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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL PLENARY BACKGROUND GUIDE 2014

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NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS



NMUN•DC Position Papers Guidelines

Due 1 October 2014

Each committee topic should be addressed in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned country. You should identify and address international and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action that are relevant to the policy of your country. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee. A delegate's role as a Member State, Observer State, or NGO should affect the way a position paper is written. The [Delegate Preparation Guide](#) will provide you with additional information.

A position paper should be submitted for each assigned committee.

- The two page position paper should cover all the topics in the background guide, not a separate paper for each topic.
- Do not submit papers for committees not assigned to your country (see [DC matrix](#)).
- No more than two delegates can represent a single country in a committee. If you assign two delegates to represent a country on a committee, they submit one position paper jointly, not separate position papers from each individual.
- NMUN position papers are not cited as is required for an academic paper. They are written as if they are a policy statement coming from the foreign ministry. While they may reference UN data or past UN Resolutions, like in our samples, formal citations are not used.

Please pay careful attention to the following guidelines when drafting and submitting your position papers. Only those delegations that follow the guidelines and meet the submission deadline will be eligible for [position paper awards](#).

Follow the layout in our [Sample Position Paper](#) using the standards below:

- Length must not exceed two pages
- Margins must be set at 1 inch or 2.54 cm. for the whole paper
- Font must be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Country/NGO name, school name, and committee name must be clearly labeled on the first page
- Agenda topics must be clearly labeled in separate sections
- National symbols (headers, flags, etc.) are deemed inappropriate for NMUN position papers
- Convert your paper to pdf format

Please note that position papers must be comprised of entirely original writing. **NMUN will not tolerate plagiarism**, including copying from Committee Background Guides. Violation of this policy may result in dismissal from the conference. Although United Nations documentation is considered within the public domain, we do not allow the verbatim re-creation of these documents.

How to Submit Your Position Papers

- One person, preferably the faculty advisor or head delegate, should submit all papers from your delegation.
- Complete a separate form for each country/assignment.
- Use the committee name and your assignment in the filename (example: GA1_Cuba).
- Submit all papers as pdf documents.

Use the link on the [DC position paper page](#), following the guidelines above, to submit your position papers. If you have questions or concerns about the position paper submission process, please email the Secretary-General at secgen.dc@nmun.org. Please do not submit position papers to this email account.

If you are requesting an [Embassy Briefing](#), we encourage your delegation to also submit a copy of your position papers to the embassy for the country you've been assigned along with an explanation of the conference.

Many, many papers will be read by the Secretariat. Your patience and cooperation in adhering to the above guidelines is greatly appreciated.



Official Welcome

On behalf of the committee staff of the Economic and Social Council, we would like to welcome you to the 2014 National Model United Nations Washington, D.C. (NMUN•DC) Conference. This year, your Director will be Angela Shively, and your Assistant Director will be Tristan Rightnar. Angela is completing her BA in Political Science and International Affairs at the University of Houston while preparing for law school. This will be her seventh NMUN conference, fifth NMUN conference on staff, and second year on staff at NMUN•DC. In addition to her work with NMUN, Angela works for a non-profit organization that focuses on youth empowerment, the protection and conservation of animals, and environmental issues. Tristan completed his BA in European History and recently completed his Elementary Teaching Credential at the University of California, Riverside, and will start teaching Kindergarten in California in August 2014. This is his sixth year with NMUN, his second year on staff at NMUN, and first year at NMUN•DC.

Over the last year, everyone at NMUN•DC has worked diligently to prepare for our conference and to provide you with an unforgettable experience to build upon your knowledge of global affairs and diplomacy, and an opportunity to improve negotiation, oration, and writing skills. We have prepared this background guide to serve as an introduction to the topics you will discuss as a committee. However, this guide should only be a starting point for your research so you may represent your Member State and knowledge of the topics as diplomats and ambassadors of the United Nations. As passionate representatives of your Member States, we hope you will come prepared to engage in fascinating debates about the committee topics.

Please take note of the [NMUN Policies and Codes of Conduct](#) on the website and in the [Delegate Preparation Guide](#) regarding plagiarism, codes of conduct/dress code/sexual harassment, awards philosophy/evaluation method, etc. Adherence to these guidelines is mandatory. We wish you good luck in your preparation for the conference, and we look forward to meeting you in Washington, D.C. in October.

The NMUN•DC Staff

History of the Economic and Social Council Plenary

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) was founded in 1945 as one of the six principle bodies of the United Nations (UN) established in Chapter X of the *Charter of the United Nations*. ECOSOC is made up of 54 members, elected by the UN General Assembly (GA) based on regional blocs that serve three-year terms. ECOSOC has worked since its inception to provide a better future for the citizens of the globe; it has worked on a variety of issues, such as gender equality, food and water access, and disease mitigation, to achieve this goal. It has seen great successes especially in increasing access to water and combating food shortages. This is, in part, due to its partnership with over 3,900 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have non-voting observer status in ECOSOC. Additionally, ECOSOC has the full financial support of the UN System using 70% of both human and financial resources.

Tasked with the direct management of the global economic and social affairs of the UN, ECOSOC's mandate addresses a variety of topics in the areas of education, culture, health and human rights, and fundamental freedoms of all people. Within ECOSOC's mandate, the body has seven main functions: initiating studies and reports to gather and disseminate information; making recommendations to the GA, Member States, agencies, and bodies concerning economic and social issues; preparing draft conventions; calling conferences; coordinating subsidiary organizations; performing services at the request of both Member States, and ECOSOC's specialized agencies such as the Ad Hoc Advisory Group for Haiti; and establishing commissions. ECOSOC also directly supervises the work of its diverse subsidiary organizations, which includes mandating programs and areas of focus. Finally, ECOSOC works with the GA and Member States in an advisory role providing recommendations for the different issues brought to ECOSOC's attention.

ECOSOC meets for four-week sessions each July and also holds smaller regular meetings throughout the year with professionals, experts, and associated NGOs. The July sessions are held in New York and Geneva in alternating years. ECOSOC is governed using majority voting for substantive matters and is headed by the President of ECOSOC who is elected annually. In addition to the Plenary Committee, also known as the General Meeting, and

the President, ECOSOC has many subsidiary bodies, including functional commissions such as the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. There are five regional commissions for Europe, Africa, Western Asia, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Additionally, there are 14 specialized agencies that ECOSOC partners with such as: the World Health Organization (WHO), coordinating on health issues especially disease prevention and maternal health; the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), which focuses on developing economies, especially in least developed countries; and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), who partners with ECOSOC in providing both emergency and long term relief to children in a variety of situations.

There are three main programs implemented by ECOSOC to achieve its mandate: the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the post-2015 development agenda, and the Developmental Cooperation Forum (DCF). The MDGs and the post-2015 development agenda are both directly managed and implemented by ECOSOC. In turn, ECOSOC assigns implementation tasks to its subsidiary bodies – such as maternal health to WHO with support from the CSW, – and ensures these bodies are making progress. Additionally, ECOSOC manages the DCF, which monitors trends and progress in international development through partnerships with NGOs and public-private partnerships. The DCF helps connect different organizations with each other with the intention that they can share strategies and provide more involved assistance with development issues. ECOSOC also holds the Annual Ministerial Review, which identifies strengths and challenges in its programs for continuing global development and seeks to review the holistic work of ECOSOC. Importantly, in all of these programs, ECOSOC is moving towards regional and local financial solutions to promote economic growth and is trending away from direct aid solutions. This move is largely due to evidence of direct aid programs negatively impacting local economies.

