

## **Delegate Daily Brief**

*Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019*

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The **General Assembly First Committee** continued its debate on **Topic A: The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Aspects** yesterday. The committee worked diligently together and produced four working papers, all of which were reviewed by the Secretariat. Upon closing debate, the committee adopted **two draft resolutions**. The draft resolutions are requesting Member States to ratify the Arms Trade Treaty and abide by the Firearms Protocol, while also promoting sharing of information including that on statistics of arms transfers. These draft resolutions will be further debated in the General Assembly plenary.

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The **General Assembly Second Committee** continued its debate on **Topic A: Women in Development**. They were very inclusive in encouraging all delegates to express their concerns and accommodated a diverse range of priorities and needs from all Member States. Throughout the day, committee members worked diligently on four working papers. These papers covered an array of topics that included financial inclusion for rural women, increasing gender parity in economic decision-making, combating gender-based violence in the workplace, and STEM education for career preparedness. After several rounds of editing, the body consolidated their ideas and built consensus around one working paper. Upon closing debate, the committee adopted **one draft resolution, GA2-1**, by consensus. Before adjournment, there was a brief discussion of **Topic B: Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity**. GA2-1 will be passed onto the General Assembly plenary for continued deliberation.

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The **General Assembly Third Committee** continued its debate on **Topic A: Promoting the Inclusion of Women and Youth in Governance**. The body implemented a robust caucusing strategy, combining an initial five working papers into the two comprehensive working papers that were both accepted as draft resolutions. GA3-DR-1 included several diverse mechanisms to promote the inclusion of women and

youth in governance, such as inclusive employment measures, education promotion, infrastructure development, and more, all while stressing the importance of national ownership and regional cooperation. GA3-DR-2 included youth engagement initiatives, data collection, as well as the establishment of the United Nations Committee of Regional Education (UNCORE) as a comprehensive action committee to advance the cause of inclusive education through norms setting, information sharing, regional cooperation, and more. The body briefly considered moving to **Topic B: The Rights of Persons with Disabilities** before voting on Topic A, but nevertheless moved on to adopt GA3-DR-1 with a vote of 33-15-1, and as well as GA3-DR-2 with a vote of 44-5-0.

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The **General Assembly Fourth Committee** continued its debate on **Topic A: International Cooperation in Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**. Over the course of the morning, afternoon, and evening, the committee saw the development of caucuses along both regional and non-regional lines, with sub-topical focuses such as Heritage Sites in space, educational opportunities, technology and information sharing, and disaster risk reduction tools. The committee produced three working papers, all of which were reviewed by the Secretariat. Delegates continued with dialogue toward finding commonality in their working papers which saw several mergers, and subsequent restructuring of their goals. After a long day of deliberations, delegates passed **three draft resolutions** on the **Topic Area A: International Cooperation on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**. The draft resolutions sought for more accountability by Member States in the uses of outer space, promoted innovation and education to advance technology by creating programs and encouraging Member States to respect existing conventions, and treaties regarding outer space, as well as prohibited the use of outer space for warfare of any kind, including reaffirming their resolve to not permit military installations, weapons of mass destruction and defense installations.

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Security Council North continued its debate on **Topic A: Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding**. The committee produced one working paper, which was reviewed by the Secretariat. Upon closing debate, the committee adopted **one draft resolution by consensus on Topic A**. The working paper outlined training standards, crisis prevention, implementing technology, and holding peacekeepers accountable in attempt to mandate United Nations Peacekeeping. The working paper also calls upon support groups and UN based initiatives to further expand their mission to prevent sexual violence.



Once the draft resolution was adopted by consensus, Security Council North moved forward with discussion on **Topic C: The Situation in Ukraine**. After ten minutes of discussion, Security Council North tabled Topic C and moved to **Topic B: Enhancing the Effectiveness of UN Sanctions** where they discussed improving smart sanctions. The Security Council was made aware of an **urgent situation in Syria**. After an autonomous missile-defense system shot down a Turkish aircraft, Security Council North discussed the applications of lethal autonomous weapons systems and the risks and benefits of its associated technology.

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**Security Council South** continued its debate on **Topic A: Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding**. The body quickly worked to create a working paper on attempting to identify root causes of conflict and mitigate those causes by drawing attention to them and harness resources to address them. The body passed a **draft resolution** and moved into consideration of **Topic B: Enhancing the Effectiveness of UN Sanctions**.



