

sensitivity trials, in Case 3 at 95% probability, the peak was 28.53 GB/yr (78.16 million barrels per day) in 2012.1. In Case 4, at 5% probability, the peak was 30.60 GB/yr (83.84 million barrels per day) in 2024.1. 6.

Cumulative and per capita production were also calculated for all cases. Over a wide range of assumptions, the cumulative production of conventional oil does not differ much among the cases before 2030. This facilitates the estimation of carbon dioxide emissions from this important fossil fuel at least in the medium term. Per capita availability of conventional oil per capita falls continuously from 2000 onward for all cases for a likely but conservative world population scenario.

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Peace, Order and Good Government In Latin America and Africa

Notes for an address to the Canadian Association of the Club of Rome,
by Hon. David Kilgour, MP Edmonton Southeast and Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa)

Good governance is a popular buzzword, but by whose standard is it applied? There is no single model of good governance. Every country is unique in culture and history. Yet there are common points upon which the notion of good governance can be based. The Commission on Global Governance argued that humankind as a whole is best served by recognition of common rights and responsibilities.

The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights offers preconditions for good governance. If everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the

person, along with freedom of thought, religion, expression and freedom to take part in government, and if the will of the people is to be the basis of the authority of any government, then peace, order and good governance will exist.

As the Declaration says, "Recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world." Where freedom, justice and human rights for all are respected, good governance can flourish.

Governance Assessed

How does one measure the quality of governance? The situation in each country is unique and each has its own specific strengths and weaknesses. One could argue, for example, that Canada's electoral system, which often results in a party being in power without winning a majority of the votes cast, is a democratic deficiency. That being said, when you consider the other freedoms, level of openness and participation in what some term a post-material society, one can conclude that there is a high quality of governance. Others argue that in other representative democracies, perhaps most notably our neighbour, the concept of citizenship is more vigorous than in a parliamentary democracy like our own.

A few groups have taken on the task of rating or ranking countries in terms of governance. One of these, Freedom House, has a country rating system for "freedom" based on two criteria: political rights and civil liberties. It isn't designed to rate governments as much as it rates the freedom of peoples.

Freedom House defines political rights as the ability of a people to participate freely in the political process, whatever that process may be, by asking questions such as:

1. Is the head of state elected through free and fair elections?
2. Are voters able to endow their freely elected representatives with real power?
3. Do cultural, ethnic and religious groups have reasonable self-determination and participation?

Civil liberties are defined as the freedom to develop opinions, institutions and personal autonomy apart from the state.

The rating system is based on a scale from 1 to 7, 1 being the freest. Each country is also assigned a status of free, partly free or not free. According to Freedom House: Canada is rated free, as are Barbados, Argentina, and Chile. Colombia and Angola rate as partly free, Cuba and the Democratic Republic of the Congo rate as a seven, not free.

Human Rights Practices

Annually, the US State Department prepares reports on International Religious Freedom and Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, which are both

important factors in good governance. Violations of religious freedom and religious persecution are not limited to any one country, religion or nationality. Christians, Buddhists, Jews, Muslims and other believers all continue to suffer for their faith in some jurisdictions. The International Religious Freedom Report cites, for example, the situation in Sudan where the ongoing civil war has provided a context for abuse against religious communities of various faiths, who deviate from official interpretations in Khartoum. In Cuba, the government monitors and controls religious institutions with practices, including surveillance, infiltration and harassment, evictions from places of worship and detentions of religious activists.

The 1999 Country Reports on Human Rights mention countries where the basic human rights are not respected. Dismaying practices such as the use of children as soldiers and sex slaves in Sudan and Sierra Leone and recent challenges to democracy in Latin American countries for example, Ecuador and Paraguay, are discussed. Also highlighted are the achievements of countries, such as Nigeria where democratic elections were held in a country that had experienced military rule almost since independence in 1960.

UN Ratings

The United Nations also assigns countries a rating on its Human Development Index based on life expectancy, literacy, education and GDP. Again in 1999, Canada ranked number one. Barbados is number 24, Chile is 31 followed by many Latin American countries. The majority of African countries unfortunately rank towards the bottom.

In the data I mentioned, certain countries seem to be listed for obvious reasons. For others such as those mentioned by the UN, it isn't so much their commitment to human rights or freedom; rather it is the level of development that dictates their place on the scale. A country may not rank very high on the UN list because it lacks the wealth and infrastructure resources to provide education and proper medical facilities that lead to a better life. It is interesting to what extent such factors affect governance.

Development and good governance are usually inextricably linked. As with the chicken and egg question: which comes first? A solid democratic

foundation often assists a country in rising to become better in its own governance. Governance is a key issue in development anywhere.

