Country: Oriental Republic of Uruguay  
Committee: General Assembly, Second Committee: Economic and Financial  
Delegate: Matthew Long

I. Macroeconomic Policy Question: External Debt Crisis and Development

Uruguay has a unique understanding of the problems related to external debt. As a country whose sovereign debt burden totals $1bn US dollars, equal to almost ninety percent of its GDP, Uruguay has been active in seeking debt restructuring and debt forgiveness internationally. While developing economically, Uruguay has, and continues to utilize the financial options presented to it by the International Community. Uruguay appreciates and understands the importance that loans and grants from the international community have for both the Uruguayan and International Community. However, Uruguay shares a common position with many other developing countries, whose large external debt payments consume much needed financial resources that could be expended on developing an effective economic and physical infrastructure. Uruguay recognizes the link between external debt and the ability for individual countries and the international community to combat poverty and development.

Uruguay has been an active partner of the IMF and World Bank initiatives aimed at reducing and managing external debt. In 2003, the IMF and Uruguay worked to restructure its foreign debt with the expectation that such an effort will elevate some of its current economic problems and place it on a path of sustainable economic growth. The “Stand-by Arrangement” plan, which was initially approved in 2002 by the IMF and the Uruguayan government, has provided the state with roughly US $2.2 billion dollars over the past two years to help negotiate some of the issues arising from its high rate of external debt. The IMF has praised the recent work that the Uruguayan government has done to promote sound macro-economic policy, suggested structural reforms, and banking policy reform. Recently, Uruguay has also pledged over US $2.2 million dollars to the IMF, World Bank, and the related HIPC initiative concerning the Poverty and Growth Facility program, while continuing to alleviate its external debt burden.

While a large part of Uruguay’s external debt consists of bi-lateral loans, specifically those from the United States (roughly US $6.2 billion), Uruguay supports the expansion of current HIPC initiatives to include more developing countries. Uruguay believes that the developing world would benefit from the expansion of current HIPC initiatives, as well as the creation of more effective mechanism within the international community to reduce external debt. Uruguay recognizes the direct correlation between the external debt crisis and the poverty and lack of development that hinders the developing world. Uruguay believes that the World Community would greatly benefit from increased initiatives to restructure and eliminate debt worldwide. The elimination and properly enhanced management of external debt would help developing countries to elevate poverty and its corresponding consequences. However, Uruguay also is aware of the fact that future loans, both bi-lateral and multi-lateral, must be amicable to both the recipient and lending parties for such loans to continue. Any initiatives taken by the international community must bear in mind the consequences for lenders as well as for future world economic stability.

II. International Year of Freshwater 2003

Uruguay recognizes the important and multifaceted role that fresh water occupies for the Global Community. Uruguay is in a unique position internationally by having large and sustainable water resources. The 176.00 square kilometers of fresh water are substantial for a country of Uruguay’s size, and help provide the country with valuable irrigation and hydro-electric energy resources.

While Uruguay’s fresh water supply currently fulfills its fresh water needs, the country continues to promote initiatives that will ensure its viability in the future. In 2003, in conjunction with Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and the World Bank, Uruguay worked to protect one of its largest fresh water resources in the region, the Guarani Aquifer System. The aquifer, which covers 1.2 million square kilometers, provides the region with a strategic fresh water resource, and must be protected for future generations. The 27.4 US million project will assist Uruguay and it neighbors in implementing a common institutional and technical framework for the management and protection of the system. The project will ensure that the aquifer will provide the regions growing population and industrial demand with an adequate water supply. Uruguay is acutely cognizant of the fact that sustainable economic growth cannot occur without sustainable water management.
The Uruguayan government is proud of the work that it has done in implementing the Millennium Development Goals, specifically those pertaining to fresh water access. Uruguay will continue to work towards the achievement of the Millennium Goals. Uruguay recognizes, however, that the international community cannot fully comply with all of the Development goals without proper funding.
I. Promotion of Multilateralism in the Area of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Multilateralism is a fundamental element of the process of disarmament and non-proliferation. It is imperative that states work collectively to reduce the propensity for weapons proliferation, particularly of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), in order to make the world a safer place in accordance with the UN Charter, which calls upon member states to unite their strength in order to maintain international peace and security. Nuclear, biological, chemical, bacteriological, toxic, mechanical small and light weapons, all of them carry the power of massive destruction, some of them by their very nature, others by the amount with which they proliferate in illicit ways. Over the years, Uruguay has sought to emphasize and promote multilateralism through their participation in a number of treaties and conventions. Uruguay is specifically a party to the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty (NPT), the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). In addition to these significant contributions to multilateralism in the area of disarmament, Uruguay was pivotal in quelling the tension between Argentina and Brazil during their nuclear arms race. Ultimately, Uruguay has joined in with the other states of Latin America and the Caribbean in the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin American and Caribbean, otherwise known as the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