Since the 2005 World Summit, ECOSOC has redoubled its efforts to promote its mandate around the globe and has substantially bridged the gap between developed and least developed countries through continued support of both local and global programs. Additionally, in 2014, ECOSOC has placed greater focus on the areas of urbanization and strengthening local funding methods – by both increasing investments and reforming taxation – while staying strongly committed to sustainable development, gender equality, and health issues. Further, ECOSOC hosts annually the Youth Forum, which addresses a variety of topics and considers them from the perspective and in the best interest of today's youth. The 2014 agenda especially focuses on youth employment and expanding the voice youth have in implementing the post-2015 development agenda. During the 2014 agenda, ECOSOC has successfully worked on developing global tax cooperation as well as advancing gender mainstreaming as a focal point for all future UN actions.

I. Reducing Inequality in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Is a global, regional, local or a mixed response to inequality the most efficient method to reduce and eliminate poverty?
- How can the UN and ECOSOC provide for better distribution of wealth without removing investment incentives in developing countries?
- In what ways can the UN and ECOSOC better provide education to at risk groups, such as: girls, indigenous peoples, and children with disabilities?

Inequality is the difference of situations we experience based on uncontrollable circumstances, such as: gender, race, and socioeconomic status. Inequality is increasingly becoming a severe difficulty in the effective implementation of the vast array of programs the United Nations (UN) and its Member States is implementing. It is not an uncommon sight in the developing world to find slums with hundreds of thousands of people next to large resorts and vast estates. Inequality in development is a problem not restricted to least developed countries (LDCs). In fact, inequality affects every country from the five permanent Member States of the Security Council to the LDCs.

Inequality in development comes in multiple forms including but not limited to: wealth, gender, political participation, education, and health. Wealth inequality limits the available opportunities to those most in need. Gender inequality, and especially women's political participation, is one example of how inequality affects every country globally. The European parliament is only 35% women, and restrictions get more extreme around the world. In Yemen, women are not permitted to leave the house without permission from their husband, innately stifling any attempt at political participation. These examples of discrepancies show that those most affected by inequality are

often the people most in need of the benefits of development, capacity building, and sustainability in their communities. However, the distribution of wealth has led to a substantial portion of these populations not having access to the resources necessary to lift them out of poverty. Those with high incomes have almost exclusively benefited from the increase in wealth globally and the benefits of development; this has resulted in wealth which has become heavily concentrated in specific communities. At present, the current economic situation is that the top 1% of the global population owns 40% of the world's wealth while the bottom 50% of the population owns only 1%.

To address the growing disparities present with development, the UN General Assembly (GA) adopted resolution 55/2 on 18 September 2000 to establish the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs responded to a growing call around the globe to reduce inequalities and promote development by the global community for the most vulnerable populations. Starting in 2000, the MDGs are comprised of eight main areas of concern the UN wants to show substantial improvement in by 2015. The eight goals were selected as areas that are most imperative for the promotion of human rights and the creation of economic growth. The MDGs have seen some success in the global fight against poverty, though not completely. Extreme poverty, individuals living below the international poverty line of \$1.25 per day, has been cut in half. There has also been substantial growth in access to education globally – surpassing 80% enrollment in primary education. However, the global recession of 2008-2009 left lingering difficulties in the promotion of development and the progress of the MDGs.

While there has been some success with extreme poverty eradication, the poorest regions have only seen limited success shown by the MDG indicators. Africa has only seen poverty drop from 58% to 51% between 1990 and 2005. MDGs 2 and 6 face major shortcomings, especially when looked at in terms of inequality of implementation. In the area of education, 69 million primary school aged children are not enrolled in school – almost half of which are located in sub-Saharan Africa (31 million). There has also been a 69% increase in the population with HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. Cholera has seen an increase of infections in the Americas as well. This region has historically not been greatly affected by the disease. In 2009, less than 2% of cholera cases occurred outside Africa. Now, 49% occur in the Americas, most of which are in Haiti.

Several years ago, it became clear the MDGs would not be met by the 2015 deadline. Recognizing this, the international community, through the Rio+20 Conference and ECOSOC's Development Cooperation Forum, created the post-2015 development agenda – a plan for continued work beyond 2015. The post-2015 development agenda will be developed by each UN organization, linking it to their specific mandate. ECOSOC's responsibility is to provide guidance and create overarching goals for the entire UN system working on the post-2015 development agenda. Unique to the post-2015 development agenda is its focus on promoting economic development, specifically at the local level as opposed to the international level like the MDGs. In this regard, ECOSOC works towards greater investments in education, healthcare, and business locally, which will in turn generate wealth that will be invested back into these areas.

Inequality has led to a variety of shortcoming in the success of the MDGs particularly in relation to women and economic development. For example, women are unable to reach the same income levels of men; and there is a shortfall in women's wealth, the percentage of wealth that men hold over the amount of wealth women hold is above 22%. This limits women's ability to participate in the economy and in the political process as well as provide for better healthcare for themselves and their families. Gender parity outside of Western Europe and East Asia also has not been reached. Maternal mortality risk is still 1 in 30 women in sub-Saharan Africa. ECOSOC's most successful programs for reducing this inequality have all drawn on local strengths. For example, women have seen major gains in Africa due to focusing on strengthening women's participation in the informal economy – occupations outside standard industries and the public sector. Maternal health has also benefited from this. Empowering and educating midwives has helped reduce maternal mortality while also substantially expanding an industry dominated by women.

An additional limiting factor to development is a phenomenon known as "brain drain." This is when highly skilled and/or educated people emigrate from a country due to lack of opportunity, security, or low wages. This inhibits effective implementation of the post-2015 development agenda locally as it will be difficult to provide the necessary support for regions on the ground and to give ownership of the process to the local populations. Furthermore, if the people best able to implement the programs from local populations emigrate, further develop of the regional economy will suffer thus again hindering the capacity of said economy to grow sustainably. With the MDGs, there was little incentive for those who have benefited from development programs to stay in their country or region. In

the post-2015 development agenda, ECOSOC is seeking to increase the benefits of the agenda and reduce the loss of these people from local communities.

The social welfare program in Brazil Bolsa Família has seen improvement in reducing inequality through poverty reduction. The program gives money to families meeting specified criteria to assist them in purchasing essentials like food. The families must have vaccinated their children and enrolled school-aged children in school. They must also be under the local poverty line. The money is generally given to the female caregiver in the family to ensure appropriate usage. This program has led to a 20% drop in inequality indicators, and of the participating families, 82% report better eating. This program helps reward families that have not been able to move out of poverty but have demonstrated an effort to improve the lives of their children. By focusing on children of these families, Bolsa Família is helping to mitigate inequality in future generations and create ownership within local communities toward their improvement. This has proven to be so successful that since its inception in 2003 over 20 countries have adopted this program, including the United States in New York City. This represents the first-ever social welfare program that a developed country has modeled after a developing country's development program.

