



## **MINI-ONU STUDY GUIDE**



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## 34<sup>TH</sup> G-8 SUMMIT

Hello dear delegates,

It is with great pleasure that I write this welcoming letter to you all. The G-8 Summit is a beloved idea of committee that I had a few years ago and it came up to reality at this XIX MINI-ONU. So I really hope you enjoy it and have fun.

The G-8 gathers together the most important leaders of the world and you'll be responsible to carry their burden this time. It may be a tough thing, but I really trust that you will make this summit the greatest committee of the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of MINI-ONU.

By the way, I'm Fernanda Siepierski and I'll be your director. It is my fifth MINI-ONU and it'll be the third one as a director (I directed the PNUD – UNDP – twice). Currently, I'm at the sixth term of International Relations at PUC-MG and I go to an Economics College (UFMG) as well. I'm glad I'm having the opportunity to simulate this specific committee and its agenda.

I also would like you to meet two people that are helping me a lot:

“My name is Bruno Maluf and I am currently on the third term (which is the third semester) of International Relations. I believe that this committee will give us an incredible opportunity of discussing important issues, theory and the case itself. I have already been to another MINI-ONU conference as a volunteer but this is the first time that I take part in this conference as an assistant director. My expectations are indeed high because I think that if we work together we can really get a very plausible result.”

“This is Daniel Pedersoli, your assistant director. By the time of our meeting, I will be twenty years old and coursing the fourth semester of International Relations at PUC-MG. This will be my second MINI-ONU and I am looking forward to meeting each and every one of you, so that together we can learn and share experiences on the 2008 G-8 summit. I hope to achieve excellent academic results with this group and I am sure we are going to have great moments during our time together in this simulation. Wish you all a good job!”

I believe that discussing in a foreign language always brings up the best of the delegates. Being in a committee entirely in English is always interesting and surprising. So, for that reason, I wish you luck on your studies and I'm really looking forward to meet you all in October.

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## I – INTRODUCTION

Considering the global field, the international organizations (IOs) play an important role setting rules and norms that allow countries to act together. Barnett and Finnemore define the international organizations as “structures of rules, principles, norms, and decision-making procedures through which others, usually states, act” (BARNETT & FINNEMORE, 2004). The many kinds of organizations that exist nowadays lead to a study of their real influence on inter-states and supranational decisions, once the international organizations “exercise power as they use knowledge and authority not only to regulate what currently exists but also to constitute the world, creating new interests, actors, and social activity” (BARNETT & FINNEMORE, 2004).

Of all organization types, there are some exceptions that allow the states that compose it to maintain their autonomy, which means that the states are the ones responsible for the real decisions taken inside the organizations and they are not directly subjected to the rules and norms to govern the international scenario defined by other institutions. The G-8 - as an organization formed by the seven wealthier countries of the world plus the Russia Federation - is one of these organizations, aiming to sustain the autonomy of the states at the same time it coordinates the actions of these countries to achieve greater ends.

The G-8 lacks a fixed headquarter which indicates that it does not have an established administrative body, what characterize the informality and differences present at the G-8 committee in comparison to other IOs. The bureaucracy<sup>1</sup>, present at most part of international organizations, is responsibility of the states, not the group. The bureaucratization process of decisions on each country happens before and after the annual meetings, since the countries are not attached to specific rules and norms that define the G-8 debates, but, instead they try to use their bureaucracy to establish the plans of actions elaborated during the previous summits. The discussions inside the group are in between a “rational-choice” and a “standard operating procedure” decision-making model<sup>2</sup>. Most part of the actual decisions is not formalized during the summit, because the states are allowed to – and usually do - act independently from the G-8.

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<sup>1</sup> According to Barnett & Finnemore (2004), bureaucracy means organizing a structure based on certain patterns as hierarchy, acting according to pre-made rules, an office and salary personal and so forth.

<sup>2</sup> Models suggested at the chapter "Decision-making in international organizations: the conversion process" from Rittberger and Zangl's book *International Organization: Polity, Politics and Policies* (2006).

