

# CHAPTER II.

## THE SECURITY COUNCIL

### STATE MEMBERS

Bulgaria	Guinea	Russian Federation
Cameroon	Ireland	Singapore
China	Mauritius	Syrian Arab Republic
Colombia	Mexico	United Kingdom
France	Norway	United States

Representatives to the Security Council should note that the agenda provided is only provisional. The Security Council may discuss any international peace and security issue brought before it. For this reason, Representatives must have a broad base of knowledge on current events in the international community. Also, the overviews provided below are only current through the publication of this handbook. **Many of the topics listed below will change significantly before the Conference, and Representatives should be familiar with the up-to-date situations.** Periodicals are one of the best recommended sources available for day-to-day updates. These include among others: *New York Times*, *UN Chronicle*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Foreign Policy*, *The Economist* and *Keesing's Record of World Events*. Also, the UN Foundation's on-line daily newsletter, the *UN Wire*, is an excellent resource for timely information. Whenever possible, AMUN recommends that Representatives familiarize themselves with the most recent report(s) published by the Secretary-General on each situation, along with other UN documents. These can be found on the UN homepage under the Security Council documents section ([www.un.org/documents/scinfo.htm](http://www.un.org/documents/scinfo.htm)). Please note that the bibliographies for these topics focus primarily on UN sources, with some news sources provided for background on important aspects of the various situations.

Initial background research is provided below for each region, with one or two topics receiving a brief analysis. Security Council representatives are neither limited to the main topics discussed nor to any of the topics listed. Should world events move in a different direction from the topics provided in this handbook, the Security Council is welcome to discuss any peace and security matter which it desires.

Please note that resolutions should be written on the sub-topics of each regional area: i.e., resolutions would not be written about "Issues in Africa," but rather about "The Situation in Sierra Leone" or similar sub-topics within the region.

### BACKGROUND RESEARCH

#### ISSUES IN AFRICA

##### The Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

There have been a number of significant events recently in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) toward fulfilling the terms of the Lusaka Peace Process. An inter-Congolese dialogue was facilitated by the President of South Africa and held in Sun City, South Africa from February to April 2002. This session led to the adoption of more than 30 consensus resolutions, agreed upon by a broad range of delegations representing the various Congolese interests, on a variety of political, legal and economic issues. While an all-inclusive concluding document was not reached, many parties are hopeful that the dialogue will continue. At present, the government and the Mouvement de liberation du Congo (MLC) have agreed to a 30 month transitional period leading up to elections. The only major party not currently participating in the process is the Rassemblement congolais pour la democratie (RCD)-Goma.

There is still some ongoing, low-level conflict in the country, however, and a final resolution of this conflict is far from realized. Calls by various parties for ethnic- and nationality-based attacks unfortunately continue. In July 1999, the Lusaka

Ceasefire Agreement was signed by five regional States. In response to this, the Security Council set up the United Nations Observer Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) in November 1999, incorporating UN personnel authorized in earlier resolutions. In February 2000, MONUC's size and mandate were further expanded to over 5000 military personnel. MONUC's mandate was extended in June 2002 to run through June 2003. Missions made up of Security Council members visited the DRC over the past two years, and reported that the Lusaka agreement was broadly supported by all parties in the DRC. The people desired peace, democratic institutions, the withdrawal of outside forces, and also wanted the rebel movements to lay down their arms.

Problems remain, however, in both the work of MONUC and in the presence of rebel and external forces. MONUC's work has been largely unfulfilled in much of the country, as the UN forces have met significant resistance from rebel groups and have been unable to deploy in many areas. Also, MONUC has yet to receive enough support from UN members to reach its full authorized strength of 5,537 troops, including observers. While Kisangani is technically demilitarized, some violence continues. Also, continued rebel activity in many rural areas, along with the continuing presence of some external troops (albeit in reduced numbers) from neigh-



boring Uganda and Rwanda, has kept the situation contentious.

