

CHRONICLE

Bringing Global Perspectives to Future Leaders

Tuesday, 22 November 2016 Morning Edition Volume XXVII Issue 05

Graduate School & Career Expo

What are you doing after graduation? If you're still deciding, stop by the Expo this morning and visit with schools and businesses to explore your future.

GA & ECOSOC PLENARY

Today, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council will convene Plenary Sessions to review the work of the week.

FILL OUT A CONFERENCE SURVEY

Links to the AMUN Survey are available at amun. org. Your feedback is strongly desired and greatly appreciated. Help staff make Conference even better!

Committee & Council Updates

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY

GA Concurrent Plenary had intense debate in the Sunday night session concerning the situation in Afghanistan. With many ideas being developed, there were six draft resolutions approved and available to be brought to the floor. However, nothing was passed during the evening session.

GA FIRST COMMITTEE

GA First Committee passed Resolution 1st/I/3 with an over-whelming majority. The committee then moved on to the next agenda item, the Prevention of an arms race in outer space.

GA SECOND COMMITTEE

In GA Second Committee, Member States are concentrating on draft resolutions for the first topic, Industrial Development Cooperation. One resolution, 2nd/I/1, covered the operation of Programme for Country Partnerships (PCPs), improving on education programs, technology assistance and fund development.

GA THIRD COMMITTEE

GA Third Committee spent Monday morning debating the needs and support for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), before passing two resolutions. Resolution 3rd/II/2 calls for the UNHCR to create a new subcommittee to specifically aid IDPs. Resolution 3rd/II/3 draws attention to local and State efforts and emphasizes the importance of education in the restoration of economic and social well-being of IDPs.

GA FOURTH COMMITTEE

Representatives of GA Fourth Committee have discussed how to resolve the issue of displaced persons and subsequent hostilities in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights. The topic was tabled without clear resolution on how to locate and remove uncharted landmines in the Syrian Golan.

IAEA

The IAEA passed Resolutions IAEA/II/1 and IAEA/II/2 during Saturday's sessions. These resolutions called for an increase in nuclear technology in the Middle East. The committee is now deliberating on how the development of nuclear technology and research will transpire.

HRC

Following debate on LGBT rights, the HRC reached an impasse on the death penalty. Accusations of cultural superiority have derailed talks as both sides have deeply entrenched themselves in their positions.



Secrtariat Autumn Bockman as Emma Watson, talking about the He for She Campaign to CSW

HE FOR SHE FOR GENDER EQUALITY

By: Olivia Gardiner Commission on the Status of Women

The Committee on the Status of Women moved to their second topic, the Role of Men and Boys in the Fight for Gender Equality. Several representatives discussed the visit of UN Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson who came to the Committee to talk about the *He For She* program. Ambassador Watson emphasized that gender equality means ev-

eryone should be involved in eradicating harmful gender stereotypes for men and women. Ambassador Watson argued we should think of gender as a spectrum, not two opposing forces. "She brought up things like hyper-masculinity and the pressure to be dominant is also limiting autonomy and equality for women," said Representative Michael Hagstrom of Belarus. Watson's Ambassador speech was also praised by Representative Tommy Palmer of Belgium, who said her speech was "insightful and brought people together on a divisive issue. It was effective in bringing men and boys in the conversation, which is something we lack right now." Representative Harriet Darko of Cuba thought she incorporated different areas of gender equality in her speech that plague every nation, such as gender roles, to which all States can relate.

Don't Forget our Hashtags when Tweeting!

#AMUN2016 #GAPLEN #GA1 #GA2 #GA3 #GA4 #AMUNHRC #ECOSOC #IAEA #ECE #CSW #ICJ #HSC73 #HSC90 #SC

INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IMPORTANT TO DEVELOPMENT

By: Yung Ji Ko

GA Second Committee

The debate about Industrial Development Cooperation continues in the GA Second Committee. While Member States have not yet passed a resolution, they continue to seek common ground.

Draft resolution GA2/I/1 focuses on the importance of industrial investment and suggests stimulating industrial investment in the Programme for Country Partnerships (PCPs). There are three main points regarding PCPs: improvements to sustainable technology, education programs and fund development.

The first, sustainable technology, includes improving technological assistance for water infrastructure. The second point is forming an education program. One important aspect in the education program is improving education methods for managing and investing assets for people who work in business

and providing vocational education opportunities and marketable skills and knowledge to them.