However, at the forum, they discuss how to coordinate their choices in order to achieve optimized results. Regularly, at other international organizations there is the seek of a common agreement that is formalized – through, for example, signatures or statements - in order to allow enforcement actions to respect the rules and legitimate any punishment for those countries which do not attend the specifications of the formal document. The informality of the group of eight encourages a similar informal discussion, permitting the countries to debate freely and not having an obligation to reach a formal commitment by the end of the event – any formalization of subjects discussed at the summit may occur in a different time, probably in other scheduled meetings.

Due to its decision-making characteristics, mostly decisions regarding the G-8 are considered more operational, which means a more regulatory than mandatory decision, what does not affect the sovereignty of each nation. The decision-making processes must consider a multilevel coordination and, once the bureaucracy means existent at a supranational, international and a domestic level are coordinated, the countries and their representations will be able to negotiate and discuss with others, based on a same logic or goal. This coordination at a multilevel arena has a bigger possibility of equality between actors. The fact that the G-8 is composed mainly by powerful countries helps the influence gap on the group to be narrowed, although the United States always had been considered the most influent country inside the committee. The equality present at the committee contributes to a major commitment. The enforcement methods used to guarantee the accomplishment of the deals and discussed plans of action are different from other committees. In the G-8, enforcement exists due to the risk of having one of the main countries not cooperating, what may help to increase chances of failure regarding a certain matter. A non-cooperative actor may make the coordination of the actors difficult, weaken the group structure and may make the decisions and the achievement of goals inside the G-8 harder. Despite that, the definition of a coordinative strategy may help the countries to achieve better results not only between them, but in other organizations - like the United Nations (UN) - too.

At the group of eight, an annual meeting is used to assure that the coordination and cooperation will continue and even be extended to other fields. The intensity of the interest into cooperating or not may vary according to each country will. It must be enforced that the summit does not produce any formal agreement or deal; instead the most formal document of the forum is a summary pointing the main topics discussed and possibilities of plans.

After defining the differences of this kind of international organization, it is noticeable that the G-8 acts in alternative ways and it has duties that differs from the other organizations' responsibilities. It's important to remember that being a part of this informal organization doesn't exclude the participation of the member nations at bureaucratic organizations, once the eight actors are really important for many aspects of the international scenario and their membership at the G-8 can't exclude them from other organizations bodies.

It can be concluded that the G-8 presents, unlikely most part of IOs, an absence of bureaucracy opposing a common search for engagement in order to avoid catastrophic situations and to promote advances at the economic, political and other fields. This engagement is responsible for sustaining the organization until the present days.

## II – THE G-8 BACKGROUND

During the beginning of the 70's decade, the world was facing a troubled moment, including an economic crisis. In that time, it was noticed that the major powers of the world should be more engaged in order to maintain the order and solve the existent problems.

The need to gather together the main actors of the international scenario was to make a discussion regarding the economic relations between the states, including trade and currency issues, and to talk about the possibility of coordinating the actions of the nations in order to avoid other crisis and find better ways to deal with the situation. For that reason, in 1975, the president of France hosted the first forum of its kind with the participation of the leaders from other five countries - Germany, Italy, Japan, United States and United Kingdom – and, henceforth, a tradition of forums with those countries started. In 1976, Canada joined the group, forming the G-7, which stands as the group of the seven wealthier countries in the world.

Although the first meetings were held to discuss economic issues, politics were added to the summits agenda in the late 70's. Nevertheless, the biggest changes concerning the forum happened after the end of the Cold War. Without the burden of dealing with the East-West confront, the leaders became less focused into discussing only economic and politic matters and widened the range of the discussions to environmental and social issues. Also, after 1994, Russia leaders were always present at G-7 meetings during the summits. In the year of 1998, at last, the nation was officially incorporated to the G-7 countries main body, completing the G-8 known nowadays<sup>3</sup>.

Since then, the G-8 turned into a reference for international debates, for it exposes the opinion of the most important nations. Every year the summit is held in one of the eight participant countries and the leadership of the host place is responsible to guarantee that the agenda will be respected and, in addition, to guarantee the cooperation of the G-8.

