)

POINT

“A free, open-minded and absolutely impartial adjustment of all colonial claims, based upon a strict observance of the principle that in determining all such questions of sovereignty the interests of the populations concerned must have equal weight with the equitable government whose title is to be determined”

POINT

“A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike”

1919-1939: The League of Nations

The League of Nations operated through unanimous consent (similarly to the modern-day NATO), solely proving effective in building peace and enhancing democratic governance when concerned with localized, but not international conflict. As such, the League successfully resolved several conflicts, such as, but not limited to: Aland crisis (1920) Upper Silesian dispute (1920), Vilnius (1921).

1945-1962: The United Nations and the Foundation of the UNDP

On the 24th October 1945, the UN Charter took effect and an intergovernmental organization was created to preserve and build world peace. In 1949, the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) was created to aid the political process of countries undergoing development.

Additionally, the organization established Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development (SUNFED) to enlarge the scope of UN missions. However, after the World Bank introduced its International Development Organization (IDO) in 1962, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) recognized the strong overlap in the mandate of the EPTA and SUNFED. Resultantly, both programs were merged into the UNDP

1967-1999: First UNDP Responses

In 1967, UNDP first partnered with the newly founded Republic of Singapore, assisting governance through funding expertise. UNDP successfully fostered a stable peaceful environment, and UNDP's Global Centre for Public Service Excellence is home in Singapore.

In 1971, the General Assembly passed resolution 2814, calling for the UNDP to foster a new environment of promoting peace: Not through war, diplomacy or political summits, but through development. As such, this resolution can be interpreted as a paradigm shift in the means deployed of building peace; for now, the mandate to promote a global environment conducive of peace lay not on political or industrial stakeholders, but a developmental agency.

1999-2015: The Millennium Development Goals

In the United Nations Millennium Declaration (GA Resolution 55/2), the General Assembly drafted a novel declaration to commit itself towards a lasting peace. This resolution called for increasing efforts to maintain peace and security and create an environment conducive to development through “good governance”. In its road map towards implementing the Millennium Declaration, MDG 8, the mandate of UNDP was to enhance record reporting on the progress towards national achievement of the MDG’s, and the Secretary General called for UNDP to act as a “*MDG Scorekeeper*”

At the 2005 World Summit (GA Resolution 60/ 1), international stakeholders resolved to “creating a peaceful and democratic world” through development, through adopting a global partnership, promoting the secure management of public finances, national development policies, entrenching South-South cooperation and mobilizing financial resources for development.

In 2009, UNDP launched a Global Project for Electoral Cycle Support in order to focus on long-term aid for electoral processes. In 2012, UNDP launched a thematic evaluation, and noted that this project aided in the growth of inclusivity, professionalism and credibility. Core achievements include aid in sifting through 23,000 ballot boxes in the 2014 elections in Afghanistan.

Since 2014, UNDP has increasingly sought to incorporate youth action in its agenda for inclusive democratic governance, especially in the incorporation of youth participation into its national action plans. Poignant examples include aiding Macedonia in developing a 2015-2016 National Youth Strategy, setting up youth development institutions in Guyana, holding a Youth Integrity Camp in Kenya, and establishing a female youth mentorship program in Brazil.

2015-2017 — Agenda 2030 and the SDG’s

On the 25th September 2015, the post 2015 development agenda was introduced under the Title “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Resolution 70/ 1. This resolution set out a new universal agenda and 17 new Sustainable Development Goals, replacing the MDG’s on three dimensions of sustainable development: Social, economic and environmental. This landmark resolution set out the agenda for development for the coming 15 years. In this resolution, the General Assembly set out to “*foster peaceful, just and (n)rfuñre societies which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development*”. In Clause 9, this resolution also affirms

that all signatories “*envisage a world (which democracy (...) is essential for sustainable development)*”!

In the third financing conference for development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) was agreed upon by member states, a comprehensive financing mechanism to promote peaceful and effective, accountable and inclusive democratic institutions was agreed upon.

UNDP’s 2015 Turin Communiqué established a global consultation on localizing sub-national dialogues, to:

1. Establishing and enforcing SDG indicators that reflect local concerns
2. Fostering territorial approaches to foster sustainable development
3. Calling upon governments to commit to providing localities and adequate legal frameworks for institutional and financing capacities.