Reports of human rights violations are also still a grave concern in the eastern part of the DRC, including the systematic rape of women and girls, mass killings, and the destruction of property.

The Security Council has recently called for renewed dialogue between the government, MLC and RCD-Goma, in the hopes of furthering the dialogue held in Sun City.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- How can the international community incent the various state parties now active in the DRC to cease operations and return to internationally recognized borders? Why are foreign troops still in the area?
- How can Member States be convinced to supply troops to provide for full implementation of MONUC?
- How can the international community assist in the implementation of the Lusaka Accords and in the ongoing inter-Congolese dialogue?

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S/Res/1417 (2002)

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S/Res/1376 (2001)

S/Res/1355 (2001)

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### *Additional Web Resources:*

The "IRIN Weekly Roundup of Main Events in the Great Lakes Region" is an excellent source for that area. Provide by ReliefWeb, this can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)  
[www.un.org/Depts/dpko/monuc/monuc\\_body.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/monuc/monuc_body.htm)



## The Situation in Sierra Leone:

The current situation in Sierra Leone involves the UN's attempting to maintain a fragile, and sometimes nonexistent, peace in a country torn by war since 1991. In that year, the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) launched a war near the border with Liberia to overthrow the government. Support by the Liberian government in various forms for RUF efforts further complicates the situation. Current problems involve maintaining a fragile series of cease fires, allowing UN peace keepers to work unmolested in the country, and limiting the illicit trade of diamonds by the RUF (often through Liberia) which has financed the war efforts.

In 1991 Sierra Leone's army, with the support of the ECOMOG (the Military Observer Group to the Economic Community of West African States, or ECOWAS), originally defended the government against the RUF, but in 1992 the army overthrew the civilian government and took power. While RUF attacks continued, the UN, ECOWAS and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) negotiated a settlement which resulted in elections in February 1996. The army relinquished power at that time to elected President Alhaji Dr. Ahmed Tejan Kabbah. Strife continued, however, largely because the RUF did not participate in the elections. This was soon followed by another military coup d'etat in May 1997, this time led by joint army and RUF forces. Security Council actions in Sierra Leone began in October 1997, with the imposition of an oil and arms embargo and the authorization for ECOMOG to use troops in the area. Following several peace efforts by ECOWAS and others, in February 1998 ECOMOG launched a military offensive which overthrew the junta, expelled it from Freetown, and on 10 March returned President Kabbah to office. At this time the Security Council established the UN Observer Mission in Sierra Leone (UNOMSIL), beginning in June 1998. UNOMSIL, under the protection of ECOMOG forces, was tasked to disarm combatants and document ongoing atrocities and abuses against civilians. The key to recent events began in July 1999, with the signing of the Lome Agreement between the government and rebel forces. This agreement formally ended the hostilities and formed a government of national unity. This included eight cabinet positions controlled by the rebel leader, Foday Sankoh. Another key to the agreement, which was both very controversial and necessary for the peace to succeed, was the provision of complete amnesty to Sankoh for war crimes committed as part of the previous hostilities. Problematically, while RUF leadership at that time was supportive of the peace agreement, many RUF fighters remained uninformed in the field and continued accusations of RUF atrocities against the people of the country were common.

Further developments came on 22 October 1999, when the Security Council terminated UNOMSIL and established UNAMSIL. UNAMSIL's mandate is to cooperate with the government and the other parties in implementing the Lome Peace Agreement and assist in the implementation of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration plan. On 7 February 2000, the Security Council revised this mandate and expanded its size to a maximum of 11,000 military personnel.

This force size was nearly doubled in April 2001 to 17,500 members, with its mandate extended through 30 September.

