KCMUN'23

United Nations Security Council

Agenda: "Addressing global security threats with reference to the West African crisis and the use of marginalized groups in conflicts."

Letter from the Executive Board

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Greetings delegates;

What we desire from the delegates is not how experienced or articulate they are. Rather, we want to see how she/he can respect disparities and differences of opinion, work around these, while extending their own foreign policy so that it encompasses more of the others without compromising their own stand, thereby reaching a unanimously acceptable practical solution

Following pages intend to guide you with the nuances of the agenda as well as the Council. The Guide chronologically touches upon all the different aspects that are relevant and will lead to fruitful debate in the Council. It will provide you with a bird 's eye view of the gist of the issue.However, it has to be noted that the background guide only contains certain basic information which may form the basis for the debate and your research.

we advise very delegate to go through the background guide to have a head-start for the conference; as UNSC is a logical security based committee we assume that the delegates are aware of the workings of the same . You are the representative of your allotted country and it is our hope that you put in wholehearted efforts to research and comprehensively grasp all important facets of the diverse agenda. Weencourageyoutogobeyondthisbackgroundguideand delve into the extremities of the agenda to further enhance your knowledge of a burning global issue.

 - **Dias unsc** •

Chairperson - Syesha Ganju
Vice chairperson - Atharav Dabgotra

Rapporteur- Aadhar Gupta

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Rules of procedure

The committee will follow the UNA-USA procedure during the 3 days of the conference. But the executive board at their discretion will amend the ROP with regards to the flow of the committee.

Start of Committee:

- Dias (EB) begins with roll call
- Delegates may respond "present" or "present and voting"
- Next, the Dias asks to hear any points or motions
- If there are no points or motions on the floor, the Dias will recognize the next speaker on the Speakers' List from the previous session
- In the first committee session, a delegate must move to open the Speakers' List
- During the first committee session, the agenda must also be set (choose topic 1 or 2)

Speakers' List:

- The Speakers' List is the default format of committee, if there are no points or motions
- A delegate may only appear on the list once at any given time
- A delegate can be added by raising their placard when the Dias asks or by sending a note to the Dias
- The speaking time will be set by the delegate who moves to open the Speakers' List, but a delegate may move to increase the time.
- If the Speakers' List is exhausted and no other delegates wish to be added, committee moves immediately into voting procedure on any draft resolutions that have

been introduced

- If there is still time remaining when a delegate concludes his or her speech, he or she must yield his or her time (to the Dias, to another delegate, or to questions, by saying either "I yield my time to …")
- Yielding to Dias ends the speech, yielding to another delegate allocates the remainder of the time to that delegate (the second delegate may not yield to a third delegate), and yielding to questions allows for feedback from other delegates

Moderated Caucus:

- When the Speakers' List is open, a delegate may introduce a motion for a moderated caucus, which is a less formal debate format to debate a specific subset of the topic
- No set speaking order; each new speaker is chosen after the previous speaker concludes
- A delegate may not yield her or his time; if delegate finishes early, move to next speakers.
- Must have a set topic, duration, and speaking time (which will be voted on) Unmoderated Caucus:
- When the Speakers' List is open, a delegate may introduce a motion for an unmoderated caucus, the least formal debate format
- Delegates may move around the room and

speak freely to one another to draft resolutions
- Delegate may not leave the room without permission from the committee director

Resolutions:

- The first stage of resolutions are "working papers," or the first draft of a resolution
- Working papers, like draft resolutions, require sponsors and signatories ○ Sponsors must submit working papers to the Dias for feedback
- Committee discusses working papers and subsequently moves to creating draft resolutions
- Draft resolutions should be improved and edited versions of working papers Like working papers, they will be assigned numbers based on the order in which they were received by the Dias
- When a working paper is ready to be introduced as a draft resolution, one of its sponsors may move to introduce a new draft resolution
- This motion is not voted on, but instead is at the discretion of the Dais ○ At that point, the committee will be given time to read the resolutions ○
- Then the sponsors will explain it and answer questions in a Q&A session
- The Dias chooses the allotted time for each activity
- If delegates wish to improve a draft resolution, they may pass an amendment
- Amendments must first be written down with a sponsor and signatories
- If all sponsors of the draft resolution agree that the amendment should be added, it is considered a "friendly amendment," meaning it can be added without debate

