



TOPIC A

POST-CONFLICT
RECOVERY IN FRAGILE
COMMUNITIES

TOPIC B

STRATEGIES TOWARD
MAINTAINABLE
TECHNOLOGICAL
DEVELOPMENT

Dear Esteemed Delegates,

**”We strive to reach
excellence, and we
aim to achieve it.”**

On behalf of the Academic Training Committee, I welcome you all into our 2nd Annual Model United Nations Conference at NDU!

My dearest delegates, we live in a fallen world where the voice of reason is lost and the power of freedom is forgotten, where man is often seen to be poisoned by greed and blinded by misery and bloodshed, and where man can be the voice of change, but has failed to do so. But, you delegates, can be different. You have the power of change within you. So be courageous and stand up for what you believe in. Believe in yourself and believe in your country. But most importantly, believe that your voice will be heard.

In the conference, you will be representing a country that may not be your own. You will be representing the voice of a nation that you may not have heard of before. You will be the reason behind which a nation may stand or fall, and with that lies great responsibility. You will have to fight to make your voice heard, and I urge you delegates to keep fighting. Fight life the same way you will fight in that conference. For when you choose to create change, you will make your country proud, and you will make your school proud, because you chose to be THAT change.

I hope that, in return, you will leave the conference with more than just an award. You will leave the conference with everlasting memories, friendships that last a lifetime, and strong determination to handle life the same way you handled your conference.

Humbly Yours,
Stephanie Sleilati
Head of Academic Training

Honorable Delegates and Future Diplomats of the World,

Since the beginning of the year, the world economy has faced a new bout of severe financial market volatility, marked by sharply falling prices for equities and other risky assets. A variety of factors are at work; concerns about a hard landing for the Chinese economy, worries that growth in the United States is faltering at a time when the Fed has begun raising interest rates, fears of escalating Saudi-Iranian conflict, and plummeting oil and commodity prices are all signs of severe weakness in global demand.

We live in a world where technologies are evolving at an outstanding rate, a factor that has affected all kinds of economies worldwide. The topics that the ECOSOC at NDUMUN will be tackling this year are of great importance and are in line with what has been witnessed over the past year. The background guide that you are about to immerse yourselves in is key to fruitful and well-developed debate. As Dais of the ECOSOC we expect you to make the most out of the experience; make new friends, make memories, and most importantly engage in fruitful and mind-blowing debate.

Looking forward to meeting you all!

*Sincerest Regards,
Julio Abou Saleh
Chair of Economic and Social Council*

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- *This guide remains neutral throughout & is not meant to sway public opinion on these sensitive & controversial issues.*
- *This guide features a panoply of references to back up the material being displayed*

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General Overview

A. Introducing the Committee:

The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), established in 1945, represents one of the principal organs of the United Nations. The Council serves as the main forum for discussion of international economic, social, cultural and health issues, as well as human rights and fundamental freedoms. It also coordinates the work of 14 United Nations specialized agencies, 9 functional as well as 5 regional commissions. The Council holds regular meetings with prominent academics, business sector representatives and more than 3,200 non-governmental organizations.

The council's fifty four member states are elected and appointed by the General Assembly for three-year coinciding terms. These seats, however, are distributed based on the following geographical representations: 14 to African States, 11 to Asian States, 6 to Eastern European States, 10 to Latin American and Caribbean States, and 13 to Western European and other states.

In terms of partnerships, ECOSOC partners with governments, businesses, civil society, parliamentarians, academics, international organizations and philanthropic institutions through forums. An integral aspect of these forums are special multi stakeholder dialogues which work towards implementing their agenda.