The Security Council was made aware of an **urgent situation in Bangladesh**. The SCS made an effort to address the crisis by bringing together all resources possible. They **passed a draft resolution** which addressed the refugee crisis caused by the cyclone. The Security Council also passed a presidential statement requesting the commission of two reports. One detailing the number and spread of refugees as a result of the cyclone and a report explaining the effects that climate change will have on global security.

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The **Economic and Social Council** continued its debate on **Topic A: South-South Cooperation**. In the morning, the delegates broke up into three groups, each discussing different subtopics ranging from Development Banks to Technology Transfer. The committee produced two working papers during the morning session, all of which were reviewed by the Secretariat. Upon review, delegates went further in depth and explored the subjects on information sharing, data collection, Regional Development Banks, and the expansion of existing frameworks and standards the UN has recently made regarding South-South Cooperation.

Upon closing debate, the committee adopted **two draft resolutions** on **Topic A**, both of which were **adopted by consensus**. The draft resolutions included additional information regarding the creation of new development banks and how they will form, and function, as well as utilizing think tanks in order to promote the sharing of best practices and technology to improve South-South Cooperation. These draft resolutions will be passed onto the Economic and Social Council plenary for debate. The committee did move into consideration of **Topic C: Sustainable Alternative Development** before adjournment. During this time, heavy focus was applied to the needs of the farmers relying upon illicit crop production for their economic stability and ensure they would be provided equal economic opportunities.

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The **United Nations Education, Science, and Cultural Organization** continued its debate on **Topic A: Return and Restitution of Cultural Property**. Throughout the morning the delegates worked diligently to produce a **unanimous adopted draft resolution** on Restitution of Cultural Property that addresses Member States' property documentation, theft trafficking, and protection. The room was split evenly into two groups during the early morning and soon merged working drafts together into one working paper. The draft resolution discussing Restitution of Cultural Property called for the tracking of cultural property through technological means, documentation of the location and details of important cultural property, and cooperation between Member States regarding stolen property to enable more efficient return methods of cultural property.



Discussion then commenced on **Topic C: Bioethics and the Human Genome** and a working paper concerning medical

research on embryos was developed. Member States addressed the importance of sharing and expanding medical research to developing nations as well as insuring the topic of embryo research and other human studies are conducted within each of the differing cultural and ethical values of Member States. The Member States then addressed the final topic, **Topic B: Traditional Knowledge Systems** with goals to create a draft resolution acknowledging indigenous languages as a traditional knowledge system. The committee produced two working papers, all of which were reviewed by the Secretariat. The draft resolution on Bioethics and the Human Genome requested more funding to Developing Member States for the purpose of improving and sharing scientific genetic research to the quality of Developed Nations and encouraged cellular research among all Member States within individual ethical values. Overall, the committee adopted **two draft resolutions, including 1 by consensus**.

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The **World Health Organization** continued its debate on **Topic A: Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs)**. The working paper became an extensive document of different ideas on how to prevent and treat NCDs. The working paper was a group effort, and Member States from South America, Africa, and the Middle East split off to flesh out ideas on the education of youth, the prevention of tobacco use, and concerns about cyber security with attention to patient confidentiality. The committee produced one joint working paper by the end of the morning and has submitted it for the Secretariat to review over the mid-day break.

Upon return from the mid-day break, the Member States completed further edits to the working paper. The paper was approved as a draft resolution and brought to the floor as WHO-DR-1. Upon closing debate, the committee **adopted one draft resolution, WHO-DR-1, by consensus**. The draft resolution features multiple initiatives that encourage increased participation by Member States to prevent and control NCDs through education, increased funding mechanisms, and regional partnerships and utilization of existing WHO programs and research. These draft resolutions will be passed onto the Economic and Social Council plenary session for debate. The committee then brought **Topic B: Sexually Transmitted Infections** into consideration, was moved into consideration quickly. The Member States worked diligently as they separated into two working groups to create working papers which then became **two draft resolutions WHO-DR-2**



and WHO-DR-3. **WHO-DR-2** was adopted by consensus while WHO-DR-3 was passed after a roll call vote of 16-2. In preparation for plenary, the committee voted unanimously to discuss **Topic C: International Preparedness for Pandemics** for the remainder of the WHO sub-committee session.