As the leading body on the post-2015 development agenda, ECOSOC must take an active role in its effective implementation. ECOSOC must take action to ensure all persons experience the positive impacts of development. This can best be addressed by supporting local initiatives that provide financial support for individuals and families. Additionally, providing incentives for educated and highly skilled people to remain in their communities in order to promote development will lessen brain drain. For example, APLE Grant in California, United States, repays a portion of teacher's student loans that work in low-income schools for five years. ECOSOC can also look toward supporting infrastructure development in LDCs to stimulate economic development, opening access to markets for those in rural regions, incentivizing and increasing ease of tourism and shortening travel time to services. For many years, ECOSOC has supported these programs through its own subsidiary bodies. Going forward, ECOSOC should look to integrate best practices from its success and lessons learned from the MDGs to reduce inequality in the post-2015 development agenda. ECOSOC is dedicated to addressing these needs on behalf of the global community and while much work has been made, recognizes more work is necessary.

II. Evaluating Long-Term Support for Haiti

- How can ECOSOC contribute to recovery and reconstruction efforts in Haiti?
- In what ways can Haiti and its citizens be empowered by the international community to fulfill some of its own reconstruction goals?
- Keeping in mind the overarching humanitarian aid efforts geared toward assisting Haiti, is there a human rights approach that could be implemented to assist in socioeconomic advancement and sustainability?

Many years of poverty, violence, political strife, instability, environmental degradation, and heinous weather and natural disasters due to a susceptible geographic location have negatively impacted Haiti. The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) created the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti with resolution 1999/4 on 7 May 1999 to evaluate and make recommendations to the Haitian government in regards to stabilization, socioeconomic recovery, and development. Many of Haiti's obstacles and challenges have been exacerbated, and new challenges arose with the earthquake of 12 January 2010. ECOSOC focused on recovery through humanitarian assistance and meeting the basic needs of the population, such as: health concerns ranging from food assistance to cholera treatment to prenatal care; infrastructure reconstruction and development including airports, solar lighting, and street paving; disaster preparedness; economic and financial sustainability from the national level; and enriching civil society for sustainability and development. However, continued focus and a significant amount of work from the international community – including resolving the current shortfalls of humanitarian assistance funding – are needed for Haiti's development and reconstruction.

ECOSOC works in conjunction with the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General, the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Member States, intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). MINUSTAH has worked on peace, security, and stabilization issues in Haiti since 2004 and continues to strive for security so that the national government, UN bodies, and NGOs may contribute to the wide-ranging development needs of the country. The Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti monitors

and evaluates Haiti's recovery and reconstructions. To continue recovery efforts for Haiti, the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti was extended in 2013 with ECOSOC resolution 2013/15. Ultimately, the group highlights Haiti's needs and makes suggestions to ECOSOC and the UN annually on subjects of economics, social needs, rule of law and security, and development. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), which receives policy guidance from the General Assembly and ECOSOC, also contributes to ECOSOC's work in Haiti by strategizing on several aspects of socioeconomic recovery and development. This includes matters of poverty reduction on micro and macroeconomic levels. Through strategic plans of action for recovery and development provided by UNFPA, ECOSOC may measure, monitor, and make suggestions on the socioeconomic needs of public and private sectors for poverty reduction.

The 2013 *Report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti* addresses several significant issues that illustrate the need for ECOSOC's continued involvement in Haiti. The report states that roughly 75% of the population lives on less than \$2 per day, and only 25% of the population has access to and utilizes improved sanitation facilities. Also, more than half of Haiti's national budget is dependent on international support. Further, around 2 million people are in need of official documents such as birth certificates. Identification documents are required for government assistance programs, employment, business creation, and purposes contributing to stabilizing civil society and reconstructing the country. It is especially difficult to obtain documentation for rural citizens, which are significantly more impoverished than urban citizens because of transportation restraints, lack of infrastructure, and understaffed government offices. Additionally, land management systems and structural evaluation systems for residential and commercial buildings are significantly underdeveloped. This affects businesses, economic growth, the ability of people to find and reside in adequate housing, and agricultural productivity. Credit rates are significantly high and microfinance opportunities are extremely limited, making small business creation and entrepreneurship impossible, especially for rural areas that would benefit most from microfinance. Weak commercial codes, regulatory frameworks, and administrative practices hinder business creation and facilitation. Haiti is concerned with the development and growth of its civil servants such as police officers and hopes to reach 15,000 total police officers in 2016. Adolescent and youth education and empowerment is also a significant concern for the long-term development and reconstruction of the country as the national government has set a goal to be recognized as an emerging country by the year 2030. ECOSOC is tasked with evaluating and supplying support to Haiti with global partners in order to overcome this daunting list of problems and assist with the state's goals.

Given all of the issues inhibiting Haiti's development, ECOSOC is focused on encouraging international collaboration to support the country and its own initiatives for reconstruction and development. In ECOSOC's resolution 2013/15, the body and the Ad Hoc Advisory Group commended the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Development of Haiti by the national government and recommitted its support to Haiti obtaining stability in political, social, and economic concerns, as well as in rule of law. Improved rule of law in Haiti is significant to ECOSOC as the body is concerned with peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and capacity building for Member States that have suffered from conflict and natural disaster such as Haiti. Haiti is in need of a sustainable, respected rule of law to provide for the protection of human rights and the strengthening of a justice system for the entire population. In terms of humanitarian aid, ECOSOC welcomed the External Aid Coordination Framework for the Development of Haiti from the country's Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation for accountability between the country, donors, and partners as Haiti is still very dependent on fiscal contributions.

Since 2010, Haiti's population has suffered from a cholera outbreak. The disease results from bacteria causing an infection of the small intestine leading to severe and ultimately lethal symptoms if left untreated. ECOSOC is committed to action in resolving the epidemic, and ECOSOC resolution 2013/15 invites donations for the Plan for the Elimination of Cholera in Haiti. Heated debates and legal actions have occurred because of the UN's suspected culpability in the introduction of the cholera epidemic after the 2010 earthquake by UN humanitarian aid workers and peacekeepers. As of November 2013, there were a total of 700,000 cases of cholera since the onset of the epidemic. In the 2013 calendar year, Haiti had nearly 60,000 new cases and 610 deaths due to the disease while the rest of the world had a total of 30,266 new cases of cholera and 573 deaths. It has been predicted that by the end of 2014 there will be 45,000 reported new cases in Haiti. While cholera treatment is considerably affordable and possible, treatment centers have been disbanded and nothing has been done with the infrastructure due to "donor fatigue." Haiti's national government created a 10-year, \$2.2 billion action plan to eliminate cholera along with a 2-year, \$448 million operational component. Less than half of the \$448 million has been raised for the 2-year phase of the plan. The UN in Haiti published a plan to support the implementation of the 2014-2015 section of the government's 10-year plan. The plan strategizes the elimination of cholera through epidemiology, health promotion,

medical treatment, and improved water and sanitation infrastructure with the hope of eliminating the epidemic by 2022. This goal is exceedingly optimistic for several reasons: the high rates of infection; the donor fatigue of the international community; the inability for the government to create and manage water and sanitation infrastructure; and Haiti's inability to provide medical treatment to citizens independently with so many significant issues outside of this particular epidemic.

Haiti continues to face an extensive number of obstructions to its reconstruction and ability to function without international support. At the national level, political stability, rule of law, economic stability, and adequate civil servants are required to provide a functional society. The country is in need of further urban and rural sustainable development and capacity building for the government and local population. On the social level, people are in need of security and reinforced human rights, healthcare, adequate housing, job creation, education, and other basic and essential needs. Keeping in mind ECOSOC's mandate, it should be considered in what manner and to what extent ECOSOC can further assist in meeting the long-term needs of Haiti. Beyond securing additional funding, new ways to fuel Haiti's reconstruction, especially through a human rights and developmental approach, is a much needed action pivotal to Haiti's recovery and achievement of development goals.

