

Report to the The General Assembly on the Changing Age Structures of Populations and Their Implications for Development

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Executive Summary

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At the 23rd Session of AMUN held on 17 November 2012 through 20 November 2012, the Commission on Population and Development addressed Topic One as thoroughly as possible, via dividing the issue of changing age structures into the three subtopics of Education, Employment, and Healthcare.

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- Regarding education, this body passed two resolutions, Resolution I/1 and Resolution I/2.
- 31 Resolution I/1 was organized in five key points encompassing primary schooling,
- 32 secondary schooling, vocational training, standardized testing, and education
- 33 infrastructure. The focus of I/2 was the creation of community centers as an alternative
- 34 method for education, and the enhancement of vocational training.

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- Regarding the subtopic of employment the body discussed possible job opportunities and remedies for the labor market. The issue was addressed on the regional, national, and
- 38 international level. The body suggested a variety of solutions to the topic of employment,
- 39 but no comprehensive resolution was drafted.

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- The Commission discussed the subtopic of healthcare very thoroughly. Developing
- 42 nations wished to focus on the management of diseases, nutrition and wellness, and
- 43 health education. Developed nations were especially concerned with the elderly and
- 44 providing adequate facilities and equipment. The body came to a conclusion by passing
- 45 Resolution I/3 to address the concerns of the Commission.

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47 The last chapter details the acceptance of this report for the Council's consideration.

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

A. Draft resolutions

Draft Resolution I

The Commission on Population and Development,

Recognizing the importance of article 2.4 and 2.7 of the United Nations Charter regarding the protection of national sovereignty in determining educational policy,

Noting the relation between education and a strong infrastructure and observing the lack of infrastructure and information technology and its effect on education,

Recalling the importance of the Millennium Development Goals and the standards they set for education globally,

Acknowledging the value of bilateral cooperation among nations,

1. *Recognizes* that the correlation between infrastructure and education is imperative for a more educated world and suggests that education is improved via public works programs, improved transportation, and the proliferation of information technology;

- 2. *Encourages* the use of vocational training to improve labor options and create a more skilled labor force through:
- (a) Training teachers in developed nations and providing them with incentives to return to their home countries;
- (b) Labor specific educational programs and technical schools to cultivate job opportunities within member states;

- 3. *Recommends* the development of educational standards and standardized testing to take into consideration the educational needs of independent nations by utilizing:
 - (a) The MDG's goals as framework for achieving standards of education;
- (b) Testing in literacy, math, and science in order to understand the educational needs of each nation;

4. *Notices* the importance of primary education and the necessity for consistency in education systems to improve the standard of living globally;

5. Suggests the use of bilateral partnerships to further promote secondary and collegiate education and recommends this be achieved through NGO's incentives to promote collegiate education.

Passed, Yes: 22 / No: 3 / Abstain: 7

94 **Draft Resolution II** 95 96 The Commission on Population and Development, 98 Emphasizing community centers will create employment and facilitate the 99 demographic transition, 100 101 Deeply concerned with encouraging civic duty through community programs, 102 103 Recognizing that each member state has different financial abilities, which could 104 result in some states requiring long-term funding while others will be able to become self-105 sustainable, 106 107 Emphasizing that a signature to this draft resolution does not imply full commitment 108 to all clauses rather: 109 (a) To support the clauses mentioned that pertains to countries in need. 110 (b) Commitment to the specific clauses that pertain to your country. 111 112 Aware of the fact that every individual deserves a proper education, which allows them to contribute to their society in a constructive way through employment and 113 114 community involvement, 115 116 Noting that promoting the elderly as teachers will reduce unemployment in the 117 elderly population, 118 119 Expecting that the United Nations provide technical assistance, training and funding 120 to start community centers that provide youth training programs throughout the 121 community with ultimate goal of self-sustainability, 122 123 1. Recommends the creation of community centers as a method of easing the 124 demographic transition through education and job training: 125 126 2. Recommends increased cooperation through Non-Governmental Organizations for 127 the establishment of these community centers; 128 3. Seeks that these community centers focus on community development through 129 130 community education, sex education, vocational training, modern agricultural techniques, 131 providing a secure location for citizens (particularly youth), information technology and 132 job training for the elderly population to incorporate them into the workforce; 133 134 4. Proposes in order to create a self-sustained community center, to incorporate the 135 elderly population as facilitators of the community center: 136 137 5. Recommends enlisting volunteers from the community and qualified individuals 138 from the local community as teachers in the community centers;

