JBCN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
OSHIWARA MUN 2026

SPECPOL

Special Political and Decolonization Committee

Official Study Guide

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Letter from the EB

Dear Delegates,

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Welcome to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee at JBCN Oshiwara MUN 2026.

This year, SPECPOL will be discussing the agenda: Examining Emerging Forms of Neo-colonialism with a Special Emphasis on Economic and Strategic Dependency in Africa. While colonialism is often viewed as a chapter of history, many countries continue to face challenges arising from unequal economic relationships, foreign influence, and strategic dependence. This agenda encourages delegates to examine whether these modern dynamics represent a continuation of old systems under a different name, and what role the international community should play in addressing them.

The topic is both complex and highly relevant. It touches on development, foreign investment, infrastructure, trade, debt, security partnerships, and sovereignty. As delegates, you will be expected to analyse these issues from the perspective of your assigned portfolio and work towards practical solutions that balance development with independence.

This background guide has been prepared to help you begin your research and develop a basic understanding of the agenda. However, it should only be considered a starting point. We strongly encourage all delegates to conduct further research using UN documents, official statements, academic sources, and recent case studies. The quality of debate in committee will depend on the depth of preparation that each delegate brings.

Whether this is your first conference or your tenth, we hope SPECPOL provides an opportunity to engage in meaningful discussion, strengthen your diplomatic skills, and gain a deeper understanding of an issue that continues to shape international relations today.

The Executive Board and Organising Committee are committed to ensuring that you have an enjoyable and rewarding conference experience. If you have any questions before the conference, please feel free to reach out.

We look forward to welcoming you to JBCN Oshiwara MUN 2026 and seeing the discussions, negotiations, and solutions that emerge from this committee.

Paarth Somani
Director

Aarav Shukla
Assistant Director

Introduction to the Committee

The fourth committee of the United Nations general assembly is the special political and decolonisation committee (SPECPOL). The establishment of this committee followed the reorganization of the United Nations general assembly committee system. The committee's purpose lies in acknowledging a wide range of political issues that lay outside the scope of other committees in the General assembly. SPECPOL is meant to develop strength and independence within nations,and take charge of the collapse of any form of colonialism. At the courtesy of its wide and inclusive mandate, SPECPOL pursues to stimulate dialogue and cooperation amongst countries and resolve pressing matters that have a direct impact on the international community.

Adapting to its Inclusive nature,Many decisions are taken through consensus and encouraged engagement by member states. SPECPOL contributes directly to international standards as it is a subsidiary of the United Nations General Assembly.

SPECPOL is also helped by subsidiary organisations and mechanisms,which include:

- The special committee on decolonisation,which was established in 1961. This committee majorly ensures the right to freedom and independence of colonized countries and citizens,and also studies the impact on countries which are not self governed.
- United Nations peacekeeping operations,which are regularly monitored by SPECPOL. This body helps in advancing the principles that SPECPOL holds and provides significant help in maintaining security and stability in conflict affected regions.
- The United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs (UNOSA), assists SPECPOL in a fraction of its major purpose,which is to ensure the safe and peaceful use and exploration of outer space. Ensuring that emerging developments in technology remain most beneficial to mankind.

This committee demonstrates global representation by comprising 193 member states. Due to the number of members,the credibility and inclusivity of this committee's resolutions and decisions is increased .One of the major achievements of the United Nations was spearheaded by SPECPOL,decolonisation. Since independence was stated and granted under the adoption of General assembly resolution 1514(XV),upwards of 80 previous colonies experienced independence. This helped promote the core principals of SPECPOL and the UN, self determination.

SPECPOL is still needed in modern geo-politics due to ongoing conflict and territorial disputes and increasing concerns of the safe use and exploration of outer space,amongst other pressing matters.

The methods and mechanisms under which SPECPOL works have been enabled to create a great impact on international peace. Through its deliberations and resolutions, SPECPOL continues to encourage principles of sovereignty,independence and peace. Making it one of the most impactful committees in the UN

List of Key Terms

- Strategic dependency - when a state's core security or governance functions become contingent on the continued support of an external power, creating exploitable leverage.

