

NWMUN 2011



The Premier Model United Nations Conference in the Northwest

Background Guide:
General Assembly Plenary



Northwest Model United Nations | November 18 – 20 | Seattle, WA

September 1, 2011

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2011 Northwest Model United Nations (NWMUN) Conference and the United Nations Security Council. We are immensely pleased to present to you the background guide, written by your highly experienced and capable Director, Sarah Chambers, Assistant Director, Alex McCarty, and Chair, Dario Nanbu.

The entire Secretariat is very excited to work with you in November and appreciate the hard work and research you are undertaking in preparation for what we are confident will be a great conference!

The topics for the Reformed Security Council are:

- I. Energy Security and Use of Nuclear Energy**
- II. Implementation of the Responsibility to Protect**

Every participating delegation is *required* to submit a position paper prior to attending the conference. NWMUN will accept position papers until **Sunday, November 6th at 11:59 pm Pacific Time. Please submit all position papers to: positionpapers@nwmun.org.**

Please refer to the following pages for **Position Paper Requirements (p. 3)**, as well as an example position paper. Delegates' adherence to these guidelines is crucial, because it not only ensures a well-prepared committee, but is also a key component of the awards process.

Additionally, we have provided an **Overview (p. 8)** or “snapshot” of the committee you are serving on, with details regarding membership, mandate and other information. This is supplemental to the **Committee History and Background (p. 9)**.

We urge you to move beyond the background guide as you learn more about both the Member State you will represent and the topics we will be discussing. We've provided additional research guidance this year in the form of **Key Resources (p. 33)** we suggest you check out for each topic, as well as the regular **Bibliography (p. 34)** at the end of this guide.

The **Delegate Preparation Guide (www.nwmun.org)** should also be a document you read thoroughly, regardless of your Model United Nations experience, as it will provide key information for you regarding how NWMUN 2011 works. It is available as a separate document under the “Delegate Preparation” section of the NWMUN website.

We wish each of you the best as you prepare for this conference and committee. Please do not hesitate to direct any questions or concerns toward your Director or the Director-General. We look forward to meeting you at the conference!

Sincerely,

Sarah Chambers
Director,
General Assembly Plenary
ga@nwmun.org

Alex McCarty
Assistant Director,
General Assembly Plenary
ga@nwmun.org

Dario Nanbu
Chair,
General Assembly Plenary
ga@nwmun.org

Kristina Mader
Director-General
NWMUN 2011
dg@nwmun.org



Position Paper Guidelines

Your position paper should consist of a well-developed introduction and a summary of the position of your country on each of the topics to be discussed in your committee. It is important to remember that while you will have lots of information on your country's actions on a local or national level, you must discuss your country's position on an international level, particularly including suggestions for policies and future action that could be taken. Additional examples of high quality position papers are available on the NWMUN website.

Formatting

Position papers should be formatted using the following specifications:

1. Times New Roman
2. Size 10 – 12 font
3. Single spaced
4. 1 – 2 pages in length

Please Note: Anything over two pages will not be read. If your paper is longer than two pages, we will read only the first two pages of the document.

Submission Process

NWMUN will accept position papers until **Sunday, November 6th at 11:59 pm Pacific Time.**

1. Please **send each position paper in a separate e-mail to the committee** with the subject line: COUNTRY – COMMITTEE
 - a. Example: BELARUS – HRC
 - b. Example: TRINIDAD & TOBAGO - GA
2. Please **cc all position paper submissions to positionpapers@nwmun.org.**

General Assembly Plenary:	ga@nwmun.org	Human Rights Council:	hrc@nwmun.org
UN Development Programme:	undp@nwmun.org	Security Council:	sc@nwmun.org
Reformed Security Council	rsc@nwmun.org	Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty:	att@nwmun.org

Please Note: Delegates who have not submitted a position paper by the specified deadline will not be given consideration for awards. Position papers are also a portion of the evaluative process for delegation awards; failure of an individual delegate to submit a position paper, therefore, negatively affects his or her team's chances of winning a delegation award.

Content Requirements

Position papers should include, and will be evaluated, on the following items:

1. **Formatting** and presentation;
 2. **Spelling and grammar** that is reflective of the level of education being pursued by attendees of the conference.
 3. The content should include:
 - a. **Background information on the topic** - why your country thinks it is important, relevant national commitments and action on the issue. Remember to focus on national policies which influence your country's position on this topic within the UN and internationally.
 - b. **International commitments** - your country's support of specific resolutions, initiatives, conventions or treaties. Describe what actions have been taken by your country, or actions taken by international bodies previously that your country supports, to address the to address prior international agreements made by your country.
 - c. **Specific and concrete proposals** for next steps on the topic, including priority sub-issues and how your committee can move forward on addressing the topic. This is the most important section of the position paper, and should be the longest paragraph.
-

Research Tips

1. Look for statements made by your country – you will often find the exact position of your country within a speech that they have been made.
 2. Look for the voting record of your country - indicating its support or lack of support for particular resolutions.
 3. Look for recommendations made in Secretary-General reports or within resolutions that have been adopted by your committee or similar international bodies in order to identify the ways in which you can move forward or take action on the topic.
-

Key Resources

1. **UN Website “On the Record”**: <http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/unms/>
This website provides direct access to official documents reflecting the views of United Nations Member States.
2. **UN Website “Global Issues”**: <http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/>
This website offers an overview of some of the global issues we will be discussing at NWMUN, and links to other resources where you can get additional information.
3. **UN Bibliographic Information System (UNBISNET)**: <http://unbisnet.un.org>
UNBISNET is the primary documentation resource for the United Nations, containing nearly every UN document published since 1979 (and numerous pre-1979 publications as well). It includes the full text and voting records of a majority of resolutions from primary organs, and even contains speeches given by delegates in many cases.

Sample Position Paper Format

Delegation from
[Member State]
(Bold, Italicized, Times New Roman, Size 10-12)
(Bold, Times New Roman, Size 10-12)

Delegation from
[School]
(Bold, Italicized, Times New Roman, Size 10-12)
(Bold, Times New Roman, Size 10-12)

Position Paper for [Committee Name]
(Bold, Italicized, Times New Roman, Size 10-12, Centered)

Introductory sentence providing an overview of the topics. (Times New Roman, Size 10 – 12)

I. Topic One Title
(Bold, Italicized, Times New Roman, Size 10-12, Centered)

Paragraph #1: Background information on the topic, why your country thinks it is important, relevant national commitments and action on the issue. Remember to focus on national policies which influence your country's action on this topic within the UN and internationally.
(Times New Roman, Size 10 – 12)

Paragraph #2: International commitments and your country's support of specific resolutions, initiatives, conventions or treaties. Describe what actions have been taken by your country, or actions taken by international organizations such as this committee and supported by your country, to address prior international agreements made by your country (Times New Roman, Size 10 – 12)

Paragraph #3: Specific and concrete proposals for next steps on the topic, priority issues, and how your country can move forward on addressing the topic. This is the most important section of the position paper, and should be the longest paragraph. (Times New Roman, Size 10 – 12)

II. Topic Two Title
(Bold, Italicized, Times New Roman, Size 10-12, Centered)

Paragraph #1: Background information on the topic, why your country thinks it is important, relevant national commitments and action on the issue. Remember to focus on national policies which influence your country's action on this topic within the UN and internationally.
(Times New Roman, Size 10 – 12)

Paragraph #2: International commitments and your country's support of specific resolutions, initiatives, conventions or treaties. Describe what actions have been taken by your country, or actions taken by international organizations such as this committee and supported by your country, to address prior international agreements made by your country (Times New Roman, Size 10 – 12)

Paragraph #3: Specific and concrete proposals for next steps on the topic, priority issues, and how your country can move forward on addressing the topic. This is the most important section of the position paper, and should be the longest paragraph. (Times New Roman, Size 10 – 12)

Example Position Paper

Delegation from
Canada

Represented by
College of Southwest Washington

Position Paper for the Economic and Social Council Plenary

The topics before the Economic and Social Council are: Promoting Economic and Social Gender Equality as a Means to Achieve Sustainable Peace; Implementing International Agreements to Ensure Global Public Health; and Promoting Sustainable Cities. Canada is committed to strengthening the role of ECOSOC on the issues before it, and looks forward to promoting enhanced cooperation amongst Member States in order to reach consensus and take concrete action.

I. Promoting Economic and Social Gender Equality as a Means to Achieve Sustainable Peace

In conflict and post-conflict societies, economic and social rights are often given lower priority than political and civil rights. In these cases, women are not treated equally, and are often the victims of gender discrimination, which manifests itself in violations of human rights such as rape, violence and displacement. The prevalence of these crimes is exacerbated by a lack of protection for women, who often do not possess the right to own land, have no means to receive adequate health care and have no access to justice.

Canada has long been a champion of women's economic, social, and cultural rights. As an original signatory of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR), and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Canada has a formal commitment to gender equality and, more specifically, supports the explicit and systematic integration of a gender perspective into all peace-building and foreign aid initiatives. Canada continues to press for specific initiatives with concrete and measurable outcomes when addressing gender inequality. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has developed its own Framework for Addressing Gender Equality Results. This framework has been an important advance in assessing the effectiveness of its initiatives and has consistently provided CIDA with useful and relevant data. Canada recognizes the advancements made in Security Council resolution 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009) and 1889 (2009) to strengthen the original principals of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). However, Canada firmly believes that ensuring the implementation of SCR 1325 (2000) at the national level is vital. That is why Canada suggests that the CEDAW committee issue recommendations to both the Security Council and ECOSOC on positive models for National Action Plans (NAP) for incorporating SCR 1325 (2000), a set of progress and impact indicators through which its implementation can be monitored, and benchmarks designed towards strengthening the principals of SCR 1325 (2000).

Canada recommends that the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), along with the ECOSOC Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) reach out to local NGOs and civil society organizations (CSOs) to coordinate the monitoring of, and reporting on, the progress of these NAPs. CSW will then report its findings to ECOSOC, the Security Council, and the Secretary General. Canada urges for the adoption of benchmarks requiring 30% of UN-mandated peacekeeping forces and negotiating delegations be women. Canada also believes that while peacekeeping troops are vital to facilitating the cessation of hostilities, a separate unit with a specialized mandate is necessary to deal with the psychological and health issues of women that continue in post-conflict situations long after the violence is over. The specialized mandate will also lay the groundwork for legal procedures that may need to be taken to ensure just peace. Canada calls for the creation of this specially trained unit to be deployed in post-conflict situations, with a specific mandate to address sexual and gender based violence, help to eliminate impunity, and offer same-sex interviewers for rehabilitation purposes. The newly created unit will facilitate reconciliation and violence prevention.

II. Implementing International Agreements to Ensure Global Public Health

Effectively addressing global public health lies at the center of achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Through agreements such as the Paris Declaration on AID Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action

(AAA), and global health initiatives such as the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI), and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, the international community has made significant progress in addressing the world's health concerns. Canada is focused on creating frameworks and resolutions that foster greater coordination, eliminate corruption and overlap, improve AID consistency, encourage the untying of AID, emphasize a focus on national health systems, and hold all the countries involved accountable for producing tangible and measurable results.

Canada has been a leader in the use of innovative funding mechanisms, such the Advance Market Commitment (AMC), which provides incentives for pharmaceutical companies to accelerate the development of vaccines and sell them at prices that poor countries can afford. This project, which is being implemented in coordination with the World Bank and GAVI, is expected to save an estimated 7.7 million lives by 2030. Canada will continue to urge its fellow member states to become more involved in the creation and implementation of such innovative funding mechanisms.

Especially now, due to the downturn in the global economy, where the world's poor are disproportionately suffering, there is a greater need for all donor countries to fulfill their Official Development Aid (ODA) commitments. Canada was the first country to fulfill its G8 commitment to double ODA in Africa by 2008, and throughout the world by 2010. This has been accomplished through both the African Health Systems Initiative (AHSI) and the Catalytic Initiative to Save a Million Lives. Canada has not only committed USD 450 million to these initiatives, but with them has demonstrated its focus on both strengthening, and developing local ownership, of national health systems. Canada urges the implementation of year-by-year funding targets to ensure that ODA commitments for health initiatives are kept. Currently The Measles Initiative is facing a funding gap of \$59 million for 2010, and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria is also facing a funding crisis of \$5 billion for this year. These gaps in funding could cause millions their lives. Canada strongly urges it fellow member states to fulfill their commitments to these funds.

Canada is also a strong proponent of the International Health Partnership & Related Initiatives (IHP+). The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), through the IHP+ framework, is the chair of the Mozambique National AIDS Council (CNCS) and has made long-term financial commitments to IHP+. Canada believes that IHP+ will not only prove to be extremely effective in addressing the issues of AID effectiveness, redundancy, and accountability, but will also go a long way towards creating a united front dedicated to improving global public health. Canada urges for the creation of new commitments that compel 15 Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries to join in either bilateral or compact agreements through IHP+ by 2020.



The General Assembly Plenary at NWMUN 2011

NWMUN works each year to create as accurate a simulation as is possible for our delegates. Therefore, we have developed some additional ways for delegates to interact within the simulation, including forms of international action other than simply passing resolutions. This section aims to provide additional, specific information for the General Assembly Plenary at NWMUN 2011.

Briefings

While discussing a topic, GA delegates are able to receive briefings from thematic experts. The specific thematic experts available will be announced on the NWMUN website, as well as at the beginning of the conference.

Mandate

The mandate of the General Assembly at NWMUN 2011, derived from the UN Charter, is to:

The General Assembly may discuss any questions or any matters within the scope of the [UN] Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any organs provided for in the present Charter, and [...] may make recommendations to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both on any such questions or matters.

Functions & Powers

- To recommend to the Security Council or UN Member States, actions to help achieve the principles of the United Nations with regard to “disarmament and the regulation of armaments”;
- To discuss any “questions relating to the maintenance on international peace and security” referred to the Assembly by the Security Council or an individual State;
- To recommend to the Security Council the consideration of any situation “which are likely to endanger international peace and security”;
- To promote “the progressive development of international law and its codification”;
- To promote “international co-operation in the economic, social, cultural, educational, and health fields”;
- To assist “in the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction”;
- Any other power granted to the General Assembly by the United Nations Charter.