I would also argue that it works the opposite way too. Not only can good governance foster development by maintaining a transparent atmosphere free of corruption and a desire to excel for the good of the people, but development can also foster good governance. As resources increase, education becomes a higher priority; access to medical facilities improves as does the health and well being of the people. With these conditions met, citizens seek new opportunities to be involved in the economy, society and government. Their participation and self-fulfilment fuel change and spur the country onward to where the challenge becomes how to be take part in an increasingly globalized system without being left behind or marginalised.

Africa

Africa is a continent struggling daily with the challenges of development, governance and globalisation. In just the first few months of this year- a new century- we have witnessed violence and discord in Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia and Eritrea, a massive natural disaster that devastated Mozambique, and a deadly famine in Ethiopia that has already claimed hundreds of lives. This seeming endemic conflict, which has enveloped large swathes of the continent, stretching like an arc from Angola in the South to the Upper Nile in Sudan has been one of the greatest challenges to peace, order and good governance.

In addition to conflict one can point to the economic situation on the continent and the scourge of HIV/AIDS that have perpetuated development challenges. A recent study by the World Bank and several African institutions entitled "Can Africa Claim the 21st Century?" points out the following development issues. Excluding South Africa, sub-Saharan Africa is the world's poorest region, with almost half the population living on less than \$1 per day. Diseases like malaria and HIV/AIDS have claimed far too many lives. AIDS alone accounts for an average of 5,500 deaths daily. It is now a well-known fact that more Africans die from AIDS than war itself. Education has been a casualty of all of these simultaneous crises. Less and less money is

spent on the development of skills, resulting in the fact that less than one in four rural girls attend primary school and even fewer finish it.

Despite all the crises and disasters which have beset the African continent in recent times, we must not forget the bright spots or overlook the achievements. This decade has witnessed the founding of more political parties in Africa than at any time since the decolonization period. Democracy has taken root in Botswana, Mali, Mozambique, Tanzania, South Africa, Ghana, and Mauritius to name but a few. These have been major African success stories in terms of political freedom.

Nigeria's peaceful transition to civilian rule has been applauded everywhere, and the activism of its parliament praised. Senegal's elections earlier this year, and President Diouf's gracious hand over of power is just another example of the spread of democracy. South Africa has been a free and democratic country for six years now, and has taken bold steps to improve governance and accountability at both the provincial and federal levels.

South African parliamentarians have worked in collaboration with their counterparts in a number of other countries, including Ghana and Uganda, to develop an African Parliamentarians Network Against Corruption. Through such initiatives African leaders are finding new ways to root out and expose corruption. Just recently the anti-corruption select committee in Kenya tabled a report exposing senior government officials involved in corrupt practices. Many are now being forced to pay back revenue or resign. These are important steps on a continent where such issues have not been publicly confronted for decades.

Multi-party democracy has also swept through the continent. In 1999, 32 of 54 heads of state were chosen in elections against rivals backed by opposition parties; in 1975 only three were chosen that way. We should remember that less than 50 years have passed since the first black African country gained independence from colonial rule. Another positive sign was witnessed during the OAU Summit in Algiers last year, when African states shifted away from previous positions, and resolved to oppose any government that comes to power by military means.

These developments bode well for the future stability of a number of African countries, many of which can

boast rapidly developing economies. The IMF forecasts that Africa's overall GDP should grow by 5% in 2000, an improvement from 3.1% in 1999. Angola, Uganda and Botswana already stand among the ten fastest growing economies on earth. A key requirement for stability and growth to continue and for Africa to overcome its human development crisis is good governance. Without it, dealing with the problems of poverty, lack of education, disease and conflict become all but impossible.

Democratic systems must be strengthened and elections must be free and fair, offering a genuine choice to the voters, who will have a meaningful voice in the governance of their country. As people are empowered and become participants they can better hold governments accountable and call for improved services and policies. As UN Secretary General Kofi Annan notes, "A state that denies itself open and democratic processes and institutions will thereby impede the development and progress of its people, denying them the chance to interact with the wider world."

It's this concept of the wider world that is becoming increasingly important. While globalisation has provided new opportunities for many, the peoples of Africa must harness their power and become prominent players in this new climate.

In Annan's address to the Millennium Forum at the end of May, he said it is essential to learn how to govern better together. While globalisation has produced winners and loser, the solution is not confrontation. It is to ensure that nobody sinks – that we all swim together with the current of our times.

That current is one of increasing democracy, respect for human rights, promotion of equality, civil society participation and vigilance against threats to good governance and security such as corruption.

Latin America/ Caribbean

In South America, democracy is now the accepted norm; a far cry from twenty years ago when there were only four countries with democratically elected governments. Corruption remains one of the main obstacles to democratic stability and an impediment to good governance. And according to Transparency International the nations of the Americas (of course this varies from country to country) belong to one of the most corrupt regions in the world.

