

American Model United Nations International Conference



CHRONICL

Bringing Global Perspectives to Future Leaders

Monday, 20 November 2017 Volume XXVIII Issue 04 Morning Edition

Graduate School & Career Expo

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

GA & ECOSOC PLENARY

Tomorrow, 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

Paper surveys are available in the simulations ,and links are available at amun.org. Your feedback is strongly desired and greatly appreciated.

COMMITTEE & COUNCIL UPDATES CONCURRENT GENERAL **ASSEMBLY PLENARY**

The Concurrent General Assembly Plenary is drafting a variety of resolutions that will combat the rise of violent extremism. The deliberations are particularly concerned with the modernization of the United Nations technology capable of preventing the spread of extremism, such as software to block terrorists from utilizing social media.

GA FIRST COMMITTEE

Representative Cole Nordmann of Bangladesh hopes the General Assembly First Committee will recognize "how solid and inclusive the resolution on the table is for a range of nations," in encouraging proper detection, prevention and reaction (DPR) regarding Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

GA SECOND COMMITTEE

Sunday night, the General Assembly Second Committee started voting on resolutions. GA/2nd/I/1 was brought to the floor because it had gained enough signatories to be considered, but was later adjourned and removed from the floor by a vast majority.

GA THIRD COMMITTEE

Member States are currently delving into the specifics of their resolutions in the General Assembly Third Committee. Many coalitions are focusing their efforts on how to work with local law enforcement, government and individuals.

CEPA

CEPA is currently deliberating on resolutions with seemingly unanimous cooperation among all Member States. The report deliberations cover new ways for Member States to promote more civic engagement. The aim is to increase cooperation between the public and private

ESCAP

Members of ESCAP have made significant progress on topic one, Enhancing regional economic cooperation and integration in Asia and the Pacific. The Commission divided into informal subcommittees in order to encourage the rapid dissemination of ideas. Subcommittees include infrastructure and education, regional trade and economic development

FAO

The Food and Agricultural Organization passed Resolution I/1. Only three countries abstained from the resolution. Representatives of Saudi Arabia, one of the few countries to abstain, believed that the resolution offered no relevant changes.



Kathryn Meyer of the Texas A&M University - Bush School of Government and Public Ser vice is talking to AMUN representatives during the 2016 Graduate School and Career Expo

THE 2017 GRADUATE SCHOOL AND CAREER EXPO IS HERE!

By: Lorenzo Von Schwartsburg IPD Editorial Team

The AMUN Conference Leadership and Secretariat welcome you to the 2017 Graduate School and Career Expo, being held today, Monday, 20 November 2017, from 9:30a.m. until 1:30p.m. on the ballroom promenade. We encourage every participant to our conference to attend and learn about graduate school and career possibilities. Our Expo is a unique opportunity to learn about potential futures and to speak to organizations looking for students interested in international affairs, public policy and the law. Please take a few minutes out of your day and visit with our sponsors.

2017 Graduate School and Expo Sponsors

- Baylor Law School
- Chicago-Kent College of Law Illinois Institute of Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Technology
- Daniel Morgan Graduate School of National
- · Florida International University School of
- International and Public Affairs
- George Mason University School for Conflict
- Analysis and Resolution
- Indiana University Bloomington School of Global and International Studies
- Indiana University Bloomington School of Public and Environmental Affairs
- Indiana University McKinney School of Law
- Liberty University

- Marquette University Law School
- Seton Hall University School of Law
- Texas A&M University Bush School of Government & Public Service
- The George Washington University Elliot School of International Affairs
- · University of California, San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy
- University of Kentucky Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce
- Webster University Global Master of Arts Programs

ESCAP REPORT LANGUAGE AND SUBCOMMITTEE CONTROVERSY

By: Will Berry **ESCAP**

After fruitful initial deliberations, representatives on ESCAP decided to divide into subcommittees. However, representatives had trouble agreeing on the content each subcommittee would cover, and decided to divide into three unofficial subcommittees in order to avoid a potentially contentious voting process. The three subcommittees deliberated on the following topics: infrastructure and education, regional trade and economic development. While the subcommittees have

facilitated meaningful and efficient deliberations which are already being worked into report language, some members of ESCAP expressed concern that the deliberations of controversial subcommittees might be neglected in the Commission's report. Representative James Meason of Afghanistan expressed his support of the economic development subcommittee, which, in his words, aims to "help developing countries build magnificent bridges" with the help of developed countries. However, Representative Meason is concerned that other representatives' skepticism

of foreign direct investment might undermine the deliberations of the subcommittee, or even prevent the deliberations from being included in the Commission's report. In the meantime, representatives of the Commission are working to prepare resolutions and finalize the deliberations section of the report. Representatives from Indonesia expressed interest in moving on to the Commission's second topic: Towards a sustainable, inclusive and resilient urban future for Asia and the Pacific, as quickly as possible.

