

CHAPTER II.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL

STATE MEMBERS

Angola	France	Russian Federation
Bulgaria	Germany	Spain
Cameroon	Guinea	Syrian Arab Republic
Chile	Mexico	United Kingdom
China	Pakistan	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). 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 draft 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:

The spring of 2003 saw a serious increase in conflict in the DRC. Ongoing conflict in the Kivus region was augmented by a new series of killings in the Ituri district of eastern Congo. The Hema and Lendu ethnic groups, supported variously with money and weapons from Uganda, Rwanda and the Congolese government in Kinshasa, are engaged in a feud over land, access to resources, and local control. The conflict has become widespread and counts human deaths at 50,000 with over 500,000 fleeing refugees since 1999.

Regional powers have pledged to solve the conflict within the framework of the Launda Agreement and the Lusaka Peace Process. Pursuant to these agreements, the Ugandans and Congolese have established an Ituri Pacification Commission (IPC). The IPC is supported with commitments from the United Nations Observer Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and an ad hoc French-led peace-keeping force called the Interim Emergency Multinational Force (IEMF). Many outside observers have noted that both the MONUC and IEMF are too small to be effective in moving the parties toward compliance with the international agree-

ments that have been established.

Prior to the recent conflicts in the east, there had been a number of significant events 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, however an all-inclusive concluding document was not reached. Among the major achievements, the Kinshasa 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.

In July 1999, the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement was signed by five regional States. In response to this, the Security Council set up 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 neighboring 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.

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 and IEMF?
- How can the international community assist in the implementation of the Lusaka Accords and in the ongoing inter-Congolese dialogue?

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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. Provided by ReliefWeb, www.reliefweb.int
www.un.org/Depts/dpko/monuc/monuc_body.htm
The International Crisis Group Central African Project. www.intl-crisis-group.org/

The Situation in Liberia:

The current situation in the Republic of Liberia (Liberia) involves the efforts of the United Nations, working with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union (AU), to create peace in Liberia and avoid a potential humanitarian crisis for its population. Though efforts have been persistent, instability and violence continue.

On 17 June 2003, the parties to the conflict in Liberia signed a ceasefire and cessation of hostilities in Accra, Ghana, which also called for an international stabilization force (ISF) to help stop the spiral of violence. The ceasefire also called for the creation of a permanent comprehensive peace agreement. This has not occurred. One of the most recent examples was a UN Security Council special mission recently sent to West Africa; due to the increase in violence it had to change its itinerary, diverting its trip to Monrovia and instead going to Accra to assess the situation.

The 17 June agreement stated that the major parties to the dispute, the Republic of Liberia (Liberia), Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), and the Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL), would cease all hostilities. The agreement also created a Joint Monitoring Committee (JMT) that would supervise and monitor the ceasefire.

The current conflict in Liberia dates back to 1989 when President Charles Taylor invaded from neighboring Côte d'Ivoire in an effort to overthrow then Dictator Samuel Doe. After the invasion by Taylor's forces, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), Liberia split along ethnic lines and open civil war erupted.

In 1990, an ECOWAS peacekeeping force entered Liberia in an attempt to stabilize the situation. Eventually, the motives of the ECOWAS force were called into question when the other two factions in the civil war agreed to support an interim government chosen by ECOWAS, and the ECOWAS forces joined in the fight against Taylor's forces.

In August 1995, a peace agreement was signed which created a power sharing government between the three rival parties. Through late 1995 and early 1996, further negotiations resulted in the ratification of a formal peace plan. By April 1996, fighting had again erupted in Monrovia, signaling a failure of the peace process. Free elections were held in 1997 after a tenuous alliance was formed between the Taylor's NPFL and Nigeria. By a landslide vote, Charles Taylor became the president of Liberia. Up to that time, the civil war had claimed the lives of over 150,000 civilians and caused the forced displacement of hundreds of thousand more. The civil war also claimed the lives of many of Liberia's children, who were forced into the various rebel groups and the Liberian military.

In addition, Liberia has been accused of aiding rebels in Sierra Leone in an attempt to destabilize the government and acquire diamonds. In return for aiding rebels in Sierra Leone, the rebels helped Taylor's government increase its diamond output from 100,000-150,000 carats per year to over 6 million carats per year in the late 1990s by reportedly transferring diamonds from the mines of Sierra Leone to Liberia.

In 1999, Ghana and Nigeria accused Liberia of supporting Revolutionary United Front (RUF) rebels in Sierra Leone. At the same time, in response to the allegations, both the United States and the United Kingdom threatened to suspend international aid to Liberia. In July 2000, the Security Council passed Resolution 1306, creating a panel of experts to study the export of illegal diamonds to fund the arms trade in Sierra Leone, for the first time since 1992 when Resolution 788 (an arms embargo) was passed. The panel's report found that there was unequivocal and overwhelming evidence that Liberia was actively supporting the RUF.

