

CHAPTER VI.

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

AMUN's Economic and Social Council will consider five topics on its agenda. Representatives can choose to explore these topics in a number of forms: through resolutions, in less formal working groups or commissions, or through the creation of treaty or convention documents.

STATE MEMBERS

Andorra	El Salvador	Jamaica	Republic of Korea
Argentina	Ethiopia	Japan	Romania
Australia	Finland	Kenya	Russian Federation
Azerbaijan	France	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Saudia Arabia
Benin	Georgia	Malaysia	Senegal
Bhutan	Germany	Mozambique	South Africa
Brazil	Ghana	Nepal	Sweden
Burundi	Greece	Netherlands	Uganda
Chile	Guatemala	Nicaragua	Ukraine
China	Hungary	Nigeria	United Kingdom
Congo	India	Pakistan	United States
Cuba	Iran, Islamic Republic of	Peru	Zimbabwe
Ecuador	Ireland	Portugal	
Egypt	Italy	Qatar	

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT: THE CONTRIBUTION OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING IN THE AREAS OF HEALTH AND EDUCATION, TO THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT

The international community has made a concerted effort over the last decade, through global conferences and summits, to view the development process in terms of more than just economic progress. The focus on human resources development is an attempt to eradicate poverty by emphasizing health and education to achieve equitable growth, environmental protection and good governance. Recent discussions emphasize the importance of integrating health and education into overall development strategies in order to achieve the Millennium Summit goals by 2015.

The UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG) identify development priorities for the next decade and reflect a commitment to human resources in the areas of universal primary education, gender equality, HIV/AIDS, and child mortality. To achieve these goals, there have been numerous global actions dedicated to education and health. The World Education Forum held in Dakar in April 2000 made a commitment to education for all (EFA), declaring that education is not only a human right, but also the key to sustainable development. The Report of the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health, presented to the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2001, predicted that increased investment in health would not only save lives, but also generate a six-fold annual economic return on that investment. In addition, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the International Conference on Financing for Development, both held in 2002, focused on human resources development strategies. In July 2002, ECOSOC held a high-level segment devoted to the topic of human resources development, where the Secretary-General presented

his report in the hopes that it would give political impetus to the subject (E/2002/46).

Education is important to overall development because it is the foundation for sustainable growth. Education prepares individuals to become active members of society, increasing the productivity of the workforce and contributing to a democratic community. Although there has been significant progress in the area of education, in the year 2000 there were more than 113 million children without access to primary education and 854 million illiterate adults. EFA goals emphasize that education must include primary and secondary education, adult literacy, and gender equality. To achieve these goals, the Dakar Forum recommended increased donor coordination, sector-wide approaches, debt relief, and the regular monitoring of EFA progress.

In the area of health, the emphasis on human resources development was furthered in January 1999 when WHO Director-General Gro Harlem Brundtland delivered a speech arguing that spending on health was a necessary investment. In his 2001 report to WHO, *Macroeconomics and Health*, Jeffrey Sachs advanced the case for human resources development in health by arguing that investment in health would provide large economic returns, and challenged the idea that economic growth by itself would automatically improve health care services. Health coverage is considered essential to the development process because malnutrition and hunger contribute to a decline in productivity. Health also contributes directly to education goals, as a healthy body is needed for effective learning, while education in turn contributes to better nutrition and health. Difficulties in improving health services include: inequitable distribution, gender bias, and lack of necessary medicines.

The main problems facing the international community in the area of human resources development are how to improve



both the quality and delivery of services. A significant part of this issue revolves around inadequate financing. At the International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, the participants noted that current resources fall short of what is needed to meet development goals. It is estimated that to reach the MDG, global official development assistance would need to be doubled. Other difficulties faced include the scarcity of skilled workers due to the “brain drain,” conflicts, and gender perspectives. The approach advocated by the Secretary-General is multi-sectoral in nature, requiring action at all levels of governance to address education, health, water, food, and technology policies. Although primary responsibility is with the state, the support of the international community will be needed to realize these development goals. The challenge ahead is to coordinate all sectors and levels of government to effectively implement human resources development.

Questions to consider from your government’s perspective on this issue include:

- What can be done to assist in the financing of human resources development?
- What role should regional and international partnerships play in country policies that address education and health?
- How can human resources development in the areas of health and education be utilized in other sectors?
- What role can the private sector play in assisting the UN in addressing the issues of human resources development?

