**United Nations Lesson Plan for January 24, 2017**

**Model UN**

In 2015, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that were set by the United Nations (UN) in 2000 come to an end. They will be replaced by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Globalization brings changes that can threaten the environment. Growing economies create more industrial waste as developing countries **industrialize**—shift their economies from an agriculture base to an industrial or manufacturing base—and create more air pollution as more people can afford cars and airline travel. This means more fossil fuels are burned and more carbon dioxide (CO2) and other pollutants are released into the atmosphere. Most scientists believe that burning fossil fuels contributes to climate change, a series of changes to the environment including a gradual rise in the temperatures on earth, increased droughts, and rising sea level. These changes are a danger to the planet’s health.

In addition, some activists worry that globalization enables corporations to act irresponsibly and pollute the environment or endanger animals, particularly when they extract resources from developing countries whose governments have limited ability to enforce environmental laws and standards.

Developed countries tend to have the highest emissions of **greenhouse gases** such as **carbon dioxide (CO2)**, but developing and emerging countries, particularly China and India with their large populations and growing economies, now account for most of the growth in fossil fuel use and CO2 emissions.

Most proposals for reducing environmental damage involve countries agreeing to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, either voluntarily or through a “cap and trade” system in which countries that pollute must buy permits to do so and countries that keep emissions below an established limit can sell permits and thereby profit from their efforts.

**Goals:**

• To hold a Model United Nations summit.

• To explain the importance of the proposed SDGs for the future of development policy.

• To debate different aspects of development and demonstrate the difficulties in reaching agreements about important and complex subjects..

• To consider how the final SDGs might affect the countries that are studied.

**Activator :** Introduce the activity by giving a short introduction to the UN.

YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QoIafzc0k74>

Split the class into four or five groups. Be sure there is a mix of LDC and MDC countries in each group.

The students should share some background research on their allocated

country. This should include:

Ask each group to prepare an opening statement introducing their country

and what goal they feel most passionate about including in the SDGs.

They should include the following:

° Description of their country. (e.g. geographical location, history,

political stance)

° One or two interesting facts about their country.

° What problems are faced by the population of their country?

° Why are these problems significant to their country?

° What help do they need from the rest of the world, if any at all?

° How developed is the country? (environmental, social, political and economic)

Extra discussion could include:

° What type of leadership does the country have? E.g. dictatorship, democracy etc.

° How stable is the country? Is there social unrest?

° What are its international relationships like? Does it get along with certain countries, but not others (this could affect potential negotiations for them)? For example:

• Are they able to communicate and negotiate well with other countries?

• Are they at war with any other countries?

• Are they a member of international groupings such as the

European Union, or the African Union?

* 1. Ask the students to plan an assembly on the SDGs.
* 2. Give delegations time to read the information on their worksheet 1 (this is information about how the topic relates specifically to the country the students are representing).
* 3. Present the three options for recommended actions (these are like resolutions without fancy resolution language).
* 4. Each delegation selects the option that their country would choose based on what they share. There will be one person from the group that will be selected as their committee chairperson.

Each delegation selects the option that their country would choose based on what they read on the back of their placards (*Speech Worksheet 1*).

5. Each delegation prepares their position speech (*Speech Worksheet 2*) and what they will say to other delegates.

**Speech Worksheet 1 . This is what you will share with your delegation group. Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Issue:** Globalization

**Country:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your delegation will select one of the following options for a resolution

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| • Air pollution in fast-growing cities | • Legislation to provide insurance coverage for contraceptives | • Efforts to establish nature reserves in developing countries |
| • Urban sprawl and the loss of rural areas | • Power shifts as populations change | • Traffic congestion and “road rage” |
| • Food and water shortages around the world | • Challenges in completing an accurate Census | • Overfishing |

1. Governments must ensure that international workers’ rights are respected as power shifts and populations change.

2. Governments not listed among the UN’s Least Developed Countries must eliminate subsidies to their farmers and fishermen.

3. Governments must reduce carbon emissions by 15% over the next 15 years.

4. Any other of the 9 items that you think would be a good choice for a resolution.

Before you make your choice, think it through!

* What globalization-related changes are happening in your country? (discuss your article)

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* What might happen in the future? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* How is your country dealing with the issues of your article? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is your country’s economy based most heavily on agriculture, industry (manufacturing and processing of goods), or information and services? How does that affect your country’s interaction with other countries? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is your country becoming more connected to the world (i.e. through more global trade, immigration or emigration, participation in international organizations, etc.)? If so, how? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* What is your country doing with regard to workers’ rights, environmental impact, and equal economic opportunity to ensure that globalization benefits all of its citizens?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* Does your country need help? What kind of help does your country need? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* Does your country help other countries? How so? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Using the answers to your questions as a guide, as a group decide which of the three options for resolutions to suggest to the UNCTAD on globalization. Circle the option above your delegation chooses.

Give two short reasons or arguments why your delegation chose this resolution.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. What will you say to countries that disagree with you?

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**Speech Worksheet 2**

*Complete the following worksheet to prepare your speech:*

Thank you, honorable chair and fellow delegates. On the issue of Globalization, we, the delegates representing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of country), would like to recommend that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development take the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1st, 2nd, or 3rd) option, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (describe the option you chose in your own words.)

We have come to this decision because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (write the best of the two arguments your group came up with on speech worksheet 1).

Thank you.

**Globalization Listening Worksheet**

Take notes about what other countries think so you can debate!

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country:  Position:  Why? | Country:  Position:  Why? | Country:  Position:  Why? | Country:  Position:  Why? |
| Country:  Position:  Why? | Country:  Position:  Why? | Country:  Position:  Why? | Country:  Position:  Why? |
| Country:  Position:  Why? | Country:  Position:  Why? | Country:  Position:  Why? | Country:  Position:  Why? |