



Committee on the Agenda

Your chance to set the topics to be discussed at the 2012 AMUN Conference happens on Tuesday at 11:00 am in Michigan A&B.

Delegation Lottery

The AMUN Delegation lottery will be held on Monday, 21 November at 11:30 am in Michigan A&B. Don't miss the lottery!

WHA: Does the US Care?

As of Sunday afternoon, the United States had yet to address the World Health Assembly.

Top 9 Regional News for the UN

Nations Concerned About SALW

1 Members of the GA First Committee from Central Asia & various other developing nations are in the process of introducing a draft resolution concerning SALW proliferation by non-state actors and border-security agreements between neighboring states.

Looking for Practical Solutions

2 In the GA First Committee, the representatives from Sweden, Portugal, Poland and Morocco are introducing a draft resolution that highlights the need for providing assistance to states in using the POA's Implementation Support System to collect and destroy surplus or illicit SALW.

Syria Will Not Back Down

3 In regards to the presidential statement passed by the body of the UN Security Council, President Bashar Al-Assad has officially stated that "Syria will not back down," despite the international pressures. Al-Assad declared that the sanctions enacted by the Arab League, which the UNSC supports, creates pretext for military intervention, which would be regionally destabilizing. Thus, Assad's official position is to stand strong in the face of international opposition.

US Attacks Al-Shabaab Camps

4 Sunday, the United States conducted air strikes against Al-Shabaab training camps within Somali borders.

al-Sariinas Kidnapped or Traitor?

5 Syrian Minister of State Hassan al-Sariinas reportedly shifted his alliances and placed all loyalties with the Free Syrian Army. The Syrian government still believes he has been kidnapped and continues to search for his body.

Swedish & Polish Press Conference

6 Representatives from Sweden and Poland held a press conference on Sunday afternoon to promote their upcoming resolution on the identification and destruction of surplus SALW. The resolution addresses the issue of illicit arms by linking developing nations with UN peace keepers or other Member States to assist in the destruction of SALW in those country.

Too Much Caucus?

7 Due to the nature of the topics discussed throughout the conference, a majority of debate has been spent in caucus.

ICJ Rules for Japan

8 In *Australia v Japan*, The International Court of Justice found unanimously in favor of the nation of Japan, ruling that its scientific whaling-research practices conform to applicable international obligations.

Sixth Committee Passes RES

9 After many hours of debate, the Sixth Committee passed a resolution. This resolution is focused on phasing out all chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) including recyclables.



Representatives of Palestine held a press conference releasing details of their bid to attain full statehood and membership with full rights.

Palestine Bids For Statehood

Security Council Decides?

Palestine waits on Security Council decision on their petition for statehood.

By Darren Meeker

IPD Reporter

Palestine held a press conference Sunday afternoon to announce its application for statehood. Currently, Palestine is not recognized as a full member state by the United Nations. Pending a vote by the contemporary Security Council, the final decision will rest with the General Assembly Plenary. The representatives who spoke for Palestine came from the General Assembly, the Second Committee and the Sixth Committee.

Palestine's decision to request recognition of statehood from the United Nations was based on its desire to work alongside other nations and vote on issues in the UN. They feel that becoming a member of the United Nations will also help to open negotiations between Israel and themselves.

During the question and answer session, many important issues were brought forward. A majority of these revolved around the relations between Palestine and Israel. In addition to opening negotiations, the representatives of Palestine said they believe that Israel will be able to gain some positive political standing among its international counterparts. The

representatives were adamant that issues pertaining to the exchange of prisoners and access to water, among others, needed to be discussed between Israel and Palestine.

If the topic of Palestinian statehood does arise in the contemporary Security Council, the vote may be close. Both the Russian Federation and China have shown their support of a Palestinian state, but the United States has spoken against granting the request. However, the representatives hope that the US will at least abstain, if not change its mind completely. Despite progress, it remains to be seen whether the Security Council will discuss the issue.



International Court of Justice Makes Ruling

By Ted Goodman

IPD Reporter

Australia has brought a case before the International Court of Justice concerning Japan's whaling in the Antarctic. Australia alleges that Japan is not adhering to the International Convention on the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW). The stated purpose of the ICRW is to "provide for the proper conservation of whale stocks, and thus make possible the orderly development of the whaling industry." Japan argued that the case is not within ICJ's jurisdiction.

The ICRW has had a morato-

rium on whaling for commercial purposes, but governments have the ability to grant special permits for the purpose of scientific research. The ICRW allows by-products of the research to be used for food, and Japan contends that they are in full compliance with these regulations. The Japanese government initiated the JARPA II program, increasing the number of whaling permits issued to citizens by 10 percent. Australia argued that Japan is using the permits as a loophole for whaling.

