



Nuremberg, Germany

25 February – 27 February
2022



General Assembly Plenary Committee

Background Guide

Written by: Ioana Martin, Dorothee Karbe, Andreas Schlichting
Directed by: Tamara Titz



MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE



The 2022 Bayern Model United Nations Conference is organized by the United Nations Society Nuremberg from 25th to 27th of February 2022 in Nuremberg, Bavaria, Germany.

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2022 Bayern Model United Nations! This year's topics under discussion for the General Assembly are:

1. Elimination Human Trafficking of Women, Girls, and Sexual and Gender Minorities
2. Measures to Strengthen International Counter-Terrorism Efforts
3. Leveraging Climate Action for Sustainable Development

The BayernMUN General Assembly serves this year as the core forum for discussions on Security, Development and Human Rights topics affecting Member States. The international community has faced a number of dynamic changes over the past years; we hope to see the resolutions in this committee reflect an understanding of those changes.

The background guide will serve as an introduction to the topics listed. Accordingly, it is not meant to be used as an all-inclusive analysis for research, but rather the groundwork for your own analysis and research. The references listed for each topic will provide you with the resources you need to start your own research. Each delegation is requested to submit a position paper, which reflects your research on the topics. Please take note of our BayernMUN policies on the website and in the delegates guide. This background guide was part of the 2022 National Model United Nations and has been updated with some changes by BayernMUN staff members.

If you have any questions regarding your preparation for the committee and the conference itself, please feel free to contact any of the substantive staff of the 2022 BayernMUN.

We wish you all the best in your preparation for the conference and look forward to seeing you in February!

Sincerely,

Your BayernMUN staff!

Table of Content

Committee Overview1

I. Elimination Human Trafficking of Women, Girls, and Sexual and Gender Minorities ..3

 Introduction.....3

 International and Regional Framework.....3

 Role of the International System5

 Economic Drivers and Consequences6

 Prosecution of Traffickers and Protection of Survivors7

 Conclusion.....8

 Further Research.....8

II. Measures to Strengthen International Counter-Terrorism Efforts13

 Introduction.....13

 International and Regional Framework.....14

 Role of the International System15

 The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy17

 Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force.....19

 Conclusion.....20

 Further Research.....20

III. Leveraging Climate Action for Sustainable Development.....28

 Introduction.....28

 International and Regional Framework.....29

 Role of the International System30

 Integrating Climate Action into National and Regional Planning.....31

 Gender and Climate Action.....32

 Conclusion.....33

 Further Research.....34

Committee Overview

Introduction

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly has existed since the creation of the UN and is one of the six principal organs of the UN established by the Charter of the United Nations (1945)¹. The General Assembly is divided into six Main Committees². Each of the Main Committees has a specific focus and reports on its work to the General Assembly Plenary³. As the only main body with universal membership, the General Assembly is a unique forum for discussion within the UN system⁴. As such, it represents the normative center of the UN and its main role can be summarized in three principal aspects: a generator of ideas, a place of international debate, and the nucleus of new concepts and practices⁵. In the following, you will find a brief explanation of the governance, structure, and membership of the General Assembly, followed by an explanation of its mandate, functions, and powers.

Governance, Structure, and Membership

As outlined in the Charter, the General Assembly is comprised of all 193 UN Member States⁶. However, Observer status can also be granted to intergovernmental organizations such as the African Union and states without full UN membership; currently the Holy See and the State of Palestine are the only two non-Member States with permanent Observer status⁷. In the General Assembly, each Member State has one equal vote⁸.

Since its 44th session in 1989, the General Assembly is considered in session the entire year, but the most important time is the General Debate, which takes place from mid- September to the end of December and is called the “main part of the General Assembly⁹.” The remainder of the year is called the “resumed part of the General Assembly;” during this time working group meetings take place and thematic debates are held¹⁰. Except for decisions on important matters, votes in the General Assembly require a simple majority and the majority of resolutions are adopted without a vote, illustrating the consensual nature of the General Assembly¹¹.

The General Committee is comprised of the President of the General Assembly and the 21 Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly as well as the Chairpersons of all the six General Assembly Main Committees¹². The General Committee’s main duty, besides making recommendations on organizational issues, is to deal with the agenda of the General Assembly Plenary and its six Main Committees¹³. After receiving a preliminary list of agenda items from the UN Secretariat, the General Committee allocates the different items to each Main Committee¹⁴.

¹ Charter of the United Nations, 1945, Art. 7.

² New Zealand, United Nations Handbook 2016-2017, 2016, p. 23.

³ Charter of the United Nations, 1945, Art. 98.

⁴ UN General Assembly, Functions and Powers of the General Assembly, 2014.

⁵ Thakur, The United Nations, Peace and Security, 2006, pp. 91, 162.

⁶ Charter of the United Nations, 1945, Art. 9.

⁷ UN DPI, About Permanent Observers, 2016; UN DPI, Non-member States, 2016.

⁸ Charter of the United Nations, 1945, Art. 18.

⁹ Switzerland, The PGA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly, 2011, p. 14.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² UN General Assembly, Proposed Programme Budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/708/6 (Sect. 4)), 2015, p. 3.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid, p. 36.

Mandate, Functions, and Powers

The General Assembly and its six Main Committees are the center of the UN System and represent its main deliberative, policymaking, and representative organs; their outcomes thus define new norms that can become treaties or conventions among UN Member States¹⁵. The General Assembly is tasked with initiating studies and making recommendations to promote international cooperation in the political field; encouraging the development of international law; promoting the implementation of cultural, social, and human rights; and promoting fundamental freedoms free from discrimination¹⁶. The body “receives and considers reports” issued by “the other principal organs established under the Charter of the United Nations as well as reports issued by its own subsidiary bodies¹⁷.” The General Assembly Plenary receives recommendations from the six Main Committees¹⁸. Once the recommendations are sent to the Plenary Committee, the Plenary then votes on whether to adopt the resolutions as presented¹⁹. In order to come into effect, a resolution adopted by a Main Committee must also be adopted by the General Assembly Plenary²⁰. Although decisions reached by the General Assembly are non-binding, they often serve to develop customary international law and serve as a good indicator of key international policy norms²¹. Moreover, the consensus reached in the GA often leads to more concrete initiatives at the UN²². Additionally, the General Assembly can request the Secretary-General or other UN organs to issue a report to one of the Main Committees on a specified question such as the implementation of recommendations made by the General Assembly²³.

¹⁵ UN General Assembly, Functions and Powers of the General Assembly, 2014.

¹⁶ Charter of the United Nations, 1945, Art. 12; UN General Assembly, Functions and Powers of the General Assembly, 2013; UN General Assembly, Statement by the Chairperson of the Fourth Committee (7 May), 2013.

¹⁷ Charter of the United Nations, 1945, Art. 15; UN General Assembly, Functions and Powers of the General Assembly, 2013; UN General Assembly, Statement by the Chairperson of the Fourth Committee (7 May), 2013.

¹⁸ Charter of the United Nations, 1945, Art. 4; UN General Assembly, Functions and Powers of the General Assembly, 2013; UN General Assembly, Statement by the Chairperson of the Fourth Committee (7 May), 2013; UN General Assembly, About the General Assembly, 2016; Switzerland, The PGA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly, 2011, p. 20.

¹⁹ UN General Assembly, About the General Assembly, 2016.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ UN General Assembly, About the General Assembly, 2016; Switzerland, The PGA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly, 2011, p. 13.

²² UN General Assembly, About the General Assembly, 2016.

²³ UN General Assembly, About the General Assembly, 2016; Switzerland, The PGA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly, 2011, p. 36 & 47.

I. Eliminating Human Trafficking of Women, Girls, and Sexual and Gender Minorities

Introduction

Human trafficking refers to the “recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons” through force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, or abuse of power.¹ Sexual and gender minorities are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people among many other identities.² According to the Office of the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), gender identity is an important part of an individual’s identity, and their gender identity might or might not be aligned to their sex assignment at birth.³ Human trafficking is a form of forced and irregular migration that often leads to forced labor and sexual exploitation, which impacted 25 million people in 2016 with 51% of those victims being women and 20% being girls.⁴ Trafficking in persons is a growing issue, as in 2016 40% more victims were detected than in 2011.⁵ In 2018, five of ten victims were adult women while two of the ten victims were girls.⁶ The victim profile depends on the intended form of trafficking and how the trafficker plans on exploiting the victim.⁷ Trafficking starts in origin countries, where the traffickers take possession of the victims.⁸ Victims travel then through transition countries, and destination countries are their final location, although they do not need to cross international borders to be trafficked.⁹ Human trafficking is a crime that creates a high profit, as according to the International Labor Organization the industry generated \$150 billion U.S. dollars in 2014.¹⁰ The economic inequality and instability faced by women, girls, and sexual and gender minorities increases their risk for trafficking.¹¹ The UN realizes, that increased vulnerability and risen extreme poverty combined with the COVID-19 pandemic increases the risk for potential trafficking victims.¹²

International and Regional Framework

The international community has applied a gender lens to human trafficking since the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women* (CEDAW) (1979) and the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action* (1995) by highlighting the disproportionate impact of human trafficking on women.¹³ CEDAW focuses on gender equality along with ending discrimination against women and ending trafficking and exploitation of women.¹⁴ The *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action* recognized the role that poverty has in the exploitation of

¹ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (A/RES/55/25)*, 2000.

² Oxford Handbooks Online, *Sexual and Gender Minorities, Public Health and Ethics*, 2019; O’Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p. 27

³ OHCHR, *Born Free and Equal: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Sex Characteristics in International Human Rights Law*, 2019 p. 5.

⁴ OHCHR, *Human rights and trafficking in persons – overview; African Union, Khartoum Declaration on AU-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants*, 2014, p. 1.

⁵ UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, 2018, p. 23.

⁶ UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, 2020, p. 9.

⁷ Ibid, p.12. UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, 2018, p. 28.

⁸ Britannica, *Human Trafficking*, 2021.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 1; ILO, *ILO says forced labour generates annual profits of US\$ 150 billion*, 2014.

¹¹ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 2; UN Women, *Recommendations for addressing women’s human rights in the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration*, 2017, p. 7; O’Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p. 27.

¹² UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, 2020, p. 4.

¹³ UN Fourth World Conference on Women, *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*, 1995, p. 49; UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/RES/34/180)*, 1979.

¹⁴ UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/RES/34/180)*, 1979.

women, and includes human trafficking of women and girls as violence against women.¹⁵ Further, the General Assembly adopted the *Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children* (2000), or the Palermo Protocol, which is the basis for modern efforts to combat human trafficking including ensuring survivors are protected and assisted in recovery.¹⁶ Survivors are the focus with assistance and protection, and the conventions' protocol advocates for the criminalization of human trafficking.¹⁷ In 2018, the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 73/146 on Trafficking in Women and Girls, calling on Member States to create policies and undertake preventive actions that are sensitive to gender and age.¹⁸ Also in 2018, the UN adopted the Global Compact for Migration, the first global agreement to take a human rights and gender-based approach to issues of migration, including human trafficking, to mitigate the risks and vulnerabilities in migration.¹⁹

The General Assembly included human trafficking in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, or Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).²⁰ Target 8.7 of the SDGs is to end human trafficking, along with forced labor and slavery.²¹ Target 16.2 is eradicating the exploitation and trafficking of children.²² The SDGs focus on inclusivity of marginalized and excluded communities, although sexual and gender minorities are not explicitly included.²³ OHCHR has, however, published reports on sexual and gender minorities, and the Human Rights Council (HRC) has adopted several resolutions focusing on the human rights of sexual and gender minorities, as well as protecting them from violence and discrimination.²⁴ In 2016, the HRC adopted resolution 32/2 which focuses on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.²⁵ The 2020 report from the Special Rapporteurs on trafficking in persons, especially women and children focused on action going beyond the Palermo Protocol and focusing on a human rights approach to ending human trafficking.²⁶

At a regional level, the African Union adopted the Khartoum Declaration in 2014, which includes technology-sharing and capacity-building.²⁷ The Regional Conference to Address Human Trafficking and Smuggling in the Horn of Africa was organized by the African Union, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the Government of Sudan to facilitate the creation of a common approach

¹⁵ UN Fourth World Conference on Women, *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*, 1995, pp. 2-3, 50.

¹⁶ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (A/RES/55/25)*, 2000; UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in Women and Girls (A/RES/73/146)*, 2018.

¹⁷ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (A/RES/55/25)*, 2000, pp. 43- 5.

¹⁸ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in Women and Girls (A/RES/73/146)*, 2018, p. 8.

¹⁹ UN Refugees and Migrants, *Global compact for migration*, 2021.

²⁰ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015.

²¹ IOM, *Migration and the 2030 Agenda: A Guide for Practitioners*, 2018, p. 23.

²² Ibid, p. 23.

²³ IOM, *Migration and the 2030 Agenda: A Guide for Practitioners*, 2018, p. 20; O'Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p. 27.

²⁴ OHCHR, *Born Free and Equal: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Sex Characteristics in International Human Rights Law*, 2019; OHCHR, *United Nations Resolutions – Sexual orientation and gender identity*, 2021.

