



SOFIMUN
Sofia International Model United Nations

Edition: 1/2008
Period: 20-27 July 2008
Location: Sofia, Bulgaria

Website: www.sofimun.org
Forum: www.forum.sofimun.org
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"Search Of Future Ideas, Models Us Now"

COMMITTEE:
**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAM**

CHAIRPERSON:
**LIDIYA SHTILYANOVA & JUN-HWAN
PARK**

**TOPIC: (A) – SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENERGY
SECTOR**

BACKGROUND GUIDE





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Topic A: Sustainable developments in the energy sector - summary



shall be discussed.

The concept of Sustainable Development has been broadly used in order to address the key issues regarding continuous economic prosperity while reducing the impact on the environment. This is better known as "Ecological Economics" which attempts to balance the concept that neoclassical economics ignores, environmental and economic balance. The key concepts that should be discussed is the current practices of Annex I countries defined by the UNFCCC, and discussing the "common but differentiated responsibility" of the parties to the UNEP. Furthermore, capacity allocation, energy development, and necessities of the countries

Topic A: Sustainable developments in the energy sector – background guide

Due to the broad individualized necessities by states in the growth for energy, each party has differentiated petitions and projects ongoing. The requisite of energy has become a backbone to any nation's economic, social, and technological aspect. However, the balance of the environment and economic prosperity sometimes is lost amongst the way. The alternatives for states to develop their energetic potency also varies amongst countries, some find a more feasible and fit necessity to use coal as it is a more abundant resource and easier technology (like in the case of China), as it is appropriate to supply rising demand of energy, as well as using local resources and activating the local economy, considering the environmental factor as secondary. Other states might consider more feasible to use nuclear technology for its resources are available, technology, as well as the political backing.

Given the individualized state needs, it is up to each of the states to identify their current energy demands, and recent, current, and future planned projects in their states. Some states grow on the contrary level but lowering energy "waste" through supportive energy technology (an example would be Building-Implemented Photovoltaic Panels). The issue of sustainable development to be discussed goes beyond just presenting current projects in the respective countries, but also identifying malpractices, issues, questions, and conflicts that the states (or international community as a whole) might have.





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There should be an identification of needs regarding transfer of technology, comprehension of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), the Joint Implementation Program (JI), and progresses done by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and other relevant organizations are present at your state. The current trends of energetic consumption and development are far from peaked, and it is up to the policy makers to stabilize current growth as research and development of new clean technologies come into place. Also think beyond the Kyoto Protocol.



The issues arise regarding how much a state is willing to sacrifice and control the development of their energy sector which is so greatly important to all other sectors of their economy. It is not only a political matter, but a matter in all other industries. Thus, the concept of common but differentiated responsibility" comes at hand as energy is considered an issue within state, but the externalities of these developments affect the global society.

As defined by the Kyoto Protocol, the Annex I countries identified and the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) have a heavier responsibility of controlling environmental damage as their practices continue. At the same time, new rising markets have a potential to adding up to current energetic trends which could ultimately reach catastrophic proportions of environmental damage.

The importance for the delegates will be to identify practices in respective countries, and also identify current issues regarding energetic development. New innovative practices, as well as trends, malpractices, and necessities are also welcome to the table. The goal is to come up with an arrangement of minimum guidelines that members are willing to compromise differentiating developed, developing, and under-developed state.



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Suggested Reading and Additional Sources

Topic A: Sustainable developments in the energy sector

As mentioned in the topic description, these particular developments are state oriented; therefore delegates are required to understand the inner-works of their countries. It also is of utmost importance that delegates follow current events regarding this area.

1. http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1222_web.pdf - This is an IAEA publication regarding how to assess and understand what sustainable development in the multi-dimensional analysis. The social, economic, and environmental implications regarding environmentally friendly sustainable development dimensions are discussed. This should be considered as a "reference textbook" that may answer many of your questions during your research.
2. <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/agenda21/english/agenda21toc.htm> - Agenda 21 is a key guide to understanding the agreed necessities of the international community to fight climate change, and sustainable development. In this web you will find the online version of Agenda 21, delegates should be familiarized with some sections which discuss the topics we will be discussing.
3. <http://ttclear.unfccc.int/ttclear/jsp/> - Great database of information to find publications, financing, technology transfer, negotiations particular to technology transfer, projects (upcoming and current). You must learn how to navigate the webpage which is not very complicated. This will be useful to understand the depths of the UNFCCC and the involvement in bringing state-cooperation, and the current stage of many states. Strongly recommended are the COP (Conference of the Parties) negotiations, they are the agreements reached (or the process to reach).
4. <http://www.undp.org/energy/> - Check the library and you will find large quantity of great date regarding development, financing, models, and decision making. Unfortunately it does not have a search engine so you will have to do some manual navigation. I strongly recommend delegates to view: [Hans-Holger Rogner., 2007-05-08 - Modelling Energy Scenarios for Sichuan, China](#) - As explained previously, emerging energy markets (such as China) will be interesting to discuss during this.
5. Another great piece in this database is [Keith Bradsher, 2007-01-09 - The Energy Challenge: Paying in Pollution for Energy Hunger](#)
6. <http://www.gnesd.org/publications.htm> - Publications of the Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development which have been assessments on production activities, necessities, and the role of renewable energies in different states.

Ultimately, delegates are strongly recommended to do research independently given the nature of this topic. Research on current respective policies and in the case of help do not hesitate in contacting the chairs for assistance in due time.