The Justices began deliberating mid-morning on Sunday, 20 November 2011, and are scheduled

to issue their written opinion at 7:10 pm. Justice Patrick Vining spoke to the press, but could not go into specific detail on what the Court will be discuss during deliberation, "There are a lot of facets to this case, and whenever an advocate speaks before the court, everything they say has the potential to have a significant impact on how the court rules."

Late-Night Caucusing

By Jordan Sarchett
IPD Reporter

Representatives from France, Germany and South Africa serving on the contemporary Security Council met in the lobby Saturday night to informally caucus, discussing a solution to the Syrian crisis. Representative Kaitlin Koett of France said that late-night caucusing provides an excellent opportunity for representatives to meet informally because it "relieves the pressure that comes from trying to create solutions in a whole body of people and allows allies to create reasonable and effective solutions." Late-night caucusing is a resource that many representatives utilize because it creates an atmosphere in which they can approach other representatives as people and discuss issues pertinent to them. All representatives are encouraged to engage in late-night caucusing on the River Level.

Personal Ads

DS Has learned that EC is leaving a spot open for Jacob L. We know he wants itW -Hagar

It's All Greek to Me!

If you like Coffee but not tea you're a fool.
If you like tea and you like Coffee, you're misguided.
If you like tea and loathe coffee, finally you're doing it right.
So in the end, tea lovers, unite!

Save me from Reports!

Working Together

By Stephanie Warner
IPD Reporter

The debate on the Right to Food continues in the Third Committee, as representatives begin to merge their ideas for resolutions. Topics include infrastructure, transportation, education and natural disasters. Several blocs have merged to create a resolution that addresses access, sustainability, vulnerability and security — all in relation to education. It would also address climate change, disaster relief, aid and nutrition. Representative Bavo Stevens of Iceland hopes that representatives will continue to come together "to end up with a more comprehensive and multifaceted resolution."

Be sure to remember to turn in personal ads to the International Press Delegation for publication in a future AMUN Chronicle.

Committee Updates: What Kind of Day Has it Been?

By Jordan Sarchett
Security Council

The contemporary Security Council adopted, by consensus, a presidential statement Sunday morning concerning the Syrian crisis. The statement acknowledges UN support for any Arab League action taken against the country as a means of facilitating peace. It was adopted by consensus with abstentions from only being India, Lebanon and the Russian Federation. Due to the fact that economic sanctions on Syria could hinder the economies of neighboring states, the Lebanese delegation abstained from the vote, but recognized the need for peace in the region. Representative Jeremy Killion of the Russian Federation abstained, stating that it would be “hypocritical for nations with previous human rights abuse to gang up on a nation with current human rights issues,” yet the Russian Federation representatives did not wish to amend or stop the statement from publication.

The presidential statement was written and presented to the body by Representatives Taylor Lipo Zovic and Sonja Smerud of Germany as a reaction to sentiments voiced by the United States’ decision to veto any resolution the body put forward concerning this issue. Representative Zovic of Germany said they “were eager to produce [a document] from this body regarding the issue” that would facilitate peace in Syria without disrupting current operations or overriding a collective regional body. He added that it would “incorporate recent events regarding the Arab League and Syria into the council’s position.”

Effective as of 2:00 am, 20 November 2011, the Arab League has placed economic sanctions on the country of Syria in response to the government’s lack of response concerning the humanitarian crisis currently on the

ground. The SC, as declared in the presidential statement, “recognizes the role of economic pressures in facilitating peace [and] encourage[s] all parts of Syria to support internal stability and peaceful reconciliation.”

By Shane Franklin
HSC 1973

Terror in Sudan has the Historical Security Council of 1973 in heated deliberation yet again. Yesterday, 16 March 1973, the terrorist organization known as Black September took over the Saudi Arabian embassy in Khartoum, Sudan. Three hostages were taken: two Americans and a Belgian. They were subsequently executed before the Sudanese government could listen to any demands. Black September then insisted on a plane to facilitate their escape, but this was denied by the Sudanese.

The group asserts that the diplomats killed had “taken part in massacring our people and conspiring against our Arab nation.” The group stated that it will continue to engage in similar acts in an effort to spread its message of anti-American Imperialism and anti-Zionism.

The Sudanese Information Minister, Umar al-Hag, made it clear that al-Fatah leader, Yasir Arafat, played a key role in talking the terrorists into surrendering the compound.

By Samuel Krischenheiter
GA Second Committee

On 20 November 2011, the General Assembly Second Committee continued its discussion of international microcredit opportunities, with various nations new points of debate being brought up by various nations. After a press conference supporting a Security Council bid for statehood, Palestine declared that such an action would improve the quality of the microfinancial condition of its citizens. Israel responded to this claim

and stated that matters of microcredit and state sovereignty are not necessarily correlated, utilizing examples of private microfinancial organizations to support its claim.