The Security Council affirmed its need to react to the growing violence and instability in Liberia, and to the report created to analyze the illegal export of diamonds from Sierra Leone.

The Security Council passed Resolution 1343 enacting an arms embargo, and the possible future implementation of a diamond embargo and selective travel ban. Due to the continuing violence, further Security Council resolutions (1395, 1408, 1458, and 1478) increased the sanctions to include diamonds, timber, and a travel ban on specific individuals.

To complicate matters, in June 2003, while President Taylor was in peace negotiations in Accra, the UN Special Court for Sierra Leone indicted him for war crimes and crimes against humanity. Taylor was indicted as a direct result of his alleged backing of rebel groups. This caused Taylor to immediately return to Monrovia, thus removing one of the key players from the negotiations.

The UN is becoming increasingly concerned about the situation in Liberia. As the fighting amplifies, the international community faces a full-blown humanitarian crisis.

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

- What conditions would be required to break the deadlock between the disputing parties to get peacekeepers on the ground in Liberia? How could those conditions be brought about?
- How can the Member States convince the parties to fully implement the Akosombo peace agreement and persuade



the parties to allow humanitarian aid into the country in an attempt to avert a humanitarian crisis?

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Other Issues in Africa:

Major conflicts continue in the states surrounding Liberia, especially Sierra Leone and Côte d’Ivoire. To a large extent, conflicts in these countries can be seen playing themselves out in the current violence in Liberia. Both Somalia and Sudan suffer from a lack of a strong central authority. Warlords that rule in various parts of each country have been known to harbor terrorists, garnering increased interest from the United States and other western governments. Zimbabwe has experienced a severe breakdown in the rule of law in the last two years. Recent elections are largely viewed as illegitimate and the economic system has deteriorated with inflation as high as 500% and food shortages. Human rights violations have been noted including political violence. Although open resistance has been isolated thus far, many observers believe conditions are ripe for a major civil war.

ISSUES IN ASIA

The Situation in Afghanistan:

Afghanistan has seen major changes in its political structure over the past year. A US-led force called the Transnational Ad-



ministration (TA) has been slowly moving the country toward stability with a constitution and democratic institutions. Three issues stand as roadblocks to the success of this process. First, the constitutional framework that has been developed has been done so in secret and without representation from major parties in the northern and eastern parts of the country. As a result, the documents that have been produced are largely viewed as illegitimate among Afghans. A Loya Jirga (meeting of traditional Afghan leaders) is scheduled for October to finalize the Constitution and new elections are to be held early in 2004. Second, the TA has only been effective at establishing control in the major cities of the central part of the country. In other parts, warlords compete for authority and power as they did before the Taliban ruled. Finally, the TA's control even in the cities has been somewhat ineffective. There continue to be high levels of uncertainty and suspicion about the intentions of the TA.

The UN has been less centrally involved with the United States at the helm. However, the UN's 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 (UNSMIA). This conference established an interim administration, led by Chairman Hamid Karzai, and called for the convening of an Emergency Loya Jirga 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.

In addition to continuing security concerns due to Taliban and Al-Qa'idah elements which 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 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 de-

velopment 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 UN help foster legitimacy for the constitutional process and transition Afghanistan to independent rule?
- How can the UN better contribute to lessening the ongoing humanitarian crisis and rebuilding efforts in Afghanistan?
- Is there any more effective way for the UN to 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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 S/Res/1390 (2002)
 S/Res/1388 (2002)
 S/Res/1386 (2001)
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Additional Web Resources:

Relief Web: www.reliefweb.int -- up-to-date information about relief efforts in Afghanistan
 Assistance Afghanistan Site: www.pcpafg.org -- sponsored by the UNDP, Office of the UN Coordinator for Afghanistan and the FAO
 The International Crisis Group Asia Project. www.intl-crisis-group.org/

Other Issues in Asia:

The Democratic Peoples’ Republic of Korea’s (DPRK) re-emerging nuclear weapons program is the source of much concern globally. In 2002, the DPRK announced that it was restarting weapons grade uranium production. In early 2003, the government withdrew from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT). In April, DPRK, China, and the United States met in Beijing, but without much success. With the Americans preoccupied in Iraq and Afghanistan, regional powers including China, Russia, Japan, and South Korea have been left to deal with the crisis themselves. Observers fear an en masse exodus from the NPT and regional instability if DPRK are allowed to develop weapons unchecked.

ISSUES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Situation in Iraq:

After more than 12 years of Security Council action, the situation in Iraq changed dramatically in early 2003 with the US and UK-led invasion of that country. This resulted in the removal of the Saddam Hussein government, and in allied troops’ controlling the country under a US-run Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA).