B. Actions of the Committee:

ECOSOC acts as the main entity for the discussion of international humanitarian, environmental, social, and economic issues. The Council also establishes policy recommendations that are then communicated to Member States and the United Nations system as a whole. Through these recommendations, ECOSOC serves as a key element in promoting international cooperation for development. Further functions of the Council include coordinating the economic and social framework of the United Nations Funds, Programmes and Specialized Agencies. The functions and powers of the Economic and Social Council as defined in the United Nations Charter (Chapter X) are:

- Make or initiate studies and reports with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health, and related matters and make recommendations with respect to any such matters to the General Assembly, to the Members of the United Nations, and to the Specialized Agencies concerned.
- Make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.
- Prepare draft conventions for submission to the General Assembly, with respect to matters falling within its competence.

- Call, in accordance with the rules prescribed by the United Nations, international conferences on matters falling within its competence.
- Coordinate the activities of the Specialized Agencies through consultation with and recommendations to such agencies and through recommendations to the General Assembly and to the Members of the United Nations.
- Furnish information to the Security Council and assist the Security Council upon its request.



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Topic A

Post-Conflict Recovery in Fragile Countries

I. Definition of Topic:

Countries have been involved in conflicts. However, in the aftermath of these conflicts, these countries have successfully diverged from a state of war to a state of stability and peace. The United Nations designed missions and ideas of peace-building and post-conflict help ease a country's transitioning. These two ideas that are linked tend to be explained differently. Peace-building can be described as reestablishment of peace and security whereas post-conflict recovery approaches several features that occur in the post-conflict area. For example, after Lebanon's 1975 civil war, the post conflict recovery was faced with a tough challenge to get rid of the increasingly unstable debt dynamics.

Wars and conflicts lead to several results that affect the country's economy, society, and environment. Some countries find it very hard to deal with a certain outcome during transition, which might lead them into further conflicts or war. For example, after Sudan's physical infrastructure had been destroyed due to conflicts, there was unmanageable huge military budgets that included additional drain on Sudan's limited resources. Moreover, countries that have suffered from war have weakened governments, legal and judicial systems, and infrastructure. It is very common from organizations or network criminals to take advantage of the state government (from resources, powers) as the post-conflict area is too weakened to face them.

In other words, countries that are in the aforementioned transitional phase are faced with many obstacles to as they go through further issues and outcomes. Due to that, the United Nations has set primordial missions and ideas on intensifying peace-building and post-conflict recovery operations. For instance, in resolution 1645 (2005) launching the Peacebuilding Commission, the United Nations Security Council and the General Assembly authorized it to convey together all related members to guide on the suggested integrated approaches for post conflict peacebuilding and recovery to organize resources and help confirm expectable supporting for these events; and to advance finest performs in association with security, humanitarian, political and development members. Many actions have been taken not only by governmental institutes, but also by NGOs as well as other UN bodies to achieve long-term peace.

II. Role of Committee in Current Topic:

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has demonstrated a leading example in developing mechanisms to accommodate the urgent needs of countries emerging from man-made conflicts and thus aiding the prevention of deterioration of human security.

The first Advisory Group on Haiti was created in response to a request by the Security Council, using Article 65 of the United Nations Charter to request advice from ECOSOC.

The Ad Hoc Advisory Groups were established back in 2002 by the ECOSOC. Their main purpose is to help define and guide long-term programs of support for countries that have been or are emerging from conflict. In addition, the Council created two groups on Guinea-Bissau and on Burundi (created in October 2002 and July 2003 respectively). The mandates of the two groups have been terminated since the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) is now addressing the peacebuilding challenges in these two countries. However, the Council is still providing advice and guidance to Haiti on a long-term growth strategy to further incubate socio-economic recovery and reliability through the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti. The first Advisory Group on Haiti was initially created as a response to a request by the Security Council in accordance with Article 65 of the United Nations Charter.

More recently, the Council has also taken into account the role of the United Nations and the international community in reinforcing capacity of South Sudan. In the Council's resolution 2011/43, the Council invites the governing body of the United Nations funds and programmes to further enhance their performance regarding the situation in South Sudan and better coordinate their activities in the country. Putting things into perspective, ECOSOC requested the Secretary General to report to the Council in its 2012 session. The session's main discussions revolved around the implementation of the United Nations development system and how the latter is performing with respect to integrated and coherent support to South Sudan.