Outcome Documents

When taking action, the General Assembly may adopt **resolutions**. General Assembly resolutions are non-binding, but may encourage other bodies to take action as well through recommendations, including the Economic and Social Council, Security Council, and other international organizations. Additionally, GA resolutions carry considerable weight behind it, as it represents the entirety of the membership of the United Nations, and the assessments of the General Assembly are therefore “world opinion” in the truest sense of the term. Finally, the General Assembly conducts **elections** to choose which UN Member States are also to serve on the Economic and Social Council, Security Council, and other committees.

Rules of Procedure

The General Assembly Plenary will use the standard NWMUN rules of procedure, available on our website as well as at the conference.

Members of the General Assembly at NWMUN 2011

The General Assembly Plenary will include all Member States of the United Nations, as well as two observer delegations, the delegation of the Holy See and of Palestine. The General Assembly Plenary’s membership will reflect the current membership of the United Nations at the time of the conference; South Sudan’s membership in the UN will be reflected in the GA membership at NWMUN 2011, and should Palestine or any other prospective member achieve UN membership prior to NWMUN 2011, the General Assembly at NWMUN 2011 will include these new members with full membership and voting rights.

History and Background of the General Assembly Plenary

Introduction

The United Nations General Assembly (GA) was established in 1945 under the Charter of the United Nations.¹ The first meeting of the GA was held on January 10, 1946 in the Central Hall of Westminster Abbey, London, England and was attended by representatives from fifty one countries.² The GA is the “main deliberative organ” within the United Nations, occupying the “central position as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations” with authority granted to it to decide on issues ranging from peace and security to development to human rights.³ There are currently 193 Member States in the United Nations, and all members hold a seat in the General Assembly, each with a vote.⁴ In addition, there are Non-Member States of the United Nations whom serve as Permanent Observers with free access to most meetings and relevant documentation, without the right to vote on substantive issues.⁵ At present there are two Non-Member States whom serve as Permanent Observers: the Holy See and Palestine.⁶

Function and Working Methods

According to the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly may:

- Consider and make recommendations on the general principles of cooperation for maintaining international peace and security, including disarmament;
- Discuss any question relating to international peace and security and, except where a dispute or situation is currently being discussed by the Security Council, make recommendations on it;
- Discuss, with the same exception, and make recommendations on any questions within the scope of the Charter or affecting the powers and functions of any organ of the United Nations;
- Initiate studies and make recommendations to promote international political cooperation, the development and codification of international law, the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and international collaboration in the economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, educational and health fields;
- Make recommendations for the peaceful settlement of any situation that might impair friendly relations among nations;
- Receive and consider reports from the Security Council and other United Nations organs;
- Consider and approve the United Nations budget and establish the financial assessments of Member States;
- Elect the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of other United Nations councils and organs and, on the recommendation of the Security Council, appoint the Secretary-General.⁷

Pursuant to its “Uniting for Peace” Resolution of November 1950, if the Security Council fails to act when there is a threat to peace or an act of aggression, the General Assembly can “consider the matter immediately with a view to making recommendations to Members for collective measures to maintain or restore international peace and security.”⁸

The resolutions which the GA adopts are non-binding recommendations, however many of the resolutions contain decisions regarding budget and programming which has in fact led to a major impact on the social and economic

¹ United Nations General Assembly, *About the General Assembly*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/index.shtml>

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ United Nations, *General Assembly of the United Nations*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/>

⁵ United Nations, *Permanent Observers: About*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/members/aboutpermobservers.shtml>

⁶ United Nations, *Permanent Observers: Non-member States and Entities*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/members/nonmembers.shtml>

⁷ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945. <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/>

⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Functions and Powers of the General Assembly*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml>

situation of people worldwide, and resolutions are considered to hold a certain “moral authority” as they are adopted by the entire weight of the members.⁹

The General Assembly has taken steps to improve the working methods and effectiveness of the body over the last decade. In 2003, the GA adopted a resolution on the “Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly” which “reaffirmed the Assembly’s vital and fundamental role in international affairs, deciding, among other things, to take steps to increase the body’s efficiency and effectiveness and to raise the level of its visibility, so that its decisions might have greater impact.”¹⁰ Within the resolution, Member States decided that the Presidents of the GA, Security Council and the Economic and Social Council should meet periodically to ensure cooperation and coordination between the three organs.¹¹ The resolution also strengthened the Office of the Assembly President by creating five support positions from existing resources.¹² States decided that support provided by the United Nations Department of Public Information should be strengthened and intensified in order to effectively communicate to the public the actions being taken by the Assembly.¹³

During the 60th session of the General Assembly, another resolution on revitalizing the work of the body was adopted.¹⁴ This resolution encouraged Member States to hold “informal interactive debates” on current issues of critical importance to the international community.¹⁵ This text also invited the President of the General Assembly to propose themes to these debates.¹⁶ In order to improve the strengthen coordination and preparation, the GA now elects its President, Vice-Presidents, and Chairs of the Main Committees at least three months prior to the beginning of the session.¹⁷ These measures were taken to improve cooperation between the entities within the GA in order to maximize the effectiveness of the body.

Resolutions which are adopted by the General Assembly are carried out by several actors:

- **Committees and other bodies** established by the Assembly to study and report on specific issues;
- **International conferences** called for by the Assembly to discuss these issues;
- **Secretariat** of the United Nations, including the Secretary-General;
- **UN system entities**, such as other committees or agencies and programmes;
- **Member States**.

In recent years, the Assembly has been focused on cutting down on bureaucracy and thus not duplicating existing efforts and structures in its work.¹⁸

Structure

The work of the GA is divided amongst various subsidiary organs. These organs include the six main committees of the GA and commissions, as well as various boards, councils and panels, and other working groups.¹⁹

⁹ United Nations General Assembly, *Functions and Powers of the General Assembly*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml>; United Nations, *The United Nations Today*, 2008, p. 8.

¹⁰ United Nations General Assembly, *Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (A/RES/58/126)*, 2003. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/58/126>; United Nations General Assembly, *General Assembly Adopts Resolution Aimed At Improving Working Methods, Sharpening Focus Of Decisions, Reducing Workload (GA/10222)*, 2003. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/ga10222.doc.htm>

¹¹ United Nations General Assembly, *Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (A/RES/58/126)*, 2003. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/58/126>

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ United Nations General Assembly, *General Assembly Adopts Resolution Aimed At Improving Working Methods, Sharpening Focus Of Decisions, Reducing Workload (GA/10222)*, 2003. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/ga10222.doc.htm>

¹⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (A/RES/60/286)*, 2006. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/60/286>

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ United Nations, *The United Nations Today*, 2008, p. 8.

There are six main committees within the General Assembly:

- The **Disarmament and International Security** Committee (GA 1st) discusses disarmament and questions dealing with international security.²⁰
- The **Economic and Financial** Committee (GA 2nd) is concerned with economic and financial issues.²¹
- The **Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian** Committee (GA 3rd) addresses agenda items related to social, humanitarian and human rights of people all over the world.²²
- The **Special Political and Decolonization** Committee (GA 4th) is tasked with discussing issues that include decolonization, Palestinian refugees and human rights, peacekeeping, mine action, outer space, public information, atomic radiation and University for Peace.²³
- The **Administrative and Budgetary** Committee (GA 5th) deals with the administration and budget that allows the United Nations to function.²⁴
- The **Legal** Committee (GA 6th) is the main body within the GA in which international legal issues are discussed.²⁵

The General Assembly also works through a number of commissions which deal with specific international issues. Some of the most important bodies include:

- The **Disarmament Commission** was established in 1952 by GA Resolution 502 (VI) and S-10/2.²⁶ This commission is a deliberative body that considers and makes recommendations on disarmament issues.²⁷
- The **International Civil Service Commission (ICSC)** was established by GA Resolution 3357 (XXIX).²⁸ It is the mandate of the ICSC to monitor and coordinate the conditions of service of staff within the UN system and to promote high standards within the international service.²⁹
- The **International Law Commission** was established by GA Resolution 3357.³⁰ This commission's objective is to promote the progressive development of international law and to codify it.³¹
- The **United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)** was formed by GA Resolution 2205 (XXI).³² UNCITRAL is a legal body with universal membership specializing in reforming international commercial law by modernizing the rules of international business.³³

¹⁹ United Nations General Assembly, *About the General Assembly*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/index.shtml>

²⁰ United Nations General Assembly, *Main Committees*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/ga/maincommittees.shtml>

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² *Ibid.*

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs, *United Nations Disarmament Commission*, n.d.

<http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/DisarmamentCommission/UNDiscom.shtml>

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ United Nations International Civil Service Commission, *About the Commission*, n.d. <http://icsc.un.org/about.asp>

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ International Law Commission, *Introduction*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/law/ilc/>

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, *About UNCITRAL*, n.d. http://www.uncitral.org/uncitral/en/about_us.html

³³ *Ibid.*

- The **United Nations Conciliation for Palestine** was established by GA Resolution 194 (III).³⁴ This commission was created by the General Assembly to resolve the 1948 Arab-Israeli war through discussion of the situation in Palestine.³⁵
- The **United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)** was formed in 2006 by GA Resolution 60/180 and UN Security Council Resolutions 1645 (2005) and 1646 (2005).³⁶ The PBC is an intergovernmental advisory commission that works to promote peacebuilding efforts in countries that are emerging from conflict.³⁷
- The **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees** was established on December 14th, 1950.³⁸ The agency works to lead and coordinate the international community in protecting refugees and responding to various refugee problems.³⁹

Additionally, the General Assembly oversees the Executive Boards for the United Nations Children’s Fund, United Nations Development Programme, UN-Women, the United Nations Population Fund, and the World Food Program.⁴⁰

Finally, the General Assembly has within its structure many working groups and sub-committees, including the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the General Assembly; the Open-ended Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa; the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; the Human Rights Committee, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR), and the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.⁴¹

Membership, Voting, and Elections

All UN Member States and Non-member States are able to participate in regular meetings, however Non-member states and entities such as the Holy See and Palestine, are not allowed to vote on substantive matters.⁴² Intergovernmental Organizations that are also represented include organizations like the European Community and the African Union.⁴³ The regular session of the Assembly is held annually from September to December, and thereafter if necessary.⁴⁴

Article 18 of Chapter IV of the Charter of the United Nations outlines the voting procedure of the GA: Every member of the GA has one vote.⁴⁵ On certain issues of importance there must be a two-thirds majority reached, including recommendations regarding international peace and security, elections to bodies such as ECOSOC and the Security Council, the admission of new Members to the United Nations, and questions relating to the operation of the trusteeship system, and budgetary issues.⁴⁶ A majority is necessary for decisions on other questions, such as determining additional categories of questions to be decided by a two-thirds majority.

Current Issues and Priorities

³⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *About the General Assembly*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/index.shtml>

³⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁶ United Nations Peacebuilding Commission, *Mandate*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding/mandate.shtml>

³⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *About the General Assembly*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/index.shtml>

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴² United Nations, *Non-member States and Entities*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/members/nonmembers.shtml> United Nations, *Permanent Observers: About*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/members/aboutpermobservers.shtml>

⁴³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵ United Nations General Assembly, *About the General Assembly*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/index.shtml>

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

In its most recent sessions, the 63rd (2008-2009) and the 64th (2009-2010), the GA has focused on issues dealing with development, Security Council and General Assembly reform, and system-wide coherence.⁴⁷

Development has been a major priority for the Assembly. From 29 November to 2 December 2008 the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development was held in Doha.⁴⁸ Against the backdrop of the international financial crisis, the majority of the statements at the conference focused on the consequences of the crisis for development.⁴⁹ The first of two main messages from the conference was the importance of developed nations meeting Official Development Assistance targets.⁵⁰ Despite the global financial crisis many representatives argued for mobilizing international development resources.⁵¹ The second was the decision to hold a United Nations Conference at the highest level on the impact of the global financial crisis on development.⁵² This decision is important to the GA as it was decided it would be organized by the President of the GA.⁵³

Reforming the Security Council and the General Assembly have also been recent priorities of the GA. The 63rd Session intergovernmental negotiations focused on the five key issues outlined in General Assembly decision 62/557; categories of membership, the question of the veto, regional representation, size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the council, and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.⁵⁴ The 64th session worked on building on previous progress made on Security Council reform.⁵⁵ This means that the General Assembly focused on continuing intergovernmental negotiations and positions and proposals of Member States and groups have been submitted together in a paper.⁵⁶

In February 2006 the Secretary-General created a High Level Panel on UN System-wide Coherence in the areas of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment. In November 2006 the Panel submitted its report, *Delivering As One* to Secretary-General Kofi Annan.⁵⁷ Following this report and the succeeding Secretary-General's response to the Panel's findings, the General Assembly adopted Resolution 62/277 on "System-wide Coherence."⁵⁸ This resolution decides to focus on the recommendations of "Delivering as one" when the GA works on system-wide coherence.⁵⁹

Conclusion

While other bodies of the UN have rotating membership of a designated number of representatives, the General Assembly is the only forum for the 193 Members of the United Nations to meet all at the same time. The vote of every member is equal within the GA and there are no states holding wielding a veto power. This highlights the uniqueness of the GA within the UN system.

The General Assembly holds a unique and singular place within the United Nations and international community. As the 65th General Assembly President, H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss stated,

*"In order to ensure that the United Nations remains relevant to the world in 2025 and beyond, we have to learn the lessons of the past 60 years and effect the requisite reforms. We must dare to be flexible and innovative in order to ensure that working methods are efficient. However, it also seems to me to be essential to accept that we can't have it all: the sovereignty of the nation State that we have known up until the present day, defence of national interests, globalization and an efficient system of global governance. We must realize that global responses for the common good will necessitate concessions."*⁶⁰

⁴⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Issues*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/issues/issues.shtml>

⁴⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Issues: Financing for Development*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/issues/ffd.shtml>

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

⁵¹ *Ibid.*

⁵² *Ibid.*

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *Note by the President of the General Assembly (A/63/960)*, 2009.

<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/63/960>

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Issues: System Wide Coherence*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/issues/swc.shtml>

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

⁶⁰ <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/issues/rga.shtml>

These words should inspire the members of the General Assembly Plenary to work towards the good of the peoples of all member states in order to ensure the relevance of the United Nations to these people now and in the future.

