NWMUN 2011

**The Premier
Model United Nations Conference
in the Northwest**

Background Guide:
United Nations Development Programme

2011 NORTHWEST
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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 Development Programme (UNDP). We are immensely pleased to present to you the background guide, written by your highly experienced and capable Director, Rachel Johnson, and Assistant Director, Jenna Burke.

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 this year's the United Nations Development Programme are:

I. Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources
II. HIV/AIDS and its Impact on Conflict Affected Situations

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, 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.

We wish each of you the best as you prepare for this conference and committee. 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. 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,

Rachel Johnson
Director,
UN Development Programme
undp@nwmun.org

Jenna Burk
Assistant Director,
UN Development Programme
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Kristina Mader
Director-General
NWMUN 2011
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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　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　*Represented by*
Canada　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**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

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(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 initiates, 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 United Nations Development Programme 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 enabling delegates to take action other than passing resolutions on an issue. This section aims to provide additional, specific information for the UN Development Programme at NWMUN 2011.

Briefings
While discussing a topic, UNDP delegates are able to receive briefings from representatives of relevant member states or UN subject matter 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 UNDP at NWMUN 2011 is to:

Provide inter-governmental support to and supervision of activities in accordance with the overall policy guidance of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council, and the responsibilities set out in the United Nations Charter. Furthermore, the organization seeks to advocate for change and connect countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. They are on the ground in 177 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. UNDP helps developing countries attract and use aid effectively. In all our activities, we encourage the protection of human rights, capacity development and the empowerment of women.

Functions
- To implement the policies formulated by the General Assembly and the coordination and guidance received from the Economic and Social Council;
- To receive information from and give guidance to the head of each fund or programme on the work of each organization;
- To ensure that the activities and operational strategies of each fund or programme are consistent with the overall policy guidance set forth by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with their respective responsibility set out in the United Nations Charter;
- To monitor the performance of the fund or programme;
- To approve programmes, including country programmes, as appropriate;
- To decide on administrative and financial plans and budgets;
- To recommend new initiatives to the Economic and Social Council, and through the Council, to the General Assembly, as necessary;
- To encourage and examine new programme initiatives;
- To submit annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, which could include recommendations, where appropriate, for improvement of field-level coordination.

Outcome Documents
When taking action, the UNDP can adopt a **resolution**. UNDP resolutions carry considerable weight behind it, as UNDP is a programmatic body; thus, these resolutions can impact the daily lives of individuals around the world.

Rules of Procedure
The UN Development Programme will use the standard NWMUN rules of procedure, available on our website as well as at the conference.

Members of the United Nations Development Programme at NWMUN 2011

Antigua & Barbuda	Argentina	Bangladesh	Belarus
Burkina Faso	Cameroon	Canada	China
Cuba	Czech Republic	Denmark	Djibouti
DR Congo	El Salvador	Estonia	Finland
Germany	India	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Ireland
Italy	Japan	Luxembourg	Mauritania
Mexico	Netherlands	Pakistan	Qatar
Russian Federation	Rwanda	Sierra Leone	South Africa
Sweden	United Kingdom	United States of America	Yemen

History and Background of the UN Development Programme

Introduction

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the primary global development network within the United Nations (UN) System. Its mission is to provide leadership, encourage partnerships and promote development by building local capacities and informing Member States and peoples on ways to improve their quality of life.[1] With an annual budget of nearly $5 billion dollars and field presence in 166 countries, the influence and scope of UNDP's work is far-reaching.[2] In countries that host UNDP field offices, UNDP representatives serve as the coordinator of development activities for the United Nations system as a whole and hold the title "Resident Coordinator."[3] Currently, 128 countries receive UNDP support for democratic governance, 60 countries receive election assistance from UNDP and 103 countries receiving support from UNDP for anti-corruption efforts.[4] Regional efforts also include programs to create effective property tax collection systems in Jordan, temporary job programs in Haiti and counseling and treatment for HIV & AIDS in Liberia.[5] UNDP is also the UN's largest provider of grants for human development.[6]

Creation of the United Nations Development Programme

The UN Development Programme was established in 1965 by the United Nations General Assembly.[7] The agency was created as a result of the merger between the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, created in 1949, and the United Nations Special Fund, established in 1958.[8] In combining the two organizations, the General Assembly sought to enhance the scope of the UNDP and reduce overlap as both the Special Fund and the UN Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance focused on providing assistance to developing countries.[9] Since its establishment, the overarching framework of the UNDP has been centered on promoting human development and delivering assistance to developing countries.[10] More recently, one of the primary focuses of UNDP has been achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).[11] UNDP coordinates global and national efforts to reach these goals and helps developing countries attract and use aid efficiently and effectively.[12]

Structure, Voting and Major Functions

UNDP reports to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the General Assembly, with both bodies overseeing its policies and programs.[13] An Executive Bureau, comprised of 36 Member States representing five regional groups and all chosen on a rotating basis, supervises and supports activities and programs of UNDP.[14] The Executive Board has regular annual meetings, but can also call for special sessions and meetings, as needed.[15] The last regular session of the UNDP Executive Board was held in New York City in June 2011 and served as a forum for discussing numerous issues including the role of organizations in addressing the development needs of middle-

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[1] United Nations Development Programme, *Fast facts: United Nations Development Programme*, 2009, p.1.
http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/librarypage/results.html

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] United Nations Development Programme, *About Us: A world of development experience,* n.d.
http://www.beta.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/about_us.html

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] *Ibid.*

[7] United Nations Development Programme, *Frequently Asked Questions,* n.d. http://www.undp.org/faq/

[8] *Ibid.*

[9] United Nations, General Assembly, *Consolidation of the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance in a United Nations Development Programme (A/RES/2029(xx)),* 1965. http://www.un.org/esa/rptc/documents.html

[10] United Nations Development Programme, *Frequently Asked Questions,* n.d. http://www.undp.org/faq/

[11] United Nations Non-Governmental Liason Service, *A guide for NGOs,* 2003, p. 183. http://www.un-ngls.org/orf/documents/pdf/ngo.guide/1atoc.pdf

[12] *Ibid.*

[13] United Nations Development Programme, *Executive Board,* n.d.
http://www.beta.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/executive_board/overview.html

[14] United Nations Development Programme, *UNDP for beginners: a beginner's guide to the United Nations Development Programme,* 2003, p.13. http://sas.undp.org/documents/UNDP_for_beginners.pdf