Despite the set backs and the continued rebel atrocities across the country that occurred throughout 2000 and the early months of 2001, the situation in Sierra Leone began to slowly improve with the resumption of the disarmament process on 18 May 2001. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs from Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea opened a dialogue between their separate governments in August 2001. The Ministers discussed the Mano River Union and the possibility of their respective Heads of State meeting sometime in the near future to discuss the security situation within the sub region. Subsequent meetings between the Foreign, Security and Defense Ministers were held in September and October, including a joint meeting with Secretary-General Kofi Annan in New York in November to discuss the progress made thus far. The Summit meeting took place on 27 February 2002 in Rabat. In the meantime, the overall security situation continued to improve as disarmament progressed in the later half of the year.

Prior to April 2001, one of the largest problems facing the UN was the implementation of the peace keeping force. With the public departure of a number of troop contributing countries (India and Jordan in 2000), the United Kingdom stepped up its operations in Sierra Leone to help stem the gap. In April 2001, Pakistan offered an additional 4,500 troops and by September total troop strength reached 16,600. With the subsequent deployment of the Nepalese battalion by the beginning of November, UNAMSIL reached its full troop mandate of 17,500. This achievement further improved the security situation throughout the country. On 17 January 2002, the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration program formally completed the disarmament process. Between May 2001 and January 2002, 47,076 combatants were disarmed, almost 16,000 assorted weapons were destroyed and two million rounds of ammunition were collected. In addition, the Sierra Leone police in conjunction with UNAMSIL initiated a special programme for the voluntary collection of shotguns and illegal arms.

Under this fragile but stable security atmosphere, the Government turned its attention to the schedule elections that took place on 14 May 2002. The state of emergency was lifted in March and the Sierra Leonean courts formally charged former RUF and AFRC/ex-SLA leaders and rebels. Following its commitments agreed to in the Abuja Agreement, the government took significant steps to aid the conversion of the RUF into a formal political party that fully took part in the national and provincial elections that occurred in May and June 2002. A total of nine political parties fielded presidential candidates while 11 parties took part in the Parliamentary elections. International monitors certified the elections as free, transparent and generally violence-free. President Kabbah was elected with over 70 percent of the vote. In addition, with cooperation from the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), the government also began the establishment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission as well as the establishment of a Special Court for Sierra Leone.

Although there has been considerable progress made in the



implementation of the Abuja Agreement following the free and fair elections in May, the ongoing civil conflict in Liberia remains a threat to the success achieved in the last 12 months. Escalating conflicts along the border have forced large numbers of Sierra Leonean refugees to return, followed by significant numbers of Liberian refugees seeking protection. Liberian military incursions have also threatened a renewal of the violence that has plagued the Mano River sub region since 1991. Continued support and vigilance by the international community will be required to ensure that the peace process in Sierra Leone is not destabilized by the Liberian conflict. On 28 March 2002, the Security Council recognized this growing concern and restructured the mandate of UNAMSIL to focus on sustaining a secure environment for the post-election period as outlined in the Secretary-General's report on 14 March 2002 (S/2002/267).

The Secretary-General also outlined a number of concerns that are paramount to sustaining peace in Sierra Leone. He underscored the need for more training and development of the Sierra Leone police and army to ensure that they can effectively assume responsibility for the nation's security once UNAMSIL begins to depart. With the Liberian conflict an ever-present threat, a concerted plan of action will be required before the UN can begin to withdraw the peacekeepers. Reintegration efforts have also been proceeding at a slow pace, primarily due to a lack of funds and the absence of service providers in key districts in the north and east of the country. Finally, significant support will be required to help the newly elected government develop the institutional capacity to subsume a large part of the traditional state governance roles formally carried out by the UN peacekeepers and observers on the ground. A long-term development plan that recognizes this need will be required if the new government is to remain afloat after the UN begins to withdraw the peacekeepers. Therefore, according to the Secretary-General, the UN must remain actively involved in Sierra Leone to address a number of priority needs that are critical for the stabilization and peaceful recovery of the country.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- How does the current situation in Sierra Leone reflect on your government's willingness to support, approve, fund or participate in future UN peace keeping efforts?
- Should UN peace keepers be more actively involved in rescue operations like the one staged in Sierra Leone? How should mandates with respect to the use of force be changed to keep up with similar situations?
- How can the UN best continue to assist in rebuilding efforts in Sierra Leone?

