

Special Political and Decolonization Committee
Topic Area A: Oil in Africa – Topic Area B: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
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The history of Sierra Leone, marked by a war caused by the struggle for the control of the well known *blood-diamonds*, is a clear example of what it means to have natural resources. Corruption in leadership is an important problem that must be addressed before we can properly manage oil. Furthermore, due to the lack of democratic stability, as well as conflict and instable governments, create an environment for bribery and corruption actions in international trade. Apart from the signed commitment in December 2005 by governments to 'keep clean' from corruption, which seems to be insufficient, there must be a board of examiners to report and penalize the actions of corrupt actions. Harsher consequences could possibly stop their dealings. We urge the committee to seek the maintenance of peace, stability and integrity in governments.

Such prosperous resources could help West Africa climb out of poverty by funding better education, healthcare, roads, and other essential services. From the revenue of hydrocarbons our governments could build infrastructure and industry necessary to create a solid pillar and develop the economy and become self-sufficient. This can be done through concessions or licenses granted from the states to international oil companies, under a proper political control from the UN to guarantee the legitimacy of the action, and the commitment by companies to ensure the transparency of incomes to maintain their licenses. Significant progress has been made in West Africa in the consolidation of peace and democratic governance, however improvements must still be made.

Corruption seems to be one of the problems hindering the eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC), a practice worth 12,000 million dollars a year in the world. CSEC includes all countries of the Assembly in one form or another, so it is necessary to coordinate actions with the aim of joining forces to exchange information on transnational structures, the cooperation of the forces of law, control of borders, and also the creation of links between governments to condemn the perpetrators. The aforementioned proposals should be carried out under the consent of each country respecting the principle of country ownership. Actions should mainly be carried out through channels specifically created and accepted by all parties. It is therefore necessary that all states legislate Plans of Action against sexual exploitation and seek international coordination, as well as the creation of programs for the reintegration of those affected.

Often times, CSEC is socially accepted, which highlights the importance of education. In Africa there are high levels of illiteracy, which requires alternative educational methods such as the creation of children's tales or mobile theaters to explain problems such as HIV and to promote gender equality in a way that reaches all levels of the population. The need to further research could help to identify flaws in the implementation of laws and solutions to eradicate certain cultural practices that discriminate against gender, or how to find the real perpetrators of crimes against humanity like rape in time of war. It should be reiterated that the ultimate goal is to prevent the sexual exploitation of 1.8 million children worldwide each year.