²⁵ UN Human Rights Council, *Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (A/HRC/RES/32/2)*, 2016.

²⁶ UN General Assembly, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons especially women and children, Maria Grazia Giammarinaro (A/75/169)*, 2020.

²⁷ African Union, *Khartoum Declaration on AU-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants*, 2014, p. 1; UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/73/146)*, 2018 p. 7.

in the area to combat human trafficking.²⁸ The conference discussed how migration patterns affect human trafficking.²⁹ The conference also focused on regional and international cooperation to combat trafficking in persons and how protection of survivors is an essential strategy.³⁰ The European Union adopted a directive in 2011 which focuses on a legal and policy framework which concentrates on survivors in a gender-specific and comprehensive approach.³¹ The directive has been applied in Central and Eastern Europe, which have the highest number of reported female victims of human trafficking.³²

Role of the International System

In addition to their broader work on gender, the Commission on the Status of Women focuses on the rights of women that are survivors of human trafficking, and UN Women works to end violence against women and girls and increasing economic opportunities to eliminate trafficking.³³ The Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council publish more specialized reports on human trafficking, focusing on victims that are female and children, and help coordinate UN efforts related to eliminating human trafficking.³⁴

In early 2020, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) hosted a meeting of experts on preventing trafficking in women and girls.³⁵ Additionally, UNODC provides many reports containing data and trends of human trafficking to the UN system.³⁶ UNODC and the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations also work with the World Tourism Organization on public education on human trafficking through a global campaign to raise awareness among travelers about human trafficking.³⁷ The General Assembly also encourages Member States to develop public awareness campaigns that are targeted to vulnerable groups, traffickers, potential clients, and law enforcement, and promotes the observation of World Day against Trafficking in Persons, with the goal of better protection and promotion of the rights of human trafficking survivors.³⁸ Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like Anti-Slavery International provide public education to business on the harms of human trafficking and how to prevent their supply chains being used for human trafficking.³⁹ Anti-Slavery International also advocates for legal reform on the local, national, and international levels, and presents court cases when Member States are unable to uphold domestic laws.⁴⁰

Since adoption of the *Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power* (1985), the General Assembly has largely addressed the issue of human trafficking through compensation and assistance for survivors.⁴¹ However, the General Assembly expanded their focus on the human trafficking of women and girls to include economic drivers and public awareness in 2018.⁴² The UN General Assembly also mandated the Inter-Agency

²⁸ African Union, *AU convenes a Regional Conference to address Human Trafficking and Smuggling in the Horn of Africa*, 2014.

²⁹ African Union, *AU Regional Conference on Human Trafficking and smuggling in the Horn of Africa*, 2014.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ European Commission – Migration and Home Affairs, *Trafficking in human beings*; European Parliament, *Trafficking in Human Beings from a Gender Perspective Directive 2011/36/EU: European Implementation Assessment*, 2016, p. 1

³² Ibid.

³³ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/73/146)*, 2018, p. 7.

³⁴ Ibid, p. 6.

³⁵ UNODC, *UNODC hosts Expert Group meeting on trafficking in women and girls in the context of global migration*, 2020.

³⁶ UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, 2018.

³⁷ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/73/146)*, 2018, p. 9.

³⁸ Ibid, pp 7, 9, 12.

³⁹ Anti-Slavery International, *How we work to end slavery*, 2021.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ UN General Assembly, *Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (A/RES/40/34)*, 1985, p. 2; UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/73/146)*, 2018.

⁴² UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/73/146)*, 2018, p. 1.

Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) to assist UN agencies in coordinating their work with other international organizations.⁴³ ICAT works to prevent human trafficking and protect and support survivors with the overall goal of ending human trafficking.⁴⁴ The Secretary-General regularly submits reports to the General Assembly on trafficking of women and girls, including the most recent during the COVID-19 pandemic.⁴⁵

Economic Drivers and Consequences

Economic insecurity of women, girls and sexual and gender minorities fuels human trafficking by exposing potential victims to traffickers when few other options are available.⁴⁶ The General Assembly and the African Union have acknowledged the need to address economic situations that often lead to human trafficking, through education and economic empowerment.⁴⁷ The SDGs specifically include Target 8.5 of achieving full and productive employment and work for women to combat human trafficking.⁴⁸ Human trafficking can also create cyclical victimization as trafficked persons' economic situations deteriorate once they are trafficked, as they often suffer from wage theft.⁴⁹ Canada is one Member State implementing General Assembly recommendations by taking proposals for community- based trauma-informed empowerment projects.⁵⁰ Many NGOs also work on providing public education and education curriculum for various ages, like A21, and others work to eliminate human trafficking by eliminating poverty, like Freeset.⁵¹

The economic insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic is increasing the risk for women and girls.⁵² The pandemic has created a global recession with high rates of job loss, especially in Member States with economies that are heavily reliant on tourism, travel, hospitality, and entertainment.⁵³ Women and other groups that are marginalized in the workplace are more likely to lose their jobs, if they had one, which creates higher risk of being victimized by traffickers.⁵⁴ UNODC has also highlighted that migrants are at a greater risk to be negatively impacted by pandemic-related economic recession.⁵⁵

Even before the pandemic, sexual and gender minorities often faced discrimination in securing employment, housing, education, and social protection.⁵⁶ The struggle to obtain housing is, globally, the largest obstacle for sexual and gender minorities in moving out of poverty.⁵⁷ One option to prevent human trafficking is Member State support of research and initiatives to create effective messaging to inform the public of the risks faced by sexual and gender minorities.⁵⁸ Developing domestic policies ending the discrimination against these individuals in employment, compensation, and legal systems can also protect them against violence and exploitation, including human trafficking.⁵⁹

⁴³ ICAT, *About Us*.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in Women and Girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, pp. 1, 13.

⁴⁶ IOM, *Migration and the 2030 Agenda: A Guide for Practitioners*, 2018, p. 24; O'Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p.12.

⁴⁷ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/73/146)*, 2018, p. 8; African Union, *Khartoum Declaration on AU-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants*, 2014, p. 2.

⁴⁸ IOM, *Migration and the 2030 Agenda: A Guide for Practitioners*, 2018, p. 24.

⁴⁹ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 5.

⁵⁰ Government of Canada, *Government of Canada's Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking*, 2020.

⁵¹ A21, *Our solution*; Freeset, *Who are we*, 2020

⁵² UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 1.

⁵³ UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, 2020, p. 75.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ O'Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p. 12.

⁵⁷ Ibid, p. 37.

⁵⁸ Ibid, p. 77; UNODC, *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto*, 2004, p. 46.

⁵⁹ O'Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p. 37.

Prosecution of Traffickers and Protection of Survivors

Impunity for traffickers creates incentives for traffickers, as there is a perception of little risk with high financial rewards.⁶⁰ Globally, conviction rates are low, meaning there is low risk and expense to the traffickers.⁶¹ The *Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* requires that Member States who ratify the convention criminalize human trafficking and develop policies to prevent trafficking in persons.⁶² The Khartoum Declaration recommended that origin, transit, and destination countries improve their capacity to assist in the prosecution efforts of human traffickers.⁶³ Additionally, according to the IOM, improving the rule of law will allow more survivors to access to the justice system by prosecuting more traffickers, provide proper documentation to migrants, and prevent revictimization.⁶⁴ By allowing survivors legal identity, they will be able to access social services and prevent revictimization into trafficking.⁶⁵

Gender-responsive protection techniques assist agencies with early identification of survivors and the ability to refer to appropriate support services.⁶⁶ UNODC and the UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking provides a toolkit for criminal justice practitioners to help them assist human trafficking survivors.⁶⁷ For those survivors who have crossed international borders, if they remain stateless, they are also more vulnerable and therefore at risk of revictimization.⁶⁸ Efforts combatting organized crime do not generally punish trafficking survivors by using the non-punishment principle, which allows for trafficked individuals to not be detained, charged, or prosecuted for immigration or criminal purposes.⁶⁹ This non-punishment principle can be integrated into existing law and policy or be used to develop law, policy, and practices.⁷⁰ This principle can also be implemented retroactively by vacating and expunging past criminal records of trafficking survivors.⁷¹ Sexual and gender minorities in migration are subject to higher rates of abuse and exploitation by both other migrants and authorities, and so would benefit from more comprehensive identification techniques and gender-responsive services.⁷² For example, training programs for criminal justice actors can assist them in protecting sexual and gender minorities.⁷³ The specific criminalization of being a sexual and gender minority makes these communities and individuals even more vulnerable to victimization and revictimization, and infringes their human rights.⁷⁴

Survivors of trafficking frequently suffer from long-term economic instability, as well as poor physical and mental health.⁷⁵ Compensation for survivors provides financial punishment for the traffickers, as well as help compensate for survivors' financial loss, and fund their physical and

⁶⁰ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 4.

⁶¹ Ibid, pp. 4, 11.

⁶² UNODC, *The Protocol*.

⁶³ African Union, *Khartoum Declaration on AU-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants*, 2014, p. 2.

⁶⁴ IOM, *Migration and the 2030 Agenda: A Guide for Practitioners*, 2018, p. 47.

⁶⁵ Ibid.

⁶⁶ UN Women, *Recommendations for addressing women's human rights in the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration*, 2017, pp. 5, 11.

⁶⁷ UNODC, *Anti-human trafficking manual for criminal justice practitioners*, 2009, p. 8

⁶⁸ UN Women, *Recommendations for addressing women's human rights in the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration*, 2017, p. 7.

⁶⁹ Ibid; UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 7.

⁷⁰ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 7.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² UN Women, *Recommendations for addressing women's human rights in the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration*, 2017, pp. 5, 11; O'Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p. 76.

⁷³ O'Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p. 67.

⁷⁴ OHCHR, *Born Free and Equal: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Sex Characteristics in International Human Rights Law*, 2019, pp. 44, 48.

⁷⁵ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 5.

mental recovery.⁷⁶ In 2010, the UN created the Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and it has raised over 7.8 million U.S. dollars that have been distributed to 90 NGOs.⁷⁷ The NGOs have assisted over 3,500 human trafficking survivors by helping them receive legal representation, compensation, or aid packages.⁷⁸ Frequently, however, survivors do not receive compensation, or they struggle to access compensation due to barriers such as lack of access to information and communication technologies, as well as lack of identification documents.⁷⁹

Conclusion

The economic inequality faced by women, girls, and sexual and gender minorities leaves them at higher risk of trafficking, which can be mitigated through not only focusing on the human trafficking itself but also the underlying conditions of poverty and lack of access.⁸⁰ Criminalization of women, girls and sexual and gender minorities who are human trafficking survivors infringes their human rights and can lead to revictimization.⁸¹ According to UNODC, Member States need to support research on human trafficking to gain more information for public awareness, mitigate economic risk factors, prosecute traffickers, and protect victims and survivors.⁸² COVID-19 has also created increased economic insecurity which has increased the risk for women, girls, and sexual and gender minorities of being exploited into human trafficking.⁸³ The pandemic has directed resources and public attention off of the elimination of human trafficking, along with increased risk of becoming trafficking victims due to economic insecurities.⁸⁴

Further Research

While researching this topic further, delegates should consider the following questions: While economic instability and vulnerability are major factors contributing to risk of being trafficked what are other factors contributing to risk of people being trafficked? What are the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on human trafficking? How do existing laws and policies within Member States create a risk for certain individuals to be trafficked? Are there certain prevention measures that are more effective than others when considering the issue using a gender lens?

⁷⁶ Ibid, p. 15.

⁷⁷ UNODC, *An integral component of global efforts to address trafficking in persons*.

⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 5.

⁸⁰ Ibid, p. 2; IOM, *Migration and the 2030 Agenda: A Guide for Practitioners*, 2018, p. 24; O'Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p. 12.

⁸¹ UN Women, *Recommendations for addressing women's human rights in the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration*, 2017, p. 7; UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/73/146)*, 2018, p. 10.

⁸² UNODC, *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto*, 2004, p. 46.

⁸³ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, p. 1; UN Women, *Recommendations for addressing women's human rights in the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration*, 2017, p. 7; O'Malley, J. & Holzinger, A., *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*, 2018, p. 27.

⁸⁴ UN General Assembly, *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*, 2020, pp. 1, 10.

Annotated Bibliography

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-fifth session. (2000). *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (A/RES/55/25)*. Retrieved 14 February 2021 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/55/25>

This convention is the first major document from the General Assembly on Human Trafficking. The convention focuses on preventing human trafficking, including punishing traffickers and particularly emphasizes the trafficking of women and children. The document focuses on reactive actions to deal with the consequences of human trafficking and punish traffickers to create more consistency among Member States' national legislations. As a foundational document on human trafficking, the convention provides a source for future and current policies. Delegates will find this source helpful as they begin their research to understand the basis of work on human trafficking in the UN system.

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-third session. (2018). *Trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/73/146)*. Adopted on the report of the Third Committee (A/73/582). Retrieved 13 February 2021 from: <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/73/146>

The resolution takes a more proactive approach to preventing human trafficking and includes an outline of previous frameworks and the key actors in human trafficking. It also calls for gender equality to help eliminate the high rates of women and girls being trafficked. Additionally, the resolution focuses on raising public awareness as a deterrent to human trafficking. This source will provide delegates with a general understanding of where the General Assembly is on the issue of trafficking of women and girls, and what actions it has previously recommended.

