

ISSUES ON THE AGENDA

General Assembly 2: Economic and Financial

- Providing effective minimum wages in LEDCs to promote economic development.
- The question of providing microloans to local firms in LEDCs in an attempt to increase economic development
- Measures to reduce poverty through sustainable economic development

General Assembly 3: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural

- Protecting the economic and social rights of people of different ethnicities and races
- Measures to ensure the protection of labor rights in LEDCs
- Evaluating the effectiveness of current approaches to counter terrorism in MEDCs

Economic and Social Council

- Measures to educate the youth as a means of achieving equal opportunities in the workplace.
- Measures to improve working conditions and standards of safety in sweatshops.
- Economic policies to improve employment opportunities for young people.

Human Rights Council

- Measures to regulate sex trafficking and prostitution and their impact on states.
- Implementing policies to eliminate modern-day slavery and bonded labor.
- Measures to defeat the recruitment, transportation, transfer harboring and/or receipt of children for the purpose of exploiting them as laborers.

Special Conference

- The question of improving working conditions and participation of women in Saudi Arabia

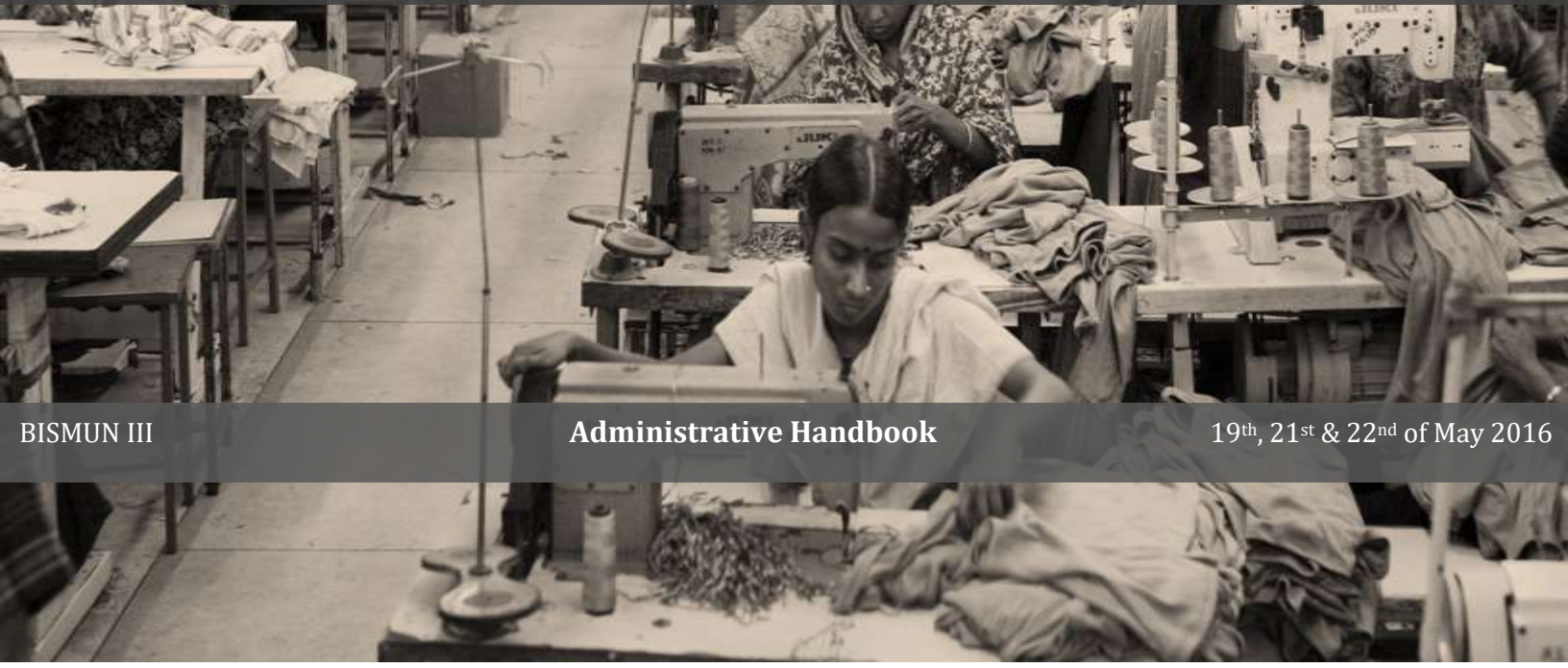
All delegates should come prepared with at least one written resolution in their assigned committee.



British International School Jeddah



Model United Nations *Living to Work or Working to Live?*





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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, 19th May 2016

4.00pm-4.30pm	<i>Registration</i>
4.30pm-5.20pm	<i>Opening Ceremony</i>
5.20pm-6.00pm	<i>Lobbying, merging and opening speeches in committee rooms</i>

SATURDAY, 21st May 2016

09.00am-05.00pm	<i>General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, Human Rights Council and Special Conference in session</i>
11.00am-11.20am	<i>Snacks available</i>
1.00pm-2.00pm	<i>Lunch available</i>
4.00pm-4.20pm	<i>Snacks available</i>

SUNDAY, 22nd May 2016

9.00am-5.00pm	<i>General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, Human Rights Council and Special Conference in session</i>
11.00am-11.20am	<i>Snacks available</i>
1.00pm-2.00pm	<i>Lunch available</i>
4.00pm-4.20pm	<i>Snacks available</i>
4.30pm-5.00pm	<i>Closing Ceremonies</i>

VENUES

Opening Ceremony/Closing Ceremony	<i>Russ Law Hall</i>
General Assembly 2	<i>Room 64</i>
General Assembly 3	<i>Room 58</i>
Economic and Social Council	<i>Room 50</i>
Human Rights Council	<i>Room 56</i>
Special Conference	<i>Room 54</i>

ISSUES ON THE AGENDA

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- Measures to reduce poverty through sustainable economic development

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- Protecting the economic and social rights of people of different ethnicities and races
- Measures to ensure the protection of labor rights in LEDCs
- Evaluating the effectiveness of current approaches to counter terrorism in MEDCs

Economic and Social Council

- Measures to educate the youth as a means of achieving equal opportunities in the workplace
- Measures to protect cultural industries against modern developments
- Measures to enforce economic policies that protect international laws in the workplace

Human Rights Council

- Measures to regulate sex trafficking and prostitution and their impact on states
- Implementing policies to eliminate modern-day slavery and bonded labor
- Measures to defeat the recruitment, transportation, transfer harboring and/or receipt of children for the purpose of exploiting them as laborers

Special Conference

- The question of improving working conditions and participation of women in Saudi Arabia

All delegates should come prepared with at least one written resolution in their assigned committee.

DELEGATIONS 2016

MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Federative Republic of **Brazil**

People's Republic of **China**

Kingdom of **Denmark**

Federal Republic of **Germany**

Republic of **India**

State of **Japan**

Republic of **Kenya**

Federal Democratic Republic of **Nepal**

Republic of the **Philippines**

State of **Qatar**

Kingdom of **Saudi Arabia**

United States of America

BISMUN DELEGATION RULES

Delegation size: 7 delegates

Delegation	GA2	GA3	ECOSOC	HRC	Special Conference
Brazil	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
China	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
Denmark	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
Germany	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
India	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
Japan	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
Kenya	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
Nepal	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
Philippines	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
Qatar	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
Saudi Arabia	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate
United States of America	1 delegate	2 delegates	2 delegates	1 delegate	1 delegate

Each delegation must have a nominated Head of Delegation or Ambassador, who must be present during the Opening Ceremonies to deliver an opening speech on behalf of his/her country or delegation.

The duration of an opening speech should not exceed 90 seconds.

GENERAL BEHAVIOUR

Although the British International School Model United Nations is an educational exercise intended for young people, delegates are simulating the Councils, Commissions and Conferences of the United Nations.

Thus, for the period of the conference, they must be regarded as diplomats and ambassadors for the country they are representing, as well as representatives of their individual schools. This demands a high standard of personal conduct and behavior from all delegates, both during the conference sessions and outside the Convention Center.

BISMUN RULES OF PROCEDURE

Points allow delegates to suggest that rules have been misused, to ask questions about the rules or the work that the committee is doing, and to ask questions of other delegates who are giving formal speeches (and who have indicated that they will answer questions).

Motions guide the work of the committee. They allow the group to make substantive (subject-matter) decisions on which agenda item to discuss, to introduce draft resolutions and amendments and to decide when to hold a final vote, among others. Motions also structure the procedural work of the committee, setting speaking times, opening speaker's lists and moving into moderated and unmoderated caucuses, for example.

Yields relate directly to who speaks. It allows delegates to indicate who gets to speak next at the end of their speeches.

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Debatable?</i>	<i>Vote Required?</i>	<i>Interrupt Speaker?</i>	<i>Description</i>
POINTS				
Point of Order	No	No	Yes	Used to point out a misuse of the rules.
Point of Information	No	No	No	To ask a question of the speaker, at the end of their speech.
Point of Parliamentary Inquiry	No	No	No	To ask for rules or non-rules related clarification from the presiding officer.
Point of Personal Privilege	No	No	Yes	A delegate may raise a point of personal privilege in order to inform the chairperson of a physical discomfort he or she is experiencing, such as not being able to hear another delegate's speech.
MOTIONS				
Suspension of the Meeting	No	Majority	No	Suspends the formal rules of procedure to allow either moderated or unmoderated caucusing. Also used to suspend debate for breaks in the schedule (i.e. for lunch).
Introduce a Draft Resolution	No	Majority	No	Brings a draft resolution to the floor for discussion.
Introduce an Amendment	No	Majority	No	Brings an unfriendly amendment to the floor for discussion. Opens a new speaker's list of those wishing to speak for and against the amendment, alternating between the two.
Set the Agenda	1 For 1 Against	Majority	No	Chooses which agenda item will be discussed first (only relevant when there is more than one item on the agenda)
Request for a Roll Call Vote	No	No	No	Only available when voting on a resolution or amendments. If granted by the presiding officer, member states will be called on in alphabetical order to announce their vote.
YIELDS – How a speaker finishes their speech				
Yield to the Chair	No	No	-	The Chair retakes control of the committee.
Yield to another Delegate	No	No	-	Another delegate is allowed to speak until the end of the speaking time (if there are time limits).
Yield to Points of Information	No	No	-	Allows members of the committee to ask questions of the speaker, until speaking time has expired.

USEFUL PHRASES TO BE USED BY A CHAIR

When asking the house to be quiet:

The house will come to order.
Will the house please come to order!

When starting the debate:

The Chair calls upon the main submitter to read the operative clauses to the house.
The house has heard the motion. Is there a second?
The Chair sets a debate time of 20 minutes open debate/ 10 minutes for and 10 minutes against the motion.
The delegate of France/the main submitter has the floor.
All points are out of order until the delegate has finished speaking.

When recognizing someone to speak:

The Chair recognizes the delegate of Russia.
To what point do you rise?
Please rise and state your point (of information/order).

When the question is not clearly stated:

Please state your point in the form of a question.
The speaker appears not to have heard/ understood your question.
Will you please repeat/rephrase your question?

When asking for further points:

Are there any further points on the floor?
Are there any further points of information to this speaker?

When dealing with a point of order:

There's a point of order on the floor. Please rise and state your point.
Your point is (not) well taken.

When asking a speaker to conclude his speech:

Will the speaker please make his concluding remarks.

When concluding debate time:

Debate time for/against the motion/the amendment has been exhausted/has expired.
Debate time has expired.
Will the speaker please yield the floor back to the Chair or to another delegate?

When extending debate time:

The Chair proposes an extension of debate time by 5 minutes for and 5 minutes against the motion.

