

POSITION PAPER

COUNTRY- Australia

COMMITTEE- United Nations Social and Economic council

AGENDA- building sustainable and resilient infrastructure to achieve sustainable development goal 9

INTRODUCTION

Australia is a highly developed economy. Over the past couple of years, it has focused on further developing economic infrastructure and helping its neighbours. Infrastructural development is essential for improving economic structure. An infrastructure that is well developed is beneficial to a country in many ways. The United nations' 2030 sustainable development agenda gives importances to infrastructure along with other social problems. The agenda also focuses upon the integration, indivision and balance of three dimensions within infrastructure. The 2030 agenda aligns well with the infrastructure development policy of Australia and the work of the ministry of infrastructure towards it.

NATIONAL WORK AND POLICIES

The Australian government has taken many initiatives towards infrastructural development. In the 2022-23 budget, they announced to put 13,981.5 million australian dollars(9501.9 million american dollars) towards infrastructural development excluding skillforce development. Also, the central government has been working with state governments towards infrastructure development. Australian policy has now shifted itself towards providing virtually all infrastructure to its people whilst building and developing quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure. Currently to achieve this, Australia is making smart cities plans. In these, it is tryna provide a decent quality of life to its citizens by developing its core infrastructure by funding many projects such as developing waste management plants and energy plants in many states. Along with infrastructural development, risk management has also been given equal

importance as effective risk management practices are directly related to achieving results and high performance. Also, the country is working towards strong pipeline formation and the development of transport infrastructure with projects like Westconnex traffic motorway in NSW, Sydney metro, Melbourne rail tunnel etc.

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Along with national development, Australia has been focusing on developing infrastructure for neighbouring countries and international infrastructural development. In September 2015, along with other UN members, they signed the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. Not only the 2030 agenda but also they have signed numerous international projects. With the AUSNZ bond, New Zealand and Australia are funding each other's infrastructure development projects. They funded Vanuatu's urban development. In Asia, they provided assistance for infrastructural development in Vietnam and Indonesia. Also they have contributed 33% for Phase IV development to the Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility(PRIF). Also the Australian government, in the last couple of years, has funded more than 20 countries to protect and develop their infrastructure around world heritage sites. As a result of these efforts, these countries have improved their trade and diplomatic relations with each other. not only that, collaboration projects have resulted in development of social infrastructure as it has provided job opportunities to the unemployed. For example, the Ammaroo Phosphate project with India and East Asia has resulted in more than 1000 construction jobs, the Asian Renewable Energy Hub has resulted in 8000 construction jobs etc.

CONCLUSION AND RESOLUTION

The Australian government, in the last few years, has started to spend increasingly towards infrastructural development. As a result, diplomatic relations have improved, trade earnings have increased, and the Australian economy has grown. Resolution from Australia's side will be to promote public--private partnerships. Member nations are advised to promote NGOs and private companies to help in infrastructural development. Australia , from 2019-22, has given more than 400 million Australian dollars to 171 NGOs to deliver more than 4000 projects. Also,

member nations are requested to spend increasingly towards infrastructural development because infrastructure is the basis of any developed society.