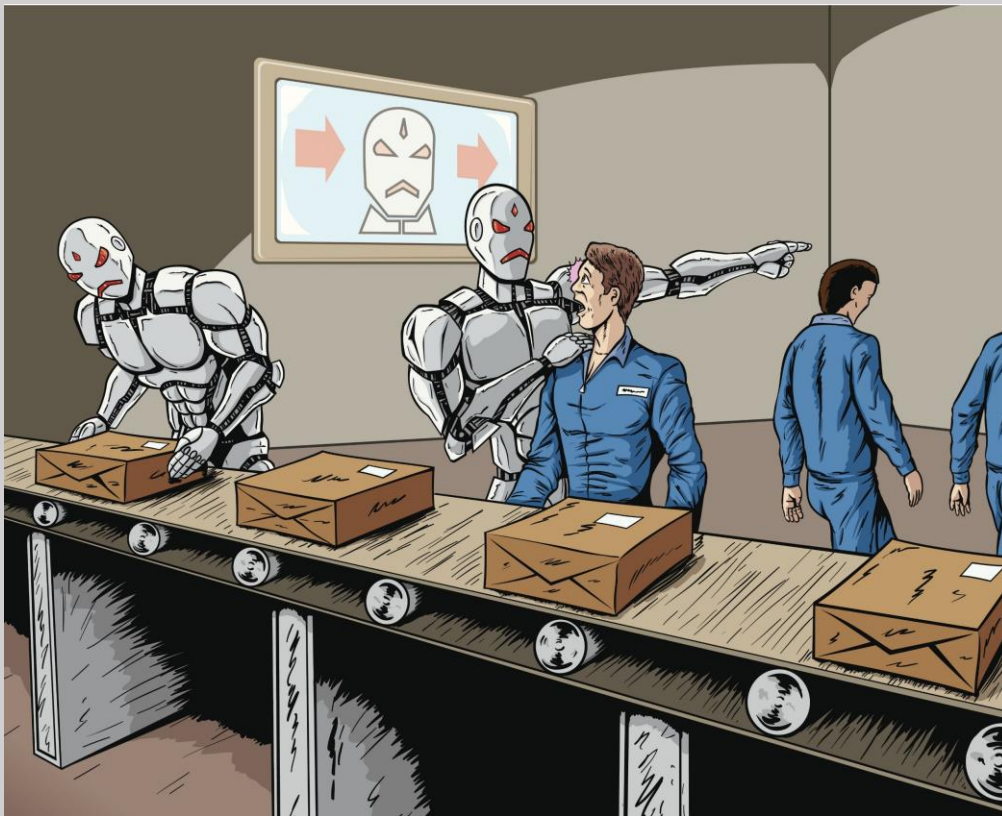# ODM MUN 2020

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

Chairperson

Yashas Samtani

Co-Chairperson

Deevyam Dhal

THE FUTURE OF WORK CENTENARY INITIATIVE:
THE NATURE OF JOBS IN ECONOMIES AND INDUSTRIES SEEING PERSISTENT TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Delegates,

With great pleasure I welcome you to this online edition of ODM Model UN conference. My name is Yashas Samtani; I am in my first semester at the University of Manitoba, where I am studying economics as my major. I have held a strong passion towards MUNs and parliamentary debates from a young age.

I am looking forward to this emulation of debate and deliberation on an agenda I am very passionate towards, having studied some labour economics. Given that you prepare well I expect the experience of this committee to be a fulfilling one, especially considering the multiplicity of issues the world currently faces pertaining to the agenda and the equally as varied solutions delegates can present to resolve each one. This guide will provide a comprehensive yet brief introduction of the agenda. Saying that, it is apparent that any single piece of material you read on this is in no way exhaustive and there are no limits to your research. This study guide will be a small introduction to the issue and is intended to be expanded upon with your own research. Please keep this in mind while reading the study guide. I will also be sending you the reports of the ILO's 2015 and 2017 sessions which will provide much more extensive and relevant insight into the issues under the agenda.

Resources we recommend viewing in addition to this study guide are the various resolutions, draft resolutions and session details of the UN's discussions of issues on the agenda. These can easily be found on the United Nations website. Alongside this it is paramount to understand how these issues have evolved historically, how they may evolve and paths towards dealing with them. It is recommended to also understand the prevalence of these issues in your country and your country's general history with them. In addition to this your sources are limitless, research papers, analytical essays, news articles and online animations/lectures are some potential sources. Your research can and should know no bounds and will predominantly dictate your functioning within the committee.