I. Use of Nuclear Energy in Efforts to Achieve Energy Security

“There are also concerns that a “nuclear renaissance” could soon take place, with nuclear energy being seen as a clean, emission-free alternative at a time of intensifying efforts to combat climate change. The main worry is that this will lead to the production and use of more nuclear materials that must be protected against proliferation and terrorist threats.”⁶¹

Introduction

In light of recent events in Japan, with the disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi Plant, as well as the rising cost of oil worldwide, many countries find themselves facing an increasingly precarious situation regarding energy.⁶² Energy is “central to sustainable development and poverty reduction efforts, as it affects all aspects of development -- social, economic, and environmental -- including livelihoods, access to water, agricultural productivity, health, population levels, education, and gender-related issues,” and furthermore none of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) can be met without major improvement in the quality and quantity of energy services in developing countries.⁶³

Energy *security* is articulated by the United Nations as referring to “the availability of energy at all times in various forms, in sufficient quantities, and at affordable prices, without unacceptable or irreversible impact on the environment. These conditions must prevail over the long term if energy is to contribute to sustainable development.”⁶⁴ Looking at the concept at a global scale, energy security means “fulfilling the energy needs of all countries and peoples – including the one-quarter of humans who do not have access to modern energy systems.”⁶⁵ Thus energy policies at a national level must address the “domestic and international implications” of the use of certain forms of energy.⁶⁶

The origins of a commitment within the international community to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, namely energy, can be traced to President Eisenhower’s ‘*Atoms for Peace*’ speech in 1953 and the subsequent establishment of the IAEA in 1956, which will be described in more detail below.⁶⁷ In legal terms, this commitment found its most explicit formulation in the *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons* (1970).⁶⁸ The recently established International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) offers another forum for discussion and policy making on nuclear power, and a sign of the commitment of the international community to developing alternative sources of energy.⁶⁹

Nuclear energy is considered by many to be part of the solution to the world’s need for energy security; however others consider it a threat to not only energy security, but fundamental human rights and safety. The General Assembly, in considering this issue, should examine all sides of the issue and identify ways in which to move forward which can provide safety and security for all peoples globally, while ensuring the energy needs of Member States are met.

⁶¹ United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, *Address to the East-West Institute on “The United Nations and security in a nuclear-weapon-free world”*, 2008. http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocus/sgspeeches/search_full.asp?statID=351

⁶² Energy Watch Group, *Crude Oil the Supply Outlook*, 2007. http://www.energywatchgroup.org/fileadmin/global/pdf/EWG_Oilreport_10-2007.pdf

⁶³ United Nations Development Programme, *Sustainable Energy*, n.d. <http://www.undp.org/energy/>

⁶⁴ United Nations Development Programme, *World Energy Assessment: Overview*, 2004. http://www.undp.org/energy/docs/WEAOU_part_III.pdf

⁶⁵ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Nuclear Power and the Global Challenges of Energy Security, Statement by IAEA Director General Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei*, 2007. <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/statements/2007/ebsp2007n012.html>

⁶⁶ United Nations, *Multi-Dimensional Issues in International Electric Power Grid Interconnections*, 2006. <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/publications/energy/chapter8.pdf>

⁶⁷ Mountbatten Centre for International Studies, *MCIS NPT Briefing Book: The Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy*, 2004. <http://www.ppn.soton.ac.uk/bb1/Bb1Chap8.pdf>

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*; *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons*, 1970. <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Documents/Infcircs/Others/infcirc140.pdf>

⁶⁹ International Renewable Energy Agency, *History of IRENA*, n.d. <http://www.irena.org/menu/index.aspx?mnu=cat&PriMenuID=13&CatID=30>

International Framework

The *United Nations Charter* (1946), states within Article 13 that the United Nations General Assembly may consider any topic that relates to promoting international co-operation in the economic, social, cultural, educational, and health fields.⁷⁰ Furthermore, Article 11 of the *Charter* also declares that the General Assembly may discuss any questions pertaining to the “maintenance of international peace and security.”⁷¹ Both of these articles provide ample scope for the General Assembly to discuss energy security and the use of nuclear energy, seeing as that energy is integral to economic activity and international security.

Since the first atomic bomb was dropped in 1945, the expansion and proliferation of nuclear technology has always been regarded with caution.⁷² These “deep fears and expectations resulting from the discovery of nuclear energy” led to, as previously articulated, the establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on 29 July 1957.⁷³ To this day, the IAEA provides “independent and objective advice on the application of nuclear development, in promoting nuclear safety and security, and in its activities related to nuclear verification.”⁷⁴ The Statute of the IAEA authorizes the IAEA to promote the safe and peaceful uses of nuclear energy.⁷⁵ The safe and peaceful use of nuclear energy in any given State can only be assured with the promulgation and implementation of an effective national nuclear legal infrastructure.⁷⁶

Under Article III of its statute, the IAEA is authorized to:

- Provide “technical assistance to Member States in need, focusing on the application of nuclear science and technology to sustainable development;”⁷⁷
- “Monitor and verify states’ compliance with their non-proliferation obligations pursuant to bilateral agreements and international treaties, meant to ensure nuclear materials and facilities are not diverted for military purposes;”⁷⁸
- “Foster the exchange of scientific and technical information on peaceful uses of atomic energy,” including through the exchange of scientists and experts and facilitation of training;⁷⁹
- “Establish or adopt standards of safety to minimize danger to life and property which can be applied within Member States and in the implementation of bilateral and multilateral agreements;”⁸⁰
- To acquire or establish facilities and equipment that it needs when the resources of the area are impractical or unavailable.⁸¹

The UN Conference for the Promotion of International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy occurred from 23 March to 10 April 1987, the proceedings of which were officially taken note of in General Assembly resolution 42/212.⁸² The result of the conference was a “recognition that nuclear energy was a viable and potentially valuable resource for economic and social development, and that peaceful international co-operation should be worked on” as well as an agreement as to the need for “principles universally acceptable for international cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and appropriate ways and means for the promotion of such co-

⁷⁰United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1946. <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/>

⁷¹*Ibid.*

⁷²Fischer, *International Energy Agency The First Forty Years*, 1997. http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1032_web.pdf

⁷³*Ibid.*

⁷⁴International Atomic Energy Agency, *Annual Report 2009*, 2010, p. XI. <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Reports/Anrep2009/index.html>

⁷⁵International Atomic Energy Agency, *Handbook on Nuclear Law*, 2003. http://www-pub.iaea.org/mtcd/publications/pdf/pub1160_web.pdf

⁷⁶*Ibid.*

⁷⁷United Nations, *The United Nations Today*, 2007, p. 64

⁷⁸*Ibid.*

⁷⁹International Atomic Energy Agency, *Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency*, 1957. http://www.iaea.org/About/statute_text.html

⁸⁰*Ibid.*

⁸¹*Ibid.*

⁸²United Nations General Assembly, *United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (A/RES/42/212)*, 1987. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/42/212>

operation.”⁸³ Additionally, the resolution agreed with and recognized the points made by the conference and called for greater cooperation amongst Member States.⁸⁴

Another international agreement of relevance is the *Convention on Nuclear Safety*, which was adopted on 17 June 1994.⁸⁵ This Convention was drawn from a series of expert-level meetings from 1992 to 1994, and is the result of collaboration between government, experts, and the IAEA.⁸⁶ The purpose “is to legally commit participating States operating land-based nuclear power plants to maintain a high level of safety by setting international benchmarks to which States would subscribe.”⁸⁷ Obligations to members are largely based on the principles contained in the IAEA Safety Fundamentals document “Fundamental Safety Principles (SF-1).”⁸⁸ The convention works through incentives instead of control and sanctions, by using a common interest in achieving higher levels of safety.⁸⁹ It also requires parties to provide reports on their implementation of their obligations so that they may be “peer-reviewed” at meetings held by the IAEA.⁹⁰ This is considered to be innovative element of the convention.⁹¹

Signed in New York and Vienna on 3 March 1980, the *Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material* is the sole internationally legally binding instrument in regards to the physical protection of nuclear material.⁹² It established a legal framework for the prevention, detection, and punishment of crimes relating to nuclear material.⁹³ In July 2005, the Convention was amended in order to make parties legally bound to protect nuclear facilities and materials in domestic use, storage, and transport.⁹⁴ The amendments also provide measures for increased cooperation between states for the rapid location and recovery of illegally transported nuclear materials, mitigation of radiological effects from sabotage, and combat related transgressions.⁹⁵

The *Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident* was adopted in 1986 on the heels of Chernobyl's accident.⁹⁶ The convention created a system of communication between states in the event of an accident that included radiological release that had the potential of crossing international borders.⁹⁷ The state must report the accident's time, location, radiation releases, and other critical data.⁹⁸ Notification may occur directly to the affected states or through the IAEA, but the IAEA must always be notified. Notification is mandatory, and it should be noted that all five P-5 states have announced their intent to additionally report incidents that would involve nuclear weapons or their tests.¹⁴

IAEA Resolution No. 10 on “Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety” represents the latest iteration in measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, and transport and waste safety.⁹⁹ It calls for the promotion of cooperation and transparency in enhancing nuclear installation, operation, and shut-down/decommissioning safety of research reactors.¹⁰⁰ Cooperation includes sharing of medical knowledge and participation in databases for decommissioning.¹⁰¹ It urges rapid adoption of regulations

⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

⁸⁵ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Convention on Nuclear Safety Background*, 2011. <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Documents/Conventions/cenna.html>

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*; International Atomic Energy Agency, *Fundamental Safety Principles*, 2006. http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1273_web.pdf

⁸⁹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Convention on Nuclear Safety Background*, 2011. <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Documents/Conventions/cenna.html>

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

⁹¹ *Ibid.*

⁹² International Atomic Energy Agency, *International Conventions and Agreements: Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material*, n.d. <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Documents/Conventions/cenna.html>

⁹³ *Ibid.*

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*

⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*

⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety (GC(53)/RES/10)*, 2009. http://www.iaea.org/About/Policy/GC/GC53/GC53Resolutions/English/gc53res-10_en.pdf

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*

in line with the agency's regulations governing the transport of radioactive material.¹⁰² It encourages the strengthening of uranium mining and processing safety with the secretariat's aid.¹⁰³ It also encourages relevant Member States to participate in the remediation of the uranium mining legacy sites in Central Asia.¹⁰⁴ It emphasizes and encourages states to enhance education and training in nuclear, radiation, transport, and waste safety.¹⁰⁵ Finally, it encourages states to implement safety and security of radioactive sources pursuant to a resolution adopted during the 48th session of the IAEA General Conference on “Measures to Strengthen International Cooperation in Nuclear, Radiation and Transport Safety and Waste Management” [GC(48)/RES/10], and requests improvement in nuclear and radiological incident and emergency preparedness and response.¹⁰⁶

UN System Involvement

In line with Article III of the Statute of the IAEA, the organization “reports on its activities annually to the General Assembly of the United Nations,” and furthermore serves as the , chief apparatus responsible with regulating and promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy within the UN system and international community.¹⁰⁷

Additionally, there has been much debate within the United Nations General Assembly regarding energy security and nuclear proliferation.¹⁰⁸ The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) published multiple papers over the last several years addressing energy security and development regarding developing nations.¹⁰⁹ Their report addresses energy security as intertwined with food security and provides interesting alternatives for agricultural economies.¹¹⁰

UN-Energy is a collaborative framework that allows all UN bodies to contribute to energy policy. They have also published a paper on the benefits of bioenergy.¹¹¹

There is also much regional cooperation with respective regional economic commissions acting as forums. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe also holds and organizes meetings which pertain to energy security.¹¹² The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific also holds meetings and acts as electronic forum for discussions on energy security.¹¹³ It also has published a report on energy security and development in Asia and the Pacific¹¹⁴

The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America also discusses energy in a regional context and does have a report on energy security; however, it is presently only available in Spanish.¹¹⁵ The United Nations Economic

¹⁰² *Ibid.*

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁷ International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Statute of the IAEA*, 1957, Art. III. http://www.iaea.org/About/statute_text.html

¹⁰⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Official Record: Meeting on the global food and energy crisis (A/62/PV.112)*, 2008. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/62/PV.112>

United Nations General Assembly, *General and complete disarmament: Report of the First Committee (A/65/410)*, 2010. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/65/410>

United Nations General Assembly, *United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons (A/RES/65/72)*, 2011. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/65/72>

¹⁰⁹ United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, *The State of Food and Agriculture*, 2008. <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/011/i0100e/i0290e.pdf>

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, *Making Integrated Food-Energy Systems Work for People and Climate*, 2010. <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i2044e/i2044e.pdf>

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹¹ United Nations Energy, *Sustainable Bioenergy: A Framework for Decision Makers*, 2007. <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a1094e/a1094e00.htm>

¹¹² United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, *Sustainable Energy Division*, 2011. <http://live.unece.org/energy/welcome/energy-home.html>

¹¹³ United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, *Electronic Forum on Energy Security in Asia and the Pacific*, 2011. <http://lists.unescap.org/mailman/listinfo/asia-pacific-energy-security>

¹¹⁴ United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, *Energy Security and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific*, 2008. <http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1286>

¹¹⁵ United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America, *La seguridad energética de América Latina y el Caribe en el contexto mundial*, 2007. <http://www.eclac.cl/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=/publicaciones/xml/3/32123/P32123.xml&xsl=/drni/tpl/p9f.xsl&base=/transporte/tpl/top-bottom.xslt>

Commission for Africa hosts a report by UN-Energy/Africa which addresses sustainable energy solutions for Africa.¹¹⁶ The United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia has a paper on renewable energy applications.¹¹⁷

Current Situation

Key issues presently concerning the international community include nuclear non-proliferation, emergency responses to nuclear crises and the maintenance of adequate energy supply while ensuring the mitigation and prevention of nuclear disasters.