In its decision 2012/250, the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan and requested that another report on the subject be submitted for the Council's consideration at its substantive session of 2013.

In accordance to the aforementioned session of the Council, the decision 2012/250 took note of the report submitted by the Secretary General regarding the implementation of coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan. The Council requested another report regarding the matter at hand to be discussed in its 2013 substantive session.

The Council invited the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to inform it of the economic and social challenges of peacebuilding in the African countries on the Commission's agenda.

The Council also invited the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission to further discuss the social and economic challenges of peacebuilding and rehabilitation in the African countries that are listed on the Commission's agenda.

To emphasize the importance of interaction and proper coordination between the Economic and Social Council and the Peacebuilding Commission, the General assembly passed two resolutions (60/180 and 61/16) which underlined the above mentioned statement in addition to the recognition of the value of experience that the ECOSOC holds in the field of post-conflict rehabilitation in fragile communities.

III. Case Studies and Sub-Topics:

1. Lebanon

The conflict between Lebanon and Israel which lasted 34 days (July 12, 2006 till August 14) was considered short. However, it had severe impact on the Lebanese civilian population where 1,191 were reportedly killed, 4,405 injured and more than 900,000 Lebanese fled their homes. On a different scale, significant damages were done to the infrastructure, where bridges, overpasses and roads were damaged or destroyed. Beirut International Airport in addition to all sea-ports were bombed, leaving behind more than 30,000 houses destroyed. The the bombing of a large number of fuel storage tanks which led to spilling heavy oil fuel in the sea caused severe environmental impact. It affected around 150 km of the Lebanese coastline, including a part of the Syrian coastline.

However, a joint unit composed of members from United Nations Environment Programme and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNEP/OCHA) assisted Beirut in order to coordinate the oil spilling along the Lebanese coast. The unit worked with international actors (European Union, The International Union for Conservation of Nature) by establishing a large amount of aid in forms of equipment, monetary contribution, etc. the Joint Unit has shown a lot of engagement to support the post-conflict recovery in Lebanon and create a long-term path to an environmental recovery.

2. Haiti

Severe damages have occurred in Haiti. Due to the dictatorship of the Duvaliers, Haiti's situation was called protracted and violent rather than a 'post-conflict'. It was considered the poorest State in the Western Hemisphere where 56% of the population was living in extreme poverty (less than US 1\$ per day). This issue was established as a result of prevailing culture of violence, corruption, and criminalization of armed groups. In 2004, the United Nations and the international community realized that Haiti severely needs a long-term commitment and a multi-dimensional Security Council mandate to recover from its post-conflict phase (MINUSTAH). The United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

which was formally inaugurated on June 1 and which took over from the United States-led Multinational Interim Force (MIF) will be multidimensional in scope, to enable it to help Haitians address the complex range of issues they face in a sustainable manner.

According to Security Council resolution 1542, MINUSTAH's mandate includes the following: to support the constitutional and political process under way in Haiti; to maintain a secure and stable environment; to assist with the restoration and maintenance of the rule of law, public safety and public order. The Mission will also assist the Transitional Government in monitoring and reforming the Haitian National Police consistent with democratic policing standards; it will assist the Haitian National Police with a comprehensive and sustainable Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration programme (DDR) for all armed groups; it will also assist the Transitional Government in extending state authority and in bringing about a process of national reconciliation and dialogue; it will provide support for the holding of free and fair elections. With the help of the Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program, the United Nations established a new line of concept called 'integrated mission'.

During 2000-2005, the Council had to evolve the internal situation of the presence of the United Nations presence in the country. In 2004, the UNDP launched a multi-year program that allows a resumption of humanitarian and recovery assistance for donors who refused direct cooperation from Government authorities.