I sincerely hope this conference is a memorable and exciting experience for all us.

Regards,

Yashas Samtani

Chairperson – ILO | ODM MUN 2020

LETTER FROM THE CO-CHAIR

Dear Delegates,

I heartily welcome all of you to the online session of ODM MUN 2020. I am Deevyam Deepankar Dhal, a law aspirant who is absolutely enthralled by the riveting nuances of law, politics and International human rights. I am an ardent debater who has also been participating in MUNs for more than half a decade. I shall be serving as your Co-Chair for this year's simulation of the ILO.

The functioning of the ILO is extremely unique and remarkable and hence, poses a challenge to whoever decides to be a member of this committee. Unlike other UN bodies, the ILO strongly focuses on the concept of Tripartism, the motive behind which is to provide all the stakeholders with an opportunity to voice their own opinions. The ILO provides a platform like none other. This being said, I expect the delegates to give a thorough read to this guide which will not only help them comprehend the intricacies of the agenda but also the distinctive nature of ILOs working that revolves around Tripartism. However, the guide should not be the only source of information for your research and it is crucial that one goes beyond the confines of this document. The study guide is merely an attempt on our part as the members of the Executive Board to guide the delegates in their research. To reiterate what the Chairperson has already mentioned, it is to be kept in mind that the guide is not exhaustive and that there is no bar on the amount of research that one can do.

Furthermore, I believe that it is my indispensable duty to mention one very important point. Before anything else, I believe that as a member of the ILO, one has to think beyond just foreign policy since the nature of the portfolios in this committee is seemingly peculiar and therefore, it is of utmost importance that one understands the depth of the debate that unfolds in the ILO that often tends to be very opinionated.

I sincerely hope that these three days prove be to be a delightful experience not just for the delegates but also for us.

Regards,

Co-Chairperson – ILO | ODM MUN 2020

THE COMMITTEE

Introduction

The International Labour Organization (ILO) brings together governments, employers and workers of 187-member States to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men. The driving forces for ILO's creation arose from security, humanitarian, political and economic considerations. There was keen appreciation of the importance of social justice in securing peace, against a background of exploitation of workers in the industrializing nations of that time. There was also increasing understanding of the world's economic interdependence and the need for cooperation to obtain similarity of working conditions in countries competing for markets. Before the II World War the Organization set and implemented international labour standards such as the 8-hour working day. In the post-war period (1948-1970) the number of Member States doubled, and the Organization took on its universal character. Industrialized countries became a minority among developing countries, the budget grew five-fold and the number of officials quadrupled. The Organization won the Nobel Peace Prize on its 50th anniversary in 1969.

Unlike other UN agencies, ILO has maintained its unique tripartite structure; It gives voice not only to governments, but also employers and workers. It promotes a social dialogue between trade unions and employers in formulating and implementing national policy on social and economic issues.

The ILO's Secretariat has its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, and a global network of technical experts and field offices in more than 40 countries. The Governing Body is the executive council of the ILO and meets three times a year in Geneva. The annual International Labour Conference can be nicknamed an international parliament of labour because it adopts new international labour standards and approves the ILO's work plan and budget.

Each member State is represented by a delegation consisting of two government delegates, an employer delegate, a worker delegate, and their respective advisers. Employer and Worker delegates are nominated in agreement with the most representative national organizations of employers and workers. Every delegate has the same rights, and all can express themselves freely and vote as they wish. So, it happens that worker and employer delegates sometimes vote against their government or against each other. This diversity of viewpoints, however, does not prevent decisions being adopted by very large majorities, or in some cases even unanimously.

Many of the government representatives are cabinet ministers responsible for labour affairs in their own countries. Heads of State and prime ministers also take the floor at the Conference. International organizations, both governmental and others, attend as observers.

INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA

Do we have a problem?

