



Georgia State University Model United Nations
Security Council
<http://www.gsumun.com/committees/SC>
Director: Saleena Siraj

Dear Delegates,

My name is Saleena Siraj, and I am very excited to be this year's Director of the Security Council. I am a senior at Georgia State University, majoring in Political Science with a concentration in International Politics, minoring in Sociology and Theatre, and currently preparing to attend law school in Fall 2010. I have extensive experience as a delegate, having participated and placing in multiple national and international conferences. Additionally, I have acted as both Chair and Director At Large in previous Georgia State models.

Elise Laplante will be acting as Assistant Director to the GSUMUN Security Council. Elise has been doing Model UN for four years, eventually becoming the president of her high school's team. This past summer, she had the unique opportunity to intern at United Nations Radio. Elise is currently studying political science at GSU, focusing mainly on international affairs, and and aspires to study international law.

The Security Council is an exciting committee, because it creates definitive solutions to real problems. Few committees have the authority to establish of peacekeeping operations, the implement international sanctions, and authorize military action. The Security Council can respond directly to crises in ways that have meaningful impacts.

This year's theme is Promoting Peaceful Partnerships to Promote Resource Security, and everyone is encouraged to keep this in mind as you explore our topics. The agenda for the Security Council is:

1. Addressing the cross border conflict in Pakistan and Afghanistan
2. Redefining humanitarian intervention in regards to non-state actors and humanitarian crisis
3. Examining new approaches to peacekeeping in Somalia while emphasizing respect for cultural differences

It is important to note that for most of you this will be your first time participating in a model; nevertheless, you have the same chances at success and recognition in committee as someone that has been doing this for years. Be prepared and confident. If you are confused at any point, find allies or ask staff member for help. Remember, we want you to succeed.

Good luck, and we look forward to seeing you are the conference.

Saleena Siraj
Director
GSUMUN Security Council

History of the Security Council

Entrusted with the maintenance of international peace and security, the Security Council is empowered with unique authority within the UN System to pass binding decisions supported by a redoubtable array of enforcement powers.

Powers and Responsibilities

Established by the Charter of the United Nations in 1945, the Security Council holds “primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security” (Article 24).¹ The majority of the Council’s work concerns the resolution of ongoing conflicts and security crises in defined geographic areas. However, during the last decade its agenda has steadily broadened to include more thematic topics.² Terrorism and non-proliferation have become prominent agenda items, as have attempts to define security more broadly to include themes such as women and international peace and security; children and armed conflict; and the security aspects of HIV/AIDs.³ The Council is also responsible for recommending candidates for the office of Secretary-General (Article 97) and the admission of new Member States (Article 4) to the consideration of the General Assembly.⁴

Unique amongst global inter-governmental institutions, the Council’s decisions are legally binding on all Member States (Article 25).⁵ Under Chapter VI of the Charter, the Council has the authority to facilitate and offer recommendations to aid the “peaceful settlement of disputes.”⁶ On identifying a dispute as a threat to international peace and security, the Council may respond by investigating (Article 34), proposing “appropriate procedures or methods of adjustment” (Article 36), or recommending “terms of settlement as it may consider appropriate” (Article 37).⁷ Chapter VII allows the Council to respond more dynamically to breaches of international peace and security: the Council is empowered to “determine the existence of any threat to the peace, break of the peace, or act of aggression” (Article 39) and to “call upon the parties concerned to comply with such provisional measures as it deems necessary or desirable” (Article 40).⁸ Article 41 authorizes the Council to impose economic sanctions.⁹ The Council is also empowered under Chapter VII to authorize military force “by air, sea, or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security” (Article 42).¹⁰

Membership

The Council has a membership of fifteen: five permanent members (often referred to simply as “the P5”) and ten non-permanent members.¹¹ The permanent membership was established in 1945 as the five main victors of the World War II: the Republic of China, France, the Soviet Union (today the Russian Federation), the United Kingdom and the United States of America.¹² Non-permanent members are elected for periods of two years by the General Assembly, and are not eligible for

¹ United Nations General Assembly, Charter of the United Nations, 1945, art. 24.

² Wallensteen & Johansson, Security Council Decisions in Perspective, 2004, p.28-29.

³ United Nations Security Council, Resolution 1820, 2008; United Nations Security Council, Resolution 1261, 1999; and United Nations Security Council, Resolution 1308, 2000.

⁴ *Ibid*, art. 4 & 97.

⁵ United Nations General Assembly, Charter of the United Nations, 1945, art.25.

⁶ *Ibid*, art. 33-38.

⁷ *Ibid*, art. 34, 36 & 37.

⁸ *Ibid*, art. 39 & 40.