Bibliography:

“The Dakar Framework For Action. Education For All: Meeting Our Collective Commitments.” World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 Apr 2000.

“ECOSOC: Session Focuses on Health, Education; O’Neill Touts African Aid.” *UN Wire*, 2 Jul 2002.

Financing For Development: Building on Monterrey. 2002.

“Financing for development report,” The World Bank, 2001.

“Macroeconomics and Health: Investing in Health for Economic Development.” Final report of the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health, World Health Organization, 20 Dec 2001.

“The Well-Being of Nations: The Role of Human and Social Capital.” OECD, 2001.

UN Documents:

A/57/334, 23 Aug 2002, Outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development - Report of the Secretary-General

A/56/326, 6 Sep 2001, Road Map Towards the Implementation of the Millennium Declaration - Report of the Secretary-General

A/CONF.198/11, 9 Jul 2002, Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development

A/Res/57/272, 20 Dec 2002, High-level international inter-governmental consideration of financing for development

A/Res/55/2, 8 Sep 2000, UN Millennium Declaration

A/Res/S-27/2, 10 May 2002, A World Fit for Children: Outcome of the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children

E/2003/51, 2 Apr 2003, Promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development: Report of the Secretary-General

E/2002/46, Jul 2002, The contribution of human resources development, including in the areas of health and education to the process of development

Additional Web Resources:

www.un.org/esa/coordination/ecosoc/hl2002/issues.htm

hdr.undp.org/, Human Development Reports

www.un.org/millenniumgoals/, UN Millennium Development Goals

www.afro.who.int/hrd, WHO’s Human Resources for Health Systems Development

www.un.org/esa/ffd/, Follow-up process to the International Conference on Financing for Development

HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS: SPECIAL ECONOMIC, HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE

ECOSOC was created to deal with various global issues, some of which include sustainable development, long-term crisis situations and short-term “emergency” disasters. The humanitarian segment of ECOSOC considers special economic issues such as humanitarian and disaster relief. Humanitarian issues of disaster relief include natural disaster relief as well as relief for prolonged disasters arising out of the HIV/AIDS crisis or the immediate after effects of civil war. Humanitarian relief in situations of disaster is imperative to other areas of concern within ECOSOC. For instance, much time and effort is extended to deal with issues of sustainable development. In many disaster situations, decades of development work can be systematically wiped out in the face of human-induced or natural disasters, if outside intervention to deal with the situation is not applied in a rapid manner.

In dealing with issues of natural disaster, technology can play a significant role mitigating and responding to humanitarian crises. Even with technological availability, disaster-prone areas can be at risk if coordination efforts are compromised. Issues such as poverty intensify the effect of a disaster within a region. There are areas around the world that face various natural disasters, which are difficult to handle without the proper organization and coordination of available technology. Two previous examples are the drought in the horn of Africa in 1998 and the floods in Mozambique in 2000. In both cases, an ad hoc advisory council was organized to help coordinate disaster relief and to address the ensuing humanitarian crises that resulted (A/57/97- E/2002/76, 25 June 2002). Health concerns from physical to psychological trauma have been discussed as well as issues relating to women in times of disaster. Further, concerns have been voiced about the protection of children who may be vulnerable to being recruited as child soldiers after the initial crisis.

The HIV/AIDS crisis continues to present unique challenges to the international community in addition to other natural disasters that have been considered in the past. UNAIDS works diligently with other UN agencies and humanitarian or-



ganizations on the ground to address complex humanitarian crises that may cause or result from natural and human-induced disasters. Additionally, the issue of health and development was brought to deliberation through the Inter-agency Standing Committee (IASC). The resolution “recognized the disease as a potential threat to peace, security, and worldwide stability” (EGM/HIV-AIDS/2000/WP 3; 7 November 2000). An expert report was compiled and the issue was taken all the way to the Security Council. Internally displaced persons (IDP) were also one focus of the resolution. The International Labour Organization (ILO) brought forth issues related to the HIV/AIDS crisis, including the risk of children being taken as soldiers, prostitution as a result of displacement, prevention and care, along with their impacts on development.