The nature of jobs is undergoing profound changes due to the digital revolution involving new media, big data, robots, artificial intelligence, 3D printing, sharing economy, cryptocurrencies and blockchain technology. The technological development additionally enforces a total globalization through increased communication via media, travel and migration, and offshoring. These developments provide new opportunities for economic growth, civilizational progress and human welfare but they also leave many people behind. In order to respond effectively to these new challenges, ILO has launched the Future of Work initiative which has taken off with a dedicated conference in April 2017.

What does it mean to work?

The Latin word labor indicating toil, exertion, hardship, pain, fatigue, suffering gave way to English labour, Italian lavoro, French labeur and travail, Spanish trabajo, Portugese trabalho, Catalan treball and other words that sum up work accordingly: it's a pain. Citizens of ancient Greece and Rome preferred to leave this pain to slaves, and feudal masters to peasants. The Bible originally explained the need to work as God's punishment for people's disobedience in Eden. The Protestant Church promoted a new work ethic based on the idea that effort could make up for one's sins and thus bring an individual closer to the neighbours and to God. Finally, the industrial revolution redefined work by ushering people from homes into factories, imposing fixed and long hours along a conveyor belt.

At the same time, philosophical thought and modern psychological research build the convincing case that the opportunity to work is important or even necessary for human wellbeing, independently from the material security it provides. In most cases a regular occupation constitutes the foundation of personal identity. It is worth noting that women's suffrage movements did not limit to call for voting rights: women rightly demanded the freedom to work professionally.

So, what does it really mean to work, and is it still possible to draw one clear line between work and leisure? Does the real work limit to paid work? Does it necessarily involve a steady job? Do we deserve any dignity if we refuse to work? Should people be paid for taking care of their own children and elderly parents, or for cleaning up their own houses and cooking for

themselves? How about paying elementary school students for doing their own homework? Where is the line between learning and working? How to differentiate between the work performed by a neurosurgeon and by an Instagram influencer? These are but a few potential questions that can be raised pertaining to the situation.

The present of work

The anarchist author David Graeber who lead the Occupy Wall Street Movement and coined the slogan We are the 99% has summed up concerns about the present and future of work in a loud article On the Phenomenon of Bullshit Jobs. He argues:

In the year 1930, John Maynard Keynes predicted that technology would have advanced sufficiently by century's end that countries like Great Britain or the United States would achieve a 15-hour work week. [...] In technological terms, we are quite capable of this. And yet it didn't happen. Instead, technology has been marshaled to figure out ways to make us all work more. Pointless jobs have been created. Huge swathes of people, in Europe and North America in particular, spend their entire working lives performing tasks they secretly believe do not really need to be performed.

This miserable existential condition of labour market is thoroughly analysed in two incredibly insightful bestsellers, Sapiens. The Short History of Humanity and Homo Deus. The Short History of Tomorrow by the historian and futurist Yuval Noah Harari. Harari acknowledges the civilizational and social progress that has been empowering the human collective through the centuries but offers a critical look on individual happiness and fulfillment today and in the near future. Although the life of a tiny elite became much better, he claims, the lives of the majority of people became considerably worse.

A more optimistic look on the future is drawn by Parag and Ayesha Khanna in their comprehensive book Hybrid Reality. Thriving in the Emerging Human-Technology Civilisation. The Khannas dissect the ongoing geopolitical shift of power from nation-states to cities and non-state actors, examine current and future trends in technology, education and work organization, and predict the arrival of Pax Technologica, a sustainable harmony between humankind, technology, and natural environment. Importantly, Harari and the Khannas agree that we need new political models to tackle global challenges, as national politics remains helpless in the context of global ecology and global economy.

The decisive factor making the difference between giving in to the real Brave New World and thriving in a hybrid reality might depend on our individual and collective relationship with technology, including new media. In The App Generation: How Today's Youth Navigate Identity, Intimacy, and Imagination in a Digital World researchers representing three generations explain the difference between being app-dependent and app-enabled.

Technology is only a tool, and application of this tool strongly depends on intelligence, personality, interests and motivations of individuals. Considering that today's young people must develop employability and personal brands to secure their future, policymakers thinking about the future of work cannot ignore the role of education and re-education.

Artificial intelligence is stealing your jobs

Artificial intelligence already outperforms human intelligence in many domains, without even stunning anybody anymore as our standards for what is impressive keep adapting to the advances being made.