In addition, through the MINUSTAH, the UNDP was known for renewing international effort for supporting Haiti's transition and its citizens. Many programs were made from disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

3. South Sudan

The Civil War which took place in December 2013, led to a large number of deaths (around 50,000) as well as an internal displacement of 1.6 million people in South Sudan. Due to the threat of international sanctions, many rounds of negotiations were made between the President Salva Kiir and former Vice President Rick Machar, where they eventually signed a peace agreement in 2015. Thus the agreement was signed, peace did not last as violence continued, and both sides blamed each other for violating ceasefire. Armed rebel groups, including national military forces have committed acts of violence on civilians, and peacekeepers. On the other hand, large sums of financial aid were spent by several states in South Sudan like the US for infrastructure, strong government institutions, and services. South Sudan was selected as one of the seven pilot countries for implementing the five Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals introduced by the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States. The new Deal is "a key agreement between fragile and conflict-affected states, development partners, and civil society to improve the current development policy and practice in fragile and conflict-affected states." Hence, after all attempts of finding peace in South Sudan, there are no indications of transition from a state of war to a state of peace.

4. Georgia

After the Russo-Georgian war the international community engaged in assisting the post-conflict in Georgia by addressing humanitarian emergency. The community is helping reconstruction, it is reassuring a better economy by restoring investors and revitalizing consumer confidence. On the other hand, Georgians have shown a lot of unity during the moment of crisis, in addition to solidarity at such a sensitive period. As of 2014 many Georgians remain dislocated and homeless.

IV. Additional information:

There are a lot of useful treaties and reports made for the post-conflict recovery such as:

- ECOSOC decision: African countries emerging from conflict – (27.07.2012)
- ECOSOC resolution - Support to South Sudan – (29.07.2011)
- Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture – (25.10.2010)
- Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council – (09.01.2007)
- Implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan by the United Nations system - Report of the Secretary-General (22.05.2012)
- Women's participation in peacebuilding – Report of the Secretary-General – (07.09.2010)
- Progress report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict – Report of the Secretary-General – (16.07.2010)
- Report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict – (11.06.2009)
- Report of the Secretary-General, In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all – (21.03.2005)
- Report of the Panel on UN Peace Operations (Brahimi Report) – (21.08.2000)
- Report of the Secretary General, “An Agenda for Peace, Preventive Diplomacy, Peacemaking and Peacekeeping” – (17.06.1992)

V. Questions to Consider:

1. Is your country currently recovering from a conflict? If so, is it able to recover from it financially?
2. What treaties has your country been involved in to secure safety for its country and other countries during post-conflict recovery?
3. What actions have been taken by NGOs, UN hands, and other non-profit organizations to help support your country during post-conflict recovery?
4. What is your country's economic state? Is your country capable of supporting other countries that are in a post-conflict recovery situation?
5. How can the United Nations ensure security and protection among the citizens?
6. Is there a need to build social cohesion in a post-conflict era? How can the United Nations ensure sustainable returns and reintegration to Internally Displaced Persons?
7. What should member states do in order to ensure strong partnerships among all stakeholders?
8. How can the United Nations ensure a feasible urban-management framework? What should this framework address?



VI. References:

Haiti poverty:

<https://www.haiti-now.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Poverty-In-Haiti-FAFO-2004.pdf>

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<http://staging.unep.org/disastersandconflicts/CountryOperations/UNEPsPastActivities/Lebanon/tabid/54624/Default.aspx>

Report of the Commission of Inquiry on Lebanon pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-2/1:

<https://www.un.org/ruleoflaw/files/A.HRC.3.2.pdf>

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Topic B

Strategies toward Maintaining Technological Development

I. Definition of Topic:

In September 2015, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which took effect upon the expiration of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on 1 January 2016. The preamble of General Assembly resolution 70/1, “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” states that all entities need to act collaboratively with strong partnerships to successfully achieve goals and targets. Due to multi-stakeholder partnerships formed through the MDGs, the international community made key progress towards eradicating world hunger and other goals and targets. The call for partnerships under the MDGs was revitalized with the new 2030 Agenda, highlighting the need for growing global partnerships to keep the needs of the poor and vulnerable at the forefront of the work towards achieving the SDGs. Then Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon emphasizes that Member States, civil society, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private sector entities, and public sector entities need to be involved in inclusive partnerships to successfully achieve the SDGs. The international community made it a point to highlight in the 2030 Agenda that certain MDGs and targets would not have been accomplished if it were not for broad international collaboration, multi-stakeholder partnerships, and rigorous public consultations with civil society.