140	6. Suggests collaborating with the elderly population as teachers, resources,
141	counselors, and students to promote the sustainability and impact of the community
142	center;
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144	7. Recommends those who participated in the various programs of the community
145	centers return as future teachers fostering self-sustainability;
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147	8. Highly recommends Member States to equally implement educative measures that
148	would inform citizens of the importance of these initiatives stated to ensure a more
149	collaborative effort amongst citizens with a goal with long lasting support and
150	sustainability.
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152	Passed, Yes: 17 / No: 10 / Abstain: 6
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154	Draft Resolution III
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156	The Commission on Population and Development,
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158	Emphasizing the importance of Millennium Development Goals four, five, and six,
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160	Observing the relationship between health education and wellness,
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162	Desiring a multilateral approach to improving health care,
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164	<i>Recognizing</i> the intrinsic role of women's empowerment in the implementation of
165	measures of health care and the recent United Nations declaration of access to birth
166	control as a universal human right,
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168	1. Recommends the following guidelines for establishing medical education
169	programs:
170	(a) Students who wish to travel abroad for education should retain the option to do
171	so, without any infringement on their human rights;
172	(i) Students retain the right to decide what they study and whether or not they enroll
173	in their government program;
174	(b) Students who enter their governments' program can be issued their license upon
175	their return with their medical degree;
176	(c) Students who choose the government program are subject to the condition that
177	government provide for that program;
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179	2. Calls upon member states to send healthcare professionals to states in need to:
180	(a) Provide relief in emergent situations;
181	(b) Educate local medicinal actors (midwives and medicine men) to administer
182	medications;
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184	3. Acknowledges the importance of the preservation of traditional medicine in
185	addition to the implementation of new medical practices;
	DOC:169

186 187 4. Endorses the education of citizens on the issues of nutrition, sexually transmitted 188 infections, and completing multiple round treatments; 189 190 5. Recommends the development of maternal healthcare as it relates to the 191 importance of diet and specifically during pregnancy; 192 193 6. Expresses its hope member states will encourage healthcare professionals to work 194 in rural clinics designed to provide care for mothers and children through age five as 195 specified in the Millennium Development Goals; 196 197 7. Notes the need for incentives such as affordable medications to encourage mothers 198 and their children visit such clinics: 199 200 8. Recommends clinics provide Human Immunodeficiency Virus tests for all mothers 201 and infants with the goal of diagnosing and treating the disease; 202 203 9. Supports the creation of clinics in areas such as: 204 (a) Those suffering from high infection relative to the region; 205 (b) Rural and undeveloped portions of states where no medical center currently 206 exists: 207

10. Considers funding to be from willing and able member states. Non Governmental

Organizations, and the World Health Organization.