In the last point, Member States form a system to fund developing states and to bolster diplomatic relations, ensuring Member States participate in funding. Participation is incentivized by ensuring their original investment returns along with dividends from interest to developed Member States.

REFUGEES IN PALESTINE NOW TOPIC IN GA FOURTH

By: Aaron Cosenza
GA Fourth Committee

The GA Fourth Committee moved onto the second topic Sunday night after being unable to come to a clear agreement on the topic of locating uncharted landmines in the Syrian Golan.

The committee tabled the subject to focus on the refugee crisis in the Palestinian Territories. As a result of the subsequent hostilities between Israel and its neighbors since 1967, an estimated 700,000

individuals were displaced from the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Golan Heights. The committee addressed the situation providing assistance to displaced refugees, and for working with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Representative Ramisa Hassan of Saudi Arabia said this "will address this issue with repatriation and assimilation efforts in mind." "As a Middle Eastern neighbor, Saudi Arabia finds it interesting that Israel is not currently present in this committee, and it will be interesting to see how Israel's allies may work to resolve this issue without their representatives," said Representative Hassan.

Noting the living conditions of displaced persons as well as subsequent hostilities, the need for services and funding structures will be prudent decision.

Press Conference on LGBT Resolution

By: Raleigh Dixon Human Rights Council

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) rights have only begun being publicly addressed on the world stage within the past ten years, yet the global community is pushing for progress at a strong and steady pace. This issue was the topic of a press conference held Monday by four members of the Human Rights Council: Cuba, France, Netherlands and Switzerland. "LGBT rights are human rights," said Representa-

"LGBT rights are human rights," said Representative Madison Miller of Cuba.

One of the first things the four states advocated for was the estab-

states advocated for was the establishment of an an International LGBT Day, much like International Women's Day, in order to stand in solidarity with the LGBT community, educate people on LGBT issues and advocate against violence targeted at the LGBT community. Even in countries where religion and culture might frown on LGBT individuals, International LGBT Day seeks to be a positive force that can be accepted by all people, regardless of ethnic, cultural, or religious distinctions. "All cultures are compatible with the United Nations and its values; it is not exclusively for Western liberal democracies," said Representative Hayley Luna of the Netherlands. "Identifying that we need to work on ending violence is something that all countries and religions can and should support."

Above all, the HRC hopes that by educating people on the LGBT community and the issues that they face, people will begin to understand and empathize with them more, as opposed to hating them blindly. "While this may not fix every issue immediately, International LGBT Day should and will get the ball rolling towards a more inclusive future," Representative Luna said.

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Committee & Council Updates, Continued

ECE

ECE presented an update to the President and Vice President Monday regarding recommendations on energy efficiency and financing sustainable energy. Leading the presentation were the heads of the Committee's five working groups.

CSW

Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson spoke at the CSW as part of her *He For She* campaign for men and boys' involvement in women's rights. This program calls for inclusive involvement for gender equality and to overcome harmful gender stereotypes.

Security Council & ICJ Updates

CONTEMPORARY SECURITY COUNCIL

The Security Council considered a draft resolution on African security and Peacekeeper protection co-sponsored by Senegal and Uruguay. The Council expressed broad support for the draft and adopted it unanimously as Resolution SC/2.

HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL '73

Resolution HSC73/4 passed with a vote of 9/0/6. It condemned military actions by Israel and Egypt attempting to gain control of the Sinai Peninsula. Resolution HSC73/6, which passed by consensus, accepted the German Democratic Republic, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, and the Federal Republic of Germany as full United Nations members.

HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL '90

Iraq executed British journalist, and accused spy, Farzad Bazoft. Iraq also denounced the presence of French troops in Kuwait. Meanwhile, 12 democracy activists were arrested in Kuwait, in a devastating blow to the pro-democracy movement in the nation.

International Court of Justice

The advocates from Ecuador and Columbia have finished pleading their cases before the ICJ. The reading of the court justices' opinions took place Monday at 6:45 pm. Proceedings for Slovakia v. Hungary regarding the Gabcíkovo-Nagymaros Project are began last night at 7:00 pm.