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### *Additional Web Resource:*

[www.un.org/Depts/dpko/unamsil/body\\_unamsil.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/unamsil/body_unamsil.htm)



### The Situation in Afghanistan:

Afghanistan has seen major changes in its political structure over the past year, with the Taliban regime removed from power by a US-led international coalition. The United Nations, guided by Security Council action, has been and continues to be a leader in the rebuilding of Afghanistan.

UN efforts have focused primarily on three areas: rebuilding government capacity, security issues and humanitarian endeavors. International efforts to rebuild a functioning government in Afghanistan began in November 2001 with the Bonn Conference, where political and mediation efforts were carried out by the UN Special Mission for Afghanistan (UNAMA). This conference established an interim administration, led by Chairman Hamid Karzai, and called for the convening of an Emergency Loya Jirga (meeting of traditional Afghan leaders) to establish a new government. The Loya Jirga met from 11-19 June 2002, leading to the election of Mr. Karzai as President of Afghanistan. While the current government has made significant early strides in areas such as drug control, education, and women's rights, a significant amount of work must still be done. In addition to continuing security concerns from Taliban and Al-Qa'idah elements who remain in hiding, internal power struggles among the various Afghan factions have made governing outside of the capital a difficult (and sometimes impossible) task. In early 2002, the government's Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism was killed by a rival group, and on 6 July Vice President Haji Abdul Qadir was assassinated in Kabul. This assassination recently led to US troops taking over as security personnel for President Karzai. Disputed governorships have destabilized several provinces, and sporadic fighting among factions has occurred in seven provinces. The current administration has often been unable to quell military disturbances against regional governors it legitimately named.

In the interests of assisting in internal security issues, the Security Council authorized an International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) for Afghanistan, led originally by the United Kingdom with the support of numerous other countries. In April, Turkey assumed the leadership of the ISAF. The United States has also begun a training program for Afghan national security forces. While the ISAF has done a reasonably good job of keeping the peace inside of Kabul, it does not have the resources to provide broader security support across the country. The Interim Afghan administration estimated that an 80,000 person internal force, costing roughly \$300 million (US) per year, would be required to maintain peace and security in the country. At this time, neither the force nor the funding exist for this to become a reality.

The UN has also been very active in humanitarian and development issues, led by the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). UNAMA faces a daunting task, with human rights abuses, refugees and displaced people, demining, food aid, health concerns, natural disasters and women's rights issues all immediate areas of concern. In addition, UNAMA and associated efforts are all taking place in a very

difficult security environment, both from internal disputes and continuing hostilities between the Taliban/Al-Qa'idah and international forces. All of these factors combine to make humanitarian aid and rebuilding a very difficult process.

One overarching concern for all of these UN activities is funding. While there were many promises of funding immediately following the removal of the Taliban, international monetary support has waned since that time. All of the above mentioned efforts will require significant ongoing funding over the course of many years, and without those funds Afghanistan is unlikely to move forward from its current situation.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- How can the United Nations better contribute to the ongoing humanitarian crisis and rebuilding efforts in Afghanistan?
- Is there any way for the UN to better encourage a peaceful settlement among the internal factions vying for power?
- How can funding be arranged and guaranteed for ongoing humanitarian and development efforts?
- What will happen in Afghanistan if the internal security situation does not improve, and if funding is not received?

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*Additional Web Resources:*

- Relief Web: [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int) -- up-to-date information about relief efforts in Afghanistan  
Assistance Afghanistan Site: [www.pcpafg.org](http://www.pcpafg.org) -- sponsored by the UNDP, Office of the UN Coordinator for Afghanistan and the FAO.

