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世銀・国連プロジェクトセミナー

The Practical Course at World Bank and United Nations for the Students Aspiring to be an International Official

Professor: Yasushi Katsuma, Yoshiaki Abe and Yukio Kawamura

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世界銀行／国際連合プロジェクト (2009 年度)

日程一覧

Schedule to Visit/Participants

*参加必須講座：「国際機関をめざす学生のための国際化スキルアップ講座」
(8月18日(火曜日)～21日(金曜日)担当：佐藤純子先生)

Date	A. M.	P. M.
23 August (Sunday)	NW20 便 Tokyo/Narita 16:25→Minneapolis 13:20 NW1708 便 Minneapolis 15:50→ Reagan National Airport (Washington DC) 19:14 *NW: ノースウエスト航空	
24 August (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting at the main complex entrance (9:15) ● Introduction of the World Bank (history, functions, organization, activities, effectiveness and the role of major donors including Japan) followed by questions/discussions (10:00-12:00) ・ David Theis, Senior Communications Officer, EXTCC ・ Lester Dally, Senior External Affairs Counselor, EXTIA/EAPVP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Global Economic Crisis and Impacts on East Asia Pacific-Outlook and Prospects for Recovery (13:45- 15:15) ・ Cyrus Talati, Senior Economist, EASDPR ● East Asia Pacific Portfolio-Lending, Research and Advisory Activities (15:45-17:15) ・ Jim Adams, Regional Vice President, EAP Region, World Bank
25 August (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recruitment and Employment Opportunities at the World Bank Group, including the Young Professional Program (9:30-10:45) ・ Hideki Mori, Program Manager, Human Resources Vice Presidency, World Bank ● Meeting with Bank staff from Asian countries – perspectives on the professional environment and culture of the World Bank Group (11:00-12:00) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussion on “Reshaping Economic Geography”, the flagship WDR 2009 Report (13:00-14:30) ・ Chorching Goh, Senior Economist, ECSP3 (one of the Report authors) ● Japan and Development Assistance and the Role of Japan in the World Bank Group (15:00- 16:00) ・ Yasuo Takamura, Alternate Executive Director, Japan
26 August (Wednesday)	Amtrak で移動 [Regional 176] WAS(12:05) – NYC(15:22)	
27 August (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purchasing guided tour tickets (9:30-9:45) ● Guided Tour (9:45-10:45) ● Receiving UN Passes (10:45-11:00) ● Briefing 1 (11:00-12:00) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Briefing 2 (2:00-3:00) ● Briefing 3 (3:00-4:00)
28 August (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Briefing 4 (10:00-11:00) ● Briefing at the Japanese mission (11:30-12:30) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Briefing 5 (2:00-3:00) ● Briefing 6 (3:00-4:00)
29 August (Saturday)	NW799 便 JFK International Airport (New York) 13:55 → Tokyo/Narita 17:00 (翌 30 日到着)	



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* United Nations (Briefing Details) [27-28 August, 2009]

Briefing	Subject area	Topic	Speaker
1	Economics	Criteria and procedures for inclusion in and graduation from the least developed country category (最貧国リストへの加入及び卒業要件とその手続き)	Hiroshi Kawamura 川村裕志 (DESA)
2	Peace and security	The function of the Security Council and the role of Japan (安全保障理事会の機能と日本の役割)	Kiyotaka Kawabata 川端清隆 (DPA)
3	Development assistance (UNDP)	Development assistance by the United Nations (国連を中心とした開発援助)	Jiro Usui 薄井次郎 (UNDP)
4	Environment / Sustainable development	Distinctive functions of the Commission on Sustainable Development (持続可能な開発委員会の特徴)	Hiroko Morita-Lou 森田宏子 (DESA)
5	UN recruitment	UN recruitment (国連リクルート)	John Ericson (OHRM)
6	PKO recruitment	PKO recruitment (PKO リクルート)	Susan Huntington (DFS)
Briefing at the Japanese Mission (国際公務員への道)			Takashi Kanamori 金森貴嗣



参加者（14名）：樋渡類、佐伯摩耶、小笠原公彬、池田れい、大平匡徹、勝呂真希、猿田千里、福谷周、Chan Ratha、Chu Hoang Cong、Erdogan Zenep Burcu、Ferdous Farazi Binti、Ospina Angela Jeaneth、Skale Nadja、

History and the Purpose of the World Bank

Rei Ikeda

The World Bank was created at the end of World War. In 1942, both the American and British governments were planning innovations that would prevent the international economy from sinking back into the predicament of the 1930's, once World War was over.

At a conference in July 1944, representatives of forty-four countries met in New Hampshire to implement these innovations. They drafted an agreement to establish IBRD for the purpose of post war reconstruction, and IMF for the purpose of stabilizing international currency. The new IBRD, the first 'Multilateral Development Bank,' was born in 1944 and opened its doors in 1946. This was the beginning of the World Bank. After that, the IDA was born in 1960. The World Bank ordinarily means IBRD and International Development Association (IDA). The International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), which were established later, combine with the World Bank, we to form the World Bank group. During the past half of the century, World Bank has grown a lot. The number of member countries in the World Bank has increased from 44 to 186, and the IBRD-IDA's total current lending amount has increased from 250 million dollars to 24.7 billion dollars.

The main purpose of the Bank has gradually changed over time. More recently, the World Bank's activities have been focused on developing countries. Its work has involved in many fields, such as human development, agriculture, rural development, environmental protection, infrastructure, and governance. The IBRD and IDA provide loans at preferential rates to member countries, as well as grants to the poorest countries. Loans or grants for specific projects are often linked to wider policy changes in the sector or the economy. For example, a loan to improve coastal environmental management may be linked to development of new environmental institutions at national and local levels and the implementation of new regulations to limit pollution.

In the first twenty-five years, the purpose of the World Bank was as mentioned above, economic growth. Lewis Preston, former president of the World Bank, said in 1992, "In the 1960s, the Bank focused on economic growth as the key to poverty reduction. During the 1970s, attention shifted first to redistribution of growth and later to prepare necessary supplies for human such as water works. In the early 1980s, policy-based adjustment

lending overshadowed the Bank's poverty reduction objectives." However the World Bank made no mention of the years 1946-1959, this suggests that the Bank made almost steady progress in learning about and addressing poverty. In 1991, the World Bank mentioned that sustainable poverty reduction was the Bank's highest objective. Since that time, the purpose of the World Bank has been aimed to poverty reduction. From that time, the Bank's mission has evolved from a facilitator of post-war reconstruction and development to its present-day mandate of worldwide poverty alleviation.

The history of the World Bank, can be divide it roughly in the middle. We can consider the first half as an era of imperialism, economic fluctuation and collapse, and massive global violence. The second half has been a less traumatic period. Vast nations have become independent, and, despite gross, sometimes worsening, inequalities, average real incomes, health, life spans, and levels of schooling have risen in poor countries during the decades.

The World Bank's first loan of 250 million dollars was to France in 1947, for post-war reconstruction. Reconstruction has remained an important focus of the Bank's work, such as in the case of natural disasters, humanitarian emergencies, and post-conflict rehabilitation needs that affect developing and transition economies. After that first loan, the Bank had contributed to post-war reconstruction mostly in Europe until the 1960s, when most of Europe was finally stabilized. During the 1970s, the Bank's attention shifted first to redistribution with growth and later to satisfaction of basic human needs. This shift occurred because the need for reconstruction decreased. As countries developed, the Bank gradually shifted the attentions to prepare basic human needs such as water works, sanitations, and education.

During the 1980s, the Bank was pushed in many directions. In the early 1980s, the Bank was brought face to face with macroeconomic and debt rescheduling issues. In the later 1980s, social and environmental issues assumed center stage, and an increasingly vocal civil society accused the Bank of not observing its own policies in some high-profile projects. In 1991, the World Bank declared that sustainable poverty reduction had become the Bank's main objective. Since then, the World Bank has sharpened its focus on poverty reduction, for the purpose of economic growth in the world, while reconstruction remains an important part of their work. Poverty reduction through an inclusive and sustainable globalization remains the Bank's overarching goal.

In 2000, the United Nations agreed upon ten Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). To achieve these goals, today the World Bank does a lot of work from the angle of poverty reduction, including improving education, sanitation, the environment, and the

problem of HIV/AIDS. Many achievements have helped bring the MDGs target for 2015 within reach. In 2008, the mid point progress toward the MDGs was described as following;

1. Eradicate Extreme poverty and Hunger:

Although results vary widely within regions and countries, the trend indicates that the world as a whole can meet the goal of halving the percentage of people living in poverty. To help poor countries, the Bank is working closely with UN agencies on a common strategy, responding in four main ways: with policy advice, expedited financing, financial market insurance products and research.

2. Achieve Universal Primary Education:

The number of children in school in developing countries increased from 80 percent in 1991 to 88 percent in 2005.

3. Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women:

The tide is turning slowly for women in the labor market, yet far more women than men-world wide more than 60 percent-are contributing but unpaid family workers.

4. Reduce Child Mortality:

There is some improvement in survival rates globally. An estimated 10 million-plus children under five died in 2005.

5. Improve Maternal Health:

There are numerous cases of material death that require a variety of health care interventions to be made widely accessible.

6. Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and Other Diseases:

Annual numbers of new HIV infections and AIDS deaths have fallen, but the number of people living with HIV continues to grow. Treatment has increased globally, but still meets only 30 percent of needs. There are 300 to 500 million cases of malaria each year, causing more than 1 million deaths.

7. Ensure Environmental Sustainability:

Deforestation remains a critical problem, particularly in regions of biological diversity, which continue to shrink. Greenhouse gas emissions are increasing faster than energy technology advancement.

8. Develop a Global Partnership for Development:

Donor countries have renewed their commitment. To continue emphasizing that donors have to fulfill their pledges is being placed on the Bank Group's collaboration with multilateral and local partners to quicken progress toward the MDGs' realization.

Now the World Bank focuses on six strategic themes, driving its efforts to achieve the eight MDGs. By focusing on these strategic themes, the Bank delivers technical, financial and other assistance to those most in need and where it can have the greatest impact and promote growth: to the poorest countries, fragile states and the Arab world; to middle-income countries; to solving global public goods issues; and to delivering knowledge and learning services.

The World Bank has achieved remarkable progresses in the past half of the century. However, the Bank Group's agenda is not yet fulfilled, nor can it ever be, while the challenges of development continue to grow. The Bank continue to increase its efforts to reduce poverty.

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The World Bank's Structure and Activities

Shu Fukuya

The World Bank is like a cooperative where its 186 member countries are shareholders. The shareholders are represented by a Board of Governors, who are ultimate policy makers at the World Bank. Generally, the governors are member countries' ministers of finance or ministers of development. They meet once a year at the Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund.

Because the governors only meet annually, they delegate specific duties to 24 Executive Directors, who work on-site at the Bank. The five largest shareholders, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States appoint an executive director, while other member countries are represented by 19 executive directors.

The President of the World Bank, Robert B. Zoellick, chairs meetings of the Board of Directors and is responsible for overall management of the Bank. By tradition, the Bank's President is a U.S. national and is nominated by the United States, the Bank's largest shareholder. The president is elected by the Board of Governors for a five-year.

The Executive Directors make up the Boards of Directors of the World Bank. They normally meet twice a week to oversee the Bank business, including approval of loans and guarantees, new policies, the administrative budget, country assistance strategies and borrowing and financial decisions.

The World Bank operates day-to-day under the leadership and direction of the President, management and senior staff, and the Vice Presidents in charge of regions, sectors, networks and functions. Vice Presidents are the principal managers at the World Bank. In addition to IBRD and IDA, three other institutions are closely associated with the World Bank: the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

Structure

1. Board of Governors and Executive Directors

The final decision-making institution on conduct of the World Bank is Board of Governors.

President has no impact on any elections and appointments of Executive Directors. Although President's term of office is five years, Executive Directors work full-time job and have no limited term of office. One of their important works is monitoring President activity. For example, President must submit the report of the Bank management and then, it must be approved. President payment follows the Executive Directors' decision.

In this way, the Bank distinguishes between the function of Executive Directors and management definitely. But President serves as the chairman of Executive Directors.

2. Organization Management

The Bank shortens the distance between directors and general employees, also eliminates agency borders. There are three concepts about organization management.

- How we should approach our clients, catch up with their needs.
- How we rapidly respond to their variable needs.
- How the whole organization can comprehensively tackle the issues.

These concepts are called "nimble management".

3. Knowledge Bank

The Bank plans to change the management principles because financing is becoming easily. Due to a rapid development of international capital market, it is more easily to finance in all kinds of countries except least less-developed countries. In fact the role of Bank is not only traditional finance but also Knowledge Bank. To assume a part of information industry means that information is more important resource than funds. If it is true, I hope that the Bank should be flat and borderless organization. It is unacceptable that agencies and staffs manage their knowledge experiences because peddling their knowledge is meaningless. The best practice must be intensively managed as the whole organization. This is the first step to become Knowledge Bank.