MARATHON DEBATES ON AFGHANISTAN CONTINUE

By: Sara Jeong
GA Concurrent Plenary

During Sunday's evening session, the GA Concurrent Plenary had intense debate concerning the situation in Afghanistan. Representatives developed several ideas addressing the situation, and had six draft resolutions available for debate. Ideas for bringing peace in the region included using such means as peace talks with neighboring countries, deployment of Afghan troops trained in anti-terror techniques, promotion of economic stability and developing infrastructures in the region, and economic stability through education.

Draft Resolution GAPlen/II/4

stressed the need the for education of common tradespeople. The representatives discussed the idea that, by training people how to develop farming skills, Afghans would hopefully develop lucrative crops other than poppy. They further noted that, if youth have self-entrepreneurship, it will create added revenue to the Afghan economy.

Draft Resolution Plen/II/2, recommending the training of Afghan troops in anti-terror techniques, was debated by the Council, but it failed to pass. According to Representatives Amrita Bhagia and Keisey Weed of Spain, "While the initial debate regarding draft Resolution II/2 was somewhat pro-

ductive, unfortunately, a motion to end debate to vote was passed far too soon. At the beginning of debate, many insightful, effective amendments were being talked about, but some delegations felt that the bill was out of purview, potential collaboration was ignored."

Representatives Bhagia and Weed added that, although the resolution failed when brought to a vote, "a majority of the body agreed that the resolutin had great potential to aid the situation in Afghanistan," and they believed that the resolution would have had broader appeal had there been opportunity to make amendments.

IRAQ'S BUILD UP ON KUWAIT'S BORDER

By: Justin Fausz

Historical Security Council '90

Beginning in April 1990 and continuing through the end of May, the Ccouncil received reports of problems involving a pair of British citizens. The first, a journalist named Farzad Bazoft, was sentenced to death in March by the Iraqi government after being labeled a spy. He was later executed in May 1990. In regards to the choice to execute Bazoft, Representatives Olivia Smith and Karissa Lantz of the United Kingdom said they felt "deeply saddened and disappointed with Iraq's actions."

The second British citizen involved in the situation was a nurse named Daphne Parish. Parish was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment

for driving and assisting the journalist Bazoft. However, Parish was recently found dead; the cause of her death is not known at this time.

The Council had concerns about growing instability between Iraq and Kuwait. The Council requested that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein appear before the council. Though the Council was unable to reach President Saddam Hussein of Iraq for comment, they were able to speak with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz. Foreign Minister Aziz insisted that Iraq's actions are not against Kuwait, but rather the "Western Imperialists." Foreign Minister Aziz claimed that the presence of French troops in Kuwait was intended to scare the Iraqi people, and that the corresponding Iraqi build up was for defense purposes.

However, France denied the claims. "[The troops] are there for training exercises and to protect French assets in the Persian Gulf Region and that is all," said Representative Sam Erickson of France. Representative Drew Richardson, also of France, added that, "We have no offensive procedures in Kuwait."

Iraq continues to receive the support of Yemen, a Member State on the Security Council. Representative Ellen DeWeese of Yemen has said that Yemen "will continue to support [Iraq]" in its movements to maintain its economic strength and position.

of Ireland of the resolutions.

Another resolution was pro-

posed during Sunday evening's session that called for peaceful development of nuclear technology along with the disarmament of nuclear weapons.

Representative Liz Arza of South Sudan said, "The technical support we are talking the most about [in this resolution] is research. Disasters could have been avoided in the past."

The final afternoon press confer-

PROGRESS IN IAEA RESOLUTIONS

By: Lindsay Stone International Atomic Energy Agency

After passing two resolutions, IAEA/II/1 and IAEA/II/2, Representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) were more than pleased with their progress as Saturday evening's session ended.

Resolution IAEA/II/1 called for IAEA nuclear experts to au-

thor a step-by-step guide to a nuclear free Middle East. Resolution IAEA II/2 requests the African Division of the Department of Technical Cooperation to work with the Division of Concepts and Planning of the Department of Safeguards to establish a regional safeguards office in the Middle East.

"It provides a basis we can build off of, but they're very general," said Representative Jasmine Bouche

MULTIPLE PRESS CONFERENCES HELD FOR IAEA MONDAY

By: Lindsay Stone International Atomic Energy Agency

Member States of the International Atomic Energy Agency held press conferences on Monday afternoon to discuss resolutions previously passed in session. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Afghanistan and China came together to express their concern for IAEA/II/1 and IAEA/11/2.