## ISSUES IN EUROPE

### The Situation in Cyprus:

UN peacekeeping troops have been present in Cyprus for almost all of the country's history as an independent nation. Today, 738,000 people live in Cyprus, of which 76% are Greek, 19% Turkish, and less than 5% Maronite, Armenian, Roman Catholic Latins and others. Communal violence between the Greek and Turkish communities began even while the United Kingdom still occupied the island before 1960. At the time, many Greek Cypriots supported union (enosis) of the entire island with Greece, while many Turkish Cypriots supported a partition of the island (taksim) to permit a union of Turkish Cypriots with Turkey.

Upon achieving independence in 1960, the country's constitution specified elaborate power sharing arrangements intended to mollify the Turkish minority. These arrangements provided for a Greek Cypriot President and Turkish Cypriot Vice-President, each elected by their own community. The Treaty of Alliance between the Republic of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey provided for defense of the island; Greece and Turkey were designated as the guarantors of the country's independence, and 950 Greek and 650 Turkish soldiers were assigned to defend the island.

When the Greek Cypriot President proposed a revision of

the constitution in 1963, violence erupted, and Turkish Cypriots withdrew from national institutions and created their own administrative structure. In response, the Security Council created the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) through Security Council resolution 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964. UNFICYP was directed to prevent a recurrence of violence between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities and to contribute to the restoration of law and order and stability. UNFICYP became operational on 27 March 1964.

Further violence followed in 1967. In both 1964 and 1967, mediation and pressure from European powers, including Greece and Turkey's NATO colleagues, prevented explicit Turkish military intervention. In 1974, the military junta in control of Greece at the time sponsored a coup to install a hardline Cypriot government in favor of enosis with Greece. In response, Turkey sent its armed forces to seize 36% of the island, citing its obligations under the Treaty of Alliance of 1960.

The Security Council reacted to the hostilities of 1974 by adopting a number of resolutions which expanded the mandate of UNFICYP. The UN forces were now charged with supervising a de facto ceasefire, which came into effect on 16 August 1974, and maintaining a buffer zone between the lines of the Cyprus National Guard and of the Turkish and Turkish Cypriot forces.

In 1983, the Turkish Cypriot leader declared the independent "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" (TRNC). The TRNC has been recognized only by Turkey. In the absence of a political settlement to the Cyprus problem, UNFICYP continues its presence on the island.

Starting in 1977, there have been numerous efforts designed to bring the two sides together. Despite these talks, the sides have remained apart. Greek Cypriots envision a "bizonal, bicomunal federation" of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities. Turkish Cypriots insist on a looser "confederation" concept, intending for the two communities to remain sovereign nations, linked by some institutions, but essentially separate.

Starting in the late 1990s, the talks took on a new urgency as the European Union began planning to invite Cyprus to join the EU, whether or not a settlement is reached between Greek and Turkish Cypriots. This move has increased the stakes for the Turkish Cypriot leadership and Turkey proper. Should Cyprus join the EU prior to a settlement, it would isolate the Turkish Cypriot community to an even greater degree. Turkish Cypriot leaders would likely face unrest from a population that is already frustrated with the slow pace of economic development in the Turkish-held region of Cyprus. The Government of Turkey would also face obstacles to its goal of membership in the EU if European leaders saw Turkey as an obstacle to a settlement in Cyprus. Yet the two sides remain apart on how to achieve a solution.

The European Union is expected to invite Cyprus formally to join the EU in late 2002. With that deadline looming, face-to-face talks under UN auspices were renewed in earnest in early 2002. But as of July 2002, six months of intermittent talks appeared to have yielded little progress toward a settle-



ment.

The Secretary-General visited Cyprus in May 2002, and met separately and jointly with the President of Cyprus and the Turkish Cypriot leader. The Secretary-General asked them to focus on the core issues of governments (meaning structures and powers), security, territory and property. He said that, "between now and the end of June they can resolve all the core issues provided they go about their task decisively and with the necessary political will," adding, "I don't say that by the end of June, they will have a signed and sealed agreement." Annan looked to Greece and Turkey for sustained and constructive support. Turkish Cypriot Leader Rauf Denktash contended that "it is impossible to finish everything by June." On 17 May, the two leaders resumed talks and Denktash reported that they were trying to accelerate the process, but maintained that there was still time until December.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- What role do human factors (human rights, refugees, property) play in finding a solution to the Cyprus conflict?
- What role would the UN play in guaranteeing an eventual Cyprus settlement?
- What might be some of the consequences if the EU proceeds with Cyprus accession in the absence of a settlement?
- What role can Security Council Member States play to encourage the settlement process?