4. The Role of Top Management

A value of top management doesn't be depreciable even if the Bank becomes Knowledge Bank—rather it will have the opposite effect. Any organization has the top management who can successfully and rapidly catch on the value placed on information. In this sense it is generally said that information is top-down process. Under the flat organization, a top management has to decide to evaluate the value in equalized information. In case of hierarchy, information is transmitted upwards from bottom. This tends to get sorted out in order of importance. But in case of flat organization, a top management assumes a heavy responsibility for information management and decision-making.

5. Matrix Management

Considering the position of the Bank, each employee who is engaged in working in the Bank should enhance his professional knowledge and skill. This is the high priority issue in the Bank.

As a result, a kind of matrix management was introduced to improve their efficiency. Each professional makes a select of some professional networks while he considers his expertise in this system.

Professional networks are composed of four major groups.

- Environment and social issues
- Infrastructure issues
- Financial issues
- Development of human resources issues

In sum, if you get on with your career as a professional at the Bank, you would have some sort of expertise and register one of the networks.

A professional belongs to an agency by nationality and region. On the other hand, he belongs to a professional network. He has two positions under a regional agency and professional network.

6. Task Manager

When a project is selected in the national agencies and professional networks, The Bank select a task manager who is the most qualified man to implement this project in professional networks. Then the task manager selects professionals who are indispensable to work together. He has a wide range of discretionary powers to select professionals. There are two important things to keep in mind.

First is that the task manager has to receive a high evaluation from the regional agency which is in charge of a regional development project. Otherwise his team receives the budgetary constraints because regional agencies manage the budgets.

Second is that we need to consider the side of professional staffs. If they don't receive any request from the task manager, they would get to push shortly. In fact professional staffs who belong to professional networks notice that they are fearful of dismissal unless they are engaged in projects at least twenty five weeks per year. Therefore they must continue to make an effort to expand their technical skills while the management division which supervises all professional networks piles various training programs on professional staffs to support their technical enrichment. At the same time they must be eager for communication with a promising

staff who will be a task manager for a long time.

Activities

The World Bank's two closely affiliated entities: IBRD and IDA provide low or no interest loans and grants to countries that have unfavorable or no access to international credit markets. Unlike other financial institutions, the Bank does not operate for profit. The IBRD is market-based, and they use their high credit rating to pass the low interest they pay for money on to their borrowers.

Their activities are as follows:

1. Fund Generation

IBRD lending developing countries is primarily financed by selling AAA-rated bonds in the world's financial markets. While IBRD earns a small margin on this lending, the greater proportion of their income comes from lending out their own capital. This capital consists of reserves built up over the years and money paid in from the Bank's 186 member country shareholders. IBRD's income also pays for World Bank operating expenses and has contributed to IDA and debt relief.

2. Loans

Through the IBRD and IDA, they offer two basic types of loans and credits: investment operations and development policy operations.

Countries use investment operations for goods, works and services in support of economic and social development projects in a broad range of economic and social sectors.

Each borrower's project proposal is assessed ensure that the project is economically, financially, socially and environmentally sound. During loan negotiations, the Bank and borrower agree on the development objectives, outputs, performance indicators and implementation plan, as well as a loan disbursement schedule.

3. Trust Funds and Grants

Donor governments and a broad array of private and public institutions make deposits in Trust Funds that are housed at the World Bank. These donor resources are leveraged for a broad range of development initiatives.

The Bank also mobilizes external resources for IDA concessionary financing and grants, as well as funds for non-lending technical assistance and advisory activities to meet the special needs of developing countries, and for co-financing of projects.

4. Analytic and Advisory Services

While they are best known as a financier, another role is to provide analysis, advice and information to their member countries. They do this in various ways. One is through economic research and data collection on broad issues such as the environment, poverty, trade and globalization. Another is through country-specific, non-lending activities such as economic and sector work, where we evaluate a country's economic prospects by examining its banking systems and financial markets.

5. Capacity Building

Another core Bank function is to increase the capabilities of their partners, the people in developing countries, and their own staff to help them acquire the knowledge and skills they need to provide technical assistance, improve government performance and delivery of services, promote economic growth.

World Bank Lending Operations to East Asia and Pacific Region :Challenges under the Crisis in the Diversified Region

Rui Hiwatashi

Introduction

The economic and development situation in East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region is complex and multi-faceted. Many countries in the region have shown a good progress on achieving the Millennium Development Goals, but several countries may fail some of the targets in 2015. Even though East Asia is the first developing region to take advantage of world economic recovery, the region's mid-term success is smaller than it experienced in the previous decade (World Bank 2008). Even among more or less successful countries such as China, Singapore, and Vietnam, the diversity is enormous. Unlike other regions such as Sub-Saharan Africa, the EAP region has been seen to have great potential to perform better development and growth, but there are a number of constraints that stall plain sailing. Based on such perspective, this chapter discusses: the current situation of the region; the Bank's lending strategy and operations on it; and its main challenges towards boosting the region's development and recovery effectiveness.

CURRENT ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT SITUATION

In the EAP region, the Bank is conducting lending operation in over 20 various countries with a population of 2 billion: Cambodia, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Laos, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia Myanmar, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Vietnam (World Bank no date). The regional growth in the low- and middle-income economies turned up from 9.8 percent in 2006 to 10.2 percent in 2007. Continuous growth and pro-poor policies have contributed vividly to poverty reduction in many of the developing countries in the region: the poverty ratio in 2007 fell to 25 percent, compared with 69 percent in 1990 (World Bank 2008).

Although there is growing inequality and considerable vulnerability to climate change in some countries, the region as a whole has experienced a fast paced development (World Bank 2009a).

After the current economic and financial crisis, however, the region has been forced to face a daunting challenge of tackling the global recession. The initial global financial crash caused sudden reversals of capital flows primarily in the middle-income countries in the region except China. As the aggregate global demand has experienced steep decline, exports and industrial production in the region has been falling. It is triggering extensive lock-out of factories, increase of unemployment, and decline in real wages. Since such effects of the financial and economic recession are stronger to the poor and near-poor, governments in many countries are implementing social programs to assist them in such ways as expansionary monetary and fiscal policies, including fiscal stimulus packages (World Bank 2009a and 2009b).

There are signs that China as the leading economy in the region is beginning to improve. China's return to stronger economic expansion should help the region to recover, but without developments in the advanced countries the recovery will not be a sustainable one. The prospect is accompanied by the risks heavily on the downside. Continued banking problems or new waves of tension in financial markets could force global GDP to remain flat or decline (World Bank 2009b).

THE BANK'S LENDING STRATEGY AND OPERATIONS

In 2008 the Bank adopted a new regional lending strategy to deal with challenges regarding the diversity and width of range of its economies. Its two key focuses are: (i) to expand the Bank's commitment to address the changing demands of middle income countries; and (ii) to support fragile and post-conflict states and sub-national regions (World Bank 2008 and 2009a). The Bank delivered \$4.5 billion in 2008 and will deliver \$8.3 billion in 2009 in lending for the region (The Bank's lending budget is nearly doubled in 2009 primarily due to its comparative strength of credit rating in today's credit crunch). After having captured the current impact of the crisis, 2009 EAP lending includes: \$3.5 billion for quick disbursing budget support to

countries' needs upon reform implementation; \$4.8 billion for investment projects that consist stimulus packages; and \$1.2 billion in credits and \$134 million in grants to low-income countries (World Bank 2009a).

The Bank's mid-term strategy mentioned above had no other choice than to be adjusted upon the financial and economic crisis hitting the region. Its original focus on boosting higher and faster growth of middle-income and emerging middle-income countries was based on the perception that the regional leading economies will be able to accelerate their development by developing sources of clean energy, planning for better urban transport systems, providing social safety nets, and managing the human impacts of rural-urban migration (World Bank 2008 and 2009a). The Bank has made adjustment to the strategy related to the crisis in such ways as to pay more attention to threats to growth found after the regional experience from the global recession and to build capacity to manage social and economic impact of the crisis (World Bank 2009a).

The Bank's further pursuance to more effectively assist countries in the region in and after the crisis will be navigated by negative prospect. From now on during the medium term, the pace of poverty reduction in the region will be slowed down by sluggish growth and small remittances. Disparities among and within states are also likely to widen, given the unequal distribution of economic activity and the severe decline in manufacturing and mining, and the drastic reduction in commodity prices (World Bank 2009).

MAIN CHALLENGES

One of the main challenges is social protection. Softening the impact of the crisis is a priority for many countries in the region, but the mechanisms that have been and will be adopted are often only partially effective. The Bank now urges the renewed urgency of introducing targeted and coherent social protection to protect against future shocks. Strengthening social safety nets is also attracting stronger attention in order to facilitate high saving rates and higher standards of living. (World Bank 2009)

Another core agenda for the Bank is to enhance knowledge exchange within the region and with other regions. The original mid-term strategy had an emphasis on supporting south-south knowledge exchange (World Bank 2009a). One example is that the Bank is working closely with the China Export-Import Bank to bring China's development experience to other developing countries through staff exchanges and joint pilot projects in Africa. A new Bank-managed trust fund, as another example, is helping East Asian countries fight poverty and deliver government services more effectively. Also in partnership with the regional organization, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Bank is hosting dialogues with Asian leaders on their views of development (World Bank 2008).

Under the current emergency situation, however, the Bank is aware of importance to make another strategic adjustment to the knowledge exchange endeavor. According to the presentation provided for the GSAPS programme, the focus of knowledge exchange is to be shifted towards the area of crisis management and policy and regime for post-crisis world (World Bank 2009a). Yet at the same time, a senior official of the Bank admit in the briefing of the programme that they have not launched many such concrete projects so far. Considering the limitation of human resource in the governments of recipient countries, it should be severely a tough effort for the Bank and the governments to balance between tackling the impact of the crisis to their own country and constituencies, and working intensively in exchanging knowledge and experience towards the region's common future.

CONCLUSION

The Bank has played and is playing a key role in EAP development. In addition to the region's characteristic of complexity, diversity, and disparity, today's economic and financial crisis has made problems worse to solve. The importance of the Bank's role in financial and development cooperation system under the situation, which is increasing not only because its original mandate but also because its current comparative advantage in credit from investors, requires the Bank to gain greater efficiency and effectiveness in its operation, especially in helping

governments to formulate and implement social protection and safety net policies, with a special focus on knowledge exchange among the region. The Bank had a clear mid-term strategy to tackle difficulties attributed to the diversity of the region, and has already begun to modify it based on the understanding of the crisis impact and its mechanism to affect the countries in the region. The next step seems to be actual shifts of the Bank's portfolio such as human resource, budget, and projects/components in line with the adjusted strategy.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has just started its own project with the government of Indonesia to conduct a survey research on current economic and social situation of the country regarding the impact of the recession and on East Asian experience on safety net policies. It is high time for the Bank to focus again on aid coordination with such partners as JICA and play a leading role in maximizing development effectiveness in the region under the present crisis.

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World Development Report 2009: Reshaping Economic Geography

Ferdous, Farazi Binti

The World Development Report puts emphasis on the idea that some countries in the world are doing well in their economic activities because they have promoted transformations along the three dimensions of economic geography. Those three dimensions are as follows:

- Density
- Distance
- Division

The 3-Ds or 3 dimensions are to be dealt with first, higher densities that can be seen in the growth of cities; second, shorter distances which are found as workers and businesses migrate closer to density; thirdly, fewer divisions reflected as countries thin their economic borders and enter world market to take advantage of scale and specialization.

Therefore policies and targeted interventions have to be taken accordingly corresponding to the problem of local, national and international level. With the geographic scale increase, from local to national and then to international level, the specific policy issue has to be changed. But it is inevitable that some places do well and others do not. For example, access to market is an indicator at this point. The closer to the bigger markets, the easier is to do business. On the other hand, distant places are lacking this opportunity and typical cases are land locked and sea locked countries. These ideas are not new ones, developed world has already proved the positive impact of these actions and developing countries are advised to follow the established method at this report.

At the international level, ease to access to the markets like USA, Western Europe, Japan are thus to be considered as crucial policies for a country. Countries closer to these markets face a relatively straightforward task of integration. Common institutions can help them become extensions of these large markets. Another important action is discussed in the report as the

encouraging mobility between lagging area and leading area. The distance between these two places are taken under consideration. And this is the case of national level policy issue. Both of the cases either international or national, migration has to be considered as the natural desire of the people who want to do better. Even though migration results in agglomeration and to some extent specialization, it is inspired to do so at the report.

In case of countries that are distant from world market even though there is existence of large home markets which are attractive to investors, are subject to difficult challenges as well. To solve this situation, the report suggests good institutions and regional infrastructure. The idea is that, the combination of these two will lead to the course of access to the big markets.

