



American Model United Nations
ECA

Report to the Economic and Social Council on The Millennium Development Goals

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Africa

The Economic Commission for Africa discussed the selection of topics and chose to continue with topic 1 Aid for Trade. Seeing as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) apply to all nations, and considering their significance in the global world, the Democratic Republic of the Congo motioned for the formation of a committee to discuss the MDGs. In this informal sub-committee, most delegations were then properly represented in voicing their opinions on both topics. There was much debate on the issue. Many nations felt splitting the committee would deter from the discussion of Aid for Trade, but in the end, the Commission passed the motion.

Upon caucusing, the MDG committee began deliberations on establishing a framework on which to base off further resolutions. This collaboration allowed for draft resolution 1, which addressed the first Millennium Development Goal to eradicate hunger and poverty, as well as vehicles to which other MDGs could then be accomplished. The draft resolution 1 was quickly created and then amended. The body amended issues brought up concerning the African Development Bank, the use of Non Governmental Organizations, the International Monetary Fund, and the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries initiative. It was then adopted by consensus once the Aid for Trade discussion ended. After passing draft resolution 1, the body brought draft resolution 2 to the floor, addressing reformation in maternal health, child mortality and also HIV/AIDS prevention, or MDGs 4, 5, and 6 respectively. Upon receiving a friendly amendment on clause 7 regarding education on clean needle practices, specific countries dropped sponsorship on this resolution due to the religious perspectives on gender equality in education. Finally, when the friendly amendment for clause 7 was accepted, fellow delegations became compelled to adopt draft resolution 2 by consensus as well.

Following the adoption of draft resolution 2, draft resolution 3, addressing Millennium Development Goals 7 and 8, was brought to the floor for discussion. Some minor friendly amendments secured the votes of certain delegations, and the resolution was passed; though not without reservations by some delegations on matters of Information and Communication Technologies recommendations.

Draft resolution 4, which addressed issues of education and gender equality, was discussed, with regional approaches to issues of education and gender equality being emphasized in the draft resolution. The Commission had some concerns with this draft resolution which was resolved with the addition of friendly amendments. There were four Arab states that voted no on draft resolution 4 due to the addition of gender equality initiatives expressed in the document.

Throughout the discussion of the MDGs, the issue of tracking, monitoring, and the evaluating of reliable data was continually mentioned. Draft resolution 5 was authored which would re-enforce systems of national statistical analysis to better track the achievements and progress of the MDGs. The resolution also encouraged the consideration of integrating a holistic road map into their national development policy

frameworks, such as their Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, in order for states to address issues of poverty reduction that would work hand in hand with not only their national priorities but with the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals as well. The draft resolution concluded with a focus on the importance of awareness and engagement of the general populaces within local African communities.

CHAPTER I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council and brought to its attention

A. Draft resolutions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

The Economic Commission for Africa recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

The Economic and Social Council

Recognizing the United Nations Charter, and 2.1 outlining state sovereignty,

Urges African states to become more dependent on domestic resources,

Considering the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and their vast coverage,

Concerned that the deadline of 2015 is vastly approaching as many countries still struggle to make progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Aware that the MDGs call for all nations to:

- (a) Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger,
- (b) Achieve universal primary education,
- (c) Promote gender equality and empower women,
- (d) Reducing the child mortality rate,
- (e) Improve maternal health,
- (f) Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases,
- (g) Ensure environmental sustainability,
- (h) Develop a global partnership for development,

Advocating therefore the achievement of MDGs,

Recognizing that African states burdened with debt will be unable to devote the resources necessary to development;

1. *Advocates* the use of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and regional relations to create long-term relationships to encourage development of stronger more self-sustained states:

(a) Including but not limited to diversifying agricultural methods and achieving stable agricultural methods to help growth;

(b) Creating options for debt relief of African nations to provide further ability for the development of methods to enable the expansion of more effective management of resources;

2. *Endorses* agricultural training to empower the state's human capital with the ability to implement a sustainable agricultural industry;

3. *Further encourages* Group of 8 states to continue to pledge at least 0.7% of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to impoverished states such as the African states;

4. *Implores* developed states, who do not currently pledge 0.7% of their GDP, to fulfill their obligations to impoverished Member States;

5. *Supports* the development of agriculture programs to assist states in developing new and higher yield crops and assist in making present crops more efficient;