- Economic dependency - Refers to a state of reliance where one country relies on another for resources,survival and financial stability.

- Neo colonialism-The practice of using cultural,financial and economic pressures(as a country), to gain control over another country,usually a developing country.

- Global south - a collective term for developing, emerging, and less industrialized countries, predominantly located in Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania.

- Economic imperialism - The practice of a nation or organisation bearing immense commercial and financial control over another region,making the weaker economy dependent.

- North-south divide - A categorization of a political and socio-economic nature that divides the world into rich,commercialised and industrialised nations,and poorer,and developing ones.

- Debt-trap diplomacy- Used to describe an international financial relationship in which a country lends large amounts to another country,which creates financial dependence and gives the lender political leverage.

- Structural adjustments programs(SAP's)- sets of economic reforms that the world bank and IMF requires developing countries to implement as a condition for taking loans.

- Foreign direct investment - A long term investing plan where an individual/organisation of another country establishes a long term interest and exerts significant control over a business/cooperation in another country.

- Currency dependance - refers to a countries dependance or its financial system on a dominant foreign currency,for trade,pricing etc, (e.g. the CFA franc zone, where 14 African states peg to the euro with reserve obligations to France)

- Digital colonialism - occurs when human lifestyle is appropriated by Multinational tech companies primarily from countries like USA and CHINA to commodify resources.

- Energy dependency-measure of the extent to which a country relies foreign imports to meet its internal requirements of energy.

- Port diplomacy - refers to the strategic use of maritime infrastructure,port access and trade routes to protect geopolitical influence,secure supply chains and foster bilateral alliances.

- Critical raw materials- important materials and minerals that are crucial to modern economics,national defense and the transition to green energy.

- Self determination- the ability of an individual/group to make choices at their own freedom.

- Rare Earth Elements-Group of 17 elements that are crucial to modern technology,defense and clean energy.

- Resource curse- An economic and political hypothesis that countries with a large access to/abundance of resources experience poorer economic growth,weaker democratic institutions and worse development outcomes compared to resource poor nations

- Illicit financial flows - the cross border movement of funds or capital that are illegally earned,transferred or utilised.

- Value additions - is the process of enhancing a product so that its final worth is greater than the combined cost of its inputs

- Conditionalities -A set of rules and requirements that are attached to an aid package or loan that must be met before the funds are released.

Introduction to the agenda

This year's agenda, Examining Emerging Forms of Neo-Colonialism with a Special Emphasis on Economic and Strategic Dependency in Africa, focuses on one of the most prevalent issues in the world today. Despite having over 30% of the world's natural minerals, and 60% of cultivable land, Africa still continues to face major financial crises'. Africa imports over 100 billion dollars in food annually, which could be grown in the continent itself. Is still heavily dependent on external financing and foreign investment, and loses billions of dollars through illicit trading and financial flows.

Many African nations got independence during the twentieth century itself, yet getting independence economically has proven to be much more difficult. Today concerns rise on debt dependency, unequal trade structures and resource extraction, and how they are the new form of colonialism (neo-collonialism).

The issue has become more and more prevalent in recent years, according to the IMF, more than 20 African nations are on high alert for debt distress or already are experiencing it. Countries such as Zambia or Ghana have undergone major debt restructuring plans, however, in some cases this has led to a worsening of the financial situation for these countries. Now due to the sudden rise in demand for green energy, major powers are competing against each other for access to Africa's resources. Simultaneously, initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) try to reduce dependency by promoting intra-continental trade and strengthening economic integration.

This agenda does not seek to portray international cooperation, investment, or development assistance as inherently harmful. Instead, delegates must analyse where the line exists between partnership and dependency. At what point does development finance become political leverage? When does foreign investment contribute to growth, and when does it undermine domestic industries? How can African nations attract capital while preserving economic sovereignty?