In the case of division, there are different types of divisions, which are reflected in political dimensions. They include human, physical and overall political elements. This is a new way of looking at the development. And it is considered as more complex dimension that necessitates deeper concern for particular cases, which are certain to be different for different country, territory and locality. Integration is hardest with the case of 3-Ds, that is, countries in the region that are divided, are distant from world market, and lack the economic density provided by a large local economy. All three instruments are needed for these countries, i.e., regional institutions that thin borders, regional infrastructure that connects countries, incentives like preferential access to world markets with the precondition of ensuring stronger regional cooperation among all countries.

The concept of economic integration is clearly described at the report in many ways. Economic integration means the integration of rural and urban areas, and slums with other part of the cities. On the other hand economic integration means the integration of lagging and leading provinces within a nation. At the same time, economic integration means to integrate isolated and well connected countries. Even though these ideas are well established, the report accepts that they are subject to the center of three debates in development such as urbanization, territorial development and international integration.

Another debatable issue is the support of decentralization; things that need to be concentrated and that need not to be concentrated. The writers of the report suggest that geography of social welfare has to be spread out and that of economy need to be concentrated. They suggest

on the light of experiences of the successful countries in the present world. USA presents the concentration of economic geography and equal spread of the social welfare. On the other hand, China represents the spread of economic geography and concentration of social welfare. Therefore it has to be decided accordingly what need to be centralized and what not.

The dimension of problem will lead to the solution as well which could be different for different countries and economies. The writers recommend that 1st dimension or density problem requires common institution, 2nd dimension or the existence of density and distance together, requires the action of common institutions along with infrastructure. And 3rd dimension which have density, distance and division altogether, needs both common institution and infrastructure accompanied with intervention. Thus the report points out the fact of selective response or intervention according to the diagnosis of the problem. But it should be mentioned that the diagnosis might result in similar scenario but the solution could be different corresponding to the different country perspective. The same prescription must not be followed for all the developing countries even though previous history supports successful overcome of the critical occurrence of the current developed countries.

The World Development Report learned lessons from the past experiences and integrate to other part of the world is the message of this report. It strongly suggests to zoom out a little and not to focus narrowly to the center. This report argues that economic growth will be unbalanced and to spread the economic activity it is necessary to discourage it. The idea is that people who start their lives far away from economic opportunity can benefit from the growing concentration of wealth in a few places. Therefore, the way to get both the benefits of uneven growth and inclusive development is through economic integration.

The Role of Japan in the World Bank

Angela Ospina

Japan has played several roles during all the history of The World Bank. It started as a poor and destroyed country at the end of the Second World War. In half century, Japan has become the second world economy and an example due to its high rates of growth. Nowadays, the role of Japan in The World Bank is be one of the largest and generous donors and experienced leader in development issues in the region and the world through several co-initiatives to support and reinforce the operation of the institution.

The World Bank was established as The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBDR) in July 1944, in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, as a specialized agency of the United Nations System, which objective was rebuilt Europe after Second World War through loans to development. Japan joined to The World Bank as a borrowing member in 1952, after San Francisco Peace Treaty was signed. Japan received a total of 31 loans to help to its post-war reconstruction and important infrastructure masterpieces were developed for a total of US\$863 million. Loans destinations in the 50's were steel and automobile industries, electricity generation and manufacturing, while in 60's were focused on the transportation infrastructure sector.

Japan received the last loan from The World Bank in 1966 and became the 11th donor member. Additionally, its capital shares have increased to 7.85%, the second largest share after United States. It let it to appoint its own representative among the 24 available Board seats as well as United States, Germany, France and the United Kingdom.

The Executive Director for Japan at The World Bank is Mr. Toru Shikibu. Its office is in charge of being a bridge between the Japanese Government represented by The Ministry of Finance and The World Bank. As a donor country, Japan is an important contributor to IDA with the 10% of the total, the third largest IDA contribution after United Kingdom's and United States'. Japan contributed with 9.36% net ODA in 2008, it represented 0.18% of its Global National Income (GNI).

The cooperation between Japan and The World Bank has covered several fields and actors. To reinforce the work that performance The World Bank in the region and strengthen the relation, in 1970 was opened The World Bank Tokyo Office which promotes understanding of international development issues as a “knowledge bank” and opens discussion spaces through seminars, group visits, providing information and data, and looking for having a larger impact in public policy by way of promoting dialogue with government and developing organizations, and cooperating with business companies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and universities. Japan is strongly interested in getting a greater participation of Japanese scholars in the Bank research projects and other knowledge activities.

The Office in Tokyo provides different services to Japanese investors. Actually, the demand of bonds of The World Bank from Japanese investors has increased significantly. The Japanese capital market is the source of funding allocation of IBDR. Japan retail supports 30% and Japan institutions contribute with 16% of the total. In the beginning of the The World Bank Tokyo Office were allocated the Samurai Bonds. Since 1990s Global Yen Bond were allocated. Now, the investment is called sustainable investing because it involves social, environmental, and governance criteria. The qualification of the bonds from the international rating agencies is AAA.

Additionally, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the institution that invests in private sector projects and provides business consultation in achieving sustainable economic growth, has an adjacent office in The World Bank Tokyo Office.

In March 2004 The Tokyo Office opened the Public Information Center (PIC) to encourage a better public understanding of development problems and The World Bank's working. In June 2004, the Tokyo Development Learning Center (TDLC) also was launched as a part of the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN), the program to increase opportunities for dialogue on development within the East and Southeast Asia Regions, managed by The World Bank in East Asia Region and Japan.

Nowadays, in the regional work of The World Bank it is working several channels and co-financed projects, focused on the world's challenge of reducing global poverty. Japan has established special trust funds to support The World Bank operation. The most important funds are Japan Policy and Human Resources Development (PHRD) and the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF). Other complementary programs are Fund and the Global Environment Facility, the Global Fund for Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), the HIPC, the Iraq and West Bank and Gaza Trust Funds, and the Consultant Trust Fund (CTF).

The PHRD, established in 1990 between the Government of Japan and The World Bank, is one of the largest sources of grant funds available for developing countries; it has supported technical assistance activities in more than 140 countries. Its objective is poverty reduction and socio-economic growth through institutional strengthening and capacity building, supporting the design and implementation of World Bank-financed projects. One of the areas where Japan put special emphasis is agriculture because it is important in helping people move out of poverty due to the most of poor people is concentrate on rural area.

The PHRD includes the Japan / World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program (JJ/WBGSP), which objective is to help create an international community of highly trained professionals working in the field of economic and social development. It has awarded 2.894 scholarships, selected from 56.361 applicants in 22 years of existence. Additionally, since 1992 various JJ/WBGSP Partnership Programs were launched to focus on preparing the participants for effective policy-making roles in their home countries and regions, it has awarded 1,106 additional scholarships. From 1997 to 2006, 85% of the scholars who complete the financed program return to their own countries or another development country and work in development related fields. Japan has provided for JJ/WBGSP about US\$202.5 million. This is a program highly appreciated not only by recipients but also to the global community. This program is an answer to development experience in Japan about the importance of investing in the human capital of developing countries, after the destruction of the Second World War.

Another important program is the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) which aims to build capacity and provides grants for promoting broad participation in the development process. It was established in June 2000 initially as a response to the devastating impact of the East Asian financial crisis of 1997 and after was expanded to provide direct assistance to the poorest and most vulnerable groups. As 2005 it had been provided over US\$250 million over 160 grants, amounting to more than US\$180 million.

Japan had played as a world leader towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Japanese overseas assistance has traditionally focused on East and South East Asia. Although, Japan's perspective is changing and recognizing the growing importance of Africa, as the region facing the biggest difficulties in overcome the poverty tramp.

Japan hosted the G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit in 2008. The main outcome of the meeting were to state the need to increase ODA to Africa beyond current commitments after 2010, will achieve concrete results by focusing on the areas of education, health, and sanitation, to establish the first follow-up mechanism.

Additionally, Japan co-financed with The World Bank and the United Nations the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) in 2008. The main outcomes of the meeting were to support for infrastructure development and for private-sector investment and to establish a follow-up mechanism.

The effort that performance Japan individually is outstanding. Its commitments were doubling of ODA for Africa by 2012 and to provide up to US\$4 billion in soft loans to Africa over the next 5 years. Japan also contributes to look for solutions to global challenge as agricultural development, health, education, climate change, financial crisis 2008, as the most important issues.

On the other hand, the staff members of The World Bank are around 10.000. The main shareholders have the largest amount of staff members. Japan strongly promote the diversity of the bank staff

members and is working on enlarging the participation of Japanese staff members because it is only 2% but the Japanese shareholder ratio is 7.87%.

The biggest challenge that faces Japan today is the financial crises because the Japanese economic is in stagnation, and the employment rate and fiscal and budgetary constraints are the worst in several years. The intern pressure to concentrate the efforts on intern recovery and decrease the ODA are going up. Japanese Executive Director Office is doing its best and its goal is to maintain the contribution of Japan to IDA in 10% share.

The mission of The World Bank is not maximizing profit; it is to make this world a better place to live. The work of Japan has been very important to make this dream a reality but the challenge still continues.

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Career Opportunities and Qualifications to become the World Bank Staff

Zeynep Burcu ERDOGAN

A potential staff has to know the areas the World Bank operate in. Bank staff works with governments in developing countries around the world, assisting people in all areas of development, from policy and strategic advice to the identification, preparation, appraisal and supervision of development projects. Bank's operation could be analyzed under four headings. The first one is human development where health, nutrition, population, education, social protection are the themes. Secondly, sustainable development includes agricultural and rural development, environment, energy, mining, water & sanitation, transport, urban development themes. Third pillar of its work is poverty reduction and economic management which has economic policy for poverty reduction, public sector governance, and gender and development subheadings. The fourth pillar contains finance and private sector development. In general, economists, educators, environmental scientists, financial analysts, and managers, as well as foresters, agronomists, engineers, information technology specialists and social scientists are some of the specialists that work for the World Bank.

Currently, The World Bank operates with the help of more than 10,000 employees from over 160 countries. Two-thirds of us are based in Washington, DC, while the remaining third are at work in more than 100 country offices in the developing world. In its recruitment policy, the The World Bank is committed to diversity. We strive to hire the best women and men from all over the world, and make arrangements in the workplace where reasonable to meet the needs of persons with disabilities. Staffs are diverse in many respects, including gender, nationality, race, culture, education and experience and fully represent our over 180 member countries.

After the financial crises which affected developing countries as well, the World Bank is more committed to fight against poverty more aggressively than before. This has two implications for the recruitment. One the one hand, the World Bank needs more people to achieve its highly ambitious goal. One the other hand, fighting against poverty which has been lingering over decades requires recruitment of employees with multi-skills and who can operate in very different settings and able to solve very complex problems of developing countries.

In this part, firstly main paths that could result in employment in the World Bank are discussed. Secondly, qualifications and traits that were shared among the World Bank staff are mentioned. Thirdly, informal experiences of Japanese nationals working for the Bank are also mentioned to touch upon the human aspect of employment for graduate students.

Main Career Opportunities Offered by the World Bank

Although there are side-doors that may make it possible for entering the World Bank especially for public officers with long years of service, officially, for young graduates with a few years of experience or none, Young Professionals Program, Junior Professional Associates Program and Internships are the ways to start a career in the World Bank.

Firstly, Young Professionals Program (YPP) which is the premier recruitment tool of the Bank is going to be discussed. Eligibility Requirements are the following

- Be 32 years of age or younger
- Must have completed Graduate Degree
- Degree must be relevant to The World Bank Activities
- Be fluent in English and at least one other language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Portuguese, Russian, & Spanish)
- At least three years of professional experience
- Passion, commitment, & experience in international development
- Have basic knowledge of micro & macro economics

Applications for Young Professionals Program are accepted from May 1st through July 15th annually. In 2008, 12,000 candidates applied for YPP and on average 32-40 people are selected to be the World Bank staff annually.

Secondly, Junior Professional Associates Program is the other way to start pursuing a career in the World Bank. The eligibility requirements of Junior Professional Associates Program are as follows;

- Must have completed Bachelors Degree or higher
- Be 28 years of age or younger
- Be fluent in English

Junior Professional Associates program is for people with particular job interest. It is a 2 year paid assignment. Applications are accepted throughout the year. On average, 9000-10.000 candidates apply and 150 are selected annually.

Thirdly, Internships are also offered in the World Bank both in headquarters and unofficially in country offices. However, internship at country offices requires the candidate to acquire thorough knowledge about the activities of Bank in that particular country and strategies utilized to achieve those goals. The application requires the candidate to have the qualifications mentioned below;

- Must have completed Bachelors degree
- Be enrolled in graduate school as a full-time student
- Be fluent in English

The internship in The World Bank is paid and from 1 to 3 months. Applications are accepted December 1st - January 31st for the Summer Session/September 1st – October 31st for the Winter Session.

The common traits and behaviors of The World Bank staff

The traits and behaviors shared by Bank staff could be summarized under 2 main headings. The first one being strong analytical skills in your specialization combined with basic knowledge of economics and the second one being joy from helping to others.