6. *Encourages* donor states concerned with accountability to donate aid through a joint committee comprised of the African Development Bank and Regional Economic Communities, with the specific focus of this resolution to be hunger relief:

(a) Submit Individualized State Agricultural Development Plans (ISADPs) to the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and African Development Bank that will outline the following:

(i) How much money a state is requesting;

(ii) Who in each state will be held accountable and in charge of said allotted funds;

(iii) Where the funds will be distributed, which includes improving crop development, diversification, and sustainment, educating farmers and community members on efficient agricultural practices, choosing educators and methods of educating, deciding who will oversee the specified areas of progress, and improving irrigation systems to make land more sustainable;

(b) Hold themselves accountable for the use of funds received by preparing an ISADP;

(c) Present the ECA with progress reports through the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) which will be presented in 2012 and again in 2014 and will:

(i) Research country progress;

(ii) Provide statistical analysis and evidence that shows the progress of nations;

7. *Urges* states to invest in and integrate telecommunications technology as a fundamental part of development assistance, and in the improvement of the international community's statistical gathering capacities;

8. *Endorses* the International Monetary Fund's (IMF's) Heavily Indebted Poor Countries initiative as a feasible plan for debt relief to enable states to dedicate necessary resources towards development and allocation for efficient means of resolving further debt from accumulating.

Draft Resolution II

The Economic and Social Council

Considering African states possess the worst mortality rates for infants and expectant mothers,

Concerned African states will be unable to meet the Millennium Development Goals, as stated in the Economic Commission for Africa resolution 2.1,

Alarmed by the inadequate medical resources for expectant mothers, children, and others,

Emphasizing the need for adequate and effective health care,

Supporting North Africa's continual progress in maternal mortality rates,

Noting with regret that Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for nearly half of the five and under child death rates in the developing world and that achieving the Millennium Development Goals are far off in the horizon,

1. *Proposes* further education on sanitary medical and everyday practices by the Red Cross, Red Crescent and other Non-governmental Organizations and Governmental Organizations;

2. *Endorses* clean needle practices and education about HIV/AIDs;

3. *Expresses its hope* that donor nations and organizations will provide the necessary supplies for the implementation of these practices in the public sector;

4. *Encourages* the use of Project HOPE in order to train effective midwives to be utilized by African states to ensure safer births;

5. *Suggests* using organizations such as The Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI) to provide vaccinations and help establish a more universal supply of vaccinations specifically targeting malaria and other prevalent diseases;

6. *Supports* educating women on proper and healthy prenatal, post-natal, and post-partum practices;

7. *Further recommends* that states, utilizing local resources as much as possible, use organizations such as Feed My Starving Children and Save the Children to help eradicate children malnourishment.

Draft Resolution III

The Economic and Social Council

Alarmed by the warming of our planet, brought about by wasteful modern industry and development, and its grave implications upon the well being and future survival of humanity and the natural ecosystems that host all known life,

Observing that the implications of climate change are inherently linked to food shortages, drought, poverty, and disease,

Bearing in mind the incredible opportunity for futurist sustainable reform that exists in the development of new modern societies, which may be absent in those already developed states,

Seeking collaboration and coordination between Member States and third parties on the monitoring of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) progress and implementation of initiatives towards sustainable development,

Noting with deep regret the absence of bold action from developed countries in the pursuance of global sustainability, which is especially troubling due to the fact that Africa will experience the worst effects,

Desiring revamped efforts and donations from all able actors of the international community to help developing countries build sustainable infrastructure,

Realizing the need for objective monitoring of progress towards attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),

Affirming that concrete action and global commitment are now required to ensure that rapidly developing Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) accelerate the attainment of Millennium Development Goals,

Keeping in mind that Information Technology has become critical for entrance into the globalized economy and conversation, and should be made available for all the world's constituencies,

Recognizing that in order to accomplish 2015 Millennium benchmarks, the international community must work to improve statistical capacities with careful regard to accuracy, depth, timeliness, and transparency,

Further recognizing the vast technological disparity that exists between rich and poor countries,

1. *Reminds* governments of developing states that the responsibility to develop practical plans and strategies for sustainable development is primarily their own;

2. *Draws the attention* of African states toward the African Union (AU) adopted African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources of 2003, which commits AU states to ecologically rational development, and recognizes the human right to a satisfactory environment;

3. *Requests* that United Nations Member States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector assist in developing sustainable societies, with particular focus on those states demonstrating genuine effort and determination toward the cause;