In 2016, the General Assembly passed a quadrennial comprehensive Resolution (71/243), on its operational activities for development, most significantly calling for, (rife a/zq*Article III, Clause 28* for all countries to target 0.7 per cent of Gross National Income (GNI) for official development assistance, especially between 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of GNI towards least economically developed countries (LEDC’s), *Article I Clause 45* to improve the accountability and coordination of the United Nations Development System *Article Claw 50 Q*) to build future result driven resolutions in order to achieve the Target 2030 in the post-2015 developmental Agenda, *Article M, Clause 81* to present system-wide implementations of the 2030 objectives by 2018 to 2019.

The Future

And, now, we find ourselves in the second half of 2017: Do we stand in front of a fragmented or united world? Has UNDP’s peace building and governance effort been a successful one?

Are the aims of the SDG’s to be achieved and does the UNDP have the means to do so? How can we embark on a new 2017-2020 Strategic Action Plan and what solutions should such resolution propose?

Honorable delegates, the answers to such questions lie in your hands.

The issue at hand is severe: the future of this comprehensive peace building developmental programme is at stake. Where do we go from here? You, as delegates in the UNDP, will have to provide answers to the future of the

Developmental programme in the peace building process and in aiding institutions of democratic governance.

Three issues to consider

UNDP Seeks to promote social cohesion and empower nations by strengthening institutions of governance. Hereby, UNDP seeks to provide support to governmental partners through regulatory frameworks to manage tensions and conflict, facilitate dialogue and analyze conflict.

UNDP has recently sought to achieve these aims through:

- **A Conflict And Development Analysis (CDA)** framework for regular risk assessments, to track changes in society
- Promoting dialogue to prevent violence and empower local mediators. UNDP has engaged on a partnership with the European Union on Land, Natural Resource and Conflict prevention, and has most recently promoted dialogue in the 2013 Roundtable for Peace and Development in Fiji, the 2012 Senegalese National elections, and connecting stakeholders with mediators to aid draft the 2011 Tunisian constitution
- Since 2004 onwards, UNDP has developed a **Joint Program on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention**, currently deployed in over 35 countries.

Inclusive Governance

UNDP supports an integrated approach towards harnessing political inclusivity. It currently strives to increase the voice and power of the *demos* through following actions:

- Female empowerment lies central to UNDPs mandate, and therefore it strives to advocate for the engagement of women as voters and leaders, recently collaborating with the Egyptian government to establish a 5-year-plan on female socioeconomic
- Responsive and empowered civil society, keeping with its 2012 corporate strategy on civic engagement.
- Incorporation of youth - recently, the United Nations held its **First Global Forum on Youth PoEcies**, to deliver experiences, challenges and opportunities for youth policy.

Questions to Consider

How should UNDP help developing countries build peace and strong accountable institutions? Through financing, institutional support, technical support, capacity

building, investment or expertise? Here are 5 questions you should consider when conducting your research.

First, how to incorporate participation of youth into the political decision-making process in order to foster engagement and support for a democratic institution, possibly through the integration of social media, specifically in Latin American Countries

Second, how to increase the access to justice, and expand the rule of law, to decrease corruption and collaborate with institutional bodies, such as the African Union to increase support for democratic governance and to effectively implement GA resolution 71 /243 and, *inter alia*, the Istanbul Programme of Action, the Samoa Pathway and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

Third, how to address gender equality and the role of empowering women, using examples of Jordan and Somalia in 2013, and offering institutionalized civic education and exchange with women, on national policy such as through collaboration with the Tunisian parliament in 2015.

Fourth, how to improve the efficiency of UNDP's Bureau of Policy and Programme Support to strengthen national capacities for education programs, providing reliable services for low income households, or scaling up sustainable business models with new business models via coordinator systems.

Fifth, how to reshape the Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund to enhance, and support the development and investment into E-Governance and regulatory sandboxes for the dissemination of technology and best practices into developing countries, best seen in UNDP's recent approach to applying ICT's to decision making in Kyrgyzstan.

AGENDA

MANAGING WATER RESOURCES IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

INTRODUCTION

Climate change, an ever-pressing issue, is recognized to have a heavy impact on the water sector. Due to changes in feedback loops as temperatures increase, there will be growing and more pressing issues with water resources. The hydrological cycle one such feedback loop, it can be affected in many ways and it is not entirely clear if these feedback loops will be positive or negative. Whichever way it tips will depend on the geographic region, but it is likely to affect vegetation, precipitation, runoff, groundwater recharge patterns, and there is a high risk that it will lead to extreme droughts and floods.