[15] United Nations, *Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programms, of the United Nations Population Fund and of the United Nations Office for Project Services,* 2011, p.1.
http://www.beta.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/executive_board/overview.html

income countries, environment and climate change and commitments to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the MDGs.[16] The next annual session will occur in New York City in September 2011.[17]

UNDP oversees offices in each region of the world, extensive research including the Human Development Report and Development Studies as well as several departments including the Bureau for Resources and Strategic Partnerships (BRSP), the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, and the Bureau for Development Policy (BDP).[18] The structure also includes United Nations Volunteers (UNV) and a technical cooperation unit.[19]

The UNDP Administrator manages operations of the agency and is directly accountable to the Executive Board for all UNDP activities.[20] The Administrator of the UNDP, appointed by the UN Secretary-General and confirmed by the General Assembly for a four-year term, is also the third highest-ranking official in the UN system after the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General.[21] In 2009, Helen Clark was appointed Administrator of UNDP, and is the first woman to lead the organization.[22] Prior to serving as Administrator, she was served as Prime Minister of New Zealand for three consecutive terms and she is also the Chair of the United Nations Development Group, a committee focused on promoting development worldwide, in which UNDP is a member.[23]

Key Issues in the United Nations Development Programme

The current areas of focus of the UNDP include democratic governance, poverty reduction, crisis prevention and recovery, energy and environment, HIV/AIDS, women's empowerment and capacity development.[24] Country and regional UNDP offices deliver aid and develop and create programs to address each of these focus areas.[25]

Since 1990, a primary function of the UNDP has been to create and distribute yearly compilations of global development data.[26] This yearly report became known as the Human Development Report and focuses the global debate on key development issues, providing new measurement tools, innovative analysis and often-controversial policy proposals.[27] The 2011 Human Development Report, titled "Sustainability and Equity: A Better Future for All" will be released in November 2011 and will discuss the "disturbing reversal of [living standards in developing countries rising] if environmental deterioration and social inequalities continue to intensify, with the least developed countries diverging downwards from global patterns of progress by 2050".[28]

In 2000, 189 countries adopted the Millennium Declaration and pledged to work towards achieving eight goals that would later become known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).[29] These goals were intended to contribute to the overarching theme of cutting global poverty in half by 2015 and include: eradicate poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empower of women, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability, and develop a global partnership for development.[30] Since the adoption of the Millennium Declaration and launching of the MDGs in 2000, the UNDP has played a primary role in developing and implementing programs

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[16] United Nations Development Programme, *DRAFT Report of the annual session 2011, DP/2011/31*, 2011, p. 21-23.
    http://www.undp.org/execbrd/adv2011-annual.shtml
[17] United Nations Development Programme, *Executive Board,* n.d.
    http://www.beta.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/executive_board/overview.html
[18] United Nations Development Programme, *UNDP for beginners: a beginner's guide to the United Nations Development Programme,* 2008, p.13. http://sas.undp.org/documents/UNDP_for_beginners.pdf
[19] *Ibid.*
[20] *Ibid.*
[21] *Ibid.*
[22] United Nations Development Programme, *UNDP Administrator Helen Clark,* n.d.
    http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/operations/administrator.html
[23] *Ibid.*
[24] United Nations Development Programme, *Overview,* n.d. http://www.beta.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/overview.html
[25] *Ibid.*
[26] United Nations Development Programme, *Human Development Report 2010: The real wealth of nations: pathways to human development,* 2010, p. iv. http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2010/
[27] *Ibid.*
[28] United Nations Development Programme, *Human Development Report 2011,* 2011. http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2011/
[29] *Ibid.*
[30] *Ibid.* p. 6-58.

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and strategies to achieve each within the framework of national ownership and through building local capacities.[31] In order to achieve the MDGs, UNDP has designed a set of services to support MDG-based national development strategies. These services focus on three pillars including:

> *"First, MDG-based diagnostics and investment planning (technical and financial assistance needed to achieve the MDGs over the long term); Second, widening policy options and choices (sectoral and cross-sectoral policy reforms and frameworks needed to accelerate growth with equity and promote long-term human development); and Third, strengthening national capacity (enable effective service delivery at the national and local levels)".[32]*

Efforts to achieve the MDGs have led to notable successes. For example, the number of people in developing countries living on less than $1.25 a day decreased from around 1.8 billion in 1990 to 1.4 billion in 2005.[33] In the same time period, the corresponding poverty rate dropped from 46 per cent to 27 per cent.[34] Many experts in the field point to programs and services provided and managed by UNDP as being a primary factor in achieving these milestones. In fact, 95% of UNDP's partners consider the organization to be a "critical partner" in contributing to the MDGs.[35]

Conclusion

UNDP is the primary advocate for development in the UN System. UNDP programs, services and research educate the global community regarding the world's most pressing development concerns and facilitate the protection of human rights, the promotion of local capacity development and the empowerment of women. Despite a global economic crisis, numerous benchmarks established during the Millennium Declaration have been met, due in major part to the endeavors and programs established by the UNDP. During the past regular session of the UNDP Executive Board in June 2011, Helen Clark, the Administrator of the UNDP, spoke of the scope of UNDP's impact and the necessity for continued commitment to the mission of UNDP:

> *"UNDP's universal presence; our track record of staying the course in good times and bad; our mandate to engage in sensitive programme areas and in countries when and where other partners cannot; our commitment to building capacity; and our co-ordination role within the UN development system – all these factors mean that our work today not only is highly relevant, but indeed may be even more critical now than ever before."[36]*

I. Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources

Introduction

Worldwide, almost 1 billion people do not have access to clean drinking water and nearly 5,000 children die every day due to lack of clean water resources.[37] In June 2008, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded through global observations and predictions that fresh water is one of the most vulnerable resources and access to fresh water will most likely be adversely affected by climate change.[38] In addition, not only fresh water

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[31] United Nations Development Programme, *Fast facts: United Nations Development Programme*, 2009, p. 1.
   http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/librarypage/results.html
[32] United Nations Development Programme, *What is the role of UNDP?,* n.d.
   http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/ourwork/povertyreduction/focus_areas/focus_mdg_strategies.html
[33] United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2011,* 2011, p.6. http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/reports.shtml
[34] *Ibid.*
[35] United Nations Development Programme, *About Us: A world of development experience,* n.d.
   http://www.beta.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/about_us.html
[36] Clark, *UNDP: Empowering lives at times of great changes,* 2011.
   http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/presscenter/speeches/2011/06/13/helen-clark-annual-session-of-the-executive-board-of-undp-unfpa.html
[37] United Nations Development Programme. *Environment and Energy: Water Supply and Sanitation*, n.d. http://www.undp.org/water/water-supply-and-sanitation.shtml
[38] United Nations Development Programme. *Environment and Energy: Adaptation to Climate Change*, n.d.
   http://www.undp.org/climatechange/adapt/role.html

will be impacted by climate change, but also water management, water-related vulnerabilities, and agriculture.[39] Hence, the number of people impacted by the lack of clean water resources will continue to rise and spread the epidemic of malnutrition. Through programs such as the World Water Assessment, Community Water Initiative, Every Drop Matters, and others, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is able to assist governmental and community development partners in policy reform to improve water supply, as well as provide aid including local delivery of water and building of local water sanitation institutions.[40]