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY CONDEMNS THE ACTIONS OF PAKISTANI FORCES

By: Claudia Chiappa

Contemporary Security Council

The Security Council passed a resolution to move the Commission of Inquiry of 1948 to the Indian subcontinent in the capital city of Anantnag. In the new location, the Commission will attempt to mediate peace between the governments of India and Pakistan, as the conflict between them is regarded as a threat to international security.

The Commission recommended a ceasefire in order to allow a "free and impartial plebiscite" to establish whether the State of Jammu and Kashmir will accede to India or Pakistan. In order to achieve peace, the Commission suggested that Pakistan withdraw its forces from Kashmir's soil. It further encouraged India to accept an upcoming plebiscite to question

Kashmir's status as India's territory.

Following the refusal of the State of Pakistan to withdraw its forces from the territory, the Security Council formally condemned the actions of Pakistan and encouraged them once again to remove their forces from Kashmir. The Security Council largely believes, however, that Indian forces should stay for the stability of the contested territory.

RESOLUTIONS **DEVELOPING TO** FIGHT EXTREMISM

By: Brady Johnson Concurrent GA Plenary

The General Assembly Plenary started another round of meetings with a strong commitment to combat extremism within Member States. The General Assembly has initiated caucus groups that are currently writing a variety of resolutions to combat extremism in different ways.

Representative Samantha Bayne of Lesotho began the meeting with an invited speaker from the African Task Force (ATF) to address the General Assembly Plenary. The ATF speaker contributed to the discussion by answering representative questions concerning regional efforts.

Representative Bayne continued by pushing GA Plenary to address both short-term and long-term goals, and her statement initiated a period of deliberations between Member States. Representative Vansh Jain of Oman is a part of a growing partnership that will address technology engagement between nations in the context of security. The current tally of sponsoring Member States has reached twenty-seven states. "We hope to partner with private technology firms to help modernize the United Nations," Representative Jain said. Representative Jain believes that the inclusion of private technology firms will help the United Nations combat extremism through online campaigns to target online terrorism accounts and networks.

Representative Jordanna Yochai from Sri Lanka is crafting a different resolution to achieve communication between Member States. The resolution entitled Detection, Opposition, and Development (DOD), will track current extremism while fostering projects that will block future individuals from turning to violent extremism. Sri Lanka is currently paired with other Member States, including Denmark and Liechtenstein, to develop comprehensive plans to achieve greater communication. The current goal of the DOD is to start education initiatives in local communities to deter future acts of extremism. A section of the proposed resolution will allow "Non-Governmental Organizations to direct communities to educate at-risk individuals," Representative Shemal Sarma of Liechtenstein said.

Representative Bethany Koch of Liechtenstein mentions that grassroots programs will garner support for communities to move towards bigger civic movements.

Monday, 20 November 2017 Morning Edition — Page 02 Volume XXVIII Issue 04

Committee & Council Updates Continued

OPCW

Representatives of New Zealand wish to use UN organizations, peacekeepers and non-governmental organizations to both find and destroy chemical weapons in place of state militaries in order to ensure impartiality of peacekeepers, as peacekeepers are traditionally used in times of war or tension.

WSIS+10

At today's press conference, Representative Jonah Nink of Honduras asserted that "every single person with a pulse deserves to be a global citizen," thus reiterating that collaboration among Member States is essential in bridging the digital divide.

Security Council & ICJ Updates

CONTEMPORARY SECURITY COUNCIL

Early Sunday afternoon, the Representative from Japan was able to move resolution SC-1 onto the floor, after the Representative from Senegal moved to return to the Situation in South Sudan. Early Sunday evening, SC-1 was passed by the Council by consensus.

HISTORICAL SECURITY **COUNCIL 1956**

The Historical Security Council of 1956 had a very productive morning, passing two resolutions admitting Morocco and Tunisia into the United Nations and a Presidential Statement regarding the situation in Algeria. The debate then moved to the Palestine question.