On the other hand, there are general goals to be achieved at every summit by all the eight countries leaders: they must increase their cooperation regarding the financial area and trade; the leaders have to improve the global economy; they also must promote peace and democracy all

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<sup>3</sup> When Russia joined the group, it was first named as G-7 + 1, since the Russian Federation differs from the other countries since its relevance for the discussions are not specifically economical - Russia is not ranked as the 8<sup>th</sup> wealthier country in the world -, but its power acquired during the Cold War made of this country one important actor for debating political issues.

over the world; and, finally, the promotion of conflict solution and prevention are at their care. With those goals in mind, it is established for each summit a special agenda and, depending on how the issues are considered as priorities at the year, the weight of environment, society, conflict or economy at the same agenda varies.

The publicity and expectations regarding this meeting show how, still, the decisions of those countries can improve or aggravate the international relations. The annual meeting, regardless its small formalization power, inspires other government attitudes, helps to define plans and cooperation deals between the G-8 countries with others and even may result in complaints<sup>4</sup> when people consider that the debates were weak and excluded important matters from its agenda. Unfortunately, there are times that important subjects are put aside from the agenda - some that are not seen as an emergency<sup>5</sup> - in order to prioritize different issues considered more important to the welfare of the countries of the group.

Considering that the G-8 reflects the opinion of the wealthier countries and their will to act on the matters, it became an important meeting to be taken in account internationally.

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<sup>4</sup> G-8 meetings usually face protests from people demanding more actions regarding environment, diseases, starvation and poverty.

<sup>5</sup> In the latest years, terrorism and disaster relief, for example, are often included on the agenda, replacing other subjects and delaying discussions.

#### IV – THE G-8 SUMMIT STRUCTURE

The G-8 is officially formed by Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, United States and the United Kingdom. Since it doesn't have an administrative office neither a fixed administrative body, every year a country is responsible to assume the presidency<sup>6</sup> of the group and host the summit. In order to make the summit happen, the hosting nation is responsible for providing security, the place in which the meetings will occur, to contact the press and invite other countries and organizations to participate of the summit.

During approximately a month, at the hosting country, a series of meetings occur between the leaders of G-8, the G-8 + 5 – Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa -, organizations representatives and ministers of finance and other specialists. The group of eight participates of most part of the meetings and also has the right to have a private meeting which only allows the leaders of the G-8 countries to join.

Allowing the countries to debate freely and without many pre-made speeches are characteristics that lead to conclude that the G-8 is a more informal, but not less respected, organization in which most part of the decisions are consensual between the eight main nations. The final document of each G-8 meeting also proves its differences regarding the other organizations, since it's not a mandatory document, but a summary of all subjects and suggestions discussed during the meeting.

At the G-8 meetings, all the guests are, in a same way, important and their contributions are usually mentioned at the final summary, even being the composition of the document and the responsibility for defining a prospective plan for both duties of the G-8 countries. The guest's opinions may help increase the knowledge regarding the chosen topics, may likewise contribute with new ideas or plans and may be part of a problem solving debate.

Furthermore, the debates and the cooperation in the summit happen due to the need of managing the international scenario and avoid big crisis. That considered, the agenda is built during the gap between forums, and usually includes topics of most concern and priority. The composition of the G-8 and its opinion regarding the topics of agenda centralize the attention of many actors during the summit, because of the possible consequences of the meeting.

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<sup>6</sup> The G-8 choice for presidency works due to a rotation method, which means that each country hosts the meeting after every seven years.

## VI – THE 34<sup>th</sup> G-8 SUMMIT AND THE COMMITTEE AGENDA

At the year of 2008, Japan became the host country for the 34<sup>th</sup> summit. The upcoming G-8 summit has a rather comprehensive agenda, which is intended to tackle the major problems which afflict our planet and our current *modus vivendi*. Amongst its main issues, atomic energy, environmental and climate change, and African development hold a special position, for these are intended to be the very ones to be seen to with closer attention. They are heralded worldwide in papers, internet and publications as the main topics to be dealt with by governments in the foreseeable future.