International Framework

The purpose of UNDP is to provide the world with a global development network that advocates for change and the connection to knowledge, experience, and resources to assist people to live a better life. Through the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) the UNDP specifically focuses on democratic governance, poverty reduction, crisis prevention and recovery, and finally, environment and energy for sustainable development.[41] UNDP adopted the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for the purpose of not only addressing the major contributors to extreme poverty, but also to generate plans for countries to reduce their contributors. Goal seven, in particular, aims to ensure environmental sustainability, including specifically reversing the loss of environmental resources.[42] The Environmental and Sustainable Procurements were created by the UNDP to reduce global health risks through pollution prevention.[43] UNDP procurements primarily focus on sustainable production and consumption practices, waste generation, and environmental and health impacts of climate change.[44] In regards to battling climate change and its effect on the world's water resources, UNDP specifically aids in creating, implementing, and financing adaptation solutions to climate change, such as in water resource management.[45]

In 1997, UN delegates from thirty-seven industrialized counties adopted the Kyoto Protocol, (the number has since expanded to 84 signatories and 192 Members States have ratified it to date) committing to meeting targets to reduce their greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions.[46] These targets are expressed by levels of allowed amounts of emissions over the 2008-2012 commitment period. Emissions trading, as set out in Article 17 of the Kyoto Protocol, allows countries that have emission units to spare (amount of emissions that were permitted to them but not "used") to sell this excess capacity to countries that are struggling to meet their quota for emission reduction units (ERU's).[47] Another stipulation in the Protocol for industrialized countries is to attend the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).[48]

In December 2007, the UNFCCC held the 13th Conference of Parties (COP-13) to agree upon increasing efforts to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) in developing countries. This ultimately led to United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), UNDP, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) collaborating to create the UN-REDD Programme in September 2008.[49] The UN-REDD Programme strives to advocate international policy dialogue and inclusion of REDD in future climate change agreements after the expiration of the Kyoto Protocol.[50] UN-REDD, specifically offers incentives to developing countries to decrease carbon emission by placing a financial value on the carbon stored in forested areas.

UNEP, similar and more specific in purpose to UNDP's 7th goal, advocates adapting to climate change and reducing global carbon emissions, in addition to promoting ecosystem management on a national level through UNEP's

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[39] United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. *Climate Change: Impacts, vulnerabilities and Adaptation in Developing Countries*, 2007, p. 8. http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/impacts.pdf

[40] United Nations Development Programme. *Fast Facts: Adaptive Water Governance*, n.d. http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/librarypage/environment-energy/water-governance/fast-facts-adaptive-water-governance.html

[41] United Nations Development Programme. *Frequently Asked Questions,* n.d. http://www.undp.org/faq/

[42] United Nations Development Programme. *Millennium Development Goals: Goal 7*, n.d. http://www.undp.org/mdg/goal7.shtml

[43] United Nations Development Programme. *Procurement*, n.d. http://www.undp.org/procurement

[44] *Ibid.*

[45] United Nations Development Programme. *Adaptation to Climate Change,* n.d. http://www.undp.org/climatechange/adapt/role.html

[46] *Ibid.*

[47] *Ibid.*

[48] *Ibid.*

[49] United Nations Environment Programme. *Ecosystem Management: Some key initiatives by UNEP*, 2004, p. 3. http://www.unep.org/Themes/Freshwater/PDF/Ecosystem_management-Some_key_initiatives_by_UNEP.pdf

[50] *Ibid.*

Medium-Term Strategy (MTS). The MTS for 2010-2013 is defined by the following strategic directions and identified priorities: Climate change, Disasters and conflict, Ecosystem management, Environmental governance, Harmful substances and hazardous waste, and Resource efficiency.[51] Rainwater is not only used for clean drinking water and agriculture, it also serves as a buffer to climate change by sustaining the surrounding ecosystems, such as forests and rivers. Several countries have high capability of harvesting with rainwater, yet still suffer from water shortages. Under the MTS, this mismanagement of resources has been identified as a priority and the Ecosystem Management Programme was subsequently established to reverse this mismanagement at a national level.[52] After attending the World Water Forum in Istanbul in 2009, Kevin Ferguson from BusinessWeek wrote, "How then to bring water and sanitation to the bottom billion, the poorest of the poor in the sprawling slums in Asia, South America, and Africa? Any solution must begin with accountable and cooperative governments at local, state, and federal levels."[53]

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was created in 1988 by UNEP and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to provide a scientific assessment of the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts of climate change, as well as a continuation of knowledge in hopes of finding solutions to climate change.[54] Thousands of scientists volunteer their time and efforts to contribute to the work of the IPCC. The IPCC Working Group II (WG II) assesses the vulnerability of socio-economic and natural systems to climate change, and possible options to combat the negative implications of climate change. It also takes into consideration certain water-related vulnerabilities, such as health, food, energy, and disease.[55]

There is sizeable evidence establishing the significant impact of climate change on the Earth's water cycle, such as an increase in floods, droughts, and long-term changes in precipitation patterns. This evidence points out that "water is a finite resource". The United Nations World Water Assessment Program (WWAP) explains,

> "*Climate change directly affects the water cycle, and through it, the quantity and quality of water resources. It can lower minimum flows in rivers, affecting water availability and quality for drinking water, flora and fauna, energy production (hydropower), thermal plant cooling and navigation...Changes in water cycles will threaten the survival of fragile ecosystems in these regions, and consequently endanger the lives of people who depend on the natural resources that these ecosystems provide.*"[56]

WWAP, created by United Nations Water (UN Water), provides reports of the effect climate change have on water, while also providing policy makers possible solutions to implement.[57] Such solutions that the WWAP provide information regarding include, but are not limited to, increased integration of groundwater and surface water supplies, improved early warning and forecasting systems for hazardous events, improved risk-based approaches to management, and raising community awareness of sustainable water use.[58]