4. *Supports* an enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative as a highly beneficial plan for debt relief to enable states to dedicate necessary resources towards sustainable development;

5. *Encourages* governments of developing states to initiate the drafting of said plans and stratagems so that donor states and third parties have clear reason to provide assistance, either advisory, financial, or in implementation;

6. *Recommends* that all international and domestic actors involved in sustainability and conservation planning focus on the following areas in accordance with state demands:

- (a) Tangible, community-based adaptations to reduce climate change effects;
- (b) Water preservation, sanitation, and sustainable irrigation;
- (c) Incorporation of green technology in new constructions;
- (d) Land development;
- (e) Resource extraction processes;
- (f) Forest management;
- (g) Preservation of biodiversity;

7. *Calls upon* all States, particularly Group of 8 members, to take measures to ensure that the technological disparity existing between rich and poor does not harm efforts to gather accurate and regular reviews on MDG progress;

8. *Urges* Member States, affiliated organizations, and the private sector to invest in ICT infrastructure of developing countries to foster an information society that creates an environment where all national sovereignties, religious, cultural, social, and linguistic interests are respected and protected;

9. *Recommends* that coordination of root servers, domain names, and Internet Protocol be the responsibility of an inter-governmental organization with the following foundational guidelines:

- (a) International management of the Internet should be democratic, multilateral, and transparent;
- (b) It should secure a fair distribution of resources, facilitate access for all, and ensure a stable and secure functioning of the Internet;
- (c) It should respect geographical diversity and ensure representation through

participation of all interested states, including competent members of civil society and the private sector who possess specialized knowledge on this subject.

Draft resolution IV

The Economic and Social Council

Recognizing the need to ensure primary education for all citizens of African nations as attaining a critical Millennium Development Goal (MDG),

Concerned that donor nations are falling short of their pledges of developmental funds by an amount of almost \$35 billion per year,

Deeply concerned with the alarmingly low level of education and access to primary education in various parts of Africa,

Understanding the diverse nature of various African regions based on culture, language, religion, economy and geography,

Realizing the critical nature of the MDG relating to ensuring primary education for all, towards increasing the quality of life and the attainment of other Millennium Development Goals specifically promoting gender equality and empowering women by eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education,

Bearing in mind that the empowerment of women and gender equality are the cornerstones of one of the MDGs that Member States have pledged to achieve,

Stressing the need for proper implementation and monitoring of programs and policies enacted by Members States to ensure that the particular MDGs are attained,

1. *Encourages* all Member States to make a full course of primary education compulsory for all children between the age of five and ten;

2. *Further encourages* all Members States to make the said full course of primary education free for all;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to conduct statistical results, such as the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), to identify the specific regional needs of different nations such as prominent language(s), lifestyle, religion and economy;

4. *Urges* all Members States to improve accessibility to primary and secondary education through:

(a) The establishment of flexible, customized curricula that take into consideration the identified regional needs specifically reaching a balance between both regional language(s) and national language(s);

(b) Equal access for males and females to primary and secondary

education in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals;

(c) Inclusion of agricultural and/or other pertinent vocational training as part of the basic education;

(d) Inclusion of incentives, possibly food or monetary, to encourage parents to send their children to school;

(e) Placing, where appropriate, all-female schools to ensure all religious and cultural sentiments are protected;

(f) Providing scholarships and bursaries to encourage girls to attend secondary school;

5. *Recommends* collaborating with Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as World Teach, the Peace Corps and other such organizations to employ individuals from nations with higher literacy rate to promote education in the less developed nations of Africa;

6. *Promotes* adult literacy programs to educate parents, specifically mothers in order to encourage them to send their children to school realizing that educating mothers will also help to decrease child mortality rates;

7. *Emphasizes* the need for raising awareness on female health and other female issues through education in order to reduce gender disparity;

8. *Reminds* donor nations the need for sustained aid and the importance of meeting their pledged amounts in order to continue developmental work in the African region towards attaining the Millennium Developmental Goals;

9. *Affirms* that the Millennium Development Goals report published in 2009 by the United Nations is an adequate reflection of MDG indicators in various parts of the world including Africa;

10. *Calls* for continued government monitoring and data acquisition to measure and ensure progress that is made towards the attainment of primary education for all and gender parity;

11. *Encourages* the creation of a leading workforce within Africa through pertinent initiatives that include but are not limited to:

(a) The creation of a sister schools program linking developed countries to African states by funding and supporting school attendance incentives, development for schools, educators, and food for schools;

(b) Implementation of training programs for African youths to increase the teaching workforce in Africa;

(c) Implementation of scholarship programs to compensate students pursuing higher education to attain such students with a pledge to teach in African nations.