- If at least one sponsor does not agree with the amendment, it is considered an "unfriendly amendment" and needs support from a majority of the committe.
- After debate, delegates may move to enter voting procedure
- When entering voting procedure, four delegates can speak, two in favor and two against
- If the motion passes, doors are closed and no delegates may enter or exit the room until all voting has been completed
- Amendments are voted on first. Each amendment is read, with one or two speakers for and against, and then voted upon
- During voting procedure, delegates may move to ask for each country's vote individually ("roll-call vote") or to vote on different parts or clauses of the resolution instead of all at once.
- Delegates may not pass two draft resolutions that have conflicting clause.
- Once a draft resolution passes, it becomes a Resolution

Points and Motions:

- Points and motions are tools for delegates to ask questions about committee and its proceedings, rather than the content of debate
- Motions change what the committee is doing and generally require a vote ○ Points do not require a vote
- Delegates may only introduce motions while the Speakers' List is open and between speakers
- When motions require a vote, the vote may be either substantive or procedural
- Some votes require a two-thirds majority to pass, while other require a simple majority.

- Points may be raised during caucuses, and some points may be used to interrupt a speaker
- There are four common points, as follow:
  - Point of Inquiry - used to ask a question about parliamentary procedure.
  - Point of Order - used when a delegate believes the Dias has made a procedural error
  - Point of Personal Privilege - used to express concerns about comfort such as the temperature of the room or the ability to hear a speaker
  - Point of Information - used to ask a clarifying question about the content of a speech or statement (only during the speakers list)
- Only a point of order and a point of personal privilege may be used to interrupt a speaker

Writing a Resolution:

- A resolution is one very long sentence that describes how a committee will address the topic they've discussed. Resolutions include two types of clauses, called preambulatory clauses and operative clauses.

Preambulatory Clauses

- Preambulatory clauses set up the context of a resolution

- They do not do anything; they serve to justify the actions taken later on in the resolution

- Not numbered and it ends in a comma rather than a semi-colon

- The Preambulatory phrase is italicized, and calls for no specific action from countries

Operative Clauses

- Operative clauses are the main substance of a resolution
- These are the clauses that actually do something (calls for one specific action)
- Clause is numbered, operative phrase is underlined, and ends with a semicolon
- Only the last clause in a resolution should end with a period
- Sub-clauses are indicated with a lowercase letter, and sub-sub clauses are indicated with lowercase roman numerals
- There are no underlined words in sub or sub-sub clauses

Please note: most UN committees cannot call for binding action (only recommendations)

- Words like "requires," "forces," and "obligates" may not be used in operative clauses except for in committees that may pass binding resolutions, such as the UN Security Council

Sponsors and Signatories

- Draft resolutions and working papers must have a certain amounts of sponsors and signatories

- Sponsors are delegates who wrote the working paper, or whose ideas are substantially represented in the paper

- Signatories are delegates who would like to see the working paper debated

- Signatories need not agree with the content of the resolution they are signing, they must only agree that it is worthy of discussion.

- Sponsors count towards the total number of signatories

United Nations Security Council

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) serves as the linchpin of the United Nations (UN), bearing the immense responsibility of upholding global peace and security. Since its inception in 1945 alongside the establishment of the UN, the UNSC has been entrusted with the fundamental mission of averting conflicts, mediating disputes, and nurturing harmonious resolutions to tackle global challenges. With a membership comprising 15 states, five of which hold permanent status and wield veto power (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States), the UNSC mirrors the international community, symbolising its diverse voices and perspectives.

Role of UNSC:

- Peacekeeping and Conflict Resolution :The UNSC authorises peacekeeping missions in conflict zones, deploying troops and resources to promote stability, facilitate peace talks, and implement peace agreements. It actively engages in conflict resolution efforts globally.
- Preventing Armed Conflicts : By identifying potential threats to international peace, the UNSC engages in preventive diplomacy. It addresses underlying issues and works to prevent conflicts from escalating, often through diplomatic means, dialogue, and mediation.
- Humanitarian Assistance : The UNSC coordinates humanitarian aid in regions affected by conflicts, ensuring the delivery of essential supplies, protecting civilians, and advocating for human rights. It addresses humanitarian crises and works to alleviate suffering in conflict zones.
- Enforcing International Law : The UNSC establishes and enforces international law related to peace and security. It can impose sanctions on states or entities that violate international norms and resolutions, pressuring them into compliance.
- Countering Terrorism : The UNSC plays a crucial role in combating terrorism globally. It adopts resolutions and measures to counter terrorist activities, disrupt funding, and promote international cooperation in addressing the root causes of terrorism.
- Nuclear Non-Proliferation : The UNSC oversees nuclear non-proliferation efforts, working to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. It adopts resolutions and sanctions to curb nuclear proliferation and promote disarmament initiatives.
- International Justice : The UNSC establishes international tribunals and courts to address war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity. It ensures accountability for individuals responsible for grave violations of international law during conflicts.
- Peace building : After conflicts are resolved, the UNSC supports peace building efforts, helping countries rebuild institutions, promote reconciliation, and establish sustainable peace. It focuses on long-term stability and development.
- Conflict Prevention : Through its early warning systems and diplomatic initiatives, the UNSC works to prevent conflicts from arising. It addresses political, social, and economic factors that can lead to instability, aiming to resolve disputes before they escalate.