Since intellectual capability is a must. Graduating from a well-known university is a benchmark because students from good schools are better educated. However, good schools do not necessarily mean top US universities. Other universities like Waseda are also considered to be a qualified university. If you look at the statistics, many of the staff are from US universities. This

reflects the fact that US top universities are very competitive. Also, fluency in English is mostly acquired by some English speaking country university.

What is meant by intellectual capability is technical dept and width. The World Bank staff has to be an expert in the area of his/her specialization. However, this is not enough. She/he should be able to apply her/his knowledge to other problematic situations successfully.

Moreover, the World Bank staff should have a basic knowledge of microeconomics and macroeconomics to be able to argue with economists which forms the back bone of the organization.

The joy from helping to others is another trait which seems to be a very important source of motivation for the World Bank staff. Although working in the World Bank is a prestigious thing to do, it also implies a lot of traveling if the person works in the operational side. In many projects the World Bank conducts, the outcomes are not seen immediately. It may take decades for outcomes to come out. Therefore, staff has to be passionate enough to think about long-term benefits of projects that they contribute may help poor and incapable people to enhance their lives. Moreover, long-term results imply that staff has to be patient. According to one project director's own experience, after 2 years of struggle he felt frustration. However, after a while project started picking up. When he went to project area, he saw shining eyes of a little kid. He describes that as the greatest reward one person can ever get.

Personal Experiences and Recommendations of Japanese Nationals in The World Bank

Working in the World Bank simply means a very busy life, especially for people working in operations side. However, it offers many advantageous as well. For example, currently, China office offers very qualified Mandarin language education.

If the working in United Nations is compared to that of the World Bank, it is fair to say that the Bank is more aggressive which comes from the nature of their operations because Bank's staff lends money which has to be paid back however, United Nations basically operate on grants. Therefore, they are able to be less selective about projects. Since The World Bank cares about

whether the loan will be paid back or not, the World Bank staff does need thorough analytical abilities. Due to financial resource limitations, United Nations can not extend grants as much as Bank's projects which give an opportunity to its staff to improve lives of larger number of people rather than saving only a few people by grants.

Like United Nations, the World Bank provides interdisciplinary environment for the solving complex problems of developing countries which requires careful look to the many angles of the problem, collaboration and cooperation.

If working in private sector is compared to working in The World Bank, in the former, you do your job for the sake of company and yourself. In the latter, your efforts may affect well-being of millions in developing world. One piece of information may result in people in developing countries to live better lives. Yet, background in private business such as working in investment banks is an asset for being a Bank staff.

It is possible to do internship at country offices by contacting project leader of a specific project or country director through e-mail. It is highly possible that project leader is very busy and has a few minutes to look at your e-mail. Sometimes you might not get any reply. But, keep on trying until you get a reply. You have to catch his/her attention in one way or the other. Therefore, the applicant/candidate has to be vigilant and must convince the project leader that she/he can make a contribution to the project or to the office. First of all, it is very important that candidate has a general understanding of operation of the World Bank in that country and knows specifics of the project she/he wants to join. One way is to look at reports by browsing country in The World Bank web-page. A candidate for The World Bank should not look for short-cuts; the only way to excel in The World Bank is to work hard. A potential The World Bank staff has to be inspired by the rare opportunity to affect the world.

When it comes to preparing CV for application mainly for YPP (applies to other programs as well), it is vital that there are no spelling mistakes. Secondly, giving a brief description of master thesis theme and mentioning what kind of approach is used in your master thesis is worth doing. Having done volunteer work and having overseas experience are positive things that may lead you being selected for the second round selection process which is essay writing. In 2008, 192 are selected from CVs and then out of 192, 60 are invited for interview. Reference

letters are also important. Therefore, it should be taken from someone who knows the candidate very well. The reference letter writer does not necessarily be a famous person. But, it is a negative impression if the reference letter is not well-written in terms of language. Naturally, the reference letter is supposed to be in English. By looking at reference letters and transcripts, YPP entrants are selected each year.

History and the Purposes of the United Nations

Chan Ratha

Introduction

“If men were angels, no government would be necessary,” quoted James Madison, the fourth President of the United States (Madison, 1788). Over centuries, philosophers and scholars have been debating on human nature. Hobbes and Machiavelli argued that in the state of nature human beings are selfish, brutal and are inherently in a war of all against all (Ebenstein & Ebenstein, 2004). A strong government would bring order and security to end this state of nature.

Similarly, the nature of world politics before and after the treaty of Westphalia has been characterized as anarchical. In the anarchical society, states seek to maximize power and struggle for the survival which very often leads to the balance of power and wars. To mitigate confrontation among states and establish international society, in 1625 the Dutch jurist Hugo Grotius in his work *“The Laws of War and Peace”* prescribed certain rules for international conduct, according to which, states are bound by rules and institutions of the society they form when dealing with one another (Bull, 2007). Likewise, Immanuel Kant (1785) also wrote the essay *“Perpetual Peace”* in 1795 describing three basic requirements for organizing human affairs to permanently abolish the threat of a future war. These requirements are:

1. Individual freedoms (Liberalism)
2. The rule of law and legal equality (Constitutionalism)
3. Representative government (Democracy)

The works of Grotius and Kant have tremendous impact on modern international law and the establishment of the League of Nations which through trials and error gave birth to the United Nations.

This article attempts to recapture the history of the establishment of the United Nations, its purposes and challenges in the globalizing world.

History

Witnessing the atrocity of the World War I and perennial conflicts among states in anarchical society, Woodrow Wilson realized that the solution was to develop international institutions analogous to domestic legislatures and courts so that democratic procedures could

be applied at the international level. Thus, the League of Nations, the first inter-governmental organization was created result of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919–1920. In Wilson’s word,” My concept of the League of Nations is just this, that it shall operate as the organized moral force of men throughout the world, and that whenever or wherever wrong and aggression are planned or contemplated, this searching light of conscience shall be turned upon them”(Joseph S. Nye, 2005).

However, the unwillingness of states to relinquish some sovereignty in exchange for collective security lay at the heart of one of the most notable weaknesses of the League, especially the country of its founder, the United States. After the World War I, most American wanted to avoid involvement in international affairs. Structural weakness and lack of enforcement to punish aggressors led to the League’s total failure and the outbreak of the World War II.

During the World War II , American President Franklin Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and leaders of other major combatant nations agreed that it was necessary to create a world organization that would help ensure peace in the future. And the name ”United Nations”, coined by Roosevelt, was first used in the “ Declaration by United Nations” of 1 January 1942 when representatives of 26 nations pledged their governments to continue fighting war against the Axis of Powers(UN, 2004).

On 25 April 1945, the UN Conference on International Organization began in San Francisco, attended by 50 governments and a number of non-governmental organizations to draft the Charter of the United Nations. After many conferences (Moscow and Teheran, Dumbarton Oaks and Yalta), the UN officially came into existence on 24 October 1945 upon ratification of the Charter by the five permanent members of the Security Council — France, the Republic of China, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States. The first meetings of the General Assembly, with 51 nations represented, and the Security Council, took place in Westminster Central Hall in London in January 1946(UN, Unknown).

Unlike its predecessor, the League of Nations, the United Nations is better organized and well function. Yet, it was somehow paralyzed during the Cold War as a result of confrontation between the Soviet Union and the United States in using vetoes ; during these periods the United Nations was often criticized to be rather politicized(Hanhimaki, 2008). The fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union indicated the end of the Cold War. The United Nations, with the same purposes, was then equipped with new tasks to meet the challenges of

coming century.

Purposes and Challenges

” we the people of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights.....,” expressed the ideal and common aims of people in the preamble of the charter. According to the charter, the main purposes of the United Nations are: First, to maintain international peace and security. Legacies of the two World Wars and the Cold War left many countries in the state of constant conflicts which resulted in civil wars, genocides and pervasive human rights violation. To deal with this problem, the United Nations, through peace keeping operation, applies three main strategies for preventing disputes from escalating into conflict and for preventing the recurrence of conflict. These strategies are: preventive diplomacy, preventive deployment and preventive disarmament(UN, 2004).

Second, to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of people. Aside from the five permanent members, each member of the United Nations are equal and are obliged to restrain from using force against each other; but are encouraged to use peaceful means in dealing with inter-states conflict.

Third, to cooperate in solving international economic , social, cultural and humanitarian problems and in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. While the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has been promoting economic development and reducing inequality in trade between the North and the South, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Universal Declaration of Human Rights expressing the rights to which all human beings are respectfully entitled to.

Fourth, to be the center for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these common ends. The United Nations is a neutral institution to act as a mediator for interstates conflict. To this end, the International Court of Justice was established in 1946. By the end of 2003, it had delivered 78 judgments on disputes brought to it by states and issued 24 advisory opinions in response to requests by UN organizations(UN, 2004).

In short, the main purposes of the United Nations is to bring peace, development and respect for human rights all people around the world.

However, the United Nations is not an omnipotent organization; there was time when it failed to achieve its goals and was criticized. The challenges of the United Nations are so

tremendous that in response to the skeptics, the former Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold replied that, "the United Nations was not created to take humanity to heaven but to save it from hell"(Hanhimaki, 2008).

The pressing challenges for the United Nations is to help billion of people out of poverty. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is a commitment of the United Nations member states to cooperate to alleviate poverty. The eight international development goals include reducing extreme poverty, reducing child mortality rates, fighting disease epidemics such as AIDS, and developing a global partnership for development. To achieve these goals by the year 2015 is a big challenge, especially for Sub-Saharan African countries. Similarly, promoting respect for universal human rights is also another tough challenge. Many countries, like Burma and China, are still replete with records of human rights violation.

Internal structure of the United Nations presents even more difficult challenge regarding sensitive issues and national interest of the permanent member states. Though reform has been initiated, but no significant result is being seen. To complete its enduring missions, the United Nations needs stronger leadership and more effort and cooperation from its members.

Conclusion

Born out of the tragedy of the two World Wars and growing mature after the Cold War, the United Nations through trial and error has been recognized as the world most influential organization. Its devotion to world peace, development and respect for human rights has inspired young people, including I myself, to contribute all-out effort to serve the humanity. "The greatest challenge to any thinker is stating the problem in a way that will allow a solution", quoted Bertrand Russell. Though difficult tasks and challenges ahead, in any creative way, I am optimistic that young generation will be able to overcome these difficulties should they be given more chance to serve the organization, for they may have different ways of solving problem from conventional wisdom.

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The Role and Problems of Security Council : Promoting Peace and Security

Takaaki Ogasawara

Introduction:

“...They (ancestors) understood that our power alone cannot protect us, nor does it entitle us to do as we please...” by 44th President Barack H. Obama in his inaugural speech.

The above reflects the 21st century that a state cannot decide on its greed, but cooperation is needed. In the international community, the United Nation (UN) plays a role to unite the strengths to maintain international peace and security to save the succeeding generations from the two devastating wars. However, in order to sustain international peace and security, all members must settle any international disputes through peaceful means. Therefore, the Security Council (UNSC), the central organ of the United Nations system, plays a significant role in promoting peace and security.

Although, among several scholars and people question whether the UN and the UNSC is meeting, or playing, the satisfactory needs of international peace and security. Though, we tend to forget that UN may be the international organization, but it is not the world government. Moreover, it has no power to stand above any sovereign states, but the UN works, because of the principle of reciprocity, or the practice of exchanging things with others for mutual benefit.

Therefore, in this report, it would like to draw attentions to how the UNSC promotes peace and security, but also see the negative sides that fail to meet the voice of the world. Especially, the power of the permanent five (P5)'s veto has caused several conflicts to continue on this day.

Promoting Peace and Security:

The UNSC with its power was created few main reasons. One of the main reasons is the failure of League of Nations. The League of Nations failed, because it had no representatives from the strong powers like the USA. Without the strong powers, to precede the decisions among the members of the League of Nations was difficult. Also, unlike the League of Nations, the UN allows the usage of military to settle international disputes that have threaten or either breached peace. Thirdly, the failure existed in not including the strong powers; therefore, the UN gave several powers to the five winning states of the World War I to construct a better international organization that would promote peace and security.

The UNSC is constructed up of 15 members with five permanent seats. According to UN Charter, UNSC are given several functions to promote peace and security. It must be actively involved in international affairs; especially it “may investigate any dispute, or any

situation which might lead to international friction or give rise to a dispute... (article 34).” After the measure is done the UNSC may proceed to Chapter Seven of the UN Charter if it believes that the actions by the aggressor are causing threat to peace or breaches of the peace. In this chapter, basically the UNSC is given the power to do economic sanctions or take military actions. Not only those two, but the P5 has the power to veto. Therefore, the main functions of the UNSC is to promote peace and security through voting and passing United Nations Security Council resolutions to those that threaten peace and security or force a state to comply with the demands of the UN.