Following the increased incidence of displacement arising from the floods in 2000 and 2001 in southeastern Africa, significant action was taken in 2002 to address natural disaster relief. The UN worked with Mozambique and other countries in the region on preparatory measures designed to educate the people in the area. One such seminar was put forth through the Southern Africa Regional Outlook Forum (SARCOF). The floods of 2001 were more significant, hit different regions of the country and were unlike the floods in 2000. Ultimately, a large amount of support was focused on Mozambique in the form of both monetary assistance and human resources assistance through the UN Disaster Management Team (UNDMT). In addition, the future of Mozambique has been considered and goals have been established for continuing development assistance.

Finally, a more recent issue that has been considered is the issue of countries emerging from conflict. One particular area of focus in this regard is on African countries. A resolution passed in ECOSOC allowing for the creation of ad hoc advisory groups to be established for countries which had recent conflict (E/2002/L.12, 10 July 2002). Other regions of the globe were also discussed in relation to this issue, in particular Asia and southeastern Europe. Throughout the discussions, Member States emphasized the importance of coordinating and supporting NGOs and other UN agencies in their response to the issues surrounding natural and human-induced disasters. In particular the World Bank, the World Food Program (WFP), WHO, the UN Development Program (UNDP), and the ILO, to name a few, were cited as key agencies that can and do play a vital role in addressing humanitarian crises arising from disasters.

Questions to consider from your government’s perspective on this issue include:

- What types of natural disasters, potential and real, can affect your region or your country?
- How can the UN better coordinate and facilitate the use of technological assistance in addressing crises around the globe?
- How can the individual needs of Member States be balanced in the face of regional or global disaster situations?
- What are the future issues that will need to be dealt with in relation to humanitarian and disaster relief assistance?

Bibliography:

- “Aid Experts Criticize Humanitarian Plans For War Scenario.” *UN Wire*, 27 Feb 2003.
- “Aid Neglects Communities’ Needs, Red Cross Says.” *UN Wire*, 28 Jun 2001.
- “Humanitarian Logistics Must Improve, Says UN Panel.” *UN Wire*, 13 Aug 2001.
- “Orientation Handbook on Complex Emergencies.” Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 1999. www.reliefweb.int/library/documents/ocha__orientation__handbook_on__.htm
- “Small Island States: Seek More Aid On Environmental Issues.” *UN Wire*, 28 Sep 1999.
- “UN Agency, Telecom Firm Help Poor Countries Manage Relief.” *UN Wire*, 6 Jan 2003.
- “U.N. Officials Sign Cooperative Assistance Agreement.” *UN Wire*, 19 Apr 2002.
- “U.N. Relief Coordinator Asks U.S. For Security Help.” *UN Wire*, 15 May 2003.
- “WHO Report Slams Futile Aid.” *UN Wire*, 5 Sep 2000.
- “World Food Program Suspends Food Aid.” *UN Wire*, 11 Apr 2003.

UN Documents:

- A/57/77-E/2002/63, 14 May 2002, Strengthening and Coordination of Emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
- A/57/97-E/2002/76, 25 Jun 2002, Assistance to Mozambique
- A/Res/52/169, 16 Dec 1997, Strengthening of the Coordination of Humanitarian and Disaster Relief Assistance of the United Nations, Including Special Economic Assistance: Special Economic Assistance to Individual Countries or Regions
- E/2002/L34, 25 Jul 2002, Strengthening and Coordination of Emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
- E/2002/L.12, 10 Jul 2002, Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African Countries Emerging from Conflict
- E/2003/INF/2, 14 Feb 2002, Decisions Adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its Organizational Session for 2002
- ECOSOC/6021, Press Release, 17 Jul 2002, Human Rights High Commissioner says Economic and Social Council has Significant Role in Advancing Rights of Most Vulnerable
- ECOSOC/6020, Press Release, 16 Jul 2002, Council Holds High Level Dialogue on Access to Vulnerable Groups in Complex Humanitarian Emergencies, Natural Disasters
- ECOSOC/6019, Press Release, 15 Jul 2002, Economic and Social Council will Consider Creation of Advisory Group for any African Country Emerging from Conflict
- ECOSOC/5918, Press Release, 21 Jul 2000, Economic and Social Council Concludes Humanitarian Affairs Segment
- ECOSOC/5915, Press Release, 19 Jul 2000, Potential of New Technologies For Monitoring, Managing Natural Disasters Stressed, as Economic and Social Council Continues Humanitarian Segment
- ECOSOC/5813, Press Release, 5 Feb 1999, Economic and Social Council to discuss International Cooperation, Coordi-

nated Responses to Humanitarian Emergencies at July Substantive Session
EGM/HIV-AIDS/2000/WP 3, 7 Nov 2000, Gender and HIV/AIDS Update on the UN Response