Key United Nations Resolutions

Demonstrating the gravity of climate change and its impact on water resources, several UN bodies have adopted resolutions on the issue. The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Plenary adopted the resolution "Policy options & possible actions to expedite implementation: Climate Change", which serves as an international collaboration of possible solutions through policy making actions including: increasing access to clean energy technologies, encouraging member states to further build upon current frameworks that create incentives for member states with sustainable practices, promoting cooperation on implementing climate change adaptation programs,

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[51] *Ibid.* p. 15.
[52] *Ibid.* p. 3.
[53] Ferguson, *Water Mismanagement Plagues the World's Poor*, 2009, p. 1.
    http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/mar2009/tc20090325_282423.htm
[54] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. *Organization,* n.d. http://www.ipcc.ch/organization/organization.shtml
[55] *Ibid.*
[56] United Nations World Water Assessment Programme. *Climate Change and Water*, 2009, p. 2.
    http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001863/186318e.pdf
[57] United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization: World Water Assessment Programme. *World Water Development Reports,* n.d. http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/publications/
[58] United Nations World Water Assessment Programme. *Climate Change and Water*, 2009, p. 14.
    http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001863/186318e.pdf

encouraging stable member states to support and provide assistance to vulnerable countries, and raising awareness of the effects of climate change.[59]

In 2010, the General Assembly adopted the resolution "Water, Climate Change and Disasters", which specifically deals with policy making in regards to adaptation planning and implementation of adaptation strategies, as well as integrating new energy efficient technologies. This resolution broke down priorities as domestic water supply and sanitation, agriculture, health, ecosystems, and water-related hazards.[60]

In 2007, the Framework Convention on Climate Change adopted a resolution which outlining the actions to be carried out by supporting member states, such as creating an adaptation fund, continued compliance under the Kyoto Protocol, guidance on clean development mechanisms, implementation of Article 3 & 6 of the Kyoto Protocol, demonstrating progress of completion of Kyoto Protocol, and outlining the implications of climate change.[61]

Millennium Development Goals

In 2000, UNDP at the Millennium Summit adopted the MDGs to provide a solid plan of action to address several key areas of development including poverty and hunger, primary education, gender equality and empowerment of women, maternal health, HIV/AIDS, environmental sustainability, and global partnership.[62] The MDGs initiate a platform for the international community to collaborate on the common goal of ensuring the development of the planet and its inhabitants. If every Member State achieved their set goals, the amount of people living in poverty will be reduced by 50% and future generations will have the chance to benefit from the economic, social, and environmental advantages of an all-around healthier world.[63]

In 2008, 87% of the global population was using improved drinking water sources compared to 78% in 1990, due to better management of ecosystem resources and pollution and water conservation awareness.[64] By following the MDGs and encouraging developed and developing countries to achieve their set goals by 2015, current and future citizens of the world will be able to benefits from clean and sanitary water. By simply following through with MDG 7, the other MDGs will be aided in the process. For example, between 1990 and 2005, the amount of people in developing countries living in extreme poverty decreased from 1.8 billion to 1.4 billion due to programs providing safe and sustainable water sources.[65]

For their 'Water Sanitation and Health project, the World Health Organization (WHO) stated, "Providing access to sufficient quantities of safe water, the provision of facilities for a sanitary disposal of excreta, and introducing sound hygiene behaviors are of capital importance to reduce the burden of disease caused by these risk factors."[66] In addition, in 2008, only 79% of children of age were enrolled in primary school in Sub-Saharan Africa and the disparities in women's education have shown to lead to significant disadvantages in income and making communal decisions: by providing safe and clean water sources improves the health of women and children to create opportunities in education and community involvement.[67]

Current Issues, Remaining Challenges, & Next Steps

There has been ample evidence regarding the impact that climate change has on the Earth's water cycle, precipitation trends, and the Earth's water resources; an increase in the amount of yearly flood is one of many

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[59] United Nations Economic and Social Council, United Nations, *Policy options & possible actions to expedite implementation: Climate Change (E CN.17/2007/5),* 2006. http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=E/CN.17/2007/5

[60] United Nations General Assembly, *Water, Climate Change and Disasters (A/64/695)*, 2010. http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/64/695

[61] United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations, *Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol on its third session, held in Bali from 3 to 15 December 2007 (FCCC/KP/CMP/2007/9),* 2008. http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=FCCC/KP/CMP/2007/9

[62] United Nations Development Programme. *Millennium Development Goals,* 2011. http://www.undp.org/mdg/goal7.shtml

[63] *Ibid.*

[64] United Nations World Water Assessment Programme. *Water for the Millennium Development Goals,* n.d. http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/facts_figures/mdgs.shtml

[65] *Ibid.*

[66] World Health Organization. *Water Sanitation and Health (WSH): Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Development*, 2011.

[67] United Nations World Water Assessment Programme. *Water for the Millennium Development Goals,* n.d. http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/hygiene/en/

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clues.[68] UNDP has urged Member States to divert focus on ways to replenish what our Earth has already lost and focus on how to adapt to these changes in hopes of making water resources sustainable for future generations and stopping the rapid increase of water resources depleting.[69] Citizens and government bodies have been encouraged to continue to focus time and efforts on the following subjects and strategies:

- *Access to fresh water sources:* Only 2.5 percent of the total volume of water on Earth is fresh water. Furthermore, less than one percent total of all freshwater is usable for ecosystems and human consumption.[70]

- *Water management in underdeveloped and developing countries:* It is predicted that by 2025, two-thirds of the world population will be living under water stress conditions. Currently, only 145 nations reside within a trans-boundary water basin.[71]

- *Water-related vulnerabilities such as but not limited to health, food, energy, diseases, and physical and economic as well:* In 2007, it was estimated that 923 million people were malnourished due to lack of water and the scarcity of food. In sub-Saharan Africa, treating diarrhea consumes 12 percent of the health budget. Every 20 seconds a child dies due to the implications of poor sanitation practices.[72]

- *Agriculture:* The average person is recommended to drink 2-4 liters of water per day, yet it takes 2,000 5,000 liters of water to produce on person's recommended daily food intake. In addition, 40 percent of the world's food production is due to irrigated agriculture, yet, 10 percent of that mismanaged and has poor drainage.[73]

- *Effects on the Water Cycle:* Since 1990, the world has last more than half of its wetlands. Between 1991 and 2000, 2,557 natural disasters occurred worldwide, 90 percent of which, were water-related events.[74]

Although some countries have completed or are well on their way to meet targets established by the MDGs, many have fallen behind. In 2008, the only countries to reach the UN target of Official Development Assistance (ODA) were Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden. By encouraging more countries to work together, the world will stand a fighting chance of tackling these MDGs and specifically, addressing the impact of climate change on water resources.[75] All member States who strive to achieve these goals can do so by awareness and implementing environmentally sustainable policies on the community, regional, and national levels. All member States successful in achieving the MDGs, especially Goal 7 should also be encouraged to assist those nations that are struggling to accomplish such. Furthermore, all countries should be encouraged to acknowledge and carry out the Kyoto Protocol. Since the Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012, all countries should continue to contribute to environmental sustainability and reducing the risks climate change has on water resources by acknowledging UNEP's Medium-Term Strategies 2010-2013.

