NALSAR UNIVERSITY OF LAW

INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM FOR BROADER SECURITY AGENDA

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Agenda

- Widening and Deepening of Security

- Human Security

- Health Security

- Food Security

- Environmental Security

Widening and Deepening of Security

- The wideners argue that the greatest threats to state survival may not be military, but environmental, social and economic.

- The deepeners, on the other hand, ask the question of whose security is being threatened and support the construction of a definition that allows for individual or structural referent objects, as opposed to the state.

Does widening and deepening of security lead to Individual security/Human Security?

Does it talk about Everyday Security or Insecurity?

What is Human Security?

- Human security is an approach to national and international security that gives primacy to human beings and their complex social and economic interactions.

- Concept entered into debates and academics in early 1990s.

- The first authoritative definition of human security was provided in 1994 in the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Human Development Report.

Some Definitions..

- For UNDP, human security meant safety from chronic threats such as hunger, disease, and repression, and it meant protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life.

- General Assembly resolution 66/290 (2012), "human security is an approach to assist Member States in identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of their people."

- It calls for "people-centred, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented responses that strengthen the protection and empowerment of all people."

Pillars to Human Security

- Freedom from fear

- Freedom from want

- Freedom from indignity

Institutionalizing Human Security

- An attempt to institutionalize the human security agenda internationally created the Human Security Network, a result of a bilateral agreement between Canada and Norway in 1998; 13 other countries and one observer later joined the initiative.

- This intergovernmental forum was created so as to advance and embed further the human security agenda within global governance, with the end goal of creating a more humane world free from fear and want and where people can fully develop their human potential.

UN and Human Security

- The human security approach can reinforce United Nations support to Member States in strengthening resilience to climate change and natural disasters; promoting peaceful and inclusive societies; addressing the underlying causes of persistent poverty; and bolstering the transition from humanitarian crisis to longer term sustainable development.

- As such, the application of the human security approach can significantly enhance actions taken by the United Nations and its partners to fully realize the transformative promise of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Health Security

- Health security is the awareness of being secure that health is good and if not there are ways to obtain care to return to good health. It aims to guarantee a minimum protection from diseases and unhealthy lifestyles.

- According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), health security encompasses the "activities required to minimise the danger and impact of acute public health events that endanger the collective health of populations living across geographical regions and international boundaries". It is the responsibility of governments globally to protect the health of their populations.

Institutions for Health security

- World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA)

- Global Health Security Initiative (GHSI)

WHO

- Founded in 1948 on April 7, which is now World Health Day.

- WHO is the United Nations specialised agency.

- WHO leads global efforts to expand universal health coverage. It directs and coordinates the world's response to health emergencies. And it also promotes healthier lives – from pregnancy care through old age.

Governance of WHO

- **World Health Assembly** - which is the supreme decision-making body;

- **The Executive Board** - which gives effect to the decisions and policies of the Health Assembly.

- The Organization is headed by the **Director-General**, who is appointed by the Health Assembly on the nomination of the Executive Board.

Headquarters and Regional Offices

- Headquarters is at Geneva, Switzerland. In addition to Geneva headquarters, WHO currently operates five outposted offices that operate across country borders.

- Global Service Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Lyon Office, France; WHO Centre for Health Development, Kobe, Japan; WHO Academy, Lyon France; WHO"s office at the United Nations, New York, USA

- WHO Member States are grouped into 6 regions. Each region has a regional office.

- WHO Africa; WHO Americas; WHO Eastern Mediterranean; WHO Europe; WHO South East Asia; WHO Western Pacific

- WHO collaborates with its Member States to provide on-the ground planning, implementing and monitoring of health programmes. Today, more than half of WHO staff work in country offices.

Some Activities..

- Strengthening national food control systems

- Translating science for better health emergency preparedness

- Treating malaria

- Supporting malaria vector control

- Developing an urban health research agenda

- Promoting the health of refugees and migrants during COVID-19 pandemic

Contd..