Some of the water resources issues that are likely to arise in the future are to do with water security, water scarcity, demand, as well as water allocation on all governance levels. Sea levels are so likely to rise due to accelerated glacier and ice cover melting, and it could even lead to the contamination of groundwater by salt water. This is an already existing threat for coastal areas in India, China, and Bangladesh. The Pacific islands of Tuvalu and Samoa are finding themselves dependent on imported water due to increased salinization of groundwater.

The management of water resources in the long-term is essential for sustaining not only to humans, but also to all life forms on Earth. Its mismanagement can lead to increasing droughts, affected ecosystems and habitats, and can also have negative consequences upon local human populations. Climate change is a threat to planet Earth and is highly likely going to affect our water resources, hence their management, especially in face of this new challenge is crucial.

History of the problem

Water resources management issues can be traced back far throughout time; however, we will not attempt to list all historic events here. A major event that influenced water resources was the industrial revolution, and industrialization at large. This is because industrialization has often put strain on local water resources — not only for production purposes but also by affecting the quality of local water resources.

Industrialization, together with development, has also advanced human capabilities with regards to health, food production, and efficiency and overall production. While this has been great for human life expectancy, this has also led to an explosion in the global human population. The carrying capacity of the planet with regards to the human population is often questioned, and still unknown. An increase in populations puts strain on resources, particularly on water resources; what makes this even more complicated is that populations are growing rapidly particularly in the developing world where institutions and governance are not very strong — leading to poor water resource management. A combination of all of these puts has put a lot of stress on water resources, and this is likely to continue into the foreseeable future; especially as our climate starts to change.

The root causes — CO₂/greenhouse gas emission — of climate change can also be traced back to industrialization. Over the past few centuries we have been adding more and more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, and it is now well known that this is leading to climate change — the impacts of which are not very well known yet. Climate change was initially recognized as a problem in the early 90s — with the drafting of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992 the international climate change regime was established. While we have made some headway since then, climate change remains a problem of unprecedented proportions which will affect populations around the world, and it is without a doubt that it will also affect water resources across the globe; it is simply a question of how each region will be affected.

Previous actions taken

In 2010, the UN General Assembly explicitly recognized water as a basic human right in Resolution 64/292. It acknowledges that access to clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realization of all human rights. Indeed, they are not objectives in themselves; they are rather a necessary condition for good nutrition, gender equality, education, and the elimination of poverty. This resolution calls upon states and international organizations to provide financial resources, help capacity- building and technology transfer in an attempt to help developing countries provide safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all⁵.

Proclaiming 2013 the International year of Water cooperation was a clear effort to raise awareness among the international community. Delegates should reflect on the efficiency of such a campaign, to communicate the necessity of a better global water management and suggest new ideas to efficiently reach out to the population.

Statement of the Problem

Why would we care?

We have to examine both the direct and indirect impacts that the global water crisis has on the people and the international order. This will allow us to thoroughly comprehend the need for effective management of water resources.

'*Water stress*': is calculated as the ratio of total fresh water withdrawn by all major sectors to the total renewable fresh water resources in a particular country or region⁶. At the moment, more than 2 billion people are affected by water stress. In 2011, 41 countries experienced water stress, an increase from 36 countries in 1998. Of those, 10 countries, on the Arabian Peninsula, in Central Asia and in Northern Africa, withdrew more than 100 per cent of their renewable fresh water resources.

Furthermore, the effects of climate change on water resources will deeply affect agriculture — this negatively impacts the sustainability of many developing nations. Different levels of precipitation in different regions will result in drastic changes in agriculture: some countries will have more arable land, and others less, leading to the migration of certain types of agriculture. In effect, "climate change will alter the geography of traditional crop areas, which may impact on the world's capacity to provide enough food for all"⁸. It is obvious that this will put millions at risk, with the main focus on countries that are dependent on agriculture.

Lastly, we need to consider the effect that the bad management of water resources can have on

international security and conflict. More often than not, water resources' control can constitute a cause of conflict between two parties, with the most recent one happening in 2015 and involving Afghanistan and Iran⁹. An associated project of the United Nations World Water Assessment Programme and of UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme, called 'From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential' (PCCP) addresses this issue and emphasizes the importance of effective management of transboundary water resources, climate change, leading to increased water stress.

