Committee: UNDP

Country: Montenegro

Agenda Item: Achieving Goals 8 and 9 (decent work and economic growth – industry, innovation and infrastructure)

For building a better future, there is United Nations Development Program (UNDP) which has its nerve center in New York, is one of the principal branches of UN charged with the mandate of improving the lives of the worldwide population. UNDP includes in 170 countries and territories to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality in order to achieve sustainable human development, an approach to economic growth that emphasizes improving the quality of life of all citizens while conserving the environment and natural resources for future generations, and thereby achieving Sustainable Development Goals. Their work is constructed on three broad development contexts; eradicating poverty; structural transformations; and building resilience. I can proudly say that Montenegro is an active country that is member of this organization. As a part of the UN, Montenegro is working for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): 17 interconnected, ambitious Goals aiming to solve the main problems faced by people all over the world. Montenegro continues its support to achieve these Goals by 2030 which is a common agenda for all UN members to accomplish the SDGs.

The two main problems regarding the SDGs in Montenegro are number 8 and 9; sustainable economic growth and industrialization. Like many countries, during the pandemic Covid-19, Montenegro showed low and the negative values of economic growth, and consequently recession ramifying low levels of GDP per capita, which decreased the standards of living in Montenegro. This recession was then followed by unexpected economic growth rates of 19 and 25.8%, which is an indicator of an unstable economy. These fluctuations in the Montenegrin economy have caused destructions in investor and consumer confidence, which manifested itself as symptoms of a receding industry and negative impacts on the supply-demand equilibria. As a result, investment and consumption in Montenegro have declined, favoring the heavy industry to utilize more feasible alternatives of production however less green production which decreased the green GDP of Montenegro despite the upward trend in GDP, thus recalcitrating the intertwined SDGs 8 and 9. Moreover, the effects of these problems can be observed through the relative lack in infrastructure and innovations, meaning that Montenegro is facing a lower productivity and the regressing aggregate supply.

The further effects of these problems can be prevented by less barriers of trades in technology and government grants and subsidies to support the domestic production and to make the green technology a more feasible choice. Moreover, Montenegro can outsource the production of the less productive industries to the countries with higher comparative advantage.

<https://dataexplorer.unescap.org/>

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/United-Nations-Development-Programme>

<https://www.undp.org/about-us>

<https://www.undp.org/montenegro/projects/centre-sustainable-development>