III. Leveraging Science, Technology, and Innovation for Today's Youth

- In what ways can science, technology, and innovation be used to the maximum advantages for youth, and how will those advantages impact micro- and macro-level socioeconomic conditions?
- What regions would benefit from the creation of technological education institutions? How can youth be ensured the means to attend school in these specialized areas?
- How do science, technology, and innovation impact the future of youth? What impacts can youth's participation in science, technology, and innovation, as well as information and communication technologies have on the post-2015 development agenda?

The International Telecommunication Unit (ITU) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) report that 25% of the world's population is between 12 and 25 years of age through a collaboration series of the United Nations (UN) Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development and the Focal Point on Youth under the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). Nearly 40% of that age group lives on less than \$2 per day. As of 2012, 75 million youth were unemployed, accounting for 41% of global unemployment – a significant crisis the International Labour Organization (ILO) does not anticipate improving until after 2016. The Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, Ahmad Alhendawi, has stated the widespread belief that youth, 1.2 billion people between age 12 and 25, have been left behind and continue to be deprived of opportunities to reach their potential. The world's youth are continuously disregarded and their voices are largely ignored regarding some of the most significant issues that directly affect or will affect their generation. This is especially true for women and children who are predominately disenfranchised. This is why engaging the world's youth in political, social, and economic issues is of concern to the United Nations (UN), the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), UNDESA and its Youth Social Policy and Development Division, as well as a number of subsidiary bodies and affiliated organizations. ECOSOC has been concerned with the evaluation of many significant youth issues, initiating dialogue with youth so that their voices will be heard, and developing policy for youth empowerment in the post-2015 development agenda.

As explained in the Secretary-General's April 2013 report "Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals," science, technology and innovation (STI) is the key to the future of development, sustainability, culture, environment, economic advancement, and education. Youth education and participation in STI is a concern for: poverty reduction through job creation and the ability to earn a substantial income; improving economic opportunity and stimulating economic growth through entrepreneurship, business development, and industrialization; increasing and promoting social inclusion and community through social media and networking; increasing political participation by making opinions known through electronic polling and social networking, thereby impacting public policy and leadership; and promoting renewable energy technologies such as solar generators to reduce energy poverty while mitigating climate change. ECOSOC's "Uniting for Youth Beyond 2015" Forum, the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) and the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth all similarly emphasize the importance of STI and education for shaping the future with access and utilization of computers, the Internet, robotics, programming, and other types

of hardware and software. The Secretary-General's report on "Proposed set of indicators for the World Programme of Action for Youth" addresses eight priority areas with special importance placed on education, employment, and information and communications technologies (ICTs). These three issue areas require the utmost attention from ECOSOC in order to leverage their power to the fullest for youth populations.

Pursuing this agenda from the grassroots level is key to ECOSOCs work in the post-2015 development agenda. Youth can use STI, which will be to the maximum advantage of the world, as it will create a highly skilled and specially trained generation capable of adapting in a growing workplace environment dependent on technology. Additionally, youth utilizing STI can positively impact their regions, countries, and local communities from the grassroots-level. STI can be used by youth to refine and redevelop their communities in all aspects of society and culture making medical, environmental, and educational advancements by integrating ICTs and STI into both their lives and their cultures. Further, the world's youth stands to benefit on a personal level through literacy from digital learning, empowerment, and professional opportunities from access to, inclusion and participation in education relating to STI and ICTs.

In alignment with the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, which highlights youth empowerment and vocational training as vital, STI and ICT education offers skills and training ranging from hardware and software development to coding and web development. Educational programs around the world in all socioeconomic conditions are combining traditional literacy standards of reading, writing, mathematics, analytical and reasoning skills, problem solving, and interpersonal communications with computer, web and application development, social media management, and creative thinking to empower young people to build a skill set that will benefit them for a lifetime. As a result, young people who participate in these digital literacy programs not only experience higher rates of job security – in civil society, private enterprises or entrepreneurship – but they also experience the fulfillment of using their advanced skills for positive change, increased standards of living, and poverty reduction. In order to perpetuate the growth of STI education, many initiatives are providing microfinance opportunities for women and youth to create many types of sustainable businesses in emerging markets and economies, a concept ECOSOC supports because of positive socioeconomic advancement during and after their technology-based education.

The benefits of STI and youth empowerment are especially significant in developing and least developed countries (LDCs). In *Innovation and Technology for Youth Employment*, Andersen, Chen, and Schroeder list a nonprofit organization, PlaNet Finance, as a partner in digital literacy inclusion and utilizing STI. Women and youth experience significant obstacles in education and employment opportunities more frequently and in larger concentrations than men. PlaNet Finance worked in conjunction with other organizations to assist 3,000 women – a majority of them being in the youth age group – in Ghana in increasing their Shea nut harvests by 30%, reducing the elimination of Shea trees by 40%, and reducing the distress sales of household goods by 50% with mobile technology. The women were provided cellular devices and tablets and were then trained in their use, the software and applications best suited to their needs, and how to utilize the web-based information hub that was set up to connect them with local and international buyers for their product. With that mobile technology, they will be trained in ways to better process and distribute their harvests and will be more equipped to manage orders and logistics in a larger market than they were previously operating. This technology and the skills provided to the young women by PlaNet Finance give them an education, and thus potential earning power, that they may not otherwise have been afforded.

However, there are several barriers to promoting STI around the world, especially among youth and in developing countries and LDCs. According to the ITU, less than 45% of the world's population has access to a computer. Moreover, approximately 25% of the world lives without any source of electricity. The most significant obstacle to the utilization of STI is the availability, affordability, and access to electronic devices. Lack of Internet access or mobile broadband services, as well as software run on the electronic devices is also an issue. Finally, a lack of access to education, economic empowerment, gender equality, and rectifying the disparity between cultural norms and traditions with a changing world also prove challenging to empowering youth in relation to STI.

Ultimately, leveraging science, technology, and innovation contributes to reaching the Millennium Development Goals and building the foundation for success in the post-2015 development agenda by empowering youth. STI can be used to the maximum advantage of the world's youth, more so than adult populations. This creates a generation able to succeed in new and emerging markets and by offering new areas for innovation in gender equality and women's empowerment. Additionally, STI and ICTs can enrich the lives of youth in literacy, allowing young people

to influence politics, culture, and economies. STI and ICTs specifically can offer new opportunities and new levels of independence from the restrictions placed on them in the current environment, particularly in the current economic environment. Thus, furthering the growth of youth within STI and the utilization of ICTs to their advantage is imperative to the success of all international development efforts, to sustainability, and to building the capacity of a generation moving forward in the age of technology.

Annotated Bibliography

History of the Economic and Social Council Plenary

United Nations. (26 June 1945). Chapter X. *Charter of the United Nations*. Retrieved 6 May 2014 from: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter10.shtml>

The Charter of the UN is the founding document for the entire UN system. Chapter X outlines the duties and goals of ECOSOC specifically. It explains its mandate as well as the recommended strategies it can use to achieve its mandate. Delegates should review this document to ensure that their proposed solutions are within the scope of the abilities of ECOSOC.