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213 Chapter II 214 Consideration of Agenda Topic Changing Age Structures of Populations and Their 215 **Implications for Development** 216 217 **Works Cited** 218 UN/POP/PD/2005/1 219 UN/POP/PD/2005/6 220 E/CN.9/2007/3 221 E/CN.9/2007/4 222 E/CN.9/2007/9 223 E/CN.9/2007/NGO/1 224 E/CN.9/2011/8 225 E/CN.9/2012/8 226 A/CONF.171/13 227 GA/58/134 228 229 A. Deliberations 230 The commission decided to use a three-pronged approach for Agenda Topic One, 231 Changing Age Structures of Populations and Development, focusing on education, 232 employment, and healthcare. 233 234 Regarding education, the body formulated Resolution I/1, which focused on a five-point 235 approach to the improvement of global education for both developed and developing 236 nations. 237 238 When the resolution was brought to the floor, several nations expressed concern for the 239 language used, especially in regards to the concepts of literacy and standardized testing. 240 The Islamic Republic of Iran iterated alarm as to the implications the resolution would 241 have for underrepresented world languages. 242 243 Additionally, the Croatian delegation found fault with the potential undue cost burden 244 placed upon the receiving nations in the resolution's proposed teacher exchange program 245 in Operative Clause Two. Furthermore, Cuba also took issue with Operative Clause 246 number Two, specifically with the idea of training teachers from developing nations 247 abroad in developed nations. Cuba does not feel it is relevant, as Cuba has one of the best 248 education systems in the world, with a literacy rate of 99.8%. Furthermore, Cuba feels 249 this process would be both expensive and inefficient. Removing some of the countries 250 best and brightest is dangerous because they might not return to their home countries. 251 Cuba feels the clause would be more efficient if it asked developed nations to send 252 teacher to developing countries and taught them skills in their own country. This would 253 ensure that the teachers stay and teach in their home countries. 254 255 Debate ensued, with several nations suggesting the removal or modification of these

Furthermore, we also engaged in debate on Resolution I/2 and this resolution was passed. DOC:169

clauses. Ultimately, Resolution I/1 was passed by clear majority.

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Resolution I/2 addressed the issue of changing age structures through community centers, which would be run by local communities to provide services such as; community education, and vocational training. The centers would receive initial support and funding from the United Nations, with the ultimate goal of self-sustainability. In effect community centers would foster employment in both the youth and the elderly thus easing the change in age structures.

This report also emphasizes that the community centers are equally intended to be a means to inform citizens about the importance and the purpose of these initiatives. As a result, citizens are able to internalize the policies and this body was able to have a more collaborative effort in approaching the issue of education.

- There was a consultative session held by this commission to debate the resolution where by Malaysia, Pakistan, and Germany spoke in favor of the proposal. Many member states expressed concern about the wording of the resolution and funding.
- The delegation of Turkmenistan and Belarus expressed confusion on wording of Perambulatory Clause Four, and the necessity of its presence in the resolution. The Islamic Republic of Iran stated concern for the cultural ramifications of community centers on independent nations, as well as the encroachment on state sovereignty.

Ultimately, this body adopted the resolution with a clear majority.

The Commission on Population and Development engaged in discussion on a resolution proposed by Malawi, Belarus, and The United Kingdom in regards to the issue of health care. The resolution provided components of urging individuals to pursue medical education. Moreover, students are only to obtain medical licenses within their home nations, as well as the students and state agreeing upon course of study. States are encouraged to provide healthcare professionals where possible, endorse medical education, and provide incentives to encourage maternal health. The resolution also brings up the importance of sexual education and the necessity for contraceptives and preventative measures.

While Malaysia supports resolution 1/3, Malaysia does not endorse operative clause four. Malaysia recognizes the importance of women's empowerment in healthcare but feels women's empowerment is not an essential aspect of healthcare. Malaysia also disagrees with operative clause eleven feeling it is inappropriate for states such as Malaysia to provide contraceptive and family planning services as necessary to its citizens; in that it would violate the traditions and norms of the Malaysian people.

El Salvador expressed its concern over rising healthcare costs and the potential that those costs may have to be passed on to citizens that may not be able to afford it. Specifically in regards to draft resolution 1/3, El Salvador voiced its concerns that such bilateral medical school agreements may unnecessarily raise healthcare costs without an accompanying substantial increase in the breadth or quality of care.