When concluding debate and moving to the vote:

The debate is now closed.
We will move into voting procedures.
All points are out of order.

When conducting the vote:

The motion will now be put to the vote.
Will all those in favor of the motion/the amendment/the resolution please raise their

placard?

Will all those opposed to/against the resolution please raise their placard?
Are there any abstentions? / Will all those abstaining please raise their placard.

When announcing the result:

The motion /amendment has been carried/passed by X votes to Y with Z abstentions.
The motion/ amendment has failed/been defeated by Y votes to X with Z abstentions.

DEBATING A RESOLUTION

IF A READING TIME IS TO BE SET:

Chair: The house will now come to order. The Chair sets a reading time of ____ minutes for this resolution. (Optional: Please use this time wisely to look over the resolution, highlight areas of concern, and start writing amendments or points of information for this resolution to be sent to quiet delegates.)

STARTING DEBATE:

Chair: The Chair now sets an open debate time of ____ minutes on this resolution. Delegate, you now have the floor.

Delegate: (delivers opening speech)

Chair: Thank you Delegate. Is the Delegate open to any points of information?

Delegate: (states any number)

Chair: The Delegate of ____ has opened himself/herself to ____ Points of Information. Are there any in the house at this time? The Delegates of ____, ____, and ____ you have been recognized in that order. (It is recommended for Chairs to only call on 3-5 delegates for the first speaker and 2-3 for any subsequent speakers.)

Delegates: (state their Points of Information)

Chair: Thank you. Would the Delegate please yield the floor back to the Chair or to another Delegate?

IF THE DELEGATE YIELDS THE FLOOR BACK TO THE CHAIR:

Chair: That is in order. The floor is now open. Are there any Delegates that wish to speak on this resolution as a whole? The Delegate of ____, you have been recognized. You now have the floor.

IF THE DELEGATE YIELDS THE FLOOR TO ANOTHER DELEGATE:

Chair: Does the Delegate accept the yield? That is in order. The Delegate of ____, you have been recognized. You now have the floor.

Entertaining Amendments

MOVING AN AMENDMENT:

Chair: The floor is open; are there any Delegates wishing to take the floor?

Delegate: The Delegate has submitted an amendment to the first/second degree.

Chair: That is in order. The amendment to the first/second degree reads _____. The Chair sets a

closed debate time of ___ minutes for and ___ minutes against this amendment to the first/second degree. Delegate, you now have the floor.

WHEN TIME FOR AN AMENDMENT HAS ELAPSED:

Chair: Time for this amendment to the first/second degree has now elapsed. We will now move directly into time against this amendment to the first/second degree. Are there any Delegates that wish to speak against this amendment to the first/second degree?

WHEN TIME AGAINST AN AMENDMENT HAS ELAPSED:

Chair: Time against this amendment to the first/second degree has now elapsed. We will move directly into voting procedures for this amendment to the first/second degree. Would the chat moderator please suspend note passing. Delegates may vote for or against or abstaining. With ___ votes for and ___ against and ___ abstaining, this amendment passes/fails.

WHEN VOTING ON A RESOLUTION:

Chair: Seeing as debate time on this resolution has elapsed, we will now move directly into voting procedures on this resolution as a whole. Would the chat moderator please suspend note passing. Delegates may vote for or against or abstain. All Delegates wishing to vote for this resolution please raise your placards now (count votes). All Delegates that wish to vote against this resolution please raise your placards now (count votes). Delegates wishing to abstain on this resolution please raise your placards now (count votes). With ___ votes for, ___ votes against, and ___ abstentions, this resolution passes/fails.

IF IT PASSES:

Chair: Clapping is in order.

IF IT FAILS:

Chair: Clapping is not in order.

Entertaining Points and Motions

ENTERTAINING POINTS OF ORDER/PERSONAL PRIVILEGE/INFORMATION TO THE CHAIR

Chair: There has been a point of order/personal privilege/information to the Chair.

POINT OF ORDER, IF THE DELEGATE IS WRONG

Chair: Thank you for your point. That is not in order.

POINT OF ORDER, IF THE CHAIR IS WRONG

Chair: Thank you for your point. The Chair stands corrected.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE REFERRING TO AUDIBILITY

Chair: That is in order. Would the speaker please speak louder?

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE REFERRING TO ANYTHING ELSE

Chair: That is in order. (Ask Co-Chair or Chat Moderator to assist)

POINT OF INFORMATION TO THE CHAIR

Chair: Thank you for your point. (Answer the question to the best of your ability)

ENTERTAINING A MOTION

Chair: There has been a motion to _____. Are there any seconds? Are there any objections? The motion will be entertained/not entertained.

ENTERTAINING A MOTION TO MOVE THE PREVIOUS QUESTION

Chair: There has been a motion to move the previous question. Are there any seconds? Are there any objections?

IF IT IS TO BE ENTERTAINED

Chair: That will be entertained. We will now move directly into time against/voting procedures on this amendment/resolution.

IF IT NOT TO BE ENTERTAINED

Chair: That will not be entertained, because _____ (clearly explain why)

Entertaining Points of Information – different scenarios

IF THE DELEGATE OPENS HIMSELF/HERSELF TO A NUMBER OF POINTS OF INFORMATION

Chair: The Delegate has opened himself to _____ Points of Information. Are there any Points of Information in the house at this time?

IF THERE ARE TIME CONSTRAINTS:

Chair: The Delegate has opened himself to any and all _____ points of information, but due to time constraints the Chair will entertain _____. Are there any Points of Information in the house at this time?

IF DELEGATES DO NOT OPEN THEMSELVES TO POINTS OF INFORMATION:

Chair: The Delegate has not opened himself/herself to any points of information. As such, would the Delegate please yield the floor to the Chair or to another Delegate?

IF THERE ARE NO POINTS OF INFORMATION IN THE HOUSE

Chair: Seeing as there are none, would the Delegate please yield the floor back to the Chair or to another Delegate?

Miscellaneous

Chair: The Chair would like to remind the house that Delegates are required to speak in third person. Therefore, the use of personal pronouns such as “you” and “I” are not permitted.

Chair: Would the Delegate please state his/her Point of Information in the form of a question?

Chair: Would the Delegate please ask only one Point of Information?

Chair: Would the Delegate please repeat/rephrase his/her Point of Information?

Chair: There is to be no direct dialogue between delegates.

Chair: Due to time constraints/in the interest of debate, would the Delegate please yield the floor back to the Chair?

Further rules on BISMUN debates

In BISMUN debates, the time for follow-ups is limited to 30 seconds.

Chairs have the authority to ask admin staff to escort delegates out of the debate room, provided that the delegate repeatedly exhibits forms of misconduct or undiplomatic practice (such as the use of inappropriate language or neglecting the Chair’s authority).

General Assembly Papers

Forum: The Economic and Financial Committee

Issue: The question of how to provide effective minimum wages to promote economic development

Student Officer: Dahir Abdikarim Mohamed

[Minimum Wages](#)

Forum: The Economic and Financial Committee

Issue: The questionmeasures to reduce poverty through methods of sustainable economic development

Student Officer: Maria Habib

[Sustainable Development](#)

Issue: The question of providing microloans to local firms in LEDCs in an attempt to improve economic development

Student Officer: Sulaiman Muzaffer

[Microloans Report](#)

BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: General Assembly 2: Economic and Financial

Issue: The question of how to provide effective minimum wages to promote economic development

Student Officer: Dahir Abdikarim Mohamed

Introduction:

In many countries worldwide, including many member states, minimum wage is a distant non-existent concept. It relates directly to the very theme of this conference, living to work or working to live. The idea of a higher minimum wage and introducing minimum wage (along with a citizen's income) is getting more momentum, as governments grapple with the rise in inequality over recent decades. Britain introduces a "living wage"* of £7.20 an hour today (around \$10.30) for those aged over 25 while Democratic Presidential Candidate Bernie Sanders supports a rise in the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, phased in over seven years (the federal minimum wage is currently \$7.25 but many states have higher requirements). Most studies show there is an impact with a 10% rise in the minimum wage causing around a 2% drop in employment for affected workers (normally the young and low-skilled).

This is not the same as saying that overall employment will fall by the same amount. Therefore it could be implied that increasing the minimum wage could actually increase unemployment. However, the counter argument here is easily that in member states where there is no minimum wage at all, people are much worse off. Another study in the U.S even suggests that “Only 12.7% of workers earning a wage of less than \$7.25 an hour were in poor households, while 44.6%—or nearly half, most of whom were probably teenagers or other secondary workers—were in households with incomes three times the poverty line (or approximately \$63,000 in 2008 for a family of four) or higher. Thus, if the benefits of the minimum wage were spread equally across all affected low-wage workers, only 12.7% of the benefits would go to poor households, and nearly half would go to households in the top half of the household income distribution.”

Key Definitions:

Minimum Wage:

The lowest wage permitted by law or by a special agreement.

Living wage:

A wage which is high enough to maintain a normal standard of living.

Income inequality:

The unequal distribution of household or individual income across the various participants in an economy. Income inequality is often presented as the percentage of income to a percentage of population.

Economic development:

Efforts that seek to improve the economic well-being and quality of life for a community by creating and/or retaining jobs and supporting or growing incomes and the tax base.

Background Information:

MEDC member states: In addition the context of the international minimum wage debate the recent UK experience can be viewed as providing an important “quasi-experiment”. Since its introduction followed a period without any minimum, the UK case allows direct examination of the crucial link between an individual’s position in the wage distribution and subsequent employment probabilities in the absence of a minimum wage and then examination of any post-intervention change in the relationship. As the Low Pay Commission point out, “this was a major intervention in the labor market” – they estimated that in excess of 1.5 million employees (6.4%)

were entitled to a wage increase as a result of its introduction (Low Pay Commission, 2000). It therefore provides the opportunity to investigate the effect on employment of significant wage increases for a large group of workers. An additional advantage for the test to be conducted is that the evidence on the introduction of the UK minimum wage suggests a lack of spillover effects onto the wages of higher paid workers.

The primary argument for an introduction of a minimum wage in a country as the U.K which is an MEDC, is simply that it increases an individual's position in the wage distribution and subsequent employment probabilities increase too. This makes it so that many people may have the decision themselves of working to live or living to work and they are not forced to do either. This is because at an equilibrium they would make enough money, not making them work to live, and they do not have to work many hours as a result of regulation which comes with minimum wage. "Minimum wages are a corner stone to not only a chance at a fair life but a stepping stone to other fundamental wants and maybe needs that are needed in the workplace, minimum wage being the first". This is the case in many LEDCs and why they need minimum wage. In MEDCs they already have this, however they would like the other benefits of minimum wage. The article extracts below shows the top 10 national minimum wages then the whole world.

Major Countries and Organizations Involved:

Australia it has the highest minimum wage in the world and OECD the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Relevant UN Treaties and Events:

C131 - Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970 (No. 131)
Convention concerning Minimum Wage Fixing, with Special Reference to Developing Countries
(Entry into force: 29 Apr 1972)
Adoption: Geneva, 54th ILC session (22 Jun 1970) - Status: Up-to-date instrument (Technical Convention).

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,

Having been convened at Geneva by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and having met in its Fifty-fourth Session on 3 June 1970, and

Noting the terms of the Minimum Wage-Fixing Machinery Convention, 1928, and the Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951, which have been widely ratified, as well as of the Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery (Agriculture) Convention, 1951, and

Considering that these Conventions have played a valuable part in protecting disadvantaged groups of wage earners, and

Considering that the time has come to adopt a further instrument complementing these Conventions and providing protection for wage earners against unduly low wages, which, while of general application, pays special regard to the needs of developing countries, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to minimum wage fixing machinery and related problems, with special reference to developing countries, which is the fifth item on the agenda of the session, and

Having determined that these proposals shall take the form of an international Convention,

Adopts this twenty-second day of June of the year one thousand nine hundred and seventy the following Convention, which may be cited as the Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970.