Economic Sanctions:

Recently, in 13 June 2009, through unanimous vote on economic sanctions by the Security Council on Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to stop the armament of nuclear weapon is in process.¹ Ever since September 2005, it has promised in the Six Party Talk that it would abandon all nuclear weapons and stop further proliferations.² However, they have done a second nuclear test in 12 June 2009, betraying the world and again threatening peace.

The economic sanctions are a process, which allows a state or group of states to limit anything that would hurt them economically like trade; although, it may not stop a state from proceeding with the reason of sanction. Nevertheless, economic sanction might be a good process before using military actions; it causes great problems to the poor. According to Robert A. Pape in the article of *Why Economic Sanctions Do Not Work* mentions, “...sanctions have succeeded in only 5 out of 115 attempts...”³ Also, Dennis J. Halliday uses the word “genocide” to express the Iraq’s sanctions from 1990 have been killing ordinary people, because one of the example he raises is the UNSC decided to block any repairs of water, power, and sewage system causing thousands of innocent child to die.⁴ In such a situation, it is hard to imagine credibility of UN and UNSC, but they say “balance” is the keyword to promote peace and security.

¹ 『北朝鮮制裁決議を全会一致で採択...国連安保理』読売新聞

<http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/feature/20080115-899562/news/20090613-OYT1T00110.htm> [Viewed in September 1, 2009]

² 『米シンクタンク所長 ゴードン・フレーク氏に聞く』東京新聞

<http://www.tokyo-np.co.jp/article/world/news/CK2009090502000081.html> [Viewed in September 1, 2009]

³ Pape, Robert A., *International Security vol.22-2* “Why Economic Sanction Do Not Work” Massachusetts Institutions of Technology Press, USA 1997 p 90

⁴ Halliday, Dennis J.; *The Brown Journal of World Affairs Winter/Spring 2000 – Volume VII, Issue 1* “The Deadly and Illegal Consequences of Economic Sanctions on the People of Iraq” Brown University Press, USA 2000 p 229 - 231

Military Actions:

The last result to stop those who have breached or will breach peace and security is the usage of military actions. The Gulf War in 1990, allowed several military actions to occur due to collapse of Cold War and the new world power was now in the hands of USA. The mission on August 1990 was Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The multinational military would use its force to push out the Iraqi force. Ever since this war it was up to the USA to use its military to stop any aggressors that might be a threat to world peace. However, conflicts in former Yugoslavia, in Somalia, in Rwanda could not stop the deaths of several innocents and was questioned whether the process of bringing peace is the right way.⁵

Such military actions may or may not have been necessary, but the weakness of the UN and UNSC to promote peace and security has been a difficult always an issue.

Veto

'The right of veto,' the power of the five permanent states in the UNSC, has caused the international organization to become stalemate during the cold war. In beginning of the year, USA has not vetoed the UN resolution of immediate ceasefire in Gaza, but in the past ceasefires has been vetoed ending with thousands of casualties. Nevertheless, the usage of veto has dramatically dropped compare to Cold War, but still this power given to P5 is a great debate. To protect the general population from allowing the P5 to use veto their needs a system that would counter the veto. The best way is probably the need of the involvement of the General Assembly's (GA) immediate voting. The immediate voting will occur only to save the general population from conflicts involving armed force. However, it depends on the voting rate of GA in order to pass it.

The best process in a situation dealing with the rescue of the general population is the majority vote; however, in the GA, the voting rate to pass is 2/3. Does that represent 192 member states voice or even the UNSC's voice? It is good to have a unanimous vote, but with different ideals of peace it creates confusion making it hard to pass any right. Therefore, there should be two levels of intervention according to the voting rate: 1) when there is more than 2/3 of the vote or 2) more than 94% of the state voting. When 2/3 of vote is gained, but less than 94% it should allow all NGOs with recognition from a supportive state that will fund to intervene the state in trouble; also, allowing the NGO to be the representative of the UN. When more than 94% reached, all member states will immediately work to ceasefire the conflict in a peaceful process.

The reason for more than 2/3 vote is almost all resolution in the GA have been resolved in 2/3 majority vote. Next, the reason for 94% is the percentage of weigh of a single veto made in the 15 member states. Therefore, having more than 180 votes represents more than

⁵ Hanhimaki Jussi M. *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction* Oxford University Press, USA 2008

the single veto in the UNSC. Also, 94% could be said it is close to a unanimous vote or consensus method with reservations.

The reason for only allowing the NGO to intervene the problem is to avoid the non-intervention principle, because as long as the state does not intervene it will not have any involvement on the sovereignty. Also, allowing the NGO to be representative of the UN allows the organization to be protected from armed attacks that may occur. Nevertheless, ever since the Kosovo incident in 1999, the role of the NGO became important to help the general population.

Veto is a typical power that UNSC must solve away for the 21st century UN to obtain more trust among the world.

Conclusion:

The role of the UNSC's role is to promote peace and security through actively interfering with the international affairs that might be the cause of threat to peace. Therefore, the credibility of UNSC, it is hard to say that UN is the type of organization that the world has awaited for. However, it may not be the world government, but it is still developing to meet the needs of the general public. An active reform is undoubtedly needed, but it is trying to promote peace and security through several projects like the Millennium Development Goal.

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Report on coordinating activities for economic development of the United Nations

Chu Cong Hoang

Although most people associate the United Nations with the issues of peace and security, the vast majority of the Organization's resources are in fact devoted to advancing the Charter's pledge to "promote higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development". The founders of the Organization believed that World War II was in large measure an outcome of the Great Depression of the 1930s; in other words, that economic turmoil had been transformed into political instability, which in turn was a precondition to the Nazi takeover in Germany. One of the UN's central goals was to prevent similar economic upheaval and the political consequences that derived from it. Therefore, many of the economic and social transformations that have taken place globally since 1945 have been significantly affected in their direction and shape by the work of the United Nations. As the global centre for consensus-building, the UN has set priorities and goals for international cooperation to assist countries in their development efforts and to foster a supportive global economic environment.

Owned by all countries, the UN enjoys a unique political legitimacy. It helps shape global agendas, but also responds to the specific needs of individual countries. UN development agencies have strong mandates and a wealth of skills and knowledge, honed by decades of on-the-ground work in developing countries. But while the UN Charter speaks of promoting "higher standards of living" and "creating "conditions of economic and social progress and development" there has never been an agreement on how these goals should be advanced. Therefore, in September 2000, the General Assembly adopted the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The UN's major task was make the world better place by,

among other things, eradicating poverty and hunger and coordinating the whole world's activities for economic development.

In the 1960s the UN's economic agenda shifted from reconstruction to development. Beginning in 1960, the General Assembly has helped set priorities and goals through a series of 10-year International Development Strategies. While focusing on issues of particular concern, the Decades have consistently stressed the need for progress on all aspects of social and economic development. To achieve its economic development goal, the UN created agencies and specialized agencies in order to implement and coordinate its activities.

The World Bank rapidly became an institution focusing on development aid. In 1960, it founded a subsidiary, the International Development Association (IDA)¹. While the original World Bank lending agency, IBIRD, has shifted its focus to so-called middle-income countries, the IDA's task was to provide interest free-loans and grants to the least developed ones, countries that already in the 1950s were called the "third world." Also in the 1960s the first meeting of the United Nation Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was hold. This meeting had two significant long-term results: (i) it led to the creation of the Group of 77 as a powerful lobby for the interests of developing countries; (ii) UNCTAD has taken the integration of developing countries into the world economy as its key mission. Besides, the creation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Trade Organization (WTO, known as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, or GATT, between 1947 and 1995²) reflect a certain ideological view on how the international economy should function; while the GATT/WTO developed into an institution upholding the principle of ever-freer trading rules (if not always successfully), the IMF

¹ The first IDA loans, to Chile, Honduras, India, and Sudan, were approved in 1961. Over the subsequent forty-five years the IDA gave roughly \$161 billion in loans (usually called credits) to 108 countries. Most of them have gone to Africa; in 2008 half were in sub-Saharan African. <http://www.un.org/en/development/progareas/macroFin.shtml>

² There are a number of ways of looking at the WTO. It's an organization for liberalizing trade. It's a forum for governments to negotiate trade agreements. It's a place for them to settle trade disputes. It operates a system of trade rules. (But it's not Superman, just in case anyone thought it could solve — or cause — all the world's problems!)

was set up to increase stability in the world's currency market. Also, UN Development Program (UNDP) in 1965 was a milestone in global development policy. Its initial purpose was to coordinate the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and the United Nations Special Fund (UNSF), operational since 1949 and 1959 respectively, in order to respond better to the needs of a growing number of newly independent countries. Above all, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is the principal body coordinating the economic and social work of the United Nations and its operational arms. It is serviced by the Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). The entire family of United Nations organizations works for economic, social and sustainable

Over the past several decades, with the economic development goal in mind, United Nations development efforts have profoundly affected the lives and well-being of millions of people throughout the world. The mandates of the specialized agencies cover virtually all areas of economic endeavour. The agencies provide technical assistance and other forms of practical help to countries around the world. In cooperation with the UN, they help formulate policies, set standards and guidelines, foster support and mobilize funds. The World Bank, for example, provided more than \$38.2 billion in development loans in fiscal year 2008 to nearly 100 developing countries³. Meanwhile, the WTO is a place where member governments go, to try to sort out the trade problems they face with each other. Where countries have faced trade barriers and wanted them lowered, the negotiations have helped to liberalize trade. At its heart are the WTO agreements, negotiated and signed by the bulk of the world's trading nations. These documents provide the legal ground-rules for international commerce. They are essentially contracts, binding governments to keep their trade policies within agreed limits. However, trade relations often involve conflicting interests. Agreements, including those painstakingly negotiated in the WTO system, often need interpreting. The most harmonious way to settle these differences is through some neutral

³ The World Bank annual report 2008: year in review which provided to student attend the GP project organized by Waseda University's GSAP.

procedure based on an agreed legal foundation. That is the purpose behind the dispute settlement process written into the WTO agreements.

The UN programmes and funds work under the authority of the General Assembly and the ECOSOC to carry out the UN's economic and social mandate. The UN Development Group, comprising the UN operational programmes and funds, enhances overall cooperation. UNDP, the UN's largest provider of grants for sustainable development worldwide, is actively involved in attaining the Millennium Development Goals. It also houses the UN Resident Coordinator system for managing UN country teams. It has encouraged the harmonization of UN activities nationally and globally, modeled partnerships that marry the strengths of different but complementary agencies spearheaded the creation of common UN development assistance strategies and administered multi-donor trust funds in post-crisis situations.

To increase the participation of developing countries in the global economy, the UN's UNCTAD promotes international trade. UNCTAD also works with the WTO, a separate and specialized entity, in assisting developing countries' exports through the International Trade Centre⁴. Continued efforts to better coordinate the different parts of the UN system will allow diverse sources of expertise to flourish, while reducing duplication. Closer integration will ensure that different initiatives build on each other to maximize resources and results. Standardized and modern business practices will increase transparency, streamline operations and channel the targeted use of funds.

Over the past several years, the global community has put in place a platform for achieving a more cohesive UN. This has been carefully built through recommendations from the Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit to assess progress on the MDGs and other development goals, the resolutions of the UN General Assembly, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and most recently, the

⁴ Over three quarters of WTO members are developing countries and countries in transition to market economies. During the seven and a half years of the Uruguay Round, over 60 of these countries implemented trade liberalization programmes autonomously. At the same time, developing countries and transition economies were much more active and influential in the Uruguay Round negotiations than in any previous round, and they are even more so in the current Doha Development Agenda.

recommendations of the High-Level Panel on UN System-wide Coherence. The platform starts with the MDGs as a common international agenda, with the expectation that national plans to achieve the goals will be developed and supported. The guiding principle is that development strategies must be nationally driven, backed by harmonized international assistance rather than a welter of individual interests. Partnerships - among governments, the UN, other international institutions, private enterprise and civil society - can unleash new resources and capacities for development.

To clearly prove the role of the UN on coordinating activities for economic development, we can witness activities of the IMF on tackling current challenges. Within two years 2008-2009, the IMF has helped many emerging market countries tackle the problems brought on by the devastating global economic crisis. Its lending to low-income countries has also been stepped up, as these countries start to feel the effects of the crisis. And it is providing policy advice to advanced countries, for instance on how to address problems in their financing and banking sectors, and how to design effective stimulus packages. As part of its response, the IMF has already more than doubled its financial assistance to low-income countries, with new IMF concessional lending commitments to low-income countries through mid-July 2009 reaching \$2.9 billion compared with \$1.5 billion for the whole of 2008. As the global economy continues to struggle in 2009, and with both trade and capital flows plummeting, the IMF is foreseeing mounting problems for many countries. The Fund is therefore seeking to add to its resources, and has already negotiated borrowing agreements with a number of countries. The Fund has already made good progress toward its target of \$250 billion in bilateral government loans as part of moves to triple the IMF's lendable resources to \$750 billion. Agreements are already in place with Japan (\$100 billion), Canada (\$10 billion), and Norway (\$4.5 billion), and a number of other countries have committed funds either through loans or the purchase of IMF notes⁵. In addition, the Fund is closely tracking economic and financial developments worldwide so that it can provide policymakers with the latest forecasts and

⁵ <http://www.imf.org/external/about/onagenda.htm>

analysis of developments in financial markets. And it is engaging with the Group of 20 (G-20) leading economies and other stakeholders on issues related to the evolution of the international financial system.

