Committee: UN Economic and Social Commision Asia and Pacific

Country: Oman

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The Sultanate of Oman recognizes Asia and the Pacific as a region with a very high potential for one of the strongest economies in the world. Oman strongly believes in the developing and modernisation of countries and regions as a whole, and therefore is excited to be a part of the decisions made by this committee on forwarding the progress of Asia and the Pacific economically and socially. The topics brought forth in this committee; The role of infrastructure, the future of food, and labour migration and illegal trafficking are all integral parts in advancing the region socially and economically.

**The Role of Infrastructure in South East Asia**

In order for a nation to be successful, it must have agriculture, businesses, imports and exports, and many other things, However, without a substantial infrastructure, the effectiveness and expansion of these important elements will be greatly limited. Infrastructure, in other words, is the means by which anything and everything is done in a nation. Currently, Asia’s infrastructure lags behind the world average, causing many countries to be left behind economically. Addressing this situation is the foremost pressing topic in this committee. The biggest gap in infrastructure between countries, is that between coastal and landlocked countries, which is the result of failed policies to link different modes of transportation. A major reason this issue has not been addressed by the individual countries, is the fact that most individual nations face strict regulations and political intervention when attempting to finance these projects.

Oman strongly believes that the first issue to be addressed while discussing the issue of infrastructure, should be the expansion hard infrastructure. Without hard infrastructure[[1]](#footnote-1) to utilise, soft infrastructure[[2]](#footnote-2) cannot succeed, as there will be no means by which soft infrastructure can be executed. To solve this issue, Oman would request that a pan-asian organisation be formed to solve this problem. Each country that signs on to this plan, will put together a team of representatives to coordinate hard infrastructure plans of their country with that of other nations who also have signed on. This solution will be funded by the ADB[[3]](#footnote-3), as to avoid issues with government funding. This organization will be successful, as will coordinate infrastructure plans through a series of smaller partnerships, overseen by a much larger formal institution, which according to the ADB, is what is required in the region. With this plan, Asia will finally be able to reach its economic potential through expanding its infrastructure.

**Future of Food**

Food is one of the basic needs all organisms on earth need to live. As the world's population grows, and further advances its society, its need for food becomes more and more complex. Currently, the future of our food is heading towards an increasingly dangerous point. With the rapid increase of our population, the agriculture industry must increase its production 60% by 2050 to feed the same percentage of people as it does now. The agriculture industry also currently produces 20%-24% of the world's anthropogenic emissions, more than any other sector on the planet. This makes them a massive polluting force, endangering the lives of many people, animals, and ecosystems. The delegation of Oman believes that if we continue down this path, we will inevitably cause the destruction of many organisms and ecosystems, as well as cause even larger issues for the human race as a whole.

Oman believes that the best way to address the problem of agriculture polluting with its emissions, is to promote CSA[[4]](#footnote-4) in rural areas with smallholder farms. The benefits of Climate Smart Agriculture are clear. Seaweed is an example of a CSA practise. It has a very minimal carbon footprint, while providing protection to the ecosystem of fish and other marine life. Promoting such a practise and others like it can and will have a major ecological and in turn economical impact on the agriculture technique used by many, allowing the industry to grow enough to sustain the growing population, while minimizing its impact on the environment. The delegation of Oman plans to do this, by integrating CSA practises in to the education system in rural areas, and having information on such practises sent by mail, or presented in workshops in rural communities. Oman would also like to provide a financial incentive for using these practises, as to attract farmers who focus on short term financial gain, as opposed to long term gain. This solution will be effective, because it targets rural farmers, which makes up more than 70% of the farming industry in asia and the pacific. Furthermore, by providing a financial incentive, this plan is able to target those who would not use CSA methods in fear of losing money. This policy will pave the road to a safer, healthier Asia and Pacific.

**Labour Migration and Illegal Trafficking in the Asia-Pacific**

The delegation of Oman strongly believes that there are very few ways to counter this crisis, without severely endangering the economic condition of the region, or causing mass government corruption in the wake of a strict policies. Omans solution to address this problem will request a UN organization be created, which will govern over all migrant workers in the asia and pacific. This organisation will regulate migrant workers rights and pay, while managing where they go and who they work for. The UN Migrant Workers Organisation will regularly check on the migrant workers, as to ensure that they are not being abused, or underpaid. This organisation will also regulate illegal workers, providing monetary incentive for those who report illegal migrant workers. Oman requests that governments allow that the consequence for trafficking of migrant workers and mistreatment be severe, as to deter further human trafficking. This solution will be more effective than any other solution proposed, because it completely avoids all government corruption. By regularly checking on migrant workers, and requesting that consequences be severe for employers of illegal migrants and abuse of workers, most employers of migrants will be extremely deterred from abusing their right as an employer. This position on the topic, will be the best, and most effective solution to such a major problem plaguing the asia and pacific.

**Conclusion**

Oman would like to state that the Asia and the Pacific is a very powerful area, but there are still developing regions. The purpose of the UNESCAP is to help advance the development of these regions, using the cooperation of an array of countries. The delegation of Oman strongly believes that its solutions and plans can and will make a major difference in the economic and social situation in the asia and pacific region.

1. Infrastructure such as roads, ports, and airports [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Infrastructure such as policies, laws, and systems [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Asian Development Bank [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Climate Smart Agriculture [↑](#footnote-ref-4)