Possible Solutions:

Minimum wage historically has yielded many benefits. However, it has also brought some issues like it has increased unemployment because employers can't afford to keep their employees at that rate. But it is all part of the natural course of an economy and it happens on occasion in MEDCs, the concern is LEDCs where many people live under the poverty line causing a multitude of social issues and issues economically because unemployment increases.

Bibliography:

<http://www.un.org/en/ga/second/70/proposals.shtml>

<http://www.economist.com/blogs/buttonwood/2016/04/minimum-wages>

<http://wol.iza.org/articles/employment-effects-of-minimum-wages>

file:///C:/Users/USER/Desktop/IB/MUN/WRAP_Stewart_twerp630.pdf

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labor_rights

<http://www.ecotripsos.com/lowestminimumwage/>

<http://money.cnn.com/interactive/economy/top-10-national-minimum-wages-in-the-world/>

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312276

BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: The Economic and Finance Committee

Issue: The question of measures to reduce poverty through methods of sustainable economic development

Student Officer: Maria Habib

Introduction:

Renewable energy solutions are not only good for the environment but, if done well they can also pave way to a less poverty-stricken world. Use of Renewable and sustainable energy has been heavily debated for years due to issues with efficiency, funding and other financial obstacles. Although, over the years, the belief is that renewable and sustainable energy and resources will secure more economic development and help in the reduction in poverty.

In this context, renewable and sustainable energy can take the form of bioenergy, hydropower, solar energy and resources etc. These energy sources have many benefits in the sense that they guarantee little to no global warming emissions, thus promoting health, environment and climate.

The UN General Assembly had declared the years 2014-2024 the Decade of of Sustainable Energy for All. This decision called for member states to make efforts to promote universal access to sustainable modern energy services as a priority, noting that 1.3 billion people are without electricity and 2.6 billion people in developing countries rely on traditional biomass for cooking and heating. There was also expressed concern for the fact that even when these energy services are available, millions of poor people are unable to afford them.

Understanding that this is a tedious and difficult task to achieve, it is not impossible and with member states cooperation this goal can be achieved within the time frame. The emphasis

is on the need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy resources for sustainable development.

Definition of key terms:

Renewable Energy

The term renewable energy is defined as energy that is collected from resources which are naturally replenished by Earth's resources. These can be sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves and geothermal heat. Renewable energy often provides energy in four important areas: electricity generation, air and water heating/cooling, transportation and rural energy services.

Economic Development

Economic Development refers to the sustained general improvement of the standards of living in an area, usually a country. The United Nations uses the Human Development Index (HDI) to measure economic development.

Sustainability

The term sustainability is defined as the ability continue a defined behaviour indefinitely. Environmental sustainability is the quality of not being harmful to the environment or depleting natural resources, thereby supporting long-term ecological balance.

Poverty

Poverty is the state or condition of having little or no money, goods or means of support. It is the deficiency of necessary means of a stable living standard. The most common measures of poverty used by the United Nations are the "UN millennium goals" and "The sustainable Development Goals". The poverty threshold set by the UN is \$1.25.

Bioenergy

Bioenergy is energy contained in living or recently living biological organisms, a definition which specifically excludes fossil fuels. Organic material containing bioenergy is known as **biomass**. Since almost all bioenergy can be traced back to energy from sunlight, bioenergy has the major advantage of being a renewable energy source.

Hydropower

Hydropower or water power is power derived from energy of falling water or fast running water, which may be harnessed for useful purposes. For years, hydropower has been used as a renewable energy source for irrigation and the operation of various mechanical devices.

General overview and background information:

“From the start in 1945, one of the main priorities of the United Nations was to “achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.” Improving people’s well-being continues to be one of the main focuses of the UN. The global understanding of development has changed over the years, and countries now have agreed that sustainable development – development that promotes prosperity and economic opportunity, greater social well-being, and protection of the environment – offers the best path forward for improving the lives of people everywhere.” The Sustainable Development Goals, set on the 25th of September 2015 are incredibly significant in creating a guided plan for global improvement of living standards.

1924 - First Federal Law Established to Control Pollution from the Oil Industry.

1935 - Hoover Dam, the World's Largest Hydroelectric Power Plant, Is Built

1950 - Petroleum Becomes Most Used Fuel in the US

1973 - OPEC Oil Embargo Against the US Causes Gas Shortages and Rationing

1977 - Formation of the Solar Energy Research Institute

1996 - Solar Two Plant Demonstrates Low Cost Method of Storing Solar Energy

2007 - IPCC Report Concludes Climate Change Is Happening and Is Mostly Human Caused

Major parties involved and their views:

United Nations – Apart from the declaration of naming 2014-2024 a decade of sustainable energy for all, the UN has made countless attempts to promote use of renewable and sustainable energy. One of their main priorities is to achieve sustainable development to promote prosperity and economic opportunity as well as protection of the environment. Noting that close to 40% of the population of the developing world lived in extreme poverty only twenty years ago, the UN's Millennium Development Goals greatly contributed to the process of halving that percentage. The UN have several other agendas including bringing to light the increasing climate change and the risk it brings.

Greenpeace – Greenpeace have pushed strongly for renewable energy initiatives in order to eradicate poverty (and helping the planet as well). The general consensus among policy makers that energy is central to reducing poverty and hunger, improving health, increasing literacy and education as well as improving the living standards of people in Lower Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs). They also believe that abusing non-renewable resources can have a detrimental effect on future generations. Two and a half million women and children die each year from the indoor pollution from cooking fires mainly because 2.4 billion people are still relying on wood, charcoal etc. as their principle source of energy for cooking and heating.

Australia - Renewable energy has had substantial growth in Australia particularly in the 21st century. It is estimated that Australia produced 29,678 gigawatt hours (GWh) of renewable energy electricity over the year ending December 2012. Thus representing 13.14% of the total production total production in Australia.

United States – Renewable energy accounted for 13.44% of the domestically produced electricity in 2015. Renewable energy reached a major milestone in the first quarter of 2011 when it contributed 11.7% of total U.S. energy production. Hydroelectric power is also currently the largest producer of renewable power in the U.S producing around 6.14% of the nation's

total electricity in 2015. The U.S. is the fourth largest producer of hydroelectricity in the world after China, Canada and Brazil.

Previous attempts to solve the issue:

As mentioned before different parties have done their part in promoting use of renewable and sustainable energy sources. The Sustainable Energy for All initiative was a very important step in the promotion and awareness of renewable energy sources. The UN's Millennium Development Goals include the eradication of poverty as well as other initiatives in improving living standards.

The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has warned of the increasing dangers of climate change and has spoken of the urgency to find solutions. The UNFCCC Secretariat supported efforts to reach a new universal climate change agreement in Paris in 2015, providing a pathway forward to limit temperature rise to below 2 degrees. The promotion in education and work opportunities for women is also a step in improving the foundation and economic stability of countries which the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs are working towards by working closely with governments to help countries around the world meet their economic, social and environmental goals. Many UN agencies are also working towards specific aspects of development such as the World Health Organization, UNICEF, UNESCO and the UN Environment Programme.

Possible solutions:

1. Increase awareness programs and initiatives.
2. Promote and encourage private sector involvement in renewable energy initiatives.
3. Increase educational and employment opportunities for a more stable economy as well as creating a more stable foundation for offering renewable energy resources.
4. Support for research and development of different renewable and sustainable energy resources.
5. Financing for the development and increase of renewable energy technologies in developing countries.

6. Promote solar powered electricity to become more commonplace in countries where it is more easily offered.
7. More support (financially and socially) for popular environmental NGOs.
8. Eradicate abuse and overuse of non-renewable energy resources as much as possible.

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BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: General Assembly 2: Economic and Financial

Issue: The question of providing microloans to local firms in LEDCs in an attempt to improve economic development

Student Officer: Sulaiman Muzaffer

Introduction:

It is stated a fact that on average approximately 8/10 businesses fail due to cash flow running out, some of these businesses are businesses made from people who are from More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs), people who are likely to overcome this issue with not much problem as they are likely to have more money coming in from elsewhere and often decide to invest their money in other ideas whereas others are from Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs), people who come from a poor background and have put in all their savings into a firm in a bid to become successful and rich, for the poor however, do not have this opportunity, overcoming a failed business is much harder and often people in LEDCs are forced to shut down businesses if profits are not made quickly due to the fact that all their savings are put into it, so to be able to run a business until it reaches a break-even point people in LEDC many would need extra funds, perhaps of which they could get from microloans.

The question of providing microloans to local firms in LEDCs has been up for debate, due to the fact that they can deem to be either a success or a failure, they can be seen as a success due to the not only open up opportunity to the firms to expand and help them build up their firms, but also can have an effect on the economy of the particular LEDC as a whole due to the fact that this can lead to increasing imports and exports amongst countries which can lead to economic growth. However, they can be a failure as providing microloans to local firms in LEDCs

have also largely been seen as a large issue due to the fact that these local firms often have trouble paying back the microloans that they were granted.

Thousands of microloan providing companies have emerged recently, many of these come in the form of being non-profit, such as GreatNonProfits, ultimately meaning little to no tax is charged upon taking a microloan.

The sudden spike in microloans in LEDCs which started to help solve the issue of poverty to an extent ultimately led the United Nations to announce the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) and the United Nations officially announced 1996 as the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty.

Definition of key terms:

More Economically Developed Countries:

Countries with more resources, salaries and housing accessibilities are MEDCs. An MEDC will have a lower birth rate and also a low death rate due to advanced Medical Technology and advancements in education in areas such as family planning. .

Less Economically Developed Country:

An LEDC typically has a high birth rate and also a high death rate due to poor health care and a different type of diseases. These are countries where life is hard. The countries are also very poorly developed. Life is rather hard and most people do not have much money to get resources

Break-even point:

The break even point is the production level where total revenues equals total expenses. In other words, the break-even point is where a company produces the same amount of revenues as expenses either during a manufacturing process or an accounting period.

Microloans:

A very small, short-term loan at low interest, especially to a start-up company or self-employed person.

Imports:

Bring (goods or services) into a country from abroad for sale.

Exports:

Send (goods or services) to another country for sale.

Economic Development:

Efforts that seek to improve the economic well-being and quality of life for a community by creating and/or retaining jobs and supporting or growing incomes and the tax base.

Eradication:

The removal of something.

General Overview and background information:

The origins of microfinance have existed since the 1890's, back when rural finance intervention was what was the main idea. As time progressed the idea of providing microloans to the poor was pioneered in the 1980s by the Nobel Peace Prize- winning microfinance organization, Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, found by Mr. Muhamad Yusuf, has become a worldwide trend as these actions have been taken up by many non-governmental organizations (NGOs), donor agencies and Organizations like the United Nations in order to do their parts in getting rid of poverty and encourage economic development amongst LEDCs.

Major parties involved and their views:

United Nations – The United Nations have largely seen as providing microloans to people and firms in LEDC's as a good thing, they have also targeted Africa as they believe Africa has a vast potential in terms of economic development if given the microloans. Providing financial services (including microloans, savings facilities, insurance, pensions, and payment and transfer facilities) is largely seen as desirable to LEDCs when looking at it in the perspective of the United Nations as they see it desirable and fitting to contribute to the achievement of the *Millennium Goals*.

World Bank – The World Bank has actively supported the microfinance industry as they encourage micro financial institutes to carry out their operations. The World Bank has approved many projects regarding microloans for example they approved two microloan projects in India to combat the issue of poverty being faced in some parts of India.

