

CERRITOS CONFERENCE 2021

Novice



Ad Hoc on Terror

TOPIC:
TERRORISM IN SOMALIA

DIRECTOR: MATTHEW VICTORIA

October 9th, 2021

To Delegates of CHSMUN Novice 2021

Dear Delegates,
Welcome to CHSMUN Novice 2021!

It is our highest honor and pleasure to welcome you all to our 2021 novice conference here at Cerritos High School. On behalf of the Cerritos High School Model United Nations program, we are proud to host this conference, where you will become more knowledgeable on international issues, participate in intellectually stimulating discussions, and create new and everlasting friendships.

The CHSMUN program continues to compete around the world as a nationally ranked MUN program. Our delegates utilize diplomacy in order to create complex solutions towards multilateral issues in the global community. Our head chairs are selected from only the best seniors of our program, undergoing a rigorous training process to ensure the highest quality of moderating and grading of debate. Furthermore, all the topic synopses have been reviewed and edited numerous times. We strongly believe that by providing each and every delegate with the necessary tools and understanding, he or she will have everything they need to thrive in all aspects of the committee. We thoroughly encourage each delegate to engage in all of the facets of their topic, in order to grow in their skills as a delegate and develop a greater knowledge of the world around them.

Although there will be a few changes to our conference due to Covid-19, our advisors and staff have put in countless hours to ensure delegates have an amazing experience. Our greatest hope is that from attending CHSMUN 2021, students are encouraged to continue on in Model United Nations and nevertheless, inspired to spark change in their surrounding communities. With this strong circuit consisting of over 500 delegates, CHSMUN Novice 2021 will provide a quality experience for beginner delegates to enhance their speaking and delegating skills.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact us! We look forward to seeing you at CHSMUN Novice 2021!

Sincerely,

Anushka Panjwani & Naima Dellawar

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Secretary-Generals

A Note From The Director

Delegates,

My name is Matthew Victoria, and I am your Director for Ad Hoc on Terror. I'm a senior at Cerritos High School, and I have been a part of MUN since 8th grade, and I have loved every second of it. I have been a part of many different committees, from 6th Legal to European Union, and I have done many unique conferences, such as UCLA and USC. As someone with MUN experience, I know that getting an award is great and all, but in the end it's a piece of paper with a country's name on it. MUN isn't about getting the accolades, but it is the experience you get from participating in a conference. You can make new friends, learn new things, and establish new habits. Outside of MUN, I am an avid baseball and basketball fan, especially the Dodgers and Lakers. Ask anyone, and they are almost guaranteed to tell you that I wear sportswear everyday. I also enjoy listening to music, with my favorite genre being rock and some of my favorite bands being Linkin Park, My Chemical Romance, and Sum 41, and one hobby I got during the pandemic was doing album reviews. Other than that, I can't wait to see what solutions you guys have come up with for this conference, and I cannot wait to see you guys in debate. If you have any questions, you are free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Matthew Victoria

Director, Ad Hoc on Terror

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Committee Introduction:

On December 17, 1996, the passage of resolution 51/210 also brought along the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee. The phrase "ad hoc" comes from a Latin phrase, translating to "to this", meaning the Ad Hoc on Terror Committee was created with the purpose of addressing and suppressing terrorist actions through currently existing and international instruments, such as other UN branches and universal jurisdiction as well as adopting a comprehensive legal framework of conventions meant to deal with international terrorism. Following its mandate, "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", the Ad Hoc Committee is meant to address the issues of terrorism with solutions surrounding defensive measures and jurisdiction. Since its inception, the committee meets in one session per year for a one to two week period, and it works on the basis that nothing is agreed until everything is agreed. As a result of the committee's work, the *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings*, the *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism*, and the

International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism were all formally adopted by the General Assembly.

Topic A: Terrorism in Somalia

Background:

After the fall of Siad Barre's dictatorial regime in January 1991, Somalia has seen militant groups come and go as Somalia remains one of the most impoverished nations in the world. With a lack of government, it allowed for the rise of the al-Ittihad al-Islami (AIAI) in the early 1990s. The largest militant Islamic organization in Somalia, it aimed to establish an Islamic regime in Somalia and force the secession of the Ogaden region of Ethiopia. Maintaining a core of Middle East-educated Somali extremists that was funded and supported by Osama Bin Laden, it is highly believed that AIAI was responsible for a series of bomb attacks in public places in Addis Ababa in 1996 and 1997 as well as the kidnapping of several relief workers in 1998. AIAI would remain in power until 2000 when a rift developed between AIAI's old guard, which had decided to create a political front, and younger members, who sought to establish a "Greater Somalia" under fundamentalist Islamic rule. Those younger members would eventually break off from AIAI and unite with an alliance of Sharia courts to create the Islamic Court Union (ICU).