During the early days of AI, researchers designed systems focusing on single tasks. For example, the Logic Theorist system was able to prove mathematical theorems. The General Problem Solver could solve a wide range of formally specified problems. They were followed by programs that could solve advanced calculus problems, visual analogy problems typical for some IQ tests, and simple verbal algebra problems. The ELIZA program successfully impersonated a psychotherapist, other systems composed music in the style of various classical composers, outperformed junior doctors in certain clinical diagnostic tasks, drove cars autonomously, and made patentable inventions.

In 1997 Deep Blue programme beat the world chess champion, Garry Kasparov, who has claimed to see "glimpses of true intelligence and creativity in some of the computer's moves". In 2002 Scrabble-playing software surpassed the best human players. In 2017, AlphaGo programme developed by Google's DeepMind decimated world champion in Go, Ke Jie. It keeps training by playing millions of games against itself.

By now there are hearing aids with algorithms that filter out ambient noise; route-finders that display maps and offer navigation advice to drivers; recommender systems that suggest books and music albums based on a user's previous purchases and ratings; and elaborate medical decision support systems. Modern speech recognition, based on statistical techniques has become sufficiently accurate for practical use. Personal assistants such as Siri and Alexa respond to spoken commands, answer questions and execute commands. Optical character recognition of handwritten and typewritten text is used routinely. Face recognition has improved sufficiently that it is now used at automated border crossings in Europe and Australia.

One high-stakes and extremely competitive environment in which AI systems operate today is the global financial market. Automated stock-trading systems are widely used by major investing houses. While some of these are simply ways of automating the execution of particular buy or sell orders issued by a human fund manager, others pursue complicated trading strategies that adapt to changing market conditions.

In a world of self-driving cars and big data, smart algorithms and Siri, it is inevitable that many jobs will become obsolete. The issue is tackled specifically by Martin Ford in his gloomy Rise of the Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future. He believes that accelerating technology will soon disrupt the whole economic system to the point where a fundamental restructuring would be required. Unless we begin to radically reassess the fundamentals of how our economy works, we could have both an enormous population of the unemployed: the truck drivers, warehouse workers, cooks, lawyers, doctors, teachers, programmers, and many more, whose labors have been rendered superfluous by automated and intelligent machines-and a general economy that, bereft of consumers, implodes under the weight of its own contradictions.

PROBLEMS AT HAND AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

Issue A: Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence already outperforms human intelligence in many domains, without even stunning anybody anymore as our standards for what is impressive keep adapting to the advances being made.

During the early days of AI, researchers designed systems focusing on single tasks. For example, the Logic Theorist system was able to prove mathematical theorems. The General Problem Solver could solve a wide range of formally specified problems. They were followed by programs that could solve advanced calculus problems, visual analogy problems typical for some IQ tests, and simple verbal algebra problems. The ELIZA program successfully impersonated a psychotherapist, other systems composed music in the style of various classical composers, outperformed junior doctors in certain clinical diagnostic tasks, drove cars autonomously, and made patentable inventions.

In 1997 Deep Blue programme beat the world chess champion, Garry Kasparov, who has claimed to see "glimpses of true intelligence and creativity in some of the computer's moves". In 2002 Scrabble-playing software surpassed the best human players. In 2017, AlphaGo programme developed by Google's DeepMind decimated world champion in Go, Ke Jie. It keeps training by playing millions of games against itself.

By now there are hearing aids with algorithms that filter out ambient noise; route-finders that display maps and offer navigation advice to drivers; recommender systems that suggest books and music albums based on a user's previous purchases and ratings; and elaborate medical decision support systems. Modern speech recognition, based on statistical techniques has become sufficiently accurate for practical use. Personal assistants such as Siri and Alexa respond to spoken commands, answer questions and execute commands. Optical character recognition of handwritten and typewritten text is used routinely. Face recognition has

improved sufficiently that it is now used at automated border crossings in Europe and Australia.

One high-stakes and extremely competitive environment in which AI systems operate today is the global financial market. Automated stock-trading systems are widely used by major investing houses. While some of these are simply ways of automating the execution of particular buy or sell orders issued by a human fund manager, others pursue complicated trading strategies that adapt to changing market conditions.