- Setting evidence-informed norms and standards on refugee and migrant health

- Strengthening health information systems for refugee- and migrant sensitive healthcare

- Improving the health and well-being of LGBTQI+ people

- Improving measurement, monitoring and evaluation of the Decade of Healthy Ageing 2021-2030

- Strengthening partnerships with the faith community

- Improving our understanding of healthy ageing and trends

- Achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) for older people

Funding

- WHO gets its funding from two main sources: Member States paying their **assessed contributions** (countries membership dues), and **voluntary contributions** from Member States and other partners.

- **Assessed contributions (AC)** are a percentage of a country's Gross Domestic Product (the percentage is agreed by the United Nations General Assembly). Member States approve them every two years at the World Health Assembly. They cover less than 20% of the total budget.

- The remainder of WHO's financing is in the form of **voluntary contributions (VC)**, largely from Member States as well as from other United Nations organizations, intergovernmental organizations, philanthropic foundations, the private sector, and other sources.

Food Security

- Food Security means that all people at all times have physical & economic access to adequate amounts of nutritious, safe, and culturally appropriate foods, which are produced in an environmentally sustainable and socially just manner, and that people are able to make informed decisions about their food choices.

- Food Security also means that the people who produce our food are able to earn a decent, living wage growing, catching, producing, processing, transporting, retailing, and serving food.

- Concept originated in mid 1970s

Four dimensions of Food Security

- Physical **AVAILABILITY** of food - Food availability addresses the "supply side" of food security and is determined by the level of food production, stock levels and net trade.

- Economic and physical **ACCESS** to food - An adequate supply of food at the national or international level does not in itself guarantee household level food security. Concerns about insufficient food access have resulted in a greater policy focus on incomes, expenditure, markets and prices in achieving food security objectives.

- Food **UTILIZATION** - Utilization is commonly understood as the way the body makes the most of various nutrients in the food. Sufficient energy and nutrient intake by individuals is the result of good care and feeding practices, food preparation, diversity of the diet and intra-household distribution of food. Combined with good biological utilization of food consumed, this determines the nutritional status of individuals.

- **STABILITY** of the other three dimensions over time - Even if your food intake is adequate today, you are still considered to be food insecure if you have inadequate access to food on a periodic basis, risking a deterioration of your nutritional status. Adverse weather conditions, political instability, or economic factors (unemployment, rising food prices) may have an impact on your food security status.

Food Insecurity

- CHRONIC FOOD INSECURITY

- TRANSITORY FOOD INSECURITY

Challenges to Food Security

- Global Water Crisis

- Land Degradation

- Climate Change

- Agriculture diseases

- Politics/Government Initiatives/price setting

- Food Loss and wastage

- Population growth

- Land use change

Approaches for Food Security

- By United Nations

- Food and Agriculture Organisation

- World Food Programme

- Global partnerships to achieve food security and end hunger

- The Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition

- International Alliance against Hunger

- Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme

- Global Crop Diversity Trust

FAO

- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.

- Its goal is to achieve food security for all and make sure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. With over 194 member states, FAO works in over 130 countries worldwide.

- Founded in 1945, Headquarters in Rome, Italy.

- Every year, the FAO publishes a number of major "State of the World" reports related to food, agriculture, forestry, fisheries and natural resources.

Governance Structure

- **Conference** – Plenary body of member states, which meets every two years to review FAOs work, approve a "programme of work and budget" for biennium, elect the council and Director general when their term expires.

- **Council** – Executive body

- **Director General**

Functions of FAO

- Helping Governments and Development Agencies coordinate their activities which are targeted to develop and improve agriculture, fisheries, forestry and other water and land resources.

- Conducting research and providing technical assistance to various projects related to improving agricultural output and development.

- Conducting training and educational programs and also collecting and analyzing agricultural data to improve yield and production.

- The FAO also brings out a number of publications/reports, some of which are, the State of the World, the Global Report on Food Crises, the State of Food and Agriculture, the State of the World's Forests, etc.