Besides, for the time being the UN has embarked on a number of initiatives to increase coordination and efficiency in support of all of these objectives, with UNDP an important source for helping this process move forward. In 2006, when the UN Secretary-General convened the High-Level Panel on UN System-wide Coherence, the UNDP Administrator was asked to serve as an ex-officio member, offering input to the deliberations of representatives from 13 countries. The Panel's final report, *Delivering as One*, proposed a framework for unified UN operations. It called for a well-governed, well-funded UN equipped to meet the changing needs of countries, especially through strategic support for national development plans. The report proposed consolidating most UN country activities under one strategic programme, one budgetary framework, one strong country team leader and one office where possible.

Eight countries have now agreed to pilot unified UN activities: Albania, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uruguay and Viet Nam. Grappling with a variety of issues and at different stages of development, the eight countries will explore configurations for consolidation based on national needs. Their experiences will eventually help in establishing unified operations in other countries. All pilots will evolve in step with the requirements of national governments, without disrupting the delivery of existing services.

As a typical example, Viet Nam moved forward with reforming 2007, building on efforts that began in 2005. Six UN organizations in Hanoi have agreed on a common plan for the period 2006-2010. It groups the activities of individual agencies under five strategic outcomes linked to Viet Nam's national Socio-Economic Development Plan. Attached to the One Plan is the One Budget, covering total resource requirements. For joint mobilization and allocation of non-core resources, a One Plan Fund has been established, where final decisions rest with the UN Resident Coordinator. Steps are also being taken to

bring project management guidelines into closer alignment with the systems of the Vietnamese Government.

Over six decades, the United Nations has a central role in the efforts to support poor countries tackle a variety of global social, economic, financial and environmental challenges and to foster sustainable development in all its dimensions. To achieve its goal as economic development to our world, coherence and coordination of policies and actions between the UN, its agencies and the international financial institutions as well as the relevant regional organizations should be strengthened. We also call on the UN, working with other global institutions, countries, NGOs and people around the world to establish an effective mechanism to monitor and implement one of its four principle aims⁶ in order to reach a better world.

⁶ First, the UN was to safeguard peace and security in order “to save succeeding generations from scourge of war”. Second, it was “to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights”. Third, the UN was to uphold respect to international law. And fourth, the UN pledged “to promote social progress and better standard of life”.

Social Development and Millennium Development Goals

Skale Nadja

The United Nations Water Conference in 1977 set the year 1990 as a deadline to realise the goal of universal access to water.¹ In 2006, almost 30 years after the target was set, 2.5 billion people were still lacking access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.² The 1977 target is now planned for 2015 under the 7th Millennium Development Goal (MDG). UN World Summit for Children in 1990 set as a similarly unsuccessfully accomplished goal for universal primary-school enrolment to be achieved by the year 2000.³ Realising that the target would not be met by 2000, achieving universal primary education is now one of the MDGs, however, improvements are still too slow for the goal to be met even by 2015. From spiritual leaders to rock stars, from small NGOs to international banks, the world seems to be very aware of the tragedy of the world's poor. As Easterly put it in his insightful "The White Man's Burden", the "...poverty in the Rest justifiably moves many people in the West."⁴ However, if learning from past efforts is needed to help world's poorest, then judging from its rather appalling track record, the UN (or more accurately, rich, Western donors) seems not to be suitable for this hard and important task. Nevertheless, it is the only organisations truly global in its scope and therefore critical for improving the lives of the poor across the globe and addressing the challenges no country can resolve on its own. Despite past failures, however, neither looking backwards and focusing on non-achievements rather than on successes nor spending time on criticisms rather than reforms will feed the 1 billion people expected to remain in extreme poverty by 2015. (another Millennium development Goal that will not be met by target date.)⁵ This short report will therefore instead of assessing aid effectiveness or analysing reasons behind non-achievements of the Goals, offer an overview of what has been done so far and what challenges

1 <http://www.internationalwaterlaw.org/bibliography/UN/Mar_del_Plata_Report.pdf> (accessed on 4/9/2009)

2 2009 Millennium Development Report, p. 45.

3 <<http://www.unicef.org/wsc/goals.htm>> (accessed on 4/9/2009)

4 Easterly, W., *The White Man's Burden*, The Penguin Press, 2006., p. 8.

5 2009 Millennium Development Report, p. 7.

remain. In particular, I believe it is relevant to focus on the effects of the current financial crisis on development aid and on achieving MDGs.

The Millennium Development goals, a brief overview:

In 2000, the UN Millennium Summit brought together the largest gathering of world leaders in history. The final declaration, signed by 189 countries, listed 8 Millennium Development Goals - a series of time-bound targets with a deadline of 2015, that today guide the efforts of virtually all organisations working in development and have also been commonly accepted as a framework for measuring development progress.⁶ There are eight goals and 21 targets, with measurable indicators for each of them. Progress towards achieving the goals has been uneven and while some countries, such as China and India have drastically reduced their levels of poverty, for example, regions such as Sub-Saharan Africa are visibly lagging behind and have yet to make changes in improving the quality of life for over 50 percent of the population still living below \$1.25 a day. What is even more alarming is that the poverty rate in Sub-Saharan Africa has in the period between 1990 and 2005 fallen for less than 10 percent, while over the same period, poverty in East Asia dropped for over 35 percent,⁷ mainly because of the dramatic reductions in poverty in China. Besley has amongst others argued that we have an African tragedy to contrast with the East Asian miracle.⁸ Unfortunately, the case is frighteningly similar with regards to other MDGs. Due to a limited scope of this report it is unfortunately impossible to discuss in details progresses achieved for each of the Goals, however, annual Millennium Development Reports as well as the MDG monitor⁹ are exhaustive resources on the topic, for those interested.

6 For a general overview please see:

<<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTABOUTUS/0,,contentMDK:20104132~menuPK:250991~pagePK:43912~piPK:44037~theSitePK:29708,00.html>> and <<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/bkgd.shtml>> (both accessed on 4/9/2009)

7 2009 Millenium Development Report, p.6.

8 <<http://econ.lse.ac.uk/staff/rburgess/wp/jep11.pdf>> (accessed on 4/9/2009)

9 <<http://www.mdgmonitor.org/index.cfm>> (accessed on 4/9/2009)

The Millennium Development Goals:



How is the world working towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals?

The MDGs have become a guideline for most actors in development worldwide and it is therefore not surprising that not only it is difficult to develop a comprehensive list of donor agencies involved and to define their respective roles, but also to allocate responsibilities for past failures and successes. UN as the facilitator of the Millennium Development Goals alone works through over 20 different channels. On the UN secretariat level, regional commissions and DESA (Department for Economic and Social affairs) are main development assistance actors, in addition to specialised agencies such as the WHO (World Health Organisation) ILO (International Labour Organisation) or UNESCO (UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) amongst others. Moreover, there are other very significant large organisations such as the World Bank and regional development banks, IMF (International Monetary Fund), European Union, NGOs (Non-governmental organisations), private sector and various foundations, all fighting for the same cause. Cooperation and coordination between donors and often even within the many branches of the very same organisation have been pointed out as major obstacles towards faster and more effective delivery of aid. The United Nations, for example, has therefore recently launched a programme aiming at greater cooperation between the numerous UN agencies working in one country, but often lacking meaningful cooperation. The “Delivering as One” initiative aims to reduce UN Country level governance to one

programme, one leader, one budget and one office.¹⁰ Moreover, the 8th Millennium Development Goal in fact is specifically focused on developing a truly global partnership for international development, working towards achieving an increase in aid, especially targeted for poorest countries and on ensuring that aid commitments do not decline at this critical time of global economic downturn. To accelerate progress on MDGs, at the Gleneagles G8 summit in 2005 and at the UN World Summit later that year, donors committed to increasing their aid. Total ODA, (official development assistance) however, still remains well below the United Nations target of 0.7 percent of GNP (gross national income), a target firstly agreed upon at the 1970 General Assembly, but still not met by the majority of OECD states. In 2008, the only countries to reach or exceed the UN target of 0.7 percent of GNP were Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. Japan, for example, despite being one of the five largest ODA donors by volume, still remains at the very bottom (together with the United States) in terms of ODA as a percentage of GNP.¹¹ For many developing countries, lower levels of aid not only impede further progress, but could reverse some of the gains already made.¹²

Consequences of the recent economic crisis on achieving Millennium Development Goals:

With the Millennium Development Goals target date being less than 7 years away, the world is facing an economic crisis, unprecedented in its severity and global dimensions.¹³ According to the Millennium Development Report, in 2009 an estimated 55 million to 90 million more people will be living in extreme poverty than anticipated before the crisis.¹⁴ Recent World Bank analysis suggests that 200,000-400,000 more infants will die every year and many poor children will lose the opportunity to attend school.¹⁵ High food prices in 2008 already resulted in

10 <<http://www.undg.org/?P=7>> (accessed on 4/9/2009)

11 For information about ODA of all countries, please see OECD DAC statistics, available at: <http://www.oecd.org/infobycountry/0,3380,en_2649_34447_1_1_1_1_1,00.html> (accessed on 4/9/2009)

12 Millennium Development Report 2009, p.4.

13 Millennium Development Report 2009, p.4.

14 Millennium Development Report 2009, p.4.

15 <<http://www.worldbank.org/financialcrisis/pdf/WBGRresponse-VFF.pdf>> (accessed on 4/9/2009)

higher prevalence of hunger in the developing regions¹⁶ and unfortunately, yet unsurprisingly, children bear the brunt of the problem. Progress towards child nutrition has been insufficient to achieve the 2015 target and will most likely be further hampered by the economic turmoil. Another negative consequence of the global financial situation is, the UN predicts, likely to be compromised funding for programmes aiming to improve maternal health, the goal experiencing least achieved progress so far.¹⁷ Moreover, financial difficulties are likely to divert countries' attention from environmental concerns to exerting even more pressure on the already scarce resources, despite deforestation and extinction of species proceeding at an alarming rate and a global water crisis looming. Moreover, with most OECD economies in recession, even fulfilment of their ODA commitments at the current time would imply a diminished amount of aid, which is certainly a cause for concern. However, the issue is not all bleak. The World Bank for example is planning on almost tripling IBRD lending in fiscal year 2009 and has set up an IDA Financial Crisis Response Fast-Track Facility in late 2008, fast-tracking up to \$2 billion of financial assistance, with the potential to increase this amount in the future depending on the need.¹⁸ (IBRD or International Bank for Reconstruction and Development is one of five organisations comprising the World Bank Group and is specifically responsible for lending to middle income countries, whereas IDA or the International Development Association is responsible for lending to poorest countries.)¹⁹

Conclusion:

As the UN under secretary-general for Economic and Social affairs has argued, “*Achieving the MDGs will require that the development agenda be fully integrated into efforts to jumpstart growth and rebuild the global economy.*”²⁰ On the one hand therefore, it is crucial to overcome the global economic crisis and again focus all our concerns on improving the lives of the least

16 Millennium Development Report 2009, p.4

17 Millennium Development Report 2009, p.4

18 <<http://www.worldbank.org/financialcrisis/pdf/WBGResponse-VFF.pdf>> (accessed on 4/9/2009)

19 For a more comprehensive explanation of the structure and work of the World Bank, please refer to the World Bank homepage: < <http://www.worldbank.org/>>

20 Millennium Development Report 2009, p. 5.

well off, on the other hand, however, importance of providing local and sustainable solutions should not be underestimated. Capacity development for example is the overarching contribution of UNDP and efforts such as effective aid management and south-south solutions should cut across all ODA efforts. While economic growth is essential to lifting people out of poverty, it is not the only important factor for achievement of MDGs. There should be an equal focus on local or regional solutions, centred on inclusive growth and gender equality as well as respect for human rights, if an equitable, long-term, sustainable and broad-based human development is achieved.

Despite the grim repercussions of the economic crisis and the slow progress of some regions compared to others in achieving MDGs, if the global community acts constructively, the Goals can still be achieved.²¹

²¹ Millennium Development Report 2009, p.3.

United Nations work for "Sustainable Development"

Maki Katsuro

Like the slogan “Ensure the environmental sustainability” made as one of the targets of Millennium Development Goals, the word “sustainable Development” is often related with environment issues. However, it is not merely a word to use for the environment. Firstly, the word ‘Development’ can be used three of these areas; ‘Environmental Development’, ‘Social Development’ and ‘Economic Development’. Although the terms are different, these overlap each other.

