



American Model United Nations

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Least Developed Countries: Developing Productive Capacities

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is pleased to present the report on the topic of Least Developed Countries: Developing Productive Capacities. During our meetings, many important issues were discussed and the Conference worked to reach consensus on this topic.

The intent of Draft Resolution I is to build infrastructure within developing economies so as to create an attractive business climate for foreign investment. This must be accomplished through a strategy that bears in mind the individual needs of developing countries relative to environmental and social concerns. Additionally, the developed world must begin to rethink its relations with the global South and move towards solidarity. This resolution calls upon the General Assembly to convene an additional meeting of world experts for the purpose of compiling a report on the state and competitiveness of international and regional markets.

Draft Resolution II focuses on the poorest members of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) living in rural areas by promoting smallholder agriculture to enhance productive capacities with the aim of reducing poverty. This resolution stresses the pivotal role governments of LDCs play in the process. Additionally, the resolution makes recommendations on important steps in supporting the promotion of small agriculture. These recommendations include an increase in ODA, along with follow through on ODA contribution commitments, the importance of eventual elimination of external debt, and the necessity of access by LDCs to vital agriculture technologies. Adoption of this resolution will not only benefit LDCs but enhance the effectiveness of building productive capacities in all developing countries.

The UNCTAD body adopted Draft Resolution III by consensus. The resolution was crafted in an attempt to alleviate the many plaguing social issues, such as poverty, illness, lack of educational opportunities, natural disaster relief, and the inability to access information and technology. It focused primarily on the social and humanitarian aspects occurring within all nations and hopes to promote economic stability and universal well-being, ultimately resulting in the development of productive capacities.

As discussed in Chapter I, Section B, some of the other recommendations that were of pertinence but not included in the resolutions focused on the Debt for Development program, microfinance, political stability and good governance, and agricultural subsidies. These topics were extensively debated and were included in this section to provide the General Assembly with more information on these relevant topics.

Many diverse subtopics were deliberated and the general points of these are explained in Chapter II, Section A. Some of the most important issues included foreign direct investment and official development assistance, debt forgiveness, meeting basic human needs, regional development, agriculture and humanized globalization.