### Agenda

#### *- Environmental and climate change*

This is considered to be a crucial part of the discussions, once it demands words and actions from all the participants. The carbon market will be of capital importance, tantamount to other traditional issues, such as oil prices and the sort. In the words of IEA Chief Economic Fatih Birol, "At the G8 meeting next month in Hokkaido in Japan, this will be our message: If you are serious on the climate change issues, your support, and the support of carbon capture and storage, will be your litmus test." (May 22, 2008, *Reuters News*).

Japan's Prime Minister Fukuda is also deeply concerned on the matter, and members of the Japanese government have already signed that the Prime Minister is to announce plans for cutting emissions of greenhouse gases in June ahead of July's Group of Eight Summit. Additionally, the country shares common ground with Europe on supporting the International Partnership for Cooperation on Energy Efficiency (IPEEC), which they have been developing with the U.S. and other countries, to be an open, broad and inclusive partnership of nations seeking to maximize the benefits of energy efficiency. (April 24, 2008, *BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific*). Japan has the main role in this year's meeting, after having taken in suggestions from all parts of the world on all sorts of themes, including how to replace the Kyoto protocol, which expires in 2012. Japan's plans for the meeting include reaching a final agreement on the multibillion-dollar climate fund, and to halve carbon emissions by 2050. Relevant countries in the

environmental issue area have been invited to attend the meeting, such as Brazil and India, developing countries that accept reducing their emissions, as long as other main polluters do take the same attitude.

To bolster up international cooperation on the matter, Japan plans to announce a package of measures to help developing countries on their struggle against global warming and infectious diseases.

Finally, there is the issue of clean energy. Japan's concern on the matter is steadily growing, as steep oil prices are putting enormous pressure on the country's commercial balance, and, of course, as new perspectives for clean energy appear.

#### *- Energy*

This timely issue is a topic for heated discussion amongst countries which possess few alternatives of energy to fall back on (such as Japan) and those supporters of the so called 'clean energy'. Japan's position is favorable to the expansion of its nuclear programme, since the country faces challenging problems related to energy supply. It is also advocated that nuclear energy does not emit carbon dioxide and is a contribution to lessening global warming. It is already being called 'clean energy' for some.

Concerned about the proliferation of nuclear energy for military purposes, the Japanese government has indicated that it will lead discussions on tackling the North Korean and Iranian nuclear standoffs and strengthen the non-proliferation framework at the G8 summit, according to Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura.

Unconfirmed sources herald that it is in Japan's intentions a proposal to set up an international organization to study countries' energy-saving measures. This new international body would be funded by Japan, the United States and Europe, and would operate in close relationship with the International Energy Agency, in Paris.

#### *- African development*

Fostering the development of the African continent is another subject that will be looked upon with especial attention. The Japanese government aims to promote the integration of

international assistance plans for the construction of road networks on the African continent, at a meeting of Infrastructure Consortium for Africa to be held in Tokyo in mid-March. It is Fukuda's intention to dedicate more time discussing matters such as health, water and education in Africa. The Prime Minister has steadily stressed his 'long-term' vision regarding the plans for the continent, at the same time emphasizing the importance of the implementation of the G-8 agreed measures thenceforth.

Health in Africa is another issue that the members of the G-8 will have to discuss, and Japan has already stressed its concern that the world may not meet the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

“Fukuda indicated that the G8 would focus on mother and child care, as well as on the shortage of health. Measures would include training doctors, nurses and midwives in developing countries and the introduction in Africa and elsewhere of maternity health record books for mothers and babies. Japan pledged a fresh 184 million dollars to combat AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria ahead of hosting a G8 summit set to focus on global health. In respect to water, Fukuda noted that there needs to be a stronger focus on water-related disasters, safe water supply, and a more effective management of water” (GUEBERT, Jenilee, 2008).