"I'm very disappointed with the body," said Representative Zoe Shaw of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. "The DPRK does not support anything that was passed and how Western imperial states have forced their agenda the entire time."

Representatives from Belgium and Australia, sponsors of Resolution IAEA/II/1, led an additional press conference to voice their support of the actions taken by committee. Representative Alex Stogin of Australia said, "This isn't Western officials coming in, this is IAEA experts from all over the world and going into countries that are willing." Representative Stogin continued, saying he was "surprised" that Israel, Iran and Palestine were all on board.

ence was given by Representative Matt Causer of Yemen. He, along-side Representatives from Burundi, Angola, Morocco, Congo, Croatia and Uzbekistan, have proposed a new resolution that provides specifics not previously outlined in past resolutions. "This resolution is not an indictment of other resolutions passed, but the coalition believes it's time for some specifics," said Representative Causer. "Our resolution is the only one that talks directly about IAEA inspections and working with the Arab League."

ECE PRESENT TO ECOSOC

By: Brennan Turner Economic Commission for Europe

With the President and Vice President of ECOSOC attending Monday morning's session, the Economic Commission for Europe presented recommendations on energy efficiency and financing sustainable energy.

Leading the presentation were the head of the committee's five working groups; energy & efficiency, led by Representative Eruj Haider of Kyrgyzstan; infrastructure & investing, led by Representative Vivek Saini of Albania; trade & share, led by Representative Mark Chen of Kyrgyzstan; national energy development strategies, led by Representative Leah Kaplan of Kazakhstan; and education & innovation, led by Representative Nikolai Eklund of Cyprus.

"I believe that the working groups work effectively," said Representative Will Berry of Switzerland. "The report helps bring ideas together and references the needs and concerns of the Member States."

However, he also expressed concerns that certain resolutions do not expressly address the issues that the Council is focused on, but is not a primary concern as it is still early in the report writing process.

In related news, the Nordic bloc foreign investment committee (consisting of Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom) published a statement discussing a \$1.2 billion fund to reallocate foreign investment money.

"We are working to create real change in the normative, cognitive, and social dynamics of the developing Eastern European countries," said Representative Jon Raley of The Netherlands. "Specifically, the fund is hoping to impact Sustainable Development Goal #7 by aiding these developing countries in their pursuit of sustainable, environmentally friendly energy sources."

Press Releases

Singapore GA First Committee

The Republic of Singapore is pleased with the passage of Resolution 1st/I/6. Illegal arms traffickers undermine the very basis of the rule of law, the State's monopoly on the legitimate use of force. This being the case, all such criminals must be eradicated without mercy by the iron hand of the law. This resolution is a step in the right direction.

United Kingdom

Contemporary Security Council
The United Kingdom would like

The United Kingdom would like to remind the United Nations that the sovereign borders of the Ukraine include the Crimean Peninsula Tuesday, 22 November 2016 Morning Edition — Page 03 Volume XXVII Issue 05

RESOLUTIONS TO MERGE

By: Rebekah Lodos GA First Committee

A proposal to merge two draft resolutions in General Assembly First Committee fizzled out after representatives failed to reach an agreement on specifics.

Two motions were made to begin discussion of the next agenda item, but were unsuccessful. Representatives initially agreed to merge draft Resolutions 1st/I/1 and 1st/I/2 after having submitted them to the rapporteur individually.

Representative Neel Sathi of Palestine, one of the collaborators on draft Resolution 1st/I/1, said the final draft would include the education clause and definition of dual-use goods contained draft Resolution 1st/I/2.

"There are a lot of resolutions running around, and with 52 people on ours and fifty something on theirs, it's enough for general consensus overall to pass," said Representative Sathi.

Draft Resolution 1st/I/1 was moved to the floor for debate, causing visible confusion amongst the body, with regard to the merger process involving draft Resolution 1st/I/2. The next two hours were spent discussing whether to vote on any resolution at all, continue the merger, or add draft Resolution 1st/I/2 as an amendment.

"I feel that there's value in the amendment process," said Sabrina Representative Harris of Senegal, who was concerned that submitting a new resolution would delay voting.

Representative Anabel Carmona Gutierrez of Morrocco proposed a solution saying, "Why don't we gather the people we got to sign ours individually and get them to sign off on both?" The representatives did not reach an agreement by the end of he session.