In a world of self-driving cars and big data, smart algorithms and Siri, it is inevitable that many jobs will become obsolete. The issue is tackled specifically by Martin Ford in his gloomy Rise of the Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future. He believes that accelerating technology will soon disrupt the whole economic system to the point where a fundamental restructuring would be required. Unless we begin to radically reassess the fundamentals of how our economy works, we could have both an enormous population of the unemployed: the truck drivers, warehouse workers, cooks, lawyers, doctors, teachers, programmers, and many more, whose labours have been rendered superfluous by automated and intelligent machines-and a general economy that, bereft of consumers, implodes under the weight of its own contradictions.

Issue B: Smarter robots

Apple and Samsung supplier Foxconn has replaced 60,000 factory workers with robots. Former McDonald's chief executive Ed Rensi told the US's Fox Business programme that a minimum-wage increase to $15 an hour would make companies consider robot workers. Changing Precision Technology Company in Dongguan city in China has replaced 90% of its human employees with robots and the factory has seen fewer defects and a higher rate of production. Tesla is on the way to completely automate its automobiles factory.

According to Bostrom, as of 2014 the world population of robots has exceeded 10 million. There are robotic pets and cleaning robots, lawn-mowing robots, rescue robots, surgical robots. The ILO reports that by 2015 there were around 1.6 million industrial robots deployed worldwide, more than two thirds of them in the manufacturing sector, and a similar proportion concentrated in developed countries. The report concludes that the growing adoption of industrial robots has the potential to bring about large productivity gains but its effect on societies will depend on how fairly gains from economic growth will be distributed. Eventually, the combination of artificial intelligence and robotics might be the ultimate blow to any work performed by humans today.

One job which seems to be especially under threat is truck driver. According to an analysis of U.S. census data by NPR, by some measures truck driving just might be the most dominant

job in America. Dozens of millions of families worldwide depend on the breadwinning truck drivers who are mostly sceptical about the advent of autonomous cars and trucks. On the contrary, experts like Mark Zuckerberg and Elon Musk confidently promise to deliver such wonders within years.

Issue C: Blockchain technology

Dan Tapscott believes that blockchain technology, the backbone of cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin, will change the society as profoundly as the internet did. His predictions have proven right in the past, most prominently when he wrote about Wikinomics, the online revolution in mass collaboration. Now he claims the spot as a leading "blockchain evangelist" having authored, together with his son Alex, Blockchain Revolution: How the Technology Behind Bitcoin Is Changing Money, Business, and the World.

Blockchain is the first (and ultimate?) medium for peer-to-peer value exchange. It is a vast global platform based on a distributed ledger which establishes the rules in the form of computations and heavy duty encryption, and thus it enables parties to transact without the need of a third party such as a bank, government or other intermediary. Taken further, blockchain could act as a ledger of accounts, a database, a notary, a sentry, and clearing house, all by consensus.

Although Tapscotts are extremely enthusiast of the blockchain-managed future, applying the technology on a large scale would first eliminate a series of jobs, including in retail, law, management, banking and countless other areas. It could also enforce a new definition of literacy as the automated smart contracts would eventually be written in code rather than in a human language.

It is also necessary to reflect on the nature of money. Bitcoin might have been the first attempt to create a decentralized currency and is now treated by most users like a tradeable asset which has a value in fiat currency. But what if cryptocurrencies gradually replace the fiat currencies issued by central banks of nation-states?

Universal Basic Income (UBI). A force for progress or inefficiency?

Basic income is a proposed form of social welfare in the form of cash handed by the government of a given jurisdiction to all citizens or residents. It would be a regular and unconditional income meant to provide for the basic expenses such as food, rent and electricity.

The concept has been endorsed by prominent entrepreneurs including Elon Musk (the CEO of Tesla, SpaceX, SolarCity and Boring Company), Richard Branson (the CEO of Virgin),

Ray Kurzweil (Singularity University), Pierre Omidyar (eBay founder), the president of Silicon Valley's largest start-up incubator Sam Altman, Venture capitalist Marc Andreessen, web guru Tim O'Reilly, and many others.

One of the most outspoken advocates for the UBI is a Dutch historian Rutger Bregman and author of Utopia for realists who brought the concept to the TED Talks stage in 2014 and in 2017. Bregman argues that many aspects of the contemporary society which are widely taken for granted, such as criminalization of slavery, the universal access to schools, or the universal suffrage regardless of gender and race, would seem utopian and unattainable only a century ago. The ambitious but right and attainable goals of the current generation should include establishing the Universal Basic Income.