The situation in Iran is an example of a country's efforts to develop nuclear energy while additionally presenting the potential threat of simultaneously developing a nuclear weapons program.¹¹⁸ In its latest report, the IAEA has mentioned that while Iran has been allowing inspectors into its nuclear facilities, there has been insufficient cooperation and Iran has not been implementing all of its obligations under the Iran's Safeguard Agreement.¹¹⁹ This lack of implementation has resulted in the IAEA's inability to verify the suspension of enrichment activities and suspension of heavy water activities, in addition to provisions of its Additional Protocol (which allow for IAEA inspection).¹²⁰ Also, while the IAEA is able to account for the non-diversion of declared nuclear materials in Iran, there is insufficient cooperation to verify whether there are any non-declared materials.¹²¹ This led the IAEA to harbor concerns regarding the potential military application of Iran's nuclear activities.¹²² Other countries wishing to develop nuclear energy would either have to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty like Iran, and submit to inspections and cooperation with the IAEA, or risk sanctions by other nations.¹²³ It is during the consideration of the IAEA reports that the bulk of GA discussion regarding nuclear energy has happened in the past, but now it has begun appearing as its own agenda item.

With the continuing crisis in Japan's Fukushima Daiichi plant, nuclear energy has come under fire as to the safety of its use. Some have even criticized the IAEA with having been unable to adequately fulfill its mandate in assisting Japan deal with the situation.¹²⁴ On 11 March 2011, a 9.0 earthquake and the subsequent tsunami severely damaged the Fukushima Daiichi plant.¹²⁵ The damage resulted in explosions due to the loss of power to cooling systems and leakage of nuclear radiation into the air and ocean surrounding the facility.¹²⁶ It has now become apparent that the damage was more acute than it had been initially believed with Tokyo Electric Power (TEPCO) confirming that reactors 1, 2, and 3 had sustained a meltdown.¹²⁷ Additionally, it was discovered that the containment chamber of reactor 1 had a hole in it that allowed 3000 tons of contaminated water to spill into the basement of the plant. Experts fear that this could pose a serious concern for groundwater and the Pacific in the region.¹²⁸ The resultant radiation has forced the Japanese government to evacuate all resident within a 20km radius of the plant.¹²⁹ This incident has shown the international community the need for adequate redundant electrical systems and improved containment systems for its nuclear reactors and elucidates the need for a balance between maintaining energy output and safety.¹³⁰ TEPCO does not anticipate being able to shut down the reactors until January 2012.¹³¹ As a

¹¹⁶ United Nations Energy/Africa, *Energy for Sustainable Development: Policy Options for Africa*, 2008.

http://www.uneca.org/eca_resources/publications/unea-publication-tocsd15.pdf

¹¹⁷ United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia, *Promoting Large-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in the Arab Region: An Approach for Climate Change Mitigation*, 2010. <http://www.escwa.un.org/information/pubaction.asp?PubID=930>

¹¹⁸ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement and relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions in the Islamic Republic of Iran (GOV/2011/7)*, 2011. <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Documents/Board/2011/gov2011-7.pdf>

¹¹⁹ *Ibid.*

¹²⁰ *Ibid.*

¹²¹ *Ibid.*

¹²² *Ibid.*

¹²³ Arms Control Association, *Security Council Adopts More Iran Sanctions*, 2011. <http://www.armscontrol.org/print/2790>

¹²⁴ BBC News, *Tepeco confirms extra partial fuel rod meltdown at plant*, 2011. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-13408055>

¹²⁵ *Ibid.*

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*

¹²⁷ *Ibid.*

¹²⁸ *Ibid.*

¹²⁹ BBC News, *Japan evacuates residents beyond Fukushima no-go zone*, 2011. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-13408055>

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*

¹³¹ BBC News, *Tepeco confirms extra partial fuel rod meltdown at plant*, 2011. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-13497656>

result there has been much negative publicity generated for nuclear energy, which has led Germany to initiate plans to shut down all of its nuclear plants by 2020.¹³²

Even prior to the situation in Japan, there has been widespread opposition to nuclear energy. Organizations arguing for the cessation of use of nuclear power often state that “nuclear power contains the inherent potential for catastrophe, as there is no such thing as a safe nuclear reactor.”¹³³ The position of many activists, organizations, governments and businesses can be summed up as follows:

“It should be remembered that nuclear technology was originally developed for military use. The military-to-civil adaptability of nuclear programmes was essentially an afterthought, following the research, development and use of nuclear weapons. The history of nuclear power has shaped not only the inherent physical duality of nuclear programmes, but also their association with political power and national military security. These factors should be kept in mind when assessing energy needs and the nuclear option.”¹³⁴

One leading nuclear policy organization stated that “while virtually the whole world stands against the development and use of nuclear weapons, attitudes vary when it comes to the development and use of nuclear energy.”¹³⁵ Nuclear energy is indeed touted as “clean energy since it releases virtually none of the harmful CO₂ emissions associated with fossil fuel,” however, “construction of nuclear power plants does emit great amounts of CO₂, as construction instruments and processes, such as trucks, cranes, front-end loaders, etc., rely on other sources of energy - especially fossil fuels.”¹³⁶

Additionally, the health and environmental costs from the use of nuclear energy is inescapable. The “possibility of accidents, the threat of nuclear terrorism, the potential for horizontal nuclear proliferation, the damaging effects from the entire nuclear cycle, from uranium mining to nuclear waste, all indicate that the risks of nuclear energy far outweigh the benefit to many in the international community.”¹³⁷

Remaining Challenges & Next Steps

With the situation in Japan exposing the short comings of nuclear safety standards and emergency protocols, IAEA Director Yukiya Amano has called for “robust safety standards and full transparency” in order to restore the public's confidence in nuclear energy.¹³⁸ He stated that, “rigorous adherence to the most robust international safety standards and full transparency, in good times and bad, are vital for restoring and maintaining public confidence in nuclear power.”¹³⁹ As of 2010, at least 60 IAEA members had formally informed the agency that they were considering the introduction of nuclear power programmes, and most of the 29 countries that currently have nuclear power plan on expanding their programmes as well.¹⁴⁰

Additional analysis of the impact of the Fukushima Daiichi accident stated that it:

“had an adverse impact on public perceptions of the safety of nuclear power throughout the world. In particular, the accident and international response raised questions concerning the adequacy of international safety standards and conventions and the extent of adherence to them, the global emergency preparedness and response system and the effectiveness of national regulatory bodies. Some countries re-

¹³² The Independent, *German nuclear power plants to close*, 2011. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/german-nuclear-power-plants-to-close-2291015.html>

¹³³ Reaching Critical Will, *Costs, risks, and myths of nuclear power*, 2011. <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/resources/publications/costs-risks-myths/report.pdf>

¹³⁴ Merav Datan, “Nuclear futures for the Middle East: impact on the goal of WMD-free one,” *Disarmament Forum*, two, 2008.

¹³⁵ Reaching Critical Will, *Nuclear Energy*, n.d. <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/resources/factsheets/energy.html>

¹³⁶ *Ibid.*

¹³⁷ *Ibid.*

¹³⁸ UN News Centre, *Japanese crisis highlights need for enhanced nuclear safety, transparency*, 2011. <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=37996&Cr=iaea&Cr1>

¹³⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

examined their plans to introduce or expand nuclear power programmes or extend the operating life of existing nuclear plants."¹⁴¹

During the an April 2011 summit on the "Safe and Innovative Use of Nuclear Energy," attended by more than 60 countries and international organizations, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated that there is a further need for the UN and specialized agencies to work towards stronger nuclear safety and he presented a five point plan for the improvement of nuclear safety, which above all else should frame the "active cooperation of the nuclear industry" and a "broad-based partnership" to build a more adequate framework for safety and security in nuclear matters.¹⁴² This summit paved the way for a June 2011 held a conference on nuclear safety. IAEA Director General Amano declared the conference a success in paving the way "for an enhanced post-Fukushima global nuclear safety framework".¹⁴³ His proposals made in his opening statement (strengthening IAEA standards, systematic review of nuclear powerplant safety, peer reviews, effectiveness of regulatory bodies, global emergency preparedness and response, and expansion of agency's receiving and disseminating information) enjoyed wide support.¹⁴⁴

Conclusion

In conclusion, the use of nuclear energy to achieve energy security is a topic fraught with many geopolitically sensitive issues and with a precedent for much controversy. Nations must consider their economic needs for energy consumption while balancing those with the very real risks associated with nuclear energy. In addition, renewable energy has been making headway in recent times; with wind and biofuels begin to present themselves as other potentially economically viable alternatives. Delegates should look into their countries consumption patterns, energy suppliers, and political factors abroad and domestically to be able to present a solution that will benefit their country and the international community.

Questions to Consider:

- What steps can be taken by the international community to improve existing framework related to the use of nuclear energy?
- What are the limitations of safety protocols? What can we learn from the developments at the Fukushima Daiichi plant?
- How can we balance between the need for clean energy and risks of nuclear power?

II. Implementation of the Responsibility to Protect

Introduction

Over the last 60 years, efforts have been made to protect civilians in armed conflict and prevent genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.¹⁴⁵ The culmination of many of those efforts, in terms of international norms setting, occurred in 2005, at the United Nations World Summit, where the concept of "Responsibility to Protect" (R2P) was given weight with the adoption of General Assembly resolution 63/308 (2005). This resolution lays out the commitment, R2P, aims to constitute a legal basis for international humanitarian intervention by protecting the most vulnerable of populations from the most heinous of crimes, and iterates the idea that if a state was unwilling or

¹⁴¹ United Nations High Level Meeting on Nuclear Safety and Security, *United Nations system-wide study on the implications of the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant: Report of the Secretary-General (SG/HLM/2011/1)*, 2011.

¹⁴² UN News Centre, *Japanese crisis highlights need for enhanced nuclear safety, transparency*, 2011.
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=37996&Cr=iaea&Cr1>

¹⁴³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁵ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *An Introduction to the Responsibility to Protect*, n.d.
<http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/about-rtop/learn-about-rtop>

unable to follow its responsibilities to prevent human rights abuses this responsibility must fall to the greater international community.¹⁴⁶

The three pillars of R2P are laid out as follows:

1. **Protection responsibilities of the State:** The State “carries the primary responsibility for the protection of populations from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing;”¹⁴⁷
2. **International assistance and capacity-building:** The “international community has a responsibility to assist States in fulfilling this responsibility;”¹⁴⁸
3. **Timely and decisive response:** The international community should use “appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means to protect populations from these crimes. If a State fails to protect its populations or is in fact the perpetrator of crimes, the international community must be prepared to take stronger measures, including the collective use of force through the UN Security Council.”¹⁴⁹

While these principles have been inherently included in UN actions throughout its existence, the implementation of Responsibility to protect is both difficult and controversial. Many UN Member States have stated concerns towards respecting the sovereignty of a state, and are hesitant to determine situations in which this right is allowed to be breached. Others have voiced their support for the principle, and the desire to implement more frequently, as situations arise.¹⁵⁰

History

While the United Nations officially recognized the principles of Responsibility to protect during the 2005 World Summit, as seen in paragraphs 138-140 in the Outcome Document, the ideals of R2P were involved in the very beginning of the United Nations.¹⁵¹ As recognized in the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), the United Nations seeks to preserve the human rights of all people, and to use the strength of international cooperation to work towards this goal.¹⁵² This was particularly relevant in the years following the Second World War as the international community struggled to determine how a genocide committed by a state could be prevented.¹⁵³ This conversation resulted in adoption of the *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide* (1948).¹⁵⁴ This is the first international commitment to the prevention of genocide, the most atrocious of crimes against humanity, and the first recognition of the duty of states to prevent genocide and the necessity of holding states accountable for a failure to prevent genocide.¹⁵⁵

In 1999, Secretary General Kofi Annan issued the following challenge in the form of a stark question to the international community:

“ . . . if humanitarian intervention is, indeed, an unacceptable assault on sovereignty, how should we respond to a Rwanda, to a Srebrenica -- to gross and systematic violations of human rights that offend every precept of our common humanity? . . . Surely no legal principle -- not even sovereignty -- can ever

¹⁴⁶ United Nations Multilingual Terminology Database, *Responsibility to protect*, n.d.

<http://unterm.un.org/dgaacs/unterm.nsf/WebView/C6DB0A23F5663AF685257370007099A3?OpenDocument>

¹⁴⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Responsibility to protect (A/RES/63/308)*, 2009.

<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/63/308>; United Nations General Assembly, *Implementing the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/63/677)*, 2009, p. 2. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/63/677>; International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *An Introduction to the Responsibility to Protect*, n.d.

¹⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁰ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *An Introduction to the Responsibility to Protect*, n.d.

<http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/about-rtop/learn-about-rtop>

¹⁵¹ United Nations General Assembly, *2005 World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1)* 24 October 2005.

¹⁵² United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945. <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>

¹⁵³ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *An Introduction to the Responsibility to Protect*, n.d.

<http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/about-rtop/learn-about-rtop>

¹⁵⁴ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *An Introduction to the Responsibility to Protect*, n.d.

<http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/about-rtop/learn-about-rtop>

¹⁵⁵ United Nations, *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide*, 1948. <http://untreaty.un.org/cod/avl/ha/cppcg/cppcg.html>

shield crimes against humanity . . . Armed intervention must always remain the option of last resort, but in the face of mass murder, it is an option that cannot be relinquished."¹⁵⁶

At the Millennium Summit of 2000, the Rt. Hon. Jean Chretien of Canada announced the formation of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS) in response to Annan's challenge.¹⁵⁷ The Commission's mandate was to foster debate and to generate international political consensus on the use of intervention under the idea of R2P, building on the concept of Francis Deng of "sovereignty as responsibility."¹⁵⁸ The ICISS met five times over the next year, and held 11 regional consultations, compiling extensive research and reports from a variety of perspectives, presenting the final report to Secretary-General Annan on 18 December 2001.¹⁵⁹ The report outlines the basic ideas under the Responsibility to Protect, the necessity and the priority of prevention, and introduces the concept of the Just Cause Threshold, or the point at which a 'large scale loss of life,' and the level of serious and irreparable harm done to human beings warrants a military intervention.¹⁶⁰ ICISS calls for the Security Council to adopt authority over R2P, as there is 'no better or more appropriate body' for the job.¹⁶¹ The report ultimately highlights the changing expectations of the international community in the protection of human rights, the new challenges the UN faces in the upcoming years, and the new precedent for collective action set through over 40 peacekeeping operations in the 90s.¹⁶²

It was the research and discussion generated by the ICISS that formed the foundation for the discussion at the 2005 World Summit, which is formalized in the outcome document. This led to an unambiguous agreement by governments on the necessity of a responsibility to protect citizens from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity when their home state fails to do so, and when diplomatic and peaceful means have been shown to be insufficient.¹⁶³

The General Assembly has been requested by the Secretary-General to review the topic of "Implementation of the Responsibility to Protect."¹⁶⁴ While the Security Council is generally recognized as the main effector of action that is taken when invoking the concept of R2P, the General Assembly is the main centre for dialogue on R2P, and hears the reports of the Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on Prevention of Genocide and the Special Advisor to the Secretary-General.¹⁶⁵ Responsibility to protect is a priority area for EU countries heading into the 65th session, and we expect to see this same commitment in the 66th session this fall, with Implementation of the Responsibility to protect currently on the provisional agenda.¹⁶⁶

International Framework & UN System Action

The international framework for responsibility to protect lies in a myriad of international conventions and agreement, as well as efforts by the United Nations General Assembly, the Secretary-General, individual states and civil society to ensure the issue is codified.