HISTORICAL SECURITY **COUNCIL 1994**

Members of the Historic Security Council of 1994 passed a Resolution on their second topic: the situation in Bosnia-The Resolution Herzegovina. bolsters peacekeeping forces in the area by deploying another 4,000 peacekeepers from various countries and establishes defenses of United Nations Safe Zones.

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

After listening to several testimonies and considering all of the evidence, the Commission of Inquiry of 1948 has concluded that Pakistan's allegations of genocide against India are not upheld. Evidence confirms that the State of Pakistan supported rebel forces in Kashmir.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

The International Court of Justice released majority and dissenting opinions in Somalia v Kenya. The majority of the Court was persuaded by Kenya's historical claim argument; the dissenting supports the equidistance principle that Somalia relied upon. The ICJ is now in deliberations over the case between Liechtenstein and Germany.

CEPA Initiates Deliberation For Resolution Paper

By: Brady Johnson **CEPA**

Immense progress has been made as the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) began the process of writing resolutions detailing the forms of civic engagement that Member States can utilize. The current deliberations combine ideas from all Member States to create a final resolution paper. The resolution hopes to create more communication between governments to their citizens and strives for more civic engagement.

Representative Cordell Campbell of Indonesia will be taking the leadership role in crafting the language of the paper. Other countries will discuss specific policies that can be included in the final resolutions.

There are currently three sub-

"People are dying, and the Unit-

ed Nations must make a decision."

It was with this passionate line that

Representative Elizabeth Erlandson

of Liechtenstein encouraged coop-

eration between Member States

in addressing the threat of Impro-

vised Explosive Devices (IEDs),

acknowledging that "no one idea

is going to solve the problem."

Representative Erlandson recom-

mends that military involvement,

technology and education should

all be considered in drafting resolu-

tions. Representative Carey Dwyer

By: Aubrey Keller

GA First Committee

BETTERING LIVES ON A GLOBAL SCALE

committees within CEPA that strive to improve communication between Member States and their citizens. Those sub-committees are Civic Engagement, Public Service Delivery, and a committee that will be assisting developing countries.

"My sub-committee focuses on civic engagement that will bring governments in a more local position for citizen involvement," said Representative Campbell. He mentions that Indonesia has created agencies that deal with civic engagement.

He recommends local planning committees that allow citizens to engage within their communities to petition to higher levels of government. Representative Campbell hopes that the public and private sectors can help

that "education is a good starting point to consolidate the issue."

Representative Nordmann of

Bangladesh expressed enthusiasm

regarding a resolution to which

he is a signatory. The resolution

includes the Detection Preven-

tion Reaction Method (DPR), as

a result of which the States will be

better equipped to detect and pre-

vent the spread of materials used

in IEDs. Additionally, civilians

will be educated as to how to spot

IEDs, and how to respond "in the

unfortunate instance of an attack."

Representative Alleigh Fine of

bridge between relationships government and their citizens.

Representative Isabelle Barrett of Lesotho mentions that CEPA is going through a number of ideas to help reach their goal.

"CEPA has discussed the desire to increase voter turnout, solve the gap between fully developed Member States and the current developing Member States," said Representative Barrett. She mentions that Member States brought up a variety of ways their countrys contact their citizens. Such forms of communication varies with radio, phone and paper mediums between the Member States.

CEPA is currently hard at work to continue its progress and address ways to engage citizens for a final resolution paper.

ter lives not only for our country,

but on a global scale." The Gen-

eral Assembly First Committee will

consider this resolution shortly.

of the Syrian Arab Republic is in-

terested in a plan of action centered

around awareness campaigns that

are directed towards civilians. He

finds "no reason to underestimate

the power" of such techniques,

noting that the people of his State

have been subjected to the propa-

ganda of insurgent organizations.

He identifies the primary cause of

the spread of IEDs as the disillu-

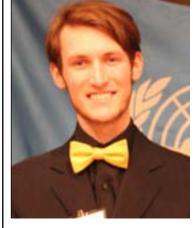
cil turned to discussion of the situ-

Representative Sourojit Ghosh

MEET YOUR IPD REPORTERS, PART 2



Josie Bellrichard HSC 1956 & ICJ



Brady Johnson GA Third and CEPA (Correction from Edition 2)



Megan Montgomery Security Council and OPCW

Lost and Found

Kyrgyzstan, a major contributor sionment of civilians, and hopes of Iran indicates that while educato this resolution, expressed that tion alone is not enough, Iran feels the its main goal is to ensure "betto prevent this through education.