The UNSC's decisions are binding on all member states, and its actions significantly influence global affairs. Its role is essential in fostering international cooperation, preventing conflicts, and ensuring a safer world for all nations.

Voting Procedure:

Majority Rule: Most resolutions require a majority vote for approval, but specific matters demand a special majority involving the concurrence of permanent members.

Veto Power: The five permanent members (China, France, Russia, the UK, and the US) have veto power. A single veto from any of them can block a resolution, regardless of other votes.
Negotiations and Diplomacy: Due to the potential for vetoes, negotiations and diplomatic efforts are crucial in shaping resolutions and garnering support from both permanent and non-permanent members.

Agenda

Key Terms:

Marginalised Groups: Marginalised groups refer to individuals or communities who are systematically excluded, disadvantaged, or discriminated against within a society. These groups often face limited access to resources, opportunities, and decision-making processes. Marginalisation can be based on various factors such as ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, religion, sexual orientation, or disability. In the context of conflicts, marginalised groups are particularly vulnerable, as they are often targeted, exploited, and disproportionately affected by violence, displacement, and human rights abuses. Addressing the challenges faced by marginalised groups is crucial for promoting social equality, human rights, and sustainable peace.

Global security threats: Global security threats beset diverse challenges that pose significant risks to the stability and well-being of nations and the international community. These threats often transcend national borders and include issues such as terrorism, cyber warfare, nuclear proliferation, pandemics, climate change, and economic instability. They have the potential to cause widespread destruction, disrupt social order, and undermine international peace and security. Addressing global security threats requires collective efforts, cooperation between nations, and the development of effective strategies to prevent and mitigate their impact, ensuring a safer world for all.

Crisis in Niger

The recent military coup in Niger that ousted President Mohamed Bazoum has sent shockwaves throughout the region, posing a significant threat to the delicate balance of peace and stability in West Africa. The international community, led by the United Nations, swiftly condemned the coup, recognising the urgent need for a peaceful resolution in a region already grappling with various challenges.

Léonardo Santos Simão, the UN's top official for the region, has been vocal about the immediate need for peace. Speaking from Accra, Ghana, he emphasised the gravity of the situation: 4.3 million people in Niger are in dire need of humanitarian
assistance. The crisis, if left unaddressed, could exacerbate the already deteriorating security situation in the wider West African region. Simão's words serve as a stark reminder of the human cost of political instability and the urgency required in resolving the crisis.

In response to the coup, ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) took decisive action,

demanding the reinstatement of President Bazoum, who was democratically elected. The bloc issued a stern communiqué, warning of employing all necessary measures to restore constitutional order, including the potential use of force. However, this strong stance faced challenges as neighbouring countries, notably Mali and Burkina Faso, cautioned against military intervention. Their warning, declaring such action as a declaration of war, highlighted the intricate web of regional relationships and the potential for escalation.

Despite the complexities, diplomatic efforts have been relentless. Key personalities, including the President of Chad, engaged in discussions, striving to find a peaceful settlement. The crisis, however, remained fluid, with uncertainties casting a shadow
over the entire region. Mr. Simão's expressed concern about the possibility of an escalation of terrorism in the region underscored the broader implications of the crisis. It highlighted the interconnectedness of security concerns, not confined within national borders but reverberating across West Africa.

The crisis in Niger serves as a potent reminder of the challenges faced by West African nations. Political decisions, especially in times of crisis, echo far beyond national boundaries. They impact millions of lives and have far-reaching consequences for regional peace and stability. The international community's watchful gaze emphasises the critical nature of the situation. The decisions made in the coming days and weeks by regional and global leaders will undoubtedly shape the future not only for Niger but for the entire West African region.