As delegates of SPECPOL, you will be expected to analyse the root causes of economic and strategic dependency, analyze the role played by both external systems and domestic governments, and suggest practical solutions that promote self-determination, sustainable development, and long-term economic resilience leading to the self-sustaining growth of Africa. In the year 2050, Africa is proposed to have a population of over 2.5 billion, the decisions made today will impact millions if not billions of people. Hence delegates are asked to analyse and examine whether current systems are propagating financial imbalance or leading to a neo-colonialist Africa.

Timeline Of Events

Year	Event	Relevance
1884-1885	The “scramble for Africa” was formalised in the midst of European powers in the Berlin conference conveyed by Otto von Bismarck.	Due to a lack of regard for linguistic,ethnic and cultural boundaries Africa was partitioned.Due to this Africa went through a change in context to its economy where it served as a market for manufactured goods for Europe and a supplier of raw material.
1885-1908	The congo free state was established as a private colony by exploiting its abundant resource and access to rubber and ivory.	By forcing labour.During the time when this regime was active,approximately 10 million congolese people died,while the profits were transferred only to Europe.This marked the beginning for a commonly used model of resource extraction without significant local development.
1944	The Bretton Woods conference	In order to recover the economy in the aftermath of world war II, 44 allied countries sent forward their representatives to restore economic order and balance.The discussions in this conference eventually led to the establishment of the international monetary fund (IMF) and the world bank.

1945	End of World War II	Even though the end of this world war initiated decolonisation,new forms of call slowly emerged.By the support of trade agreements,currency arrangement amongst other things,former colonisers sought to maintain their control on the economy.
1947-Present	General Agreement on tariffs and trade(GATT)	As an effort to promote international trade,the General agreement on tariffs and trade was established.This was in order to encourage economic cooperation post World war II.African states started to enter this mechanism as a supplier for raw materials,as it has previously been,and not as a manufacturer of finished good. This contradicted the whole intention of this framework which was to give path to a more open global trading system,since it brought back economic procedures and patterns from colonial time periods.The GATT would later transform into the WTO(world trade organisation)
1957	Ghana's independence	Ghana became the first sub-Saharan African nation to achieve independence, with Kwame Nkrumah as its first president. Nkrumah would become the most influential theorist of neo-colonialism, arguing that formal political independence was meaningless without economic sovereignty

1960-Present	The year of Africa	17 African nations gained independence this year,but were still attached to their inheritance of an economic framework which required them to export primary commodities to Countries which were previously colonial powers.Even after gaining independence 14 African nations were bound to French monetary policy.This was established by the CFA franc zone and continues up till today.
1965	Publication of neo colonialism	Kwame Nkrumah formally defined neo colonialism as the practice through which former colonial powers maintain economic influence and borderline control through trade agreements,aid,treaties etc-in his seminal work.
1973	Oil crisis and commodity price shock	Africa started financially relying on other countries through debt,since the global oil crisis resulted in intense balance of payment issues for Africa.Which left them with no option other than to borrow funds from western institutions.

1980	Structural adjustment program	The introduction of structural adjustment programs by the international monetary fund led to the undermining of local industries and social workers as it was imposed on countries that were in pursuit of debt relief.SAP's required these countries to implement trade liberalization privatize state enterprises and reduce social spending.These practices generally benefit foreign investors.Even though SAP's have formally been dissolved their policies of liberalization and privatization are still very active.
1996	HIPC	The international monetary fund established the heavily indebted poor countries initiative to provide debt relief to certain nations.This initiative further pushed the agenda of undermining social spending and local industries as it required these countries to implement further liberalization
2000-Present	Forum on China-African cooperation(FOCAC)	The FOCAC was established to begin organised financial and economic engagement from china with africa.Even though the FOCAC did not include any direct political/financial obligations from Africa,it still insinuated different forms of economic reliance.