Upon debate of this resolution within consultative session, the committee brought up the DOC:169

following concerns. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed concerns that the advocacy of contraception's would promote poor family values. The delegation of Georgia voiced concern of Operative Clause 1, specifically with students returning to their home country for five years after obtaining a medicinal license. Georgia believed this might pose danger to citizens that left their home country due to safety threats.

Three friendly amendments were added to Resolution I/3, which were proposed by
Belarus and the United Kingdom. The first amendment dealt with rewording clauses to be
less imposing and more optional to the governments of the country. The second
amendment, proposed by Bangladesh and the Netherlands, promoted family planning
and women's access to healthcare including contraceptives. In addition, it better
expressed the ideals stated by Malaysia and The Islamic Republic of Iran aforementioned.
The third and final amendment reworded the first operative clause even further in order to

promote state sovereignty and protect the power of nations individual healthcare laws and sentiments.

The resolution was passed by the Commission with a clear majority.

I. Education

Many suspensions of the meeting occurred during the duration of the Commission on Population and Development. During such suspensions, concerns that were brought up included:

The influence infrastructure has upon the accessibility of education. With respect to infrastructure, the need for transportation, educational facilities, and academic resources and personnel were expressed.

The attendance of both students and teachers was of great concern to the body. The body discussed the correlation between education levels and consistency in school attendance, and subsequently discussed methods in which a nation?s academic system might be more accommodating to students that may need to take a leave of absence.

Many nations that possess a predominantly young population expressed the need to train their youth to enter the work force with specific skill sets. Vocational training was discussed as a possible remedy to this concern. The delegation of Jamaica suggested the following options: 1) internships to involve youth in governmental programs; 2) the integration of vocational education into traditional education; 3) technology training.

Moreover, nations expressed interest in engaging in multi-national partnerships to facilitate the promotion of education in multiple facets. The delegation of Angola expressed a specific interest in focusing education upon business and economics to prepare younger workforces for more skill-based employment opportunities. Other ideas brought forth included a math and science based education. Many nations all expressed a key interest in literacy as a basic tenant in education.

- To ensure equality in educational experience across multiple nations, delegations within the Commission on Population and Development discussed the benefits of standards
- across educational systems. Many nations were concerned with the protection of national
- 354 sovereignty with respect to education. It was acknowledged that different education

initiatives would be needed within different regions.

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- Discussion then turned to the issue of secondary and collegiate education within nations.

 Nations discussed the possibility of developing bi-national and multi-national collegiate partnership programs. Delegations further emphasized this idea by discussing possibility
- of national governments providing incentives for citizens to return to their home country

361 following their abroad education.

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The Commission on Population and Development also entertained many consultative sessions. During such sessions, member states addressed the body with the following concerns:

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Many nations expressed a key interest in the possibility of creating community services for education through increased community involvement.

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370 Kenya expressed an interest in the introduction of sexual education for nations.

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Multiple nations expressed a concern of the importance of religion in education, and yet the simultaneous criticality of secular options.

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The Democratic Republic of the Congo stressed the need for accessibility and infrastructure of education, as well as opportunities to study abroad, with incentives to return to the home country.

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The delegate from Malawi expressed agreement with the issue of educating teachers abroad and would prefer teachers remain in their home state for education, and foreign teachers enter Malawi with the purpose of training Malawian teachers.

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There was a general consensus among the body for an increase in funding for both primary and secondary schools, noting burgeoning youth populations within some member nations.

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II. Employment

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During suspension of the meeting the commission discussed potential solutions to fostering employment. These potential solutions included providing labor opportunities to youth, encouraging developed countries to engage in bilateral relationships with developing nations to partake in labor outsourcing programs.

