

Equalizing Primary Education in 3rd Social

Without hesitation, the 3rd Social Committee began discussing a resolution covering equalized primary education on the morning of 6 November 2013 at the McKendree Model United Nations Invitational. The resolution in question was 3rd/I/5, authored by the delegate from the Russian Federation. Immediately, several delegates expressed concern that the first operative clause may show discrimination to students with weaker natural intellectual abilities. Shortly after, the committee passed friendly amendment 3rd/I/5/A which struck that operative clause from the resolution. The delegate from Ethiopia stated in a pro speech, “This amendment has made this resolution much stronger... and this delegate holds the belief that all children have a right to education, especially at the primary education level.”

The delegate from South Korea then brought forward friendly amendment 3rd/I/5/B, which struck operative clause 3, which some delegates also saw as discriminatory. During the next pro and con speeches, delegates communicated their agreement with the amendments passed and their hopes for further amendments to continue strengthening the resolution.

The delegate from Morocco submitted an unfriendly amendment which added an operative clause reading, “Oprah and Ellen will send monetary aid to developing countries to help improve their education programs.” After a debate with numerous speakers on both sides, the amendment was voted out of the committee’s prevue. After this humorous distraction, the committee quickly passed

four friendly amendments. These amendments added operative clauses to provide aid via school supplies, education for teachers, and transportation for rural students; the creation of a subcommittee to monitor this aid; gave this subcommittee the discretion to withdraw aid if the education system was substandard; and welcoming aid from any private donors who wish to help.

With the addition of these amendments, the committee moved to vote at 10:26 pm. Resolution 3rd/I/5 passed with a vote of 40/8/4. With two resolutions already sharpened and passed, this conference looks to be a productive one for 3rd Social.