Within the United Nations, the entities who work on the issue include, the Office of the Secretary General, the United Nations Human Rights Council and related documents, and the powers of the Security Council and General Assembly, as outlined in the Charter of the United Nations. Additionally, region-specific institutions and agreements include: the *Ezulwini Consensus* (2005), the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

¹⁵⁶ Annan, *We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the 21st Century*, 2000. <http://www.un.org/millennium/sg/report/>

¹⁵⁷ International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, *The Establishment and Progress of the Commission*, n.d. <http://www.iciss.ca/progress-en.asp>

¹⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁹ International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, *Progress*, 2001. <http://www.iciss.ca/progress-en.asp>

¹⁶⁰ International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, *The Responsibility to Protect*, 2001. <http://www.iciss.ca/menu-en.asp>

¹⁶¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁶² *Ibid.*

¹⁶³ United Nations General Assembly, *2005 World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1)*, 2005. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/60/1>

¹⁶⁴ President of the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, *United Nations General Assembly 65th Session Informal Interactive Dialogue on the Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Implementing the Responsibility to Protect*, 2011. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/65/initiatives/RtoPdialogue.html>

¹⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

The Office of the Secretary General has always been a driving force in the implementation of R2P.¹⁶⁷ Starting in 1999 with Secretary General Kofi Annan reiterating Dr. Francis Deng's ideas on R2P, and continuing in 2001 with Annan's call for discussion on the balance between sovereignty and intervention, reports and statements have often been generated by the Office of the Secretary General on the Responsibility to Protect, and more generally, the protection of civilians and vulnerable populations.¹⁶⁸ Secretary General Ban Ki Moon appointed two Special Advisors to lend their voices to the R2P discussion.¹⁶⁹ The Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide and the Special Advisor to the Secretary General with a focus on Responsibility to Protect, currently Dr. Francis Deng and Dr. Edward Luck respectively, are often invited in the General Assembly for their advice, most often in the form of a report.¹⁷⁰ Interestingly, the creation of the post of Special Advisor to the Secretary General with a focus on R2P was a controversial topic in the GA, with some member states even refusing to acknowledge they had supported R2P at the World Summit.¹⁷¹ To push the creation of the position through, the name had to be changed from Special Advisor on R2P to the current title, and confined to the role of a 'normative' guide, rather than operational.¹⁷² Most recently Dr. Deng and Dr. Luck made a joint statement on the developing situation in Syria, calling for UN attention to the worsening human rights conditions, and reminding the Government of Syria of their responsibilities as a sovereign nation.¹⁷³

The *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) recognizes the fundamental human rights to “life and liberty, to freedom from torture or slavery, freedom of opinion and expression, [and] the right to work and education,” and that all peoples should receive these rights equally.¹⁷⁴ In order to justify intervention, a definition of human rights must be universally recognized in order to determine when they have been violated. The preamble of the UDHR urges member nations to take measures to ensure that the stated basic human rights are recognized and observed among their citizens.¹⁷⁵ This was one of the first statements of the first pillar of R2P. The General Assembly has used the ideas in the UDHR as a backbone for the over 80 documents on promoting and protecting human rights they have created since 1948.¹⁷⁶

The *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) is responsible for granting each main UN body their function, and outlines possible actions they can initiate.¹⁷⁷ The third pillar of Responsibility to Protect calls for international action under two sections of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), Chapters VI and VII. Chapter VI, entitled Pacific Settlements of Disputes, says that any state can bring a conflict to the attention of the General Assembly or Security Council for discussion.¹⁷⁸ If the State requests, the Security Council can make recommendations to move towards a peaceful resolution, keeping in mind the agreements and progress already made by involved parties.¹⁷⁹ The Security Council can also request the participation of regional organizations in the resolution of the dispute. Chapter VII, Action with Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression, gives the Security Council power to call member states to action, implement sanctions, or use all necessary force to end the threat to international peace and security. The committee will later examine this as the authority the Security Council was acting on when it initiated actions against Libya in the spring of 2011 using NATO forces.¹⁸⁰

¹⁶⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *Implementing the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/63/677)*, 2009. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/63/677>

¹⁶⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Implementing the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/63/677)*, 2009. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/63/677>

¹⁶⁹ Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, *Special Advisers*, 2011. <http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/advisers.shtml>

¹⁷⁰ Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, *Special Advisers*, 2011. <http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/advisers.shtml>

¹⁷¹ International Coalition on the Responsibility to Protect, *Special Adviser with a focus on the Responsibility to Protect*, n.d. <http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/edward-luck-special-adviser-with-a-focus-on-the-responsibility-to-protect>

¹⁷² *Ibid.*

¹⁷³ United Nations, *Special Advisers of the United Nations Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, Francis Deng and on the Responsibility to Protect, Edward Luck, on the situation in Syria*, 2011. <http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/pdf/OSAPG%20statement%20Syria%202%20June%202011%20FINAL%20ENGLISH.pdf>

¹⁷⁴ United Nations, *Global Issues: Human Rights*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/humanrights/>

¹⁷⁵ United Nations, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, 1948. <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml>

¹⁷⁶ United Nations, *Global Issues: Human Rights*, n.d. <http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/humanrights/>

¹⁷⁷ United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945. <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>

¹⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁰ Security Council, United Nations, *The situation in Libya (S/RES/1973)*, 2011. [http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1973%20\(2011\)](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1973%20(2011))

The Secretary-General's Report on the "Implementation of the responsibility to protect" (A/63/677), released in 2009, is the first comprehensive report on this issue and urges the General Assembly to consider how to best implement the newly adopted principles of R2P, and determine the actors and relevant actions to be undertaken when a 'failure to protect' situation does arise.¹⁸¹ A second report from the office of the Secretary-General (A/64/864) was presented in 2010 on "early warning and assessment," and looks to further define when intervention is required.¹⁸² A third report, recently published on 28 June 2011 (A/65/877) is focused on the "role of regional and subregional arrangements in implementing the responsibility to protect."¹⁸³ These three reports are the backbone of the discussion surrounding the Implementation of the Responsibility to Protect, and suggest how to move forward from the 2005 World Summit Declaration, from the perspective of the United Nations.

The Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, which was established in 2004, "acts as the focal point in the United Nations system for information, whether confidential or public," on situations which have elements of R2P.¹⁸⁴ The Office, "following broad consultations inside and outside the United Nations system, developed an analysis framework that describes the kind of information that it takes into account in assessing the risk of genocide in a given situation."¹⁸⁵

The 2005 World Summit built upon the momentum created by the United Nations Secretary-General's report "In Larger Freedom" and the United Nations High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change "A More Secure World: Our Shared Responsibility."¹⁸⁶ Member States of the UN General Assembly came to a consensus on the responsibility of member states to protect their citizens from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity in the 2005 World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1).¹⁸⁷ Additional resolutions adopted within the United Nations Security Council, 1674 (2006) and 1706 (2006), also ground this issue.¹⁸⁸

In follow-up, the United Nations General Assembly held its second meeting focusing on the Responsibility to Protect on August 9, 2010.¹⁸⁹ Constructive questions and concerns were raised by attendees on how the UN system can best gather and analyze information, develop policy options and translate them into early engagement.¹⁹⁰ A strong majority of States reaffirmed support for R2P, welcomed the report of the Secretary General on "Early Warning, Assessment and the Responsibility to Protect" and called for continued discussions on R2P in the General Assembly.¹⁹¹

The most recent meeting held by the General Assembly on R2P occurred on 12 July 2011, focusing on "the role that regional and sub-regional organizations play in preventing and halting genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing. Member States reflected on the Report of the Secretary General entitled 'The role of regional and sub-regional arrangements in implementing the Responsibility to Protect', released on 7 July 2011."¹⁹² Similarly to previous years, "a majority of Member States demonstrated strong interest in the norm and made an important show of support for implementing the 2005 commitment to prevent and halt genocide, war crimes, crimes

¹⁸¹ United Nations General Assembly, *Implementing the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/63/677)*, 2009.

<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/63/677>

¹⁸² United Nations General Assembly, *Early warning, assessment and the responsibility to protect (A/64/864)*, 2010.

<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/64/864>

¹⁸³ United Nations General Assembly, *The role of regional and subregional arrangements in implementing the responsibility to protect (A/65/877)*, 2011. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/65/877>

¹⁸⁴ United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, *Preventing Genocide and Mass Atrocities*, n.d.

http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/genocide_prevention.shtml

¹⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁶ International Crisis Group, *Responsibility to Protect*, n.d. <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/key-issues/responsibility-to-protect.aspx>

¹⁸⁷ United Nations General Assembly, *2005 World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1)*, 2005.

<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/60/1>

¹⁸⁸ International Crisis Group, *Responsibility to Protect*, n.d. <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/key-issues/responsibility-to-protect.aspx>

¹⁸⁹ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *Key Developments on the Responsibility to Protect at the United Nations 2005-2011*, 2011. [http://responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Latest%20Developments%20at%20the%20UN%202011\(1\).pdf](http://responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Latest%20Developments%20at%20the%20UN%202011(1).pdf)

¹⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁹¹ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *Summary of GA dialogue on Early Warning, Assessment and the Responsibility to Protect*, 2011. [http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/Summary%20of%20EW%20dialogue%20on%209%20August%202010\(2\).pdf](http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/Summary%20of%20EW%20dialogue%20on%209%20August%202010(2).pdf)

¹⁹² International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *Interactive dialogue of the UN General Assembly on the role of regional and subregional arrangements in implementing the Responsibility to Protect: ICRtoP Report*, 2011.

[http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Report%20on%20RIGO%20GA%20dialogue%20on%20RtoP%20FINAL\(1\).pdf](http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Report%20on%20RIGO%20GA%20dialogue%20on%20RtoP%20FINAL(1).pdf)

against humanity and ethnic cleansing.”¹⁹³ Additionally, Member States also “also highlighted main themes including the importance of prevention, the need for collaboration between regional organizations and the UN, international and regional justice and accountability, as well as concerns on the use of force, the Security Council P-5 veto and consistent application of the norm.”¹⁹⁴

Regional Initiatives

The African Union was one of the first regional groups to embrace the Responsibility to Protect, possibly because many of the roots of R2P come from ideas developed in African Sub-regional groups.¹⁹⁵ In the mid-1990s the Economic Community of Western African States (ECOWAS), after becoming involved in the 1990 Libyan crisis, but seeing inaction in the 1994 Rwandan genocide, looked to create a standard policy for intervening in large scale conflict.¹⁹⁶ In 1999, the Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security was developed.¹⁹⁷ The use of force or intervention in situations of grave human rights abuse was also included in the founding document of the African Union, The Constitutive Act of 11 July 2000. Article 4(h) states that the AU has the right “to intervene in a Member State pursuant to a decision of the Assembly in respect of grave circumstances, namely: war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity.”¹⁹⁸ The *Ezulwini Consensus* was a document produced in March 2005 which outlined African policy on United Nations reform including collective security. In this document, expanding on the ideas outlined in Article 4(h), the African Union endorses the use of force to protect the rights of citizens but states two conditions for intervention.¹⁹⁹ One is the use of regional groups to determine appropriate actions to ensure each solution is uniquely tailored to the situation.²⁰⁰ They also express the hope that the R2P guidelines will not be used as a tool to undermine a nations’ sovereignty, or right to govern as it sees fit, in other words; a justification for “the strong to exploit the weak”.²⁰¹

The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), however, has yet to formally embrace R2P.²⁰² This is likely due to the strong use of non-intervention and sovereignty language in their charter.²⁰³ However, the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP), which acts as a forum for discussion on peace and security matters, has been used effectively in regional disputes, and has been looked at as a potential regional collaborator within UN initiatives.²⁰⁴

European states have experimented with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), a forum which allows for more individual state action or inaction.²⁰⁵ However, the failures of this organization in preventing mass conflict, such as that in the Balkans, have provided much controversy over its effectiveness. Additionally, many states in Europe are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which is currently operating in Libya under the historic Security Council Resolution 1973. Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen answered questions from the press about the difference between action in Libya and inaction in other North African countries by pointing out the necessity of a call to action by the Security Council for NATO intervention.²⁰⁶

Security Council Resolution 1674 (2006) on the “Protection of civilians in armed conflict” demonstrated the Council’s willingness to use necessary measures to protect civilians where needed. Adopted unanimously in April

¹⁹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁵ United Nations, *World Summit Outcome Document*, (A/60/1), 2005. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/60/1>

¹⁹⁶ The Stanley Foundation, *The Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Strengthening the Responsibility to Protect*, 2011. <http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/publications/report/RoleRegSbregArgmntsR2P.pdf>

¹⁹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁸ Article 4(h), The African Union, *The Constitutive Act*, 2000.

¹⁹⁹ The African Union, *The Ezulwini Consensus (Ext/EX.CL/2 (VII))*, 2005.

²⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁰¹ *Ibid.*

²⁰² The Stanley Foundation, *The Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Strengthening the Responsibility to Protect*, 2011. <http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/publications/report/RoleRegSbregArgmntsR2P.pdf>

²⁰³ The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, *Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations*, 2007.

