**FORUM:** Special Conference 1

**QUESTION OF:** Measures to mitigate the impact of increasing national protectionism

**SUBMITTED BY:** Republic of the Union of Myanmar

THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE 1,

*Deeply concerned* about the increase of tariffs and quotas on imported goods around the world,

*Noting* with a lot of concern that from 2008 to 2014, 700 measures have been taken in order to limit trade by imposing border barriers and by other forms of restrictive measures,

*Taking into account* that the expansion of globalization is the significant reason for the development of protectionism in several member state,

*Taking note* of the fact that multiple far-right parties and movements in Europe have emerged recently, the demand for more self-centered trade and security policies has increased in the past decades,

*Acknowledging* the fact that events such as Brexit have influenced the manner in which member states trade on a global scale,

*Concerned* about the fact that a permanent 10 percent increase in American tariffs on imports from all parts of the globe will result in a permanent 1 percent decrease in global GDP,

*Emphasizing* the importance of fighting the increase of national protectionism. Keeping in mind that protectionism can be caused because small member states feel threatened by the impact globalization has on their economy and intend to minimize the damage by combatting free trade,

1. Suggests that the UN should be focusing their efforts on a targeted program of barriers removal, by means such as but not limited to:
   1. concentrating efforts on a limited number of important prioritized cases such as the trade escalation war between the United States of America and China in which the UN can expect to achieve some positive results (decrease of tarrifs and quotas as it was before start of trade war) in the near future
   2. monthly reports from Nations regarding border conflicts
   3. military intervention in the countries if the conflict becomes excessive;
2. Urges countries to minimize the risk of creating trade war through escalation in trade punishment by:
   1. thorough monitoring in the increase of tariffs throughout the World, with the expectations of:
      1. monthly reports from More Economically Developped Countries (MEDC) and Less Economically Developped Countries (LEDC) to the UN, addressing the changes to tariffs and quotas in their trading network
      2. frequent visitations to the Nations in order for the UN to gain first-hand information on the progression of free trade in their trading network
   2. cooperating with the World Trade Organization in order to create a greater process, by receiving statistics and information on trade around the world;
3. Calls upon providing transparency and notification disciplines on technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures. Places obligations on Parties:
   1. not to discriminate against ethnic and religious minorities
   2. not to create unnecessary obstacles to trade
   3. to encourage the use of international standards where appropriate
   4. to create a high degree of transparency by prior notifications, giving opportunities for comments and consultants;
4. Strongly advises MEDC to imitate nations such as Singapore, Hong Kong and Switzerland initiative, with the intention of having no tariffs or quotas on the goods exported to other countries in their trade network, the act can be achieved through signing trading treaties (e.g.: Treaty of Rome which created the European Economic Group) in order to establish a common market and a customs union;
5. Insists that the UN starts an organization which takes on the role of controlling the tariffs rate to LEDC countries that feel threatened by the impact globalization on their economy, this organization would also help LEDC grow their economy by:
   1. allowing LEDC to keep certain trade restrictions such as tariffs or quotas in situation where it would benefit the development of critical industries such as the food and energy sector;
   2. if MEDC do not respect the demands of this organization or take advantage of the low tariffs from other MEDC they will have to deal with the consequences of exclusion from the trading market for a certain amount of time depending on the importance of the demand disrespected.