Bregman has studied the 500-year history of the general concept of providing every human being with dignified living conditions regardless of the person's background. His book details several cases of the implementation of a basic income for research purposes. He claims that promising results of some social experiments have been silenced due to the lack of a political will and interest in pursuing the idea that many would have considered a radical one.

Bregman takes a close look on the ongoing anti-poverty programmes, concluding that they fail in combating deep roots of the problem. He coins the term 'scarcity mentality' to illustrate how the awareness of having too little resources (be it money, time or anything else) negatively affects people's performance. Most students fall victim to the 'scarcity mentality' when their mind goes blind during exams under the time pressure. Similarly, common workers who struggle from payday to payday exhibit significantly lower scores in IQ test at the end of the period, ie. when they are short on cash, compared to the period short after receiving the salary.

Considering these facts, Bregman builds the case that providing everyone with the basic income would free people from the burden of having to 'earn the living' and would motivate them to pursue meaningful occupation that would fulfil their individual human potential and contribute real value to the society. Bregman and other UBI enthusiasts have inspired many governments to seriously consider the idea of the basic income. It has gained much attention on the international level in the ILO's 2017 conference on the Future of Work.

However, the critics of the idea provide compelling counterarguments questioning the desirability and feasibility of the UBI. Applied on a large scale rather than in small communities, the basic income regime might deprive a significant part of the society of the incentive to learn and work. It is also unclear how to fund the UBI, ie. how could any government raise enough money to hand it out to all citizens?

Some proponents of the UBI claim to be guided by the value of social justice and the desire to redistribute the collective human wealth to everyone. However, other UBI enthusiast

present the version of the concept in which the basic income would simply replace welfare benefits such as the unemployment or disability benefits. This could actually expose the vulnerable part of the society and eventually doom it to the 'basic' and precarious lifestyle from payday to payday while a small elite would exercise its privilege of unsustainable consumption. Thus, the debate about the UBI is not only on the question 'IF?' but first and foremost on the more difficult issue: 'HOW?'. Due to different ideological regimes, governments of world's nation states inevitably differ on this matter.

The nature of citizenship

When Sophia, one of the speakers of the 2017 Future Investment Initiative Conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, has finished her address, the panel moderator announced that she was going to be graced with Saudi Arabian citizenship

Sophia is a humanoid robot developed by Hanson Robotics company founded by David Hanson in Hong Kong. Her creators applied breakthrough robotics and artificial intelligence technologies to provide Sophia with stunning human likeness and expressiveness. She has met face-to-face with key decision makers in banking, insurance, auto manufacturing, property development, media, and entertainment. She has appeared onstage as a panel member and presenter in conferences covering how smart robots will become a prevalent part of people's lives, and she has even shaken hands with the deputy secretary general of the UN, Amina J. Mohammed.

For the moment, Sophia seems rather awkward with her stiff movements and the troublesome sense of humour, and the decision by Saudi Arabia seems to only be a (successful!) publicity stunt to boost the visibility of the Riyadh conference. But her case inspires questions. First, it kindled a public debate about the still limited rights of the female humans and immigrant humans in Saudi Arabia and similar regimes. Second, it promotes the vision of a future labour market shared by humans and machines from a science-fiction scenario to a scenario which must be seriously and immediately considered by policy-makers.

It was already mentioned that Keynes envisaged that one day all the work necessary for life would be done by "mechanical slaves". Should machines remain humans' "slaves" or should they be awarded "citizenship"? How to make sure that machines will not oppress nor hurt humans like in the "Matrix" trilogy or "Blade Runner" by Ridley Scott?

What can the international community do?

In April 2017 more than 700 experts gathered in Geneva for the ILO's event The Future of Work We Want: A global dialogue. Participants included leading academics, government officials and representatives of workers' unions. Their scope was to gain a better understanding of the drivers behind the current changes to the labour market, including the

technological innovation, new trends in work organization and production, globalization, climate change, regulatory environment, and the demographic and migration shifts. The next ILO conference on this issue took place in 2019.