In 1996, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) convened during its 49th plenary session to discuss and ultimately set the consultative relationship between the UN and NGOs. By granting NGOs consultative status with the UN, ECOSOC is able to receive critiques, consultations, and recommendations directly from organizations while making policy decisions. It was agreed that there was a need to include NGOs from developing states without representation on the Council. In addition to their consultative status, NGOs are kept abreast of ECOSOC’s meeting, agendas, updates, and reports.

Like the consultative process for NGOs, public-private partnerships (PPPs) are another form of cooperation that can support progress towards the SDGs. According to the World Bank, PPPs are a long-term contract between a private party and a government entity. PPPs can also exist between private entities and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) or regional bodies. PPPs provide recipients a public asset or service where private entities have a large role in the management and accountability in the sector concerned. PPPs arose from examining the needs of public sector institutions and realizing that the specialized expertise and comparative advantage of the private sector in many areas could provide significant public benefit. Many Member States have begun to include PPPs in their national development plans to create more resources for achieving their development goals.

Partnerships are paramount to supporting all of the SDGs and targets. Greater cooperation between states, both developed and developing, is important in promoting strong trade relations to promote economic development and growth. Additionally, advances in science, technology, and innovation (STI) are critical for promoting economic growth and diversifying and strengthening domestic economies. Collaboration between states and private entities developing new technologies and innovations may support their adoption in developing states most in need of them. Finally, while the involvement of NGOs and civil society more broadly has been supported by entities such as ECOSOC, more consultation and collaboration with these groups will support people-centered development initiatives that recognizes and works with local contexts.

II. Role of Committee in Current Topic:

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has majorly engaged in developing ways to face the problems that unsustainable technological advancements are posing in order to prevent further issues like possibility of leaving an abundant of the world behind in an international framework in which lack of equality is already harshly felt. In an attempt to harness the benefits of technological advancements while minimizing the unintended negative consequences, ECOSOC is organizing a joint meeting on “The Future of Everything – Sustainable Development in the Age of Rapid Technological Change” to further discuss and focus on the finest practices and different creativities with respect to the newest creations in this region. Furthermore, this also contains how policy makers and their partners can connect the reimbursements of improvement in science and technology; industrial processes are becoming robotized which increase productivity. Robotization also provides larger database and store capacity which can open up to new resources, research and problem-solving. Given that the three pillars of sustainable development are economic, social, and environmental development, ECOSOC is the primary UN entity for developing innovative ways to advance the global agenda. ECOSOC plays a significant role in acting as a hub for global partnerships between public and private entities. An example of ECOSOC’s involvement is its role in coordinating the 2016 Partnership Forum, which provided a venue for multi- stakeholder partnership discussion. The forum featured interactive panel discussions promoting partnerships in governance with accountability, transparency, and trust building as core tenants. ECOSOC’s partnership platform emphasizes the longtime work of the Council to encourage governments to provide national frameworks and initiatives for mobilizing partnerships.

During the joint thematic debate on partnerships between the General Assembly and ECOSOC in April 2014, the two UN bodies discussed the importance of partnerships in advancing sustainable development. Both the General Assembly and ECOSOC emphasize grassroots approaches to dealing with sustainability, citing examples like the “The World We Want 2015” campaign, which sought to include all citizens in the decision-making process of the 2030 Agenda for

Sustainable Development. The adoption of the SDGs also led to the establishment of the Partnerships for SDGs platform. The partnerships platform is an interconnected network of Member States, NGOs, IGOs, and civil society organizations (CSOs) sharing ideas and initiatives to achieve one or more of the SDGs. Implementation of the 17 goals and 169 targets is planned to be achieved through the various initiatives published on the Partnerships for Sustainable Development platform, where there are currently more than 2100 active initiatives published and frequently updated.