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-fifth session (2020). *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*. Retrieved from 13 February 2021 from: <https://undocs.org/en/A/75/289>

This report from the Secretary-General highlights activities carried out by Member States and the United Nations system. It focuses on the economic implications of trafficking, including both drivers and consequences, and emphasizes the importance of prosecution of traffickers. The report notes that trafficking survivors generally lack support, protection, and health care. The report also highlights the recent implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on human trafficking. Delegates may find this source helpful as a broad summary of the current, global state of the issue of human trafficking.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2018). *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*. Retrieved 16 February 2021 from: https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2018/GLOTiP_2018_BOOK_web_small.pdf

This report provides data on human trafficking, including a global overview at the beginning. It also provides information on the increased detection of victims; the increased convictions and still widespread impunity; the victim profile; the forms of exploitation; profiles of the offenders; trafficking flows; and some institutional responses. The report is broken down into regional areas, providing delegates with regional-specific information for their Member State, as well as a more comprehensive understanding of the issue.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes. (2020). *UNODC hosts Expert Group meeting on trafficking in women and girls in the context of global migration*. Retrieved 12 February 2021: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/Webstories2019/expert-group-meeting-on-trafficking-of-women-and-girls-in-the-context-of-global-migration--feeding-into-the-cedaw-general-recommendations.html>

This source highlights the key actors and documents that are combatting trafficking in women and girls. The document highlights how CEDAW can be used to eliminate human trafficking of women and girls; objectives 9 and 10 of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration; and the almost universal ratification of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Delegates should use this source as a starting point for further research and idea formulating, as it provides a good summary of the international framework on human trafficking as well as a recent contextual update

Bibliography

A21. (n.d.). *Our solution*. Retrieved 22 May 2021 from <https://www.a21.org/content/our-solution/grdphc>

African Union. (2014). *AU convenes a Regional Conference to address Human Trafficking and Smuggling in the Horn of Africa*. Retrieved 23 March 2021 from: <https://au.int/fr/newsevents/28020/au-convenes-regional-conference-address-human-trafficking-and-smuggling-horn-africa>

African Union. (2014). *Khartoum Declaration on AU-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants*. Retrieved 18 March 2021 from: https://au.int/sites/default/files/pages/32899-file-6_au-hoai-declaration_2014_finaladopted.pdf

European Parliament. (2016). *Trafficking in Human Beings from a Gender Perspective Directive 2011/36/EU: European Implementation Assessment*. Retrieved 5 June 2021 from: [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2016/581412/EPRS_STU\(2016\)5814_12_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2016/581412/EPRS_STU(2016)5814_12_EN.pdf)

Freeset. (2020). *Who are we*. Retrieved 22 May 2021 from: <https://freesetglobal.com/about-us/>

Government of Canada. (2020). *Government of Canada's Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking*. Retrieved 23 May, 2021 from <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2020/07/government-of-canadas-efforts-to-combat-human-trafficking.html>

Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT). (n.d.). *About Us*. Retrieved 16 February 2021 from: <https://icat.un.org/about>

International Labour Organisation. (2014, May 20). *ILO says forced labour generates annual profits of US\$ 150 billion*. Retrieved 5 June 2021 from: [https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_243201/lang-en/index.htm#:~:text=GENEVA%20\(ILO%20News\)%20%E2%80%93%20Forced,International%20Labour%20Organization%20\(ILO\)](https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_243201/lang-en/index.htm#:~:text=GENEVA%20(ILO%20News)%20%E2%80%93%20Forced,International%20Labour%20Organization%20(ILO))

International Organization on Migration. (2018). *Migration and the 2030 Agenda: A Guide for Practitioners*. Retrieved 16 February 2021 from https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/sdg_en.pdf

O'Malley, J. & A. Holzinger. (2018). *The Sustainable Development Goals Sexual and Gender Minorities*. Retrieved 15 February 2021 from: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/hiv-aids/sexual-and-gender-minorities.html>

Oxford Handbooks Online, *Sexual and Gender Minorities, Public Health and Ethics*. Retrieved 21 March 2021 from: 10

<https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190245191.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780190245191-e-17>

United Nations, Fourth World Conference on Women. (1995). *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*. Retrieved 13 February 2021 from: <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/pdf/BDPfA%20E.pdf>

United Nations, General Assembly, Thirty-fourth session. (1979). *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/RES/34/180)*. Adopted on the report of the Third Committee (A/34/830). Retrieved 13 February 2021 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/34/180>

United Nations, General Assembly, Fortieth session. (1985). *Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (A/RES/40/34)*. Adopted on the report of the Third Committee (A/40/881). Retrieved 15 February 2021 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/40/34>

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-fifth session. (2000). *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (A/RES/55/25)*. Retrieved 14 February 2021 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/55/25>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. Retrieved 14 February 2021 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-third session. (2018). *Trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/73/146)*. Adopted on the report of the Third Committee (A/73/582). Retrieved 13 February 2021 from: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/73/146>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-fifth session. (2020). *Report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons especially women and children, Maria Grazia Giammarinaro (A/75/169)*. Retrieved 19 April 2021 from: <https://undocs.org/A/75/169>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-fifth session. (2020). *Trafficking in women and girls – Report of the Secretary-General (A/75/289)*. Retrieved 13 February 2021 from: <https://undocs.org/A/75/289>

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. (2017). *Recommendations for addressing women's human rights in the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration*. Retrieved 5 June 2021 from: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2017/3/addressing-womens-rights-in-global-compact-for-migration>

United Nations Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner. (n.d.). *Human rights and trafficking in persons – overview*. Retrieved 14 February 2021 from <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Trafficking/TiP/Pages/Index.aspx>

United Nations Human Rights, Office of High Commissioner. (2019). *Born free and equal: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Sex Characteristics in International Human Rights Law*. Retrieved 23 April 2021 from [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Born Free and Equal WEB.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Born_Free_and_Equal_WEB.pdf)

United Nations Human Rights, Office of High Commissioner. (2021). *United Nations Resolutions – Sexual orientation and gender identity*. Retrieved 5 June 2021 from: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/discrimination/pages/lgbtunresolutions.aspx>

United Nations Human Rights Council. (2016). *Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (A/HRC/RES/32/2)*. Retrieved 5 June 2021 from: <https://undocs.org/a/hrc/res/32/2>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). *An integral component of global efforts to address trafficking in persons*. Retrieved 25 April 2021 from: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/human-trafficking-fund.html>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). *The Protocol*. Retrieved 14 February 2021 from: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/2021the-protocol-tip.html>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2004). *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto*. Retrieved 16 February 2021 from: <https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNTOC/Publications/TOC%20Convention/TOCebook-e.pdf>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2009). *Anti-human trafficking manual for criminal justice practitioners*. Retrieved 22 May, 2021 from: https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/09-80667_Introduction_Ebook.pdf

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2018). *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*. Retrieved 16 February 2021 from: https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2018/GLOTiP_2018_BOOK_web_small.pdf

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2020). *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*. Retrieved 12 May 2021 from https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tip/2021/GLOTiP_2020_15jan_web.pdf

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2020). *UNODC hosts Expert Group meeting on trafficking in women and girls in the context of global migration*. Retrieved 12 February 2021: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/Webstories2019/expert-group-meeting-on-trafficking-of-women-and-girls-in-the-context-of-global-migration--feeding-into-the-cedaw-general-recommendations.html>

United Nations Refugee and Migrants. (2021). *Global Compact for Migration*. Retrieved 16 February 2021 from: <https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/migration-compact>

II. Measures to Strengthen International Counter-Terrorism Efforts

Terrorism is a significant threat to peace and security, prosperity and people. The international community continues to pursue a robust and comprehensive response. Collective efforts have disrupted attacks and disabled terrorist networks.⁸⁵

Introduction

Terrorism has always been a serious threat to the international community as it impacts the peace and security of states.⁸⁶ Terrorist activities also violate some of the basic principles of human rights, threaten the rule of law, and the protection of civilians that are mentioned in the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945).⁸⁷ Since the formation of the United Nations (UN), the international community has never fully agreed on a binding definition of terrorism, despite its prevalence.⁸⁸ Several attempts by the international community to define terrorism have been made, though the primary disagreements impeding consensus on its definition are whether such a definition should include states' use of armed forces against civilians and the potential right of people under foreign occupation to resist in any means necessary.⁸⁹ These debates are particularly important because acts of terrorism often occur in areas with regional conflict or occupation.⁹⁰ The number of terrorist attacks in countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Egypt, Iraq, the Philippines, Syria, and Turkey has increased since 2015.⁹¹ Terrorist organizations such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and Boko Haram have been responsible for several of the terrorist attacks in Asia and Africa respectively.⁹² Also in Europe, the number of casualties due to terrorist attacks substantially increased in 2015 compared to prior years.⁹³

Despite the lack of an agreed-upon definition, significant work has been done in order to counter the spread of terrorism.⁹⁴ The UN has consistently worked on improving counter-terrorism efforts by creating frameworks where states can collaborate in order to preserve the rule of law, human rights, and protection of civilians as well as spread unity and peace nationally, regionally, and internationally.⁹⁵ Consequently, the General Assembly adopted resolution 60/288 of 2006 to launch the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which establishes a common theme and method for the fight against terrorism.⁹⁶ The strategy, noting that all forms and manifestations of terrorism would not be tolerated by the international community, outlines several practical procedures in order to prevent and combat these acts of terrorism.⁹⁷ The international community has been working on an arrangement of procedures to be taken that cover and include strengthening state capacity to coordinate counter-terrorism activities with the UN.⁹⁸

⁸⁵ UN Security Council, *Summary record of the 6765th meeting (S/PV.6765)*, 2012.

⁸⁶ Durmaz, *Understanding and Responding to Terrorism*, 2007, p. 66.

⁸⁷ *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Ch. I; UNFPA, *Human Rights Principles*, 2005.

⁸⁸ Human Rights Voices, *There is no UN definition of Terrorism*.

⁸⁹ UN, High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, *A more secure world: Our shared responsibility. Report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change*, 2004.

⁹⁰ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General (A/59/565)*, 2004, p. 47.

⁹¹ National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, *Annex of Statistical Information: Country Reports on Terrorism 2015*, 2016.

⁹² Ibid.

⁹³ DataGraver, *People killed by terrorism per year in Western Europe 1970-2015*, 2015.

⁹⁴ Human Rights Voices, *There is no UN definition of Terrorism*.

⁹⁵ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

⁹⁶ Ibid.

⁹⁷ Ibid.

⁹⁸ Ibid.

International and Regional Framework

The basis of efforts by the UN to combat terrorism can be seen in the *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism* (1999).⁹⁹ Article 2 specifies that acts violating this convention include those in which funds are collected in full or in part toward the financing of terrorism or terrorist activities.¹⁰⁰ Additionally, the *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism* (2005) aims at preventing anyone from acquiring or possessing nuclear material with the intent to do harm or threaten international peace.¹⁰¹ The General Assembly previously adopted the *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons* (1973), which summarizes the codes of protection of diplomats from kidnapping and murder in any context¹⁰². In 1979, taking steps toward the development of a comprehensive legal framework on international counter-terrorism, the General Assembly adopted the *International Convention against Taking of Hostages* and in 1997 the *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombing* noting that these actions are a matter of international concern as they threaten international peace and security.¹⁰³

In 2003, the UN adopted the *United Nations Convention against Corruption*.¹⁰⁴ This convention addresses issues such as abuse of power and corruption in private sectors while calling on Member States to ensure transparency.¹⁰⁵ Required mechanisms of prevention include the establishment of anti-corruption bodies, the criminalization of corruption in all its forms, and the establishment of offices ensuring that terrorist organizations are not being supported by any means including financially.¹⁰⁶ Terrorist groups often benefit from high levels of corruption in a country due to impeded rule of law, which facilitates money laundering and the formation of terrorist groups, making anti-corruption efforts an important aspect of counter-terrorism.¹⁰⁷ Furthermore, the convention calls for international cooperation in terms of providing legal assistance and gathering and transferring.¹⁰⁸

The Secretary-General established the United Nations' High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change in 2003 to conduct a study and provide key insight into the threats to international peace and security.¹⁰⁹ In the resulting report (A/59/565), the panel recommends establishing a comprehensive strategy against terrorism and finalizing a definition for terrorism.¹¹⁰ In 2005, the international community took a united stance condemning of all forms of terrorism at the World Summit.¹¹¹ In that context, former Secretary-General Kofi Annan published the 2005 report on "Uniting against terrorism: recommendations for a global counter-

⁹⁹ UN General Assembly, *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism* (A/RES/54/109), 1999.

¹⁰⁰ UN General Assembly, *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism* (A/RES/54/109), 1999.

¹⁰¹ UN General Assembly, *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism* (A/RES/59/290), 2005, pp.2-3.