To best understand how the international community deal with the problems we face, delegates must acquaint themselves with the nature of the discussions that have transpired at the ILO's previous conferences. I have attached, alongside this study guide, the reports for both the 2015 and 2017 sessions of the ILO. Both these sessions dealt extensively with the future of work in a world undergoing transformational structural change in several sectors of the economy.

RESOLUTION WRITING & FURTHER RESEARCH

How to write a resolution

1. HEADING
The heading contains four pieces of information: the committee name, the sponsors, the signatories, and the topic (not necessarily in that order depending on each individual conference's rules).

Resolution GA/3/1.1

General Assembly Third Committee
Sponsors: United States, Austria and Italy
Signatories: Greece, Tajikistan, Japan, Canada, Mali, the Netherlands and Gabon
Topic: "Strengthening UN coordination of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies"

The committee name and topic should be self-explanatory. The sponsors are the authors of the resolution. The signatories are other delegates in the committee who do not necessarily agree with the resolution but would like to see it debated. Most conferences require a minimum number or percentage of sponsors and signatories (or a combination of both) before a resolution can be presented — this encourages consensus-building. You will also notice some numbering (on the top right corner in the example). This is usually provided by the committee chair and is just a way to number the different resolutions — usually by the order they are received or approved — so that delegates can easily differentiate or reference them.

2. PRE-AMBULATORY CLAUSES
The pre-ambulatory clauses state all the issues that the committee wants to resolve on this issue. It may state reasons why the committee is working on this issue and highlight previous international actions on the issue. Pre-ambulatory clauses can include:

- Past UN resolutions, treaties, or conventions related to the topic
- Past regional, non-governmental, or national efforts in resolving this topic
- References to the UN Charter or other international frameworks and laws
- Statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or agency

- General background info formation or facts about the topic, its significance, and its

> The General Assembly,
>
> Reminding all nations of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, which recognizes the inherent dignity, equality and inalienable rights of all global citizens, **[use commas to separate preambulatory clauses]**
>
> Reaffirming its Resolution 33/1996 of 25 July 1996, which encourages Governments to work with UN bodies aimed at improving the coordination and effectiveness of humanitarian assistance,
>
> Noting with satisfaction the past efforts of various relevant UN bodies and nongovernmental organizations,
>
> Stressing the fact that the United Nations faces significant financial obstacles and is in need of reform, particularly in the humanitarian realm,

impact.

It's very simple to write a pre-ambulatory clause. First, take a statement that you want to write about (perhaps an issue you want to solve or a specific fact from one of the five bullet points above). You then take that statement, combine it with an underlined pre-ambulatory phrase, and end it with a comma. Here are some example pre-ambulatory phrases that you can choose from:

Sample Preambulatory Phrases

Affirming	Expecting	Having studied
Alarmed by	Expressing its appreciation	Keeping in mind
Approving	Expressing its satisfaction	Noting with regret
Aware of	Fulfilling	Noting with deep concern
Bearing in mind	Fully alarmed	Noting with satisfaction
Believing	Fully aware	Noting further
Confident	Fully believing	Noting with approval
Contemplating	Further deploring	Observing
Convinced	Further recalling	Reaffirming
Declaring	Guided by	Realizing
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Recalling
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Recognizing
Deeply convinced	Having considered further	Referring
Deeply disturbed	Having devoted attention	Seeking
Deeply regretting	Having examined	Taking into account
Desiring	Having heard	Taking into consideration
Emphasizing	Having received	Taking note
		Viewing with appreciation
		Welcoming

For example, my country wants to address the issue of how HIV/AIDS has spread rapidly in sub-Saharan Africa. I pick a pre-ambulatory phrase from above — I'll use "Alarmed by" — and then I combine it to say:

Alarmed by the 17% increase in HIV/AIDS contraction among sub-Saharan African countries in the past five years,

Strategy Tip: In general, you want fewer pre-ambulatory clauses than operative clauses. More operative clauses convey that you have more solutions than you have problems.

3. OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Operative clauses state the solutions that the sponsors of the resolution proposes to resolve the issues. The operative clauses should address the issues specifically mentioned in the pre-ambulatory clauses above it.