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- S/Res/1250 (1999) on the situation in Cyprus
- S/Res/939 (1994) on settlement of the Cyprus question including implementation of confidence-building measures between the 2 communities
- S/Res/361 (1974)
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#### **ISSUES IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

##### **The Situation in Iraq:**

Iraq has once again become a primary focus of the Security Council in 2002. Sanctions, weapons inspections and the possibility of a renewed military campaign against Iraq are the central points of discussion. In the area of sanctions, the Council passed a revised sanctions regime on 14 May 2002. The "smart sanctions" described in Resolution 1409 revise the Goods Review List and allow greater flexibility in the goods which Iraq may purchase. The compromise which formed this resolution followed months of debate on the subject, with a number of states calling for the complete lifting of the sanctions. Over the past decade, much of the international community has come to the conclusion that the sanctions are causing significant distress to the general Iraqi populace.

More significantly, the United States has recently begun a campaign which many believe will lead to the eventual renewing of a full-scale military campaign against Iraq, at least by the US and possibly including other states. While the Security Council as a whole is unlikely to approve renewed hostilities, the US often cites the original resolutions against Iraq as justification for Member States to take "all means necessary" to limit Iraqi aggression. In the current case, the US administration has accused Iraq both of supporting terrorism, and of continuing to pursue programs to develop weapons of mass destruction. The US argues that these issues justify military action against Iraq, with the intent of removing Saddam Hussein's regime from power. While there has been significant resistance in the international community to the US perspective, including from close US allies and most Middle Eastern states, discussions and planning for eventual action are continuing at this date.

An offshoot of this situation involves continuing discussions over the return of weapons inspectors to Iraq. Since the inspectors were removed at the request of the Iraqi government, negotiations have continued to allow them renewed access. While the Iraqis have generally not accepted any possibility of inspectors returning, a flurry of proposals and negotiations was attempted in early August 2002. This started with an Iraqi proposal to allow the inspectors to return, apparently as a rebuttal to US arguments about Iraq's continuing weapons program. Both the US and UN sources rejected this request as an apparent political ploy, and several days later Iraq both withdrew the offer and declared that the inspectors' job is finished, and that the UN should no longer consider inspections an option.

Meanwhile, the humanitarian situation in Iraq continues to deteriorate. Infant mortality rates are among the highest in the world, and almost half of the population has very little access to clean water or many other necessities. The Red Cross has

also noted that the Iraqi health care system is very run-down, and UNDP has reported that major rehabilitation will be needed in the Iraqi power supply system before power can be fully restored.

The situation in Iraq is one of the most volatile in the world at this point, and Representatives should pay careful attention to current reports on the situation in this area. Changes occur daily, and it is possible that open hostilities could resume some time in the near future.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- What role should the Security Council have in any renewed actions against Iraq? Does your country support a specific side on this issue?
- Should sanctions be lifted as Iraq continues to comply with the current demands of the Security Council?
- Is it still possible, or desirable, to restore the inspections mission in Iraq? If not, what additional steps should be taken?

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S/Res/1360 (2001)

S/Res/1352 (2001)

S/Res/1330 (2000)

S/Res/1302 (2000)

S/Res/1293 (2000)

S/Res/986(14 April 1995)

S/Res/687 (3 April 1991)

S/Res/661 (6 Aug 1990)

### *Additional Web Resources:*

The Global Policy Project: [www.globalpolicy.org](http://www.globalpolicy.org) -- excellent information on the Iraqi situation, as well as many other Security Council activities.