Additional Web Resources:

www.reliefweb.int/undac/index.html

www.un.org/esa/coordination/ecosoc/document.html

www.reliefweb.int/ocha_ol/index.html

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The international community has long recognized the importance of science and technology for economic and social development. The UN has played a crucial role in promoting international cooperation in the field of science and technology for development and in helping to solve global scientific and technological problems. This is especially true in the field of information and communication technologies (ICTs), which cuts across all economic activities. ICTs have a wide range of applications and provide wider access to information, serve as powerful channels for communication, and promote new options for improving productive processes in industry as well as in other economic and social activities. However, technological research, innovation and capabilities remained largely concentrated in a select group of countries. Many developing countries are becoming even more marginalized, held back by the lack of capacity to innovate and incorporate new technologies into their industrial sectors.

In an effort to capitalize on international efforts, the GA adopted the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development in 1979 (A/Res/34/218, 19 Dec 1979). The Vienna Programme was established with a mandate to enhance the endogenous scientific and technological capabilities of developing countries, and to address the impact of new and emerging areas of science and technology in the development process. An Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development was formed to oversee the development and implementation of the strategies adopted in the Vienna Programme. In 1982, the UN Financing System for Science and Technology for Development was created as a voluntary and universal system to assist developing nations in financing key technologies for development. The UN requested \$300 million in donations to provide loans and grants to developing countries to fund activities based on economic need and the prospects for commercial application. An executive board was established to review project proposals and grant financial assistance in consultation with the Intergovernmental Committee. Four years later, the GA decided to terminate the Financing System and transferred its responsibilities and resources to a new trust fund within the UN Development Programme, entitled the UN Fund for Science and Technology for Development (A/Res/41/183, 8 December 1986).

13 years later, on 30 April 1992, ECOSOC established the Commission for Science and Technology for Development. The more permanent commission became the successor organization to the Intergovernmental Committee. As such, the

commission sought to sharpen the focus of the UN's work by devoting particular attention to the issues of technology transfer and capacity building, particularly in developing countries. Greater coordination of activities with the Commission on Sustainable Development and the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was also encouraged.

Following this strategic reorganization, the UN focused its efforts on addressing a variety of development issues. It noted that advancements in science and technology could be utilized to help developing nations. Many of these countries could have the opportunity to fight diseases, increase production, better allocate their resources, and improve their economies. One of the main issues that developing nations face is the lack of access to scientific and technology-based education. While many countries may already have doctors, scientists, or even engineers, they often lack the proper training or the human resources to achieve desired outcomes. In addition, it has been widely acknowledged that while ICTs offered wide-ranging opportunities to tackle the problems of poverty, poor communications, economic stagnation and environmental degradation, they also generate new challenges for countries in which technological capability, skill capacity, and infrastructure are not sufficiently developed. Technology and competitiveness could be acquired only when supported by policies that focused on national capacity building for technology absorption and learning. To this end, the Commission has sought to carry out ICT needs assessments for interested countries, in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and to assist them in formulating national strategies and action plans for ICT development.

The diffusion of ICTs throughout the world is extremely uneven. Many developing countries face significant barriers in access to and effective application of ICTs owing to limited telecommunications infrastructure, low computer literacy levels and lack of a regulatory framework. Most developing countries are not in a position to compete with industrialized countries. Therefore, the most effective way to raise the level of technology in developing countries is through acquisition of technology from the industrialized countries. However, the mere transfer and import of new technology through foreign direct investment and other channels does not ensure technology acquisition. In order to build capacity to acquire and master technology, it is essential that Member States build sound human resources capital and put in place credible and more focused long-term policies and regulations that encourage the active international transfer, effective diffusion and development of technology, and promote strategic partnerships between governments, the private sector, academic institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