Draft resolution V

The Economic and Social Council

Recognizing the ongoing efforts and progress made within each African nation towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the significant amount of work that still must be done to successfully achieve the MDG's targets by 2015,

Bearing in mind the effects of the global economic situation on growing African economies,

Fully aware that updated, reliable data plays an integral role in the MDG process,

Taking into consideration that there is a lack of awareness and engagement among the general populace of local African communities, the key actor in making the achievement of the MDGs a reality,

Acknowledging that the half-way point to the 2015 target has passed and that there is a dire need to approach the MDGs through strong, integrated stratagems,

Observing the capability of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to assist African nations with developing effective and sustainable poverty reduction strategies,

Emphasizing the need to develop more efficient information gathering and sharing networks both within domestic states, and among the member states of Regional Economic Communities (RECs),

1. *Encourages* all member states to integrate a holistic road map towards achieving the MDGs within their national development strategies, including Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, to ensure governmental participation and commitment to the Goals;

2. *Reaffirms* that embedding such a road map within national development policy frameworks will fashion out a systematic, collective, and sustainable approach in reaching the Goals by 2015;

3. *Recommends* that all Member States make considerable efforts towards formulating national road maps by:

(a) Identifying and addressing issues related to poverty reduction, such as increasing opportunities for new investment, employment, and wealth by creating a stable economic environment;

(b) Highlighting national development priorities which will concurrently foster progress that relate to the Goals, such as:

(i) A focus on modernizing agriculture;

(ii) Support of the private sector within each country to facilitate innovation and access to capital;

(iii) Enhancing human development and improving access to basic services;

4. *Notes* that newly created and currently existing national statistical systems for tracking progress of the MDGs must be adequately supported, financially and through research institutions and development partnerships, in order to:

- (a) Carry out statistical research and reliable, consistent data in a timely manner;
- (b) Help form national policies towards attaining the Goals;
- (c) Improve and expand the statistical capacity of these statistical systems;

5. *Endorses* that effective monitoring and evaluation of a nation's progress through these statistical systems will lead to the development of new strategies and efforts towards achieving the MDGs;

6. *Emphasizes* that it is imperative that every party involved with data collection participate in national processes by effectively monitoring and reviewing progress towards the Goals actively;

7. *Supports* efforts to enhance awareness of the MDGs on the local and governmental level for the purpose of continuous involvement and enforcement of the Goals;

8. *Strongly endorses* the use of RECs to develop a broader information gathering and sharing framework among ECA Member States, so as to better align development initiatives between different nations.

CHAPTER II

Consideration of Achieving The Millennium Development Goals In Africa

At its meetings from 21 to 23 November 2009, the Commission considered the topic of achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Africa.

A. Deliberations

The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) discussed the selection of topics and chose to continue with Topic One, Aid for Trade. Seeing as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) apply to all nations, and considering their significance in the global world, the Democratic Republic of the Congo motioned for the formation of a committee to discuss the MDGs. There was much debate on the issue. Many nations felt splitting the committee would deter from the discussion of Aid for Trade, but in the end, the committee passed the motion. The committee then adjourned for the night and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Algeria, and Mozambique met to discuss the preliminary ideas for the MDG committee. The ideas were as follows:

1. Eradicate Poverty and Hunger
 - Funding- from whom?
 - Occupational education- agriculture
 - Microloans
 - Irrigation and water supply- make the most out of farmable land
 - Storage of surplus
 - CAADP- Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
 - Millennium Villages
2. Achieve universal primary education
 - Different types of education= agriculture/ trade schools/ internships
 - Literacy
 - Funding- from whom?
 - Formation of schools= Where? How many? Making them more effective
 - Teachers= training, salaries, training community members to be teachers?
 - Education for All Fast Track Initiative
 - National education plans and goals and Transparency/ track progress of goals
 - USAID-United States Agency for International Development
 - Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
 - Require public health education
 - Reduced or Free lunches provided by schools
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
 - Microloans and Fair Trade for women
 - Promote female education
 - Encourage women in the workplace and stress its economical importance
4. Reduce child mortality
 - Lack of hospitals and sanitation
 - Educate on sanitation and being clean and healthy

