

FORUM: Sustainable Development Commission 1

QUESTION OF: Increasing the Proportion of Members and Voting Rights of LEDCs in International Organisations

SUBMITTED BY: New Zealand

CO-SUBMITTERS: Armenia, Cuba, Guatemala, Iraq, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Palestine, Ukraine, World Bank, Suriname, Austria, Andorra, UNCTAD, Human Rights Watch, Ecuador, Philippines, Timor Leste, Belize, France, Namibia, Nigeria, Montenegro, Morocco

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION,

Acknowledging that there's an unfair voting system in place that doesn't provide adequate representation of Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) in international organisations,

Agreeing that LEDCs do not have the financial capability to play a major role in global politics,

Affirming that sustainable development is the process of developing at a rate that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,

Approving of the General Assembly voting procedures but affirming that some LEDCs are sometimes underrepresented during these voting procedures,

Believing enhanced representation and voice for LEDCs in decision making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions, referring to Sustainable Development Goal 10, 'Reduced Inequality',

Recognizing the difficulty faced by many LEDCs in reducing poverty due to the lack of resources they possess, but emphasizing the need for continuous effort to do so in order to succeed in the long term,

Expecting that voting procedures in international organisations are not to be affected by the economic status of the country, as it would go against Sustainable Development Goal 10, 'Reduced Inequalities',

1. Asks for steps to be taken that would decide the extent to which LEDCs would be affected by the implementation of certain regulations and/or new policies which would then affect the voting percentage required to pass the regulation and the LEDCs voting influence;
2. Strongly recommends the implementation of regulations to be put in place with the purpose of respecting local practices and establishing equity through means including but not limited to:
 - a) the establishment of a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) called Fair Voting Procedures For All (FVPFA) to determine the voting percentage to pass the regulation through a series of projections including but not limited to the involvement of each country in the issue
 - b) streamlining admission procedures for new Member States to join the United Nations (UN) by moving into direct voting procedure in the General Assembly with the purpose of providing equal representation;
3. Recommends the international economic focus point to be changed from meeting the demand-based needs for a product/service, and instead focuses on meeting the needs of all, within the needs of the planet, this would allow LEDCs to not have to exploit their natural resources and population to meet international demand for said product/service, but to re-price the product/service adequately for human rights to be preserved which would:
 - a) allow LEDCs to amend their economic shortages, thereby allowing for LEDCs' economies to increase their Human Development Index (HDI) ranking, and thus gain more influence as they exit the LEDC category
 - b) hinder the ability of international entities earning profit through exploitation thus

significantly reducing their revenue, and hence their influence on government officials and policymakers, making it so that LEDCs become less vulnerable to More Economically Developed Countries' (MEDC) interference;

4. Emphasizes LEDCs' right to focus on an economic structural transformation into MEDCs as their priority instead of international demand for LEDC exports thus making it so that:
 - a) LEDCs are capable of fully maximizing production
 - b) demand for their exports and international investments would be stimulated
 - c) more economic growth would be created for both parties
 - d) the economic growth of LEDCs are not dependent on the demands for their exports by MEDCs;

5. Considers structurally changing the voting systems used by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), focusing on the contributions to the organizations, and changing the system in several ways such as, but not limited to:
 - a) putting a maximum of votes per nation, which would make it impossible for MEDCs to hold a significant amount of votes
 - b) putting a minimum of votes on the amount of votes, and thus making LEDCs have more voting power
 - c) giving countries most affected by the issue more voting power;

6. Calls for the establishment of a bi-annual conference involving holding conventions and supervising treaties that are going to be signed by the Member States with the sole purpose of developing and forming a new reform for the voting system of particular organizations;

7. Ensures that all international organisations enable equal opportunities for both LEDCs and MEDCs to express their problems in order to find a solution without being treated with inequality through establishing a system where:
 - a) all complaints and statements in international organisations must be given the same importance as the ones given by MEDCs
 - b) decisions or suggestions for Member States, given by LEDCs are to be given the same importance as those given by MEDCs
 - c) every country, be it LEDC or MEDC, is given the same right of voice and voting, as the goal of the international organisations is to find solutions that benefit all countries.