In an effort to meet the needs of developing countries, the Commission is currently focusing its efforts on promoting the application of science and technology to meet the Millennium Development Goals. In undertaking this task, the Commission is concentrating on policies and measures that would lead to: (a) improving the policy environment for the application of science and technology for development by identifying potential risks and benefits of new and emerging technologies; (b) strengthening basic and applied research in developing countries and international scientific networking; (c) strengthening technology



support institutions and science advisory mechanisms, building human capacity, identifying new technologies and applications, and encouraging international collaboration to support research in neglected fields; and (d) promoting universal Internet access at affordable costs and building strategic partnerships in the field of science and technology for development and capacity building for competitiveness (E/2003/31-E/CN.16/2003/6, 5-9 May 2003). In addition, the Commission is addressing the opportunities and challenges presented by new and emerging biotechnologies, and the underlining need for national capacity building in biotechnology to support efforts in rural development, improving food security, agricultural productivity, health, and environmental sustainability.

Coping with these challenges in the future will require concerted national efforts, as well as support from the international community, including the UN system, NGOs, research institutions and academia. As the UN gears up for the upcoming World Summit on the Information Society, many of the aforementioned institutions will be coming together to discuss the future role science and technology can play in the development process.

Questions for consideration from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- How can the UN further encourage the use and development of ICTs in social and economic development?
- In what ways can the UN provide greater access to information about potential risks with the use of ICTs?
- What particular measures can be adopted by developing countries to close the "digital divide?"
- How can the UN assist developing countries in understanding the use and potential risks of biotechnologies?

Bibliography:

"Agriculture Companies Back Technology Sharing Plan To Boost Food." *UN Wire*, 11 Mar 2003.

"Asian Summit Pledges Cooperation To Bridge Digital Divide." *UN Wire*, 15 Jan 2003.

"Countries Using Web To Improve Services, Says UNESCO." *UN Wire*, 27 Sep 2002.

"IDB Supporting Creation Of Clean Technology Fund." *UN Wire*, 4 Mar 2003.

"U.N. Seminar Looks To New Technologies To Alleviate Poverty." *UN Wire*, 16 Jul 2002.

"U.N. Task Force Discusses Development." *UN Wire*, 21 Feb 2003.

"UNESCO Urges More Female Participation In Science." *UN Wire*, 3 Oct 2002.

UN Documents:

A/Res/44/54, 8 Dec 1989, Social welfare, development and science and technology

A/Res/43/110, 8 Dec 1988, Human rights and scientific and technological developments

A/Res/42/192, 11 Dec 1987, Tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development

A/Res/41/183, 8 Dec 1986, United Nations Financing System

for Science and Technology for Development

A/Res/37/244, 21 Dec 1982, Long-term financial and institutional arrangements for the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development

A/Res/34/218, 19 Dec 1979, United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development

E/2003/31-E/CN.16/2003/6, 5-9 May 2003, Report on the Sixth Session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

E/1998/46, 31 Jul 1998, Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields

E/1996/L.21, 8 Jul 1996, Implementation of the agreed conclusions on the theme of the 1995 coordination segment of the council

E/1995/54, 28 Jul 1995, Science and technology for development

Additional Web Resources:

www.un.org/esa/coordination/ecosoc/sub_bodies.htm

www.itu.int/wsis/, World Summit on the Information Society

www.iasted.org/, The International Association of Science and Technology for Development

www.itu.int/home/index.html, International Telecommunications Union

www.unicttaskforce.org/index.asp, United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force

r0.unctad.org/stdev/, UNCTAD Science and Technology for Development Network

www.unesco.org/

SOCIAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Equal rights for and equal treatment of women is an issue that has been addressed repeatedly through the past century and a half, but it is a goal that has still not been reached. On average, women account for only 14 percent of the seats in national parliaments. In industrialized countries, women in the wage sector earn an average of 77 percent of what men earn; in developing countries, they earn 73 percent. Two-thirds of the world's 876 million illiterates are women. Of the 113 million children of primary school age who are not attending school, almost two-thirds are female. By the time they reach 18, girls have an average of 4.4 years less education than boys. HIV/AIDS disproportionately affects women and adolescent girls who are socially, culturally, biologically and economically more vulnerable. In sub-Saharan Africa, women account for 58% of all HIV-positive adults.

