

FORUM: GA2: Economic and Financial Council

QUESTION OF: The question of the importance of long-term investment in infrastructure

SUBMITTED BY: Vietnam

CO-SUBMITTERS: Japan, Tuvalu, Ecuador, Jamaica, World Trade Organization, Ethiopia, Solomon Islands, European Space Agency, Spain, Austria, Togo, South Africa, Burundi, Paraguay, Iran, Estonia, Namibia, Zambia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bahrain

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Having considered that international dialogue and cooperation are essential for developing strategies towards the importance of long-term investment in infrastructure,

Recognizing the efforts of Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) to focus on building long-term infrastructure in order to boost the economy and build work spaces for people living in poverty,

Fully alarmed about the reckless use of resources in industrial countries and their devastating effect on the landscape,

Aware that western governments indirectly support the mining of tantalum, cobalt, copper and other key resources in order to boost the production of smartphones, computers, and other technology in order to assure wealth and a modern lifestyle by ignoring the fact that the deforestation of rain forests that is caused by the mining of said resources is a devastating example of how a short-term oriented view is affecting mankind on a global scale,

Fully aware that man-made climate change is undeniably caused by humans, affects all humans and must be solved with the achievements of infrastructure especially the importance of “green concrete”,

Observing the peaceful cooperation between countries in South America to establish natural infrastructure,

Further observing the cooperation between African nations,

Alarmed by the fact that western countries fail to realize the importance of long-term investment in infrastructure and still build with short-term interests in mind,

Reminding that private participation in infrastructure (PPI) has increased by 14% between 2018 and 2019 in projects recorded by the World Bank,

Noting that in some low-income African countries, infrastructure constraints cut businesses’ productivity by around 40 percent,

1. Urges all member states to cooperate with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in order to analyze employee qualifications and to establish national institutions in each member state with the aim of training and educating unqualified employees so as to become qualified by:
 - a) feedback and reports that will be submitted to member states through the investigations by OECD and WTO officials
 - b) initiating long and short term plans for employment which will be coordinated by the national institutions and will be aided by OECD and WTO officials
 - c) revising the methods on employee qualifications upon the approval of the member states;
2. Strongly urges the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) to monitor the growth and analyze whether the infrastructure investment benefits the national growth and sustainable development of the member states’ economy by:

- a) publishing and renewing facts and statistics quarterly
 - b) informing the citizens about infrastructure investments in order to increase public support for projects
 - c) conducting annual surveys for the general public with questions on their feelings on infrastructural developments in their area and their level of support for these projects;
3. Calls for the creation of a treaty called the International Infrastructure Treaty (IIT) that will request all nations to:
 - a) Promote cooperation between LEDCs to build international infrastructure such as but not limited to:
 - i. Highways
 - ii. Railways
 - iii. Airports
 - iv. Harbors
 - b) Support companies, funds, initiatives and especially other nations that aim towards an improvement in living conditions through long-term infrastructure projects
 - c) Support aid of international finance organizations such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund by providing loans with low-interest rates upon the approval of member states in order to raise capital on infrastructure investments
 - d) Promote the aid of local banks in collaboration with international organizations
 - e) Establish microfinance opportunities to support start-up businesses to become developed businesses with the potentials of investing in infrastructure;
4. Encourages all nations to ratify and adopt the IIT which states that all nations have to ensure that:
 - a) Concrete and steel are no longer the key resources we can rely on as building substances
 - b) Renewable resources are essential for humanity to stop climate change and wastelands
 - c) New Buildings have to be planned in the sense of ecology more than economy with subsidies from the local government that can ask for compensation from the World Bank, IMF and WTO
 - d) International infrastructure projects have to be promoted and supported
 - e) Intercontinental transportation systems have to be especially promoted caused by their effectiveness in preventing and treating poverty;
5. Strongly urges to conduct seminars for entrepreneurs about investing in long-term infrastructure, leading them to understand the main idea and the benefits of long-term infrastructure investing and inform about how infrastructure development enables sustainable growth by means of:
 - a) how infrastructure decreases economic fluctuations,
 - b) Even though the return on investment rate is low, infrastructure investing will lead to a secure income on long-term
 - c) Energy efficiency
 - d) Lower capital gain tax
 - e) Increased potential supply capacity of an economy such as but not limited to:
 - i. improved transport facilities
 - ii. improved factories;
6. Encourages member states to develop a National Action Plan with the help of the OECD, WTO, and IMF and the local banks and the municipalities in order to:
 - a) analyze infrastructure shortcomings the country has and inform the government with it
 - b) establish infrastructure development goals for both short and long term
 - c) direct the private sector to invest in areas of infrastructure not regularly invested in;
7. Strongly urges the member states to establish National Infrastructure Trust Fund which will fund infrastructure investments of the government and make money from the investments, which will lead to a stable income for the fund and stable infrastructure investment policies;

8. Recommends that 1% of the GDP of every industrial country will be spent on LEDCs supervised by the World Bank and the World Trade Organisation in order to assure that the provided money will be invested in the interests of the people of LEDC countries and not in the interests of global companies and 0.5% of the GDP of every industrial country will be spent on MEDCs supervised by the World Bank to build infrastructure such as but not limited to:
 - a) vaccination and hospital infrastructure
 - b) library, radio and telecommunication infrastructure
 - c) internet infrastructure such as but not limited to:
 - i. wire-based internet
 - ii. wireless based internet
 - d) transnational infrastructure especially:
 - i. Tunnels
 - ii. Bridges
 - iii. Railways
 - iv. Highways
 - v. Power tracks
 - vi. Clean water systems;

9. Suggests the search for alternatives to steel and concrete based buildings in order to prevent:
 - a) unnecessary debris of old buildings that are no longer in use
 - b) misuse of key resources such as but not limited to sand and gravel in order to:
 - i. save the beaches of the world
 - ii. save the environment
 - iii. save the overall climate and ecosystem
 - c) the emission of CO₂ during the time of construction
 - d) the use of resources that harm the environment and humans such as but not limited to:
 - i. Polychlorobiphenyl
 - ii. Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
 - iii. Asbestos
 - iv. Mineral wool
 - e) Biocide.