Conclusion

Particularly throughout the last decade, it has become increasingly evident that climate change has had a significant impact on water resources, especially in *access* to water. UNDP has warned that the number of people impacted by the lack of clean and sanitary water resources will only continue to grow and spread the epidemic of malnutrition and disease unless we, as a global community, learn to adapt. There are an array of programs that are being implemented in certain areas, while others are still suffering from this impact. Through the implementation of UN initiatives such as the Kyoto Protocol, MTS, WWAP, UN-REDD, and global commitment to addressing the issues

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[68] United Nations World Water Assessment Programme. *Climate Change and Water*, 2009, p. 2.
    http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001863/186318e.pdf
[69] *Ibid.* p. 14.
[70] United Nations Water. *Statistics: Graphs and Maps,* n.d. http://www.unwater.org/statistics.html
[71] *Ibid.*
[72] *Ibid.*
[73] *Ibid.*
[74] *Ibid.*
[75] United Nations World Water Assessment Programme. *Water for the Millennium Development Goals,* n.d.
    http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/facts_figures/mdgs.shtml

created by climate change, perhaps a sustainable future featuring both the absence of water-related vulnerabilities and universal access to clean water can be achieved.

Questions to Consider

As you prepare for the upcoming conference, allow the following questions guide you in your research on this topic:

- UNEP has already produced and implemented the Kyoto Protocol, how can the UNDP see to it that the Protocol be further implemented through the MDGs?

- How will underdeveloped and developing countries are able to benefit from battling climate change? What can they do to help? Can we prioritize the need for accessibility of fresh water?

- How will tackling climate change for the purpose of increasing quality water resources have an impact on the achievement of the other MDGs? How can UNDP further track and control the mismanagement of water resources?

II. HIV/AIDS and its Impact in Conflict Afflicted Situations

"We must chart a bold path, never forgetting those who died too soon, and always keeping foremost in mind those who will enjoy healthier, longer lives thanks to the commitments we make and the actions we take."[76]

Introduction

The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) epidemic represents one of today's most profound challenges in improving global health and development and ensuring peace and security worldwide. For every person who begins treatment for HIV, two more are infected and recent studies estimate that 7,000 people are infected with the virus every day.[77] At the end of 2010, 34 million people were living with HIV and nearly 30 million have died from Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) related causes since the first case was diagnosed in 1981.[78] Widespread and persistent global efforts to address and eradicate the HIV/AIDS epidemic have subsequently yielded many positive outcomes. Reports from the past two years show that these efforts have led to a worldwide decrease in the number of new infections, by as much as 19% since 1999.[79] Concentrated regional programs have also made notable progress, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa, where increased access to treatment and HIV prevention programs have resulted in 22 nations reducing HIV incident rates by more than 25% since 2001.[80] The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) aims to reduce global infection rates even further and has developed strategies to "achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support" and "halt and reverse the spread of HIV and contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals" (MDGs) by 2015.[81]

While notable progress has been made, there are still many complex challenges, both short and long-term, facing countries and people affected by HIV/AIDS. In developing countries, HIV/AIDS can have an enormously detrimental effect on economic and social development, particularly for states already affected by conflict. There are an estimated 200 million people affected annually by humanitarian crises.[82] Political instability and conflicts can lead to economic crises, induce poverty and present overwhelming challenges to nations involved. Studies suggest that fragile states- countries in the process of recovering from a conflict or in jeopardy of descending into conflict-

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[76] Ki-moon, *AIDS at 30; Nations at the crossroads,* 2011, p. 7. http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/unaidspublications/2011/
[77] Sidibé, *Waking the lion: Development opportunities in an emerging Africa.* 2011, p. 2.
http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/unaidsspeeches/2011/
[78] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *AIDS at 30; Nations at the crossroads,* 2011, p. 75.
http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/unaidspublications/2011/
[79] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *Global Report: UNAIDS report on the global AIDS epidemic,* 2010, p. 7.
http://www.unaids.org/globalreport/Global_report.htm
[80] *Ibid,* p. 8.
[81] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *Getting to Zero: UNAIDS 2011-2015 Strategy,* 2010, p. 8-11.
http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/unaidspublication/2010/JC2034_UNAIDS_Strategy_en.pdf
[82] Forced Migration Review, *Forced Migration Review: HIV/AIDS, security and conflict: making the connections,* 2010, p. 3.
http://www.fmreview.org/AIDS/Sadik.htm

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contain one third of the people living with HIV/AIDS.[83] Nations recovering from conflict often face considerable challenges, such as collapsed infrastructure and shortage of skilled workers, which can have disastrous effects on the nation's ability to treat people with HIV/AIDS and effectuate HIV prevention programs.[84] In such situations, HIV/AIDS not only has lasting effects on individuals and families touched by the illness, it is also severely detrimental to human development and can have extensive social ramifications. HIV/AIDS, being at the same time a cause and an effect of poverty and underdevelopment, presents a challenge to human security and human development in conflict afflicted situations.