Triodos Bank – They believe that microfinance offers low-income households access to basic financial services. Because, like everyone else, people living in poverty need an inclusive range of financial services to run their businesses, build assets, and manage risks. Triodos Bank invests in microfinance to help develop a sustainable financial sector in developing countries.

African Union – Many African countries are LEDCs, and the African Union has recognized microfinancing and microloans as an excellent step to get people out of poverty and improve the economic development of African countries and the continent as a whole. Microfinance in Africa is developing at all the three levels of the financial system – the micro (financial service providers), meso (support service providers), and macro (policy, regulatory framework and supervision). At the micro level, there are many stakeholders and growing interest from banks and private investors.

Timeline of Events:

1895 - the Indonesian People's Credit Banks (BPR) opened and became the largest microfinance system in Indonesia with close to 9,000 units.

1900s – Various adaptations of the BPR opened in Latin America, with the goal of rural finance intervention.

1960 - By this time, governments around the world and donors focused on providing agricultural credit to small and marginal farmers, in hopes of raising productivity and incomes.

1976 – Professor Muhammad Younes addressed the banking problem faced by the poor through a programme of action-research. With his graduate students in Chittagong University he designed an experimental credit programme to serve them. It spread rapidly to hundreds of villages.

1983 – Grameen Bank was founded.

1990s – Massive growth in microfinance and this industry blossomed in many LEDC's.

Relevant UN Treaties and events:

- General Assembly Resolution 52/194
- General Assembly Resolution 51/178
- International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996)
- First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)
- General Assembly Resolution 58/221
- General Assembly Resolution 59/246
- General Assembly Resolution 61/214

Previous attempts to solve the issue:

There have been many United Nations resolutions regarding this topic, all in a bid to improve the situation of the microloan and microfinance system as a whole. The microfinance center keeps annual meeting regarding the progression of microfinancing institutes and the progress in terms of microloans and to promote such system. There are many organizations such as the BomaProject which are trying to encourage people to take a hand in microloans and increase their standards of living by making good use of the microloans they receive, for example, encouraging them to create a start-up business and then progress from there. The African Union, from time to time have also reduced the tax required to pay in microloans due to the fact as the African Union sees microloans as a way to go.

Possible Solutions:

1. Advertise the benefits of taking a microloan.
2. Educate potential parties who would be interested in microloans that it is not a risk.
3. Reduce interest rates on microloans for firms.
4. Encourage Microfinance Institutes (MFIs) to allow for longer payback time.
5. Government support for those unable to pay back the microloans they received to build a business.
6. Government support for businesses that are failing and have taken microloans.
7. Call for the international donor communities to help micro financial institutes to stay running.
8. Get MEDCs to support Microfinance Firms and themselves help create more funding for such organizations.
9. Have regular conferences to see the progress being made in terms of economic development as a result of increasing microloans.

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General Assembly Papers

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Forum: General Assembly 3: Economic, Social and Cultural

Issue: Measures to protect the economic and social rights of people of different ethnicities and races.

Student Officers: Maudy Chahine and Shanzay Waseem

[Research Issue 2](#)

Forum: General Assembly 3: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural

Issue: Protecting workers' rights in Less Economically Developed Countries in accordance with the international labor rights

Student Officers: Maudy Chahine and Shanzay Waseem

[Research Report 3](#)

Forum: General Assembly 3: Economic, Social and Cultural

Issue: Evaluating approaches to counter terrorism in MEDCs in order to provide a safer working environment and ensure integration

Student Officers: Maudy Chahine and Shanzay Waseem

BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: General Assembly 3: Economic, Social and Cultural

Issue: Evaluating approaches to counter terrorism in MEDCs in order to provide a safer working environment and ensure integration

Student Officers: Maudy Chahine and Shanzay Waseem

Introduction:

The United Nations is strongly against terrorism and has been taking steps to stop terrorism. However, we see a continuously growing support for terrorist organizations such as ISIS. Often this support comes from the youth. There are a number of reasons for this; terrorism promotion through social media, high unemployment rates, and unhappiness in the young population. We are now also seeing a big growing support in the More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs). The youth notice our problems and, majorly influenced by the words of these terrorists, they believe that there is no other solution to stop the grievances other than the take the path the terrorists have taken.

Key Terms:

Counterterrorism:

Political or military activities designed to prevent or thwart terrorism.

Background Information:

1880's - The first counter terrorism unit ever was responded to the escalating terror campaign in Britain by Irish Fenians, Sir William Harcourt. The Special Irish Branch was initially

formed to combat Irish republican terrorism through infiltration and subversion. Harcourt envisioned a permanent unit dedicated to the prevention of politically motivated violence through the use of modern techniques such as undercover infiltration. This branch was the first to be trained in counter-terrorism techniques. It gradually expanded to incorporate a general role in counterterrorism, combating foreign subversion and infiltrating organized crime. Law enforcement agencies, in Britain and elsewhere, established similar units. Counterterrorism forces expanded with the perceived growing threat of terrorism in the late 20th century. Specifically, after the September 11 attacks, Western governments made counter-terrorism efforts a priority, including more foreign cooperation and shifting tactics involving red teams

Major Parties Involved:

United Nations: The UN were founded in 1945 after The League of Nations were unable to keep the peace and World War II broke out. It consists of 193 member states. The UN's job is to maintain the peace and security by helping parties to solve their conflicts in a neutral environment. The UN Security Council has the primary responsibility for international peace and security. The General Assembly and the Secretary-General play major, important, and complementary roles, along with other UN offices and bodies.

United Kingdom: The UK has had an anti-terrorism legislation for over thirty years. The Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 was formally introduced into the Parliament November 19, 2001 two months after the September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States. It received royal assent and went into force on December 13, 2001. On December 16, 2004 the Law Lords ruled that Part 4 was incompatible with the European Convention on Human Rights, but under the terms of the Human Rights Act 1998 it remained in force. The Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005 was drafted to answer the Law Lords ruling and the Terrorism Act 2006 creates new offences related to terrorism, and amends existing ones. The Act was drafted in the aftermath of the 7 July 2005 London bombings, and like its predecessors some of its terms have proven to be highly controversial.

United States: To prevent another 9/11 search and seizure is governed by the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The Department of Homeland Security was established to consolidate domestic security agencies to coordinate anti-terrorism, as well as

national response to major natural disasters and accidents. The Posse Comitatus Act limits domestic employment of the United States Army and the United States Air Force, requiring Presidential approval prior to deploying the Army and/or the Air Force.

Previous Solutions:

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was adopted on the 8th September 2006. The strategy, in the form of a resolution (A/RES/60/288), is a unique global instrument that will enhance national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism. Those practical steps include a wide array of measures ranging from strengthening state capacity to counter terrorist threats to better coordinating United Nations system's counter-terrorism activities. The adoption of the strategy fulfils the commitment made by world leaders at the 2005 September Summit.

Possible Solutions:

1. Illegalizing the financing of terrorists
2. Immediately share any and every piece of information with other governments on any groups known or thought to be terrorists
3. Cooperate and stand by any and every investigation and case
4. Deny all forms asking for financial support for terrorist groups
5. Suppress any support (health care, finance, etc.) for terrorists

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BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: General Assembly 3: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural

Issue: Protecting workers' rights in Less Economically Developed Countries in accordance with the international labor rights

Student Officers: Maudy Chahine and Shanzay Waseem

Introduction:

This topic deals with the protection of the International Labour Rights (ILR) in Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs). The International Labour Rights consist of a set of rights an employee is allowed when worker is under an employer. These rights ensure that employees have a fair salary and working environment. However, workers in LEDCs are not always given these rights and furthermore, they are not aware of their rights.

Key Terms:

Labour Rights:

These are the rights that the people employed are entitled to and have the right to refer to in order to defend themselves in a case of abuse. These rights vary across nations and are adapted depending on the past and current needs of the people.

LEDCs:

The term LEDCs refers to Less Economically Developed Countries anywhere in the world. This issue is not only focused on Africa, but any nation which is less economically developed.

Background Information:

Working conditions should be protected by well-enforced rules – rules that guarantee workers the right to organize, to have limits on their work day, to be paid a minimum wage, to enjoy social security and more. Workers have enjoyed these guarantees in the rich countries for nearly a century, but recently governments have been weakening the rules in the name of "global competition." Meanwhile, in spite of many conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO), workers in poor countries have few rights or protections, and some endure terrible working conditions.

Financial crises in Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America have only made matters worse. And the Bretton Woods Institutions have long tried to weaken regulations governing employers' obligations to their workers. Working citizens have long been abused in the form of mistreatment in the working environment.

Sweatshops: Sweatshops designate the locations in which employers would abuse the rights of the employees. Often, it's a working place that violates 2 or more labour laws. More than 25 million children are forced to work in LEDCs around the world. This indicates that they are forcefully obliged to work and therefore are not treated properly by law.

Constitutional Law: The constitutional laws are very important with regards to this issue. A country could have much stricter and safer laws for the people, but another will have loosened and more flexible ones that would enable employers to slip away easily with breaking international norms.

Beyond Professional Abuse: In an uncontrolled environment, it is very likely that the sweatshops will not only break the laws with regards to labour rights, but also interfere with basic human rights. It is common that the supervisors or employers will use violence in order to keep control over the people working and keep a constant fear over them, which has multiple effects. Verbal and sexual abuse also often occurs in sweatshops. This fear complex controls the workers in the sweatshops and forces them to come back because

most know that there is no other place to work and that it is their only chance. Nevertheless, them telling any kind of authority could result in even more abuse, especially physically.

Major Parties Involved:

International Labour Organisation (ILO): The ILO aims to ensure that it serves the needs of working women and men by bringing together governments, employers and workers to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programs.

Labour Action China (LAC): The LAC are concerned for labour rights in China, playing a vital role in supporting and strengthening the labour activism in China.

North American Agreement on Labour Cooperation (NAALC): Between the government of Canada, the government of the United Mexican States and the government of the United States of America.

Human Rights Watch (HRW): in charge of regulating international laws and ensuring the respect of the Declaration of Human Rights.

Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue:

During apartheid, South Africa's laws were very controversial with regards to the labor rights that the non-white people had, which was the large majority of the population. Nevertheless, when the nation wrote its new constitution that expressed its democratic rights, it was clear that the country wanted to avoid such events again the past. The constitution clearly states that "everyone has the right to fair labor practices", in which these fair practices are later defined. This enables the authorities of that country to take legal procedures on the matter for people to understand the consequences of this illegal act.

The ILO works actively with the UN and other multilateral agencies to develop policies and programs that support the creation of decent work opportunities as a central plank of efforts to reduce and eradicate poverty. The ILO has adopted more than 180 ILO Conventions and 190 Recommendations covering all aspects of the world of work.

Possible Solutions:

There are many possible solutions to counter this issue:

1. Increase the limitations and the protection of labour rights in International Laws.
2. Ensure the legal status of shops and factories.
3. Set consequences to countries if they do not meet their annual human rights goals.
4. Educate all workers on the rights as an individual human being, and as a worker.
5. Ensure to protect workers of any type of abuse, by having an inspector to question each worker and examine the conditions they work and live in.
6. Ensure that every company/factory/shop sign a declaration stating that the rights of these workers will remain, and they will not be abused in any way.

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BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: General Assembly 3: Economic, Social and Cultural

Issue: Measures to protect the economic and social rights of people of different ethnicities and races.