⁹ *Ibid*, art. 41.

¹⁰ United Nations General Assembly, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, art. 42.

¹¹ *Ibid*, art. 23.

¹² *Ibid*.

“immediate re-election”.¹³ The Council’s membership structure and voting system is widely viewed as imperfect and in need of reform. Critics argue that the Council fails to give voice to all those States that most actively contribute to the work of the UN or adequately represents the modern world’s balance of political and economic power.¹⁴ The veto power is also seen to impede timely and effective action in major security crises.¹⁵ States that are not members may participate in meetings without voting rights if the Council considers that their interests “are specially affected” (Article 31) or they are “party to a dispute under consideration” (Article 32).¹⁶

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, p.351-352.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, p.351-352.

¹⁶ United Nations General Assembly, *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, art. 31 & 32.

I. Addressing the cross border conflict in Pakistan and Afghanistan

The Durand Line

Relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan have not been friendly since the partition of the Indian subcontinent in 1947.¹⁷ The Durand Line which was drawn by the British government in 1893¹⁸ and separates the Baluchis and Pushtun people between Afghanistan and Pakistan has remained as a source of hostility between their governments. Pushtun merchants, who dominated the state apparatus in Afghanistan, long aspired to have an outlet to the sea to facilitate their trade. This prompted their claim to defend the rights of self-determination to the Pushtuns and Baluchis residing on the other side of Durand Line.¹⁹ Premier Mohammad Hashim, during an interview given to the Statesman in 1947, articulated Afghanistan's policy regarding the dispute over the Durand Line, "if an independent Pushtunistan cannot be set up, the frontier province should join Afghanistan. Our neighbor Pakistan will realize that our country with its population and trade, needs an outlet to the sea, which is very essential... if the nations of the world desire peace and justice, . . . it will be easy for us to get an outlet" Since then the question of Pushtunistan has strained relations between the two countries.²⁰ Frequent press statements from 2005 to 2007 by Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf calling for the building of a fence delineating the Afghanistan/Pakistan border have been met with resistance from numerous political parties within both countries.

Recognition in the International Community

The Durand Line boundary remains in effect today as the international boundary between Afghanistan and Pakistan,²¹ and is recognized as such by most nations. Despite pervasive internet rumors to the contrary, US Department of State and the British Foreign Commonwealth Office documents and spokespersons have confirmed that the Durand Line, like virtually all international boundaries, has no expiration date, nor is there any mention of such in any Durand Line documents. Afghanistan's 'tribal court' of 1949 declared the Durand Line null as they saw it as *ex parte* on Afghanistan's side, since British India ceased to exist in 1947²². This had no tangible effect as a unilateral declaration by one party has no effect; boundary changes must be made bilaterally. World courts have universally upheld binding bilateral agreements with or between colonial powers are "passed down" to successor independent states, as with most of Africa.²³

Terrorism on the Durand Line

Efforts to stabilize rogue Militant and Terrorist Activity in both States increasingly focus on the rugged frontier area straddling the border with Pakistan. Over the past two years, Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters have exploited peace deals by Pakistan's government to create an unprecedented haven in the region. From there, insurgents have escalated attacks in Pakistan and in eastern Afghanistan, leading the United States last year to double its troop presence along more than 600 miles of frontier.²⁴ The Khyber Border Coordination Center is a joint military

¹⁷ Emadi, *Durand Line and Afghan-Pak*, 1990

¹⁸ *Durand Line Agreement*, 1893

¹⁹ Emadi, *Durand Line and Afghan-Pak*, 1990, p. 1515

²⁰ Emadi, *Durand Line and Afghan-Pak*, 1990

²¹ *Durand Line Agreement*, 1893

²² Hasan, *Durand Line Treaty has not lapsed*; *Daily Times*, 2004

²³ Rizwan, *Durand Line Agreement*; *Daily Times*; 2005

²⁴ Tyson, *Border Complicates War in Afghanistan*; *The Washington Post*, 2008

intelligence center located near Torkham, Afghanistan.²⁵ The purpose of the facility is to facilitate the sharing of information between Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the International security Assistance Force, and NATO government and military personnel in their war on Taliban forces in the Khyber Pass area. The center, managed primarily by the United States was officially opened on March 29, 2008 and became operational in July 2008. The center is the first of six scheduled to open along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border.²⁶

Afghanistan and Pakistan have pledged to work closely together on counter-terrorism, by boosting border security and co-operation on arresting terror suspects. Pakistani Interior Minister Rehman Malik and his Afghan counterpart, Mohammad Hanif Atmar, held talks in Kabul in July.²⁷ Militants along the Afghan-Pakistani border have carried out attacks against international forces and civilians in both countries. Atmar said it is not important where the "terrorists" are from, but what both Afghanistan and Pakistan can do to stop them.²⁸ However, as demonstrated by the increasing violence in the region²⁹, these efforts are often not deemed sufficient.