¹⁰² UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents* (A/RES/3166 (XXVIII)), 1973.

¹⁰³ UN General Assembly, *International Convention against the Taking of Hostages* (A/RES/34/146), 1979; UN General Assembly, *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings* (A/RES/52/164), 1997.

¹⁰⁴ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Convention against Corruption* (A/RES/58/4), 2003.

¹⁰⁵ Ibid.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid.

¹⁰⁷ UNODC, *UN Instruments and Other Relevant International Standards on Money-Laundering and Terrorist Financing*.

¹⁰⁸ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Convention against Corruption* (A/RES/58/4), 2003.

¹⁰⁹ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General* (A/59/565), 2004.

¹¹⁰ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General* (A/59/565), 2012.

¹¹¹ UN DPI, *The 2005 World Summit High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th session of the UN General Assembly*, 2005.

terrorism strategy" (A/60/825) in which he hoped that terrorism would be fought on a global level, uniting governments and international organizations on matters of preventing the support for terrorism and defending human rights.¹¹² Following this report, the General Assembly adopted resolution 60/288, establishing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.¹¹³ The strategy consists of four main pillars, which include addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism; preventing and combating terrorism; building Member States' capacity and strengthening the role of the UN in the fight against terrorism; and ensuring human rights and the rule of law.¹¹⁴ In his report 66/762 to the General Assembly on implementing the strategy, the Secretary-General expresses his support for the victims of terrorism and stresses the importance of global counter-terrorism efforts.¹¹⁵

Role of the International System

In 1994, the General Assembly adopted resolution 49/60 on the *Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism*, leading to the establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee on Terrorism in 1996 as a supplement to the declaration.¹¹⁶ Following the declaration, Member States reached a common understanding allowing counterterrorism measures to consistently be discussed and for appropriate actions to be taken, including the adoption of the *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings*¹¹⁷. The *Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism* is a proposed convention that has been in deadlock discussion since 1996, which would finalize an internationally agreed-upon definition of terrorism and address all terrorist acts.¹¹⁸ In 2012, the General Assembly Sixth Committee urged Member States to complete the draft for this convention.¹¹⁹

One of the main outcomes of cooperation between Member States on terrorism has been the adoption and the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2006).¹²⁰ The main objective of the strategy is to preserve human rights while preventing terrorist attacks.¹²¹ In addition to this, in January 2016, the Secretary-General drafted a *Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism*, which was discussed in the context of both the Geneva Conference on Preventing Violent Extremism and the General Assembly's Fifth Review of Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.¹²² The Plan of Action calls upon Member States to set out a plan to combat extremist terrorist organizations such as ISIL and Boko Haram nationally and regionally.¹²³ The Plan of Action works in a very broad manner focusing not only on improving security but also identifying and preventing people from being exposed to radical content and eventually joining an extremist group.¹²⁴ Likewise, in 2016, the General Assembly adopted resolution 70/291 in which it calls upon all entities working on combating terrorism including Member States and regional and international organizations to enhance its efforts toward implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.¹²⁵

¹¹² UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

¹¹³ Ibid.

¹¹⁴ Ibid.

¹¹⁵ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy: Report of the Secretary-General (A/66/762)*, 2012, p. 8.

¹¹⁶ UN General Assembly, *Measures to eliminate international terrorism (A/RES/49/60)*, 1994; UN Office of Legal Affairs, *Ad Hoc Committee and established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996*, 1996.

¹¹⁷ UN Office of Legal Affairs, *Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996*, 1996.

¹¹⁸ UN DPI, *Legal Committee Urges Conclusion of Draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (GA/L/3433)*, 2012.

¹¹⁹ Ibid; Livemint, *What is the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism*, 2016.

¹²⁰ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

¹²¹ Ibid.

¹²² Ibid.

¹²³ UN General Assembly, *Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism: Report of the Secretary-General (A/70/674)*, 2015.

¹²⁴ UN CTITF, *Plan of Action to prevent violent extremism*.

¹²⁵ UN General Assembly, *The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review (A/RES/70/291)*, 2016.

In 1998 the Security Council adopted resolution 1189, condemning the impacts of terrorism on international relations and calling for the cooperation and support of international institutions to aid the governments of Kenya and Tanzania, which had both recently suffered from a terrorist attack.¹²⁶ Due to the increase in the number of terrorist attacks in 1998, the Security Council also adopted resolution 1269, which condemned terrorism in all its forms and characterized it as a crime threatening international peace.¹²⁷ The resolution called upon all Member States to fully implement all counter-terrorism conventions.¹²⁸ In 1999, the Security Council took a firm stance against the terrorist organization Al-Qaida and adopted resolution 1267, which was an attempt to weaken and stop their terrorist activities through a sanctions regime.¹²⁹ This resolution, which was the first of its kind, declared Osama bin Laden and his associates as terrorists and set in place an air, financial, and arms embargo.¹³⁰ In 2017, the Security Council adopted resolution 2368, which states that all Member States should impose the asset freeze, travel ban, and arms embargo against ISIL, Al-Qaida, and any associated individuals or groups from resolutions 1333 and 1390.¹³¹

Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) established the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) which works on criminalizing financing of terrorism, improving information sharing between governments, and preventing any means of assistance for terrorist organizations.¹³² The Security Council is also concerned with the proliferation of weapons of mass destructions as related to terrorism, which is why the Security Council, in 2004, adopted resolution 1540 establishing the 1540 Committee.¹³³ The committee is focused on four aspects: monitoring and national implementation; assistance; cooperation with international organization and other UN bodies; and transparency and media outreach.¹³⁴ Under this resolution, Member States are obliged not to cooperate with or support any non-state actors in obtaining, developing, or transporting nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons.¹³⁵ In addition to that, in 2004 the Security Council adopted resolution 1566 to establish the 1566 Working Group that takes actions against entities that are involved in terrorism but are not subjected to the mandate of the 1267 Committee, which deals with the Al-Qaida sanctions regime.¹³⁶ This includes examining measures to be implemented upon entities associated with terrorism and setting up an international fund for the financial aid of victims of terrorism.¹³⁷

Money laundering and the financing of terrorism are interconnected issues and several organizations have taken steps to address it.¹³⁸ The International Monetary Fund established the Anti-Money Laundering Initiative in 2001 for the purpose of combating terrorism.¹³⁹ During the 1989 Group of 7 (G7) Summit in Paris, Member States formed the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to enforce standards toward promoting legal, regulatory, and operational

¹²⁶ UN Security Council, *On the International Terrorism (S/RES/1189(1998))*, 1998.

¹²⁷ UN Security Council, *On the responsibility of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security (S/RES/1269 (1999))*, 1999.

¹²⁸ Ibid.

¹²⁹ UN Security Council, *Afghanistan (S/RES/1267 (1999))*, 1999.

¹³⁰ Ibid., pp. 3-4.

¹³¹ UN Security Council, *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts - Preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons (S/RES/2370 (2017))*, 2017.

¹³² UN Security Council, *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts (S/RES/1373(2001))*, 2001, pp. 2-3.

¹³³ UN 1540 Committee, *General Information*.

¹³⁴ UN 1540 Committee, *Letter dated 10 February 2017 from the Chairs of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2017/126)*, 2017.

¹³⁵ UN 1540 Committee, *General Information*.

¹³⁶ Harvard Law School Program on International Law and Armed Conflict, *Security Council Working Group established pursuant to Resolution 1566*, 2015.

¹³⁷ Ibid., UN Security Council Subsidiary Organs, *Working group established pursuant to resolution 1566*.

¹³⁸ Lo, *FATF initiatives to combat terrorist financing*, 2002.

¹³⁹ IMF, *Anti-Money Laundering/ Combatting the Financing of Terrorism*.

measures to prevent money laundering.¹⁴⁰ The FATF works through a set of international standards which are designed to prevent terrorists from obtaining funds from their supporters.¹⁴¹ However, in order to ensure more effective measures against terrorist financing, more assertive legislation, enforcement capacity, and increased international cooperation are needed.¹⁴² The North Atlantic Treaty Organization launched the Partnership Action Plan on Terrorism (PAP-T) which focuses on the economic and financial aspects of countering terrorism.¹⁴³ PAP-T aims at preventing the smuggling of small arms through information sharing via the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council Ad Hoc group as well as preventing the use of weapons of mass destruction.¹⁴⁴ The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) has also been active in combating terrorism.¹⁴⁵ It established the Counter-Terrorism Fusion Centre that investigates terrorist organizations' hierarchies, training, financing, methods, and motives.¹⁴⁶ INTERPOL works toward countering threats from chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive weapons by sharing information and intelligence analysis, capacity building and training, and operational and investigative support to each Member State.¹⁴⁷

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has been working with the G7 and Russia to improve their counter-terrorism responsibilities toward nuclear material which covers promoting safeguards against terrorists, strengthening the international non-proliferation acts.¹⁴⁸ These acts include the initiatives on safe disposal of plutonium which is not needed for defense purposes.¹⁴⁹ The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has been working on providing protection and assistance to Member States that would face the threat of chemical weapons.¹⁵⁰ It hosted a workshop in 2011 about "International response and mitigation of a terrorist use of chemical, biological and toxin weapons or materials."¹⁵¹ This aimed to strengthen the exchange of knowledge among organizations related to responding to weapons of mass destruction's attacks.¹⁵²

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is a global instrument that unifies the international efforts fighting terrorism.¹⁵³ The first pillar of the strategy addresses the conditions which promote the spread of terrorism.¹⁵⁴ For the purposes of the first pillar, former Secretary-General Kofi Annan launched the UN Alliance of Civilizations in 2005.¹⁵⁵ The Alliance, initiated by the prime minister of Spain and co-sponsored by the prime minister of Turkey, began when the international community noticed that extremists had caused major instability in terms of acceptance and tolerance between cultures.¹⁵⁶ The Alliance is composed of people with different ideologies and backgrounds striving to create a mutual understanding between

¹⁴⁰ FATF, *Annual Report 2015 – 2016*, 2017.

¹⁴¹ Lo, *FATF initiatives to combat terrorist financing*, 2002.

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ NATO, *Money at the root of evil: The Economics of Transnational Terrorism*, 2007.

¹⁴⁴ NATO, *Partnership Action Plans against Terrorism*, 2002.

¹⁴⁵ INTERPOL, *Counter-Terrorism Fusion Centre*.

¹⁴⁶ Ibid.

¹⁴⁷ INTERPOL, *CBRNE*.

¹⁴⁸ IAEA, *G8 Backs IAEA Role in Countering Terrorism*, 2002.

¹⁴⁹ Ibid.

¹⁵⁰ OPCW, *The OPCW's Role in Combating Terrorism*, 2001.

¹⁵¹ UN CTITF, *Preventing and responding to WMD terrorist attacks*.

¹⁵² Ibid.

¹⁵³ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

¹⁵⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵⁵ UN DPI, *Secretary-General announces composition of High-Level group of Alliance of Civilization (SG/SM/10073/REV.1)*, 2005.

¹⁵⁶ UN DPI, *Secretary-General announces launch of 'Alliance of Civilizations' aimed at bridging divides between societies exploited by extremists*, 2005.

people of different backgrounds.¹⁵⁷

The second pillar focuses on preventing and combating terrorist attacks.¹⁵⁸ Based on this pillar, the General Assembly adopted resolution 71/151 in 2016, which calls upon all Member States to join and implement the *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombing* and the *International Convention for the Suppression Acts of Nuclear Terrorism*.¹⁵⁹ In addition, it asks Member States to fully incorporate the conventions and protocols into national legislation strengthening prosecution of terrorist acts.¹⁶⁰ Moreover, the CTC works to find solutions for effectively countering extreme terrorism, foreign terrorist fighters, and the financing of terrorism by, for instance, sharing intelligence and strengthening law enforcement.¹⁶¹ The CTC's efforts to impede the financial flows of ISIL were noted in Security Council resolution 2178.¹⁶² However, one of the biggest issues is that the lack of coherence and effective direct communication among counter-terrorism entities leads to inefficient counter-terrorism efforts.¹⁶³ Due to the overlapping mandates among the plethora of counter-terrorism entities, activities often run in parallel rather than in coordination with each other.¹⁶⁴

The third pillar aims to enhance Member States' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism through a number of measures, including sharing information, providing technical assistance, and enhancing cooperation among UN bodies like UNODC, INTERPOL, the International Monetary Fund, and Member States.¹⁶⁵ Often times, Member States are vulnerable to terrorism because of their instability.¹⁶⁶ The cooperation and coordination measures of this pillar are particularly important because they not only address counter-terrorism efforts but also allow for coordination between Member States in other areas that serve to improve stability within states.¹⁶⁷ To that end, the General Assembly in its resolution 70/291 (2016) called for enhanced dialogue and "greater coordination and coherence among the United Nations entities and with donors and recipients of counter-terrorism capacitybuilding."¹⁶⁸ Examples of coordination efforts among UN bodies in the field of counter-terrorism include the World Health Organization's provision of technical assistance to aid Member States to prevent and prepare for any biological acts conducted by terrorists and the IAEA's efforts to build states' capacity to prevent terrorist acquisition of nuclear, chemical or radiological materials.¹⁶⁹

The fourth pillar promotes human rights and rule of law to ensure that counter-terrorism measures do not conflict with fundamental human rights and to promote the protection of victims of terrorism.¹⁷⁰ In support of this pillar, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights appointed a Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.¹⁷¹ This is done by working on developing

¹⁵⁷ UN Alliance of Civilizations, *About Us*, 2017.

