Sample Position Papers

Sample-1

*This sample position paper was submitted by the delegation of Romania at the 2007 UNA-USA Model UN Conference in New York City

Committee: International Labor Organization

Agenda: Globalization and Development

Country: Romania

In the past two decades the rapidly growing world trend has been toward globalization. With the emergence of the internet as a means of communication and the increasing accessibility of international trade physical barriers are not the only barriers withering away. Protective tariffs are plummeting and free trade agreements are becoming more prevalent. Romania appreciates that globalization creates favorable situations for expansion of commercial as well as economic assets. In the past year Romania has seen a foreign direct investment (FDI) increase of 199%. Inward FDI increased from EURO 234 million in 2005 to EURO 699 million in 2006. However, Romania realizes that increased globalization does not automatically produce more equality.

Globalization and Development can contribute to the advancement of the overall international human condition; however, the delegation of Romania recognizes that without proper regulation the potential for advancement will remain limited to an elite few individuals, businesses, and nations. Unless checked and aimed toward the common good, globalization cannot effectively serve the global community. Crucial in dealing with the complexities of globalization, good governance must act with solidarity and responsibility. Romania believes that in involving people in globalization we must promote moral values, democratic principles, inclusive global political culture, institutions that safeguard both individual civil rights and inherent freedoms, and the common good. In addition, coping with the influx of information from globalization governments must act with solidarity and insight. Access to digital education will undoubtedly result in the confidence of citizens in their respective administrations and allow for a greater degree of transparency, and therefore a lesser degree of corruption.

Romania believes the multinational business community has the ability and the obligation to support pertinent values in human rights, labor standards, and environmental preservation. As stated by the president, Mr. Traion Basescu, Romania feels a "heartfelt attachment to multilateralism, as an effective instrument designed to identify the adequate answers to the challenges brought by globalization."
Romania is party to the majority of multilateral treaties and conventions identified as such by the Secretary General in the context of the Millennium Summit in 2001. Romania has always supported innovative and effective ways of establishing cooperation within and between regional organizations. As one of the newest members of the European Union, Romania is an active member of the World Trade Organization, and looks forward to offering its support to the redirection of globalization to best benefit the global community.

Sample-2

**Name of the country:** Portugal

**Name of the committee:** United Nations General Assembly: Committee-I (Disarmament and Security)

**Agenda:** Preventing Acquisition of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) by Terrorist Organisations

Today, we have gathered in this formal committee not only to discuss the cowardice attitudes of those who procure weapons for mass killing and shameless acts of terrorism, but our purpose will only be fulfilled when we stitch clothes of wisdom for those who have lost their loved ones, and will act as a soothing balm for them in the times of adversity and will give them the courage to fight these anti human relentless activities. Hence, the people of Portugal would like to open by saying that our position on terrorism is absolutely clear-cut and not negotiable. As we said to general assembly in December 2007, “Terrorism is criminal and unjustifiable in any circumstances.” A weapon of mass destruction (WMDs) proliferation currently represents one of the greatest threats to international security. The nation of Portugal has been against the weapons of mass destruction and its proliferation and has always attempted at eliminating the WMDs at the global level.

Disarmament and non-proliferation remain indispensable tools to help create a security environment favourable to ensuring human development, as enshrined in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations. One of the main purpose of the United Nations is “to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace” (Article-1; UN Charter). The objective of the UNs Security Council’s Resolution 1540 (2004) is to prevent individuals and organisations, especially terrorist groups from laying their hands on and spreading nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and the means of their delivery.

At national level, we are reviewing our policies, with a view to establishing what further measures may be necessary. At European level, Portugal has contributed to establish effective policies within the European Union to prevent WMD proliferation, and will continue to do so. At international Level Portugal is party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), as well as the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), and the Biological and Toxic Weapons Convention (BTWC). Portugal has adopted an Additional Protocol to its IAEA Safeguards Agreement.
Due to the inherent destructive nature of the WMDs, Portugal believes that it is essential to take the necessary measures to prevent terrorist organisations from acquiring these in order to save a fairly large amount of people from the threat of a WMD terrorist attack. Portugal fervently supports measures to assist Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs in its attempts to prevent terrorist organisations from catching hold of these weapons. Portugal is a signatory to Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof (Seabed Treaty) and The Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (NWFZ) Agreement, that the USA and the United Nations has agreed to stating that a group of states may establish a treaty to ban to usage, development and deployment of nuclear weapons in given areas.

Portugal mainly possesses small and light arms and as such no large resource of WMDs. Portugal believes in global peace and we see these as a speed-breaker in the long road to the same. With the aim of promoting cooperation and interaction between several national bodies involved in counter-proliferation, a program has been developed; the programme’s objectives are: to support control of export and technology transfers, to detect underground procurement networks and to fight nuclear and radioactive smuggling. Portugal is an active member of the multilateral export control regimes, namely of the Nuclear Supplier’s Group, the Australia Group, the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Zangeer Committee and the Wassenaar Arrangement. In addition to national export control lists, control lists developed under those regimes are also applied by the Portuguese export control system. It is Portugal’s policy to encourage non-member states of the export control regimes to adhere to regime guidelines on export controls.

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction by non-state actors poses a unique threat to the international community because of the very nature of their desire for such weapons. Furthermore, globalization has made it easier than ever before for non-state actors to acquire weapons of mass destruction often through untraceable means. Portugal does not provide any form of support to non-state actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. We seek the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1373 and we encourage the sharing of intelligence regarding terrorist groups and their activities. Portugal applies the rules on non-proliferation, export controls and border security as established in the framework of the relevant international treaties and regimes.

Portugal is participating, from its inception, in the Proliferation Security Initiative, launched in May 2003. Its objective is the interdiction/interception of trafficking of WMD and related material. The PSI principles are explicitly based on the 1992 UN Security Council Declaration on proliferation of WMD and are consistent with national legislation and relevant international law and frameworks, including the UN. The Nation of Portugal also strictly opposes the use of nuclear, chemical and bio- weapons from the international to the local level and the same is reflected in its policies. Portugal thoroughly believes that it is essential to prevent terrorist organisations from acquiring WMDs and that it is only global cooperation and initiative that can put an end to the threat posed by the same.