Along with measures to counter the current poor sanitary conditions in Africa, Japan is intended to deal with the subject of security and peacekeeping in the continent. Fukuda will propose beefing up the G8's support for international peace-building activities at the G8 summit. Assistance measures, such as stepped-up training programmes for UN peacekeepers and financial aid will be included in a G8 leader's document. The G8 nations are set to agree on plans to carry out more training of UN peacekeepers in cooperation with the African Union and to provide more financial assistance for training programmes.

Finally, the Japanese government plans to hold an outreach session on the sidelines of the G8 summit for discussions on African development. They plan is to invite seven or eight countries to the meeting, including Tanzania, the current chair of the African Union, and Ethiopia, which chairs the AU-led New Partnership for Africa's Development, or NEPAD.

## **G-8 summit Japan 2008 – problems, discussions, decisions and treaties**

Many challenges facing the next G-8 summit meeting are related to unresolved past problems. For instance, the Kyoto protocol is yet to be in full operation, and the United States has not shown any signs of commitment. Additionally, there is pressure to start the drafting of the post-Kyoto protocol plan.

As mentioned, the most important discussions will be related to African development, climate change, and nuclear energy, as well as topics such as world economy, nuclear non-proliferation and terrorism.

In Davos at the World Economic Forum, Japan's Prime Minister Fukuda presented his "Cool Earth Promotion Programme." It was composed of three parts: a post-Kyoto framework, International Environment Cooperation and Innovation. During the Forum, Fukuda highlighted the importance of starting to deal effectively with the main points proposed, for the history of failures is long. Related to the environmental area, it is cited the Rio-92 meeting, which was held in the aftermath of the Cold War, and Durban-2002. Meetings that mobilized the world society but eventually turned up having little efficacy in solving the main issues proposed, especially due to a lack of binding regulations that could force the countries to abide the agreements. The 2008 G-8 conference was defined as an important opportunity to firm up commitments based on what was agreed at the December 2007 United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Bali, Indonesia.

There are also the historical problems of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, a paramount topic for all members. They are trying to reach a compromise decision so as to find a common ground solution especially concerning the Iranian nuclear programme, and the ever present North Korea threat to Japan. Invited to join the meeting, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Energy Agency express concerns on how the subject of nuclear proliferation has been repeatedly receiving a blind eye from the international community.

Uncertainties exist also on the discussions about African development. In April 2007 Italian Prime Minister Prodi and Japanese Prime Minister Abe stated the necessity to build a joint policy towards Africa. The 2005 Commission for Africa left the issue to be taken up by the Japanese G8 presidency in 2008. The extension of Japan's commitment to the subject is seen on the importance it gives to it. Furthermore, the country is to host the Fourth Tokyo International

Conference on African Development. The argument for such support is, amongst others, that Africa is very delayed into achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) while Asia has made considerable advances during the same period.

### **The current situation**

Japan's presidency of the 34th G-8 summit says this is going to be a promising summit. Nevertheless, some cast the doubt whether the meeting will manage to effectively shed some light on the matters proposed. The arguments are that for the first time in many years, the average number of newcomers is going to be extremely high. Considering the eight members, more than a half -the Russian president Dimitri Medvedev, the French president Nicolas Sarkozy, the British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, and Japan's Prime Minister Fukuda - are going to attend the summit for the first time. It means that they have barely had time to implement their own electoral plans at home, what could lead to weaker commitments. Without a clear support from their countries (for they have just started their mandates), they might be willing to postpone any perspectives of a binding mutually agreed upon decision. Moreover, the United States' president George W. Bush will attend the meeting for the last time, what could generate only a mild sense of commitment. For instance, some of the matters may figure higher in a country's priorities than in others'.

Conversely, the members have already started to issue declarations on what is to be expected from the summit. Along with the leaders' meeting, other reunions are scheduled for the 2008 G-8, which will comprise themes such as labor, development, environment, a meeting of the foreign ministers, reunions on science and technology, justice and home affairs, etc.

In conclusion, the 34th G-8 meeting bears important tasks to be fulfilled, and the world community awaits their accomplishment with anxious eyes. The situation of generalized hunger in Africa can wait no more. Neither the Earth, that faces a difficult task in trying to accommodate each country's desire for riches, in a race with unpredictable results that could lead the entire world to catastrophe.