Committee Directive

What solutions need to be implemented to address the border situation? What are some of the major impacts of the unilateral agreements on the situation? Also, it will be paramount to look at previous negotiations between Member States regarding the Durand Line question and unprecedented violence in the area. What have been some of the most important peace negotiations that have occurred throughout the years? One of the most important areas to research is how your country views the situation. Where does your government generally fall in relation to the conflict? In addition to negotiations on proposed solutions, delegates should also be prepared to discuss possible frameworks to carry the substantive negotiations forward.

²⁵ United States Central Command, (Press Release), April 2008

²⁶ Ibid

²⁷ Afghanistan, Pakistan Pledge Cooperation Against Terrorism; Global Security, July 2009

²⁸ *Afghanistan, Pakistan Pledge Cooperation Against Terrorism; Global Security, July 2009*

²⁹The New York Times, 2009

II. Redefining humanitarian intervention in regards to non-state actors and humanitarian crisis

When States intervene in other countries, they often justify their actions by appealing to humanitarian principles and purposes. Humanitarian interventions are scarcely new in international relations, but they have become increasingly prominent in ethics and politics with the end of the Cold War, the emergence of new political regimes, and the breakdown of old ones³⁰. An act counts as intervention if it satisfies the following four conditions. First, the state that is the object of intervention must be widely acknowledged to be sovereign. Intervention is a violation of a state's autonomy, and presupposes that the state in question enjoys the right to autonomy. To disperse a stray group of people who have declared themselves a state on a desert island is not an act of intervention, for the group is not recognized by other states as enjoying the right to autonomy and the concomitant right to their non-interference. Nor is it intervention if a state interferes with the affairs of a section of its own citizens who have unilaterally declared their independence from it.³¹ Second, intervention implies that the act is designed to influence the conduct of the internal affairs of a state in a specific direction without either taking it over or seeking to defeat it in a military confrontation. Hitler's invasion of Poland and the Soviet Union was a case not of intervention but war; European colonialism in Asia and Africa was not intervention, not even war, but conquest. The line between intervention on the one hand and conquest on the other is not always easy to draw nor is it fixed and stable. What Michael Walzer calls "the politics of rescue" occurs when a nation, or a group of nations, moves military troops into another sovereign state for philanthropic purposes: to stop the oppression of a defenseless group, protect humanitarian relief efforts, help refugees escape from or return to their homeland, or support a fledgling democratic government.³² Third, an act amounts to intervention if the country concerned is opposed to it. If it invites or welcomes outside help, then it is a case of giving support to a willing party and not an act of intervention. Difficult questions do arise as to the authority of the party inviting external help and how voluntary the invitation is. The sovereign government but not its subjects may invite external help, or vice versa.³³ Fourth, even as human beings constantly influence each other, so do states. Their immigration, trade, fiscal, foreign and other policies directly or indirectly influence the lives of the citizens of other states, sometimes with profound effects. It would be wrong to say that this amounts to interference in other states' internal affairs. Interference occurs when the influence is not inadvertent but intended, not incidental but direct and targeted, and pertains to areas in which the affected state is entitled to enjoy autonomy.³⁴

Humanitarian Intervention and the UN

Humanitarian intervention is intervention inspired by humanitarian considerations³⁵; defenders of humanitarian intervention justify it primarily in the name of a moral imperative: "we should not let people die." This premise is outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Such interventions are only legitimate when it is motivated by a massive violation of

³⁰ Miller; Humanitarian Intervention, Altruism, and the Limits of Casuistry, 2000

³¹ Parekh, Rethinking Humanitarian Intervention; International Political Science Review, 1997

³² Walzer, 1995

³³ Parekh, Rethinking Humanitarian Intervention; International Political Science Review, 1997

³⁴ Ibid

³⁵ Ibid

human rights and when it is put in motion by an international body, typically the United Nations Security Council. In particular Article 28 announces a right to a social and international order in which human rights are realized. The Chapter Seven powers of the United Nations Security Council are often used to legitimate intervention for stopping any threats to international peace and security. From the 1990s the understanding of what constituted threats to international peace were radically broadened to include such things as the movement of refugees, to justify intervention into Somalia and Yugoslavia. These two countries were the first that the United Nations intervened without gaining permission from the States involved.

