**FORUM**: Economic and Social Council,

**QUESTION OF**: Technological development in Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs),

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

*Deeply concerned*that thousands die in LEDCs out of starvation and famine without the means of growing food due to lack of adequate farming technology,

*Defining*neglected diseases as, according to the National Institute of Health (NIH), ”those that are prevalent among impoverished and marginalized populations in the developing world,”

*Noting*that tropical environments, poor living conditions and limited access to healthcare contribute to the risk and spread of these diseases,

*Emphasizing* that in Sub-Saharan Africa malaria and tuberculosis are amongst some of the neglected diseases, most of which are treatable at very little cost, but the lack of proper technology and funds results in thousands being killed for lack of treatment,

*Alarmed* that in many LEDCs, large proportions of the population have little or no access to reliable and stable energy sources,

*Recognizing*that there have been previous resolutions on this issue, which have been successful to some degree,

*Deeply disturbed* that approximately one billion of the world’s citizens do not have access to clean water and 2.5 billion people have no access to improved sanitation,

*Stressing*thathuman mobility and effective transport systems are required for the economic development of LEDCs to ensure they meet the standards of modern social interaction,

*Noting further* that in order to implement many of the technologies required building solutions educated workers need to be in place to operate machinery and equipment,

1. Calls for the creation of the United Nation Committee for advancement of Technology (UNCAT) which will;
   1. Create a technology advancement index (TAI) in order to measure and compare countries rate of technological advancement in countries based on a variety of factors,
   2. Monitor advancements of technology in rapidly advancing countries in order to research effective measures to improve technology;
2. Appeals to member states with advanced agricultural technology to increase trade in agricultural technology with LEDCs, at favorable prices, and further requests on exchange of expertise between member states in this area to ensure efficiency. Furthermore, place mobile & immobile education centers to teach farmers to utilize this technology;
3. Strongly urges all first world nations to create projects with Triple Bottom Line (TBL) companies in order to promise sustainability by:
   1. By promoting TBL politics within companies in economically developed countries,
   2. TBL companies will be able to set up works on cheap land and must agree to hire local people. Therefore creating jobs, skills and capital for both the locals and the company,
   3. TBL companies will slowly remove control of works within a 10 year period in LEDCs leaving them to be run by the locals, yet still gaining profit;
4. Calls for the creation of a new UN body, the United Nations Party to Initialize Technological Project:
   1. Select a limited number (maximum of 5) of technological project biennially that will be funded under the auspices of the UN, that will be initialized to alleviate poverty, lack of basic amenity IT infrastructure in countries that need it the most, voted by the Commission of Science & Technology for Development,
   2. Work with local governments or leaders of the project to accelerate these projects.

**FORUM**: Economic and Social Council,

**QUESTION OF**: Micro-financing in Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs),

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

*Noting*the treacherous effects of the poverty cycle, which largely prevent impoverished portions of societies from realizing their socioeconomic potentials,

*Recognizing*that the inability of impoverished people to experience upward mobility may hinder the growth of entire national economies,

*Bearing in mind*that impoverished individuals have demonstrated the ability to use micro-credit loans successfully and to repay their creditors in numerous nations,

*Further noting*that micro-financing solutions have necessitated the involvement of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), national governments, and local lenders in the past,

*Aware*that any micro-lending schemes must yield remuneration for the lender, as “hand-outs” from organizations in More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs) are not conducive to the economic prosperity of the international community,

*Recalling* resolutions A/53/197 and A/58/221, which proposed initial strategies for implementing micro-financing strategies,

*Further recalling*the official UN Year of Microfinance in 2005,

1. Calls for a set of guidelines to be created in order to establish the best type of people to lend to, to be created by large micro financing companies working in conjunction with the UN, when considering factors such as default rates and economic growth;
2. Calls for mass multi-media campaigns funded by the UN with other charities and NGOs to increase micro-finance awareness, and increase donations for microfinance programs;
3. Recommends microfinance organizations to avoid lapsing into a ‘hand out culture’ by:
   1. Employees calculating the estimated profit of the person’s business once it is set up and devising realistic repayment schemes with the client to ensure the loan is repaid in a way which will not be determined to the individual or the microfinance organization,
   2. Initially granting small loans and if these are regularly repaid, gradually increasing the size of available loans;
4. Proposes that each government should provide supportive environment to independent microfinance institutions,
   1. Those institutions should give small loans at low interest rates,
   2. Each country should institute laws that will protect microfinance institutions,
   3. Government loans will be awarded to the most sustainable institutions;
5. Encourages the formation of an official UN Community Based Financial Organization (CBFO) in order to assist existing microfinance institutions to:
   1. Deliver basic financial services (savings, insurance),
   2. Reach rural areas as IFM’s only manage to reach secondary towns,
   3. Attempt to eradicate absolute poverty (fulfilling one of the millennium goals);
6. Encourages cooperation between the United Nations and worldwide institutions of finance to maximize the potential of micro financing in countries with large amounts of poverty by:
   1. Conducting studies within microfinance institutions to determine how to meet the credit needs of those in poverty and benefit the micro institutions at the same time,
   2. Maximize market efficiency through the recommendation of minimum cost to the poor in need of microfinance services.