SWIFT PROGRESS AS COUNCIL PREPARES RESOLUTION LANGUAGE

By: Will Berry

Historical Security Council 1994

Representatives on the Historic Security Council of 1994 continued to make swift progress: after completing a presidential statement and a resolution on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, representatives of the Council began deliberating on their next topic, the situation in Rwanda. The resolution the Security Council passed on Bosnia-Herzegovina commits the United Nations to meaningful

Press Releases Bangladesh

CEPA

The Representative from Bangladesh would like to explain his reasoning for being the only dissenting vote on both the vote to

action in the war-torn state, and it bolsters the existing peacekeeping operation in Bosnia-Herzegovina by deploying an additional 4,000 peacekeepers from various Member States to the country. Moreover, the resolution establishes retaliatory defense in United Nations Safe Zones and demands a ceasefire in order to facilitate peace talks. The resolution enjoyed widespread support and was passed without significant delay. Upon completing the resolution, the Security Coun-

vote for Resolution 2/2. The Representative from Bangladesh felt as though this resolution, in the state it was presented, needed amendments. Even though no direct action or outright coercion occurred,

ation in Rwanda. Representatives began to deliberate potential solutions to the crisis that is unfolding in the country, ranging from bolstering peacekeeping forces to deploying troops. While there is some contention as to the precise method for dealing with the nascent crisis in Rwanda, representatives are united in their commitment to prevent continued civilian loss of life.

adopt unanimously and the final the Representative from Bangla- Representative feels as though this desh felt as though the resolution applied too much pressure and that it would guilt Member States into compliance. Even though the preambular clauses stated that it respected State sovereignty, the

Conference Services has items that have been found that you might be looking for, so please stop by and claim

your lost items! Conference Services is located on the Ballroom level in front of the Sheraton Ballroom #5

was a violation of Bangladesh's sovereignty. Therefore, for the reasons presented above, the Representative from Bangladesh could not vote yes or abstain from the vote and remain in good conscience.

ICJ CONCLUDED DELIBERATIONS OVER MARITIME DELIMITIATION CASE

By: Josie Bellrichard **IC**J

The International Court of Justice concluded deliberations over the case between Somalia and the Republic of Kenya on the issue of maritime delimitation. According to Justice Maxwell Eness, "the debate hinge[d] on whether or not [the Court] should consider a historic claim to the contested territory." Justice Eness also said that he believed that the Court "should enforce international law that upholds the equidistance principle, which would cede territory to Somalia. [However, the majority of the Justices] see historical ownership of the area," which would give the territory to the Republic of Kenya, as the primary consideration.

In its majority opinion, the Court did determine that Kenya's historic claim to the disputed maritime region, recognized by Somalia, supersedes the equidis-

tance principle, granting Kenya a "credible claim to the land in question." The dissenting opinion, however, regarded the inconsistency of historic claims to the region invalidated any historic title over the property. The opinion further found that the equidistance principle was the more applicable precedent, as well as being the more equitable solution.

After issuing its opinion in Somalia v Kenya, the Court turned its deliberations to the historical case of Liechtenstein v Germany. On 1 June 2001, Liechtenstein initiated proceedings against Germany to recover a Liechtensteinian painting that was seized and used to fund war reparations during the Second World War. In its deliberations, the Court will have to consider whether it has jurisdiction to decide this case and, if so, how the necessary thirdparty rule will affect its analysis.

Monday, 20 November 2017 Volume XXVIII Issue 04 Morning Edition — Page 03

SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ON THE **FLOOR**

By: Megan Montgomery Contemporary Security Council

On Sunday evening, after Representatives from Japan motioned to move resolution SC-1 to the floor, the Representative from the United States led a discussion during a consultative session regarding issues in resolution SC-1. The Representative from Ethiopia spoke on their apprehension about accepting the resolution without modifications, citing their fear that certain economic agreements will not be honored by South Sudan.

After speaking about their economic fears, the Representatives from Ethiopia worked alongside Representatives from Japan and the United States, who helped author an amendment that addressed economic concerns. Upon further discussion, the Representatives from Japan have also asked to delay voting on the resolution, in attempt to work on the resolution so the Council can better address how to work with the African Union to help in the situation in South Sudan, while maintaining the sovereignty of South Sudan. Although this is the first resolution on the floor in the Contemporary Security Council, the authors of the resolution hope to pass SC-1 quickly and move on to other topics on the agenda for the Contemporary Security Council.