The ICU would become the next major terrorist group in Somalia, taking over much of southern Somalia. Their first major attack would become their most well-known, as in April 2006 the ICU managed to gain control over much of Mogadishu, which was previously reigned over by warlord control. With control over the capital, it stoked fear into neighboring Ethiopia as they were fearful that the ICU would come for them next. In response to that, Ethiopia, backed by the United States and Somalia's Transitional Federal Government (TFG), successfully invaded Somalia in December 2006 and took back the capital, and Ethiopian troops would remain there until 2009. The successful liberation of Somalia resulted in the dissolution of the ICU, however it failed to dissolve al-Shabaab, which would become the next major terrorist group.

Originally founded as a militant group that was a part of the ICU, al-Shabaab retreated back to the south after the Ethiopian-led invasion, where it began organizing guerrilla assaults, including bombings and assassinations, on Ethiopian forces. Like the previous terrorist groups, al-Shabaab seeks to control territory in Somalia in order to establish a society based on its rigid interpretation of Shariah law. They tend to attack by engaging in bombings, suicide attacks, and armed assaults, especially against Somali government targets, Christians, private civilians, foreign troops, diplomats, and aid or nongovernmental organization workers, and by 2009, al-Shabaab had extended its control over much of southern and central Somalia, and began conducting terrorist attacks in nearby nations such as Uganda and Ethiopia. With close ties to

al-Qaeda, al-Shabaab has remained prevalent in Somalia today with them maintaining control over much of southern Somalia.

After the expiration of the TFG, which was implemented to temporarily create a sustainable government for Somalia, the Federal Government of Somalia (FSG) was created. With this new government, it provided hope for many Somali citizens as for the first time since the early 1990s, the government had plans to unite Somalia and rid terrorists from the south. Beginning in 2007, AMISOM (African Union Mission to Somalia) has been pushing back al-Shabaab and al-Qaeda terrorists south and out of Somalia, and in 2011 they successfully managed to keep back terrorists from retaking Mogadishu, however it has had negative consequences as these terrorists are moving into neighboring nations.

As it stands today, al-Shabaab still retains presence in Somalia in the southern areas of the country, but actions by the FSG, AMISOM, and the US have managed to weaken these groups. In 2014, a drone strike managed to kill al-Shabaab leader, Ahmed Abdi Godane, leaving the terrorist group in limbo. However, no other major actions have been successfully made to rid al-Shabaab and al-Qaeda from Somalia.

United Nations Involvement:

As a result of the plethora of conflict in Somalia, the two major issues present were a humanitarian crisis and ending the Somali Civil War. Before the humanitarian crisis could be dealt with, Security Council Resolution 733 created an arms embargo in order to cease hostilities. From there, the UN created the United Task Force (UNITAF). Deployed in 1992, it was ordered to oversee the ceasefire and to establish a secure environment for urgent humanitarian assistance. Once tensions eased, UNOSOM I, or the United Nations Operation in Somalia was sent out. With UNOSOM, it employed volunteers from six major UN bodies to provide basic humanitarian assistance, such as healthcare, providing food and water, and giving displaced refugees places to stay. As a result of their actions, the UN's Secretary General's office calculated that approximately 100,000 lives were saved as a result of UNOSOM and UNITAF. In light of this success, the UN sent out UNOSOM II, the major difference being a more military-based task force meant to monitor both factions, prevent any resumption of conflict, maintain the arms embargo, maintain border security, and more. However, UNOSOM II was not as successful due to several issues, including a lack of UN resolutions to support the task force, poor communication between the UN and the task force, and the lack of government in 1993 meant operations were slow. After its relative failure, no future task force would be deployed.

It wouldn't be until 2007 when the arms embargo from Security Council Resolution 733 would be lifted. Intended to provide weapons and military equipment to develop Somalia's security sector, it became ineffective when riots in Mogadishu from al-Shabaab attacks forced the TFG to relocate to Baidoa. To fix this, the AU deployed AMISOM, or the African Mission in Somalia. First deployed in 2007, the military component of AMISOM was meant to assist the Somali National Security Forces to push al-Qaeda and al-Shabaab out of the major cities and

towns in southern Somalia, including Mogadishu. By 2011, AMISOM successfully did so, and in the years since talks of AMISOM returning to Somalia have begun, and many are hopeful that AMISOM is redeployed later in 2021.

