



Committee: United Nations Development Programme

State: United Kingdom

Agenda: Sustainable Development Goals 8&9

As the United Kingdom delegation, we are aware of the importance of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially Goals 8&9. We are faithful to solve all of the problems with collaboration. Since these goals are essential parts for the world to achieve the 2030 Agenda, our desire from all the delegates is to be constructive and cooperative. Our workers need decent work, fundamental rights, skill development and our world also needs innovation, industrialization, and infrastructure. We believe that after Covid-19, sustainability is necessary for the achievement of economic growth.

world where we live needs SDGs for its development and order. Urgent actions should be taken about workers which we are deeply concerned about. For us, development on everything relies

on safe and healthy working conditions to achieve decent work. So, we must provide the best conditions for our workers in the light of SDGs. In the United Kingdom, we have Health and Safety Executives that inspect the working environment. If a worker has a problem with their wages, social protection, mobbing and so on, this executives will find a solution. Also regulations on working time, minimum wage and anti-discrimination protect our workers. What we want to achieve is that, all the workers in the world no matter what their gender, colour, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religious belief should have this rights. Decent Work should be our number one priority which leans on secure employment, fair wages, safe working conditions, social protection, and labor rights. In this issue, also there is a big problem with child labour. If it does not affect their health, personal development, interference with schooling, assisting a family business, earning pocket money are positive aspects. It gives our children skills and experience. But we know that 152 million children are in child labour an even nearly 73 million is working in dangerous work. Child labour is a violation of human rights and we are against any kind of hinder on child development which can lead lifelong physical and psychological damage. Evidences show us that there is a strong connections between household poverty and child labour, by keeping the children of the poor out of school and maintaining poverty across generations. So, the United Nations should prepare funds to give these children a healthy educational life. We have to break this disturbing cycle.

Another important topic we need to talk about is sustainable economic growth. Future generations need our world's natural resources and environment too. While we satisfy our needs, we have to keep in mind about our children. We cannot leave no one behind. There will be lots of obstacles to sustaining economic growth such as economic crisis, energy crisis, and pandemics. We saw in the Covid-19 Era that we are still not ready for breaking the obstacles. Disruption to production and supply chains affected all our economy. We saw delivery delays,

increased costs due to low quantity manufacturing and uncertainties in all forms. Sustainable economic growth cannot be done if we are not ready for difficulties.

Furthermore, as the UK, we ranked in the top 5 countries in the Global Innovation Index 2019. For companies such as Ford, Pfizer, Nokia, the business environment of the United Kingdom is a natural choice for investment in innovation. Innovate UK which is the innovation agency of our government, helps businesses develop new ideas and turn them into commercial success. Also expenditure on research and development that was performed in the UK was 62 billion pounds in 2022 which nearly 2 percent of our GDP. Our goal is to be one of the leading technological, industrial developer country. And we also want to help low-income countries in the infrastructure field. As UK, we have a ministry just for Africa. We have funds to end hunger and poverty, investing in the education of people, health and jobs, helping economic growth, sustaining security and stability, and so on. As one of the most innovative countries in the world, our goal is to get Africa to its potential. We cannot also leave Africa behind. We have huge gaps between Africa in infrastructure. For instance, 600 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa lack access to electricity. For example in Mali, the average person uses less electricity in a year overall than a Londoner uses just to power their tea kettle. Closing this gap will be beneficial for the economic development of the continent, for the quality of its people, and the growth of its business sector. In Africa, infrastructure investment has been increasing steadily for the past 15 years. The challenge is 80 percent of infrastructure projects fail at the business plan stage. There is need and availability of funding, together with a large number of potential projects, but enough money is not allocated for the infrastructure. Many African governments face rising debt-to-GDP ratios (50 percent approximately), which will constrain their infrastructure spending.

We know that low-income countries need fundings. A first step to be taken is to consider how they can improve the flow of private sector financing. There is no shortage of finance, but

investigators struggle to match these funds against viable projects. To solve that, they can improve the commercial viability of projects, including by helping to mitigate political, currency and regulatory risks, and by increasing the deal flow of bankable projects. With these viable projects the problems with the basic infrastructure needs including roads, ICTs, sanitation, electricity and water will be solved pretty much.

As a result, our country has strong ideas about the problems our world struggles with around goals 8 & 9. We want to repeat ourselves on the problems of the workers. We know if we want to create sustainability in everything, valuing the workforce will get us there. How to value them is a key point in this case and we want to give our solutions again. Most importantly by giving workers freedom to talk about their concerns, social protection, fair wages and laws that work for their interests. To stop child labor, we need funds to make them stay in the education. As we mentioned before, there is a cycle which keeps the poor children out of school and maintains poverty across the generations. We cannot let this cycle keep going. To achieve the sustainable economic growth, countries should get healthy rate of growth while not creating other economic problems. Investment in the right kinds of capital and infrastructure, innovation and systems transformation, policies to foster investments, finance, and international cooperation, especially with the IMF is what needs to be done. To do so, we have to be ready for all the hardship the world created by saving natural resources and the environment. By remembering future generations will need them and start using renewable energy. As in the UK more than 50 percent of the energy that has been used should be renewable in the light of Goal 7 which includes affordable and clean energy. Being one of the leading innovator countries in the world, we always help the low-income countries in infrastructure. Find strong funds such as the Growing Together Project of the IMF to close the gap between the countries and let our people benefit from the potential of what the world can give.

We are ready to talk about the solutions that will come from other countries and make our world a better place for all of us. We will standby with all of you and we will show our efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.