UNMOVIC: [www.un.org/Depts/unmovic/index.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/unmovic/index.htm)

### **The Situation in the Middle East:**

The situation between Israel and Palestine has significantly worsened throughout 2002, with the parties now further away from the peace table than at any time in recent history. Terrorist bombings of Israeli civilians are now a weekly occurrence, with several extreme bursts of violence including almost daily bombings. On the other side, Israel has engaged in a number of retaliatory and preemptive strikes against Palestinian targets, including the Palestinian Authority and the headquarters of Yassir Arafat on several occasions. Large scale Israeli efforts began early in this year with "Operation Defensive Shield," which led to numerous allegations of human rights abuses in the city of Jenin and other areas. Israeli military activities have continued throughout the year in response to Palestinian bombings, including a near complete military occupation of the major Palestinian towns in the West Bank. Each side continues to blame the other for the escalating hostilities, with neither group willing to back down.

While the Security Council has discussed various actions and condemned the ongoing violence on both sides, it is unable to take any lasting action on the situation due to continuing Israeli objections, along with the United States' unwillingness to allow active Council action on the issue. One very significant Council action occurred in March, when for the first time the Council called for the creation of a Palestinian state as an integral part of the long term peace process. Like Iraq, this situation is extremely active as this handbook goes to press, and Representatives should be familiar with recent news reports on the issue.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- What role can the international community play in supporting a peaceful resolutions to the problems in the Middle East? Is there a way to bring the parties back to the negotiating table given the current violent situation?





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### Additional Web Resource:

Secretary-General's report on Jenin: [www.un.org/peace/jenin/index.html](http://www.un.org/peace/jenin/index.html)



## OTHER ISSUES

### Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts:

Prior to the events of 11 September 2001, the Security Council was not actively involved with terrorism as a distinct topic. Previous actions tended to focus on specific terrorist acts, as opposed to the broader topic of terrorism as a threat to international peace and security. With the events of 11 September, however, the Council became actively involved in the topic, and Resolution 1373 established the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council with British Ambassador Jeremy Greenstock as its first Chairperson. This committee has held frequent meetings on the topic since that time, including issuing its first report in October 2001.

Resolution 1373 and subsequent documents laid out the broad mandate for Security Council action on this topic, primarily focused on utilizing the Council's legal authority to request and compel action from the Member States. Actions to date have dealt with the funding of terrorism, with providing support to any entities or persons involved in terrorist acts, and with taking the necessary steps to prevent the future commission of terrorist acts. In addition, the Council authorized "all necessary measures" by Member States to deal with terrorist threats, leading directly to the US led action in Afghanistan against the Taliban regime and Al-Qa'idah.

The primary responsibility of the Committee is to enforce the Council's various resolutions on the terrorism. This has come in the form of receiving reports on the progress made by states in implementing Council mandates, in coordinating information from various experts in the field, and in beginning to create a list of best practices for dealing with terrorist threats. The Committee has been particularly effective in providing a point of contact for states to effectively share information on terrorism. The Committee is also charged with exploring ways in which states can be assisted in their own counter-terrorism efforts, especially for those states which lack the technology or financial ability to successfully implement their efforts without outside assistance.

In addition to the work of the Committee, a rare Ministerial level meeting of the Council in November 2001 led to the implementation of the "Declaration on the Global Effort to Combat Terrorism." This document, adopted by both the Security Council and the General Assembly, unequivocally condemns all acts of terrorism and stresses the need for all states to sign on to the relevant treaties and legal documents dealing with international terrorism.

Questions to consider from your government's perspective on this issue include:

- Does your government fully support all of the Security Council mandates already in existence? Should additional steps be required of member states to combat terrorism?
- How can states be better incented to comply with the existing Council resolutions on this subject?
- How active should the Council be in allowing military actions by member states to combat terrorism in the future?

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### Additional Web Resources:

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UN Action Against Terrorism: [www.un.org/terrorism/](http://www.un.org/terrorism/)