5. Improve maternal health care
 - Lack of hospitals and sanitation
 - Expand health care systems- access to hospitals, vaccinations, research, support medical technology sharing
 - GAVI- The Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations
 - Global Fund
 - Family Planning
 - Educate about healthy pregnancies
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, etc
 - Sex Ed- limit spreading
 - Testing for HIV/AIDS
 - Provide Vaccinations technology sharing
 - Mosquito netting
 - Education on mosquitoes and spreading of malaria
7. Environmental sustainability
 - Recycling
 - Proper use of natural materials
 - Proper irrigation
8. Global partnership
 - Adopt this committee's Aid for Trade resolution

When session reconvened on Sunday morning, the committee on the MDGs decided what goals to address first. The committee decided that reducing poverty and hunger was the most imperative and applicable goal to all states. The committee decided on a basis for the resolution which would recognize the MDGs, advocate supporting their achievement, and recognize the problems African states face. Furthermore, the committee discussed specifics they wanted to include in the resolution that states brought to them. Saudi Arabia expressed a concern for technology and sharing of information, Mozambique brought up the issue of microfinance, which was later address in an Aid for Trade resolution, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo discussed the African Development Bank, accountability, and transparency. Then the committee decided to delegate certain operatives in which states were interested and worked to create operative clauses.

While the rest of Commission continued to debate and discuss Aid for Trade, the committee collaborated their ideas and resulting clauses into the resolution. The committee constructed their resolution and submitted it to the Rapporteur for review. He recommended changes, and they complied. Then the committee resubmitted the resolution. They had to complete some additional corrections and after those corrections, the committee was able to submit the resolution to the Dias to be printed. The draft resolution was made available to the body, however, the committee had to wait for the body to end debate on Aid for Trade.

On Monday morning, the ECA convened and discussed many possible amendments in caucus. After informal caucusing, the Democratic Republic of the Congo moved to bring draft resolution II/1 to the floor. This motion passed. Regarding amendments, Zimbabwe

expressed issues with operative clause 6. Zimbabwe proposed to change the clause to include a joint-partnership of the African Development Bank and Regional Economic Communities (RECs). Zimbabwe also took issue with clause 6 because it placed restrictions on the use of donated aid. Additionally, Zimbabwe felt that the clause should be prefaced first with the clarification that this measure was meant to reduce the hunger problem, and second, that this clause was meant to address donor concerns about accountability. Lastly, Zimbabwe informed the committee that it needed to change African Peer Review to African Peer Review Mechanism. The committee agreed to amend the resolution. However, Zimbabwe was not the only leader in amending the resolution. Sudan worked along with Zimbabwe on all the previously mentioned amendments. In continuation, Chad and many other nations expressed concern with operative clauses 3 and 4. Many states wanted to change clause 3 from “Member States” to “Group of Eight states.” In clause 4, they wished to change “Implores states” to “Implores developed states.” The committee complied after short informal debate and drafted amendments. Consequently, Ghana and Chad expressed additional concern with operative clause 8, which concerned the International Monetary Fund’s (IMF’s) Heavily Indebted Poor Countries initiative. Heavy debate on the issue ensued.

Ghana and Chad advocated striking clause 8. Tunisia advocated keeping the clause due to the acceptance of the IMF by donor states, however, Ghana pointed out that most African states do not support the IMF due to its strict guidelines and history of ineffectiveness. Clause 8 was amended. It changed “International Monetary Funds (IMFs) Heavily Indebted Countries Initiative” to “International Monetary Funds (IMF) Heavily Indebted Poor Countries initiative (HIPC).” The resolution was adopted by consensus.

While the ECA was discussing II/1, other states continued working on other draft resolutions regarding other MDGs. These resolutions were grouped as such: 1) maternal health care, infant mortality rate, and HIV/AIDS; 2) global partnership and environmental sustainability; 3) women and gender equality and education; 4) statistical analysis.

After discussing MDG 1 and the corresponding resolution, the ECA moved into general debate on Topic II. Formal debate and informal caucusing took place. Saudi Arabia mainly discussed environmental sustainability until resolution II/2, which covered maternal health care, infant mortality rates, and HIV/AIDS, was brought to the floor. Resolution II/2 was written during an after hours caucus session involving the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Mauritania, Sudan and Guinea-Bissau. These countries took it upon themselves to attempt to accurately portray the feelings of the entire Commission.