In this sense, the leaders of Great Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Canada, Russia, United States and Japan gather in order to find common ground to deal effectively with these problems, and provide incentives to cooperation amongst countries on each matter.

Of course that some may face the meeting with distrust. All in all, its members are all industrialized countries, that most of the times share equal perspectives on an assortment of issues that vary from nuclear energy management to environmental joint policies. Nonetheless, the great number of newly-elected chiefs of state, contrary to what some might say, could indeed be a positive novelty, which could lead to fresh insights on old and long-lasting problems.

This year's host, Japan, shows clear signs of willingness to cooperate in the struggle against the underdevelopment in Africa and the indiscriminate use of nuclear energy, for example. If the challenges are great, so are the perspectives for solution.

## **VII - THE 34<sup>TH</sup> SUMMIT GOALS**

Through the 34<sup>th</sup> G-8 Summit, all the representations must aim to:

- Define the current scenario regarding the topics;
- Define the relevance of each subject on an international approach;
- Identify the most important factors related to the topics;
- Identify the problems and improvements regarding each topic of the agenda;
- Point out the actions that already had been taken;
- Point out the opinions and additions of every actor;
- Show actors' plans for future actions regarding the matters;
- Define possibilities of measures and of alternative meetings;
- Point out the relevance of the summit for the understanding and improvement of each topic of the agenda;
- Promote cooperation in order to achieve the best results;
- Create a summary with all the information collected and discussed.

## **XIX – REPRESENTATIONS ROLES**

The main objective of the following study is to introduce the positions of the countries in relation to development, energy and climate change. What is being discussed nowadays is that many countries are concerned about the oil price and, for that reason, the energy market should be more secure. This concern was confirmed on 8 June 2008 in a meeting of the G8, India and the People's Republic of China. They stated that there is a need to increase the world's demand for different energy sources by maximizing investment in the domestic energy production.

Meanwhile, the constant research to find alternatives and less polluted material sources in order to avoid a more critical climate change and the attempts to reverse this environment crisis situation are taking over the agenda of many countries and organizations.

On the other hand, the need to stop risky nuclear programmes development calls the attention of many actors. A secure way to produce nuclear power is what mostly actors expect from the countries trying to use and produce this kind of energy. So, the nations and organizations are lately seeking for a better control of any nuclear programme.

In Africa, the constant civil wars, disease problems and exploration are a few factors that difficult the development of the continent. Campaigns and international aid are, presently, insufficient to promote any great change of scenario in the region and ignore the area was never a plausible solution.

Each actor has its own opinions and goals concerning the topics pointed at the agenda. For that reason, it is important to understand and analyze the different views and work over that to define which actors are more willing to cooperate and in what fields they want to cooperate, what will make it easier to make alliances and to achieve goals.

### **Canada**

Canada is a considerable consumer and exporter of oil and natural gas, though in some areas the hydric power is widely used, for being a cleaner resource. A great number of Canadians want an energy policy aimed at protecting the environment and they also want a policy with stable prices even if they have to restrict Canadian export. Canadians consider that a policy based on the market means no policy at all, which means that the agenda of the country must be adapted

to the environmental issues and it must consider the worldwide decreasing of available fossil energy sources.

### **France**

From all the countries of the G-8, France occupies the last position at the emission of CO<sub>2</sub>. Its cleaner activities are based on a large production of energy relying on nuclear power plants. Over the past years, the improvements and expansion of the French nuclear programmes have the approval of the political parties and most part of the population. The production in France is considered safe and its methods are closely controlled. Also, the nuclear energy of the country is proudly known for not contributing to the emission of polluting gases or affecting the environment.

### **Germany**

Considering the commitments taken by Germany to protect the environment, the German government consolidates the substitution of fossil fuels for less polluting and renewable energy sources. The German people are totally aware that it is very important to guarantee the survival of the future generations. A national policy, aiming to the preservation of nature with measures that reduce the climate variations in the world, has been implemented in Germany for long. Germany has been taking place in international negotiations in the environmental area and has already fulfilled the commitment of Kyoto protocol.