Background: HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS inflicts substantial emotional and financial strain on individuals, families and national health systems and reduces life expectancy. According to UNAIDS:

> *"HIV is a virus (of the type called retrovirus) that infects cells of the human immune system (mainly CD4 positive T cells and macrophages—key components of the cellular immune system), and destroys or impairs their function. Infection with this virus results in the progressive deterioration of the immune system, leading to 'immune deficiency'. The immune system is considered deficient when it can no longer fulfill its role of fighting off infections and diseases. Immunodeficient people are more susceptible to a wide range of infections, most of which are rare among people without immune deficiency. Infections associated with severe immunodeficiency are known as 'opportunistic infections', because they take advantage of a weakened immune system.*
> *AIDS stands for 'acquired immunodeficiency syndrome' and is a surveillance definition based on signs, symptoms, infections, and cancers associated with the deficiency of the immune system that stems from infection with HIV."[85]*

HIV/AIDS is transmitted most commonly through having unprotected sex with an infected partner, but it can also be transmitted through contact with infected blood.[86] Women can transmit HIV to their babies during pregnancy or birth, or through breast milk.[87]

There is no vaccine or cure for HIV/AIDS, although antiretroviral (ARV) drugs, which can be given to newly infected people as well as to AIDS patients, have been a major factor in dramatically reducing the number of deaths as a result of AIDS.[88] In 2011, the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN052) released a study conclusively showing that if an HIV-positive person adheres to an effective antiretroviral therapy (ART) regimen, the risk of transmitting the virus to their uninfected sexual partner can be substantially reduced by 96%.[89] While the effectiveness of antiretroviral drugs has been lauded worldwide, the issue of access to these drugs, especially in developing countries, remains to be a considerable issue.[90] Of the estimated 15 million people living with HIV in developing countries in need of antiretroviral drugs, 5.2 million actually have access to treatment.[91] It can be even more difficult to ensure ART is delivered to people in need during and after periods of conflict. As discussed during the HIV/AIDS Conflict and Displacement Conference, hosted by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), periods of conflict and post-conflict present a myriad of challenges to humanitarian aid workers: "Conflict impedes logistics and distributions of goods, which can then further exacerbate conflict... Other areas of constraint are insufficient resources, capacity and logistics; restrictive

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[83] Oswald, *Delivering health services in fragile states and difficult environments,* 2007, p. 23. http://www.eldis.org/assets/Docs/36398.html
[84] *Ibid.* p. 28-29.
[85] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *Fast facts about HIV,* 2008, p. 1. http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/factsheets/
[86] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *Fast facts about HIV prevention,* 2008, p. 1.
        http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/factsheets/
[87] *Ibid.*
[88] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *Fast facts about HIV treatment,* 2009, p. 1.
        http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/factsheets/
[89] HIV Prevention Trials Network, *HPTN052 study summary*, n.d. http://www.hptn.org/research_studies/hptn052.asp
[90] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). *Global Report: UNAIDS report on the global AIDS epidemic, 2010,* p. 95.
        http://www.unaids.org/globalreport/Global_report.htm
[91] *Ibid.* p. 96.

policies; insufficient political will; concentration of treatment facilities/ sites in urban areas; and discrimination and exclusion."[92]

HIV/AIDS, Conflict and Security

During war and conflict, civilians often endure mass displacement, human rights abuses and are left in conditions of poverty that can exacerbate the HIV/AIDS epidemic.[93] Subsequent post-conflict transitions can also be periods of heightened vulnerability to HIV transmission and sexual violence.[94] HIV/AIDS does not cause wars on its own; however, it does pose serious threats to security and peace-building efforts including threats to economic, personal, national and international security.

Unlike many diseases, HIV/AIDS affects adults during the most productive part of their lives.[95] It threatens social and economic progress due to the depletion of a skilled workforce.[96] Studies even argue that HIV/AIDS lowers national gross domestic product (GDP) growth by up to 1.5% annually.[97] An analysis completed by the World Bank postured that "at the end of a 20-year period, GDP would be 67% lower than it would have been in the absence of AIDS."[98] Future generations are also severely affected when adults contract HIV/AIDS as the epidemic can negatively affect both the demand for and supply of education. Studies show that children affected by the epidemic, due to their own infection or parental illness or death, are less likely to receive an education, further deteriorating economic potential in affected regions.[99]

As the percentage of adults who become fatally ill rises (some countries reach a staggering 20%) the economic well-being and security of families affected can plummet.[100] Treatment and health-care costs related to HIV/AIDS consume household incomes and can cause families to sink into poverty.[101] Such economic strife and the lack of a skilled workforce can have detrimental effects to the peaceful stability of a region. For example, in the absence of a robust skilled workforce, agricultural production and food supply can become fragile, educational systems can collapse and basic infrastructure can deteriorate.[102] Gaps in resources can cause communities to break apart, divisions among ethnic and social groups to be exacerbated and potential economic migration.

Regional HIV/AIDS epidemics can directly affect police capability and thus affect the stability of entire regions.[103] In the past, studies indicated that military forces in Africa had infection rates as high as five times that of the civilian population.[104] Such figures can cause confidence in national institutions and local government to break down and influence security in the region affected. The absence of a skilled workforce can also strain numerous resources in communities, from hospitals and social services to schools and businesses.[105] Some of the most affected countries

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[92] United Nations, *HIV/AIDS, conflict and displacement: Conference report on the XVI International AIDS Conference,* 2006, p. 38. http://www.unhcr.org/45a4bf224.html

[93] United Nations Security Council, *Maintenance of international peace and security: Impact of HIV/AIDS epidemic on international peace and security, (S/PV.6547),* 2011, p. 14-16. http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/scact2011.htm

[94] *Ibid*, p. 17-19.

[95] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *Getting to Zero: UNAIDS 2011-2015 Strategy,* 2010, p. 17. http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/unaidspublication/2010/JC2034_UNAIDS_Strategy_en.pdf

[96] Bonnel, *HIV/AIDS and Economic Growth: A Global Perspective,* 2000, p. 823. http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1813-6982.2000.tb01282.x/abstract

[97] Hecht, *Putting it Together: AIDS and the Millennium Development Goals,* 2006, p. 2. http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTHEALTHNUTRITIONANDPOPULATION/EXTHIVAIDS/0,,contentMDK:20246897~menuPK:376491~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:376471,00.html

[98] *Ibid.*

[99] Boutayeb, *The impact of HIV/AIDS on human development in African countries,* 2009, p. 7-8. http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/9/S1/S3

[100] Hecht, *Putting it Together: AIDS and the Millennium Development Goals,* 2006, p. 2. http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTHEALTHNUTRITIONANDPOPULATION/EXTHIVAIDS/0,,contentMDK:20246897~menuPK:376491~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:376471,00.html

[101] Boutayeb, *The impact of HIV/AIDS on human development in African countries,* 2009, p. 5-7. http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/9/S1/S3

[102] United Nations Development Programme, *The 'AIDS and MDGs' Approach: What is it, why does it matter, and how do we take it forward?,* 2011, p. 21. http://content.undp.org/go/cms-service/stream/asset/?asset_id=2790401

[103] International Crisis Group, *HIV/AIDS as a security issue*, 2001. http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/africa/001-hiv-aids-as-a-security-issue.aspx

[104] *Ibid.*

[105] *Ibid.*

have lost more than 15% of their healthcare workforce due to AIDS.[106] These diminished capacities and productivity can be felt on a macroeconomic scale.[107] Internationally, HIV/AIDS epidemics both contribute to international security challenges and undermine international capacity to resolve conflicts by rendering nations unable to participate in peacekeeping operations.[108]

