Promoting the development of improved healthcare and educational infrastructure in LDCs

ECOSOC

Issue description: least developed countries (LDCs) are countries that face severe challenges to development. These challenges may include low income, weak human capital and economic and environmental vulnerability. Healthcare infrastructure could include hospitals, clinics, laboratories etc. without these people have limited access to healthcare. Educational infrastructure could include schools, libraries, internet, etc. without proper educational infrastructure people (mostly children) will not receive quality education.

Why has the issue not been resolved:

the issue has not been resolved mainly since it requires large, long term investments, while LDC do not have this at their disposal. Other difficulties could be:

- Shortage of personal such as teachers and nurses.
- Remote populations
- Political instability
- Natural disasters

Important stances:

LDC: want international assistance and investment. The Doha programme of action therefore emphasizes stronger cooperation

Developed Donor countries: generally, support this. May want transparency and more cooperation with national governments.

International institutions: also want cooperation

Non donor developed countries: Are of the opinion LDC should solve it themselves

Who is involved and what has been achieved:

Doha programme of actions (UN): provides the current international framework

World health organisation (WHO): urges for stronger health systems

World bank**:** finances projects

All in all work is on the way, but there is still a long way to go. Implementation remains uneven and some LDCs still face major infrastructure gaps.