Correction

The ICJ Feature in Edition 3 by Josie Bellrichard should have been titled "ICJ Hears Oral Arguments from Somalia and Republic of Kenya", not "Troops Deployed to Mali."

By: Aubrey Keller WSIS+10

Late this morning, the United Kingdom, Kyrgyzstan, Honduras and Kazakhstan held a press conference regarding their desire for Member States to work together in order to find a solution to bridge the digital divide. Representative Sara Vasquez of the United Kingdom stated that "the overwhelming feeling throughout the conference is that developed countries will only help if strings are attached," and that this is simply not the case with the United Kingdom, which desires to "help people help themselves." Representative D Daniels of

ATTAINING GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP IN COUNTRIES BIG AND SMALL

Kyrgyzstan indicated that in his State, only the 5 percent of the population with "money, power, and glory" have access to the Internet. For this reason, Representative Daniels is only willing to sign resolutions that take all countries into consideration, "big or small, rich or poor." Representative Jonah Nink of Honduras agrees that inclusiveness is essential, because "every single person with a pulse deserves to be a global citizen."

Another point of contention is what approach should be taken to spread Internet access. The representatives of Cameroon are interested in the use of high altitude balloons that do not interfere with aircraft flight patterns and are cost-Representative James effective. Nathaniel Seddon of Armenia prefers the solution of using cellular towers, indicating that "there is value in permanence," also criticizing the fact that the balloons are only partially composed of recyclable materials. Representative Tristan Gobhitsch of Kazakhstan indicated at the press conference that a preferable resolution would not focus on which materials would be used, but rather would consider which techniques are most appropriate for each State. Summing up this sentiment, Representative Nink stated, "What I want is efficiency and what I want is results."

HSC 56 Passes Multiple Resolutions

By: Josie Bellrichard

Historical Security Council 1956

The Historical Security Council of 1956 had a very productive morning, adopting five resolutions by consensus and issuing a Presidential Statement regarding the situation in Algeria. The Council admitted Morocco, Tunisia, Japan and Sudan into the United Nations and passed a resolution calling for Member States to send resources and monetary aid to the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA). The debate has now moved to the situation in Egypt.

Addressing the situation in Algeria, the Council passed a Presidential Statement that expresses their "hopes for a peaceful resolution to the ongoing conflict within Algeria that is favorable to all parties engaged in this conflict." Representative Frank Lally of France said that their delegation "supports the Presidential Statement because [they] feel it recognizes [their] sovereignty."

After issuing the statement, the Council turned their attention back to the issue of Palestine. A representative of the UNRWA answered delegates' questions, many regarding the necessity of peacekeeping forces in the region. The UNRWA representative answered that peacekeeping forces were unnecessary.

Representative Luke Derheim of the United Kingdom said that the UNRWA representative's testimony "made [the Council] more focused on the financial and monetary aspects of [the aid issue], and less on pulling together other types of resources or worrying about security. It made it very clear that [the UNRWA's] issue is budget." After amending a few clauses, the resolution was adopted by consensus.

The Council is now discussing the situation in Egypt.

Member States Narrow Their Focus On RESOLUTIONS

By: Andrew Hartnett **GA Third Committee**

Member States are currently delving into the specifics of their resolutions in the General Assembly Third Committee. Many coalitions are focusing their efforts on how to work with local law enforcement, government and individuals. Armenia has formulated two programs to help alleviate the issues related to human trafficking with the SAVE (Secure, Amnesty, Values, Educate) Program and the Blue Phoenix Program, which concentrates on amnesty specifically.

Representative John Koobatian of Armenia said "The [Blue Phoenix] Program is one of the ways in which we seek to provide amnesty for people that have been and or are being trafficked. The plan involves three main parts: the Phoenix savior locations, savior companies, and savior countries."

He continued, "What happens is a savior location can apply to be seen as a savior location, and then receive a Blue Phoenix sticker that they can put in the window of their store if they are accepted." The stickers create a distinct emblem which can be universally identified,

instead of depending on a language. This will allow trafficked persons to safely and discreetly tell someone that they have been abducted.