III. Case Studies and Sub-Topics:

1. Sweden

According to Sweden Sustainable development involves safeguarding and utilising existing resources in a sustainable way. It is also about efficient resource utilisation and its enhancement, and the long-term management of and investment in human, social and material resources. Protecting natural resources and safeguarding health are essential to the development and prosperity of every society. Sustainable development is itself sustained within a given society by the labour, know-how and creativity of its citizens. Sweden aims to accomplish those goals through environmentally driven growth and welfare, ensuring the good health of its citizens and through many other subgoals.

2. Austria

Approaches to Selecting Sustainable Technologies for Decreasing the Poverty Rate in Developing Countries. In order to support the economy the Austrian Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology initiated the Austrian Program on Technologies for Sustainable Development. This program is constituted of several programs that aimed at sustainably improving and developing Austria through technological developments, such as the “Building of Tomorrow” which has two phases, the second phase being called “Building of Tomorrow plus”. Other subprograms include the “Factory of Tomorrow” and the “Energy Systems of Tomorrow”. By the beginning of 2010 six successive calls for tenders had been carried out.

3. Canada

Sustainable Development Technology Canada is a private institution funded by the Canadian government. Its primary aim is to fund cleantech or clean energy technology. The SDTC believes cleantech translates into overall economic and environmental growth. SDTC primarily focuses on Cleantech because it is good business. Canada’s Cleantech industry consists of over 800 Small and Medium Enterprises that employ about 55,000 Canadians while resulting in \$17B in revenue. It spans across various fields from oil and gas to water and energy efficiency.

4. Denmark

The Danish government has, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda, formulated the Action Plan in light of the need to adapt targets to national circumstances. The Action Plan is centered on the 5 P's of prosperity, people, planet, peace and partnerships. For each of these, excluding partnerships, the government has formulated a number of targets (37 in total). The following 5 P's reflect the government's intentions to prioritize building on existing positions of strength as well as on areas where improvement is needed. Each target has one or two national indicators, which are part measurable and quantifiable. For example, public funding for research is at 1 percent of GDP. People Strengthen gender equality between boys and girls in education by reduced gender differences in well being and grades. That is through two approaches; Boys' and girls' grade point average in public school and Results of the National Survey on Well Being. In addition, Planet Sustainable food is measured through Household food waste, and resource productivity in the food sector. Finally, Peace maintains Denmark's position among least corrupt countries in the world according to Transparency International ranking.

IV. Additional information:

- i) **ECOSOC Resolution: Science and Technology –(2009/8)**
Decisions made by the national Governments for recommendation of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.
- ii) **ECOSOC Resolution: –(2001/32)**
Special Trust fund for activities included in the region of Science and Technology for Development.
- iii) **ECOSOC Decision: Information and Communication Technologies Task Force –(2006/251)**
Improving the effect of 'information and communication technologies' on the success of the globally agreed developmental goals.
- iv) **ECOSOC Resolution: Science and Technology –(2010/3)**
Governments take into consideration the findings of the Commission on Science and Technology for multi-stakeholder and private sectors.
- v) **ECOSOC Resolution: Science and Technology –(2011/17)**
Governments take into consideration the findings of the Commission on Science and Technology for sustainable agriculture.

V. Questions to Consider:

1. Is your country a producer or/and an exporter of technology? What type of technology?
2. How long are different technologies used for in your country?
3. What does your country do with devices thrown away by their users?
4. Is your country a signatory of a treaty or a resolution that guarantees technology sustainable development?
5. Is your country working internationally with other countries to find ways to maintain technology developments?
6. What strategies can be taken by factories to ensure technology's maintainability?
7. How can it be ensured that this resolution will be effectively implemented?

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