¹⁵⁸ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

¹⁵⁹ UN General Assembly, *Measures to eliminate International Terrorism (A/RES/71/151 (2016))*, 2016.

¹⁶⁰ Ibid.

¹⁶¹ UN CTC, *Focus Areas*, 2017.

¹⁶² UN CTC, *Terrorism financing*.

¹⁶³ Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation, *International Process on Global Counter-Terrorism Cooperation*, 2008, p. 34.

¹⁶⁴ UN DPI, *With Global Strategy, Member States Expressed Strong Resolve to Defeat Terrorism; Now Actions, Results Needed to Free World from Scourge, General Assembly Told (GA/11259)*, 2012.

¹⁶⁵ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

¹⁶⁶ Al-Badayneh et al., *Understanding Terrorism: Analysis of Sociological and Psychological Aspects*, 2007, p. 142.

¹⁶⁷ UN DPI, *Conflict prevention, migration and terrorism key concerns for EU and member countries at UN*, 2017.

¹⁶⁸ UN General Assembly, *Strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/71/291)*, 2017, p. 7.

¹⁶⁹ WHO, *Public health response to biological and chemical weapons*, 2004, p. 12; UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

¹⁷⁰ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

¹⁷¹ UN General Assembly, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism*, 2010, pp. 1-2; UN OHCHR, *Human Rights, Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism*, 2008.

human rights standards and providing advice on technical cooperation.¹⁷² The Special Rapporteur's mandate includes making recommendations about ensuring the protection of human rights and freedom, integrating a gender perspective in all activities, and regularly reporting to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly.¹⁷³ The rule of law is extremely critical as its negligence can lead to corruption, which contributes to global insecurity, the violations of human rights, and the formation of terrorist groups.¹⁷⁴ Peace and security on an international level cannot be achieved without the adequate installment of rule of law and promoting human rights on a national level.¹⁷⁵

Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force

In 2004, the Secretary-General noted that Member States attempting to undertake counter-terrorism activities lacked UN-facilitated technical support and instead sought bilateral cooperation in order to receive operational support for such activities.¹⁷⁶ In response to this need for a framework that would coordinate counter-terrorism activities between UN agencies and Member States, the Secretary-General established the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) in 2005.¹⁷⁷ The Task Force consists of 38 international entities which provide policy support, technical assistance, and knowledge to Member States.¹⁷⁸ The Task Force's main objective is to ensure coherence and coordination toward achieving the goals of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.¹⁷⁹ Furthermore, the CTITF has fostered cooperation with several regional and international organizations such as the European Union, the Council of Europe, and INTERPOL.¹⁸⁰

Following acknowledgment in resolution 60/288 (2006) that there was a need for an international body that could focus on counter-terrorism efforts, the General Assembly established the United Nations Counter Terrorism Centre in September 2011 through resolution 66/10, with the mandate of working within the CTITF and Department of Political Affairs on the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.¹⁸¹ In 2017, the General Assembly adopted resolution 71/291, combining the CTITF and UN Counter-Terrorism Centre into a single office headed by an Under-Secretary-General, known as the Office of Counter-Terrorism.¹⁸² This merger intends to make the CTITF more efficient as it transfers the regular and extra-budgetary resources from the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat to the Office of Counter-Terrorism.¹⁸³ The office has five main functions which include providing leadership to the counter-terrorism mandates set by the General Assembly; improving coordination for the implementation of the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by managing the 38 Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task force entities; improving the UN counter-terrorism capacity building assistance for each Member State; improving the efforts of the counter-terrorism measures by increasing visibility, support and improve resources; and ensuring the effective work being done on prevention of violent extremism.¹⁸⁴

¹⁷² UN General Assembly, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism*, 2010, pp. 1-2; UN OHCHR, *Special Procedures of the Human rights Council*.

¹⁷³ UN OHCHR, *Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism*, 2017.

¹⁷⁴ Bistrong, *Corruption's Impact on the Rule of Law & Security: Moving from the Vicious to the Virtuous*, 2015.

¹⁷⁵ UN Chronicle, *The Role of the UN in Promoting the Rule of Law: Challenges and New Approaches*, 2012.

¹⁷⁶ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General (A/59/565)*, 2004, p. 50.

¹⁷⁷ UN CTITF, *About the Task Force*, 2017.

¹⁷⁸ UN CTITF, *Coordination and coherence of the counter terrorism efforts of the United Nations*.

¹⁷⁹ UN DPI, *Implementation the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2007.

¹⁸⁰ OSCE, *The Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2014, p. 4.

¹⁸¹ UN CTC, *Background*.

¹⁸² UN OCT, *About*, 2017.

¹⁸³ UN General Assembly, *Strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/71/291)*, 2017, p. 2.

¹⁸⁴ UN OCT, *About*, 2017.

Conclusion

Combating terrorism has been a priority topic in the UN for over a decade.¹⁸⁵ The Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is instrumental in the fight against terrorism, discussing several fundamental concepts of terrorism as well as the prevention of and response to terrorism.¹⁸⁶ The UN established the Office of Counter-Terrorism to provide technical support to Member States and effectively and coherently implement the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy.¹⁸⁷ The UN encourages Member States and regional and international organizations to join and promote the Global Counter-Terrorism.¹⁸⁸ However, the involvement of many different entities working on preventing terrorism and safeguarding human rights makes adequate coordination a serious challenge and hinders the effective implementation of the strategy.¹⁸⁹

Further Research

As delegates begin research on this topic, they should consider the following questions: How can Member States further cooperate with UN entities toward the effective implementation of the strategy? How can information sharing between regions aid toward effectively stopping terrorist organizations? What more can the international community provide toward the implementation of the strategy? What procedures should be followed by the international community toward promoting the rule of law and preventing corruption? How can the UN further help the victims of terrorism?

¹⁸⁵ United States of America, *Country Reports on Terrorism 2016*, 2017.

¹⁸⁶ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

¹⁸⁷ UN OCT, *About*, 2017.

¹⁸⁸ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

¹⁸⁹ UN Chronicle, *The Role of the UN in Promoting the Rule of Law: Challenges and New Approaches*, 2012.

Annotated Bibliography

International Monetary Fund. (2000). *Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism – Topics* [Website]. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <https://www.imf.org/external/np/leg/amlcft/eng/aml1.htm>

The International Monetary Fund elaborates on several initiatives it has taken in order to ensure that the international community is fighting against money laundering and financing of terrorist organizations. This website also highlights the efforts being made to combat money laundering and links it to corruption, which would greatly aid delegates toward understanding its importance toward pillars 2 and 4 of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. This source is useful for delegates in understanding how collaboration between UN bodies and Member States in counterterrorism takes place.

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. (n.d.). *The United Nations Counter-Terrorism*

Implementation Task Force (CTITF) and the Working Group on Preventing and Responding to WMD Attacks [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2017 from: <https://www.opcw.org/special-sections/ctitf-report/the-United-Nations-counter-terrorism-implementation-task-force-ctitf-and-the-working-group-on-preventing-and-responding-to-wmdattacks/>

This website highlights the ways in which the CTITF has been working on initiatives toward responding to attacks conducted by terrorist organizations using weapons of mass destruction. In addition to that, the website lists all international entities that are part of this working group and the mandate it adheres to. Delegates will find useful links to reports, resolutions, and other information regarding the CTITF's work on preventing WMD attacks.

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. (2012, June 28-29). *Remarks by Anti-terrorism Issues Transnational Threats Department OSCE Secretariat Mr. Thomas Wuchte on the Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 28-29 June 2012, in New York*. Retrieved 22 August 2017 from: <http://www.osce.org/secretariat/91823?download=true>

Mr. Thomas Wuchte, Head of the Anti-Terrorism Issues Transnational Threats Department of the OSCE wrote this in review to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The organization has expressed its pledge to the strategy and has mentioned several recommendations in which the organization is willing to support the strategy. Delegates will find this source useful as it illustrates the importance of international cooperation toward combating terrorism.

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. (2006). *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy* [Website]. Retrieved 16 July 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/un-global-counter-terrorismstrategy>

This website outlines the four main pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Each pillar plays a role in addressing an aspect of elimination of international terrorism. Apart from describing and explaining each pillar, the website also states the different organizations working toward the implementation of each of the pillars. Delegates can greatly benefit from this strategy in order to develop ideas to further combat terrorism.

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-fourth session. (1999). *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (A/RES/54/109)*. Adopted on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/54/615). Retrieved 17 July 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/54/109>

This Convention took effect in 2002 and it outlines legal actions applicable in the event of a person committing the crime of financing terrorism in any sense. This convention also obliges States parties to take legal actions within the laws of that state to prosecute such crimes. Delegates should review this convention to understand the importance of preventing financing of terrorist organizations and the main frame they work within.

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-eighth session. (2003). *United Nations Convention*

against Corruption (A/RES/58/4). Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/58/4>

This convention was adopted by the General Assembly to address the concept of corruption and also brings up the internationally binding anti-corruption agreements. The convention has seven sections, in an attempt to cover all the work done in preventing corruption. Delegates should review this document learning more about the prevention of corruption and strengthening the rule of law, which is related to the fourth pillar of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-ninth session. (2004). *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General (A/59/565)*. Retrieved 20 October 2017 from: <https://undocs.org/A/59/565>

This report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change is an assessment on the current threats to international peace and security. It also includes several recommendations on improving the work of the UN system toward collective security and it provides a summary of recommendations toward prevention of usage of weapons of mass destruction and guidelines on using of force and protecting civilians during an attack. Delegates will benefit from this report as it offers a good overview on the threats of terrorism.

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-ninth session. (2005). *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (A/RES/59/290)*. Adopted on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 (A/59/766). Retrieved 17 July 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/59/290>

This international convention was adopted to effectively combat the use of nuclear material for terrorism purposes. It encourages and promotes police and the judicial system to aid in preventing and prosecuting such offenses. Delegates should review this convention to understand what measures have been taken in the prevention of nuclear terrorism and base any policy recommendations on the existing frameworks.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-sixth session. (2012). *United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy: Report of the Secretary-General (A/66/72)*. Retrieved 12 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/66/762>

This report highlights the work that has been made toward the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. It also outlines suggestions made by the UN system concerning future plans improving upon implementation mechanisms. Delegates will find this document helpful to understand the persisting gaps in effective implementation, and think about further recommendations and initiatives to strengthen the strategy.

United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. (2008). *Human Rights, Terrorism and Counter-terrorism [Fact Sheet]*. Retrieved 11 August 2017 from: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Factsheet32EN.pdf>

This fact sheet was published in order to explain human rights and its relationship to the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, especially the fourth pillar. The report provides practical suggestions for organizations dealing with counter-terrorism measures and human rights, and provides guidance toward ensuring that they work together. Delegates should refer to this document in order to understand the relationship between human rights and countering terrorism.