2013-Present	Establishment of the Belt and Road initiative	China launched BRI which helped create an impactful development in Africa's infrastructure and also provided the continent with much-needed development.Even though this seemed like an improvement,it testified to Africa's economic and strategic dependence as critics warned that this was a case of debt trap diplomacy.
2018-Present	Africa continental free trade area	afCFTA was one of the most initial efforts to eliminate forms of neo colonialism and encourage economic independence by creating the largest free trade zone by number of participants(54).
2020	Covid 19 pandemic	Africa’s independence was cut short as they relied more than ever on foreign medication,similar to other countries.Patterns of hierarchy which were prevalent in the colonial eras were being demonstrated in the current times since wealthy countries occupied the greatest proportion of the accessibility to supplies and resources.
2020	Zambia sovereign debt default	Heated debate regarding the role of foreign creditors sparked and drew the public attention to Africa's economic policies as Zambia failed to pay the interest on a bond,making them the first African country to default its own debt.This incident shed light on the true vulnerability of Africa's financial state and explains their economic reliance on western institutions

2022	Russia Ukraine war food crisis	The import dependency in another countries including African countries continued as the global wheat fertiliser was damaged and particularly impacted Africa due to its import dependency
2022-2023	Ghana debt default	In the midst of borrowing cost piling up and depreciation of currency amongst other pressing issues,Ghana held payments of a high proportion of its external debt and officially entered sovereign debt default.This later led Ghana to pursue financial help from the IMF.
2023-Present	BRICS expansion and African participation	African countries like ethiopia and egypt began to bring variation into their economic and diplomatic relations beyond western countries by becoming members of BRICS,during its expansion.This was widely interpreted as a chance for Africa to increase its influence of international financial organisations and reduce their reliance on western led foundations like IMF.
2024	UNCTAD's report on economic development in Africa	This report highlighted the vital importance of domestic investment to reduce dependency,and diversification to prevent the economy from the impact of external price shocks.They highlighted this by mentioning that Africa's energy supply relies mainly on fossil fuels.

Case Studies

Case Study I: Zambia's Debt Default

In November 2020, Zambia became the first African country to default on its sovereign debt during the COVID-19 pandemic. The default did not appear suddenly. For most of the previous decade the government had borrowed heavily to build roads, power stations, and airports, and by 2020 its public debt had climbed to more than the total size of its economy. A large share of that borrowing came from external lenders, including Chinese state banks, which by the time of the default were owed billions of dollars. Zambia depends on copper for roughly seven-tenths of its export earnings, so when copper prices weakened and the pandemic cut revenues further, the government was left without the foreign currency it needed to meet its repayments.

The consequences fell hardest on ordinary Zambians rather than on the lenders. Once the country defaulted, it entered a restructuring process that dragged on for close to four years, and throughout that period the cost of servicing debt competed directly with spending on health, education, and social support. Money that could have funded clinics or schools was committed instead to creditors abroad. Because much of the lending had never been fully disclosed to the public, citizens were left paying for obligations they had never seen the terms of, and a change of government in 2021 came partly from public anger over how the debt had been managed.

What makes the Zambian case significant is how it changed the wider conversation about debt in Africa. It became one of the clearest recent examples of how borrowing intended to speed up development can instead deepen dependence on outside factors. Supporters of external financing argue that Zambia genuinely needed the investment, and that the infrastructure it built will support growth for decades. Critics respond that the terms of the lending, the secrecy around some of the contracts, and the length of the restructuring show how much power sits with creditors rather than borrowers once a country falls into distress.

For this reason the case raises an interesting question. It shows that debt is not only a financial matter but a political one, because it determines whether a government answers first to its own population or to lenders overseas. Zambia's experience has since been watched closely by other indebted African states facing the same pressures.

Case Study II: The Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Cobalt Industry

The Democratic Republic of the Congo holds one of the most valuable mineral resources in the modern world. It produces around three-quarters of the world's cobalt, a metal essential to the rechargeable batteries used in electric vehicles, phones, and laptops. On paper this should make the country a central winner of the global shift to clean energy. In practice, the DRC remains one of the poorest countries in the world, and the reason lies in where the value from its cobalt is actually captured.