Ireland, Angola, Djibouti, Norway, Spain and Nigeria have formed a new coalition, gathering 25 signatories to support their draft resolution. Representative Tiana-Marie Peavey of Ireland said "Our [draft resolution] goes more in depth on implementation and the how. We are also more focused on the aftermath of these people."

There are currently two written drafts in GA Third that are in the process of being finalized.

US/JAPAN OPCW RESOLUTION

By: Megan Montgomery **OPCW**

At 11:00 am on Sunday morning, a press conference was held by Representative Ian Ross of the United States and Representative Mattias Kostov of Japan, both working on the Committee for the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. The Representatives spoke on the resolution they are working to pass in committee. The resolution is being co-authored by the United States, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Spain, China, France, the Republic of Korea and Hungary. The resolution focuses mainly on education, especially for civilians, local leaders and first responders. Japan has been vocal about its desire to reform the timetables given to Member States by the United Nations to eliminate chemical weapons. Speaking from the experience of his country, Representative Kostov explained that the process of moving these chemical weapons from their place of discovery to either a mobile or permanent destruction site is often arduous and costly. The existing timeline prescription is additionally bogged down by lack of trained experts and a lack Ross and Representative Kostov of Japan emphasized that they believe that their resolution will stand out against other resolutions on the floor because their resolution focuses on education, which is one of the only things many Member States have agreed on in committee. At the time of the press conference, Representative Ross was hopeful that the resolution would be on the floor by Sunday evening.

of resources. Both Representative

Representative Amrita Bhagia of Japan said, "We need healthy soil in order to promote biodiversity, security and sustainability of crops and plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. Soil is the basis for having these resources be used adequately." Representative Bhagia added, "Hopefully we've passed them, I think the consen-

sus is very positive right now."

REPRESENTATIVES CONTINUE DISCUSSING PLANS AND QUESTION **DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS**

By: Claudia Chiappa **GA Second Committee**

As the discussion regarding sustainable development and disaster risk reduction continues, representatives in the General Assembly Second Committee have started focusing on which elements the plans brought to the floor have in common in order to draft more inclusive resolutions.

India created a resolution cosponsored by Spain and the United Kingdom that focuses on prevention and mitigation rather than reaction. Representative Roza Tawil of India said that the resolution starts from an international level and works its way down to local communities. Education is a key element of their plan, as they believe that by educating developing Member States and providing them with advanced technology, those Member States will have easier access to early detection and will be able to prevent disasters. Representative Tawil believes that in order to meet the specific needs of a community, each plan "must be crafted in the community itself." Thus, sovereignty and individualism are also highlighted.

Another plan was brought to the floor by Norway and members of the Arctic Council later in the afternoon. This resolution addresses the outcomes of climate change in the Arctic, which affects not only the 4 million people living there, but also the rest of the world.

Representative Anthony Valiulis of Japan has an approach to the issue and said his delegation is drafting a resolution focused on research and infrastructure.

"Each region has different prob lems," said Representative Valiulis. "We want to focus on building as a tool ... and on encouraging regional bodies to work together."

Representatives of Jordan proposed the Vulnerable People Disaster Plan, a resolution that focuses on creating a definition of vulnerable people. As of this afternoon, the definition they offered describes vulnerable people as people "outside the critical support system or otherwise typically unprepared [for] natural disasters."

Much discussion was also focused on the definition of disaster itself, as some Members States believe it should extend beyond natural disasters.

FAO Passes First Resolution

By: Andrew Hartnett **FAO**

The Food and Agricultural Organization passed Resolution I/1 with a vote of 26 in favor, 3 opposed and 3 abstentions. Representatives of Saudi Arabia, one of the few countries to abstain, believed that the resolution offered no relevant changes. Representative Jordan Jorritsma of Saudi Arabia said about Resolution I/1,

"Our issue with Resolution I/1 is that it was quite vague, and we believe in more concrete measures to guarantee the expansion of plant genetic resources. It was a nice sentiment, but it didn't really do anything." Representative Jorritsma added, "All it did was give countries a potential PR boost or look like they are trying to help."

After passing Resolution I/1, the representatives of FAO moved to begin discussion about Anti-Microbial Resistance. Various Member States including Cameroon, Czech Republic, and Mali among others announced their plans for combating anti-microbial resistance.

After a short time the topic reverted back to discussion about issues related to soil and genetically modified organisms. Currently a second resolution is being drafted. Japan, Afghanistan, Mali and India have all been listed as co-sponsors on the resolution.