Case Study: Sudan

The case of Sudan draws many similarities with Somalia in that they both had groups seeking to obtain land that they were permitted to control and needing a peacekeeping force to be deployed to ease tensions. For Sudan, that group would be the Sudan People's Liberation Army, or SPLA, and its political wing Sudan's People Liberation Movement, or SPLM. While today, these groups helped create the nation of South Sudan, during the Second Sudanese Civil War many considered them rebels against Sudan, or in other terms a terrorist group. Lasting until the late 2000s, the outcome of the civil war led to the southern portion of Sudan being a self autonomy state until talks of independence began in the early 2010s. From there, conflict resumed once more until South Sudan became independent, but in the years since many issues have yet to be resolved. For one, the region of Abyei between Sudan and South Sudan is being fought over by both sides, resulting in the UN deploying UNISFA, or the United Nations Interim Security Force in Abyei. The operation has been tasked with monitoring the flashpoint border between north and south and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid, and is authorized to use force in protecting civilians and humanitarian workers in Abyei. So far, nearly 4,200 authorized personnel had been deployed with over 3,500 of them being military personnel, and another 3,700 other personnel, including UN volunteers, staff officers, and more. UNISFA was not the only peacekeeping force deployed in South Sudan in 2011, as UNMISS, or the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, was also deployed to the other regions in the south. Maintaining nearly 40,000 combined personnel, UNMISS is meant to consolidate peace and security and to help establish conditions for development. Currently today, both missions are still actively deployed, and it is currently estimated that nearly 1.5 million Sudanese people were administered humanitarian aid.

Bloc Positions:

Western Bloc: Many western nations have been open about showing support for the UN mission in Somalia and other similar instances across the world. The United States and United Kingdom were the primary supporters of UNITAF as around 25,000 troops came from the US alone, plus they were willing to deploy their own Quick Reaction Force for UNOSOM I and II to help address the humanitarian crisis. While many countries in the west aren't susceptible to major terrorist attacks, they aren't quiet about responding to them

Latin America Bloc: Seeing how many Latin American nations are susceptible to major terrorist attacks, many nations from this bloc haven't been as vocal about the situation in Somalia

compared to many western nations. Many Latin American countries feel that before they can address terrorism overseas, terrorism needs to be addressed in their country first, as many groups such as the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia and the National Liberation Army remain prevalent in Latin America to this day. However, many of the more developed Latin American nations, such as Brazil and Argentina, have been vocal about their support for peacekeeping forces in Somalia but haven't supplied forces for it.

African Bloc: Many African nations feel that the situation in Somalia needs to be addressed in order to prevent conflict from spilling out over more African nations. Ethiopia has been by far the most in support of UN missions in Somalia as they supplied nearly 2,000 Ethiopian troops for UNITAF, plus they led an invasion into Southern Somalia backed by the US and UN as well as AMISOM. Other nearby African nations such as Mozambique, Kenya, and Eritrea have also shown more support for the cause compared to other African countries. However, many have not supplied the number of troops like Ethiopia as many nations have to address their own domestic issues first.

Asian-Pacific Bloc: Multiple Middle Eastern countries have shown support for intervention missions in Somalia due to Somalia's close proximity to the region, with the United Arab Emirates, India, and Pakistan showing the most support with providing troops. Many Eastern Asian nations such as China and Japan have not previously provided troops for UNOSOM or UNITAF, but have publicly stated in the past their support for these UN-supported missions into Somalia.

Basic Solutions:

When considering solutions on terrorism in Somalia, it is important to research and consider solutions that revolve around addressing the humanitarian crisis, the political crisis of Somalia's government, and the terrorist groups in Somalia. For humanitarian aid, there have been consistent talks of another UNOSOM deployment since the failure of UNOSOM II. However, no further actions have been taken with this plan as many nations feel that the plethora of NGOs present in Somalia have been able to address the situation. Even so, many nations still show support for another task force in Somalia, but unless the previous issues with UNOSOM I and II are addressed and handled, it is unlikely that another UN task force will be deployed to Somalia. To address the political crisis, while Somalia does maintain a government in Mogadishu, it is highly unstable because of their lack of progress on issues in Somalia, from poverty to high-violence in certain regions of the nation. Many nations feel that nation-building, with support from the UN, is necessary. Nation-building, or the act of the UN providing political resources, has been used in the past for South Korea after the Korean War, with much success in today's world. If Somalia were to be the next subject of nation-building, one must address all the logistics that come with nation-building as well as making sure it can remain successful in a

poorer region of the world. Finally, for the terrorist crisis, the two issues that come from this is removing terrorists from Somalia and limiting terrorist recruitment. While in the past, UNITAF and AMISOM were responsible for pushing terrorists further south, without their active deployment groups like al-Shabaab and al-Qaeda still remain prevalent in the south, thus solutions for this need to revolve around the creation of a group based in Somalia meant to remove terrorists. For terrorist recruitment, many Somali citizens resort to joining al-Shabaab because of financial, psychological, emotional, and physical benefits. Solutions to address this should revolve around limiting terrorist recruitment methods as well as possible consequences for joining a terrorist group.

Questions to Consider:

1. How can the issues from UNOSOM I and II be addressed should a UNOSOM III be deployed?
2. Should legislation be suggested for Somalia to implement, and if so what should it be based on, and how can it be enforced?
3. Has my nation previously shown support for UN-backed solutions in Somalia, such as providing troops for UNITAF?
4. How can more nations be encouraged to provide resources to address terrorism in Somalia?
5. Is it possible to track the movement of terrorists, and if so can it be used to limit terrorist recruitment?
6. How can al-Shabaab and al-Qaeda be successfully removed from Somalia without them relocating to another nearby nation?

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