²⁰⁴ The Stanley Foundation, *The Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Strengthening the Responsibility to Protect*, 2011.

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.* <http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/publications/report/RoleRegSbregArgmntsR2P.pdf>

²⁰⁶ North Atlantic Treaty Organization, *Questions and answers at the press conference by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen*, 2011.

2006, this reaffirmed the commitment to Responsibility to Protect.²⁰⁷ In August 2006, this resolution was cited as justification for the adoption of Resolution 1706, authorizing the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) to use any means necessary to protect the civilian population in Darfur, however, the consent of Sudanese government was requested in the resolution. Notable abstentions include China, Russian Federation and Qatar.²⁰⁸ This groundbreaking document applied the R2P to generate concrete action, noting the responsibility of the Sudanese government, as well as the international community in protecting civilians at risk from the ongoing conflict.²⁰⁹

Role of women in implementing the responsibility to protect

The United Nations (UN), as well as regional bodies and governments have begun to recognize that “conflict and post-conflict reconciliation affects men and women differently, and this acknowledgement of the varied roles is a first step in developing gendered responses to conflict.”²¹⁰ The international community has also recognized it must “address the need to protect women from mass atrocity crimes as well as identify and incorporate the contribution of women in the prevention and resolution of crises.”²¹¹ As such, “developing a gendered response to conflict will enable the UN, regional organization and governments to guarantee the rights of women and further integrate their role in peace and security.”²¹² The R2P framework complements existing commitments to protect women’s human rights and can also act as a tool for incorporating women’s leadership in preventing and stopping mass atrocity crimes.²¹³ However, despite the need to include gender in the conversation and “contrary to the growing trends within international human rights and humanitarian law, gender has been conspicuously absent from the dialogue around R2P.”²¹⁴

The “inclusion of gendered considerations around conflict and post-conflict reconstruction policies is not new, and there have been decades of theory and analysis on the importance of including a gender perspective in each of the three core elements of R2P.”²¹⁵ For example, the R2P doctrine should “recognize that rape is a key element of war, particularly genocide, and should be explicitly included in the doctrines of and criteria for both ‘prevention’ and ‘reaction’.”²¹⁶ Rape was used as a “tactic of war in both the genocide in the former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda, and it is currently being used as a weapon of war in Darfur, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Cote d’Ivoire.”²¹⁷ Despite this, “reports and articles about R2P, almost never mention mass rapes as a reason for intervention or as an element of the ‘just cause’ threshold which dictates the point at which intervention under R2P becomes relevant and/or necessary.”²¹⁸

Protection and Participation of Women

Protection of women’s rights has been codified in international law through the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995), UN Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010) on Women, Peace and Security, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).²¹⁹ These key documents outline the rights and duties of the international community, governments, and civil society in regards to women and conflict, however despite the obligations placed on them by international law, parties engaged in conflict often use violence against women as a tactic of war, leading to devastating consequences.²²⁰

²⁰⁷ Security Council, United Nations, *Protection of civilians in armed conflict (S/RES/1674)*, 2006.

²⁰⁸ United Nations Security Council, *Security Council expands mandate of UN Mission in Sudan to include Darfur (SC/8821)*, 2006. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2006/sc8821.doc.htm>

²⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

²¹⁰ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *The Role of Women in the RtoP Framework*, n.d. <http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/women-and-conflict>

²¹¹ *Ibid.*

²¹² *Ibid.*

²¹³ *Ibid.*

²¹⁴ Global Justice Center, *Gender and the Responsibility to Protect*, 2007. <http://www.globaljusticecenter.net/news-events/GJC-newsletters/6.2007-news.html>

²¹⁵ *Ibid.*

²¹⁶ *Ibid.*

²¹⁷ *Ibid.*

²¹⁸ *Ibid.*

²¹⁹ Fourth World Conference on Women, *Beijing Platform for Action*, 1995. <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform>; United Nations Security Council, *Women and peace and security (S/RES/1325)*, 2000. [http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1325%20\(2000\)](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1325%20(2000))

²²⁰ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *The Role of Women in the RtoP Framework*, n.d. <http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/women-and-conflict>

Women are vulnerable to the crime of rape and to sexual violence as they account for the majority of civilian deaths resulting from conflict, and encompass 70-80% of the global internally displaced persons (IDPs) population.²²¹ Also, women are targeted by state and non-state actors and used as pawns to inflict injury on or to terrorize their opponents.²²² The effects of conflict do not end once a nation reaches a peace agreement as women frequently do not receive the medical or psychological support necessary to cope with trauma.²²³ As already made explicit in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the passage of UNSC Resolution 1820 the UN reiterated that “rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide” and demanded that “all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence.” International legal measures are available for women to obtain justice as the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court extends the coverage of gender related crimes to rape, sexual slavery, enforced sterilization or any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity. The inclusion of these crimes is a landmark in terms of the codification of gender specific crimes under international law.²²⁴

Women have participated in the prevention and resolution of conflict and, as the effects of war can lead to mass atrocity crimes, have a role in the prevention of mass atrocities. The UN is increasingly recognizing the position of women’s leadership in the prevention and resolution of conflict and crises. The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action acknowledged the crucial role of women “during times of armed conflict and the collapse of communities” and called for the establishment of “an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective” when addressing armed and other conflict. Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on “women, peace and security” stressed the “importance of their (women’s) equal participation and full involvement in all efforts of the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution.”²²⁵

Regional Measures

Regional measures have been taken to promote the protection of women as well as to develop a gendered approach to conflict prevention and resolution. The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) issued the Declaration on the Advancement of Women in ASEAN in 1988 and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the ASEAN Region in 2008 as measures to identify the need to protect women’s rights and incorporate women’s groups to strengthen regional action.

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, an entity under the Organization of American States (OAS), established the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Women in 1994 with the goal of ensuring that Member States protect women’s human rights.²²⁶ The Rapporteur has placed special emphasis on the need to combat violence against women, calling on States to fulfill their obligations to protect women’s rights and security as outlined in the *Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women*.²²⁷ The OAS further strengthened its commitment to guaranteeing the rights of women and integrating their leadership role through its Plan of Action established at the Third Summit of 2001.²²⁸ The Plan of Action calls on Member States to fully incorporate women’s human rights in all institutions, to facilitate the development of gender perspectives in all bodies and agencies, and to develop policies and practices to combat violence against women.²²⁹

The African Union (AU) has declared 2010-2020 the “African Women Decade” with the overarching theme of “gender equality and women’s empowerment.”²³⁰ The African Women’s Decade focuses on ten areas of concern including peace and security and violence against women, with the goal of providing a gendered perspective to issues and empowering women on the continent.²³¹ To enhance the protection of women’s rights, the AU seeks to

²²¹ *Ibid.*

²²² *Ibid.*

²²³ *Ibid.*

²²⁴ *Ibid.*

²²⁵ *Ibid.*

²²⁶ Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, *The Rights of Women*, n.d. <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/women/default.asp>

²²⁷ *Ibid.*

²²⁸ *Ibid.*

²²⁹ *Ibid.*

²³⁰ African Union, *African Women Decade: 2010 to 2020*, n.d. <http://www.africa-union.org/root/AU/Conferences/2010/april/wgd/wgd.html>

²³¹ *Ibid.*

promote international and regional commitments on peace and security, including UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820, as well as to strengthen responses to violence within the AU Peace and Security Department, Peace and Security Council and Panel of the Wise.²³² The AU is also working to meet the goal of promoting a stronger role for women within resolution and peace processes.²³³

Engendering the Responsibility to Protect: Challenges and Recommendations

The R2P framework “can serve to protect women from mass atrocity crimes as well as integrate women’s perspectives into the processes for prevention and halting.”²³⁴ R2P, as outlined in the 2005 World Summit, clearly lays out the “four crimes in focus, three of which (genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity) are defined in the Rome Statute with provisions for acts of violence that specifically target women.” Additionally, the “notion of sovereignty as responsibility put forth in R2P reinforces the idea that states and the international community have individual and mutual responsibility to prevent mass atrocity crimes, thus shifting focus from a state-centric to a human-centric approach to security.”²³⁵ Finally, as “R2P focuses on prevention, it provides an opportunity for state-actors and the UN to integrate women’s leadership into this field as promoted in the women, peace, and security agenda.”²³⁶

To enhance the development of a gender approach to RtoP and to overcome the challenges that presently exist, the following recommendations have been made by leading advocacy organizations:

- The UN and state actors need to increase their recognition of the synergy between the RtoP and women, peace, and security agendas;
- Measures must be taken in the area of capacity building specifically to increase the participation of women in political life and as mediators in peace processes, as well as to include the views of women in peace and security initiatives;
- Resources, such as training for military and police forces, the creation of safe spaces for women and girls, and the increase in medical and psychological support available to victims, need to be made available;
- Gender sensitive indicators need to be established to broaden the collective knowledge on how violence against women contributes to wider instability and insecurity;
- Early actions must be taken through diplomatic and other non-violent means when states fail to protect women.²³⁷

Prevention as a key pillar of R2P

The 2005 World Summit Outcome “called for an expansion of the United Nations capabilities for early warning and assessment of possible genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, pledging support to the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability.”²³⁸ In spite of this support, most scholarly and political attention has been given to R2P’s *reaction* component rather than to its *prevention* component.²³⁹ Prevention of conflict is the central pillar of R2P, and it is only if prevention fails, that “R2P requires whatever measures – economic, political, diplomatic, legal, security or in the last resort military – become necessary to stop mass atrocity crimes occurring.”²⁴⁰

Conflict prevention is “one of the founding purposes of the United Nations, as reflected in Article I(1) of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1946).²⁴¹ Much of the “machinery for conflict prevention” is now in place at the global, regional, and/or subregional levels, including “mediation capacity; human-rights architecture; conflict-sensitive

²³² *Ibid.*

²³³ *Ibid.*

²³⁴ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *The Role of Women in the RtoP Framework*, n.d. <http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/women-and-conflict>

²³⁵ *Ibid.*

²³⁶ *Ibid.*

²³⁷ *Ibid.*

²³⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Early warning, assessment and the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/64/864)*, 2010. http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/864

²³⁹ Bellamy, *Conflict prevention and the Responsibility to Protect*, 2008.

²⁴⁰ International Crisis Group, *Responsibility to Protect*, n.d. <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/key-issues/responsibility-to-protect.aspx>

²⁴¹ International Peace Institute, *Conflict Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect*, 2008. http://globalsolutions.org/files/public/documents/CivPro_IPI_Blue_Paper.pdf

development efforts; and non-coercive and coercive measures that can be activated by the appropriate entity (the Secretary-General, the Security Council, and/or regional actors).”²⁴²

One of the early reports (A/52/871-S1998/318) of Secretary-General Kofi Annan “focused on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.”²⁴³ In 2001, the first comprehensive report of the Secretary-General *Prevention of armed conflict* (A/55/985-S2001/574) was released in which he stated that:

*“Preventive action should be initiated at the earliest possible stage of a conflict cycle in order to be most effective. One of the principal aims of preventive action should be to address the deep-rooted socio-economic, cultural, environmental, institutional and other structural causes that often underlie the immediate political symptoms of conflicts ... An effective preventive strategy requires a comprehensive approach that encompasses both short-term and long-term political, diplomatic, humanitarian, human rights, developmental, institutional and other measures taken by the international community, in cooperation with national and regional actors.”*²⁴⁴

In 2004 the report of the *High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change* (A/59/565) noted that “the primary challenge for the United Nations and its members is to ensure that ... [threats] that are distant do not become imminent and those that are imminent do not actually become destructive.”²⁴⁵ The Panel placed preventive action at the very center of collective security and the United Nations' role in the world. It described root causes of conflict and suggested various strategies to promote conflict prevention and resolution.²⁴⁶ In the context of conflict prevention, “R2P offers a narrower and more focused framework for protecting populations from mass atrocities, specifically from four crimes and violations—genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity.”²⁴⁷

As the United Nations capacities for early warning and assessment have grown, so too have those of its regional and subregional partners.²⁴⁸ The *Charter*, in Articles 33 (1) and 52 (2), “envisioned a world in which preventive diplomacy would begin with local and regional initiatives, to be complemented or supplemented by global efforts by the United Nations, as needed.”²⁴⁹ Today, that regional-global partnership is being developed, “as information and assessments are shared by the United Nations and its regional and subregional partners in a common effort to prevent both conflicts and the incitement or commission of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing or crimes against humanity.”²⁵⁰ This “interactive analytical processes can help spur both mutual confidence and a shared understanding of the nature and scope of the challenges to be addressed in a particular case, as well as of the policy choices ahead and their likely consequences down the road. Just as transparency and the free flow of information can help to break down prejudices and stereotypes between groups within a society, they can also contribute to greater coherence and a keener sense of shared responsibility among international actors, whether in a preventive or responsive mode.”²⁵¹

Individual states have the legal responsibility to protect their citizens. Meeting this responsibility, however, requires “partnering with civil society, such as women’s and civic groups, clerics, the private sector, academia, and the media, among others, indeed the constituencies and stakeholders committed to prevention and protection are diverse,

²⁴² *Ibid.*

²⁴³ United Nations General Assembly, *The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa: Report of the Secretary-General* (A/52/871-S1998/318), 1998. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/52/871>

²⁴⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *Prevention of armed conflict* (A/55/985-S2001/574), 2001. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/55/985>

²⁴⁵ United Nations General Assembly, *Early warning, assessment and the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General* (A/64/864), 2010. http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/864

²⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁷ International Peace Institute, *Conflict Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect*, 2008. http://globalsolutions.org/files/public/documents/CivPro_IPI_Blue_Paper.pdf

²⁴⁸ United Nations General Assembly, *Early warning, assessment and the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General* (A/64/864), 2010. http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/864

²⁴⁹ UN Charter Articles 33 (1) and 52 (2)

²⁵⁰ United Nations General Assembly, *Early warning, assessment and the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General* (A/64/864), 2010. http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/864

²⁵¹ *Ibid.*

dispersed, and frequently transnational in scope.”²⁵² Often, “targeted groups often spill over borders, while threats to populations frequently result in large flows of refugees and internally displaced” and “diaspora communities can play either a calming and assisting or a disruptive and destabilizing role in such cases.”²⁵³ As a result, “neighbouring countries may feel political or moral pressures to get involved one way or another, underscoring the potential utility of constructive early engagement by regional and sub-regional arrangements in a preventive, fact-finding or conflict mediation capacity, as the Charter anticipated.”²⁵⁴

