

## General Assembly:

### **Topic 1: The role of science & technology and innovation in international security and disarmament**

The United Nations (UN) noted the role of science and technology in the General Assembly's initial resolution 1," Establishment of a Commission to Deal with the Problems Raised by the Discovery of Atomic Energy" adapted on 24<sup>th</sup> January 1946, where Member States acknowledged the significant impact that harmful technological advancements can have on international security and disarmament.

The committee acknowledges that technological and scientific progress needs to be guided in a peaceful direction to ensure its benefit to humanity. While the committee's early work concerning the d potential of these advancements is centered on preventing technological advancements as crucial components in addressing all Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The consideration of science and technology's role in disarmament and international security risk posed by the traces its origin back to 17th June 1925, with the League of Nations Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War, Poisonous Gases (Geneva Protocol). The risk posed by this destructive technology led numerous multilateral treaties, policies and conventions on disarmament and non-proliferation that emphasize on science and technology.

The Committee assignment is to engage and monitor Member States in efforts towards disarmament and international security, including the innovations that affect these goals.

Reference: UN General Assembly , 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

### **Topic 2: Increasing Women's Role in Disarmament and Nonproliferation**

Increasing the role of women in issues of peace and security is an established goal of the United Nations (UN); however the specifics of involving women in disarmament and non proliferation a recent theme within the General Assembly. Though the participation of women in peace and security processes has been rising, a study of 31 major peace processes between 1992 and 2011 showed that only 9% of negotiators were women, and 4 % of the military in UN missions were women, with majority of these being support staff.

The UN General Assembly has long defined arms non proliferation and disarmament as the collection control and disposal of small arms, ammunition, explosives and heavy weapons from combatants.

The UN's commitment to gender equality and improving disarmament and non-proliferation action has several historical documents of particular importance. Perhaps the most important international document that provides the framework for equal women's rights is *the Charter of the United Nations (1945)*. The most comprehensive treaty specifically targeting the rights of women remains the *1979 Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)*.

The Committee assignment is to engage and monitor Member States in efforts towards disarmament and international security, including the innovations that affect these goals.

Reference: UN Women, Facts and Figures: Peace and Security, 2015

### **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

Nuclear power has been a contentious and controversial topic. It has the ability to produce electricity with zero carbon emissions, and therefore it is considered as a solution to the global energy problem. However, it also entails several risks, including weapons development, meltdown, and hazards of its waste products.

#### **Topic 1: The Viability of Alternative Nuclear Reactors**

Until now, the most common resource for generating nuclear power was uranium. However, scientists have found an alternative means: thorium. Thorium has several potential advantages over uranium, including much greater abundance on earth, superior physical and nuclear fuel properties, reduced nuclear waste, and lack of potential for being used as a weapon. However, there are several disadvantages as well compared to uranium, including significantly high start-up costs and the development of breeder reactors (nuclear reactors capable of generating more fissile material than it consumes). Since 2008, nuclear energy experts have become more interested in thorium over uranium to generate nuclear power. There are projects already going on by several developed and developing nations regarding it. There have been a number of scientific conferences regarding the matter as well.

The job of this committee is to determine if thorium is a good alternative to replace uranium as a generator of nuclear power. Once this has been debated, ways of encouraging nations

of different economic, geographic, and political situations to cooperate as well as policies regarding nuclear power need to be discussed.

## **Topic 2: International Nuclear Disarmament Safeguards**

International nuclear disarmament safeguards are a concern for rival countries if a state develops a nuclear weapon. This has been a critical factor in the creation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). There also have been recent conflicts between countries that develop nuclear powers, weaponized or not, and other threatened states, including Iran having gone under pressure for its nuclear power source, and North Korea developing its own nuclear weapons.

Despite the small number of states that do possess weaponized nuclear capabilities, it is still the general interest of the international community that nuclear capabilities should not be proliferated, and thus occurred the NPT. However, with the current situation of state relations, some states would not feel comfortable disarming themselves from nuclear capabilities. Depending on the political situation, there are many ways to disarm nuclear capabilities. Mainly, there are two methods: forced and reciprocity. Forced disarmament means a state or group of states compels another state or group of states by threats or sanctions. On the other hand, reciprocity disarmament means that a state or group of states disarm their nuclear capabilities as a mutual cooperation with other states in the non-proliferation process. Both methods will be discussed in committee. Whichever is safe, however, is a matter to be discussed.