The cause of this imbalance is the structure of the supply chain. Almost none of the cobalt mined in the DRC is refined inside the country. Most of the raw ore is exported to China, which refines close to three-quarters of the world's cobalt, and the finished battery-grade material is then sold on at a far higher price. Foreign companies, many of them Chinese-owned, control the majority of the DRC's large industrial mines, which means both the mining profits and the far larger refining profits are earned outside the country. The Congolese state is left with limited tax revenue and a workforce, including artisanal miners, that earns very little for dangerous work.

The consequence is that resource wealth has not translated into national development. The country supplies the essential raw material for a fast-growing global industry, yet the roads, industries, and public services that such wealth might fund have largely failed to appear. Members of the more critical blocs argue that this is a modern version of the colonial economy, in which Africa provides raw materials and others earn the reward. The pattern is sustained, they argue, because it suits foreign firms and a narrow group of domestic actors, even as the wider population sees little benefit.

The debate over the DRC's cobalt marks a shift in how resource dependency is understood, because it shows that the problem is not a lack of resources but a lack of control over processing and value. Supporters of the current system argue that foreign investment has expanded mining capacity and created export income the country would not otherwise have. Critics reply that without refining and manufacturing at home, the DRC will keep exporting its wealth in raw form. The central question is whether a country can truly benefit from its resources when most of the value created from them leaves its borders.

Case Study III: The CFA Franc System

The CFA Franc is a currency used by fourteen states across West and Central Africa. It was created during the colonial period under French administration, and although the countries that use it gained political independence decades ago, the currency remains tied to France and, through France, to the Euro. Matrix members such as Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire sit within this arrangement, which is guaranteed by the French Treasury. That guarantee has long come with conditions attached, and it is those conditions that make the system one of the most frequently cited examples of continued external influence.

The central mechanism is the way reserves are held. For much of the currency's history, member states were required to deposit a large share of their foreign exchange reserves, at one point half of them, in a special account at the French Treasury. France was also represented on the boards of the two regional central banks. Supporters argue that this arrangement delivered real benefits, including low inflation, a stable exchange rate, and protection from the currency crises seen elsewhere in the region. For businesses and investors, that stability made trade and planning easier.

Critics see the same arrangement very differently. They argue that holding reserves in France and pegging the currency to the Euro removed the ability of member governments to set monetary policy suited to their own economies, and that a currency pegged to the Euro can make exports more expensive and less competitive. For them, the deeper problem is that decisions shaping fourteen economies were influenced from Paris rather than by the countries themselves. The system has persisted, critics argue, partly because it has suited governing elites who rely on French economic and political support, even where it has limited national growth.

In recent years this has begun to change. In 2019 and 2020, following sustained public pressure and criticism from a younger generation, the West African states agreed with France to reform the currency, ending the requirement to deposit half their reserves in the French Treasury and removing the French representative from the currency board. The reform stopped short of full separation, since the currency remains pegged to the Euro. The case raises a question central to the whole agenda: whether genuine economic sovereignty is possible when a country does not control its own money.

Case Study IV: Illicit Financial Flows from Africa

According to estimates by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Africa loses around 88.6 billion US dollars every year through illicit financial flows. These flows include tax evasion, the deliberate mispricing of trade between companies, corruption, and the illegal movement of money across borders. The figure is large enough to change the picture of who is really financing whom, because in many years the wealth leaving the continent through these channels is greater than the total aid and development assistance flowing into it.

A significant cause of these outflows lies in how large companies, including foreign corporations, operate across borders. One common method is trade misinvoicing, where the value of exports is understated or the value of imports overstated, so that profit can be quietly shifted out of the country and into lower-tax jurisdictions abroad. A mining company, for example, may declare a lower value for the minerals it exports than they are truly worth, leaving the producing country with less tax revenue than it is owed. Because these practices are designed to be hidden, governments often cannot see the full scale of what they are losing.

The consequence is a steady drain of capital that could otherwise fund development. Every billion dollars that leaves illegally is money that cannot be spent on hospitals, schools, roads, or industry, and the loss compounds year after year. This is what makes the issue so important to the agenda: it shows that dependency is not created only through loans or investment, but also through the continuous removal of wealth that has already been generated inside Africa. A country can appear to receive investment while simultaneously losing far more through the back door.