Germany was one of the first countries to use solar energy and is today the country that uses eolic energy and biodiesel the most if compared to the rest of the world. The German government intends to substitute 8% of its fossil fuel for biofuel by 2015 whereas the European Union's goal is to substitute 5,75% of its fossil fuel by 2010.

### **Italy**

Among the countries of OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development), Italy finds itself in a complicated situation because of its deep dependence on

imported energy. The first step that must be taken is to change the mindset concerning energy consumption. Italy may also decide to use other kinds of energy rather than fossil fuels and the country chose not to invest in nuclear energy. Instead, it focused on clean sources of energy. It means that Italy pursues a new energetic culture which focuses mainly on renewable sources.

### **Japan**

It must be considered that Japan is an island country which has very few domestic energy resources and a fast-growing economy with an increased demand for energy. This great dependence on energy made Japan try to improve its energy efficiency by seeking other sources of energy. The Japanese energy policy is focused on research and development of technologies of clean energy and this policy focus on a fuel cell system, which is a process of converting the chemical hydrogen and oxygen into water. Due to that process this objective of this policy is also to make use of decarbonization, making the environment cleaner.

### **Russia**

The Russian industries of natural gas and oil are a very important player mainly in the energy market of Europe and Eurasia. Considering the amount of imported energy of the European Union, it imports 44% of Russian natural gas and 18% of Russian oil. Members of Congress, administration officials and analysts have noticed that the level of dependence of many European countries on Russian energy has been used by Russia as a strategy to limit the sovereignty of neighboring countries. Russian's energy policy has been oriented to concentrate these industries under the control of the Russian government.

### **United Kingdom**

The United Kingdom government's goal is to generate 10% of its energy from renewable sources by 2010 and double to 20% by 2020. UK has been developing a project called *Wavegen* which explores the potential of wave energy. The energy that comes from the sea is a kind of investment on the planet and for the future.

## **United States of America**

Nowadays the United States of America needs a very high level of energy to maintain its level of development. The United States nation dependence on foreign sources is extremely high and it is on the way to keep growing. Due to that, the USA decided to reduce its dependence on foreign oil by using technology in order to develop alternative sources of energy. However it will still take time until the country becomes less dependent of the fossil and polluting sources.

## **Brazil**

Brazilian energy sources are among the cleanest in the world. 44% of the domestic supply comes from renewable sources whereas this level goes down to 14% considering the rest of the world. The renewable sources of energy have had an important role on the use of biodiesel and thermal energy from sugar cane bagasse. Brazilian data shows that 74,6% of its produced energy comes from hydric sources. According to government plans concerning the energy sector this level may increase with the construction of at least three hydroelectric power plants. This is a natural Brazilian option considering that Brazil is rich in hydric sources. Only a third of the country's potential is being used. As 70% of the energy potential is found in the Amazon it has not been fully used due to the environmental concerns. The use of eolic and solar energy is in its beginning. We can anticipate that hydroelectric and thermal energy will fill the demand for energy in the following years.

## **China**

In order to reduce air pollution, preserve the human health and ensure adequate climate, China passed a renewable energy law aiming at reducing their dependence on foreign oil and gas. This law approaches the basic principles of market economy and the goals of energy security. Also, policy incentives were adopted in order to motivate the development of renewable technologies.

**India**

Due to the rapid economic growth of India, its energy consumption consume has increased considerably. This rapid growth demands not only a proper domestic policy but also an Indian foreign policy. It is expected that the demand of energy will double by 2025. It's important to consider that 90% of Indian national petroleum will be imported. Considering these facts Indian energy policy focus on efficiency, fiscal reform, tending to privatize its energy sector.

**Mexico**

Mexico pursues a policy that focus on the usage of natural gas as the main fuel for the future. This policy presents four main components: 1) construction of new natural gas stations; 2) conversion of many power plants from fuel oil to natural gas; 3) increase of natural gas level at industries in compliance with environmental laws; 4) foster the domestic and industrial use of natural gas.