The goal of this committee is to discuss and determine how countries can disarm their nuclear facilities in a way that is safe, monitored, and efficient. After that, based on the political situation, the committee must find a way to convince other countries to disarm their capabilities based on safeguards.

Reference: IAEA Publication –Nuclear Safety and Security, Safeguards (2010)

## **Economic and Social Council**

### **Topic 1: Promoting Social and Economic Inclusion of Refugees**

Today, the world faces a refugee crisis of proportions unprecedented since the establishment of the United Nations (UN) after World War II. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that there are currently 64.3 million people forcibly displaced worldwide, of which 21.3 million have refugee status.

The UN facilitates three response mechanisms to protect and assist refugees: voluntary repatriation, integration into the host community, or resettlement into another country. Today, there is prevalence of protracted refugee situations, loosely defined by the UNHCR as a refugee situation that extends beyond five years; refugees in these instances are left for years with their basic economic, social and psychological needs unfulfilled.

The UN has advocated for greater social development, urging Member States to adopt people centered development policies that focus on the material as well as the spiritual needs of individuals to ensure higher living standards. Article 16 of the Copenhagen Declaration identifies refugees as being among those vulnerable groups and acknowledges that their displacement has tragic consequences for social development of both their home and host states.

The goal of the council is to discuss the refugees replacement focusing on the following: role of the international system, access to education, access to healthcare, and access to labor market and integration. What social development policies can be recommended?

Reference: UNHCR, Aid to Refugees and Displaced People Worldwide The

## **Topic 2 : The Role of the Private Sector in Promoting Sustainable Development**

The private sector has been an important partner in the promotion of development since the United Nations (UN) was founded in 1945. It greatly contributes to economic growth by funding human capital, developing capacity in the workforce, and creating jobs. With the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2016, the private sector has used creativity, finance and innovation to encourage productivity, promote inclusive economic growth, and create jobs.

In the UN's efforts to promote the achievement of the SDGs by fostering partnerships with other important actors of society is represented in Goal 17, partnerships for the goals, which states "a successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between government, the private sector and civil society," Public-private partnership (PPP) allow states to strengthen their infrastructure and implement services by taking advantage of the resources allocated in the industries, financial institutions, infrastructure and utilities.

Further, the UN Global Compact established a series of ten principles for ethical and sustainable business, incorporating key elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with strategies, policies and mechanisms that the private sector can implement. These principles focus on four key areas: human rights, labor, and environment and anti corruption. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

addresses issues related to productive capacity, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

The goal of the council is to address significant gaps left by the MDGs build stronger partnerships with the private sector and improve the existing partnerships between the different actors of society to achieve and improve the SDGs goals

Reference: World Summit for Social Development Report 2005

## **Security Council**

### **Topic 1: The Situation in Libya**

Today, Libya lacks a nationwide ceasefire. The post Gaddafi Libya, and after years of civil wars, Jihadist groups benefit from acquiring large stockpiles of arms and ammunition left behind by former regime in the aftermath of the war.

Reconciliation is complicated due to various human rights violations, the country's past and displaced communities. The Security Council plays a crucial role in maintaining peace and security in the country and stabilize the country.

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) is involved in the institutional process focusing on public administration, accountability, and transparency. UNDP launched the stabilization facility for Libya, which is an initiative to stabilize the new united government through activities such as financing to rebuild public infrastructure and humanitarian assistance with a particular focus on child protection.

The goal of the council is to address the problems facing Libya today in terms of internal tribes political conflict, security challenges, human rights and humanitarian issues.

Reference: Unicef, Libya – Humanitarian Situation Report 2016

### **Topic 2: The Kurds**

The Kurds are an ethnic group of over 30 million distributed across eastern Turkey, Northern Iraq, Western Iran and Northern Syria. Over the decades, numerous clashes between Kurdish populations and the states which they inhabit have generated controversy with regards their sovereign political rights and claims to statehood.

In Turkey the Kurdish PKK military has since 1984 engaged in open combat with the Turkish government. Each side in the conflict has denounced the other for atrocities, and tensions remain extremely high despite a nominal ceasefire in 2015.

The PKK is considered a terrorist organization by NATO and European Union. In Iraq, the Kurds exercise a greater degree of self-administration within the autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan.

Elements within Turkey, Iraq, Syria, and Iran see Kurdish military power as a threat to their sovereignty and territorial rights, but that same power might serve as an effective means of combating ISIS.

The goal of the council is to address the issue of the situation of the Kurds in Turkey and the Middle East.

Reference: The Situation of Kurds, UNHRC 2017