During the recent General Assembly dialogue on the issue, participants noted “there is a growing trend in Latin America, Africa, and South East Asia to deal with violent crises at the regional level first, and then to resort to the international level only when those crises cannot be successfully addressed in a regional framework.”²⁵⁵ Therefore, an “early preventive response should include an assessment of the comparative advantages of relevant regional organizations and UN capabilities, pointing toward the ideal form of global-regional interactions early in the process,” prior to international engagement on the issue.²⁵⁶ Participants also noted the importance of initiatives such as forums of regional bodies which shared good practices.²⁵⁷

One note of warning from participants was that “regional ownership should not be overstretched or result in an abdication of responsibility by the broader international community. Often the major monies and capabilities for humanitarian efforts reside outside the region of concern. Collective security arrangements in some regions are far less developed than in others, and this unevenness means that extra-regional actors will remain important in reaching solutions.”²⁵⁸

Case Study: The Situation in Libya

The situation in Libya has been “hailed by supporters as a success for the R2P doctrine” not only “as a military success that achieved its main goals set at acceptable costs, as a moral success in averting a humanitarian catastrophe,” but also as a political success that created an opportunity for freedom and constitutionalism on behalf of a long oppressed people.”²⁵⁹ The “applicability of the responsibility to protect or R2P principle to the current situation in Libya” has been stated by many, if not most of the international community, as clear.”²⁶⁰ First and foremost, “R2P reflects the negative duty for states to refrain from committing atrocities against its own people, a responsibility the regime of Col. Muammar al-Qaddafi is failing to take up. Qaddafi expressed his willingness to use all weapons at his disposal against the protesters, vowing to ‘cleanse Libya house by house’.”²⁶¹

The first steps taken by the international community, most notably the UN Security Council, including the unanimous adoption of Resolution 1970 (2011). Under Article 41 of the Charter’s Chapter VII, “the Council authorized all Member States to seize and dispose of military-related materiel banned by the text. It called on all Member States to facilitate and support the return of humanitarian agencies and make available humanitarian and related assistance in Libya and expressed its readiness to consider taking additional appropriate measures as necessary to achieve that.”²⁶²

Despite this action, violence escalated, resulting in the adoption of Security Council resolution 1973 (2011) “by a vote of 10 in favour to none against, with 5 abstentions (Brazil, China, Germany, India, Russian Federation), the Council authorized Member States, acting nationally or through regional organizations or arrangements, to take all

²⁵² *Ibid.*

²⁵³ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁴ United Nations General Assembly, *The role of regional and subregional arrangements in implementing the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/65/877–S/2011/393)*, 2011. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/65/877>

²⁵⁵ The Stanley Foundation, *Actualizing the Responsibility to Protect*, 2008. <http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/resources.cfm?id=343>

²⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁷ International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, *Interactive dialogue of the UN General Assembly on the role of regional and subregional arrangements in implementing the Responsibility to Protect: ICRT to P Report*, 2011.

[http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Report%20on%20RIGO%20GA%20dialogue%20on%20RtoP%20FINAL\(1\).pdf](http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Report%20on%20RIGO%20GA%20dialogue%20on%20RtoP%20FINAL(1).pdf)

²⁵⁸ The Stanley Foundation, *Actualizing the Responsibility to Protect*, 2008. <http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/resources.cfm?id=343>

²⁵⁹ Council on Foreign Relations, *Libya and the Responsibility to Protect*, 2011. <http://www.cfr.org/libya/libya-responsibility-protect/p24480>

²⁶⁰ United States Institute of Peace, *Libya and the ‘Responsibility to Protect’*, 2011. <http://www.usip.org/publications/libya-and-the-responsibility-protect>

²⁶¹ *Ibid.*

²⁶² United Nations Security Council, *The situation in Libya (S/RES/1973)*, 2011. [http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1970%20\(2011\)](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1970%20(2011))

necessary measures to protect civilians under threat of attack in the country, including Benghazi, while excluding a foreign occupation force of any form on any part of Libyan territory — requesting them to immediately inform the Secretary-General of such measures.”²⁶³ Additionally, the resolution recognized “the important role of the League of Arab States in the maintenance of international peace and security in the region, and bearing in mind the United Nations Charter’s Chapter VIII, the Council asked the League’s member States to cooperate with other Member States in implementing the no-fly zone.”²⁶⁴

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) began “enforcing the arms embargo and maintaining a no-fly zone.”²⁶⁵ This has been accomplished through patrols along Libyan territorial waters in order to “reduce the flow of arms, related material and mercenaries” with support from maritime patrol aircraft and fighter jets as required.²⁶⁶ Additionally, as a result of the establishment of the “no-fly zone,” NATO air “assets” patrol the airspace to prevent aircraft from attacking civilians.²⁶⁷ The overarching mandate given in the Security Council resolutions to protect civilians has resulted in reconnaissance and information-gathering operations as well as engagement with targets on the ground through targets strikes from the sea or air.²⁶⁸

At present, intense fighting still continues in parts of Libya, and Colonel Muammar Qaddafi’s location is unknown. However, the Transitional National Council (TNC) has been established and over the last few months has had several meetings with what is now the Friends of Libya in an effort to establish the structures needed for political stability.²⁶⁹

In terms of R2P, the “decision to ... enforce a no-fly zone in Libya on 19 March was a vindication” of the R2P norm, and through the invocation of “the Libyan authorities’ responsibility to protect its population,” within Security Council resolution 1973 (2011), R2P was concretely applied.²⁷⁰ The Libya case does, however give rise to questions regarding the selectivity of the application of R2P, as well as the conditions in which R2P-initiated action is most successful.²⁷¹

Conclusion

The world's heads of state and government unanimously accepted the concept of R2P at the UN World Summit in September 2005.²⁷² The Security Council has also accepted the general principle.²⁷³ The task remains, however, as each new danger of mass atrocity crimes threatens, to translate that principled acceptance into effective action — at the international, national and community level.²⁷⁴

When creating a framework to implement Responsibility to Protect, it is important to include the existing UN institutions, and consider how to best encourage cooperation and coordination between them. As outlined in the UN Charter, any military action, or intervention must be authorized through the Security Council. However, this does not mean that other UN bodies cannot be involved in prevention, discussion and rebuilding efforts surrounding the potential human rights abuses. The UN Human Rights Council is a body of experts in providing support for the development of human rights for all. They could possibly be included in data collection in situations of concern, as there are already processes in order for annual reports to the General Assembly. Would more data collection aid in developing an early warning and fast response system? As discussed in the Report of the Secretary General on the

²⁶³ United Nations Security Council, *The situation in Libya* (S/RES/1973), 2011.

[http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1973%20\(2011\)](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1973%20(2011))

²⁶⁴ United Nations Security Council, *The situation in Libya* (S/RES/1973), 2011.

[http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1973%20\(2011\)](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1973%20(2011))

²⁶⁵ NATO, *NATO and Libya*, 2011. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_71652.htm?

²⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁶⁹ Security Council Report, *Libya*, 2011.

http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/site/c.gKWLeMTIsG/b.7717295/k.2DDC/September_2011brLibya.htm

²⁷⁰ Foreign Affairs, *Libya and the Future of Humanitarian Intervention*, 2011. <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/68233/stewart-patrick/libya-and-the-future-of-humanitarian-intervention>

²⁷¹ Foreign Affairs, *A New Lease on Life for Humanitarianism?*, 2011. <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/67674/stewart-patrick/a-new-lease-on-life-for-humanitarianism>

²⁷² International Crisis Group, *Responsibility to Protect*, n.d. <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/key-issues/responsibility-to-protect.aspx>

²⁷³ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

topic, decisions to move to action need to be quick in order to be effective.²⁷⁵ One possible option to circumvent any delay on the part of the Security Council would be to have the General Assembly “Unite for Peace,” and call for R2P action under Chapter VII, as suggested in the ICISS report.²⁷⁶ There is a role for civil society and regional organizations in preventing conflict.

In close, the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated his goals for the UN in implementing R2P:

“Responsibility to protect is situated squarely under the UN's roof and within the UN Charter. The UN General Assembly and relevant entities should develop strategies, standards, and processes for implementing the responsibility to protect. We have established norms and tools that we can use in the protection of civilians. We should examine ways in which the international community can support states in meeting their obligations in this area. The United Nations needs to sharpen its capacities for early warning and assessment, under the overarching framework of prevention, initially by sub-regional and regional arrangements, as envisaged in Chapter VIII of the Charter. When prevention fails, the United Nations needs to pursue an early and flexible response tailored to the circumstances of each case. Military action is a measure of last, not first, resort and should only be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.”

Questions to Consider

- Can a framework be generated to decide when and in which situation intervention should occur, guided by recent action in Libya and Cote d'Ivoire?
- What intervention strategies fall under Chapter VI of the UN Charter and can be implemented outside of the SC?
- Should rebuilding and post-intervention be considered as part of the Responsibility to Protect as suggested by the ICSS?
- What institutional reforms can be implemented to enhance existing efforts to implement R2P?

²⁷⁵ United Nations General Assembly, Early warning, assessment and the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/64/864), 2010. <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/64/864>

²⁷⁶ International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, *The Responsibility to Protect*, 2001. <http://www.iciss.ca/menu-en.asp>

Key Resources

These resources are “must reads” for delegates doing research on this topic and provide general, yet comprehensive information on the issues at hand. We recommend exploring these resources in addition to reading the background guide and reading through the Bibliography.

History and Background of the General Assembly Plenary

Charter of the United Nations:

<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter>

United Nations Today [Book]:

http://unic.un.org/aroundworld/unics/common/documents/publications/untoday/UN_TODAY_BOOK_eng.pdf

About the General Assembly [Website]:

<http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/index.shtml>

Strengthening the United Nations [Website]:

<http://www.un.org/en/strengtheningtheun/>

I. Use of Nuclear Energy in Efforts to Achieve Energy Security

Nuclear Power and the Global Challenges of Energy Security Statement by IAEA Director [Website]:

<http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/statements/2007/ebsp2007n012.html>

Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety [Website]:

<http://www.iaea.org/conferences/ministerial-safety/>

MCIS NPT Briefing Book: The Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy [Report]:

<http://www.ppnn.soton.ac.uk/bb1/Bb1Chap8.pdf>

Reaching Critical Will, Costs, risks, and myths of nuclear power [Report]:

<http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/resources/publications/costs-risks-myths/report.pdf>

Reaching Critical Will, Nuclear Energy [Website]:

<http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/resources/factsheets/energy.html>

United Nations, Secretary-General report on “United Nations system-wide study on the implications of the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant” (SG/HLM/2011/1):

<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=SG/HLM/2011/1>

UNDP Sustainable Energy [Website]:

<http://www.undp.org/energy/>

Global Issues, Energy Security [Website]:

<http://www.globalissues.org/article/595/energy-security>

Greenpeace, Nuclear Safety [Website]:

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/campaigns/nuclear/safety/>

Institute for Energy and Environmental Research, Energy & Security [Website]:

<http://www.ieer.org/ensec/index.html>

II. Implementation of the Responsibility to Protect

International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, R2P Basics [Website]:
<http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/about-rtop/learn-about-rtop>

About Responsibility to Protect [Website]:
<http://www.iciss.ca/menu-en.asp>

International Peace Institute, Conflict Prevention and R2P [Report]:
http://globalsolutions.org/files/public/documents/CivPro_IPI_Blue_Paper.pdf

International Crisis Group, Responsibility to Protect [Website]:
<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/key-issues/responsibility-to-protect.aspx>

Stanley Foundation, Actualizing the Responsibility to Protect [Report]:
<http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/resources.cfm?id=343>

United Nations, Global Issues - Human Rights [Website]:
<http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/humanrights/>

Report of the Secretary-General on “Early warning, assessment and the responsibility to protect” (A/64/864) [Report]: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/864

Report of the Secretary-General on “Implementing the responsibility to protect” (A/63/677) [Report]:
<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/63/677>

Report of the Secretary-General on “The role of regional and subregional arrangements in implementing the responsibility to protect” [Report]: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/65/877>

Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide [Website]:
<http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/>

United Nations General Assembly World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1) [Resolution]:
<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/60/1>

United Nations General Assembly resolution on “Responsibility to Protect” (A/63/308) [Resolution]:
<http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/63/308>

Informal Interactive Dialogue on the “Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Implementing the Responsibility to Protect” [Website]: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/65/initiatives/RtoPdialogue.html>

Informal Interactive Dialogue of the General Assembly on "Early Warning, Assessment, and the Responsibility to Protect" [Website]:
<http://www.un.org/ga/president/64/thematic/r2p.shtml>

Interactive Thematic Dialogue of the General Assembly on the “Responsibility to Protect” [Website]:
<http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/interactive/responsibilitytoprotect.shtml>

Alex Bellamy, Conflict prevention and the Responsibility to Protect [Article]:
http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_7055/is_2_14/ai_n29462264/

Bibliography

History and Background of the General Assembly Plenary

International Civil Service Commission. (2011). *ICSC: About the Commission*. Retrieved 28 June 2011, from:

<http://icsc.un.org/about.asp>

International Law Commission. (2011). *International Law Commission: Activities*. Retrieved 28 June 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/law/ilc/>

United Nations. (1945). *Charter of the United Nations*. Retrieved 27 June 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter>

United Nations. (2008). *The United Nations Today*. Retrieved 1 September 2011, from: [http://unic.un.org/aroundworld/unics/common/documents/publications/untoday/UN TODAY BOOK eng.pdf](http://unic.un.org/aroundworld/unics/common/documents/publications/untoday/UN_TODAY_BOOK_eng.pdf)

United Nations. (2011). *Delegates' Handbook: Sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations*. Retrieved 1 September 2011, from: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=ST/CS/60

United Nations. (n.d.). *General Assembly of the United Nations*. Retrieved 1 September 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/>

United Nations. (n.d.). *Permanent Observers: About*. Retrieved 1 September 2011: <http://www.un.org/en/members/aboutpermobservers.shtml>