Having considered some of the negative impacts that bad management of water resources can have, the question that arises in the following: "for the next few decades, given the volume of available water, and under the present circumstances, will it be possible to provide enough water to a population forecast to be at least 9 billion by 2050 (according to the medium hypothesis proposed by the United Nations).

Current Situation

Previous and current climatic cycles have shaped the geographic repartition of water resources. This is why there are clear inequalities between countries depending on their location, and the number of lakes and rivers running through their borders. More worrying, most estimations affirm that disparities between countries are likely to increase. In 2025, 63% of the world population will be subject to water stress. The main sources of stress are the increasing demographic pressure the planet will have to face, pollution of rivers and lakes due to industrial development in certain regions, and the habit of considering water as an inexhaustible resource.

While regions such as Russia, South America, Canada and Sub-Saharan Africa might not be directly threatened, other places like North Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, India, China and the west of the USA will be much more subject to water stress or even shortages.

The lack of freshwater in a country can have a lot of negative effects on the population: scarcity can foster the resort to non-purified water, collected from polluted wells and rivers. It entails serious health problems and the reappearance of diseases like cholera and hepatitis.

Lack of water also jeopardizes economic development. It can hinder agricultural yields and therefore deprive the population from food (in the case of an extensive agriculture) or deprive the country from the income generated through food exports (intensive agriculture). Moreover, the textile industry, which is key to many developing countries such as China and India, requires a substantial amount of water. Its progressive rarefaction can disturb cycles of production since water would be mostly used for vital purposes. Some initiatives to reduce the environmental impact of the textile industry have already been implemented by transnational companies. For instance, Levi Strauss & Co has saved a billion liters of water thanks to the creation of its water less technology.

Tackling this issue is also paramount in trying to prevent tensions linked to water scarcity from arising. Indeed, conflicts are likely to emerge due to the cross-border nature of rivers and lakes, which can foster tensions regarding the repartition of water. For example, an interstate conflict has appeared between Egypt and Ethiopia regarding the building of the Renaissance dam on the Nile River. More than that, there is also the potential for intra-state conflicts within populations, as civilians fight for access to water. Water is a resource that can even become a tactical weapon in conflicts, through the control of dams and wells in arid regions. Given that controlling water is an instrument of power, it can greatly affect the outcome of a conflict

A case study the Aral Sea

The drying of the Aral Sea is probably one of the best examples to illustrate the impact of Man on his environment. Located between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, this water area's size has been reduced to 25% of its original size in about 40 years. This ecological catastrophe is linked to the diversion of the two main rivers that used to feed the Aral Sea: The Amu Darya in the South and the Syr Darya in the East. They were diverted in the early 1960s by the Soviet government to irrigate the desert and allow farming, especially the growing of cotton. Uzbekistan is now the sixth world producer of cotton. Over the years, this intensive production has had a substantial impact on the environment. The size of the Aral Sea shrank, increasing its salinity and making it inhospitable for most of the aquatic fauna and flora that used to be part of its ecosystem. Mistakes of the past should not be repeated, hence the need for delegates to search where other water areas could be endangered.

Bloc positions

Middle East: similarly, to north and sub-Saharan Africa, this region is already very arid. Changes in feedback loops are highly likely to lead to even more extreme temperatures and water shortages, which states might not be prepared to deal with.

West Asia: Over the next two decades, population increases and growing demands are projected to push all the West Asian countries into water scarcity conditions²⁰²¹

Northern America: most of both Canada and the US is likely to be fine long-term - they are not very threatened by water resource shortage, however the west of the US (and potentially other areas) are likely to be subject to more and more water stress, which could make it very invested into problem.

South America: it is likely to be subject to a lot of issues with water resources as deforestation in the region continues, and temperatures rise. These states are likely to be disproportionately affected and are set to be invested into trying to address the problem, and its root causes.

Questions a resolution should address

The topic of water management is an incredibly complex issue, as it has to be tackled on the local level while being a global problem. Furthermore, the unequal access to water between countries should not make its management less of a priority to privileged countries. While this may be an issue to address in the long run, it is worth discussing action plans to avoid being presented with a fait accompli later on. The following points should act as a rough guide of the different aspects to consider when debating and writing a resolution:

- How to better spare water on a global level;
- On the local level, the reduction of leaks in both agricultural irrigation systems and urban areas water networks;

- The education of water pollution and a better protection of aqueous zones;