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Additionally, it was suggested that the bilateral partnerships could be utilized in pursuit of microloan programs. Many nations also noted that these microloan programs could take place through private institutes. These microloans would be made with the intention to

397 encourage youth to pursue business, and to stabilize agricultural economies. 398 399 It was noted that the availability of jobs has a strong correlation to migration. Nations 400 with a surplus of jobs have a tendency to receive many migrants. 401 402 Noting that the former points predominantly pertained to developing nations, the 403 delegates within the Commission of Population and Development engaged in much 404 discussion of teaching methods to encourage individuals to come back to their home 405 country after they?ve studied abroad. 406 407 The nation of Algeria pointed out the need for developed nation?s big businesses to 408 adhere to guidelines of worker rights, particular with respect to adequate wage. 409 410 Foreign direct investment was also suggested as a means of alleviating economic burden 411 to facilitate employment opportunities. 412 413 The delegation of Turkmenistan discussed the point of the proliferation of technology to 414 promote industries in rural areas. The delegation of Haiti expressed concerns about the 415 environmental impact technologies possess on soil. 416 417 The delegation of Kenya noted the potential that natural resources have to promote 418 economic wealth and stability in nations, as well as their potential to improve capital, 419 infrastructure, and job opportunities within the country where resources are being 420 developed. To harness the benefits of natural resources, Kenya suggested a 421 comprehensive approach in which both non-renewable energy resources and renewable 422 energy resources are considered by both private sector and public sector investors. 423 Regarding potential environmental concerns the commission discussed a recommendation 424 that the United Nations Environmental Programme, via the Secretariat, oversee energy 425 development being conducted between United Nations member states to ensure 426 environmental responsibility. 427 428 The commission discussed that nations without established infrastructure the 429 implantation of public works has the capability of providing jobs and improving the 430 roads, sanitation systems, utilities, and public buildings. The delegation from the 431 Netherlands noted that this is not a long-term solution to job sustainability. 432 433 Furthermore the delegation from the Netherlands brought up the necessity of diversifying 434 developing economies from one commodity. 435 436 The delegation from Belarus brought up the importance of free market economies, and 437 the power that a free market system has in opening trade, encouraging industries and 438 businesses to open new jobs and locations globally. Many delegations brought up a 439 dissenting perspective that another form of economic policy is high level of government 440 control in terms of tariffs, business regulation, and taxes. 441 442 The nation of Senegal expressed desire to pursue a program in which individuals that are

no longer able to engage in their previous occupation are provided with the opportunity to become reeducated in a new job field. Senegal also suggested the introduction of new technologies in developing nations to facilitate new markets for employment.

Jamaica was in firm agreement with the aforementioned opinions expressed by Senegal, and stressed the importance of creating new jobs in developing nations, rather than exporting jobs to developed nations.

The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed concern that much of the deliberations and solutions iterated by the body neglected to address the needs of the world?s rural populations. This concern stems from the development of infrastructure within urban areas, which would thus remove motivation for citizens to return to rural areas.

The delegations from Malaysia and Germany noted that a growing economy is necessary for the successful transition of global age structures.

III. Healthcare

During deliberations over the other topic areas, the delegates from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Bangladesh collected opinions from the rest of the body regarding needs and desires for improvements in healthcare. There were several topic areas that multiple delegations were interested in addressing.

Family planning was brought up as it relates to population stability. Delegates from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kenya, and others expressed specific interest in utilizing family planning methods, as their countries are currently experiencing unsustainable population growth. Kenya elaborated on this point, suggesting efforts be made to promote the cultural acceptance of smaller family size.

Many nations, in order to achieve this, expressed interest in improving access to and awareness of contraceptive methods. Condoms were specifically acknowledged for their potential to reduce sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in addition to their usefulness in family planning. Access to other contraceptives was also deemed important. The availability of contraceptives is important for its ability to empower women to have control over their lives and their families'. Use of birth control methods also allows women to participate more in the workforce. The delegation of Gabon raised concern over how this information would be distributed on a mass scale. One solution raised was the use of technology to provide medical assistance and information. However, Gabon mentioned that these technologies are not always present in developing nations as well as rural areas.