Since its inception, the UN has been concerned with the issue of advancement of women. From the UN Charter to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, it has clear that women should be given equal opportunity in all facets of social, economic, and political life. The UN has created several organizations to oversee and promote the advancement of women. They include the Commission on the Status of Women (created in 1946), the Division of the Advancement of Women (started in 1946 under the name "Section on the Status of Women"), the UN Development Fund for Women



(UNIFEM, 1976) and the UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW, 1976).

Over the years, UN action for the advancement of women has taken four clear directions: promotion of legal measures; mobilization of public opinion and international actions; training and research, including the compilation of gender desegregated statistics; and direct assistance to disadvantaged groups. Today a central organizing principle of the work of the UN is that no enduring solution to society's most threatening social, economic, and political problems can be found without the full participation and the full empowerment of the world's women.

In an effort to codify the work of the UN since 1946, the GA in 1979 adopted the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, an international bill of rights for women. In 1995, the Fourth World Conference on Women (FWCW) was held in Beijing, China. The Platform for Action that was adopted at the FWCW sought to further progress on issues that disproportionately affect women, especially focusing on poverty, education, violence against women and human rights. In 2000, a follow up summit of the FWFC, Beijing +5, was held in New York. In addition, in 2000 the UN Millennium Summit adopted eight Millennium Development Goals to be achieved by 2015. Among these are the empowerment of women and the promotion of equality between women and men, the elimination of gender disparity in primary and secondary education, the reduction of maternal mortality by three-quarters and the reversal of the spread of diseases, especially HIV/AIDS and malaria.

To date, the UN continues to work on the advancement of women in several areas, including the promotion of women in decision-making roles; reducing poverty, especially women in poverty; increasing women's literacy rates and increasing women's education in general; and decreasing the incidence of violence against women. As the primary agency changed with coordinating the UN efforts in these areas, UNIFEM has focused its energy on three main goals, the strengthening of women's economic rights and the empowerment of women to enjoy secure livelihoods; engendering governance and peacebuilding to increase women's participation in the decision-making processes; and promoting the human rights of women around the globe and eliminating all forms of violence against women to transform development into a more peaceful, equitable and sustainable process. It is hoped that as the world enters a new millennium, the advancement of women will become a reality.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- What role has your country adopted in relation to the advancement of women?
- What actions has your country taken, either on its own or with other Member States, international, regional, or local organizations and other NGOs, on the advancement of women?
- How much progress has been made internationally on the Millennium Development Goals related to women?
- What additional measures does your country take to further promote the advancement of women?

Bibliography:

- Ahmed, Nilla. "Women Demand Major Say in African's Development." Inter Press Service, 7 Apr 2003.
- Athreya, Bama. "Trade is a Women's Issue." ATTAC, 20 Feb 2003.
- "A Bold Move on Women's Rights." *The Christian Science Monitor*, 5 Feb 2003.
- McGregor, Liz. "Women Bear Brunt of AIDS Toll." *Observer*, 23 Mar 2003.
- "Rights Commission: U.N. Panel Discusses Gender, Violence." *UN Wire*, 16 Apr 2003.
- "UNICEF Head, In Region, Focuses on Women, Girls." *UN Wire*, 4 Apr 2003.
- "Valuing Women's Work." *The Christian Science Monitor*, 15 Apr 2003.
- "Women Aim to Increase Role as Global Peacemakers." *The Christian Science Monitor*, 9 Sep 2002.

UN Documents:

- A/Res/57/182, 18 Dec 2002, Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
- A/Res/57/181, 18 Dec 2002, Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'
- A/Res/55/2, 18 Sep 2000, UN Millennium Declaration
- A/Res/34/180, 18 Dec 1979, The Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- A/Res/217 A (III), 10 Dec 1949, The UN Declaration on Human Rights.
- E/CN.6/1998/3 (1998) Mid-term review of the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996-2001
- E/CN.6/1996/4 (1996) Monitoring the Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women
- E/1999/53 (1999) The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women
- E/1994/NGO/1 (1994) Social, Humanitarian and Human Rights Questions: Advancement of Women
- S/Res/1325, 31 Oct 2000, Women and Peace and Security

Additional Web Resources:

- www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/women/womday97.htm
- www.un.org/womenwatch
- www.unfpa.org
- www.unhchr.ch/women/index.html
- www.unifem.undp.org