Student Officers: Maudy Chahine and Shanzay Waseem

Introduction:

Indigenous groups compose nearly 5% of the world's population, yet they account for nearly 15% of the world's poorest people. Approximately, there are nearly 370 million indigenous people in the world, whom belong to over 5,000 different groups, in 90 countries. Indigenous Peoples are often thought of as the primary stewards of the planet's biological resources. Their ways of life have contributed to the protection of the natural environment on which they depend on. As such these indigenous groups and the environments that they occupy have been increasingly under assault from mining, oil, dam building, logging, and agro- industrial projects. However, their protests of such actions are often ignored by governments and corporations. Proper representation of these indigenous groups is necessary so as to ensure that they have a means to voice their concerns without the influence of other non-indigenous parties.

Key Terms:

Indigenous people:

Indigenous people are also known as native/tribal/first peoples. They are defined in national legislation as having a set of specific rights based on their historical ties to a particular territory.

Background Information:

1983 –

The formulation of a Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples first began in 1983 within the Working Group on Indigenous Populations. For almost a decade the Working Group devoted a large part of its time to drafting this text. Representatives of indigenous peoples, government delegations and experts on the subject participated very actively in this process.

1993 –

The Working Group adopted the text of the Declaration and sent it to its superior body, the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, which, in turn, adopted the text in 1994 and sent it to the Commission on Human Rights for its consideration.

1995 –

The establishment of the Working Group on the Draft Declaration

1995 –

The Commission on Human Rights considered the text submitted by the Sub-Commission and decided to establish an Inter-sessional Working Group with the mandate to consider the text presented and draw up a draft Declaration for its consideration and adoption by the UN General Assembly within the framework of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1995- 2004). In 2005 the mandate of the Working Group was renewed. The Commission on Human Rights also set up a procedure that made it possible for indigenous peoples' organisations to participate actively in the drafting work at the Commission level. That meant that indigenous peoples' organisations without consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were allowed to help draft the Declaration. Those entitled to vote within this Working Group were the member governments of the Commission on Human Rights. Governments that were not members of the Commission, NGOs with consultative status and indigenous organisations with special accreditation had observer status. With an overwhelming majority of votes in favour the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on September 13, 2007 after more than 20 years of negotiations between nation-states and Indigenous Peoples.

Major Parties Involved:

United Nations: The UN were founded in 1945 after The League of Nations were unable to keep the peace and World War II broke out. It consists of 193 member states. The UN's job is to maintain the peace and security by helping parties to solve their conflicts in a neutral environment. The UN Security Council has the primary responsibility for international peace and security. The General Assembly and the Secretary-General play major, important, and complementary roles, along with other UN offices and bodies.

International Labor Organization: The ILO is the tripartite UN agency that brings together governments, employers and workers to promote decent work throughout the world. It is devoted to promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labor rights, pursuing its founding mission that "labor peace is essential to prosperity".

World Bank: The World Bank is like a cooperative, made up of 188 member countries. It is a vital source of financial and technical assistance to developing countries. It provides support to developing countries through policy advice, research and analysis, and technical assistance.

International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs: The IWGIA is an international human rights organization. Their staff consists of specialists and advisers on indigenous affairs and they support indigenous groups that struggle for human rights, self-determination, right to territory, control of land and resources, cultural integrity, and the right to development.

Canada: Aboriginal Canadians are the indigenous peoples within the borders of Canada. They comprise the First Nations, Inuit and Métis. They are currently in a fragile position due to lack of clean drinking water, no sewerage system, bad education, alcoholism and violence. A humanitarian crisis in the Northern Ontario Attawapiskat Reserve began a national debate on the situation of Aboriginals.

Australia: Before the invasion, Aboriginal people lived all over Australia and evidence suggests that these communities managed their environment carefully to ensure a steady supply of food. Today more than half of all Aboriginals live in towns, often on the outskirts in terrible conditions. Many others work as labourers on cattle ranches that have taken over their land. Today they face racist attitudes, and periodic incidents of violence towards them. Their poor living

conditions mean that Aboriginal people have a far higher infant mortality rate and suicide rate and a lower life expectancy than the rest of the population. Many of the measures in this programme, such as the removal of Aboriginal communities' right to control access onto their lands, and the compulsory acquisition of some communities, stirred a great deal of resentment amongst Aboriginal people.

New Zealand: Approximately there are 660,000 Maori in New Zealand, which roughly make 15% of the national population. They are the second-largest ethnic group in New Zealand. These people face significant economic and social obstacles, with lower life expectancies and incomes compared to other New Zealand ethnic groups. In addition to higher levels of crime, health problems and educational under-achievement, socioeconomic initiatives have been implemented aimed at closing the gap between Maori and other New Zealanders. Political redress for historical grievances is also ongoing.

United States: Approximately 5.1 million people in the US, or 1.7%, identified as Native American. There are currently around 560 federally recognized tribes in the United States. American Indian nations are theoretically sovereign but limited by individual treaties and federal Indian law, which is in flux and often dependent on individual U.S. Supreme Court decisions. The relationship of tribes to the federal government, violence and socio-economic status, and resource extraction are continuing issues that impact Native nations. Changes in federal policy toward indigenous peoples are ongoing.

Previous Solutions:

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) is an international instrument adopted by the United Nations on September 13, 2007, to enshrine the rights that “constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world.” The UNDRIP protects collective rights that may not be addressed in other human rights charters that emphasize individual rights, and it also safeguards the individual rights of Indigenous people. The Declaration is the product of almost 25 years of deliberation by U.N. member states and indigenous groups.

Possible Solutions:

1. Recognize the distinct groups with their own unique cultures.
2. Allow Indigenous people the right to enjoy and pass on to their children their histories, languages, traditions, modes of internal governance, spiritual practices, etc.
3. They should have the right to freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social, and cultural development inside the country in which they live.
4. They should have the right to govern themselves in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, and to retain their distinct political, legal, economic, social, and cultural institutions.
5. They should have the right to educate their children in their own languages, and about their own traditions; to worship in their own ways; to establish media in their languages; to retain their traditional modes of resolving internal disputes; and to fully participate in any outside decision-making that could have an impact on their lives.
6. Indigenous groups should have the same rights as all other people without discrimination of any kind.

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Human Rights Committee

Issue: Measures to regulate sex trafficking and prostitution and their impact on states

Student Officer: Hija Ali

[Regulate sex trafficking and prostitution](#)

Issue:Implementing policies to eliminate modern-day slavery and bonded labor

Student Officer: Alieu Touray

[Eliminate modern-day slavery](#)

Issue:Measures to defeat the recruitment, transportation, transfer harboring and/or receipt of children for the purpose of exploiting them as laborers

Student Officer: Nady Hamadeh

[Defeat receipt of children for child labor](#)

BISMUN III, 2016

Committee: Human Rights Council

Issue: Measures to regulate sex trafficking and prostitution and their impact on states

Student Officer: Hija Ali

Introduction

Sex trafficking is a form of modern slavery that exists globally. Sex traffickers utilize various means of coercion to compel adults and children to engage in commercial sex acts against their will. These methods often involve violence, threats, lies and debt bondage. The situations that sex trafficking victims face vary dramatically. Many victims become romantically involved with someone who then forces or manipulates them into prostitution. Others are lured in with false promises of a job, such as modeling or dancing. Some are forced to sell sex by their parents or other family members. They may be involved in a trafficking situation for a few days or weeks, or may remain in the same trafficking situation for years.

The industry does not discriminate in terms of its unwilling victims which involve men, women and children from all over the globe as well as LGBT individuals. Vulnerable populations are frequently targeted by traffickers, including runaway and homeless youth, as well as victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, war, or social discrimination. Sex trafficking occurs in a range of venues including fake massage businesses, via online ads or escort services, in residential brothels, on the street or at truck stops, or at hotels and motels.

Definitions:

Modern (contemporary) slavery:

The institution of slavery that continue to exist in the present day. Estimates of the number of slaves today range from around 21 million to 29 million. Modern slavery is a multibillion-dollar industry with estimates of up to \$35 billion generated annually. *“Human trafficking is the third most lucrative activity of organized crime groups worldwide, following the trafficking of arms and drugs.”* (<http://www.unhcr.org/3e71f84c4.html>)

Sex trafficking:

Sex trafficking is a crime involving sexual slavery and human trafficking. In 2000, countries adopted a definition set forth by the United Nations. The United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, is also referred to as the Palermo Protocol. The Palermo Protocol created this definition. Article 3 of the Palermo Protocol states the definition as:

(a) “Trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs;

(b) The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used;

(c) The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered “trafficking in persons” even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article;

(d) “Child” shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.

Article 5 of the Palermo Protocol then requires the member states to criminalize trafficking based on the definition outlined in Article 3; however, many member states' domestic laws reflect a narrower definition than Article 3. Although these nations claim to be obliging Article 5, the narrow laws lead to a smaller portion of people being persecuted for sex trafficking.

Prostitution:

The practice or occupation of engaging in sexual activity with someone for payment.

Means of combating:

History of international legislation

- The 1921 International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children sponsored by the League of Nations
- The first international protocol dealing with sex slavery was the 1949 UN Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and Exploitation of Prostitution of Others.
- Current international treaties include the Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage, and Registration of Marriages, entered into force in 1964.

National prevention:

Actions taken to combat human trafficking vary from government to government. Some government actions include:

- introducing legislation specifically aimed at criminalizing human trafficking
- developing cooperation between law enforcement agencies and non-government organizations (NGOs) of numerous nations
- raising awareness of the issue

Raising awareness can take three forms. First, governments can raise awareness among potential victims, particularly in countries where human traffickers are active. Second, they can raise awareness amongst the police, social welfare workers and immigration officers to equip them to deal appropriately with the problem. And finally, in countries where prostitution is legal or semi-legal, they can raise awareness amongst the clients of prostitution so that they can watch for signs of human trafficking victims. Methods to raise general awareness often include television programs, documentary films, internet communications, and posters.

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex_trafficking#Global

BISMUN III, 2016

Committee: Human Rights Commission

Issue: Implementing policies to eliminate modern-day slavery and bonded labor

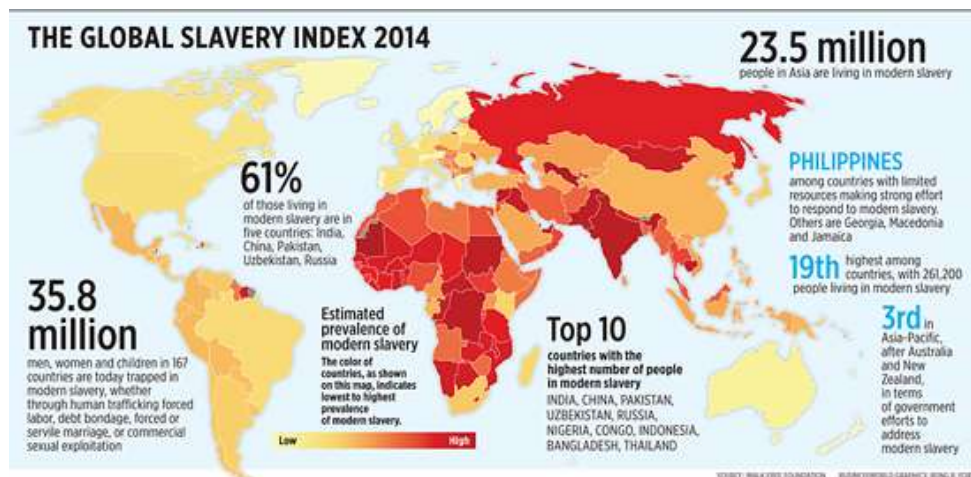
Student Officer: Alieu Touray

Introduction

Modern slavery refers to the institutions of slavery that continues to exist in the present day. This practice takes form in various ways, from women forced into prostitution, children and adults forced to work in agriculture, domestic work or factories and sweatshops producing goods for global supply chains.