United Nations Development Programme. (2014). *UNDP Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017*. Retrieved 1 July 2014 from: <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/GenderEqualityStrategy2014-17.pdf>

Gender equity is a major hurdle for all three topics addressed in this guide. It is essential to incorporate women in the use of science and technology and they can and will serve as an essential piece to securing the long-term stability of Haiti. Finally, women are one of the main groups facing inequality moving forward in development. This document provides delegates with the necessary background on what the goals of the UN system are with regards to gender equity and the strategy being employed from 2014-2017 by one of the principle international development agents, the United Nations Development Programme. Delegates should be sure to look over this document to ensure they are well versed in the successes and shortcoming of gender equality in relation to development issues.

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (2011). *About* [Website]. Retrieved 6 May 2014 from: <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/>

This Website summarizes the establishment of ECOSOC and gives an overview of its work. It also describes the way meetings are run and how they are divided. Finally, it discusses the financial role of ECOSOC with regards to the UN system. This will serve as a tool to better understand how ECOSOC works within the UN system ensuring that delegates are prepared to meet the nuances of ECOSOC's mandate.

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (2013). *List of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council as of 1 September 2013: Note by the Secretary-General*. Retrieved 6 May 2014 from: <http://csonet.org/content/documents/e2013inf6.pdf>

This document prepared by the UN Secretary-General for ECOSOC details all of the NGOs' that the body partners with. Delegates should review this list to identify existing programs around the world that ECOSOC already supports. Additionally, the end of this document list organizations whose consulting status has been suspended. Delegates should be aware of which organizations ECOSOC is not working with as well.

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (2014). *Integration Segment: Sustainable Urbanization* [Website]. Retrieved 1 July 2014 from: <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/integration/2014/>

This is one of the most recent meetings held by ECOSOC. The Website details the challenges, goals, and opportunities facing urbanization. Urbanization is a major hurdle that the international community faces and which will figure in all of the committee topics. Delegates can utilize the large list of additional sources provided on this Website to begin their research.

I. Reducing Inequality in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

The World We Want. (February 2013). *Global Thematic Consultation on the post-2015 Development Agenda: Addressing Inequalities*. Retrieved 6 May 2014 from: <http://www.worldwewant2015.org/node/299198>

Prepared in consultation with UNICEF, UN-Women, and the governments of Denmark and Ghana this document from NGO The World We Want details how global development has not helped the inequalities that many women and children face in society. This document also discusses what circumstances produce inequalities. Delegates should review this document to gain a better understanding of how development affects special populations, particularly women and children, which should be a central focus of their research.

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (n.d.). *Millennium Development Goals Indicators* [Website]. Retrieved 13 June 2014 from: <http://unstats.un.org/UNSD/MDG/Data.aspx>

This Website contains all of the data collected from the countries of the world regarding their success in implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. Information on almost every country is available on this site in its raw form, remaining free from commentary that will sway the data. Delegates will benefit from this Website to conduct research on the various countries and regions they would like to discuss. Delegates can also come to their own conclusions about the success of different programs and to what extent the Millennium Development Goals have been implemented.

United Nations Development Programme. (2013). *Equity, Inequality and Human Development In A Post-2015 Framework*. Retrieved 6 May 2014 from:

http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/equity_inequality_human_development_in_post-2015_framework.pdf

In this publication, the United Nations Development Programme explains the successes and shortcomings of the Millennium Development Goals in terms of inequality. This document additionally provides recommendations for moving forward to improve the inequality situation. Delegates will benefit from this by seeing what the UN is already in the process of implementing, thus preventing redundancy in programs and policies, and ensuring a grounded understanding on which to form their country's recommendations.

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (2013). *Millennium Development Goals and post-2015 Development Agenda* [Website]. Retrieved 6 May 2014 from: <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/mdg.shtml>

ECOSOC explains the Millennium Development Goals and provides relevant information on the post-2015 development agenda. It includes a description of each Millennium Development Goal and provides some background into how they are implemented. Additionally, it details all the work on the post-2015 development agenda and is kept up to date. Delegates should begin their research here to develop a foundation on the content to be discussed as it shows the delegates what the current work of ECOSOC is on the topic.

United Nations, ECE, ESCAP, ECLAC, ECA and ESCWA. (2013). *A Regional Perspective on the Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda* [Report]. Retrieved 13 June 2014 from:

<http://www.regionalcommissions.org/post2015regionalreport.pdf>

The various commissions under the purview of ECOSOC identify in this report the key regional priority areas for a global development agenda beyond 2015. It addresses thematic issues, outlines policy recommendations, and serves as an excellent source to gain insights to region-specific challenges and needs. The report also assesses the context in which the Millennium Development Goals were developed and identifies the challenges and opportunities raised by the current Millennium Development Goals framework.

II. Evaluating Long-Term Support for Haiti

Archibold, R. & S. Sengupta. (19 April 2014). *U.N. Struggles to Stem Haiti Cholera Epidemic*. The New York Times. Retrieved 18 May 2014 from: http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/20/world/americas/un-struggles-to-stem-haiti-cholera-epidemic.html?_r=0

The authors of this New York Times article explain the current cholera epidemic in Haiti. Additionally, they explain the UN's culpability or responsibility for the existence and perpetuation of the epidemic. Further, they present the actions currently being taken to hold the UN responsible for the epidemic, provide an outside perspective of the situation, and discuss the prospect of the elimination of the disease from the Haitian population.

European Union, European Commission. (2012). *Haiti Before the Earthquake*. Retrieved 5 May 2014 from: http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/Haiti_paper_01102010.pdf

This infographic document establishes a brief introduction to the status of Haiti before and after the 2010 earthquake. While it is somewhat limited to the humanitarian contributions of European countries, it provides the contrast of needs and relevant information before and since the natural disaster. It addresses data surrounding the basic and essential needs of Haiti's population as well as socioeconomic considerations.

United Nations, Department of Peacekeeping Operations. (n.d.). *United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti* [Website]. Retrieved 18 May 2014 from: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/minustah/>

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) is an excellent resource for an overview of the UN's presence in Haiti. With MINUSTAH being the most prominent UN presence, ECOSOC and several subsidiary bodies and commissions are contributing to Haiti's recovery and reconstruction. Information can be found throughout this Website for measuring the needs and long-term support the Member State needs, from peacekeeping concerns towards socioeconomic stabilization.

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (5 July 2013). *Report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti (E/2013/90)*. Retrieved 18 May 2014 from: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/2013/90

The 2013 Report from the Advisory Group on Haiti presents the limitations to sustainable development and reconstruction that Haiti experiences. Not only does the annual report point out Haiti's needs within its borders and from the international community, but it also proposes areas and methods of concern moving forward. All of these areas fall within the mandate and scope of ECOSOC as listed in the Charter of the United Nations.

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (23 July 2013). *Resolution 2013/15 (E/Res/2013/15)*. Retrieved 5 May 2014 from: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/RES/2013/15

The 2013 ECOSOC resolution regarding Haiti's reconstruction briefly reviews some of the ongoing work of the UN, Haiti, and the international community. It reinforces the ongoing work of specific mechanisms pertinent to recovery and reconstruction. Additionally, it extended the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti.