Uruguay believes that under present circumstances, when dangerous unilateralist tendencies appear, it is necessary to strengthen the multilateral system. At a time when the entry into force of the main instruments of multilateralism is not in sight, when negotiations on disarmament remain at a standstill, when the universal recognition of conventions is not achieved, we need buttressed multilateral structures. Uruguay believes that maintaining and enhancing the NPT still remains as the milestone for the denuclearization of the planet. Uruguay would also like to call for the full implementation of the Thirteen Measures on Nuclear Disarmament agreed upon at the NPT Conference in the year 2000. Uruguay is additionally concerned by the difficulties which face the entry into force of the CTBT. Uruguay currently promotes the use of a multilateral framework for effectively solving all issues related to disarmament and non-proliferation.

To achieve this objective, Uruguay seeks the universalization of the NPT and strict compliance with its regulations. Uruguay encourages the renewal of negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty. A treaty of this nature would be a significant step towards non-proliferation, contributing also in a direct way to the prevention of nuclear terrorism. Uruguay further recommends adding a binding international commitment to existing constraints on nuclear weapons-usable fissile material. The proposed treaty would ban the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Uruguay further expresses its wishes that the advances achieved through the Ottawa Convention find a stronger echo within the international community. Uruguay commends the work of MERCOSUR and is committed to perfecting instruments and mechanisms for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction with the ultimate objective being to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world.

II. Information and Telecommunications in International Security

The modern world is characterized by growing developments in information and communication technologies. Uruguay believes, and has long stated, that these technologies have radically changed not only the way the international system works, but also the way businesses and individuals interact with each other, making this world a smaller place and its people much more connected.

Unfortunately, with this new closeness and dependence there is an increased sense of vulnerability. Individuals with specialized knowledge and skills use communications networks to gain access to sensitive information and programs. Their motives range from curiosity and monetary gain to revenge and destruction. Terrorists may attempt to gain access to critical systems such as government databases, electrical power grids, or financial institutions. With such access a terrorist could attack the system in any number of ways with disastrous consequences to the civilized world. In our globalized society an attack on information systems constitutes a threat to all. Uruguay believes that much can be learned by looking
the efforts of regional actors in this area, such as the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (OAS-CICTE), which, Uruguay is proud to say, at a January, 2004 session in Montevideo made commitments to combating cyber terrorism. Uruguay also appreciates previous U.N. resolutions on this matter such as 57/259 and 57/53 but agrees with the U.N. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Task Force’s assertions that more work needs to be done. Uruguay supports many efforts to strengthen International law and policy on this issue but, in particular, Uruguay believes it is important that all countries gain the best technologies for combating these threats. Uruguay thusly supports forming a declaration to share technologies that would lead to better, more secure computer networks. Uruguay has often articulated to the United Nation a support for programs to share technology that can lead states towards developmental goals, now Uruguay advocates it on the basis of security.

Uruguay also recognizes that law abiding citizens are not the only beneficiaries of information technologies. Terrorists and other criminals have also used communication tools to coordinate between criminal groups from different regions and to commit crimes against a state or the people of a state from outside of that states jurisdiction. Uruguay supports U.N. resolution 55/63 on combating the criminal misuse of information technologies and recommends the commissioning of a study to look into the effectiveness of the current effort to prevent and punish misuse. Uruguay also supports the opening of a dialog examining how law enforcement of sovereign nations can cooperate in the pursuit of these extra-jurisdictional criminals.
**COUNTRY:** URUGUAY  
**COMMITTEE:** Sixth Committee: Legal  
**DELEGATE:** Paola Carter, Wichita State University

The issues addressed by the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly have always been of interest and importance to Uruguay. Our government is a strong advocate of constitutional democracy, political pluralism, and individual liberties. Our international relations have been guided by the principles of non-intervention, multilateralism, respect for national sovereignty, and reliance on the rule of law to settle disputes; therefore, it is in our best interest to contribute to and support the work of the Sixth Committee as it addresses legal protection and the work of the ILC.

I. Scope of Legal Protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel

Since the Convention was adopted on December 9, 1994, Uruguay has been a strong supporter of encouraging States parties to establish their jurisdiction over crimes, including murder, kidnapping or threat of attacks against UN and associated personnel. Uruguay signed the Convention on November 17, 1995 and ratified it on September 3, 1999. Additionally, Uruguay proudly became a party in the Rome Statute on December 19, 2000 and ratified it on June 28, 2002; therefore, showing its support for the establishment of the ICC, announcing to all governments its hopes to prosecute those responsible for the most serious crimes of International concern.