There are many different characteristics that distinguish slavery from other human rights violations, however only one needs to be present for slavery to exist. Someone is in slavery if they are:

- Forced to work - through mental or physical threat;
- Owned or controlled by an 'employer', usually through mental or physical abuse or the threat of abuse;
- Dehumanized, treated as a commodity or bought and sold as 'property';
- Physically constrained or has restrictions placed on his/her freedom of movement.



Bonded labor refers to a person's pledge of their labor or service as security for the repayment for a debt or other obligation. This form of modern slavery is the most widespread, yet the least known and still damaging effects in world societies in present day as it affects entire families as well as children. Once children are involved in the practice, it is known as "Bonded Child Labor".

This practice combines feudal values, traditions and practices, with contemporary exploitative labor relations. Almost all South Asian societies bear the brunt of this, one way or the other. However it is more prevalent in India, Pakistan and Nepal.

The important term of agreement is that the debtor agrees to mortgage his or her services for any or all the members of the creditor's family for a specified or unspecified period. The relationship built on the agreement is on such unequal terms that while for every labor or service, there must be some fair remuneration equivalent to the price of labor in the market, under the bonded labor system the service is rendered for the debt or in lieu of the interest accruing to the debt. The agreement has further consequences such as forfeiting the debtor the freedom of employment, denial of freedom of movement in any part of the country and denial of the right to sell at market value any of his property or product of his labor. The debtor either works without receiving any remuneration or if there is any remuneration at all, it is much less than the minimum wage or the prevailing rate of market wage.

Definition of key terms

Abuse

To treat with cruelty or violence, especially regularly or repeatedly.

Bonded child labor

The South Asian Task Force on Bonded Child Labour defines a bonded child laborer as "a child (below 18 years of age as defined in the UNCRC) working against debt taken by himself/herself or his/her family members, or working against any social obligation (e.g., caste factor, ethnic or religious practices, etc.) without or with the child's consent, under conditions that

restrain his/her freedom and development, making him/her vulnerable to physical and other forms of abuse and depriving him/her of his/ her basic rights.”

Caste system

A caste system is a class structure that is determined by birth. For those born into specific castes, this can have strong financial and educational implications.

Creditor

A person to whom money is owing.

Debtor

A person that owes money.

Dehumanize

Deprive of positive human qualities.

Exploitation

The action or fact of treating someone unfairly in order to benefit from their work.

Feudal system

In a feudal system, a peasant or worker known as a vassal received a piece of land in return for serving a lord or king, especially during times of war. Vassals were expected to perform various duties in exchange for their own fiefs, or areas of land.

Freedom

The power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants. The state of not being imprisoned or enslaved.

Forced labor

Forced labor refers to situations in which persons are coerced to work through the use of violence or intimidation, or by more subtle means such as accumulated debt, retention of identity papers or threats of denunciation to immigration authorities.

Labour

Physical work

Legislation

Legislation (or "statutory law") is law which has been promulgated (or "enacted") by a legislature or other Governing Body or the process of making it.

Remuneration

Remuneration is the compensation that one receives in exchange for the work or services performed. Typically, this consists of monetary rewards, also referred to as wage or salary

Social exclusion

Exclusion from the prevailing social system and its rights and privileges, typically as a result of poverty or the fact of belonging to a minority social group.

Causes of Bonded labor:

Essentially, bonded labor exists because of the persistence of poverty, widespread discrimination making large groups of people vulnerable to exploitation and the existence of people who are prepared to exploit the growing desperation of others. The need for money used for daily survival forces people to sell their labor in exchange for a lump sum of money or a loan. In South East Asia bonded labor is rooted in the caste system and predominantly affects the Dalits (the lowest caste called the “Untouchables”). This caste system excludes particular groups from accessing education, health care and land, on the basis of their assigned status at birth.

Despite the fact that bonded labor is illegal, governments are rarely willing to enforce legislations against this practice, or to ensure that those who profit from it are punished. Ubiquitous discrimination against some social groups means they have limited access to justice, education and ways to get themselves out of poverty which is one of the main reasons why the debt is taken in the first place.

Statistics

Today the International Labor Organization estimates a minimum 11.7 million people are in forced labor in the Asia-Pacific region, the majority of these are in debt bondage. Bonded labor has existed for thousands of years. In South Asia it took root in the caste system and continues to flourish in feudal agricultural relationships. Bonded labor was also used as a method of colonial labor recruitment for plantations in Africa, the Caribbean and South East Asia.

- In India there are 2 million bonded laborers with the Dalits (the scheduled castes and tribes generally known as the untouchables).
- In Pakistan, there are 1.8 million sharecroppers in bonded labor and one million brick kiln workers in bonded labor.
- In Paraguay 8,000 indigenous people are directly involved in forced labor or at risk in northern Chaco region the ILO estimates that 10 per cent of all indigenous people are in bonded labor as they only make up 1.7 per cent of population.
- In Bolivia, 7,000 Guarani are in forced labor in Chaco region In Peru, 33,000 people are subject to forced labor in the logging industry affecting 75 percent of all indigenous people



Solutions to bonded labor

The United Nations has been adamant that for eradication of modern slavery, bonded labor in particular can only be achieved by addressing the root causes sustaining these practices, including poverty, regional disparities and the lack of access to livelihoods, namely education and health care. The United Nations Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, Gulnara Shahinian, urged the Government of Ghana to consolidate the important steps it has taken with strong and sustainable implementation strategies with measurable impact on groups at risk as well as victims of slavery. A press conference was held in Accra in 2013 and a comprehension report on the findings of the visit by the Rapporteur were presented to the Human rights council in September of 2014.

Across south-east Asia, the Ministry of Labour in collaboration with the ILO recently commissioned rapid assessment studies to establish the extent of bonded labor in nine industries. The research was carried out under the auspices of the Bonded Labour Research Forum between

October 2002 and January 2003 and confirmed that bonded and forced labor continues to affect millions of people across Pakistan.

Some states in India had also enacted laws for abolishing bonded labour For example, the Bihar Kamianti Act was passed in 1920, the Madras Agency Debt Bondage Regulation in 1940, Kabadi System Regulation in Bastar in Madhya Pradesh in 1943, Hyderabad Bhagela Agreement Regulation in 1943, Orissa Debt Bonded Abolition Regulation in 1948, Rajasthan Sagri System Abolition Act in 1961 (which was amended in 1975), and Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, Kerala in 1975.

The article 23 was set in India and this act of abolishment of bonded labor aims to identify the bonded laborers and release them from their employer. Action is also taken against the employer in order to deter any others from involving themselves in the same practice.

The key to eradicating slavery is making people aware of their rights and enforcing human rights in countries that fail to observe them, an objective that the Human Rights committee of the UN has had since its establishment. Making education accessible to all children would be a way to free them from bonded labor as they can live their lives to their own accord and not be forced to do unwanted tasks by their employers. Eradicating bonded labor will see a drop in other forms of modern slavery as well and it will see a rise in freedom of the people of the various societies that have been tainted with this inhumane act.

BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: Human Rights Commission

Issue: Measures to defeat the recruitment, transportation, transfer harboring and/or receipt of children for the purpose of exploiting them as laborers

Student Officer: Nady Hamadeh

Introduction:

Child labor is the employment of children in any type of work that deprives children from their childhood, interferes with their ability to attend regular school and it is mentally, physically or morally dangerous and harmful. Child labor has been present in our world for over century. This act is considered to be selfish by many international organizations such as:

- Justice for Children International
- Save the children
- Child Labor Coalition
- South Asian Coalition on Child Servitude
- Child Rights Information Network
- Child Labour Awareness
- Child Rights Information Network
- Child Workers in Asia
- Child Workers in Nepal

Definition of key terms:

Child Labor:

Child labor is the employment of children in any type of work that deprives children from their childhood, interferes with their ability to attend regular school and it is mentally, physically or morally dangerous and harmful.

Firozabad:

This is a city in India.

Bangles:

These are bracelets which are produced usually from metal, wood or plastic. It is a tradition in India for a Bride to wear one of these bracelets in her wedding.

Sivakasi:

A town in India

Amish:

This is a very traditional Christian church fellowship, which base their life on simple living and are very reluctant to using modern day technology.

Desertion:

The act of illegally leaving the armed forces.

Abduction:

This is the act of taking someone away against their own will.

Kidnapping:

In criminal law kidnapping is referred to the unlawful taking of a person against their own will.

ILO:

International labor organization.

Lacerations:

A deep cut or tear in the skin.

Belittling:

When you make someone feel unimportant.

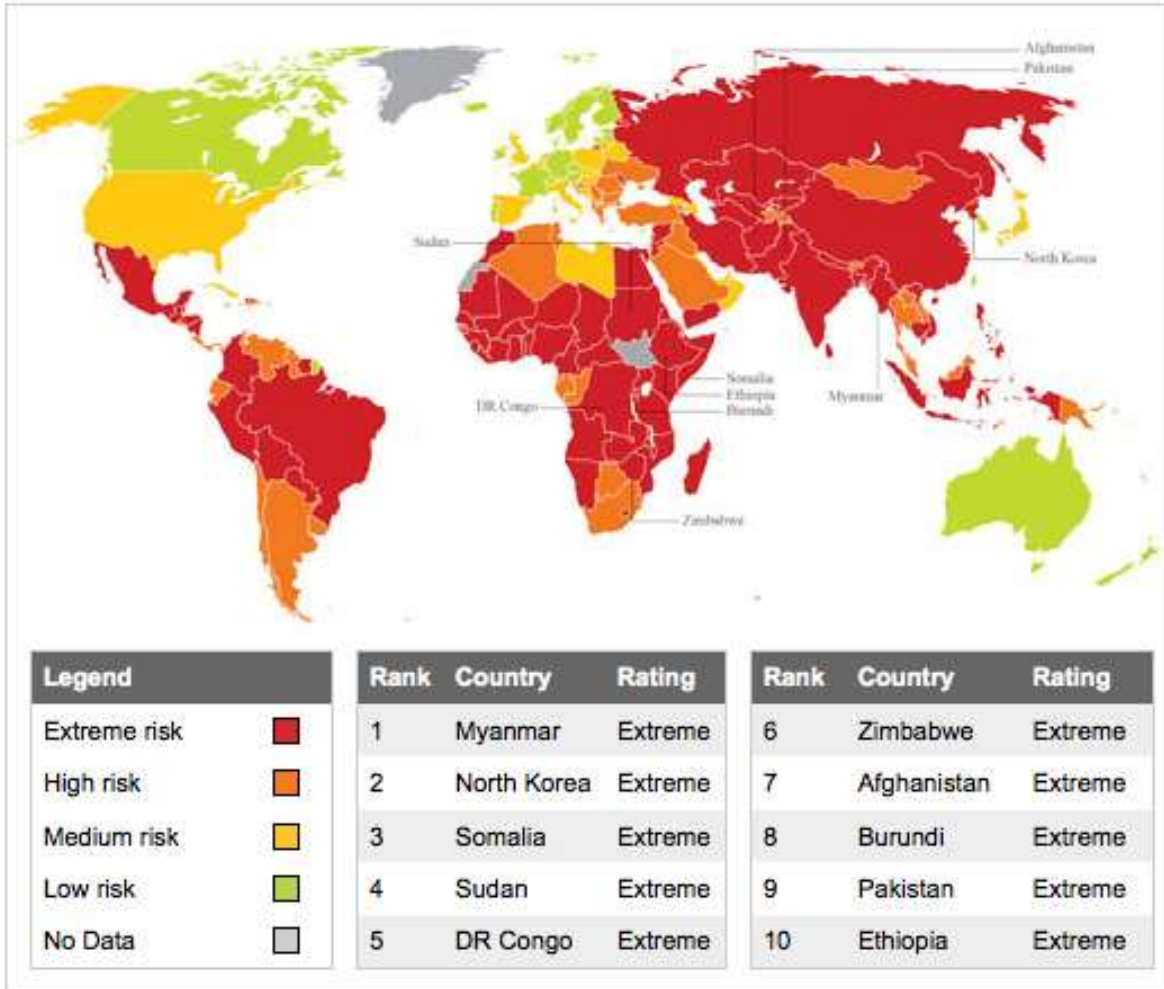
Neglect:

Failing to care.