United Nations. (n.d.). *Permanent Observers: Non-member States and Entities*. Retrieved 1 September 2011: <http://www.un.org/en/members/nonmembers.shtml>

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. (n.d.). *About UNCITRAL*. Retrieved 28 June 2011, from: http://www.uncitral.org/uncitral/en/about_us.html

United Nations Disarmament Commission. (2011). *UNODA – United Nations Disarmament Commission*. Retrieved 28 June 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/DisarmamentCommission/UNDiscom.shtml>

United Nations General Assembly. (1948). *Palestine – Progress Report of the United Nations Mediator 194 (III)*. Retrieved 28 June 2011, from: [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/194\(III\)](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/194(III))

United Nations General Assembly. (2003). *General Assembly Adopts Resolution Aimed At Improving Working Methods, Sharpening Focus Of Decisions, Reducing Workload (GA/10222)*. Retrieved 1 September 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/ga10222.doc.htm>

United Nations General Assembly. (2009). *Main Issues – President of the 63rd Session of the UN General Assembly*. Retrieved 05 July 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/issues/issues.shtml>

United Nations General Assembly. (2009). *Note by the President of the General Assembly*. Retrieved 05 July 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/news/A63960.pdf>

United Nations General Assembly. (2009). *Note by the President of the General Assembly (A/63/960)*. Retrieved 1 September 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/63/960>

United Nations General Assembly. (2009). *President of the 63rd Session: Financing for Development*. Retrieved 05 July 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/issues/ffd.shtml>

United Nations General Assembly. (2009). *Revitalization of the General Assembly*. Retrieved 27 June 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/issues/rga.shtml>

United Nations General Assembly. (2009). *System Wide Coherence*. Retrieved 05 July 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/issues/swc.shtml>

United Nations General Assembly. (2011). *Functions and Powers of the General Assembly*. Retrieved 27 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml>

United Nations General Assembly. (2011). *UN General Assembly – Main Committees*. Retrieved 28 June 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/ga/maincommittees.shtml>

United Nations Peacebuilding Commission. (2011). *United Nations Peacebuilding Commission*. Retrieved 28 June 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding/mandate.shtml>

I. Use of Nuclear Energy in Efforts to Achieve Energy Security

Arms Control Association. (2011). *Security Council Adopts More Iran Sanctions*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.armscontrol.org/print/2790>

BBC News. (2011). *Japan evacuates residents beyond Fukushima no-go zone*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-13408055>

BBC News. (2011). *Tepco confirms extra partial fuel rod meltdown at plant*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-13408055>

Energy Watch Group. (2007). *Crude Oil the Supply Outlook*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://www.energywatchgroup.org/fileadmin/global/pdf/EWG_Oilreport_10-2007.pdf

Fischer. (1997). *International Energy Agency The First Forty Years*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1032_web.pdf

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2010). *Annual Report 2009*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Reports/Anrep2009/index.html>

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2011). *Convention on Nuclear Safety Background*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Documents/Conventions/cenna.html>

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2006). *Fundamental Safety Principles*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1273_web.pdf

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2003). *Handbook on Nuclear Law*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://www-pub.iaea.org/mtcd/publications/pdf/pub1160_web.pdf

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2011). *Implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement and relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions in the Islamic Republic of Iran (GOV/2011/7)*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Documents/Board/2011/gov2011-7.pdf>

International Atomic Energy Agency. (n.d.). *International Conventions and Agreements: Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Documents/Conventions/cenna.html>

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2009). *Measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear radiation transport and waste safety (GC(53)/RES/10)*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://www.iaea.org/About/Policy/GC/GC53/GC53Resolutions/English/gc53res-10_en.pdf

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2007). *Nuclear Power and the Global Challenges of Energy Security Statement by IAEA Director General Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/statements/2007/ebsp2007n012.html>

- International Atomic Energy Agency. (1957). *Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://www.iaea.org/About/statute_text.html
- International Renewable Energy Agency. (n.d.). *History of IRENA*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.irena.org/menu/index.aspx?mnu=cat&PriMenuID=13&CatID=30>
- Datan, M. (2008). *Nuclear futures for the Middle East: impact on the goal of WMD-free one*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.unidir.org/pdf/articles/pdf-art2728.pdf>
- Mountbatten Centre for International Studies. (2004). *MCIS NPT Briefing Book: The Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.ppnn.soton.ac.uk/bb1/Bb1Chap8.pdf>
- Reaching Critical Will. (2011). *Costs, risks, and myths of nuclear power*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/resources/publications/costs-risks-myths/report.pdf>
- Reaching Critical Will. (n.d.). *Nuclear Energy*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/resources/factsheets/energy.html>
- The Independent. (2011). *German nuclear power plants to close*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/german-nuclear-power-plants-to-close-2291015.html>
- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons*. (1970). Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Documents/Infcircs/Others/infcirc140.pdf>
- UN News Centre. (2011). *Japanese crisis highlights need for enhanced nuclear safety transparency*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=37996&Cr=iaea&Cr1>
- United Nations. (1946). *Charter of the United Nations*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/>
- United Nations. (2006). *Multi-Dimensional Issues in International Electric Power Grid Interconnections*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/publications/energy/chapter8.pdf>
- United Nations. (2007). *The United Nations Today*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://unic.un.org/aroundworld/unics/common/documents/publications/untoday/UN_TODAY_BOOK_eng.pdf
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. (2011). *Electronic Forum on Energy Security in Asia and the Pacific*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://lists.unescap.org/mailman/listinfo/asia-pacific-energy-security>
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. (2008). *Energy Security and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1286>
- United Nations Development Programme. (n.d.). *Sustainable Energy*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.undp.org/energy/>
- United Nations Development Programme. (2004). *World Energy Assessment: Overview*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://www.undp.org/energy/docs/WEAOU_part_III.pdf
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. (2011). *Sustainable Energy Division*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://live.unece.org/energywelcome/energy-home.html>
- United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America. (2007). *La seguridad energética de América Latina y el Caribe en el contexto mundial*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.eclac.cl/cgi->

bin/getProd.asp?xml=/publicaciones/xml/3/32123/P32123.xml&xsl=/dmi/tpl/p9f.xsl&base=/transporte/tpl/top-bottom.xslt

- United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia. (2010). *Promoting Large-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in the Arab Region: An Approach for Climate Change Mitigation*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.escwa.un.org/information/pubaction.asp?PubID=930>
- United Nations Energy. (2007). *Sustainable Bioenergy: A Framework for Decision Makers*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a1094e/a1094e00.htm>
- United Nations Energy/Africa. (2008). *Energy for Sustainable Development: Policy Options for Africa*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://www.uneca.org/eca_resources/publications/unea-publication-tocsd15.pdf
- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. (2010). *Making Integrated Food-Energy Systems Work for People and Climate*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i2044e/i2044e.pdf>
- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. (2008). *The State of Food and Agriculture*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/011/i0100e/i0290e.pdf>
- United Nations General Assembly. (2010). *General and complete disarmament: Report of the First Committee (A/65/410)*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/65/410>
- United Nations General Assembly. (2008). *Official Record: Meeting on the global food and energy crisis (A/62/PV.112)*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/62/PV.112>
- United Nations General Assembly. (2011). *United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons (A/RES/65/72)*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/65/72>
- United Nations General Assembly. (1987). *United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (A/RES/42/212)*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/42/212>
- United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. (2008). *Address to the East-West Institute on "The United Nations and security in a nuclear-weapon-free world"*. Retrieved 1 August 2011, from: http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocus/sgspeeches/search_full.asp?statID=351

II. Implementation of the Responsibility to Protect

- African Union. (n.d.). *African Women Decade: 2010 to 2020*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.africa-union.org/root/AU/Conferences/2010/april/wgd/wgd.html>
- African Union. (2000). *Constitutive Act*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: http://www.africa-union.org/root/au/aboutau/constitutive_act_en.htm
- African Union. (2005). *Ezulwini Consensus (Ext/EX.CL/2 (VII))*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: http://www.africa-union.org/News_Events/Calendar_of_%20Events/7th%20extra%20ordinary%20session%20ECL/Ext%20EXCL2%20VII%20Report.doc
- Annan. (2000). *We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the 21st Century*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/millennium/sg/report/>
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations. (2007). *Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations*. Retrieved 15

- August 2011, from: <http://www.asean.org/AC.htm>
- Bellamy. (2008). *Conflict prevention and the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_7055/is_2_14/ai_n29462264/
- Council on Foreign Relations. (2011). *Libya and the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.cfr.org/libya/libya-responsibility-protect/p24480>
- Foreign Affairs. (2011). *A New Lease on Life for Humanitarianism?*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/67674/stewart-patrick/a-new-lease-on-life-for-humanitarianism>
- Foreign Affairs. (2011). *Libya and the Future of Humanitarian Intervention*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/68233/stewart-patrick/libya-and-the-future-of-humanitarian-intervention>
- Fourth World Conference on Women. (1995). *Beijing Platform for Action*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform>
- Global Justice Center. (2007). *Gender and the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.globaljusticecenter.net/news-events/GJC-newsletters/6.2007-news.html>
- President of the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. (2011). *United Nations General Assembly 65th Session Informal Interactive Dialogue on the Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Implementing the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/65/initiatives/RtoPdialogue.html>
- Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. (n.d.). *The Rights of Women*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/women/default.asp>
- International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. (n.d.). *An Introduction to the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/about-rtop/learn-about-rtop>
- International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. (2011). *Interactive dialogue of the UN General Assembly on the role of regional and subregional arrangements in implementing the Responsibility to Protect: ICRtoP Report*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: [http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Report%20on%20RIGO%20GA%20dialogue%20on%20RtoP%20FINAL\(1\).pdf](http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Report%20on%20RIGO%20GA%20dialogue%20on%20RtoP%20FINAL(1).pdf)
- International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. (2011). *Key Developments on the Responsibility to Protect at the United Nations 2005-2011*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: [http://responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Latest%20Developments%20at%20the%20UN%202011\(1\).pdf](http://responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICRtoP%20Latest%20Developments%20at%20the%20UN%202011(1).pdf)
- International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. (2011). *Summary of GA dialogue on Early Warning, Assessment and the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: [http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/Summary%20of%20EW%20dialogue%20on%209%20August%20010\(2\).pdf](http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/Summary%20of%20EW%20dialogue%20on%209%20August%20010(2).pdf)
- International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. (n.d.). *The Role of Women in the RtoP Framework*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/women-and-conflict>
- International Coalition on the Responsibility to Protect. (n.d.). *Special Adviser with a focus on the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.responsibilitytoprotect.org/index.php/edward-luck-special-adviser-with-a-focus-on-the-responsibility-to-protect>

- International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty. (2001). *Progress*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.iciss.ca/progress-en.asp>
- International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty. (2001). *The Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.iciss.ca/menu-en.asp>
- International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty . (n.d.). *The Establishment and Progress of the Commission*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.iciss.ca/progress-en.asp>
- International Crisis Group. (n.d.). *Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/key-issues/responsibility-to-protect.aspx>
- International Peace Institute. (2008). *Conflict Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: http://globalsolutions.org/files/public/documents/CivPro_IPI_Blue_Paper.pdf
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization. (2011). *NATO and Libya*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_71652.htm?
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization. (2011). *Questions and answers at the press conference by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from:
- Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. (2011). *Special Advisers*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/advisers.shtml>
- Security Council Report. (2011). *Libya*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/site/c.glKWLeMTIsG/b.7717295/k.2DDC/September_2011brLibya.htm
- Stanley Foundation. (2008). *Actualizing the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/resources.cfm?id=343>
- Stanley Foundation. (2011). *The Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Strengthening the Responsibility to Protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/publications/report/RoleRegSbregArgmntsR2P.pdf>
- United Nations. (1945). *Charter of the United Nations*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>
- United Nations. (1948). *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://untreaty.un.org/cod/avl/ha/cppcg/cppcg.html>
- United Nations. (n.d.). *Global Issues: Human Rights*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/humanrights/>
- United Nations. (2011). *Special Advisers of the United Nations Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, Francis Deng and on the Responsibility to Protect, Edward Luck, on the Situation in Syria*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/pdf/OSAPG%20statement%20Syria%202%20June%202011%20FINAL%20ENGLISH.pdf>
- United Nations. (1948). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml>
- United Nations General Assembly. (2005). *2005 World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/60/1>

- United Nations General Assembly. (2010). *Early warning, assessment and the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/64/864)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/864
- United Nations General Assembly. (2009). *Implementing the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/63/677)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/63/677>
- United Nations General Assembly. (2001). *Prevention of armed conflict (A/55/985-S2001/574)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/55/985>
- United Nations General Assembly. (2009). *Responsibility to protect (A/RES/63/308)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/63/308>
- United Nations General Assembly. (1998). *The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa: Report of the Secretary-General (A/52/871-S1998/318)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/52/871>
- United Nations General Assembly. (2011). *The role of regional and subregional arrangements in implementing the responsibility to protect: Report of the Secretary-General (A/65/877-S/2011/393)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/65/877>
- United Nations Multilingual Terminology Database. (n.d.). *Responsibility to protect*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://unterm.un.org/dgaacs/unterm.nsf/WebView/C6DB0A23F5663AF685257370007099A3?OpenDocument>
- United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. (n.d.). *Preventing Genocide and Mass Atrocities*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/adviser/genocide_prevention.shtml
- United Nations Security Council. (2006). *Protection of civilians in armed conflict (S/RES/1674)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: [http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1674%20\(2006\)](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1674%20(2006))
- United Nations Security Council. (2011). *The situation in Libya (S/RES/1973)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: [http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1973%20\(2011\)](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1973%20(2011))
- United Nations Security Council. (2000). *Women and peace and security (S/RES/1325)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: [http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1325%20\(2000\)](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=S/RES/1325%20(2000))
- United Nations Security Council. (2006). *Security Council expands mandate of UN Mission in Sudan to include Darfur (SC/8821)*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2006/sc8821.doc.htm>
- United States Institute of Peace. (2011). *Libya and the 'Responsibility to Protect'*. Retrieved 15 August 2011, from: <http://www.usip.org/publications/libya-and-the-responsibility-protect>