Bibliography

Al-Badayneh, D., et al. (2007). *Understanding Terrorism: Analysis of Sociological and Psychological Aspects*. Retrieved 21 September 2017, IOS Press

Bistrong, R. (2015). *Corruption's Impact on the Rule of Law & Security: Moving from the Vicious to the Virtuous* [Website]. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <http://richardbistrong.com/corruptions-impact/>

Terrorism Cooperation. Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation. (2008). *International Process on Global Counter-* Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: http://globalcenter.org/wpcontent/uploads/2008/09/international_process.pdf

Charter of the United Nations. (1945). Retrieved 11 August 2017 from: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>

DataGraver.(2016). *People killed by terrorism per year in Western Europe 1970-2015* [Website]. Retrieved 11 August 2017 from: <http://www.datagraver.com/case/people-killed-by-terrorism-per-year-in-western-europe-1970-2015>

Durmaz, H., et al. (2007). *Understanding and Responding to Terrorism*. IOS Press. Financial Action Task Force. (2017). *Annual Report 2015 – 2016*. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <http://www.fatfgafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/FATF-annual-report-2015-2016.pdf>

Harvard Law School Program on International Law and Armed Conflict. (2015). *Security Council Working Group established pursuant to Resolution 1566* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2017 from: <https://pilac.law.harvard.edu/united-nations-efforts//security-council-working-group-established-pursuant-toresolution-1566-2004>

Human Rights Voices. (2012). *There is no UN definition of Terrorism* [Website]. Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: http://www.humanrightsvoices.org/EYEontheUN/un_101/facts/?p=61

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2002). *G8 Backs IAEA Role in Countering Terrorism* [Article]. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/g8-backs-iaea-role-countering-terrorism>

International Criminal Police Organization. (2017). *CBRNE* [Website]. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <https://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/CBRNE/CBRNE>

International Criminal Police Organization. (2017). *Counter-Terrorism Fusion Centre* [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2017 from: <https://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Terrorism/Counter-Terrorism-Fusion-Centre>

International Monetary Fund. (2017). *Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism – Topics* [Website]. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <https://www.imf.org/external/np/leg/amlcft/eng/aml1.htm>

Lo, C. (2002, May). FATF initiatives to combat terrorist financing. *OECD Observer*. Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: http://oecdobserver.org/news/archivestory.php/aid/717/FATF_initiatives_to_combat_terrorist_financing.html

National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. (2016). *Annex of Statistical Information: Country Reports on Terrorism 2015*. Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/257738.pdf>

North Atlantic Treaty Organization. (2002). *Partnership Action Plan against Terrorism*

[Website]. Retrieved 5 August 2017 from: www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_50084.htm

North Atlantic Treaty Organization. (2007). *Money at the root of evil: The Economics of Transactional Terrorism* [Website]. Retrieved 5 August 2017 from: www.nato.int/docu/review/2007/issue2/english/analysis2.html

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. (n.d.) *The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) and the Working Group on Preventing and Responding to WMD Attacks* [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2017 from: <https://www.opcw.org/special-sections/ctitf-report/the-united-nations-counter-terrorism-implementation-task-force-ctitf-and-the-working-group-on-preventing-and-responding-to-wmdattacks/>

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. (2001, 28 September). *The OPCW's Role in Combating Terrorism*. Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: <https://www.opcw.org/news/article/the-opcws-role-in-combatingterrorism/>

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. (2012, June 28-29). *Remarks by Anti-terrorism Issues Transnational Threats Department OSCE Secretariat Mr. Thomas Wuchte on the Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 28-29 June 2012, in New York*. Retrieved 22 August 2017 from: <http://www.osce.org/secretariat/91823?download=true>

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. (2014). *The Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*. Retrieved 1 November 2017 from: <http://www.osce.org/secretariat/119815?download=true>

United Nations, 1540 Committee. (2017). *General Information* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2017 from: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/1540/about-1540-committee/general-information.shtml>

United Nations, 1540 Committee. (2017). *Letter dated 10 February 2017 from the Chairs of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2017/126)*. Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/S/2017/126>

United Nations Alliance of Civilizations. (2017). *About Us* [Website]. Retrieved 12 August 2017 from: <https://www.unaoc.org/who-we-are/>

United Nations Chronicle. *The Role of the UN in Promoting the Rule of Law: Challenges and New Approaches*, Vol. 49, No 4, December 2012 [Website]. Retrieved 23 October 2017 from: <https://unchronicle.un.org/article/role-unpromoting-rule-law-challenges-and-new-approaches>

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Center. (2017). *Background* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/en/uncct/background>

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Committee. (2017). *Focus areas* [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/focus-areas/>

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Committee. (2017). *Terrorism financing* [Website]. Retrieved 20 October 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/focus-areas/financing-of-terrorism/>

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. (2006). *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy* [Website]. Retrieved 16 July 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/un-global-counter-terrorismstrategy>

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. (2017). *About the Task Force* [Website]. Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/en/about-task-force>

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. (2017). *Coordination and coherence of the Counter-Terrorism efforts of the United Nations* [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/en/about-task-force>

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. (2017). *Plan of Action to prevent violent extremism* [Website]. Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/en/plan-action-preventviolent-extremism>

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. (2017). *Preventing and responding to WMD terrorist attacks* [Website]. Retrieved 20 October 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/en/preventing-and-responding-wmd-terrorist-attacks>

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2005). *The 2005 World Summit High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th session of the UN General Assembly* [Meetings Coverage]. Retrieved 11 August 2017 from: http://www.un.org/en/events/pastevents/worldsummit_2005.shtml

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2005, September 2). *Secretary-General announces composition of high-level group for Alliance of Civilization (SG/SM/10073/REV.1)* [Press Release]. Retrieved 12 July 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2005/sgsm10073.doc.htm>

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2012, October 8). *Legal Committee Urges Conclusion of Draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (GAL/3433)* [Meetings Coverage]. Retrieved 20 August 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2012/gal3433.doc.htm>

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2012, June 28). *With Global Strategy, Member States Expressed Strong Resolve to Defeat Terrorism; Now Actions, Results Needed to Free World from Scourge, General Assembly Told (GA/11259)* [Meeting Coverage]. Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2012/ga11259.doc.htm>

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2017, September 20). *Conflict prevention, migration and terrorism key concerns for EU and member countries at UN* [News Article]. Retrieved 1 November 2017 from: https://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=57603#.Wfn_72iPI2x

United Nations, General Assembly, Twenty-eighth session. (1973). *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents (A/RES/3166 (XXVIII))*. Adopted on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/9407). Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: [http://undocs.org/A/RES/3166\(XXVIII\)](http://undocs.org/A/RES/3166(XXVIII))

United Nations, General Assembly, Thirty-fourth session. (1979). *International Convention against the Taking of Hostages (A/RES/34/146)*. Adopted on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/34/819). Retrieved 21 October 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/34/146>

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-second session. (1997). *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (A/RES/52/164)*. Adopted on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/52/653). Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/52/164>

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-fourth session. (1999). *International Convention for*

the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (A/RES/54/109). Adopted on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/54/615). Retrieved 17 July 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/54/109>

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-eighth session. (2003). *United Nations Convention against Corruption (A/RES/58/4)*. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/58/4>

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-ninth session. (2004). *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General (A/59/565)*. Retrieved 20 October 2017 from: <https://undocs.org/A/59/565>

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-ninth session. (2005). *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (A/RES/59/290)*. Adopted on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 (A/59/766). Retrieved 17 July 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/59/290>

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-fourth session. (2009). *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (A/64/211)* [Report]. Retrieved 19 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/64/211>

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-sixth session. (2012). *United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy: Report of the Secretary-General (A/66/762)*. Retrieved 12 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/66/762>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism: Report of the Secretary-General (A/70/674)* [Report]. Retrieved 21 September 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/70/674>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2016). *The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review (A/RES/70/291)* [Resolution]. Adopted on the report of the First Committee (A/70/L.55). Retrieved 23 October 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/291>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-first session. (2017). *Strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/71/291)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/291>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-third session. (2019). *Options on ways to assess the impact and progress made in the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by the United Nations system (A/73/866)* [Report]. Retrieved 14 November 2021 from: <https://undocs.org/en/A/73/866>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-fifth session. (2021). *The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: seventh review (A/RES/75/291)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 14 November 2021 from: <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/291>

United Nations, High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change. (2004). *A more secure world: Our shared responsibility* [Report]. Retrieved 31 October 2017 from: https://www.un.org/en/peacebuilding/pdf/historical/hlp_more_secure_world.pdf

United Nations, Office of Counter-Terrorism. (2017). *About* [Website]. Retrieved 24 October 2017 from: <http://www.un.org/en/counterterrorism/>

United Nations, Office of Legal Affairs. (2017). *Ad Hoc Committee established by General*

Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 [Website]. Retrieved 19 August 2017 from: <http://legal.un.org/committees/terrorism/>

United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. (2008). *Human Rights, Terrorism and Counter-terrorism* [Fact Sheet]. Retrieved 11 August 2017 from: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Factsheet32EN.pdf>

United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. (2017). *Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism* [Website]. Retrieved 20 October 2017 from: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Terrorism/Pages/SRTerrorismIndex.aspx>

United Nations Population Fund. (2005). *Human Rights Principles* [Website]. Retrieved 23 October 2017 from: <http://www.unfpa.org/resources/human-rights-principles>

United Nations, Security Council, 3915th meeting. (1998). *On the International Terrorism (S/RES/1189 (1998))* [Resolution]. Retrieved 24 August 2017 from: [http://undocs.org/S/RES/1189\(1998\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1189(1998))

United Nations, Security Council, 4051st meeting. (1999). *Afghanistan (S/RES/1267 (1999))* [Resolution]. Retrieved 17 August 2017 from: [http://undocs.org/S/RES/1267\(1999\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1267(1999))

United Nations, Security Council, 4053rd meeting. (1999). *On the responsibility of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security (S/RES/1269 (1999))* [Resolution]. Retrieved 24 August 2017 from: [http://undocs.org/S/RES/1269\(1999\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1269(1999))

United Nations, Security Council, 4385th meeting. (2001). *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts (S/RES/1373 (2001))* [Resolution]. Retrieved 17 August 2017 from: [http://undocs.org/S/RES/1373\(2001\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1373(2001))

United Nations, Security Council, 6765th meeting. (2012, May 4). *Summary record of the 6765th meeting (S/PV.6765)*. Retrieved 15 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/S/PV.6765>

United Nations, Security Council, 8017th meeting. (2017). *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts – Preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons (S/RES/2370 (2017))* [Resolution]. Retrieved 21 October 2017 from: [https://undocs.org/S/RES/2370\(2017\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2370(2017))

United States of America, Department of State. (2017). *Country Reports on Terrorism 2016*. Retrieved 23 October 2017 from: <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/272488.pdf>

World Health Organization. (2004). *Public health response to biological and chemical weapons: WHO guidance*. Retrieved 19 August 2017 from: <http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42611/1/9241546158.pdf>

III. Leveraging Climate Action for Sustainable Development

*Climate Change is the single greatest threat to a sustainable future, but, at the same time, addressing the climate challenge presents a golden opportunity to promote prosperity, security, and a brighter future for all.*¹⁹⁰

Introduction

The United Nations (UN) defines Climate Action as "urgent action to combat the effects of climate change," which results from the concentration of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere, leading to steadily rising global temperatures.¹⁹¹ Human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels, coal, crude oil, and natural gas are some of the leading causes of the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and contribute to about two-thirds of greenhouse emissions.¹⁹² The effects of these emissions include a 1.1°C increase in global temperatures, which can lead to catastrophic events such as droughts, tropical cyclones, winter storms, and wildfires.¹⁹³ Climate action is an international priority since climate change affects every Member State, disrupts economic growth, global health, and jeopardizes the implementation of the other SDGs.¹⁹⁴ These disruptions are due to natural disasters and their long-term effects, including forced migration, gender inequality, and marginalization of at-risk populations.¹⁹⁵

Climate change has an overwhelmingly negative impact on developing countries due to a lack of social and economic capital, making it difficult to build resilient systems and infrastructure.¹⁹⁶ Adopted in 1992, the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) created the framework for how the international system would address climate change moving forward.¹⁹⁷ The UNFCCC was an initial international recognition to stabilize atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases and keep them at safe levels.¹⁹⁸ In 2015, Member States adopted a landmark resolution, *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda), as a blueprint for building a sustainable planet and future.¹⁹⁹ The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an outcome of the 2030 Agenda, are a call to action for all Member States to eliminate poverty, improve healthcare, education, economic growth, reduce inequality, and combat climate change.²⁰⁰ Specifically, Goal 13 of the SDGs, Climate Action, is prioritized in all aspects of sustainable development.²⁰¹ The 2030 Agenda's implementation depends upon more ambitious climate action such as the *Paris Agreement* (2015), which prioritizes multi-lateral partnerships.²⁰² Target 13.2 seeks to integrate climate change into national planning and policies that require partnerships with members of civil society.²⁰³ In line with the UNFCCC and *Paris Agreement*, Member States are updating existing nationally determined contributions (NDCs), which are efforts specific to each Member State that collectively seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.²⁰⁴

¹⁹⁰ UN DPI, *Secretary-General's Remarks at Climate Leaders' Summit in Washington DC*, 2014.

¹⁹¹ UNEP, *Facts About the Climate Emergency*.

¹⁹² Ibid.

¹⁹³ Ibid.

¹⁹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁹⁶ UN DESA, *Climate Change*.

¹⁹⁷ UNCED, *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, 1992.

¹⁹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹⁹ UN DESA, *The 17 Goals*.

²⁰⁰ Ibid.

²⁰¹ Ibid.

²⁰² UN DESA, *Climate Change*.

²⁰³ Ibid.

²⁰⁴ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)*, 2021.

International and Regional Framework

In 1992, climate action was made a priority at the Rio Earth Summit; a united global activism summit focused on climate action, during which the UNFCCC was adopted.²⁰⁵ The Convention proposed actions to reduce and stabilize greenhouse gas emissions to avoid future climate disasters and keep global warming below 1.5°C.²⁰⁶ In 2015, Member States adopted the *Paris Agreement*, which re-energizes global attention to climate change and aims to limit global warming to below 2°C.²⁰⁷ The *Paris Agreement* is a legally binding treaty and incorporates all Member States' commitments to combat climate change and adapt to its effects.²⁰⁸ Its implementation is based on a five-year cycle of analyzing and reassessing Member State NDCs, which has now led to renewed efforts by Member States to aggressively address climate change.²⁰⁹ The *Paris Agreement* serves as a framework for financial and technical support for Member States to share information about their NDCs towards long-term solutions to lower greenhouse gas emissions.²¹⁰ The agreement also provides a platform for accountability and knowledge sharing among Member States by reporting their progress to mitigate and adapt to climate change.²¹¹ Since its inception, the agreement has yielded results by opening new carbon-free markets for energy, including the adoption of carbon neutrality targets by Member States.²¹² The 2030 Agenda is implemented through more specific actions, such as those outlined in the *Paris Agreement*.²¹³ In 2019, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a report which stated that more action is needed to limit global warming to 1.5°C in order to build a more sustainable and equitable world.²¹⁴ The IPCC forecasts that rapidly changing weather phenomena and disasters will continue as oceans warm without immediate climate action.²¹⁵ In 2021, IPCC working group I for the *Sixth Assessment Report* published the *AR6 Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis* report, once again highlighting the severe consequences of Climate Change and the urgency to act now.²¹⁶ The report emphasizes that if global heating increases, some extreme compound events with a low likelihood in the past and current climate will become more frequent. There will be a higher likelihood that events with increased intensities, durations, and/or spatial extents, unprecedented in the observational record, will occur.²¹⁷ Additionally, it will further exacerbate global poverty and other challenges such as food insecurity and forced migration since many vulnerable populations are dependent on agriculture and other activities that are susceptible to temperature increases.²¹⁸ The report also stresses that many strategies for sustainable development, such as gender integration, have the potential to reduce the vulnerabilities of ecosystems and improve the adaptation to climate change.²¹⁹ Since women

²⁰⁵ UN DESA, *Climate Change*; UNCED, *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, 1992.