Conflict and Displacement: Vulnerable Populations at risk

According to the 1951 Refugee Convention, "A refugee is a person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country."[109] Displacement has tremendous effects on the lives of people who have had to leave their home country, as well as the communities that host them. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees frequently have limited (if any) access to health services during their migrations.[110] While there has been improvement in ARV and ART availability to low- and middle-income countries, very few refugees and IDPs are given access due to the fact that host countries are already overburdened by the impact of HIV/AIDS.[111]

During periods of conflict, post-conflict and displacement, women and children become highly vulnerable to the risk of HIV.[112] Women and girls are often pressured to exchange sexual services for money, food or protection as they struggle to meet their basic needs in conflict afflicted situations.[113] Due to the necessity of their migration, IDPs and refugees can be at a higher risk of gender-based violence, including rape, and can therefore increase their risk of contracting HIV.[114] Recognizing the critical and urgent need to address the issues of sexual and gender based violence against women, Secretary-General Ban ki-Moon addressed the Security Council during its review of the impact of HIV/AIDS epidemic on international peace and security:

> *"We have to talk about sensitive issues when it comes to HIV and AIDS. We must be frank about where we are falling short…rape is still a weapon of choice. This is an atrocious human rights violation. It is a war crime. And it is a public health threat. Women and girls are extremely vulnerable as victims but, more than that, they are agents of progress and change. I urge all members to link efforts to combat HIV and AIDS with our campaigns against sexual violence and for the rights of women. That means addressing the dangerous interaction between AIDS, the international drug trade, sex trafficking and the abuse of women. This problem is not getting the attention it deserves."[115]*

Children are also particularly vulnerable to the threat of HIV/AIDS in affected communities and conflict-afflicted situations. Children that have lost both of their parents, due to either death or separation, are extremely vulnerable to sexual and physical violence and exploitation during periods of conflict and post-conflict.[116] They are also at increased risk of contracting HIV if their mother was infected at the time of birth.[117] The majority of children living with HIV acquired the virus through perinatal transmission, the period directly before (around five months) and after

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[106] Boutayeb, *The impact of HIV/AIDS on human development in African countries,* 2009, p. 6. http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/9/S1/S3

[107] *Ibid.* p. 5-8.

[108] International Crisis Group, *HIV/AIDS as a security issue*, 2001. http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/africa/001-hiv-aids-as-a-security-issue.aspx

[109] United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, *The 1951 Refugee Convention,* 1951, p. 3. http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49da0e466.html

[110] United Nations, Security Council, *Maintenance of international peace and security: Impact of HIV/AIDS epidemic on international peace and security, (S/PV.6547),* 2011, p. 3.

[111] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, *Policy Brief: HIV and Refugees,* 2007, p. 1. http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2007/february/20070223hivandrefugees/

[112] *Ibid.,* p. 2.

[113] *Ibid.*

[114] United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, *Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees, and Internally Displaced Persons,* 2003, p. 20. http://www.unicef.org/emerg/files/gl_sgbv03.pdf

[115] United Nations Security Council, *Maintenance of international peace and security: Impact of HIV/AIDS epidemic on international peace and security, (S/PV.6547),* 2011, p. 4. http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/scact2011.htm

[116] United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, *Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees, and Internally Displaced Persons,* 2003, p. 72. http://www.unicef.org/emerg/files/gl_sgbv03.pdf

[117] Hecht, *Putting it Together: AIDS and the Millennium Development Goals,* 2006, p. 3-4. http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTHEALTHNUTRITIONANDPOPULATION/EXTHIVAIDS/0,,contentMDK:20246897~menuPK:376491~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:376471,00.html

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(around one month) birth.[118] Several studies have demonstrated that children born to mothers with HIV are approximately three times more likely to die than children born to mothers not infected with the virus.[119] For children infected with HIV, the outlook is grim. Past studies have shown that around 60% of children with HIV die before their fifth birthday.[120]

International Framework

In the past, the issue of HIV/AIDS was largely considered to be a global health crisis and an issue of development.[121] Frameworks and adequate guidelines on addressing and preventing HIV/AIDS in conflict-afflicted situations had yet to be developed.[122] In recent years, the tone and focus of numerous international organizations and bodies have come to include and recognize HIV/AIDS as a serious threat to security, especially in conflict-afflicted situations.

In 1996, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in conjunction with Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) founded and co-sponsored the creation of the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).[123] In 2002, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) also became co-sponsors of the program and began advocating for HIV strategies, policies and interventions to be included in humanitarian emergencies.[124] UNDP also addresses HIV/AIDS and its relationship to "development planning and mainstreaming; governance of HIV responses; and law, human rights, gender equality and sexual diversity."[125] In addition, the UNDP collaborates with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, an organization established to increase resources to combat the three diseases worldwide.[126] UNAIDS, meant to strengthen efforts of the UN to address and prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS, has become a key participant in advocating for effective coordinated and global action on the epidemic.[127] UNAIDS develops comprehensive five year strategies to tackle current issues caused by HIV/AIDS. The current strategy for 2011-2015 (adopted in December 2010) includes the following goals and targets:

> "*Sexual transmission of HIV reduced by half, including among young people, men who have sex with men and transmission in the context of sex work; Vertical transmission of HIV eliminated, and AIDS-related maternal mortality reduced by half; All new HIV infections prevented among people who use drugs; Universal access to antiretroviral therapy for people living with HIV who are eligible for treatment; TB deaths among people living with HIV reduced by half; People living with HIV and households affected by HIV are addressed in all national social protection strategies and have access to essential care and support; Countries with punitive laws and practices around HIV transmission, sex work, drug use or homosexuality that block effective responses reduced by half; HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence eliminated in half of the countries that have such restrictions; HIV-specific needs of women and girls are addressed in at least half of all national HIV responses; and Zero tolerance for gender-based violence.*"[128]

The United Nations has also adopted several pertinent resolutions demonstrating an international commitment to combating HIV/AIDS in conflict-afflicted situations. The first resolution to address the impact of HIV/AIDS on

