

Model United Nations Assembly – 2008 Resolutions for Debate

Disaster Relief

1. In recognition of the need for improved international responses to deal with the population displacements arising from major natural disasters and by civil unrest, this Assembly endorses the creation of more effective UN sponsored counter disaster management and relief programs with the object of reducing the social, economic and physical impacts of such events. Further, the Assembly seeks the active support of member nations with a capacity to contribute to these programs, including:-

- Provision of expert emergency management personnel to supplement the resources of the affected country
- Provision of immediate emergency medical assistance, shelter, food and water and such other resources as are required
- Provision of funding, and resources to support the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts during subsequent years.

Food Shortages

2. That this assembly urges member states to support the development and application of genetic technology and research to boost crop yields and food quality so that food shortages in third world countries can be addressed more effectively.

3. That this Assembly, records its concerns about the dangers arising from the vigilante style attempts by protestors to prevent the whale research activities of Japan in the Southern Ocean and therefore directs the secretariat to investigate and report on the merits of establishing an International Agency responsible for the monitoring, control and enforcement of measures to ensure the survival of all species and to take over the duties of the International Whaling Commission.

Human Rights & Health

4. Recalling that the Charter of the UN enshrines the principle of equal rights for men and woman and also recognising previous decisions of this Assembly relating to the Rights of Children this Assembly urges all member states to –

- protect refugee, asylum-seeking and internally displaced children, in particular those who are unaccompanied
- ensure the enjoyment by children of all their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination of any kind
- implement sanctions against those countries that permit the subjugation of women and in particular discrimination and exploitation of the Girl Child.

5. This Assembly recognising the Rights of Individuals to self determination urges all countries to establish laws that make it possible for citizens who are suffering from debilitating illnesses and conditions that reduce their quality of life to legally obtain access to advice and the paraphenalia needed to end their life at a time of their own choosing in a planned and humane way.

6. Recognising the terrible toll inflicted by Aids and Cancer on the peoples of the world this Assembly encourages all member states to contribute money, materials or technological and medical aid equating to their expenditure on military weaponry towards programs directed at the treatment and eradication of these diseases.

Environment

7. This Assembly expresses great concern at the destruction of rainforests, the failure to effectively and sufficiently control the production of CO₂ and the impact that the rapid industrialisation of the two most populated countries in the World will have on our climate. Recognising that Climate Change is a global issue and that the least developed countries and Island Nations in particular face the greatest risks from Climate Change we call for a response -

- by all member states, to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- by all member states that have not yet ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to ratify it in a timely manner
- by all member states to establish or adopt standards and management practices that will address the known contributing factors to Climate Change.

8. This Assembly urges all states and countries drawing water from river systems that cross political boundaries to develop “whole-of-catchment” water management agreements that recognise and safeguard the rights and health of all users of water from these systems.

Examples of these river systems include – Danube, Rhine; Mekong; Euphrates-Tigris; Ganges; Congo; Mississippi; etc.

9. That this Assembly endorse the Protocol on Environmental Protection contained in the Antarctic Treaty in order to emphasise that Antarctica should continue to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that the ban on mining and mineral exploration be maintained.

International Trade

10. That this Assembly deplores the use of the Internet for illegal and or other questionable purposes and urges all member nations to support the development of more effective controls and policing of access to and use of the technology through:-

- Development and consistent application of International laws
- Agreement by member countries to the establishment of an appropriately authorised international body responsible for enforcement of the laws and for investigation of offences that stretch across national borders

- The hearing of any resulting charges by the International Court of Justice.

Background

Marine and Aviation law might provide useful models

Interpol is an Agency directed at International crime issues

Operating systems and protocols have evolved to a standard

11. This Assembly demands that the EU reform its Trade and Agriculture Policies, which impoverishes and undermines markets and food security in poor countries, by -

- stating a date for the complete elimination of export subsidies in agriculture
- being required to open its agricultural markets to developing countries exporters, by cutting tariffs on agricultural products without asking for commitments in return from poor countries.

Background - In our world today -

1/3 of deaths – some 18 million people a year or 50,000 per day are due to poverty-related causes. That's 270 million people since 1990, the majority women and children, roughly equal to the population of the USA.

Every year more than 10 million children die of hunger and preventable diseases – that's over 30,000 per day or one every 3 seconds.

Over 1 billion people live on less than US\$1 per day with nearly half the worlds population (2.8 billion) living on less than \$2 per day

600 million children live in absolute poverty

The three richest people in the world control more wealth than all 600 million people living in the world's poorest countries.

Income per person in the poorest countries in Africa has fallen by a quarter in the last 20 years 800 million people go to bed hungry every day.

Every year nearly 11 million children die before their fifth birthday.

World Security

12. In recognition of the potential for nuclear materials used for peaceful purposes being converted into weapons grade materials this Assembly expects that all member nations will permit their current nuclear activities to be monitored by United Nations staff and any new or proposed developments to be agreed to by this Assembly before any construction work is started. Appropriate international sanctions will be implemented against countries for all breaches.

13. That this Assembly express its concern at the potential for powerful nations to develop 'Starwars' type weaponry and that we therefore agree to formulate and adopt a treaty directed at preventing an arms race in outer space.