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (2014). *Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti* [Website]. Retrieved 5 May 2014 from: <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/adhocmech/haiti.shtml>

The Ad Hoc Advisory Group was created in 1999 and was brought back in 2004 for Haitian development and recovery. ECOSOC's Website devoted to the Advisory group lists reports, resolutions, decisions, and other documents directed to Haiti's reconstruction, development, and humanitarian assistance – especially since the 2010 earthquakes and recent hurricanes. Important findings from evaluations and proposed methods of assistance are a few beneficial items that can be found in ECOSOC's documentation of this group.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (n.d.). *Country Profile – Haiti* [Website]. Retrieved 5 May 2014 from: <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/page?page=49e491766&submit=GO>

The country profile for Haiti from the High Commissioner for Refugees offers historical and present statistical data regarding Haiti's recovery. The UN High Commissioner for Refugee notes progress in humanitarian aid to Haiti, as well as remaining concerns for the population. Information about citizen's basic and essential needs and migration or resettlement is presented along with displacement information that is relevant to ECOSOC as a measurement of progress.

United Nations in Haiti. (January 2014). *United Nations plan to support the implementation of the Government of Haiti's 2-year plan on Cholera elimination* [Report]. Retrieved 18 May 2014 from:

http://www.un.org/News/dh/infocus/haiti/UN_Support_Strategy_Elimination_Cholera%20_FEB_2014.pdf

The UN in Haiti explains the most recent status of the cholera epidemic in Haiti and how the UN is working with the national government to address the epidemic in this 2-year supplemental plan. The statistics provided here give the prognosis for the elimination of cholera and the goals by which the government and UN hope to obtain elimination within the working period. In addition, an explanation of

the proposed methods to eliminate the disease is given. Lastly, the financial considerations are discussed, specifically the appeal for contributions is seen in order to address the health needs of the population.

United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance. (2013). *Haiti Humanitarian Action Plan 2014*. Retrieved 18 May 2014 from: http://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/CAP/HAP_2014_Haiti.pdf

The Haiti Humanitarian Action Plan outlines the progress and benefits of past assistance to Haiti. It also extensively presents the future prospects of Haiti's recovery for 2014. One of the most significant obstacles to Haiti's reconstruction is lack of funding from donors that will be allocated to the national government. This report details the specific ways contributions will be used to the ultimate advantage of stabilization and recovery in Haiti.

III. Leveraging Science, Technology, and Innovation for Today's Youth

Anderson, D., F. Chen, & K. Schroeder. (2013). *Innovation and Technology for Youth Employment*. Retrieved 26 May 2014 from: www.un.org/esa/socdev/egms/docs/2013/ict/innovation-technology-youth.pdf

Anderson, Chen, and Schroeder evaluate the significance of science, technology, and innovation, and information and communications technologies education for the world's youth in countries of all socioeconomic statuses. Within this paper, the authors review the benefits of training in these areas to empower youth in the digital age and beyond. Many examples are given of the ways science, technology, and innovation and information and communications technologies are employing and empowering youth, thereby changing the social and economic standards on micro and macro levels.

UNESCO & UNDESA. (2014). *Youth and Education* [Report]. Retrieved 18 May 2014 from: www.un.org/esa/socdev/documents/youth/fact-sheets/youth-education.pdf

This paper from United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organizations and UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs was prepared for ECOSOC's 2014 Youth Forum. It provides statistics and specific information about education across the international community. It discusses contemporary approaches to education and reinforces the needs of youth and adolescents around the world, especially in least developed and developing countries.

International Labour Office. (2014). *Youth and Employment* [Report]. Retrieved 18 May 2014 from: <http://social.un.org/youthyear/docs/youth-employment.pdf>

This report was also prepared for ECOSOC's 2014 Youth Forum. The International Labour Office delivers information regarding employment markets, opportunities, and the needs of people aged 12-25 globally. Youth unemployment continues to be one of the most significant issues of the decade for economic sustainability and recovery after the global economic and financial crisis. The document further discusses the ways employment expectations and qualifications have evolved and how opportunities and means of employment have changed as a result.

International Telecommunications Unit, UN-Habitat. (2014). *Youth and ICT* [Report]. Retrieved 18 May 2014 from: www.un.org/esa/socdev/documents/youth/fact-sheets/youth-icts.pdf

Youth's access and utilization of information and communications technologies and science, technology, and innovation will dramatically reshape the future of the world during the digital age in terms of socioeconomic statuses, development, health, and more. The International Telecommunications Unit and UN-Habitat jointly prepared this report for the ECOSOC 2014 Youth Forum. It displays the significant need for youth to participate in science, technology, and innovation and information and communications technologies for personal, private, and public benefits. Delegates will find it useful as a starting point to understanding this link and in forming the basis for potential action and recommendations.

United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service. (n.d.). *Shaping tomorrow's innovators: Leveraging science, technology, innovation and culture for today's youth* [Website]. Retrieved 5 May 2014 from: http://www.un-ngls.org/spip.php?page=article_s&id_article=4264

The overview of the 2013 Youth Forum, specific to science, technology, and innovation, touches on science, technology, and innovation pertaining to young women and girls, creative economies, and implementing social media as a mode of change. In addition to summaries of discussions, delegates will find direct links to resources from subsidiary bodies and organizations that are contributing to youth engagement with

science, technology, and innovation and information and communications technologies. Further examples of science, technology, and innovation inclusion and promotion, as well as data pertaining to access, modes of use, and encouraging results are provided in sub-links and external links.

Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council Plenary (ECOSOC)

Introduction

1. These rules shall be the only rules that apply to the Economic and Social Council Plenary (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) and shall be considered adopted by the Committee prior to its first meeting.
2. For purposes of these rules, the Director, the Assistant Director, and the Director of Conference Services are designates and agents of the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General, and are collectively referred to as the “Secretariat.”
3. Interpretation of the rules shall be reserved exclusively to the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General or her/his designate. Such interpretation shall be in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the National Model United Nations (NMUN) and in furtherance of the educational mission of that organization.
4. For the purposes of these rules, “President” shall refer to the chairperson or acting chairperson of the Committee, which can be any member of the Secretariat or their designate.
5. The practice of striving for consensus in decision-making shall be encouraged. NMUN also acknowledges it may sometimes be necessary for a Member State to abstain or vote against a resolution it cannot support for policy reasons.

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1 - *Dates of convening and adjournment*

The Committee shall meet every year in regular session, commencing and closing on the dates designated by the Secretary-General.

Rule 2 - *Place of sessions*

The Committee shall meet at a location designated by the Secretary-General.

II. AGENDA

Rule 3 - *Provisional agenda*

The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Deputy Secretary-General and communicated to the members of the Committee at least sixty days before the opening of the session.

Rule 4 - *Adoption of the agenda*

The agenda provided by the Deputy Secretary-General shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the session. The order of the agenda items shall be determined by a majority vote of those present and voting.

The vote described in this rule is a procedural vote and, as such, observers are permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, those present and voting means those Member States and observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote. Should the Committee not reach a decision by conclusion of the first night’s meeting, the agenda will be automatically set in the order in which it was first communicated.

Rule 5 - Revision of the agenda

During a session, the Committee may revise the agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only important and urgent items shall be added to the agenda during a session. Debate on the inclusion of an item in the agenda shall be limited to three speakers in favor of, and three against, the inclusion. Additional items of an important and urgent character, proposed for inclusion in the agenda less than thirty days before the opening of a session, may be placed on the agenda if the Committee so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. No additional item may, unless the Committee decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, be considered until a commission has reported on the question concerned.

