

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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TOPIC A:

“Improve Cooperation and
Coordination within the UN
System on Sustainable
Development Programmes
and Policies”

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*“There is no “Plan B” because we do not have a
“Planet B”. We have to work and galvanize our
action”*

-Ban Ki-moon

Luis C. Bosques Carmona
Undersecretary of General Assembly

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Topic A:

*Improve Cooperation and
Coordination within the UN
System on Sustainable
Programmes and Policies*

The General Assembly is the main deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the UN. All 193 Member States are represented in the General Assembly, making it the only UN body with universal representation. Decisions on important questions, such as those on peace and security, admission of new members and election of judges and members, etc. are taken on the Assembly.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were the eight international development goals for the year 2015 that had been established following the Millennium Summit of the United Nations in 2000, following the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration. It was a fifteen-year effort to improve growth and development for all Member States, which were committed to help achieve the following Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

On September 25th 2015, countries took an oath to fulfill a set of goals to ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda. These goals were established in order for all Member States to achieve a higher level of prosperity and development. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years. For the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part: governments, the private sector, and civil society.

The goals aim to end poverty and tackle climate change before 2030. Those priorities include not only governments, but the civil society in general and businesses as well. The Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs) are the following:

1. No poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-Being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals

Indeed they are ambitious; Member States are supposed to work on achieving the goals through different methods and partnerships. The question is that those goals or the 2030 Agenda are not legally binding, this means that no country or even the private sector are forced to comply with the goals set by the UN.

After two years since the objectives were presented to the Sustainable Development Program, many countries, government-owned organizations and civil organizations have been working towards the achievement of the SDGs. The United Nations for Development Program (UNDP), a General Assembly Program, is in charge of dealing with economical

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and social issues that limit sustainable development.

After the U.S. left the Paris Climate Agreement, many countries were concerned about the participation and cooperation of several Member States in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

On the other hand, the world is faced with several challenges, over 1 billion people are still living in extreme poverty and income inequality within many countries has been rising. These factors limit the amount of growth sustainable development has had.

Many underdeveloped countries are in need of improving cooperation and coordination with the UN program on Sustainable Development. Achieving the SDGs depends to a large extent on how well developing country governments manage their cities. If well managed, cities offer important opportunities for economic and social development. Cities have always been focal points for economic growth, innovation, and employment.

Points to address:

- Delegates should focus on writing a resolution that reaffirms its commitment on accomplishing most of the SDG's, within the UN and countries itself.
- How Member States shall work on achieving the 2030 Agenda?
- Are UN programs really effective?
- How developed nations might aid developing and small nations regarding the accomplishment of the SDG's?
- Which are the most urgent SDG's to focus on?
- Cooperation with governmental institutions in order to potentially develop sustainability,
- Improve living conditions in underdeveloped countries.

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