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[118] *Ibid.* p. 3.
[119] *Ibid.* p. 3-4.
[120] *Ibid.* p. 3.
[121] United Nations Development Programme, *The 'AIDS and MDGs' Approach: What is it, why does it matter, and how do we take it forward?*, 2011, p. 4. http://content.undp.org/go/cms-service/stream/asset/?asset_id=2790401
[122] *Ibid.*
[123] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *UNAIDS: The First 10 years,* 2008., p. 5. http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2008/november/20081103tfty/
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[125] United Nations Development Programme, *HIV/AIDS: About us.* n.d. http://www.undp.org/hiv/about_us.shtml
[126] *Ibid.*
[127] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *UNAIDS: The First 10 years,* 2008., p. 3. http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2008/november/20081103tfty/
[128] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *Getting to Zero: UNAIDS 2011-2015 Strategy,* 2010, p. 7. http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/unaidspublication/2010/JC2034_UNAIDS_Strategy_en.pdf

global security was Security Council Resolution 1308 in 2000.[129] The resolution called for increased efforts to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, especially in peacekeeping operations.[130] Of the resolution, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted, "Before resolution 1308 (2000) was adopted, uniformed personnel were viewed in terms of the risk they might pose to civilians. We now understand that United Nations troops and police are part of prevention, treatment and care."[131] In 2001, the UN General Assembly, in a special session on HIV/AIDS, adopted the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, affirming goals of the international community to set common targets to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS and provide treatment, where needed.[132] In response to this Declaration, UNAIDS developed an initiative to specifically target security issues among vulnerable populations affected by conflict, including refugees, women and children.[133]

In 2011, the UN General Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to eradicate HIV/AIDS at the High-Level Meeting on AIDS, held in June to mark the 30th anniversary of the first reported case of HIV/AIDS in the United States as well as the tenth anniversary of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.[134] The 2011 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS upheld the 2001 Declaration and noted that the "HIV epidemic remains an unprecedented human catastrophe inflicting immense suffering on countries, communities and families throughout the world."[135] The 2011 Declaration also expressed commitment to ensure that programs serving populations particularly vulnerable to HIV infection, including women, girls, children and migrants, would continue to receive financial resources.[136]

In 2000, the international community developed eight goals with the intent to "free people from extreme poverty and multiple deprivations."[137] This "Millennium Declaration" and the goals created became known the Millennium Development Goals, to be achieved by 2015.[138] The goals include targets to address poverty, hunger, maternal and child mortality, environmental degradation, gender inequality and Goal Six specifically aims to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.[139] Within Goal Six, target 6A and 6B focus specifically on combating HIV/AIDS with the respective goals being to halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015 and achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it.[140] The 2010 Millennium Development Goals Report discussed the apparent stabilization of the spread of HIV, yet also acknowledged, "mounting evidence [showing] a link between gender-based violence and HIV" and that children orphaned by AIDS are at an increased risk of malnourishment, being subjected to child labor, abuse, neglect and sexual exploitations.[141]

There are several international organizations and instruments that specifically address sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted by the General Assembly in 1979, is considered to be an "international bill of rights for women…and it defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination."[142] The global issue of female-targeted violence was explicitly acknowledged for the fist time in 1993 when General Assembly ratified the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women.[143] In 2000, United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 emphasized the responsibility of States to end impunity for crimes against humanity and war crimes, including sexual and other forms of violence against women

[129] United Nations Security Council, *Security Council, adopting 'historic' resolution 1308 (2000) on HIV/AIDS, calls for pre-deployment testing, counseling for peacekeeping personnel (SC/6890),* 2000. http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2000/20000717.sc6890.doc.html
[130] *Ibid.*
[131] *Ibid.*
[132] United Nations General Assembly, *Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS*, 2001. http://www.un.org/ga/aids/coverage/index.html
[133] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *On the frontline: A review of policies and programmes to address HIV/AIDS among peacekeepers and uniformed services,* 2003, p. 9. http://data.unaids.org/publications/IRC-pub05/jc950-frontline_en.pdf
[134] United Nations General Assembly, *Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: Intensifying our Efforts to Eliminate HIV/AIDS (A/Res/65/L.77),* 2011, p. 1-2. http://www.un.org/en/ga/aidsmeeting2011/documents.shtml
[135] *Ibid.* p. 2.
[136] *Ibid.* p. 10.
[137] United Nations Development Programme, *The Millennium Development Goals: Eight goals for 2015,* n.d. http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/mdgoverview.html
[138] *Ibid.*
[139] *Ibid.*
[140] United Nations, *Millennium Development Goals. Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases,* n.d. http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/aids.shtml
[141] United Nations, *The Millennium Development Goals Report: 2010,* 2010, p. 44. http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/reports.shtml
[142] United Nations General Assembly, *Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women,* 1979. http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/
[143] United Nations General Assembly, *Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (A/Res/48/104),* 1993. http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r104.htm

and girls.[144] Despite these acknowledgements and pledges, the issue of sexual and gender based violence continues to be a major factor conflict afflicted situations, particularly the relationship to HIV/AIDS. During the Commission on the Status of Women's (CSW) session on women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS, Secretary- General Ban-Ki-Moon emphasized, "gender inequality continues to be one of the key drivers of HIV and AIDS."[145]

Conclusion

The international community has recognized the HIV/AIDS epidemic as a major crisis that warrants global collective action. This recognition and the subsequent worldwide efforts have allowed for numerous successes since the virus was first discovered over thirty years ago. Yet the United Nations continues to recognize the spread HIV/AIDS as a global crisis and crisis afflicted regions face even greater difficulties concerning the spread of HIV and access to ART and ARV. UNDP calls on states to "integrate HIV priorities into national planning and implementation processes; strengthen governance and coordination of HIV responses; promote human rights and gender equality; and respond to HIV in at risk populations."[146] While some programs and governments have been successful in their efforts to address the needs of people with HIV/AIDS in crisis-afflicted regions, there is still much work to be done. What's more, the global economic recession has caused a flattening of AIDS-specific donor funding, raising concerns about how governments and international organizations will continue to meet the growing demand for HIV programs while also sustaining the important gains already made.[147]

Questions to Consider

As you prepare for the upcoming conference, allow the following questions guide you in your research on this topic:

- How can access to ARV and ART be improved in conflict afflicted situations?

- What can the international community do to further address the needs of vulnerable populations during and after periods of conflict?

- Are there new programs that can be implemented, or should the focus be on scaling up current projects in place?

- How can UNDP work with local governments to ensure the safety of IDPs and refugees as well as improve the access of ART and ARV, where needed?

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[146] United Nations Development Programme. *HIV/AIDS overview.* n.d http://www.undp.org/hiv/about_us.shtml
[147] United Nations Development Programme, *The 'AIDS and MDGs' Approach: What is it, why does it matter, and how do we take it forward?*, 2011, p. 5. http://content.undp.org/go/cms-service/stream/asset/?asset_id=2790401

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