²⁰⁶ UN DESA, *Climate Change*.

²⁰⁷ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *The Paris Agreement*, 2021; COP 21, *Paris Agreement*, 2015.

²⁰⁸ Ibid.

²⁰⁹ Ibid.

²¹⁰ Ibid.

²¹¹ Ibid.

²¹² Ibid.

²¹³ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *The Paris Agreement*, 2021.

²¹⁴ IPCC, *Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C: Sustainable Development, Poverty Eradication, and Reducing Inequalities*, 2018.

²¹⁵ Ibid.

²¹⁶ IPCC, Summary for Policymakers. In: *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis*. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press. In Press, 2021

²¹⁷ Ibid.

²¹⁸ Allen, *Framing and Context in: Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the Impacts of Global Warming of 1.5°C Above Pre-Industrial Levels and Related Global Greenhouse Emission Pathways, in the Context of Strengthening the Global Response to the Threat of Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Efforts to Eradicate Poverty*, 2018.

²¹⁹ IPCC, *Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C: Sustainable Development, Poverty Eradication, and Reducing Inequalities*, 2018.

make up a considerable part of the agriculture workforce, climate policy requires input from women for optimal implementation of the *Paris Agreement*.²²⁰

Role of the International System

United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) set the theme for its fifth meeting as "Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals."²²¹ This theme brings into focus the need to leverage climate action for sustainable development.²²² It also calls for increased and strengthened action to protect the environment through social, economic, and environmental measures such as UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) for 2022-2025.²²³ The MTS seeks to prevent biodiversity loss, pollution and mitigate the effects of climate change.²²⁴ Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, UNEA has adjusted its schedule to include a virtual session in February 2021, and a subsequent session will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in February 2022.²²⁵ At the virtual session, Member States held a dialogue among leaders of Member States which highlighted that climate action will lead to low emissions and a sustainable world.²²⁶ It also reiterated the importance of multilateralism in addressing climate change and the role the assembly and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) play in environmental governance.²²⁷

UNEP assists with mitigation by facilitating Member States' initiatives to utilize renewable energy in cities and transportation systems and educating them on management practices that reduce emissions. These include high-tech subway systems, bicycle paths, and walkways that have significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions.²²⁸ These best practices are supported by programs such as the UN Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+), which aims to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.²²⁹ This program currently has 118 Member States with forest and land management included in their national planning leading to 162 million hectares of restored land globally.²³⁰ UNEP also works with commercial banks to develop financing programs that provide households access to energy-efficient technologies while giving developing Member States access to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).²³¹ GCF is the world's largest climate fund with a mandate to support developing Member States in implementing their national programs designed to reduce emissions and build climate-resilient communities.²³² In energy, UNEP works with developing Member States to develop infrastructure for renewable energy through economic and poverty alleviation programs while leveraging the private sector to transition to cleaner sources of energy, such as solar and wind power generation plants, to drive overall reliance on clean and renewable energy.²³³ UNEP has created the Climate Initiatives Platform, which monitors climate action initiatives undertaken by civil society, the private sector, and regional bodies and now includes all 230 International Cooperative Initiatives.²³⁴ This platform

²²⁰ Ibid.

²²¹ UNEA, *Fifth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly*, 2021.

²²² IISD, *UNEA-5 Online Session Sets Stage for Next Four Years*, 2021.

²²³ Ibid.

²²⁴ Ibid.

²²⁵ Ibid.

²²⁶ Ibid.

²²⁷ UNEA, *Fifth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly*, 2021.

²²⁸ UNEP, *Mitigation*.

²²⁹ UNEP, *REDD+: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation*; UN-REDD Programme, *Our Impact*, 2019.

²³⁰ Ibid.

²³¹ UNEP, *Climate Mitigation Finance: Driving Clean Energy Investments*; Green Climate Fund, *About GCF*, 2021.

²³² Green Climate Fund, *About Green Climate Fund*.

²³³ UNEP, *Energy*.

²³⁴ UNEP, *Climate Initiatives Platform*.

provides open-source data to Member States and non-state actors for tracking and implementation of climate policies.²³⁵

In February 2021, the UN Climate Change Secretariat announced a series of meetings to promote regional climate action.²³⁶ These meetings will facilitate regional work in climate action and advance regional implementation of the *Paris Agreement*.²³⁷ This is being carried out by providing a platform for national governments and other relevant institutions to share knowledge and undertake more effective methods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.²³⁸ The UN Development Programme (UNDP), UNEP, and the World Bank Group partner with the UN Climate Change Secretariat to organize these meetings.²³⁹ Despite global responsiveness and activism towards climate action and sustainable development, climate commitments are not on track to achieve the goals of the *Paris Agreement*.²⁴⁰ In 2021, the UN Climate Change Secretariat published its first Nationally Determined Contributions Synthesis Report that draws attention to the shortfall in the implementation of the *Paris Agreement* and calls for more vigorous and ambitious efforts by Member States in climate action.²⁴¹

In November 2021, the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) took place and the leaders of the world gathered once more to discuss the matter of Climate Change and climate action. On day 13, they could agree on the Glasgow Climate Pact. For the first time an agreement was found that explicitly includes a plan to reduce coal, the worst fossil fuel for greenhouse gases.²⁴² However, the pledges made, are still not sufficient to meet the goals of the *Paris Agreement* to limit global warming to 1,5 degrees. Especially developing countries find their demanded contribution on climate action unjust considering their historically small responsibility and their still ongoing fight to eradicate poverty.²⁴³

Integrating Climate Action into National and Regional Planning

Target 13.2 of SDG 13 seeks to integrate climate action into national planning and policymaking.²⁴⁴ In 1992, Member States initiated plans to integrate socio-economic and environmental objectives into their national planning during the Rio Earth Summit.²⁴⁵ Member States now incorporate the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* into their respective national policies and National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS).²⁴⁶ NSDS are coordinated actions and plans to achieve economic and environmental objectives with a balanced and integrative approach.²⁴⁷ NSDS are established on five principles: Member State ownership and commitment, environmental policy integration across different sectors of national planning, inclusivity and effective partnerships, capacity building, targeted action, and implementation.²⁴⁸ Since the needs of each Member States is inherently different, each Member State adopts its own model.²⁴⁹ Climate action in NSDS results in more effective

²³⁵ Ibid.

²³⁶ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Regional Climate Weeks to Drive Forward Climate Action in 2021 and 2022*, 2021.

²³⁷ Ibid.

²³⁸ Ibid.

²³⁹ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Regional Climate Weeks to Drive Forward Climate Action in 2021 and 2022*, 2021.

²⁴⁰ Ibid.

²⁴¹ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Greater Climate Ambition Urged as Initial NDC Synthesis Report is Published*, 2021.

²⁴² Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Twenty-sixth session (2021). Glasgow Climate Pact. 2021

²⁴³ United Nations Climate Action, *COP26: Together for our planet*, 2021

²⁴⁴ UNEP, *Goal 13: Climate Action*; United Nations, *The Sustainable Development Agenda*.

²⁴⁵ UN DESA, *National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS)*.

²⁴⁶ Ibid.

²⁴⁷ UN DESA, Division for Sustainable Development of the United Nations, *National Sustainable Development Strategies – the Global Picture*.

²⁴⁸ UN DESA, *National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS)*.

²⁴⁹ Ibid.

implementation and benefits because it is not undertaken independently.²⁵⁰ NSDS provides a platform for national governments to measure the benefits of climate action, thereby providing more information on how to adapt and improve policy and planning.²⁵¹ NSDS also provides national governments with a system to make up for the economic losses from replacing current economic models with more sustainable ones.²⁵²

Since climate action transcends national borders, regional and international partnerships are also utilized to improve adaptation and implementation strategies.²⁵³ UNFCCC also partners with technology companies such as Google and Microsoft, international organizations such as the World Bank Group, Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the Rainforest Action Network, the World Economic Forum, and academia to increase awareness about climate action.²⁵⁴ In 2013, the UNFCCC Secretariat created six Regional Collaboration Centers (RCCs) across the globe to foster partnerships among Member States in climate action through networking, capacity building, and technical assistance.²⁵⁵ After adopting the *Paris Agreement*, RCCs were expanded to include providing support to developing countries to implement their NDCs.²⁵⁶ Some of the objectives of RCCs include providing a platform for information and data sharing among the regional Member States and facilitating their work with respective affiliated UN agencies.²⁵⁷ RCCs also work to provide intergovernmental strategies for climate action in their respective regions and facilitate action plans in line with the objectives of the *Paris Agreement* and the 2030 Agenda.²⁵⁸ The result of these efforts includes stronger collaboration between national and international actors towards green development, strengthening local capacity on climate action, new partnerships, and direct support and guidance to Member States on policymaking and national planning.²⁵⁹ In 2020, RCCs created a work plan to implement the goals of the *Paris Agreement*, including through support for local and regional climate action.²⁶⁰ RCCs continue to promote capacity building, facilitate the implementation of the *Paris Agreement*, and mobilize and coordinate climate action in each region.²⁶¹

Gender and Climate Action

Women and children are more vulnerable to the impact of climate change due to societal inequalities and lack of safety nets; they are also the least equipped to manage the effects of natural disasters.²⁶² These factors increase women's exposure to gender-based violence, forced migration, human trafficking, and inaccessible education and healthcare.²⁶³ Since natural disasters have become more devastating, the UNFCCC Secretariat has worked to empower women and girls by including them in policymaking and leadership at all levels of government.²⁶⁴ Gender considerations are now included in political forums about policy climate action, not only to improve the understanding of women's vulnerabilities but also to create opportunities for inclusion of women in leadership roles such as in national parliaments and

²⁵⁰ UN DESA, *Addressing Climate Change in National Sustainable Development Strategies – Common Practices*, 2007.

²⁵¹ UN DESA, *Addressing Climate Change in National Sustainable Development Strategies – Common Practices*, 2007.

²⁵² Ibid.

²⁵³ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *UNFCCC Partners*, 2021.

²⁵⁴ Ibid.

²⁵⁵ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Regional Collaboration Centers*, 2021.

²⁵⁶ Ibid.

²⁵⁷ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Regional Collaboration Centers: 2019 Highlights*, 2019.

²⁵⁸ Ibid.

²⁵⁹ Ibid.

²⁶⁰ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Enabling Long-term Impact: The Role of Regional Collaboration Centers in Catalyzing Climate Action*, 2019, pp 9, 41-42.

²⁶¹ Ibid.

²⁶² United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Introduction to Gender and Climate Change*, 2021.

²⁶³ UNEP et al, *Gender, Climate, and Security: Sustaining Inclusive Peace on the Frontlines of Climate Change*, 2020, p. 17.

²⁶⁴ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Introduction to Gender and Climate Change*, 2021.

other levels of government.²⁶⁵ Women's participation in policymaking has led to increased responsiveness to the needs of local and minority groups, including inter-ethnic cooperation and capacity building.²⁶⁶ At local levels, women have contributed to the improved implementation of policies through inter-ethnic partnerships and projects undertaken by their respective governments, UN bodies, and other members of civil society.²⁶⁷ This is being achieved by integrating gender-inclusive expertise in capacity- building and technical assistance at national levels, in partnership with the UN system to address climate-related issues such as drought and food insecurity.²⁶⁸ Another way in which gender is being integrated into climate action is by making intersectional gender analysis a crucial part of any programs or policies developed for climate action at all levels of government and civil society.²⁶⁹

UN Bodies like UNEA, UNEP, UN Women, UNDP, and other members of civil society such as the Africa Network for Animal Welfare, the Asia Pacific Regional Civil Society Organizations' Engagement Mechanism, and the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee, collaborate to facilitate efforts by national governments to enact climate action policies.²⁷⁰ These bodies also support women's organizations and civil society organizations such as Women's Earth and Climate Action Network, and the Women's Earth Alliance, to integrate climate-related security into their national climate change Gender Action Plans (GAPs).²⁷¹ At UNEA-4, Member States adopted a resolution to "Promote Gender Equality, and the Human Rights and Empowerment of Women and Girls in Environmental Governance" (UNEP/EA.4/L.21).²⁷² This resolution also invites Member States to recognize the human right to a healthy environment and to incorporate social and gender safeguards in climate action.²⁷³ UNEP incorporates gender mainstreaming into its programs and organization.²⁷⁴ At the organizational level, UNEP focuses gender mainstreaming on its internal policies and processes, which include capacity development, communication, oversight, financial and human resources, and knowledge and information management.²⁷⁵ At the program level, UNEP works to provide for the different needs of women and men by promoting a gender perspective in climate action at national, regional, and international levels.²⁷⁶ UNEP also works closely with UN Women to support the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security, by improving public understanding of the relationship between women and natural resources and how women's empowerment is vital for climate action.²⁷⁷

Conclusion

Climate action has risen to the top of the priority list for the UN, Member States, and other members of civil society working in partnership to ensure a sustainable future.²⁷⁸ These partnerships are built on different platforms and international documents such as the

²⁶⁵ UNEP et al, *Gender, Climate and Security: Sustaining Inclusive Peace on the Frontlines of Climate Change*, 2020, p. 41.