In order to effectively utilize these resources, many delegates emphasized the importance of sex education. Implementing programs of education on the topics of sexual health, contraceptive methods, pre- and post-natal health, parenting, and others is of the utmost importance in sustaining the healthy growth of a population. For many developing nations, health education is difficult due to shortages of resources such as facilities,

educators, and educational materials.

The health of youth under the age of five was another issue brought up specifically by the delegation form the Philippines, especially for nations with younger age structures. Healthy children form the basis for a productive in the future and opportunities for developing to increase their standard of living. The body recognized the importance of nutritional programs worldwide.

Maternal health was also brought up for discussion among member states. The delegation of Germany mentioned that the birth rate is often well below the required level to keep the population stable, in nations with older age structures. In addition, Germany brought up the fact that, in its population, many women postpone having children due to the inability to work and parent children. The German delegate also argued a need for improved childcare facilities in its and other nations as well as a need for closer attention to women's rights and opportunities.

Many nations with elderly populations wished to call to attention the necessity of health institutions for the elderly.

The delegation of Turkmenistan raised the question of addressing the need for healthcare in rural areas. It suggested the development of programs that would encourage governments to provide doctors from urban areas to less populated regions. Non Government Organizations can play a role in supporting traveling hospitals. Such organizations that already exist are Doctors without Borders, and programs run by The Red Cross. Turkmenistan in addition with other nations also expressed concern over the protection of national sovereignty in terms of mandating health care law.

Support from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) was also discussed as it pertains to the prevention, treatment, and management of infectious diseases. Uganda brought up the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which is a major donor in this field. Support from organizations like this is critical, as there connections to a wide variety of industries facilitates cooperation in addressing this issue.

The Commission collected individual statements of position from various member states, which are expressed as follows. These statements further express the variety of perspectives held by members of the Commission.

The delegation of Japan encourages all nations to create an economic and social

The delegation of Japan encourages all nations to create an economic and social environment ideal for developing technologies related to medicines, medical equipment's, and hospitals devoted mostly to senior citizens, as they are the most vulnerable group of society.

In impoverished nations such as Kenya, many women are victims of rape or must participate in prostitution to support their families. Kenya recommends that the best method to remedy these atrocities is through economic development resulting in greater employment opportunities. Kenya recommends the employment report produced by the commission as well as sexual education programs as a means of economic development.

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536 537	Cuba expressed a desire to provide incentives for increased birthrates, as well as increasing healthcare availability to the most vulnerable members of populations.
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539 540	The delegation of Algeria expressed an interest in encouraging governments to save money and consider funding means for programs that would tend to the elderly, hospitals,
541	and retirement homes.
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543	Furthermore, the delegation of Jamaica brought to the attention of the committee that
544	medical cannabis should be researched and be put for consideration as an alternative
545	medicine source. The delegations of the United Kingdom and the Islamic Republic of Iran
546	echoed these sentiments.
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548	B. Action taken by the Commission
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550	At its meeting on 17 November 2012 through 20 November 2012, the Commission
551	approved for recommendation for adoption the Economic and Social Council draft
552553	resolution I addressing matters of education. The resolution was passed with a vote of 22 in favor, 3 opposed, and 7 abstentions.
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555	The Commission also approved for recommendation for adoption the Economic and
556	Social Council draft resolution II addressing matters of employment. The resolution was
557	passed with a vote of 17 in favor, 10 opposed, and 6 abstentions.
558	Final Wall was the service of the se
559	The Commission also approved for recommendation for adoption the Economic and
560	Social Council draft resolution III addressing matters of healthcare. The resolution was
561	passed with a vote of 20 in favor, 2 opposed, and 9 abstentions.
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563	Chapter III
564	Adoption of the report of the Commission
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566	At its meeting on 19 November 2012, the draft report of the Commission was made
567	available for consideration. The Commission considered the report, and with no
568	amendments, adopted the report by consensus, with 0 abstentions.