Understanding illicit flows also marks a shift in how the development problem is framed. For a long time the debate focused on how much aid or investment entered Africa. The scale of illicit outflows moves attention to how much wealth leaves, and to the weaknesses in the international financial system, including tax havens and limited transparency, that allow it to happen. Critics argue that these outflows are among the largest single barriers to African development. The case shows that lasting self-sufficiency depends not only on attracting capital, but on stopping the capital a country already has from disappearing.

Bloc Positions

Reform Africa Bloc

This bloc argues that while political colonialism has ended, many African states are still held back by economic structures that limit their independent development. Members of this bloc include countries such as Zambia, Ghana, Kenya, and Ethiopia, many of which have faced severe debt distress in recent years. They do not oppose foreign investment, development assistance, or international cooperation. Instead, they argue that the current global economic system often places developing nations at a disadvantage, forcing them to spend large portions of their national budgets on debt servicing rather than on healthcare, education, and infrastructure.

Zambia is a clear example of how this happens. In 2020, Zambia became the first African country to default on its debt during the pandemic, with public debt standing at more than 100 percent of the size of its economy. A large share of that debt was owed to external lenders, including Chinese state banks, after years of borrowing for infrastructure. Because copper exports account for the great majority of Zambia's foreign earnings, a fall in global copper prices left the government unable to meet its obligations, and the country then spent close to four years locked in a slow restructuring process. During that time, debt servicing costs competed directly with spending on health and education. Members of this bloc argue that arrangements like this show how repayment obligations to foreign lenders can be placed ahead of the basic needs of the population. They point to Ghana, which defaulted in 2022 after interest payments alone had consumed a large share of government revenue, as a further example of the same pattern.

Members of this bloc argue that the deeper problem is a system in which leaders can borrow heavily for short-term gains, while the population inherits repayment obligations for years afterward. They generally support reforms to international financial institutions, fairer trade agreements, and stronger debt restructuring mechanisms. In particular, they argue that African states hold only a small share of the voting power at the International Monetary Fund despite the size of their populations, and they call for full disclosure of loan contracts so that hidden conditions and collateral cannot be used against borrowing countries. Ultimately, this bloc believes that meaningful development cannot be achieved without greater economic sovereignty, and that African states must have greater influence over the financial decisions that shape their future.

Pan-African Integration Bloc

This bloc argues that Africa's greatest challenge is not simply unequal trade, but dependence on the global economy itself. Its members include countries such as South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya, Rwanda, and Ghana, which support closer economic integration across the continent. Members argue that despite gaining political independence decades ago, many African economies are still structured in a way that benefits external actors more than Africans themselves. Raw materials are taken from the continent, exported abroad, processed elsewhere, and then sold back at much higher prices, so most of the wealth generated from African resources never remains in Africa.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo shows how this works in practice. The DRC produces around three-quarters of the world's cobalt, a mineral essential for the batteries used in electric vehicles and electronics. Yet almost none of it is refined inside the country. Most of the raw ore is exported to China, which refines roughly three-quarters of the world's cobalt, and the finished product is then sold on at a far higher value. Foreign companies, many of them Chinese-owned, control the majority of the DRC's industrial cobalt mines, which means the profit from Congolese resources is largely captured outside the country. Members of this bloc argue that this is a modern version of the colonial economy, in which Africa supplies the raw material and others earn the reward, while much of the Congolese population sees little benefit and continues to live in poverty.

Members of this bloc believe that dependency of this kind cannot be solved through debt relief or reforms to existing institutions alone. Instead, they argue that Africa must rely less on external markets and build stronger economic connections within the continent. They strongly support the African Continental Free Trade Area, regional manufacturing hubs, local processing of raw materials before export, and systems that allow African countries to trade and settle payments with each other without depending on foreign currencies. Ultimately, this bloc believes that Africa has the resources, the labour force, and the market size to drive its own development, and that greater regional integration, industrialisation, and collective bargaining power are needed if the continent is to control its own economic future.