By Darren Meeker
GA Sixth Committee

Sunday’s committee moved immediately into a 45 minute caucus, because the breadth of the topic of international liability. The conversation throughout the room differs greatly from one group to another. Currently, representatives are working on writing resolutions that are as focused and detailed as possible, in an effort to narrow the debate. Alongside this debate, some representatives would like to change the consideration of agenda items back to issues of protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives.

By Ted Goodman
WHA

The World Health Assembly was making slow progress on developing two separate reports Sunday afternoon. The two reports that the WHA is working on pertain to Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property and Prevention and control of noncommunicable disease. Much of Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon have been spent organizing the different issues and sharing the concerns of each nation.

Saturday night and early Sunday, many countries expressed a shared sense of confusion. Different suggestions were proposed on how to begin tackling the issues, but no one idea seemed to garner a consensus. By mid-morning Sunday, the nations were caucusing by region.

Representative Kelby Dolan of Jordan said he felt confident of the direction the WHA seems to be heading. “To quote Walt Disney, there is nothing scarier

or more exciting than a blank page,” Dolan said. His remarks seem to sum up the feelings of many in the room. By mid-afternoon, groups began forming around laptops, an indication that the reports are starting to be written.

Additionally, a number of G20 nations expressed concern regarding the demands of the African Union. A representative of a G20 nation who wished to remain anonymous summarized his thoughts in one sentence: “If all the African Union does is demand, demand, demand, then they most certainly will not have the support of the G20.” Representative Eric Joynt of Nigeria responded to the criticism, agreeing that it is unrealistic to think that the African Union would get their way on every issue. “What we wanted to do was to get all of our [African Union] concerns out on the table and then find some commonalities.” As talks continue, the actions and demands of the African Union will be closely watched by the rest of the world.

By Samuel Krischenheiter
ECE

The Economic Commission for Europe continues to be locked in debate over the issue of carbon pollution. The representatives have discussed various means to recognize the worldwide impact of global warming, while simultaneously individualizing solutions to each country’s specific needs.

Two methods have repeatedly been suggested as possible solutions to carbon emissions: tax incentives or disincentives to corporations and caps on carbon trading amongst nations. Both methods have been effectively utilized to curb the creation of pollutants, but there are also concerns that implementation of taxes or limits on carbon trading might slow economic growth, particularly in smaller, developing nations.

By Stephanie Warner
CSD

The Commission on Sustainable Development has thus far focused its sessions on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development. To best address this issue, they have broken into four tentative subcommittees: Education, Infrastructure, International, and Finance. The Education Subcommittee has been discussing various suggestions such as environment, business, and health. The Infrastructure Subcommittee’s main focus is currently on roads and water. The International Subcommittee has thus far discussed technology sharing and trade, and the Finance Subcommittee has been dealing with both micro and macro issues.

By Benjamin Theobald
ECE

The members of the Economic and Social Council passed Resolution ECOSOC/1/1, which implements certain internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education. The resolution vote was an adoption by consensus with no abstentions, and every delegation present adopted the resolution.

Representative Benjamin Kaplan of Malta said that the resolution works on providing a good framework for evaluating the effectiveness of educational programs, which countries can participate in and implement through regional and educational councils.

According to Representative Kaplan, “it allows countries to focus on their educational problems in their area as neighbors. All educational situations are unique, and no country is going to have the same situation as the other. It really works to ensure that Member States have the tools they need to create the most effective program possible.”

Advice From AMUN Veterans

By Marcus Taylor
IPD Reporter

At both AMUN and the real United Nations, the General Assembly seeks to pass draft resolutions by consensus. This is often the most difficult aspect of writing a resolution. Many first-time representatives find the challenge of achieving consensus overwhelming, and this article seeks to shed some light on how to overcome this challenge by compiling advice from returning representatives.

The general consensus is that representatives should remain open to compromise. It is important to approach any topic with an open mind, while still managing to stay in character. As Representative Mike Licciardello of Sweden mentioned, “Representatives

are diplomats and should always seek diplomatic solutions.”

Furthermore, Permanent Representative Mark Mahui of Turkmenistan, and Representative Sam Mulopulos of Belgium both stated that the most effective way to achieve consensus is to approach each representative individually, explain the contents of the resolution that you seek to pass, and solicit any advice that they may have on how to improve your resolution. Everything considered, when seeking to gain consensus on a draft resolution, remember that compromise is at the heart of diplomacy, and that every representative should be given the opportunity to participate in the construction of each resolution.

Delegation Lottery

On Monday, 21 November at 11:30 am, in Michigan A/B, AMUN will host its annual delegation lottery. Lottery applications are due to the Ohio Room before 10:00 pm on Sunday, 20 November.

In addition to receiving early country selection, each school will also receive a \$5.00 per delegate discount for the 2012 AMUN Conference.

We hope to see you all at the Conference next year for more model UN fun!

Meet Your IPD

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