Council discussions in the months preceding the invasion were highly contentious, with the US, UK and several other states arguing that military action was necessary because of Iraq’s current threat and repeated violation of Security Council resolutions. Most states on the Council, however, argued that more time was needed to allow renewed inspections to work and to determine if weapons of mass destruction still existed in that country. Following the invasion, pre-war tensions are still evident in Council deliberations, but the tone has changed.

Current discussions regard how the Council can become more involved in post-war Iraq, with a focus on rebuilding the Iraqi economy and allowing self-governance for the Iraqi people. The current political tensions are primarily over what role the UN and Security Council should now play *vis-a-vis* the authority vested in the US-run CPA. Additionally, many states have indicated a willingness to make troops available for peace keeping duties in Iraq, but in most cases this is contingent on a new Security Council resolution authorizing those forces.

A key issue at this time is the need to create a secure envi-

ronment for the large amount of work that needs to be done to restore Iraq and assist the Iraqi people. US and British forces have been under constant, albeit low-level, attack by irregular Iraqi forces. At the time of this writing, it is unknown whether these are random or coordinated attacks, but they are occurring on a daily basis. Both coalition soldiers and Iraqi officials have been targeted.

The primary goal of both the UN and US/UK-led operations is the restoration of self-government to the Iraqi people. An Interim Iraqi Governing Council has been appointed, comprised of representatives of many of the major Iraqi groups, but this is intended only as a temporary measure until democratic elections can be organized and held. In addition to facilitating a national dialogue and providing electoral assistance, other areas of concern for the international community are rebuilding the Iraqi infrastructure and providing humanitarian assistance to the many Iraqi people who are in need. The Secretary-General has recommended the creation of a new organization called the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UN-AMI) to coordinate the UN's role in the country. As recently noted by the SG, the challenge for the UN is to find meaningful and effective ways to assist the Iraqi people in achieving their goals.

Even more than most Security Council issues, the situation in Iraq is in a constant state of flux, with updates and changes occurring on a daily basis. Representatives should carefully track events in this country over the weeks and months prior to the Conference.

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

- How can the Security Council best assist the Iraqi people in achieving their goals?
- How can the work of the Security Council best be integrated into the ongoing work of the CPA in administering the country during the occupation?
- What can the Council do to best assist the Iraqi people in a transfer to self-governance?

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Additional Web Resources:

- The Global Policy Project: www.globalpolicy.org -- excellent information on the Iraqi situation, as well as many other Security Council activities
- UN information page on Iraq: www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=50&Body=Iraq&Body1=inspect

The Situation in the Middle East:

The situation between Israel and Palestine moved into a new phase earlier this year with the confirmation of Palestinian Prime Minister Abbas and the roll out of the "Performance-Based Roadmap to a Permanent Two-State Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict" (aka the "Roadmap for Peace") proposed by US President Bush in April 2003. This plan seeks a final and comprehensive settlement of the decades old conflict, with the support of the Quartet group consisting of the US, European Union, Russian Federation and the UN.

The Roadmap is a performance-based plan, dependent on the good faith efforts of the parties and compliance with all obligations outlined in the plan, based on the foundations of the land-for-peace concept. This includes three phases: 1) ending terror and violence, normalizing Palestinian life, and building Palestinian institutions, with initial completion planned in June 2003; 2) a transitional phase, planned for June to December 2003, and 3) a Permanent Status Agreement and end to the conflict, planned for completion in 2004 and 2005. At a basic



level, the plan is designed to build a functioning self-determined Palestinian state while still ensuring the security needs of the Israeli people.

Problematically, the plan has already run into the many obstacles which have slowed or derailed all previous peace plans for the region. Terrorist attacks continue (although somewhat abated in July and early August 2003) and the Israeli government continues to both retaliate against attacks and to quietly support settlements. While some progress has been made on these fronts, it is hard to say that full "good faith" has been exercised by either party. The continued building of a fence to wall off the Palestinian territories in the West Bank is also a major point of contention at this time.

While the Security Council has supported the Roadmap, discussed various actions and condemned the ongoing violence on both sides, it is unable to take any lasting action on the situation. 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 Security Council play in supporting the Roadmap? Are more changes needed before this can be a viable solution to the problems facing the region?
- Is there a way to bring the parties into compliance with their agreements made in the Roadmap document and in previous plans?

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SC/6847 (2000) - Press Release: Lebanon Withdrawal

Additional Web Resource:

Secretary-General's report on Jenin: www.un.org/peace/jenin/index.html

"Elements of a Performance Based Roadmap for Peace," www.un.org/media/main/roadmap122002.html

UN News page on the Middle East: www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=70&Body=Palestin&Body1=