Discussion on resolution II/2 was fairly short, but in that time many good ideas were brought forward. Only one amendment was made to the resolution. This amendment addressed clause 7. Many countries expressed concern with relying solely on outside organizations. Due to the concerns within the Commission, the sponsors drafted a friendly amendment to better suit the ideas of the entire body. There was already some concern about the wording of “clean needle practices” rather than the use of disposable needles. This was addressed by Mauritania by stating that the use of clean needle

practices would include disposable needles, though this was never specifically amended. Due to the hard work and dedication of the ECA, the resolution was passed 21-0-4.

Next, the ECA moved onto resolution II/3. This resolution was originally sponsored by Saudi Arabia, in special collaboration with Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Malawi and others. These representatives drafted Resolution II/3 in order to address Millennium Development Goals 7 and 8: to Ensure Sustainable Development and Establish Global Partnerships. The content of the draft did not meet much resistance during the caucus, however, some compromises were made in response to concerns by the delegates from Morocco and Nigeria. Morocco found the preamble clause that condemned developed nations for their “absence of leadership” with regard to sustainable development aid to be too contentious. The delegate from Morocco was in favor of changing the preamble clause to read an “absence of bold action” instead. Saudi Arabia and sponsor-States found this to be an acceptable change. Nigeria had some issues with operative clause 6, which, in his respected opinion, failed to reaffirm the sovereignty of states with regard to sustainable developments. This was a deal-breaking issue, and the resolution’s sponsor-States found that implementing his request did not compromise the integrity of the clause. Sponsors found that the additional vote would be an important one.

During the debate, a question on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia’s integrity on sustainability matters was brought to the floor. The argument was that since Saudi Arabia is an oil producing country, it has no legitimacy as an advocate of sustainability policy. The delegate from Saudi Arabia reaffirmed that the Kingdom is fully committed to a sustainable future on the African continent, and feels confident that it has many good ideas on the matter.

The second part of the resolution, which dealt with the development of Information Technology capabilities in the African continent, was met with many questions and a few concerns, most of which pertained to operative clause 9. Senegal was opposed to the recommendation to establish an inter-governmental agency to help facilitate the advancement of networks and communication technologies. The delegate was concerned that this should not be a priority of the committee, though he liked the other parts of the resolution. Sponsor-States and several Member States appreciated Senegal’s concerns, but they felt the clause was important to the integration of African states in the globalized economy.

Following the closure of debate, a roll call vote was called and the resolution passed 20-1-9.

Following resolution II/3, the ECA moved onto resolution II/4. There were several key members of the ECA (Uganda, Tunisia, Burkina Faso, and Sudan) that met to further discuss a resolution concerning gender equality and education. These members of the ECA, acting on behalf of the body, further developed a list of important issues to address regarding education and the empowerment of women. The issues with education included accessibility to schools, the need for a regional approach to educational needs such as flexible school schedules, the need to incorporate agriculture programs into schools (more

specifically to incorporate vocational training), and the use agricultural products produced to feed children. In regards to the empowerment of women, the ECA determined this issue was more controversial due to differences in religious values and traditions. For the ECA, it was difficult to come to an agreement regarding certain gender equality issues. However, the ECA did agree on the need to improve womens' literacy rates and basic education. All countries acknowledged the link between the education of women and their childrens' levels of education. The ECA concluded that vocational and technical training for women would be practical for all women wishing to participate and it would allow women to develop practical skills.

Many states expressed concerns with the resolution and the sponsoring states resolved to address those issues. Tunisia and Chad opened up discussion by reiterating the necessity of education. Mali was the first state to formally voice opposition. Mali felt that the resolution was imperative, therefore it should be written correctly. Egypt picked up on Mali's concerns and asked about funding the primary education called for in the resolution. Egypt was unsure about relying solely on donors. Ghana then brought up concerns on the lack of clarity in the resolution. Ghana requested more defined and expanded clauses. Then Mozambique expressed concerns about training teachers, while Djibouti expressed concerns about "brain drain" or retention of material learned. Senegal then advocated for more incentives, such as food for children to attend school. Mauritania and the other Arab League nations expressed extreme concern regarding the gender issue. The ECA then went into caucusing and addressed the issues brought forth through formal debate. During caucus, the Arab League Nations withdrew support from the resolution, causing the number of sponsors to fall below eight. Djibouti and Malawi signed on as sponsors in order to allow debate on the draft resolution to continue. After amending most points of contention for states, the resolution was ready for a vote. Egypt motioned for adjournment of debate, but this motion failed. Shortly after, Nigeria moved for closure of debate. This motion passed and so did the resolution by a vote of 24-4-2. The four votes against the resolution came from the Arab League Nations.