**South Africa**

Considering the energy field the country is lately facing problems with its nuclear plants. Its power production showed weakness and the discussion of alternative sources of energy may help the country to find a way out of the crisis. Also, as a representative of the African countries, this nation may incentive the discussion of the development in the region.

**African Union**

This organization was invited to join the G-8 summit in order to contribute with the plans of African development. Its main actions intend to boost the development of the members of the organizations and prevent conflicts and non-democratic governments. The inclusion of the African problem at the G-8 agenda may help the organization to acquire more funds and may increase the participation and contribution of the countries inside the continent.

## **European Union**

Being an organization with a widely approach, the European Union became a crucial actor at any international field. The plans of a more gathered market and decision making-body may mean more extensive and unitary policies, which explain the participation of the organization in most part of the debates that includes European countries and interests.

## **International Atomic Energy Agency**

The IAEA is the highest authority concerning non-proliferation programmes. Monitoring programmes and a control over the known nuclear armed states are responsibility of the agency. “The IAEA has no authority to act on its own, but relies on the willingness of nations to cooperate, or on a UN mandate” (*BBC NEWS - IAEA Profile. 2008*). The organization depends on the opinions and results of the G-8 meeting, what may contribute to future actions of the agency.

## **International Energy Agency**

The need to implement new technologies and to improve the production and distribution of energy are tasks of the International Energy Agency. Its last achievements at other G-8 summits proved that the energy is an important subject, and the need to increase the advances on this area must always be considered. The agency always recommends plans of actions to the G-8 countries and it also acts toward plans of production of less polluting energy sources, especially due to the constant increasing of the oil price and its high contribution at emitting CO<sub>2</sub> on the environment.

## **United Nations**

As one of the most important organizations of the world, the United Nations has programmes in many areas and deals with many different subjects from problem solving to

maintenance of countries' situations. The UN, for example, has been supporting the African organizations related to energy. This cooperation includes many areas such as capacity of decision-making in the domestic level; development of its view concerning energy for Africa by 2030. The environment is also part of the UN agenda and the organization defends any initiative to reverse the situation of the climatic field.

The participation of UN at the 34<sup>th</sup> G-8 summit is relevant to increase the engagement of the countries and the organization, to improve actions and to promote the decisions taken at the meeting.

### **World Bank**

World Bank is recognized as a great development promoting organization. Its programmes and funds donations aim to higher the development of many regions and to reduce poverty. The discussion, at the 34<sup>th</sup> G-8 summit, of the African development by the members of G-8 may need an active partnership with the bank to exponentially boost the effects of any action.

## **XIX – ABOUT THE G-8 SIMULATION**

Simulate a committee like this, requests from the delegates to relearn the concepts of international organizations they know. The structure of United Nations is not enough to understand why the countries' leaders meet each other, once a year, to define their opinions and to establish plans about the agenda of the summit. The rules defined to moderate the UN committees do not entirely apply at the G-8 debates; any substantive voting process request a consensus of all the G-8 leaders and an informal caucus is usually more applicable in the discussions of the group. The informal debates they have scheduled calls the attention of many actors around the world, once it is important to have the opinion of the G-8 members about certain topics.

The member nations' actions – with positives or negatives implications - are hard to contest, due to the countries' power. So, if the G-8 members have the intention of establishing plans of actions to improve any situation, the world will be expecting the results. The G-8 summit is the opportunity to discuss and anticipate possibilities of plans and engagement actions. The delegates must make use of the power of the nations to decide wisely which plans of actions will advance and which ideas will be discarded. It's a duty of each delegate to contribute with ideas and conclusions concerning the agenda, in order to permit coordination between the actors regarding any future attitude.

On the whole, the G-8 cannot deliberate any decision as an organization, but, as it does not damage the autonomy of the actors, it is expected from the same actors to make any formal decision using other instances. Knowing that there will only be formal decisions if the countries themselves agree to make a formal deal or agreement, it's defined that they will use of their own bureaucracy means to guarantee the formality of the negotiation. Therefore, the forum is set to encourage the discussion of the ways and conditions that can lead to a commitment and engagement.

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