Press Releases

Contemporary Security Council

The Republic of France would like to call to attention the atrocities in Aleppo. The Syrian regime and its allies are not fighting terrorism with the resumption of barrel bombing. As of now, there are no functioning hospitals and humanitarian aid is heavily restricted. With the most recent attacks, the Republic of France again calls upon the Security Council to put Syria before the International Criminal Court in an investigation. The Republic of France condemns these war crimes. France also strongly condemns the Russian Federation's handling of ceasefire talks to provide humanitarian aid to Aleppo. The Russian Federation is holding these talks hostage with a list of unrealistic demands. We strongly urge the Russian Federation to consider the innocent lives at risk and be more flexible. The Republic of France hopes the Security Council can reach an agreement before more lives are lost.

YUGOSLAVIA INTELLIGENCE CONFIRMS BOMB THREAT

By: Iesha Robinson

Historical Security Council '73

Yugoslavia announced Monday that its sources had determined Israeli citizens were behind the bomb threat and the attempt to frame the Palestine Liberation Organization. When questioned on the information provided by Yugoslavia and if the United States was involved, Representative Maggie Powers of the United States emphasized the threat was not from the Israeli government and that the United States was not intentionally trying to omit information. Rather, the US did not find the information to be a pressing matter. While the body spent a great deal of time discussing Yugoslavia's news, there has been little lasting impact on the council.

A draft resolution spearheaded by the Representatives of Kenya addressing the situation in Uganda is under consideration. As of Monday night, there has been cooperation by the body in the formation of a resolution. The draft is calling for regional sanctions on Uganda, though there is controversy over the use of the term "sanctions." Disregarding this controversy, Representatives of Kenya seem to be adamant on keeping the term in the draft resolution because they do not believe its presence will be the deciding factor of whether this resolution will pass.

Press Conference: China to Propose Resolution on Arms

By: Rebekah Lodos **GA First Committee**

Representatives of China in the GA First Committee held a press conference Monday morning to propose a draft resolution for national legislation of the arms trade. The Protection and Encouragement of Arms Control Effectively (PEACE) places a focus on regional and sub-regional cooperation and excludes the use of geotagging technology as a weapons tracking tool. According to Representative Chris Stotler of China, the purpose of this resolution is to develop a community that will ensure small arms do not fall in the hands of violent non-state actors. Geotagging has been a contested issue in GA First and this resolution discourages the use of any tracking devices in weapons. "Other options are available to prevent weapons from falling into terrorist hands," Representative

Stotler said. "It's ...very difficult to remove weapons from rebel groups and illegal arms dealers to install trackers on their weapons." China has gained support from the African bloc and some members of the Asian bloc. The committee has yet to vote on the Resolution but the Representatives of China hope to reemphasize its importance during informal caucusing.

Peacekeeping Forces Solution Needed in Africa

By: Cameron Meek

Contemporary Security Council

During the Sunday evening session, the Security Council considered a draft resolution authored by Uruguay and Senegal. The resolution aims to increase African States' crisis response capacity and works toward the goal of a sustainable security arrangement on the continent. Criticizing what she considered the UN's wrongful use of Peacekeeping forces in Africa, Representative Anusha Mishra of Senegal encouraged the Council, "to look for a long-term solution."

"The UN has dedicated funds

again and again but has failed to address the root of the problem," said Representative Mishra.

Representative Alex Klein of Uruguay echoed these comments, reminding the body that "Peacekeepers are deployed to address a specific situation, and not to stabilize the region." Uruguay is a co-sponsor of the resolution.

Response to the draft resolution was largely positive. Representative Samantha Makseyn of Japan praised the resolution for working to, "minimize the dependence of African States on the United Nations." Representative Ann Hardin of the United Kingdom expressed a similar sentiment, calling the resolution "a long-term solution to mitigate the cost of or even eliminate the need for a sustained Peacekeeping operation." The draft was adopted as Resolution SC-II by consensus. The Council also received a visit from IAEA Representative Alex Stogin. Representative Stogin encouraged the Council to issue a Presidential Statement in support of the IAEA's recent resolution of the protection of nuclear material, but ultimately it declined to do so citing feasibility concerns.

Press Releases

Contemporary Security Council

France is outraged by the blatant aggression shown by the Russian Federation in its recent kidnappings of several French citizens residing in Ukraine. Furthermore, we are very displeased with the fabrication of evidence for justification of this act. We are still in discussion of possible responses to this act.