For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item of an important and urgent character is subject to the discretion of the Deputy Secretary-General, or his or her designate, and any such determination is final. If an item is determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Committee to be placed on the agenda. The votes described in this rule are substantive votes, and, as such, observers are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, —the members “present and voting” — means members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 6 - Explanatory memorandum

Any item proposed for inclusion in the agenda shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents.

III. SECRETARIAT

Rule 7 - Duties of the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall act in this capacity in all meetings of the Committee.
2. The Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Deputy Secretary-General, shall provide and direct the staff required by the Committee and be responsible for all the arrangements that may be necessary for its meetings.

Rule 8 - Duties of the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall receive and distribute documents of the Commission to the Members, and generally perform all other work which the Committee may require.

Rule 9 - Statements by the Secretariat

The Secretary-General or her/his designate, may make oral as well as written statements to the Committee concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 10 - Selection of the President

The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall appoint, from applications received by the Secretariat, a President who shall hold office and, *inter alia*, chair the Committee for the duration of the session, unless otherwise decided by the Secretary-General.

Rule 11 - Replacement of the President

If the President is unable to perform her/his functions, a new President shall be appointed for the unexpired term at the discretion of the Secretary-General or her/his designate.

IV. LANGUAGE

Rule 12 - Official and working language

English shall be the official and working language of the Committee during scheduled sessions (both formal and informal) of the Committee.

Rule 13 - Interpretation (oral) or translation (written)

Any representative wishing to address any body or submit a document in a language other than English shall provide interpretation or translation into English.

This rule does not affect the total speaking time allotted to those representatives wishing to address the body in a language other than English. As such, both the speech and the interpretation must be within the set time limit. The language should be the official language of the country you are representing at NMUN.

V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 14 - Quorum

The President may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when representatives of at least one-third of the members of the Committee are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the Committee shall be required for any decision to be taken.

For purposes of this rule, members of the Committee means the total number of members (not including observers) in attendance at the first night's meeting (session).

Rule 15 - General powers of the President

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Committee, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to vote and announce decisions. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Committee and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. He or she shall rule on points of order. The President may propose to the Committee the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the speaker's time and on the number of times the representative of each member may speak on an item, the adjournment or closure of the debate, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting.

Included in these enumerated powers is the power to assign speaking times for all speeches incidental to motions and amendment. Further, the President is to use her/his discretion, upon the advice and at the consent of the Secretariat, to determine whether to entertain a particular motion based on the philosophy and principles of the NMUN. Such discretion should be used on a limited basis and only under circumstances where it is necessary to advance the educational mission of the Conference and is limited to entertaining motions.

Rule 16 - Authority of the Committee

The President, in the exercise of her or his functions, remains under the authority of the Committee.

Rule 17 - Voting rights on procedural matters

Unless otherwise stated, all votes pertaining to the conduct of business shall require a favorable vote by the majority of the members "present and voting" in order to pass.

For purposes of this rule, the members present and voting mean those members (including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this rule is applied. Note that observers may vote on all procedural votes; they may, however, not vote on substantive matters (see Chapter VI). Every delegation must cast a vote in procedural votes. Further, there is no possibility to abstain or pass on procedural votes

Rule 18 - Points of order

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order, and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with the rules of procedure. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting. A representative rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Such points of order should not under any circumstances interrupt the speech of a fellow representative. They should be used exclusively to correct an error in procedure. Any questions on order arising during a speech made by a representative should be raised at the conclusion of the speech, or can be addressed by the President, sua sponte (on her/his own accord), during the speech. For purposes of this rule, the members present and voting mean those members (including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 19 - Speeches

No representative may address the Committee without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

In line with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN, in furtherance of its educational mission, and for the purpose of facilitating debate, the Secretariat will set a time limit for all speeches which may be amended by the Committee through a vote if the President, at his or her discretion, decides to allow the Committee to decide. In no case shall the speakers time be changed during the first scheduled session of the Committee. Consequently, motions to alter the speaker's time will not be entertained by the President. The content of speeches should be pertinent to the agenda as set by the Committee.

Rule 20 - List of Speakers

Members may only be on the list of speakers once but may be added again after having spoken. During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Committee, declare the list closed. Once the list has been closed, it can be reopened upon by a vote of the Committee. When there are no more speakers, the President shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by decision of the Committee.

The decision to announce the list of speakers is within the discretion of the President and should not be the subject of a motion by the Committee. A motion to close the speakers list or reopen (if the list has already been closed) is within the purview of the Committee and the President should not act on her/his own motion.

Rule 21 - Right of reply

If a remark impugns the integrity of a representative's State, the President may permit that representative to exercise her/his right of reply following the conclusion of the controversial speech, and shall determine an appropriate time limit for the reply. No ruling on this question shall be subject to appeal.

For purposes of this rule, a remark that impugns the integrity of a representative's State is one directed at the governing authority of that State and/or one that puts into question that State's sovereignty or a portion thereof. All interventions in the exercise of the right of reply shall be addressed in writing to the Secretariat and shall not be raised as a point of order or motion. The reply shall be read to the Committee by the representative only upon approval of the Secretariat, and in no case after voting has concluded on all matters relating to the agenda topic, during the discussion of which, the right arose. The right of reply will not be approved should it impugn the integrity of another State.

Rule 22 - Suspension of the meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the suspension of the meeting, specifying a time for reconvening. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to a vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. Delegates should not state a purpose for the suspension.

This motion should be used to suspend the meeting for lunch or at the end of the scheduled board session time. Delegates should properly phrase this motion as "suspension of the meeting," and provide a length of time when making the motion.

Rule 23 - Adjournment of the meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move to the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to the vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. After adjournment, the Committee shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

As this motion, if successful, would end the meeting until the Committee's next regularly scheduled session the following year, and in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and in furtherance of its educational mission, the President will not entertain such a motion until the end of the last meeting of the Committee.

Rule 24 - Adjournment of debate

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. Two representatives may speak in favor of, and two against, the motion, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.

Rule 25 - Closure of debate

A representative may at any time move the closure of debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified her/his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. Closure of debate shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. If the Committee favors the closure of debate, the Committee shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

Rule 26 - Order of motions

Subject to Rule 18, the motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

1. To suspend the meeting;

2. To adjourn the meeting;
3. To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
4. To close the debate on the item under discussion.

Rule 27 - Proposals and amendments

Proposals and amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretariat. Any proposal or amendment that relates to the substance of any matter under discussion shall require the signature of twenty percent of the members of the Committee [sponsors].

The Secretariat may, at its discretion, approve the proposal or amendment for circulation among the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be put to the vote at any meeting of the Committee unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments or of motions as to procedure, even though such amendments and motions have not been circulated.

If the sponsors agree to the adoption of a proposed amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the proposed amendment. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the Committee for all purposes, including subsequent amendments.

For purposes of this rule, all proposals shall be in the form of working papers prior to their approval by the Secretariat. Working papers will not be copied, or in any other way distributed, to the Committee by the Secretariat. The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of the working papers. Along these lines, and in furtherance of the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and for the purpose of advancing its educational mission, representatives should not directly refer to the substance of a working paper that has not yet been accepted as a draft resolution during formal speeches. After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft resolution and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Committee. These draft resolutions are the collective property of the Committee and, as such, the names of the original sponsors will be removed. The copying and distribution of amendments is at the discretion of the Secretariat, but the substance of all such amendments will be made available to all representatives in some form. Should delegates wish to withdraw a working paper or draft resolution from consideration, this requires the consent of all sponsors.