Wages:

This is a fixed amount of payment.

Child Labour Index 2012



© Maplecroft, 2012

The graph above shows the countries around the world which have the worst cases of child labour around the world. As we can see Myanmar has the highest rating of the child labour around the world from 2012 right under Myanmar is North Korea. This image was taken from:

<http://www.fastmoving.co.za/activities/12-june-world-day-against-child-labour-3246>

What is child labor?

Child labor is very common around the world mostly in Asia and in the Pacific. Child labor is very common but it also has a huge disadvantage as many children around the world are not able to

attend school as they are working all day for companies. Kids are affected health wise by working in the production line of bangles in Firozabad, outcomes of child in the line of production has the possibility of losing his or her eyesight at a young age. Kids have had a history in working on the making of firecrackers in Sivakasi, India. It is worth noting that these Kids are not working under their own will instead jobs like this have been forced upon them. The *Convention on the Right of the Child of November 1989* states that Children have the right to live with the most basic needs, such as Shelter, nutrition and a proper lifestyle and living. Furthermore it states that they have the right to education, leisure, cultural activities, safety against all the forms of abuse and protection of children under employment

<http://childrensrights.ie/childrens-rights-ireland/un-convention-rights-child>

Child labor falls under three categories and those are the ones mentioned below:

- Slavery, trafficking, debt bondage and other forms of forced labor, forced recruitment of children for use in armed conflict, prostitution and pornography, and illicit activities.
- This can any type of Labour that is performed or don by child under the age limit (the age limit depends on every country) and it affects the child's right to education.
- Labour that affects the child's health, mental and social well-being and anything that is considered "hazardous".

<http://www.un.org/en/events/childlabourday/background.shtml>

We must understand that child labor exists in a lot of places around the globe, but even though many organizations go against this practice of child labor, there are laws that do not consider all work done or performed by children as child labor. This can be child artists, family duties, supervised training and certain categories of work by the Amish community.

Myanmar & Child Labour

Myanmar is a country which has a huge child labor problem as many children work as housecleaners, factory hands and shop assistants. As many as 400 children work in tea shops in

Myanmar, Burma. Burma in 2006 statistically have had 33 percent of the children aged 7-13 are working. Myanmar also have a huge problem the with child soldiers. Tatmadaw is a military organization which is organized by the Ministry of defence of Myanmar, in 2014 Tatmadaw recruited 27 children to join the military aged 14 years old. These children would be put on the front line to fight and put their lives on the line. The United Nations received reports on such activities which have taken place, 389 children and young male adults which were recruited by the Tatmadaw were released.

Most children that are put in these organization do not have choice, tricks, abduction and kidnapping techniques are used on these kids so they are able to join these organizations so they can fight a war for them. Children who would leave then armed groups would be charged and arrested under the offence of “desertion”.

Solutions to Child labor:

In the United States the federal law on child labor states that non-agricultural jobs, children under the age of 14 years old cannot be employed, children between 14 and 16 can be employed for a limited amount of hours and children between 16 and 18 can employed for an unlimited number of hours only if it is non-hazardous.

In Myanmar the ILO (international labour organization) is trying to stop child labor (*Improving legislation and strengthening the capacity of national and local governments to address child labour in accordance with international standards; improving the capacity of national and local governments, workers’ and employers’ organizations, civil society, and other key actors to coordinate, network and advocate for the elimination of child labour; and demonstrating interventions to reduce child labour in pilot target communities will also be key areas to address.*)

<http://www.ilo.org/yangon/areas/childlabour/lang--en/index.htm>

Article 15 of the Labor Law prohibits the recruitment of minors (which is under the age of sixteen) expect institutions made for literature, art, physical culture and special crafts, all of these institutions government may recruit minors for them only if their is an approval from the government.

The ILO states in Ethiopia children are not allowed to be working if they are prone to any of the below stated injuries or accidents on the workforce, they should be protected from social, economic and physical harm. It is against the law in Ethiopia for children to work if they are under the age of 14.

- General injuries and abuses like cuts, burns and lacerations, fractures, tiredness and dizziness, excessive fears and nightmares.
- Physical abuse that involve corporal punishment, emotional maltreatment such as blaming, belittling, verbal attacks, rejection, humiliation and bad remarks.
- Emotional neglect such as deprivation of family love and affection, resulting in loneliness, and hopelessness.
- Physical neglect like lack of adequate provision of food, clothing, shelter and medical treatment.
- Lack of schooling results in missing educational qualifications and higher skills thus perpetuating their life in poverty.
- Competition of children with adult workers leads to depressing wages and salaries.

http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Regionsandcountries/Africa/WCMS_101161/lang--en/index.htm

Economic and Social Committee

Issue: The question of educating the youth as a means of promoting equal job opportunities

Student Officer: Jad el Ghali

[Promoting Equal Job Opportunities](#)

Issue: Protection of cultural industry against modern developments

Student Officer: Lilian Nassif

[Cultural Industry against Modern Developments](#)

Issue: Measures to enforce economic policies to protect international laws in the workplace

Student Officer: Layan Omar

[Measures to enforce economic policies](#)

BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: Economic and Social Council

Issue: The question of educating the youth as a means of promoting equal job opportunities

Student Officer: Jad el Ghali

Introduction:

Gender equality is defined as the state in which access to rights or opportunities within society is unaffected by gender. Jobs are an integral part of today's economy and the right to participate in the workforce is a basic human right in today's society. The backbone of the economy is described to be the middle working class, which is the most diverse and widespread; it fuels the economy and is the main growth driver. Protecting this labor workforce and ensuring equality between all is the basics of having a free and strong socio-economic development; where promotions and advancements are awarded based on effort and hard work, promoting continuous progress and innovation.

Gender equality within the workforce is an important factor in protecting and ensuring stable and healthy economic growth. Unbiased opportunities and the elimination of gender discrimination ensure that we have the right person in the right position. Part of this would also be eliminating gender wage gaps. Within developing countries, women account for approximately 45% of the labor force even though they also account for less than 20% of top managers. Nevertheless, this does not only occur within developing countries, but worldwide as well - as women share a lower percentage of leadership roles than men. The fact that this sort of a gender gap exists within sectors such as management ultimately results in a lower rate of performance, effectiveness, and innovation within administrations and firms.

Definition of key terms:

Gender Equality:

The state in which access to rights or opportunities within society is unaffected by gender.

Gender Wage Gap:

The difference between the earnings of men and women, generally expressed as a percentage of the male population's earnings.

Gender Gap:

A marked difference between the sexes which is observed to be caused by society or other related factors.

Middle-class:

The broad group of people in contemporary society who fall socio-economically between the working class and upper class.

Background Information:

In a recent study put out by the United States Department of Labor, it clearly states that discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origins are prohibited by the title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This law is enforced by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

The United States Department of Labor has also published salary statistics, and in every graph the males were paid a significantly greater amount of money per week than their female counterparts. 57% of all women are active members in the labor workforce. Almost 70% of those women are mothers. With all the gender equality labor laws, women are still neglected high positions in companies and denied jobs because of their gender. The statistics for women denied promotions or job opportunities in the United States alone, for being female was 15%. As well as 13% women were denied a raise for the same reason. At the same time 8% of men were denied promotions or job opportunities for being male and 4% were being denied a raise for the same reason.

Main Parties Affected:

USA: The United States is greatly affected by gender inequality. With all the laws passed to try and protect the laws of all genders and nationalities, large percentages of people are still discriminated.

Saudi Arabia: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is greatly affected by gender inequality. Within the kingdom most jobs are labeled as male and female. Females are looked upon as housewives and not as an average person that can have a career. The reasoning for this kind of mentality is because of the culture of the country. The culture has been preserved in the same state throughout history.

UN Women: The UN Women was established in 2011; in hopes to make the world a fairer place for women, in their social lives, in their work lives and in their home lives. The UN Women hope to see women being treated at the integrity and respect as men within the workplace.

Norway: Norway is amongst the few states that have the least amount of gender inequality. Both genders have equal opportunities of jobs, education, health care and social services. One thing Norway as a state works towards, is to educate the population in a way that would reflect gender equality in their social and personal choices.

Denmark: Denmark works towards erasing the gender gap all together. It ranks number 7 in the list of states with least gender gaps. Many Danish women have a political contribution in the state. Seventy percent of the women are employed. Both genders have an equal opportunity of jobs, education, healthcare services and social services.

Possible Solutions:

- One possible solution to this problem is to ensure the proper execution of the international laws prohibiting gender inequality. Although the law is there, many people disregard it.
- Another solution is to inform the youth about their rights. Young girls should be aware of the laws available to protect them, and seek justice if they have been victims of gender inequality, such as being declined a job for being female.

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THIMUN Research Paper

Best Delegate- www.bestdelegate.com

BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: Economic and Social Committee

Issue: Protection of cultural industry against modern developments

Student Officer: Lilian Nassif

Introduction:

Women comprise the majority of the workforce in many traditional industries, which international lending and aid agencies espouse as a development solution for rural poor people. In the Peruvian asparagus industry and the Colombian cut-flower plantations, however, women workers endure unsafe and substandard conditions. Local organizations creatively employ various strategies, ranging from legislative advocacy to direct services for workers, to promote women's rights in this sector, but their efficacy is limited by government's failure to pass and enforce comprehensive labor laws, and judicial procedures that favor employers.

Why these industries are important:

Their international dimension gives them a determining role for the future in terms of freedom of expression, cultural diversity and economic development. Although the globalization of exchange and new technologies opens up exciting new prospects, it also creates new types of inequality.

The world map of these industries reveals a yawning gap between North and South. This can only be counteracted by strengthening local capacities and facilitating access to global markets at national level by way of new partnerships, know-how, control of piracy and increased international solidarity of every kind.

Definition of Key terms:

Cultural industry:

Traditional customs, beliefs, or methods are ones that have existed for a long time without changing- the industry involves the practice of such methods as a profession. I.e weaving intricate carpets.

Modernisation:

Refers to a model of a progressive transition from a 'pre-modern' or 'traditional' to a 'modern' society. The theory looks at the internal factors of a country while assuming that, with assistance, "traditional" countries can be brought to development in the same manner more developed countries have.

Development:

1. The systematic use of scientific and technical knowledge to meet specific objectives or requirements.
2. An extension of the theoretical or practical aspects of a concept, design, discovery, or invention.
3. The process of economic and social transformation that is based on complex cultural and environmental factors and their interactions.
4. The process of adding improvements to a parcel of land, such as grading, subdivisions, drainage, access, roads, utilities.

Maternity leave:

A period of absence from work granted to a mother before and after the birth of her child.

Social security:

In the UK: monetary assistance from the state for people with an inadequate or no income.

In the US: a federal insurance scheme providing benefits for pensioners and those who are unemployed or disabled.

Health and Safety:

Health problems – including rashes, vision and respiratory problems, back problems, reproductive health problems, and carpal tunnel syndrome – are common, due to (depending on the profession) pesticide exposure, long working hours, and repetitive tasks; and they are exacerbated by employers' failure to provide adequate protective equipment.

Unions:

A society or association formed by people with a common interest or purpose.