The concept ‘Sustainable development’ was not considered in the United Nations at the beginning. Since 1980’s the UN member countries started negotiations concerning the environmental problems such as the protection of the ozone layer and the management of the toxic waste. Because of this movement the concept of ‘Sustainable Development’ protecting environmental resources and without sacrificing the possibility of the next generation was suggested in the United Nations. Now all the activities of the United Nations reflect this concept.

Agenda21 is an action plan which covers all the areas to adopt ‘Sustainable Development’ plan in Earth Convention (United Nations Conference on Environment and Development) hold in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil in 1992. It describes which action the government of each country is supposed to take. It mainly has these four aspects; a social and economic part, the protection of the development resource, the strengthening of the role of the main groups, and the execution means. As for the action area, atmospheric protection, combating deforestation, conservation of biological diversity, and control of pollution are included. The action plan promotes the roles of children and youth, women, NGOs, and business and workers. The UN is requested to support domestic activities that completes Agenda21, and has been taking actions that reflect the concept of ‘Sustainable Development’ in all related policies and the activity plans.

It is Commission of Sustainable Development (CSD), one of the eight function committee of Economic and Social Council, to play the role to promote the concept ‘Sustainable Development’. It was set up by the General Assembly to complete Agenda21. It now has 53 member countries elected by the director of Economic and Social Council. The members’ term of office is three years. CSD works in cooperation with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and other

organizations. It doesn't serve projects but does technical advising service while UNDP does technical management service through projects. The department of Economic Social Affairs (DESA) is in charge of the secretariat role for it. DESA organized the capacity development office and helps countries which has no capacity to support 'Sustainable Development'. The target of the United Nations' role is not only to make the statistics comparing each country's economic development but also to promote 'Sustainable Development'.

CSD is monitoring not only the situation to complete agreements adopted by Agenda21 but also Earth Convention and so on. In 'Johannesburg Summit', World Summit about 'Sustainable Development', in 2002, following-up ten years after Rio de Janeiro Conference, plan of Implementation met agreement. This summit focused the new problems like the pattern of sustainable production and consumption, energy, and the mining activity. The role of CSD was recognized more owe to this conference. Moreover, CSD has aimed to construct the partnership with governments, civil sectors, and other international organizations to take up serious problems related to 'Sustainable Development' continuing the positive conversations. Also, it helps the adjustment of the activities for the environment and development in the UN. The general meeting of CSD is held once a year for two weeks in New York in April. The representatives of the high level including the bureaucrats attend this meeting.

The agenda that CSD takes up is different every two years. It is called CSD Multi-Year Programme of Work. For instance, the topics from 2004 to 2005 are Water, Sanitation, and Human Settlements, and 2006-2007 are Energy for 'Sustainable Development', Industrial Development, and Air Pollution/Atmosphere Climate Change. The six topics of 2008-2009 are Agriculture, Rural Development, Land, Drought, Desertification, and Africa. The topics of 2010-2011 will be Transport, Chemicals, Waste Management, Mining, and A Ten Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns. Lastly, the topics of 2012-2013 will be Forests, Biodiversity, Biotechnology, Tourism, and Mountains. Finally, the topic of 2014-2015 will be Oceans and Seas, Marine Resources, Small Island Developing States, and Disaster Management and vulnerability. At the end in 2016, it will overall appraise the implementation of Agenda21, the Programme of Further Implementation of Agenda21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

New challenges for CSD are Food Crisis, Energy Crisis, Climate Change, and Financial Crisis, and so on. For instance, the number of refugees will be increased from Tuvalu, the small island country now being suffered by flood because of sea level rise might be caused by global

warming. Therefore, it is decided to be held one day summit of Climate Change in the period of General Assembly which begins in this September. In fact, Global conference on the 'Sustainable Development' of Small Island Developing States was already held in 1994, and the measures to advance 'Sustainable Development' for these countries which had a lot of drawbacks and vulnerabilities came to be done. If DESA receives the requests from these countries, it provides the recommendation for the policy and the technical assistance to promote the ability necessary for 'Sustainable Development'. Moreover, DESA analyzes, and provides the information service.

Now, I will start the analysis the reason why the UN needs to work on 'Sustainable Development'. What are advantages of the UN aid as multilateral aid compared with bilateral one? Taking environmental problems as an example, it is the world-wide problems, and it is necessary for international society to cooperate with. Technical cooperation to environmental preservation can be done even by the bilateral aid. But in this the project duration is already decided in advance. Therefore, at the time the project is done, the bilateral assistance withdraws immediately just leave the completion of the equipments or infrastructures supplied. However, the UN aid is not like that. In a word it can be said that it is help not to fish but to teach how to catch the fish.

Sometimes it is considered that economic development, social development and 'Sustainable Development' are against each other. Especially it is difficult for a lot of developing countries to think about 'Sustainable Development', because they want to pursue economic development more than the protection of environment. On the other hand now in the world 83 percent of the 192 UN member countries need UNDP supports. It means these countries are still insufficient in social and social development. Then, how you can say to pursue 'Sustainable Development' for these countries? It is a matter of how to balance these developments. If only economic development is promoted, the country doesn't become the one that lasts long. Neither economic nor 'Sustainable' development will be against each other when we consider the long future. The UN can contribute the different support with the bilateral assistance in such respect. Therefore, doing technical assistance for 'Sustainable Development' to the developing country has an important meaning.

There are a lot of sectors which work for 'Sustainable Development' for the issues like water, natural resources, and energy of a climatic variation, global warming, and small maintenance of management of islands and the forest, prevention of desertification, biodiversity,

pollutions, excessive fisheries, and the marine environments. On the other hand, economic crisis and conflict and many other things that happens one after another obstruct 'Sustainable Development'. Now, to tie 'Sustainable Development' with the civil society, economic activity, and the three sides of the environment becomes a first essential step which we can make to be against a would-be hopeless situation. It is insufficient that individual UN agency advances the project dividedly. CSD is now becoming a facilitator, and is working on 'Sustainable Development' while attempting working with other UN agencies, governments, NGOs. Of course, the citizens are necessary and indispensable.

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The Role of Japan in the United Nations

Maya Saeki

1. Introduction

Japan, since it joined the United Nations as the 80th member country in 1956, has made constant contributions to the United Nations, including the financial commitment to be met under the scale of assessment. Japan has also been a strenuous contributor on the maintenance of international peace and security, such as UN peacekeeping operations, capacity building aimed at preventing and eradicating terrorism. Above all, Japan, as the only country atom-bombed, has taken an active role particularly in the field of the nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation. However, the role of Japan in the United Nations has not been clear, because Japan tends to emphasize “what the UN expects Japan to do” in stead of “what Japan would like to do in the United Nations.

Firstly, in this paper, take a look at Japan’s contributions in finances and human resources, and secondly make sure Japan’s approaches for the UN reform to know where Japan places importance on. Thirdly, mention one suggestion made by Mr. Kawabata from the United Nations Department of Political Affairs (DPA) and lastly try to discuss what the role of Japan in the United Nations is.

2. Japan’s Contributions to the UN

- Financial Contribution

Under UN scale of assessments for the regular budget in 2004-2006, Japan provided the second largest after the United States, 19.468% of the UN budgets. UN scale of assessments reflects the economy of member states so therefore Japan’s UN scale of assessment has been the second after the US as well as the economic conditions. What was interesting is that Japan’s UN scale exceeded the total of Permanent members of the Security Council except for US: United Kingdom, France, China and Russia.

In 2007-2009, Japan covers 16.624% of the UN budgets. In comparison with Japan’s financial obligation in 2004-2006, its rate was downed 2.844% as a result of consideration on current economic condition of Japan. However Japan is still the second largest contributor to the budgets after US.

With regard to voluntary contributions, Japan has been made significant financial

contributes to the UN funds and programmes such as UNFPA: United Nations Populations Fund, UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, WFP: World Food Programme, and UNDP: United Nations Development Programme.

- Human Resources Contribution

Japan, as a nation dedicated to peace, has been working for the maintenance of peace and security. Under the International Peace Cooperation Law enacted in 1992, Japan has cooperated in eight peacekeeping operations such as in Angola, Cambodia, Mozambique, El Salvador, the Golan Heights and Timor-Leste; in five international humanitarian relief operations such as for Rwandan refugees and Timorese and Iraqi displaced persons; and in five international election monitoring activities such as in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Timor-Leste. According to recent press releases, the government of Japan made a decision to extend the dispatch of the international peace cooperation corps in the Golan Heights and the dispatch of additional personnel to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) On January 30, 2009¹.

3. Japan's efforts for reform of the UN

“Every day we are reminded of the need for a strengthened United Nations, as we face a growing array of new challenges, including humanitarian crises, human rights violations, armed conflicts and important health and environmental concerns...”² As Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon says, the international community is facing threats that were not rose up when the UN was established in 1945, such as terrorism, poverty, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Thus, the UN needs to be reformed for enhancing its relevance and effectiveness to deal with realities in the world. It would be useful to confirm Japan's approaches for reform of the UN to understand how the government of Japan intends to commit the UN.

- Institutional Reform

The UN was established with 51 member states and its membership as grown to 192 in the sixty years of the UN. It is clear that Asia and Africa have raised their presence in the international community. “Yet the composition of the Security Council is still frozen in the past,

¹ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan HP (http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2009/1/1187362_1126.html)

² The United Nations HP (<http://www.un.org/reform/>)

with fifteen members including the Permanent five (P5) who enjoy their privileged status.”³ Security Council reform is the key to restructure the UN itself. Japan, based on this belief, demands that composition of the Security Council should more accurately reflect the realities of the present world and Japan is eager to expand the Council. Japan is also ready to play a larger role as a permanent member of Security Council.

Japan had required that UN scale of assessments should be made more equitable and fair, based on considerations not only for the economic conditions of member states but also for their status and responsibilities in the UN. Eventually, Japan’s UN scale of assessment in 2007-2009 was made less in amount from 19.468% to 16.624%. In result, Japan falls below the total of UN scale of assessment of Permanent members except for US since 2007.

- Human Rights

In March 1999, the Government of Japan and the United Nations Secretariat launched the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS), which is funded by Japan. Japan has implemented a great number of projects throughout the world supported by UNTFHS.

The Human Rights Council, an inter-governmental body within the UN system, was created by the UN General Assembly on 15 March 2006 with the main purpose of addressing situations of human rights violations and make recommendations on them. Japan played an active role in the process of its establishment.

4. Learning from a briefing in the UN

During the briefing in the UN, Mr. Kawabata from DPA told us that there is no other country but Japan that asks the UN “what does the UN want my country to do?” in stead of “My country wants to do this, so the UN should do that for us”. This implies Japan does not present its vision in the UN, but tries to understand what the UN expects Japan to do and follow its advices without the strength of will.

In the mean time, Mr. Kawabata suggested us to think by ourselves before asking him about the role of Japan in the United Nations as well.

³ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan HP (<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/un/pamph0704.pdf>)

5. Conclusion

Human Security and Africa

With regard to the role of Japan in the United Nations, I think it is important to consider the uniqueness of Japan's achievements in the international community after its accession to the UN, because Japan would take advantages to show its own vision to the international community in the certain fields that Japan has addressed constantly.

After world warⅡ, Japan with "Three Non-Nuclear Principles" did not seek to be military power, instead, Japan as the only nation that had experienced nuclear devastation, has emphasized on the nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation regime. In the context of maintenance of International peace and security, Japan has been addressing disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants (DDR), nation-building, and humanitarian assistance in order to promote and practice of "human security", which aims at protection and empowerment of each individual. In order to resolve of conflicts, not only to monitor ceasefires but also to address the root causes of conflicts is important. Based upon this belief, Japan played the powerful role in the establishment of the UNTFHS and utilizes it to provide seamless assistance during the transition from emergency humanitarian assistance to development assistance in post-conflict regions.

Africa is region where establishing human security is an urgent matter and Japan has been at the forefront in advocating Africa issues as challenge the international community is facing through its sponsorship of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD).

In my understanding, the role of Japan in the United Nations is the exercise of leadership in promotion of human security in African countries holding humanitarian crises. For materializing it, Japan should make both financial and human resources contributions in UN peacekeeping operations, international humanitarian relief activities and election observation activities. It is challenging to reach a consensus on the dispatch Japanese personnel to Africa in Japan through advocating the activities of the UN on maintenance of International peace and security with accurate and adequate information.

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Career Opportunities and Qualifications to Become UN staff

Masayuki Ohira

Why do lots of people want to work for the United Nations? There are a number of reasons for that. Some want to work because of the strong belief in the purpose of the UN. Some want to work in a multicultural environment. Some want the status and good reputation of the UN. And some find the salary and benefits of the UN are attractive. People around the world are longing for the position at the UN. However, the opportunities are strictly limited.

From August 26th to 29th of this year, we visited the United Nations Headquarters in New York. We received the informative briefings from the staffs who are mainly working at the United Nations Secretariat. In the end, we could capture the clear image of working at the United Nations and also career trajectory as the UN staffs.