Role of FAO

- FAO focuses on a system-wide approach. It assists member countries in unlocking the potential of innovation to drive socio-economic growth, ensure food and nutrition security, alleviate poverty and improve resilience to climate change, thereby helping to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

- FAO and its partners are working in nine pilot countries in Africa, Asia and Central America to bring international, national and local partners together to construct and implement capacity development plans for agricultural innovation.

- FAO is supporting governments to develop strategies that foster sustainable agricultural mechanization and works with small-scale enterprises, cooperatives and local organizations to ensure small-holder farmers have access to mechanized services.

- FAO harnesses the power of digital technologies to pilot, accelerate and scale innovative ideas with high potential for impact in food and agriculture, transforming digital solutions and services into global public goods.

- It explores and adopts the existing and frontier technologies, design and scale new services, tools and approaches to empower rural households and inspire youth entrepreneurship in food and agriculture.

UN Food Security Initiatives

- UN Secretary general's high level task force on Global Food Security Crisis (HLTF)

- Committee on world food security (CFS)

- A new Vision for Agriculture

- Think.Eat.Save

- Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- UN Millennium Development Goals

- Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research (CGIAR) Fund

- CCAFS (CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security)

Environmental Security

- Environmental security is the relative public safety from environmental dangers caused by natural or human processes due to ignorance, accident, mismanagement or design and originating within or across national borders. - UN Millennium Project

- Environmental security is the proactive minimization of anthropogenic threats to the functional integrity of the biosphere and thus to its interdependent human component. – Barnett 1997

- By ensuring environmental security we mean guarding against environmental degradation in order to preserve or protect human, material, and natural resources at scales ranging from global to local. - Belluck DA, Hull RN, Benjamin SL, Alcorn J, and Linkov I (2006)

- Environmental security is comprised of restoration, compliance, conservation, pollution prevention, environmental security technology, and international activities. – US Department of Defence

- The term environmental security refers to a range of concerns that can be organized into three general categories:

  1. Concerns about the adverse impact of human activities on the environment.

  2. Concerns about the direct and indirect effects of various forms of environmental change (especially scarcity and degradation) which may be natural or human-generated on national and regional security.

  3. Concerns about the insecurity of individuals and groups (from small communities to humankind) experience due to environmental change such as water scarcity, air pollution, global warming, and so on.

- Combining these we might conclude that the condition of environmental security is one in which social systems interact with ecological systems in sustainable ways, all individuals have fair and reasonable access to environmental goods, and mechanisms exist to address environmental crises and conflicts.

Elements of Environmental Security

- environmental security can be seen as being about the impacts of human activities on the environment.

- environmental security can be seen to be about the impacts of the military–industrial complex, including war, on the environment.

- environmental change can be seen as a security problem common to all states, therefore requiring collective action.

- environmental change can be seen as a threat to national security.

- environmental change has been identified as a possible cause of violent conflict.

- environmental change can be seen as a risk to human security.

The Environment and Security Initiative

- The Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC) is a partnership of five international organizations – UN Environment Programme (UNEP), UN Development Programme (UNDP), UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the Regional Environment Center for Central Asia and Eastern Europe (REC) – with specialized but complementary mandates and expertise that provides an integrated response to environment and security challenges.

- Since its establishment in 2003, ENVSEC has helped governments identify common challenges in the field of environment and security, and take joint transboundary action to address these challenges in order to turn environmental cooperation into a solid pillar of strengthened peace and security.

- The ENVSEC Initiative works with government institutions, civil society organizations, stakeholders and experts of relevant ministries.

UNEP

- Since its inception in 1972, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has been the global authority that sets the environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

- Headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, UNEP works through its divisions as well as regional, liaison and outposted offices and a growing network of collaborating centres of excellence.

- UNEP works closely with its 193 Member States and representatives from civil society, businesses, and other major groups and stakeholders to address environmental challenges through the UN Environment Assembly, the world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment.

- The organization hosts as the secretariat of many critical multilateral environmental agreements and research bodies.

7 Areas of Concentration

- climate change,

- disasters and conflicts,

- ecosystem management,

- environmental governance,

- chemicals and waste,

- resource efficiency, and

- environment under review.

THANK YOU
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