Organizations involved:

United Nations: “Global trade in services and products of creativity continued to register an annual average growth of 14 per cent even as world commerce declined by 12 per cent in 2008” according to *Creative Economy Report 2010: A Feasible Development Option*, launched at UN Headquarters in New York. The UN has supported the continuation of creative industry as a means to preserve historical habits.

ILO: The right to organize is clearly established in International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions 11 and 87, workers who try to organize unions to defend their labor rights and negotiate working conditions with their employer’s usually swift retaliation. The ILO tries to determine laws that will solidarity defend the rights of the workers that participate in creative industries.

Cultural survival: Promotes the rights of Indigenous cultural communities around the globe. All of the work is predicated on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In 2007, after 25 years of negotiation, the UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous

UNESCO: Peoples. These include the right to keep their languages, cultural practices, and sacred places; and the right to full government services. Cultural Survival has partnered with United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental organizations, and with indigenous and human rights organizations around the globe. Cultural Survival holds consultative status with the United Nations. (More focused on indigenous cultural practices)

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BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: ECOSOC

Issue: Measures to enforce economic policies to protect international laws in the workplace

Student Officer: Layan Omar

Introduction:

It is very important to enforce efficient international laws in the Workforce as a guideline. International Labour laws and standards are first and foremost about the development of people as human beings. Work is part of everyone's daily life and is crucial to a person's dignity, wellbeing as well as developing as a person. International laws aim to include the creation of jobs and working conditions where as people can work in safety, freedom and dignity.

Definitions:

International Law:

Is the set of rules generally regarded and accepted as binding in relations between states and between nations. It serves as a framework for the practice of stable and organized international relations.

Workforce:

The people engaged in or available for work, either in a country a area or in a particular firm or industry.

Laws that are/should be set internationally in the workforce:

Laws that are set or should be set internationally in the workforce should include the following:

- Minimum wage
- Equal pay act
- Civil rights
- No age discrimination in employment
- Occupational safety and health acts
- Rehabilitation act
- Employee retirement income security acts
- No pregnancy discrimination
- Consolidated omnibus act
- No gender discrimination
- No discrimination of any sort

Reasons to why these international laws are important:

International laws are crucial in order to prevent/ lower the risk of any incidents or issues from happening. It is important as these laws lead to a path to decent work. They give an international legal framework for fair and stable globalization, since the world community is already responding to this by developing international legal roads such as trade, finance, government, human rights and labor. International laws in the workforce will act as a safety net in times of crises. It is a strategy for improving issues such as poverty, discrimination, security and safety problem etc.

Objectives of International Labour Law include the following:

- Full employment and the raising of living standards.
- Facilities of training policies in regard to wages, hours of work and other conditions of work calculated to ensure a just share of the fruits of progress to all.
- The effective recognition of the right of collective bargaining.

- The co-operation of management and labor in the continuous improvement of productive efficiency.
- The collaboration of workers and employer in the preparation and application of social and economic measures, the extension of social security measures to provide a basic income to all in need of such protection, and comprehensive medical care etc.

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BISMUN III, 2016

Forum: Special Conference

Issue: The question of improving working conditions and increase the participation of women in Saudi Arabia's job market

Student Officer: Alya Al- Naamani

Introduction:

In Saudi Arabia, females constitute less than 15 percent of the national workforce. Consequently, a large proportion of the country's productive potential remains inactive. Administrative, social and educational limitations keep females from taking full and equal part in the Saudi work market. Surmounting these obstacles is crucial if the country is to make more effective and efficient use of its labor force, benefitting the Saudi economy. Furthermore, making changes to the work market itself, such as work law changes—including enactment advancing sexual orientation correspondence and family-accommodating systems—have to be considered. Saudi Arabia has to try to implement policies that empower Saudi females in the workplace and allow them to showcase their abilities, as well as acquaint females with senior business positions.

Definitions:

NGOs:

A non-governmental organization (**NGO**) is any non-profit, voluntary citizens' group, which is organized on a local, national or international level. An example would be Association for the protection and defense of women's rights.

Labor Market:

Labor market is the place where workers and employees interact with each other. In the labor market, employers compete to hire the best, and the workers compete for the best satisfying

job. A labor market in an economy functions with demand and supply of labor. In this market, labor demand is the firm's demand for labor and supply is the worker's supply of labor. The supply and demand of labor in the market is influenced by changes in the bargaining power.

General overview and background information:

A review of the Saudi work market uncovers gigantic potential and additionally significant challenges. The Kingdom's intense move to expand far from an absolutely petroleum-based economy will require the abilities, support, and vitality of its most significant asset: its subjects. In 2007, the dynamic workforce in Saudi Arabia involved 8.2 million individuals, less than half of who were Saudi nationals. Equally imperative, 85.6 percent of the nationals in the work power were men. Women in the Saudi work power had an unemployment rate of 26.9 percent. As the Kingdom advances its Saudization approach, which looks to build the extent of Saudi nationals in new focused occupations, females obviously should be upheld and urged to add to their country's economy.

There are signs that this backing has as of now started. Since 1992, females' interest rate in the Saudi work power has almost tripled, from 5.4 percent to 14.4 percent. (The work power, or the financially dynamic populace, incorporates individuals who are at present utilized and those looking for business.) The greater parts of females are working in the field of training, in both educating and regulatory positions. In any case, despite the fact that this most recent measurement is a change, it speaks to one of the least levels of national female work investment in the district: The United Arab Emirates (UAE) brags a national female cooperation rate of 59 percent; Kuwait's is 42.49 percent, Qatar's is 36.4 percent, Bahrain's is 34.3 percent, and that of Malaysia, a Muslim nation outside the Middle East, is 46.1 percent.

Female employment and education:

Today, more than 90 percent of Saudi females effectively taking an interest in the workforce hold an auxiliary capability or a college degree. In 2006, 57 percent of college graduates

in Saudi Arabia were women, and this rising instruction level is a main consideration in the expansion of female investment in the work power. This is not to say that basically getting a degree empowers Saudi Arabia's females to join the work market—sadly, it does not. For sure, according to Deputy Minister for Labor Abdul Wahid Al-Humaid, most unemployed females are exceptionally qualified: 78.3 percent of them are college graduates, 10 and more than 1,000 have a doctorate. In contrast, 76 percent of unemployed men have just had a basic instruction or less. The national arrangement of training is neglecting to plan Saudi females for aggressive parts in the work power, restricting them to customary fields of work, for example, educating and benefit.

Major parties involved and their views:

United Nations support for the privileges of females are stated in the organization's Charter. Among the reasons for the UN pronounced in Article 1 of its Charter is "To accomplish global cooperation ... in advancing and empowering regard for human rights and for principal opportunities for all without refinement as to race, sex, dialect, or religion."

During the UN's first year, the Economic and Social Council built up its Commission on the Status of Women, as the chief worldwide approach making body devoted solely to sexual orientation fairness and headway of females. Among its most punctual achievements was guaranteeing impartial dialect in the draft Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The point of interest Declaration, embraced by the General Assembly on 10 December 1948, reaffirms that "Every single individual are conceived free and equivalent in nobility and rights" and that "everybody is qualified for every one of the rights and flexibilities put forward in this Declaration, without qualification of any sort, for example, race, shading, sex, dialect, religion, ... birth or different status."

As the universal women's activist development started to pick up force amid the 1970s, the General Assembly announced 1975 as the International Women's Year and sorted out the main World Conference on Women, held in Mexico City. At the encouraging of the Conference, it thusly announced the years 1976-1985 as the UN Decade for Women, and set up a Voluntary Fund for Decade.

In 1979, the General Assembly received the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which is regularly portrayed as an International Bill of Rights for Women. In its 30 articles, the Convention unequivocally characterizes oppression females and sets up a motivation for national activity to end such separation. The Convention targets society and custom as persuasive strengths forming sex parts and family relations, and it is the principal human rights arrangement to avow the conceptive privileges of females.

Five years after the Mexico City meeting, a Second World Conference on Women was held in Copenhagen in 1980. The subsequent Program of Action called for more grounded national measures to guarantee females' proprietorship and control of property, and additionally enhancements in females' rights concerning legacy, tyke care and loss of nationality.

In 1985, the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, was held met in Nairobi. It was met during an era when the development for sex fairness had at long last increased genuine worldwide acknowledgment, and 15,000 delegates of non-administrative associations (NGOs) took an interest in a parallel NGO Forum. The occasion, which numerous depicted as "the introduction of worldwide woman's rights". Understanding that the objectives of the Mexico City Conference had not been satisfactorily met, the 157 taking interest governments received the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies to the Year 2000. It got things started in announcing all issues to be females' issues.

An early aftereffect of the Nairobi Conference was the change of the Voluntary Fund for the UN Decade for Women into the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM, now some portion of UN Women).

The Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, went a stage more distant than the Nairobi Conference. The Beijing Platform for Action stated females' rights as human rights and focused on particular activities to guarantee regard for those rights.

Steps taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:

Everywhere throughout the world, businesses go into enrollment seeks in light of a particular sexual orientation. For instance a CEO needs a female secretary, or an organization needs a female CEO. It can prefer one sex while restricting open doors for the other. Be that as it may, this deterrent can be transformed into an open door, particularly in a nation, for example, Saudi Arabia, where sexual orientation isolation has generally been eminent.

A social endeavor, Glowork was set up two years back to help Saudi females discover occupations and Saudi bosses to contract females. Laws express that females and men are not permitted to have the same workspace – females should be in a different office, with a different passage and a security protect outside. So on the off chance that you are a SME – the motor of employment creation – envisions the disincentive to enlist your first female laborer.

Luckily, things are evolving. Not long after Glowork was dispatched, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia presented another month-to-month stipend for jobseekers to urge men and females to look for some kind of employment. Of the 1.6 million individuals who guaranteed the stipend, 1.2 million were females, and 40% of them had graduate degrees. This points to a large amount of unused potential in the Saudi workforce.

The Ministry of Labor started taking a gander at how it could get more females into work, with the exhortation of a controlling council. Given profound established social obstructions, progress must be incremental. While the prerequisite for sexual orientation isolated working environments stays, for instance, managers now have accommodating direction on setting up workplaces for females. There is enactment-ordering level with pay for equivalent work.

New standards for female work in the retail area have made around 50,000 employments in a year. At the start, this was met with tremendous restriction. The first run through Glowork helped a general store enlist female clerks, however most of them were made redundant within a week or less.

With the sponsorship of the Ministry of Labor, each store in the Kingdom now has an uncommon "family segment" where female clerks work. It offers trust that the same acknowledgment can happen in different divisions.

Saudi bosses have no problem on a basic level with employing females – they simply do not know how to find them. Because of an administration order requiring the employing of more Saudi females, the proprietor of a furniture outlet store approached me for guidance on bringing females into his organization. Glowork looked the database of 1.2 million females' CVs that the legislature had assembled.

This has helped businesses to tackle the problem by working with an IT firm to pioneer a work-from-home arrangement, getting around the necessity for office space. This has especially helped SMEs to contract females, and older or handicapped females to look for some kind of employment.

An attempt to interface advanced education organizations with organizations, through entry-level positions and profession fairs has taken place. Not long ago, female understudies have been urged to consider how their decision of studies may connection to profession opportunities.

VII. Possible solutions:

1. Increase awareness of issues women face in the workplace.
2. Promote and encourage private sector involvement.
3. Increase educational employment prospects for women and a more stable economy.
4. Should encourage financial and social support of women in the workplace.

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Delegations

USA	German International School
India	German International School
Philippines	German International School
Germany	American International School
Saudi Arabia	American International School
India	Jeddah Knowledge
Qatar	British International School
Denmark	British International School
Kenya	British International School
Brazil	British International School
China	British International School
Japan	British International School
Nepal	British International School

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GA3 (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural)

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