Contemporary Security Council

Ukraine strongly condemns the Russian Federation for its kidnapping of several French citizens residing in Ukraine. This act of aggression is deplorable and we cannot stand by silent as this continues. Furthermore, we are appalled by the fabrication of evidence for this abduction of innocent citizens. Our deepest condollences go to the Republic of France in this crisis.

China **IAEA**

The central role the International Atomic Energy Agency has played is promoting international cooperation with regard to global nuclear safety, as well as providing expertise to the international community and promoting nuclear safety culture worldwide. China agrees with this main organizational goal. The representative of China is seeking a well-thought out document that fully demonstrates this level of cooperation among States, and effectively identifies key objectives and logistical solutions needed for the document to be applicable. That being said, China feels that with the passage of Resolution IAEA/I/1 no such document still exists. Resolution IAEA/I/1 was vague in nature and lacked complementary language that explained how goals would be accomplished moving forward. With this in mind, China is not in favor of the passage of Resolution IAEA/I/1 and looks forward to follow-up resolutions being presented and passed that offer more accurate solutions regarding measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste

United Kingdom

Contemporary Security Council

The United Kingdom strongly condems the Russian Federation for its kidnapping of French citizens. We will continue to discuss possible responses to this disgraceful act. Further we abhor the deliberate fabrication of evidence relating to this kidnapping done with the intent to frame innocent civilians.

Historical Security Council '73

The USSR is very concerned

about the recent conflicts between Israeli and Egyptian air forces as well as Syrian and Israeli air forces. We believe these incidents were agressive actions instigated solely by the Israeli military, supported by the United States against our allies. We demand that Israel end these incursions into Egyptian and Syrian airspace and that the United States both admit to the extent of their support to Israel, as we have done with our allies, and to compel Israel to cease their agrression.

United States

Contemporary Security Council The United States of Amer-

ica is deeply concerned by the situation in Aleppo. Since Tuesday, Russian and Syrian forces have resumed using barrel bombs and cluster ammunition in civilian areas of Aleppo. We condemn these attacks. Currently, hospital services have ceased and humanitarian aid is not being allowed to enter the affected areas. The United States of America moves for a cessation of hostilities in an effort for humanitarian aid to enter the affected areas. Presently, the Russian Federation is restricting any talks with a long list of demands that do not pertain to the crisis in Aleppo. We ask that the Russian Federation not hold the Council at ransom when there are civilian lives at risk and to work towards the greater good.

HERBICIDE USED TO COMBAT COCA

By: Joshua Atherton

International Court of Justice

Ecuador has alleged that Colombia sprayed a toxic aerial herbicide across border lines causing harm to livestock, crops and human health in a case the International Court of Justice considered Monday. Colombia claims responsibility for the spraying of aerial herbicide, which, it says, was a measure taken to cripple the growth of coca plants and limit the trafficking of the narcotics they are used to manufacture.

However, Colombia denied allegations of the herbicide being linked to adverse effects on human health and agriculture. The advocates of Colombia brought evidence from research conducted by the Organization of American States that categorized the herbicide glyphosate to be mostly non-toxic but still an irritant when exposed to human eyes.

The advocates from Ecuador persisted that the herbicide being sprayed on Ecuadorian citizens' crops was harmful to the environment and that the aerial spraying deviated hundreds of meters offtarget, causing widespread destruction to plants. Colombia again denied the claims and argued that their planes sprayed only tens of meters off-target. Colombia also argued that the destruction of coca plants was of higher priority than the possibility of killing nearby crops within range of spraying.

DEBATE ON DEATH PENALTY CONTINUES

By: Raleigh Dixon Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Council has yet to reach an agreement on the legality and morality of the death penalty. A point of contention among Member States is whether the Council is attempting to impose Western values on the rest of the world.

Another sticking point is a recent resolution which called for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to get involved in protecting the rights of death row inmates. Opponents of the resolution cite political, cultural and religious differences as their reasoning behind supporting the death penalty. Often, these NGOs are based in Western Member States.

However, proponents were firm in their support. "Germany has supported the abolition of the death penalty since the end of WWII," said Representative Vansh Jain of Germany. "We do not see how any country can continue to engage in such archaic behavior. We will continue to fight on until the death penalty is wiped away from the world."