Uruguay currently has more than eighteen hundred nationals participating in peacekeeping operations in Mozambique, Angola, Rwanda, Sierra Leon, Liberia, Eritrea, Sahara Occidental and the Democratic Republic of Congo. These troops accept the principles laid out by the Commission of Criminal Acts based on Rome Statute. Uruguay understands that all peacekeepers must be subject to the same rules in order to maintain stability and accord between the member States and their troops. Uruguay is deeply concerned with the problematic situation in the African continent, and it should be a matter of preoccupation to all the regions of the world. It requires the attention of all governments and it should be a high priority in the agenda of the UN. Uruguay has continuously shown solidarity to all the African governments, particularly with those experiencing crisis. The situation of civilians and peacekeepers Congo is simply terrible. They are constantly at the edge of a humanitarian catastrophe, and exposed at all times to become victims of uncontrollable violence. Uruguay encourages all member States to adopt immediate plans of action to protect UN personnel and foreign nations to provide aid in order to re-establish peace and stability.

II. Report of the International Law Commission on the Work of its Fifty-Fourth Session

Uruguay is highly pleased with all the work done by the ILC in its Fifty-Fourth Session. Uruguay is particularly concerned with the issue of Diplomatic Protection. We agree with position taken by Special Rapporteur, Dr.Rao, consenting that the Commission should not extend its consideration regarding the context of the present study. We understand that the Commission should limit the number of matters that has traditionally been evaluated, those are: claims of nationality, and the exhaustion of local remedies. We believe it is important for the Commission to consider other matters such as diplomatic protection of societies and the denial of justice, which are in our understanding matters included in the traditional domain. We think that committing to the study of matters such as the functional protection by international organizations of their officials, and other additional matters suggested will only complicate a very complex task per see, hence, delaying the results.

Referring to the second subject, International Liability for Injurious Consequences, we declare it of fundamental importance for Uruguay. Our country has very permeable borders, and underground water resources that form a huge hydrographic valley and which originate and passes territories of other states; additionally, because it is located between the two biggest industrial and demographic concentrations of South America, it assigns a great importance to this subject. We are very satisfied with the work done by the ILC and the assignation of International Responsibility establishing a working group under the expertise of Dr. Rao.
As far as the threshold of the regime application regarding the Liability in Case of Loss, Uruguay hopes that the Commission will lean towards a low activation level. There are no reasons to justify that the injured State should be responsible of dangerous activities, whichever the importance of damages suffered is. We trust that this will be the conclusion reached by the Commission, agreeing that the innocent person who has suffered damages as a consequence of Transboundary harm should not have to bear the loss. (Paragraph 450)
Country: Uruguay  
Committee: International Atomic Energy Agency  
Delegate: Mike Harris, Wichita State University

I. Safeguards

It has become a necessity in our ever changing world to verify that state declarations regarding the types and quantity of nuclear material are credible and accurate. Uruguay supports fully all attempts by the IAEA to provide safeguards to protect the international community from the dangers that are posed by undeclared or clandestine nuclear material and technology. Since the discovery of Iraq’s covert nuclear weapons Programme, it has become imperative that this agency is able to provide credible assurance that State declarations are both complete and accurate. Uruguay, along with the other members of Mercosur have stood strongly behind the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Tlatelolco Treaty), which was the first regional treaty that addressed the issue of nuclear weapons and materials. To this end, Uruguay has adopted and considers in force, the Safeguards Agreement as well as the Additional Protocol to the Safeguards Agreement that was approved by the Board of Governors on 15 May 1997. Uruguay encourages those who are still considering implementing these agreements to ratify and put into force the measures called for, and provide the international community with assistance in verifying credibly their nuclear programmes. Uruguay fully supports the recent call by the IAEA Board of Governors and Director General for implementation of the safeguards system in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Uruguay also supports the continued dialogue between North Korea and the five involved states aimed at bringing North Korea back into the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), as well as allowing inspectors full access to all nuclear facilities. The United Nations must stand firmly resolved and willing to take both economic and legal sanctions against the states who fail to comply with IAEA standards and safeguard mechanisms.