After resolution II/4 passed, Ghana motioned for consideration of resolution II/5, the last of the five resolutions under the purview of the Millennium Development Goals topic area. Resolution II/5 was written and formatted chiefly by Ghana and Mozambique, with help from Uganda, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, and Central African Republic. The creators felt strongly about formulating a resolution on information sharing and data gathering, monitoring, and evaluating, with an emphasis on recommending to the members of the ECA to consider formulating holistic road maps that focus on attaining the MDGs into their national development policy frameworks. The resolution also emphasized the importance of awareness and local engagement in regards to the achievement of the MDGs. Ghana and Mozambique especially wanted to underline the integral role that reliable and efficient data plays in pin-pointing the root causes behind the slow progress of achieving the MDGs, but in also identifying as well the areas of strength and effective methods that have contributed to the success of a number of African nations towards the Goals. The creators wanted to reiterate that by creating "road maps" within their own national agendas, states are at liberty to prioritize their achievements towards the MDGs and are able able to explore new and creative ways of reaching the 2015 deadline. Once

the MDG topic was presented to the body the on the third day of sessions, the supporters of Resolution II/5 worked on the content of the resolution and gained consensus on the finalized draft amongst each other and with other participating and interested countries.

All of these points were made during consideration of Resolution II/5, followed by a brief discussion on the floor about how to gain funding and aid through this resolution and questions concerning current monitoring systems, tracking processes, and road maps. Due to time constraints within the ECA as the deadline for submitting drafts of topic reports quickly approached, the dialogue amongst the members was cut short and the body moved immediately into voting procedures. The results of the roll call vote for Resolution II/5 were as followed: 18-1-11.

B. Further Recommendations to the Economic and Social Council

Considering that it is now 2009 and the time limitation on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is scheduled to expire in 2015, Burkina Faso as well as other states, would like to call attention to those countries who are furthest from achievement. These states felt that this meeting of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), where there is representation from the largest collective number of these countries furthest from the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) would have been the ideal forum to place recommendations to the Economic and Social Council, its governing body, a special resolve towards these nations, possibly one which delineates them specifically. Professing such a resolve in 2009, while there is still time for progress to be made could have helped direct the remaining years of the program to ensure its success, and that this success be shared by all States. With such an early resolve, six years before the target date, they would have hoped to avoid the necessity for extension or stop gap programs either closer to the deadline or upon its expiration. Fearful of a debate on MDG guidelines and timetables beyond the purview of the ECA and fearful that debate on this topic would be taken as an attack on the very necessary resolutions put forth by this body, no resolution was brought to the floor. As a recommendation for further action, they would like the Commission to explore the possibility and feasibility of implementing promotions or resolutions that would specifically target those States furthest from completing their Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Additionally, Malawi expressed support of more action regarding resolution II/3. Malawi, being a full supporter of the accepted resolution, also felt that Senegal's concerns were appropriate and left unaddressed. Senegal expressed a desire to see a subclause in operative clause 9 to address education. Malawi felt this still needed to be addressed, but felt more strongly that the resolution in itself accomplished much.

Furthermore, Tunisia wished to point out, to the Economic and Social Council and the various states that have pledged to the attainment of these MDGs (particularly those states who have pledged donations to Member States of the ECA to help attain these MDGs), that from recent statistics it is evident that there is a lack of initiative in achieving the donation goals set by donor nations. Case and point is the USD thirty billion that the international community is short of towards attaining the MDGs. This is certainly a huge

sum of money that is need for the developmental work. While the ECA came up with solid plans on attaining the MDGs, the donors should remember that it would be difficult to attain these goals if such a huge deficit in donations exists. To that end, Tunisia urges all donor nations to take strong measures in ensuring that the donation pledges are met efficiently and in due time to ensure the successful fulfillment of these goals that are crucial to the development of Africa.

CHAPTER III

Adoption of the report of the Commission

At its meeting on 23 November 2009, the draft report of the Commission was made available for consideration. The Commission considered the report, and with no amendments, adopted the report by consensus.