1. Encourages all relevant agencies of the United Nations to collaborate more closely with countries at the grassroots level to enhance the carrying out of relief efforts; **[use semicolons to separate operative clauses]**

2. Urges member states to comply with the goals of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs to streamline efforts of humanitarian aid;

3. Requests that all nations develop rapid deployment forces to better enhance the coordination of relief efforts of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies;

4. Calls for the development of a United Nations Trust Fund that encourages voluntary donations from the private transnational sector to aid in funding the implementation of rapid deployment forces;

5. Stresses the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

6. Calls upon states to respond quickly and generously to consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance; and

7. Requests the expansion of preventive actions and assurance of post-conflict assistance through reconstruction and development. **[end resolutions with a period]**

It's very simple to write an operative clause. First, take a solution that you want to include in the draft resolution. You then take that solution, combine it with an underlined operative phrase, and end it with a semicolon (the last operative clause ends with a period). Operative clauses are also numbered. This differentiates them from pre-ambulatory clauses, helps show logical progression in the resolution, and makes the operative clauses easy to refer to in speeches and comments. Here are some example operative phrases that you can choose from:

Sample Operative Phrases

Accepts	Encourages	Further recommends
Affirms	Endorses	Further requests
Approves	Expresses its appreciation	Further resolves
Authorizes	Expresses its hope	Has resolved
Calls	Further invites	Notes
Calls upon	Deplores	Proclaims
Condemns	Designates	Reaffirms
Confirms	Draws the attention	Recommends
Congratulates	Emphasizes	Regrets
Considers	Encourages	Reminds
Declares accordingly	Endorses	Requests
Deplores	Expresses its appreciation	Solemnly affirms
Designates	Expresses its hope	Strongly condemns
Draws the attention	Further invites	Supports
Emphasizes	Further proclaims	Takes note of
	Further reminds	Transmits
		Trusts

For example, my first solution is to distribute low-cost medicines for HIV/AIDS to sub-Saharan African countries. I pick an operative phrase from above — I'll use "Calls upon" — and then I combine it and number it to say:

Calls upon the developed countries and major pharmaceutical countries to provide low-cost, generic medicines for HIV/AIDS to sub-Saharan African countries;

Strategy Tip: Usually more details in an operative clause will make it stronger or at least make the idea clearer to other delegates. A simple way to strengthen each operative clause is to answer the "who, what, when, where, why, and how" of each resolution. These details can actually be broken down into sub-operative clauses underneath the main operative clause.

4. AMENDMENTS

Approved draft resolutions are modified through amendments. An amendment is a written statement that **adds, deletes or changes** an operative clause in a draft resolution. The amendment process is used to strengthen consensus on a resolution by allowing delegates to change the operative clauses (the pre-ambulatory clauses can not be modified). There are two types of amendments:

A **friendly amendment** is a change to the draft resolution that all sponsors agree with. After the amendment is signed by all of the draft resolution's sponsors and approved by the committee chair, it will be automatically incorporated into the resolution.

An **unfriendly amendment** is a change that some or all of the draft resolution's sponsors do not support and must be voted upon by the committee. This also refers to delegates who did not write this resolution at all but see potential in it as long as several changes are made to it. The sponsors of the amendment will need to obtain a required number of signatories in order to introduce it. Prior to voting on the draft resolution, the committee votes on all unfriendly amendments.

Writing an amendment is very simple. All you have to do is make an operative clause that adds, deletes, or changes an operative clause in a draft resolution. Examples include:

Adds an operative clause that reads "14. Encourages all Latin American countries to…"

Deletes operative clause 9.

Changes operative clause 1 to read "1. Calls upon the Red Cross to provide low-cost medicines…"

Further research

Research can be done on 2 levels:

➢ Agenda research

➢ Country research

For Agenda research delegates are suggested to research from the following sites:

✓ Reuters

✓ www.un.org

✓ IMF, World Bank for economic related world issues ICJ (international Court Of Justice) for legal issues.

✓ Other UN bodies such as WTO, WHO etc.

✓ Other news and documentary sources such as Al Jazeera, national newspapers, BBC, and even YouTube Videos/ Documentaries. (Most of these sources cannot, however, be cited as evidence in committee).

For country research delegates may refer to the following:

1. CIA World fact Book

2. BBC News Country Profile

3. Any nations bilateral relations fact Sheet.

4. Statements and reports from government officials and agencies.

5. Statements made by country diplomats at the UN.

Best delegate is also a good site to refer to.