

Position Paper for General Assembly 3rd Committee

The topics before the General Assembly 3 are: advancing Technology to Progress Development and Peace; the Implementation of a Global Standard of Education; Implementing the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development.

I. Advancing Technology to Progress Development and Peace

India believes that technology has a deep impact on humanity. Thus, we have been committed to the development of new technologies since Independence. India endorses the Technology Policy Statement of 1983 in promoting infrastructural bases for science and technology. India is very aware of the fact that due to the progressing globalization a more and more multi-country approach is needed in order to achieve social development and peace. In consequence, we call upon participating States to work together. India also urges Members State to not forget about the ethical, legal and social implications of technological development. We recognize our central role in advancing technology as being the leading nation in the software industry. India will continue to implement its Science and technology Policy of 2003.

India furthermore draws attention to our achievements concerning the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals developed by the United Nations Development Programme in 2000. In order to fight against extreme poverty, three objectives have been drawn for the period 2008-2012, as to know the Livelihood Promotion, the Financial Inclusion and the fight against Urban Poverty. Concerning democratic governance, many improvements can be seen especially in the field of decentralization, gender equality and wider access to justice. Also, India dedicates several projects to the reduction of our impact on climate change and improvement of the management of our natural resources. We consider ourselves more and more prepared to face disasters like tsunamis or earthquakes. Improvements have also been achieved concerning our fight against HIV particularly by establishing several joint UN programmes like the one on HIV Prevention and Care in North-Eastern States of India. India is also dedicated to the further Implementation of Agenda 21 as stated in the Resolution A/RES/63/212. It therefore encourages especially developing States to do the same.

In conclusion, India will continue our projects aiming the advance of our technology in order to progress development and peace and especially emphasizes the need for Member States to fulfil their obligations to the Millennium Development Goals.

II. The Implementation of a Global Standard of Education

India is dedicated to developing and implementing an effective Global Standard of Education. We draw attention to the fact that a Global Standard of Education is both one of the MDGs for the 2015 and a mean to achieve these goals. Education leads to a more skillful labor force and therefore actively contributes to the development of a country wealth. At the same time people are more aware of their human rights and of how to reduce the spread of fatal disease, thus contributing to increase the living standards. Free and compulsory education to all children up to the age fourteen is a constitutional commitment in India, and the Right to Education Act (August 27, 2009) is our latest step toward this goal. We recommend Member States to build a common and effective framework to achieve a Global Standard of Education, as exemplified through our Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, devoted to promote education among Indian states. Ensuring reading skills in the early grades of primary schools, or ensuring the availability of well trained and motivated teachers are just examples of vital elements in reaching a Global Standard of Education. We draw attention to the fact that the financial crisis has curbed the amount of resources allocated to education, therefore India urge Member States to increase their education donations to the World Bank. The 2010 Education for All Global

Monitoring Report warns that 72 million children are still out of school, and that the combination of slower economic growth and budget pressures could erode the gains of the past decade.

III. Implementing the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development

India decided not to sign the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development. Our choice was not due to the aim which we indeed agree with but due to the fact that India thinks that this declaration is not efficient and that our national efforts for reducing armed violence already contribute to more peace. India continues to be dedicated to the reduction and prevention of armed violence in order to improve the safety and security of our population and communities.

Furthermore, the report of the Geneva Declaration clearly states that our homicide rate is amongst the lowest in the world and that there would be only little improvement in life expectancy in the absence of non-conflict armed violence. As a consequence, India will keep our position. However, India recognizes the crucial role the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development plays in establishing a more peaceful world and therefore urges Signatory States to fulfil the commitment they took.

India believes, that our main problems lie outside of the field of armed-violence and that our efforts are better invested in other means. Consequently, we also refused to sign the Asia-Pacific Declaration on Armed Violence and Development (2008).

Without having actually signed the Geneva Declaration, we however promote its implementation; on 16 December 2008 we adopted Resolution A/RES/63/23 entitled Promoting Development Through the Reduction and Prevention of Armed Violence. India emphasizes the need of the establishment of measurable targets and thus embraces the amelioration made by the The Core Group. We draw attention to our Control Arms Foundation India which aims to reduce armed violence by implementing the global Arms Trade Treaty.