How to achieve the dream working at the UN? This paper will explore the career opportunities and qualifications to become the United Nations staff in case of the UN Secretariat. First, we will briefly mention the organizational structure and staffing system including incentives. And then we will look at the specific types of recruitment with the extensive information on qualifications and application procedure for each.

1. About the United Nations Secretariat

1.1. Organizational structure of the UN Secretariat

The United Nations Secretariat is the core organ of the United Nations, working for function the whole United Nations system through day-to-day work and supporting the activities of other organizations. It is headed by the Secretary-General who is appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council. There are 8 main offices around the world, which is called “Duty Stations”: New York, Geneva, Nairobi, Vienna, Santiago, Bangkok, Beirut, Addis Ababa. Its substantive jobs encompass a wide range of fields: political, economic, social, civil, and humanitarian affairs, human rights, rule of law, legal affairs, public information, statistics, demographics, public administrations, and electoral affairs. With these substantive jobs, there are also support related jobs such as human recourses, finance, facilities, cartography, medical, library science, and language support.

1.2. Overview of the staffing system

Staff members in the Secretariat consist of 40,000 civilian including international and local staffs and the other personnel from militant and police that are engaged in peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations. Occupations are divided into several categories. After the Secretary General, Under-Secretary-General, and Assistant Secretary-General, it follows D2, D1 in director level, and then P-5 to P-1 in professional level. There are other categories in spelling G(scale from 5 to 1) which deals with the ground services where the recruitment of the staff is conducted at the local offices.

In the recruitment process of the UN Secretariat, geography and gender are considered very important. There are desirable ranges for each member states of the United Nations and also the desirable gender distribution at 50:50.

1.3. Incentives

Staffs are paid in accordance with the salary scales by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the International Civil Service Commission(ICSC). And the salary is determined with the principle of the Noblemaire which states that the international civil service should be able to recruit staff from all its Member States, including the highest paid one. Therefore, the salary scales of the UN staff refer the highest paying country, which is at this moment the United States of America. So it seems quite good salary. Other than the salary, UN staffs are enjoying the fascinating benefits such as annual & sick leave, home leave, maternally & paternity leave, dependency allowance, education grant for child, and well-established pension.

2. Recruitment opportunity and requirements

2.1. Regular recruitment at the established Duty Stations

This type of recruitment targets higher than P-2 level with exemption of peacekeeping operation(peacekeeping starts from P-2). The application is open not only to the external candidates but also to the internal candidates, the UN officials. All the vacancy information is disclosed on the UN website(<http://jobs.un.org>) for 60days if the position hasn't filled by the internal candidates.

There are a couple of basic requirements for this type of recruitment. First, applicants have to hold an advanced university degree(Master's) or combination of Bachelor's degree and

relevant work experience. Second, applicants must be fluent either one of the UN working languages: English or French. Applicants may be required the fluency of other UN official languages for certain jobs. The last requirement is work experience. Applicants have to have concrete work experience in accordance with the level of the position they are applying to. P-3 level requires 5 years of work experience, P-4: 7 years, P-5: 10 years, D-1: 15 years.

All the application procedure is done online. Applicants need to complete “User Profile” registration, first of all, and then submit “Personal History Profile(PHP)” and cover letter. After the selection is conducted by the manager of the department and Human Resource officers, candidates are called for the interview. Even if the candidates failed the interview, their name remain on the roaster and they will be asked in the future when there is a similar vacancy.

2.2. National Competitive Recruitment Examination (NCRE)

Most entry level of the United Nations, which is P-2, are filled through this examination. The first NCRE examination was held in 1974 and regularly organized since 1981. Examinations held annually for countries that are pre-selected, based on their representation status(open to unrepresented or underrepresented countries) and agreement with their Governments.

There are various requirements for the application of the NCRE. First, you need to be a national of any of the participating Member States in this exam. Second, you need to be younger than 32 years old as of 31 December of the year of the exam. Third, you must hold at least a first-level university degree relevant to one of the offered occupational groups. Forth, you need to be fluent either English or French.

Regarding the applications process, applicants must submit and application and Personal History Profile. Then only eligible candidates are allowed to take the written examination. The candidates who passed the written examinations will be asked to go to the interview. Application is closed on 31 October of the year. As to the year 2010, no examination will be held since some reform of the examination is going on upon receiving the requests from the General Assembly.

2.3. Associate Experts Programme

Associate Experts Programme is based on the bilateral agreements between the United Nations and the donor countries(currently 23 countries). The name of the programmes is also

used as “Junior Associate Officers Programme” or “Associate Professional Officers Programme”. It is designed to offer graduates the opportunity to acquire professional experience in a variety of fields.

The programme duration is 2 years and after the period’s termination the participants are required to apply for the vacancy position as the same bases with the external candidates in case of the UN Secretariat. As to the application, initial selection is conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After receiving the list of candidates from the countries, the United Nations conducts its own evaluation and interview.

Requirements of application vary in accordance with the counties guideline. Mostly advanced degree (Master’s) and 1 or 2 years of work experience are required. Also in most of the cases the applicants should be below 32 years old. As to the language fluency, applicants should be fluent in either English or French.

2.4. Internship Programme

This programme is called “United Nations Headquarters Internship Programme” in distinction from the other internship programmes offered by the UN Funds & Programmes and the UN Specialized Agencies. This is full time and unpaid internship programme intended to provide students with opportunity to familiarize themselves with the daily basics of the United Nations. Normally the interns work in department which is related to their field of study.

As to the requirements, applicants must be enrolled in graduate school. They must apply at least 4 months in advance of the start of internship to the duty station of choice. The duration of the programme is usually 2 months. However, upon request, the period could be extended to a maximum of 6 months. Internship programme starts three times in a year from Mid-January, June, and Mid-September. The application is conducted thorough the UN website(<http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/sds/internsh/index.htm>).

Although this programme is not the part of the official recruitment process, interns obtain valuable experiences which benefit them in pursuing the career in the United Nations. At work, interns are requested to conduct their task with responsibility and creativity. They are assigned to write reports, letters and organise the conference in a team etc. Even outside the work, there are a number of benefits for interns. For example, the UN officials provide the special informative session on the UN recruitment and career opportunities. Various activities are organized by the intern committees such as yearbook committee, newsletter committee, and

cultural committee. Also after the work they could go to university nearby and take night courses. So it gives a networking and also self fulfilling experiences to those who interested in working for the United Nations.

Career Opportunities and Qualifications to become PKO Staff

Chisato Saruta

United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (PKO)

The United Nations peacekeeping is a unique and dynamic instrument developed by the organization as a way to help countries torn by conflict. The first UN peacekeeping mission was established in 1948, when the Security Council authorized the deployment of UN military observers to the Middle East to monitor the Armistice Agreement between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Since then, there have been a total of 63 UN peacekeeping operations around the world.

Over the years, UN peacekeeping has evolved to meet the demands of different conflicts and a changing political landscape. Today's peacekeepers undertake a wide variety of complex tasks, from helping to build sustainable institutions of governance, to human rights monitoring, to security sector reform, to the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants. Each peacekeeping operation has a specific set of mandated tasks, but all share certain common aims; to alleviate human suffering, and create conditions and build institutions for self-sustaining peace. The substantial presence of a peacekeeping operation on the ground contributes to this aim by introducing the UN as a third party with a direct impact on the political process. In exercise of its tasks, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) aims to minimize the many risks to which peacekeepers may be exposed in the field.

UN peacekeeping continues to evolve, both conceptually and operationally, to meet new challenges and political realities. Faced with the rising demand for increasingly complex peace operations, the United Nations in the past few years has been overstretched and challenged as never before. The organization has worked vigorously to strengthen capacity to manage and sustain field operations and contribute to the most important function

of the United Nations for maintaining international peace and security (Chiyuki 2007).

Career Opportunities and Qualifications for PKO staff

Attracting and retaining qualified personnel is a critical support function in the United Nations peacekeeping operations. As stated in article 101 of the Charter, securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity is the paramount consideration in the employment of the United Nations staff and the determination of conditions of service. The international and national staff and uniformed personnel of a United Nations peacekeeping operation are its most valuable assets and must be managed carefully. Being a United Nations peacekeeper requires extraordinary professionalism, dedication and self-restraint. The vast majority of the women and men serving in the United Nations peacekeeping operations around the world do possess these rare qualities (Chiyuki 2007).

Peacekeepers monitor and observe peace processes in post conflict areas and assist combatants in implementing the peace agreements they may have signed. Working in a peacekeeping operation provides an opportunity to be a part of an international effort to better the lives of the people it aims to serve. It is a very demanding, dynamic and rewarding experience. In order to fulfill its primary peacekeeping role, the United Nations is involved in a number of operations established in different regions of the world (United Nations 2007).

The military forces provided directly by the Member States of the United Nations. Those operations also rely on civilian staff for a wide variety of functions ranging from monitoring the observance of human rights to managing human or material resources. These operations provide significant opportunities for a number of professionals with a variety of professional backgrounds (United Nations 2007).

At the professional level, candidates must have proven track records in one of the following fields: political affairs, legal affairs, human rights, election monitoring, humanitarian assistance, public information, general administration, procurement, logistics,

civil engineering, and electronic data processing. The work in the professional category generally demands a high degree of analytical skills, communication skills, substantive expertise and/or managerial leadership ability. Minimum requirements for mission service are an advanced university degree or its equivalent in a relevant discipline, preferably two to four years of relevant professional experience and fluency in English and/or French. Fluency in additional languages, such as Arabic, Portuguese, Russian or Spanish as well as working experience in developing countries, constitutes a definite advantage. Depending on the position, other factors to be evaluated may include national versus international experience; progressively responsible and diversified experiences at the level of managerial or leadership responsibility held, and knowledge of a particular geographic region, including local languages. In addition, applicants must be in excellent health and prepared to work in hardship area under difficult and sometimes dangerous conditions (United Nations 2007).

The selection of senior mission leaders must be a carefully considered process.

Mutual respect and the ability to transcend turf issues are essential qualities for the successful management and integration of multi-dimensional United Nations peacekeeping operations. Prior to assuming their functions, senior mission leaders should be given adequate training and preparation on the challenges that they are likely to face in the field. All personnel in leadership positions should exemplify the highest standards and should be held accountable for their behavior and performance. If not performing up to expectations, they should be counseled and removed from the mission (United Nations 2007).

Women's career opportunity in UN Peacekeeping Operations

The United Nations peacekeeping is in high demand now. With a 400 percent increase in the number of peacekeeping missions in the past two decades, the pressure to quickly launch, staff, and coordinate the military and civilian components of multi-dimensional peace operations has never been greater. Despite the urgent need, UN missions have failed to attract, retain, and advance the most qualified talent in leadership

positions. Especially women are an untapped and potentially powerful resource to staff and lead these missions. Women remain underrepresented in management positions and are rarely appointed at the highest levels of leadership (Camille 2008).

The UN has committed itself to 50-50 gender balance throughout the organization, and to the equal participation of women in all aspects of peace process, including peacekeeping (United Nations 2007). Since the historic adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 in 2000, the recognition of the important and beneficial role that women play in building sustainable peace has steadily increased. Civil society arguments for women's inclusion in the formal processes of peacemaking and peace-building are bolstered by growing evidence of women's impact on the ground in unstable and conflict affected countries. Numerous policymakers and practitioners within the UN and other multi lateral organizations are publicly acknowledging the value of women in leadership roles (Camille 2008).

Intentionally women in leadership positions in field missions are seen as role models for women within peace operations, both within the mission and to the host country. Many women managers in field missions fire other women, purposefully recruiting them, supporting those in junior positions, and demonstrating a commitment to mentor their careers. Furthermore, when women are visible in the mission, particularly in senior positions, an example is set for women's post-war participation in the host country in political, economic, and even military roles (Camille 2008).

While UN peacekeeping clearly remains male dominated, particularly at the leadership levels, there has been significant forward movement in recent years at UN headquarters and in the field as a result of the ever growing and dire need for talent in peacekeeping. A number of reforms are increasing women's representation in senior peacekeeping positions. In 2007 alone, the number of women in senior posts increased by 37 percent. Several new components within DPKO- namely the Senior Appointments Section and the Department of Field Support's (DFS) Recruitment and Outreach Unit, are incorporating gender sensitivity and prioritizing the identification of qualified women. Other planned mechanisms and

activities could further improve recruitment for peacekeeping posts, such as greater collaboration in the recruitment of political and development/ humanitarian Deputy Special Representative of the Security General's (DSRSG), the creation of a new Enterprise Resource Planning system that will replace the online peacekeeping application system, the development of a new talent search system, and better outreach to civil society. Some senior managers at headquarters and in the field, both men and women, have demonstrated a personal commitment to increasing women's participation. In DFS, in just the past two years, women now occupy key senior level human resource and outreach positions. All have made vocal, public commitments to fulfilling the mandates of Security Council Resolution 1325 and are working on a daily basis to make this a practical reality (Camille 2008). The UN will create more opportunities for qualified female leaders in UN peacekeeping operations.

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