II. Verification and Safety of Research Reactors

Uruguay remains committed to developing a world free of all nuclear weapons, and considers dismantling existing research reactors of utmost importance to achieving this goal. Far too many times the world community has born witness to states developing nuclear technology and weapons through clandestine means. The IAEA has had to face the discovery of a covert nuclear weapons program in Iraq, and is currently negotiating with North Korea and Iraq their involvement in the NPT as well as the and Safeguards Systems that provides the world community a clear and accurate picture of their use of nuclear technology. It is imperative that the international community take measures to ensure that research reactors are not the first step that a member state employs in an effort to develop a nuclear weapons programme. The IAEA provides mechanisms to verify existing programmes, and provides clear guidelines regarding the acceptable use of nuclear technology. The world community must accept these guidelines and safeguards and force those who do not abide by international standards to comply, whether through the use of legal or economic sanctions.
I. Implementation of the Outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Uruguay believes the work of the Third Committee is essential for addressing the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled: Women 2000: Gender equality, women and peace in the twenty-first century.

The 1945 Charter of the United Nations was the first international document to affirm gender equality as a fundamental human right. The United Nation’s Decade for Women (1976-85) and the ongoing women’s World conferences have been positive motivators for change throughout the world during the past fifty years. The Beijing Platform for Equality Development and Peace (PFA) at the Fourth World conference on Women in 1995 set several goals and outlined some distressing shortcomings in the area of women’s rights. These shortcomings were: the continuing increase of violence against women in the form of honor killings, forced marriages, marital violence, and genital mutilation; the problems of globalization are exasperating the feminization of poverty including: government downsizing and privatization of social services; and finally, ensuring adequate funding, support, and implementation of the goals of the PFA by member states of the UN.

Uruguay is fully committed to achieving the goals laid down in the PFA both internationally and domestically. Uruguay established the National Programme for Women in 1995 to promote action nationally to improve the status of women. It adopted the Beijing Platform of Action without reservations; it signed the inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (the Convention of Belem do Para) in 1996 and adopted the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 2001.

Uruguay recognizes that the limited resources of governments are restrictive factors towards implementing the goals laid out at the PFA and mentioned above, especially with regard to globalization. To meet these shortcomings, Uruguay encourages the active participation of the NGOs in the process, cooperating with governments and international bodies to eradicate discrimination against women. Uruguay strongly endorses the drafting of a specific resolution to encourage and facilitate cooperation between NGOs and national governments.

In addition, Uruguay would like to see continued education within countries regarding women’s rights and protection, as defined under “violence against women” laid out in Resolution 58/185. Uruguay hopes that continued education about litigation within countries will help to halt violence against women, which is increasing despite domestic laws being passed globally to reverse this trend. Uruguay feels that increased communication and multi-lateral partnerships to set specific standards for upholding and educating women about their rights go hand in hand with Uruguay’s historical support for the rule of law and respect for national sovereignty.
Along these same lines, Uruguay recommends a further conference on women’s rights to be held in 2005: to address issues relating to education regarding women’s rights within states, further participation and cooperation between governments and NGOs, and review of countries’ cooperation and commitment both legally and financially to women’s rights according to Resolution 58/244.

II. Elimination of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

Uruguay believes the work of the Third Committee is essential for addressing the elimination of racism and racial discrimination.

Racism and racial discrimination are among some of the most complicated and meticulously detailed disagreements in the world today. The Israeli/Palestinian conflict, genocides in Rwanda, Sudan, and Cambodia, and the former crisis in Yugoslavia are just a few examples of the most serious struggles in the world today. Ethnic cleansing, claims of racial superiority, and ethnic violence are major issues that need to be addressed by the global community.

Uruguay has been an active participant for three decades as the General Assembly has struggled to combat racism and support those affected by racial discrimination. In addition, Uruguay gave its full support for the Platform for Action agreed upon at the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in Durban, South Africa in 2001.

As a democratic society, Uruguay recognizes the unbreakable bond between democracy and the battle against racism. Democracy is the only political system which allows individuals to relate as equals with respect for one another and the basic human rights to which we are all endowed. In addition, Uruguay recognizes the primal importance of education in fighting racism and xenophobia at the local, national, and international levels. In a world as diverse as the one we live in, it is guaranteed that we will all encounter races and cultures different than our own. Migrants and indigenous peoples are members of every society around the globe. It is only through recognizing our differences and respecting them, and teaching this principle to our children that we can effectively change the world for tomorrow. Prejudice and racial hatred are born in the minds of men, and we must fight these attitudes to provide a tolerant and understanding world for future generations.

These principles must be globalized through the determination and cooperation of all member states with a plan for action and a commitment to it, standing together financially and ideologically. It is with this hope that Uruguay supports continued discussion and compromise in future meetings, to discuss and resolve our cultural differences in an effort to unite the world in global action against racism.