Rule 28 - Withdrawal of motions

A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting has commenced, provided that the motion has not been amended. A motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any member.

Rule 29 - Reconsideration of a topic

When a topic has been adjourned, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Committee, by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, so decides. Reconsideration can only be moved by a representative who voted on the prevailing side of the original motion to adjourn. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall be put to the vote immediately. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.

Rule 30 - Invitation to silent prayer or meditation

Immediately after the opening of the meeting and immediately preceding the closing of the final meeting, the President shall invite the representatives to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation with the motion to do so by a representative.

VI. VOTING

Rule 31 - Voting rights

Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.

This rule applies to substantive voting on amendments, draft resolutions, and portions of draft resolutions divided out by motion. As such, all references to member(s) do not include observers, who are not permitted to cast votes on substantive matters.

Rule 32 - Request for a vote

A proposal or motion before the Committee for decision shall be voted upon if any member so requests. Where no member requests a vote, the Committee may adopt proposals or motions without a vote.

For purposes of this rule, proposal means any draft resolution, an amendment thereto, or a portion of a draft resolution divided out by motion. Just prior to a vote on a particular proposal or motion, the President may ask if there are any objections to passing the proposal or motion by acclamation, or a member may move to accept the proposal or motion by acclamation. If there are no objections to the proposal or motion, then it is adopted without a vote. Adoption by "acclamation" or "without a vote" is consistent not only with the educational mission of the conference but also the way in which the United Nations adopts a majority of its proposals.

Rule 33 - Majority required

1. Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Committee shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.
2. For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase "members present and voting" means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

All members declaring their representative States as "present and voting" during the attendance roll-call for the meeting during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain on substantive votes.

Rule 34 - Method of voting

1. The Committee shall normally vote by a show of placards, except that a representative may request a roll-call, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is randomly selected by the President. The name of each member shall be called in any roll-call, and one of its representatives shall reply "yes," "no," "abstention," or "pass."

Only those members who designate themselves as present or present and voting during the attendance roll-call, or in some other manner communicate their attendance to the President and/or Secretariat, are permitted to vote and, as such, no others will be called during a roll-call vote. Any representatives replying pass must, when requested a second time, respond with either a yes or no vote. A pass cannot be followed by a second pass for the same proposal or amendment, nor can it be followed by an abstention on that same proposal or amendment.

2. When the Committee votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of placards and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call vote. A representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Committee shall dispense with the procedure of calling out the names of the members.
3. The vote of each member participating in a roll-call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in the record.

Rule 35 - Explanations of vote

Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanation of their votes after the voting has been completed. The representatives of a member sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended, and the member has voted against the proposal or motion.

All explanations of vote must be submitted to the President in writing before debate on the topic is closed, except where the representative is of a member sponsoring the proposal, as described in the second clause, in which case the explanation of vote must be submitted to the President in writing immediately after voting on the topic ends. Only delegates who are sponsors of a draft resolution that has been adopted with an unfriendly amendment, whom subsequently voted against the draft resolution may explain their vote.

Rule 36 - Conduct during voting

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representatives shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual process of voting.

For purposes of this rule, there shall be no communication among delegates, and if any delegate leaves the Committee room during voting procedure, they will not be allowed back into the room until the Committee has convened voting procedure. Should a delegate who is also serving as Head Delegate leave the room, they may reenter but they may not retake their seat and participate in the vote.

Rule 37 - Division of proposals and amendments

Immediately before a proposal or amendment comes to a vote, a representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment should be voted on separately. If there are calls for multiple divisions, those shall be voted upon in an order to be set by the President where the most radical division will be voted upon first. If an objection is made to the motion for division, the request for division shall be voted upon, requiring the support of a majority of those present and voting to pass. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given only to two speakers in favor and two speakers against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are approved shall then be put to a vote. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

For purposes of this rule, most radical division means the division that will remove the greatest substance from the draft resolution, but not necessarily the one that will remove the most words or clauses. The determination of which division is most radical is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 38 - Amendments

An amendment is a proposal that does no more than add to, delete from, or revise part of another proposal. Permission to speak on the amendment shall be given only to two speakers in favor and two speakers against.

An amendment can add, amend, or delete entire operative clauses, but cannot in any manner add, amend, delete, or otherwise affect preambular clauses or sub-clauses of operative clauses. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule. These speeches are substantive in nature.

Rule 39 - Voting on amendments

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal shall be voted on first and then the amendment next furthest removed there from, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on.

For purposes of this rule, furthest removed in substance means the amendment that will have the most significant impact on the draft resolution. The determination of which amendment is furthest removed in substance is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 40 - Order of voting on proposals

If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Committee decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted.

Rule 41 - The President shall not vote

The President shall not vote but may designate another member of her/his delegation to vote in her/his place.

VII. CREDENTIALS

Rule 42 - Credentials

The credentials of representatives and the names of members of a delegation shall be submitted to the Secretary-General prior to the opening of a session.

Rule 43 - Authority of the General Assembly

The Committee shall be bound by the actions of the General Assembly in all credentials matters and shall take no action regarding the credentials of any member.

VII. PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 44 - Participation of non-Member States

The Committee shall invite any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Committee and any other State, to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.

A sub-board or sessional body of the Committee shall invite any State that is not one of its own members to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State. A State thus invited shall not have the right to vote, but may submit proposals which may be put to the vote on request of any member of the body concerned.

If the Committee considers that the presence of a Member invited, according to this rule, is no longer necessary, it may withdraw the invitation. Delegates invited to the Committee according to this rule should also keep in mind their role and obligations in the Committee that they were originally assigned to. For educational purposes of the NMUN Conference, the Secretariat may thus ask a delegate to return to his or her board when his or her presence in the Committee is no longer required. Delegates may request the presence of a non-member of their board simply by informing the President that this is the desire of the body, there is no formal procedural process.

Rule 45 - Participation of national liberation movements

The Committee may invite any national liberation movement recognized by the General Assembly to participate, without the right to vote, in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that movement.

National liberation movements are only represented at NMUN in two ways: (1) if their delegation has been assigned explicitly the national liberation movement itself; or (b) should the Security Commission wish to hear from a representative of the movement in their deliberations, the Secretariat shall provide the appropriate representative.

Rule 46 - Participation of and consultation with specialized agencies

In accordance with the agreements concluded between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the specialized agencies shall be entitled: a) To be represented at meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary organs; b) To participate, without the right to vote, through their representatives, in deliberations with respect to items of concern to them and to submit proposals regarding such items, which may be put to the vote at the request of any member of the Committee or of the subsidiary organ concerned.

NMUN does not assign delegations to Specialized Agencies.

Rule 47 - Participation of non-governmental organization and intergovernmental organizations

Representatives of non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations accorded consultative observer status by the Economic and Social Council and other non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Committee on the recommendation of the Bureau, may participate, with the procedural right to vote, but not the substantive right to vote, in the deliberations of the Committee on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations.

NMUN will assign delegations an NGO instead of a Member State upon request.