Rise of Violence in Non-State Actors

The current order is challenged by the slow decline of states as principal players in international disputes and conversely by the rise of violent non-state actors.³⁶ The imperative that a sovereign's rights took precedence over human rights is now past its zenith. International law has been slow to catch up to this reality, but it is doing so through evolving customary practices present in principled interventions. This trend against traditional notions of sovereignty is disturbing to states such as Russia, China, and India, which fear that a change to the rules could eventually lead to interventions in their internal affairs.³⁷ The question remains, should a multilateral effort violate the sovereignty of a nation and intervene in situations of violence perpetrated by non-state actors?

Committee Directive

In searching for solutions to conflicts and how best to implement Humanitarian Intervention to the case of non-state actors, there are many obstacles to overcome and many definitions and concepts to be set down. Progress has certainly been made since the international community began to debate this issue. However, challenges still remain. In your research and further discussions, please consider the following questions: Where should the line be drawn in determining when military intervention is appropriate? Who should have the ultimate authority to determine whether an intervention should go ahead against non-state actors? What should be done by individual States if the SC fails to fulfill its pledge to intervene and uphold any new doctrines produced? What is your country's position/negotiation history when it comes to humanitarian intervention and violence perpetrated by non-state actors? Where does it position itself with regard to specific situations like in Afghanistan and Pakistan? How might the international community and especially the SC address the concept of action against non-state actors?

³⁶ Shotwell and Thachuk, *Humanitarian Intervention: The Case for Legitimacy*; SF Banner

³⁷ *Ibid*

III. Examining new approaches to peacekeeping in Somalia while emphasizing respect for cultural differences

Cultural Difference

Before colonial rule, Somalia's population was broken into clans that were under no unified government. The present state of Somalia was originally the British and Italian Somaliland whose independence didn't emerge until 1960. Conflict between the clans were diminished under colonial administration, but flared up again at times after independence and the unification of British and Italian territories for the first time in history.³⁸ There are six major tribes or clans of people, the Dir, Isaq, Hawiye, Darod, Digil, and Rahanwayn.³⁹ Clan-loyalty, familial bonds, and mutual dependence of extended family members are the traits of the Somali society. Somalia is further complicated by the large number of nomads and by refugee movements in response to famine and clan warfare⁴⁰. However, Somalia has an ethnic homogeneity unusual in Africa, with Somalis constituting 85% of the population. Most of its citizens share a common language, religion and culture.⁴¹ Some scholars blame Somalia's political instability to the Somali clan system, in which retaliation for offenses committed by rival clans can easily escalate into warfare. Others argue that Somalia's recent turmoil reflects efforts by elites to manipulate clan loyalties in the hope of increasing their own wealth.⁴²

Conflict Overview

The Republic of Somalia has been in a time of much internal conflict which finds some of its roots in colonial rule. The separate colonial policies and development objectives of the imperial powers had a profound effect on the development of the Somali post-independence political culture and precipitate integration problems. While British Somaliland stagnated, the Italians, under the auspices of AFIS, made positive progress in terms of empowering the Somalis to politically prepare themselves for independence.⁴³ After its independence Somalia was rule by a government with Abdullahi Issa with Aden Abdullah Osman Daar as President. Then, nine year later, Muhammad Siad Barre assumes power in coup and deem Somalia a socialist state. Later in 1981, opposition begin after he excludes members of the Mijertyn and Isaq clans from government positions, which are filled with people from his own Marehan clan. After Barre was ousted in 1991 war broke out between warlord in Somalia killing thousands of civilians.⁴⁴ Beginning in 1993, a two-year UN humanitarian effort (primarily in the south) was able to alleviate famine conditions, but when the UN withdrew in 1995, having suffered significant casualties.⁴⁵ Post-2000 many attempts have been made to restore peace in the region. However, even with these attempts Somalia still finds itself in brutal conflict.

Conclusion:

When looking for new approaches to instigate peace in Somalia one must analyze measures taken in the past. What has been successful and unsuccessful? Also, take note that Somalia is a unique conflict and therefore may not be applicable to solutions used in other conflicts in the past. There are many factors involved when trying to be sensitive to cultural differences. Ask yourself who should be involved in the peace building process? Should the ultimate goal be to have these clans negotiate amongst themselves or with other international or non-state actors? Who will be the ones involved with

³⁸ Jenkins, People Profile The Somali People of Somalia, Djibouti and Ethiopia, 2006

³⁹ Tietz, The Somali, 2009

⁴⁰ CIA Factbook, 2009

⁴¹ Africa Fact File, Somalia History and Politics, 2005

⁴² Ibid

⁴³ Ibid

⁴⁴ BBC, Somalia: Timeline, 2009

⁴⁵ CIA Factbook, 2009

the peace initiatives? What is your state's position in the past towards peacekeeping operations?