Paulo Mauro, an economist with the International Monetary Fund, concludes that countries with high corruption have less investment and lower economic growth rates. Government spending is often, moreover, to the detriment of future economic growth.

Corruption can cripple a country's development, result in the misuse of development aid, and increase the risk and cost of doing business, thereby lowering investment returns and reinforcing inequality. In short, good governance and development go hand in hand.

Corruption is a serious threat to democracy, public institutions and public confidence, diverting resources away from projects that would otherwise further genuine human development. The adoption of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption in 1996 was a landmark achievement. Canada ratified this convention at the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) held last week in Windsor. It is through vehicles such as this convention that good governance can be promoted.

The CARICOM countries of the Caribbean have been successful in working together to diversify what some others would consider small economies and tackle illicit drug trafficking, while maintaining stable responsible governments with their own long traditions of democracy.

I would like to point out the excellent example of good governance in the Caribbean. Bahamas in the early 90's had a very serious drug problem. This resulted in the economy faltering, and with their primary sector tourism being badly affected. The new Bahamas government tackled this problem head-on, greatly reducing the flow of drugs through the Bahamas with the result that this country now enjoys a strong economy and booming tourism industry.

FOCAL, the Canadian Foundation for the Americas, has identified five key threats to democracy and good governance in the region: the centralisation of power, resurgent militaries, the lack of judicial independence and rule of law, weak political parties and representative institutions, and social exclusion.

These are all issues that must be dealt with in order to attain stability and achieve a climate where other issues such as human security and economic growth can be realised for all. Foreign Ministers from around the hemisphere discussed these very issues at

the OAS General Assembly – democracy, human rights, human security. As Minister Axworthy said, “We need to take ownership of the governance agenda. This means adapting and even re-inventing our global and regional institutions to address the concerns of our peoples most effectively and collectively.” This was demonstrated clearly by the unanimous OAS decision to send a mission to Peru to look at ways of strengthening democracy, including reform of the country’s electoral process, judicial and constitutional tribunals and freedom of the press.

Conclusion

Good governance cannot be achieved in isolation. Other factors are also necessary to create a stable, sustainable, functioning government that respects the rights of its citizens, welcomes their participation and seeks to allow all to live fulfilled lives. Throughout the world, and certainly in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, we are seeing promising signs of blossoming democracies, governments becoming more transparent, and civil society be-

coming more vigorous and respected.

As the world becomes increasingly interconnected we sense the important role good governance plays in helping nations to be valued members of the global community. As we all work to find common solutions to problems that are not limited by geography or borders drawn on maps, it is evident that to live in peace, free from hunger, disease and poverty, good governance must be our common goal.

The universally respected Czech President Vaclav Havel addressed Canada’s Parliament last spring. He said, “If modern democratic states are usually defined by such characteristics as respect for human rights and liberties, equality of citizens, the rule of law and civil society, then the manner of existence toward which humankind will move from here, or toward which humankind should move in the interest of its own preservation, will probably be characterised as an existence founded on a universal, or global, respect for human rights, a universal equality of citizens, a universal rule of law and a global civil society.”

The Future of Language and Culture in the Context of Rapidly-Driven Technological Change

by Roseann Runte, President, Victoria University

Words of Hope

When language, the very vehicle of thought, becomes an obstacle to communication and when literature, the roadmap on which thought should travel freely, becomes a tangle of dead ends, leading nowhere, we witness the end of meaning. This, however, has not and will not happen. Despite the quaintly garbled instructions accompanying my computer and VCR, I believe that language and literature are alive and thriving today. Notwithstanding the fears of the self-appointed saviours of the printed word, literature is flourishing. If people bemoan the fate of “good English or French or Spanish,” so did their ancestors. Change is a most effective catalyst for complaint. The best works of literature today are rich and rewarding and those who decry the contemporary use of language resemble the man described by the eighth-century Chinese philosopher, Han Yu, who said that for one who sits

at the bottom of a well, the sky appears small.

It is ironic that language may be considered an impediment to communication and that culture, through which we take meaning and which discovers its own significance through contact with other cultures, may attempt to isolate itself. Thanks to technology, this isolationism is becoming daily more difficult. However, despite the new arms in the arsenal of communication, irony is a common coin in a world where, while there is a strong movement toward economic globalisation, we also witness a simultaneous tendency toward the splintering of and isolationism among cultures.

The Iron Curtain had hardly descended when it was replaced by economic and social veils. Some maintain that social and cultural fragmentation are simply the natural reaction to the universality of technology, a search for humanity, a life raft of meaning in a sea of signs.