²⁶⁶ United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Introduction to Gender and Climate Change*, 2021.

²⁶⁷ Ibid.

²⁶⁸ UNEP et al, *Gender, Climate and Security: Sustaining Inclusive Peace on the Frontlines of Climate Change*, 2020, p. 41.

²⁶⁹ Ibid.

²⁷⁰ Ibid; UNEP, *Partnerships*.

²⁷¹ UNEP et al, *Gender, Climate and Security: Sustaining Inclusive Peace on the Frontlines of Climate Change*, 2020, p. 41.

²⁷² Logan, UN Environment Assembly Passes Landmark Resolution Promoting Gender Equality in Environmental Governance, 2019; UNEA, *Promoting Gender Equality and the Human Rights and Empowerment of Women and Girls in Environmental Governance (UNEP/EA.4/L.21)*, 2019.

²⁷³ UNEA, *Promoting Gender Equality and the Human Rights and Empowerment of Women and Girls in Environmental Governance (UNEP/EA.4/L.21)*, 2019.

²⁷⁴ UNEP, *Gender Mainstreaming*.

²⁷⁵ Ibid.

²⁷⁶ Ibid.

²⁷⁷ UNEP, *Partnerships*.

²⁷⁸ UN DESA, *The 17 Goals*.

UNFCCC.²⁷⁹ Reports by institutions such as the IPCC aid in advancing climate action through more specific goals and actions that are needed to limit global warming to below 1.5°C.²⁸⁰ Climate action is now prioritized by Member States in national planning and is being incorporated into their national planning policies and programs.²⁸¹ Despite unified global efforts in climate action, more ambitious measures need to be adopted to achieve sustainable development, which is now more dependent on climate action.²⁸² Initiatives such as gender mainstreaming and engagements with members of civil society are being utilized in implementing the goals of climate action outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.²⁸³

Further Research

Delegates should consider the following in their research: What is the UN, especially bodies like the UNEA and the IPCC currently doing to leverage climate action for sustainable development? In the coming year, UNEA has some ambitious goals on climate action – what are the ways in which these goals will impact sustainable development? How can civil society, especially the groups that are mostly affected by Climate Change, be better engaged by the UN and national governments in climate action? How can Member States be better encouraged to meet their NDCs? How can the existing platforms for knowledge sharing be better used to optimize stakeholders work in climate action? How can private corporations be better integrated in climate action? How can the UN promote a just and sustainable development through climate action?

²⁷⁹ Ibid; UNCED, *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, 1992.

²⁸⁰ IPCC, *Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C: Sustainable Development, Poverty Eradication, and Reducing Inequalities*, 2018.

²⁸¹ UNEP, *REDD+: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation*; UN-REDD Programme, *Our Impact*, 2019.

²⁸² United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, *Regional Climate Weeks to Drive Forward Climate Action in 2021 and 2022*, 2021.

²⁸³ UNEP et al, *Gender, Climate and Security: Sustaining Inclusive Peace on the Frontlines of Climate Change*, 2020, p. 41.

Annotated Bibliography

Allen, M. R., et al. (2018). Framing and Context in: Global warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the Impacts of Global Warming of 1.5°C Above Pre-Industrial Levels and Related Global Greenhouse Emission Pathways, in the Context of Strengthening the Global Response to the Threat of Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Efforts to Eradicate poverty. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Retrieved 25 February from: <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/chapter-1/>

This source is a summary of the impacts of a global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. This information is useful because climate action seeks to keep rising global temperatures to a level where remediation is attainable. It illustrates the relationship between global average temperatures and the environment as it stands. It also compares these averages to pre-industrial levels. This information will help delegates understand why this target is necessary to achieve sustainable development globally.

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Twenty-first session. (2015). *Paris Agreement*. Retrieved on Climate Change. Retrieved 25 February from: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. The agreement has a long-term goal of limiting global warming to below 1.5°C. It recommends economic and social changes Member States need to undertake to achieve a climate neutral world by 2050. Delegates will find this useful when researching how national governments plan to implement the goals set in this agreement. The agreement also includes NDCs, which Member States utilize to share their action plans towards reducing greenhouse emissions.

United Nations. (n.d.). *The Sustainable Development Agenda*. Retrieved 24 February 2021 from: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>

The Sustainable Development Agenda is simplified here. It gives the reader information about all the SDGs in a manner that is easy to access. The Frequently Asked Questions section answers most questions that a delegate would ask as they begin their research. It also includes information about why these goals are important, how to achieve them, and how they differ from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These questions and their answers serve as a good starting point for delegates who wish to discourse the relationship between climate action and sustainable development.

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2021). *Regional Collaboration Centers*. Retrieved 2 March 2021 from: <https://unfccc.int/about-us/regional-collaboration-centres>

This source gives delegates an overview of what regional efforts have been made up to 2020 in climate action for sustainable development. It highlights the impacts of regional cooperation and how it has enhanced the implementation of climate-related policies. When delegates embark on forming partnerships, this will serve as a guide to what has been done and what remains to be enacted in policy. It also reflects different means of implementation across six different regions of the world. Since all this work stems from the objectives of the United Nations, the Regional Collaboration Centers also show how they interface with the United Nations System, promote accountability, and measure and report on their progress.

United Nations Environment Assembly. (2021). *Fifth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly*. Retrieved 3 March 2021 from: <https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5>

Delegates will find this source useful because it contains information regarding the Fifth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly. From the timeline of meetings to current discussions, delegates will find links for related material. Since this topic is currently being considered by the assembly, this will be a good starting point for retrieving information about current challenges, statistics, and trends. Delegates will also be able to find the relationships between climate action and sustainable development.

Bibliography

Allen, M. R., et al. (2018). *Framing and Context in: Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the Impacts of Global Warming of 1.5°C Above Pre-Industrial Levels and Related Global Greenhouse Emission Pathways, in the Context of Strengthening the Global Response to the Threat of Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Efforts to Eradicate poverty*. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Retrieved 25 February 2021 from: <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/chapter-1/>

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Twenty-first session. (2015). *Paris Agreement*. Retrieved on Climate Change. Retrieved 25 February from: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Twenty-sixth session (2021). Glasgow Climate Pact. Retrieved on Climate Change. Retrieved 14 November 2021 from: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cop26_auv_2f_cover_decision.pdf

Green Climate Fund. (n.d.). *About Green Climate Fund*. Retrieved 16 March 2021 from: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/about>

International Institute for Sustainable Development. (2021). *UNEA-5 Online Session Sets Stage for Next Four Years*. Retrieved 2 March 2021 from: <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/unea-5-online-session-sets-stage-for-next-four-years/>

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2018). *Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C: Sustainable Development, Poverty Eradication, and Reducing Inequalities*. Retrieved 3 March 2021 from: <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/chapter-5/>

IPCC, Summary for Policymakers (2021). In: *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis*. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press. In Press. Retrieved 14 November 2021 from: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGI_SPM_final.pdf

Logan, K. (2019, April 19). UN Environment Assembly Passes Landmark Resolution Promoting Gender Equality in Environmental Governance. *International Union for Conservation of Nature*. Retrieved 26 February 2021 from: <https://www.iucn.org/news/world-commission-environmental-law/201904/un-environment-assembly-passes-landmark-resolution-promoting-gender-equality-environmental-governance>

United Nations. (n.d.). *The Sustainable Development Agenda*. Retrieved 24 February 2021 from: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2019). *Enabling Long-Term Impact: The Role of Regional Collaboration Centers in Catalyzing Climate Action*. Retrieved 2 March 2021 from: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/RCC_Report_2019_External_ver.03_%28July28-2020%29.pdf

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2019). *Regional Collaboration Centers: 2019 Highlights*.

Retrieved 2 March 2021 from: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Highlights2019.pdf>

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2021). *Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)*. Retrieved 20 April from: <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs>

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2021). *Regional Collaboration Centers*. Retrieved 2 March 2021 from: <https://unfccc.int/about-us/regional-collaboration-centres>

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2021). *The Paris Agreement*. Retrieved 2 March 2021 from: <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2021). *UNFCCC Partners*. Retrieved 2 March 2021 from: <https://unfccc.int/about-us/partnerships/unfccc-partners>

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2021, February 1). *Regional Climate Weeks to Drive Forward Climate Action in 2021 and 2022*. Retrieved 2 March 2021 from: <https://unfccc.int/news/regional-climate-weeks-to-drive-forward-climate-action-in-2021-and-2022>

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2021, February 26). *Greater Climate Ambition Urged as Initial NDC Synthesis Report is Published*. Retrieved 26 February 2021 from: <https://unfccc.int/news/greater-climate-ambition-urged-as-initial-ndc-synthesis-report-is-published>

United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. (2021). *Introduction to Gender and Climate Change*. Retrieved 15 May 2021 from: <https://unfccc.int/gender>

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. (1992). *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*. Retrieved 28 February 2021 from: https://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/background_publications_htmlpdf/application/pdf/conveng.pdf

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (n.d.). *Climate Change*. Retrieved 2 March 2021 from: <https://sdgs.un.org/topics/climate-change>

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (n.d.). *National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS)*. Retrieved 2 March from: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/nationalsustainabledevelopmentstrategies>

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (n.d.). *The 17 Goals*. Retrieved 1 March 2021 from: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (n.d.). *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (2007). *Addressing Climate Change in National Sustainable Development Strategies - Common Practices*. Retrieved 1 March 2021 from: https://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/natlinfo/nsds/egm_ClimateChange/bp_cclnNSDS.pdf

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Sustainable Development. (n.d.). *National Sustainable Development Strategies – The Global Picture*. Retrieved 1 March 2021 from: https://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/natlinfo/nsds/bgnote_nsdsmap.pdf

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2014, April 11). *Secretary-General's Remarks at Climate Leaders' Summit in Washington DC, 11 April*. Retrieved 16 March 2021 from: <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2014-04-11/secretary-generals-remarks-climate-leaders-summit>

United Nations Environment Assembly. (2019). *Promoting Gender Equality and the Human Rights and Empowerment of Women and Girls in Environmental Governance (UNEP/EA.4/L.21)*. Retrieved 1 March 2021 from: <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/28481/English.pdf?sequence=3&isAllowed=y>

United Nations Environment Assembly. (2021). *Fifth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly*. Retrieved 3 March 2021 from: <https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5>

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Climate Initiatives Platform*. Retrieved 16 March 2021 from: <http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Welcome>

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Climate Mitigation Finance: Driving Clean Energy Investments*. Retrieved 16 March 2021 from: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-change/what-we-do/mitigation/climate-mitigation-finance>

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Energy*. Retrieved 16 March 2021 from: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-change/what-we-do/mitigation/energy>

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Facts About the Climate Emergency*. Retrieved 3 March 2021 from: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-change/facts-about-climate-emergency>

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Gender Mainstreaming*. Retrieved 28 February 2021 from: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/gender/what-we-do/gender-mainstreaming>

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Goal 13: Climate Action*. Retrieved 1 March 2021 from: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/sustainable-development-goals/why-do-sustainable-development-goals-matter/goal-13>

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Mitigation*. Retrieved 16 March 2021 from: https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-change/what-we-do/mitigation?_ga=2.180443943.1035789101.1615045816-909378064.1613832775

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Partnerships*. Retrieved 20 April 2021 from: <https://www.unep.org/civil-society-engagement/partnerships>

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *REDD+: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation*. Retrieved 16 March 2021 from: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-change/what-we-do/redd>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2020). *Gender, Climate, and Security: Sustaining Inclusive Peace on the Frontlines of Climate Change*. Retrieved 2 March 2021 from:

<https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/32638/GCS.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

United Nations, General Assembly. (2015). *Transforming our world:the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. Retrieved 1 March 2021 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

United Nations Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Programme. (2019). *Our Impact*. Retrieved 16 March 2021 from: <https://www.un-redd.org/ourimpact>

United Nations, Sustainable Development Goals Platform. (n.d.). *Climate Action*. Retrieved 20 April 2021 from: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/climate-action/>