Strategic Development and South-South Co-operation Bloc

This bloc rejects the idea that modern development partnerships should automatically be treated as neo-colonialism. Its members include countries such as Ethiopia, Angola, and Kenya, which have received significant investment through partnerships with China and other states outside the West. Members argue that foreign investment, development financing, and cooperation between developing countries have helped close major infrastructure gaps across Africa that domestic resources alone could not cover.

Kenya's Standard Gauge Railway is one example they point to. The line between Mombasa and Nairobi was financed almost entirely by China, which provided close to 90 percent of the roughly 3.8 billion US dollars the project cost, and it cut the journey between the two cities from more than ten hours to a little over four. Members argue that projects like this, along with the reconstruction of Angola after its long civil war, delivered results in places where Western lenders were unwilling to invest. For this bloc, criticising these partnerships as neo-colonial ignores what they actually built and the growth they supported.

States within this bloc strongly support the principles of sovereignty and non-interference. They believe that every country has the right to choose its own development path and its own economic partners without outside pressure, and that it is not the role of other states to decide which partnerships are acceptable. Members will accept greater transparency and requirements to use local workers and materials, because these improve the value that projects deliver to host countries. What they will not accept is a system in which other governments decide which partners are permitted, because they argue that this repeats the same interference that critics claim to oppose. Ultimately, this bloc believes the real question is not who provides the investment, but whether that investment delivers genuine benefits to the countries receiving it.

GLOBAL NORTH BLOC

This bloc generally supports the current international economic system, while accepting that changes may be needed in some areas. Its members include developed states such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and Japan, which hold significant influence within the major international institutions. Members argue that although external pressures have contributed to Africa's development challenges, problems such as corruption, weak institutions, and poor governance have also slowed economic growth across the continent.

Members of this bloc point to Botswana as evidence for their position. Botswana used its diamond revenues carefully, managing them through a stabilisation fund and sound public administration, and achieved decades of stable growth as a result. They contrast this with the roughly 88 billion US dollars that the United Nations estimates leaves Africa each year through illicit financial flows, including tax evasion, trade misinvoicing, and corruption. In many years this figure is larger than the total aid entering the continent. Members argue that this outflow drains as much capital from Africa as any external factor, and that it is closely linked to weak financial oversight and poor governance within states rather than to foreign investment itself.

States within this bloc support foreign investment, foreign aid, and international institutions such as the IMF, the World Bank, and the WTO, which they believe have provided development funding and access to global markets. They advocate for greater transparency, stronger institutions, and better financial regulation, and they support market-based growth, rules-based trade, and fair lending and borrowing practices. Members will accept some reforms to the international system, such as faster debt restructuring. Ultimately, this bloc believes that while reforms may be necessary, lasting development depends just as much on domestic policies, political stability, and effective leadership as it does on international support.

Past Resolutions

RESOLUTION	CONTENT OF RESOLUTION
• UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO.2625 (XXV) (1970)	Affirms the principles of sovereign equality, non-intervention, and self-determination. The resolution condemns attempts by states to exert political, economic, or military pressure on other nations to influence their sovereign decisions. It is often cited as a legal basis against forms of external domination that may resemble neo-colonial practices.
• UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO.3201 (S-VI) (1974)	Demands reforms in economic frameworks to acknowledge financial inequalities between nations,and eliminate international dependency in developing nations.
• REPORT OF THE HIGH LEVEL PANEL ON ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS FROM AFRICA (2015, "MBEKI PANEL" / ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA)	Addresses and highlights that africa loses large amounts of money through illicit financial patterns like tax evasion and corporate profit shifting.Demands transparency
• ADDIS ABABA ACTION AGENDA (2015)	Particularly recognises the challenges that African countries have to face in terms of development and calls for an improvement in lending and borrowing practices.It also addresses issues directly linked to neo-colonialism such as : debt sustainability,reform of global financial governance and development financing

• AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA) AGREEMENT (2018)	A major initiative that built a continental market for goods and services.This agreement directly opposes to former neo colonial economic frameworks and reduces foreign dependence.Heavily endorses intra african trade and reduces reliance on foreign exports.
• UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2457(2019)	Acknowledges that Government deficits,and economic vulnerability have caused constant insecurity in Africa.Calls for strengthened cooperation between the UN and African regional organizations. Specifically the African union (AU) to examine the causes for instability and insecurity

Questions a Resolution Must Answer

• How can the international community ensure that foreign investment and development financing contribute to sustainable growth in Africa without creating long-term economic or strategic dependency?
• What reforms can be introduced to international lending and debt restructuring frameworks to address Africa's growing debt burden while preserving national sovereignty?
• How can African states increase domestic industrialisation, value addition, and economic diversification in order to reduce their reliance on raw material exports?
• What measures can be implemented to strengthen intra-African trade, regional integration, and economic cooperation through initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)?
• How can the international community combat illicit financial flows, unequal trade practices, and other mechanisms that contribute to the continued extraction of wealth from African economies?
• What role should the United Nations and its member states play in safeguarding economic self-determination and addressing contemporary forms of neo-colonialism in Africa
. How can Africa acknowledge and resolve the digital reliance in Africa-Including the control that other countries hold on data and telecommunication infrastructures that need improvement,to make sure Africa attains digital sovereignty?
. How can African states ensure their own benefit through foreign interference in extraction of strategic resources like minerals,while still asserting control of strategic natural resources?
. How can Africa maintain its political freedom through a regulations in defence deals and private security companies and foreign military bases?
. How can African states have a stronger involvement in shaping global economic decisions through reforms in bodies like the IMF and the UNSC?
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Sources to Use

SOURCES TO USE

1. **Website that end with .org,or .edu**
2. **Official government websites(Of your portfolio)**
3. **Websites that have been ratified by the UN: Amnesty International, Aljazeera, BBC, Britannica etc.**
4. **Websites of NGOs your portfolio is associated with**
5. **Official UN websites:UNCTAD,WTO,etc.**

These sources should be utilised by delegates since they hold accurate information which gives delegates deeper insight to the delegate

SOURCES NOT TO USE

1. **OP-ed articles**
2. **Websites that end with .com,since they may have vested interests.**
3. **Buzzfeed**
4. **Quora**
5. **Wikipedia**

These sources should not be used as they are written at the discretion of the writer's interpretation and opinion which may mislead the delegate.

Preambulatory and Operative Clauses

Preambulatory clauses:

Acknowledging	Fulfilling	Taking note
Affirming	Fully alarmed	Viewing with appreciation
Alarmed by	Fulfilling	Welcoming
Approving Aware of	Fully alarmed	Noting with appreciation
Believing	Fully aware	Noting with approval
Bearing in mind	Fully believing	Noting with deep concern
Confident	Further deploring	Noting with regret
Congratulating	Further recalling	Noting with satisfaction
Contemplating	Guided by	Observing
Convinced	Having adopted	Pointing out
Declaring	Having considered	Reaffirming
Deeply concerned	Having considered further	Realizing
Deeply conscious	Having devoted attention	Recalling
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Recognizing
Deeply disturbed	Having heard	Referring
Deeply regretting	Having received	Reminding
Deploring	Having studied	Seeking
Desiring	Keeping in mind	Taking into account
Emphasizing	Noting further.	Taking into consideration
Expecting		
Expressing its appreciation		
Expressing its satisfaction		

Preambulatory and Operative Clauses

Operative clauses:

Accepts	Designates	Recommends
Affirms	Encourages	Regrets
Approves	Endorses	Requests
Appreciates	Expresses its hope	Resolves
Asks	Further invites	Seeks
Authorizes	Further proclaims	Strongly affirms
Calls for	Further recommends	Strongly condemns
Calls upon	Further requests	Strongly urges
Condemns	Further resolves	Suggests
Congratulates	Hopes	Trusts
Confirms	Proclaims	Transmits
Deplores	Proposes	Urges