As the world holds its breath, the crisis in Niger stands as a testament to the resilience of the region's people and the complexities faced by nations striving for stability. It calls for thoughtful, strategic, and compassionate interventions, underscoring the delicate balance required to navigate the intricate tapestry of West Africa's political landscape. In the face of uncertainty, the pursuit of peace remains paramount, reminding us all of the collective responsibility to uphold democratic values, respect human rights, and work tirelessly towards a stable and prosperous future for West Africa.

West African challenges

Colonial Legacy and Ethnic Diversity:

The scramble for Africa in the 19th century led to arbitrary divisions. In West Africa, this legacy means over 2500 distinct ethnic groups coexist. Nigeria alone boasts more than 250 ethnic groups and 500 languages. Such diversity, while culturally rich, has historically led to tensions, sometimes escalating into violent conflicts. The forced amalgamation of these groups created social fault lines that continue to challenge the region's stability.

Economic Challenges and Resource Exploitation:

West Africa holds vast natural wealth, contributing significantly to the global economy. Nigeria, the largest economy in the region, is Africa's top oil producer, producing approximately 1.9 million barrels per day. Despite this, poverty rates are alarming. In Nigeria, over 40% of the population lives below the international poverty line, surviving on less than $1.90 a day. The paradox of plenty haunts the region, as

resource exploitation often leads to economic disparity and social unrest.

Governance and Political Instability

The Mo Ibrahim Foundation's Index of African Governance highlights governance challenges. In 2020, the average score for West African countries was 52.3 out of 100, indicating substantial room for improvement. Corruption exacerbates these challenges. Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index ranked Nigeria 149 out of 180 countries in 2020. Political instability, coups, and contested elections further erode public trust, fostering an environment conducive to radical ideologies and terrorism.

Regional Conflicts and Transnational Threats:

The Lake Chad Basin, shared by Nigeria, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon, faces severe security threats. According to the UN, in 2020, 10.7 million people in this region needed humanitarian assistance. Boko Haram's insurgency has internally displaced around 2.6 million people, creating a dire humanitarian crisis. Transnational threats recognise no boundaries, exemplified by the relentless attacks of extremist groups like Boko Haram that affect multiple nations, underscoring the need for collaborative efforts and regional stability initiatives.

Humanitarian Impact and Internally Displaced Persons:

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre reported 2.1 million new displacements in West Africa in 2020. Armed conflicts and violence were primary causes, highlighting the urgent need for humanitarian aid. The Sahel region, comprising Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger, hosts over 2 million internally displaced persons, underscoring the region's immense challenges. Humanitarian organisations operate in perilous environments, struggling to provide aid to these vulnerable populations, emphasising the crucial role of international support and targeted humanitarian efforts.

Historical significance and threats imposed by marginalised groups

Throughout history, marginalised communities have often been at the centre of conflicts, either as victims of oppression or as active participants driven by desperation and radical ideologies. In Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge, primarily consisting of marginalised rural populations, orchestrated one of the deadliest genocides in history, leading to the deaths of approximately 1.7 million people. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Sri Lanka, formed by marginalised Tamils, engaged in a brutal civil war, causing immense suffering to the civilian population.

Extremist Ideologies and Recruitment:

Extremist organisations prey on marginalised groups, exploiting their grievances and offering a false

sense of empowerment. Al-Shabaab in Somalia has been notorious for recruiting marginalised youth, leading to numerous regional and international attacks. The rise of the Islamic State (ISIS) saw the recruitment of marginalised individuals globally, resulting in a surge in terrorist activities and creating significant global security concerns.

Role in Regional Conflicts:

Marginalised communities often become pawns in regional conflicts, facing persecution, displacement, and violence. The Rohingya Muslim minority in Myanmar has been subjected to extreme persecution, leading to displacement and creating a refugee crisis. In West Africa, groups like Boko Haram exploit marginalised populations, contributing to widespread instability in the region. These conflicts displace millions, disrupt economies, and strain resources, creating a ripple effect felt globally.

Jammu and Kashmir

Majority of the Muslim youth in the Kashmir Valley is increasingly inclining towards extremist political, social and religious ideas repudiating and challenging the status quo.The youth are told that it is the duty of Muslims to capture power and impose Sharia law (Islamic Law), which disapproves democracy and legitimises holy war (jihad) as means for establishing an Islamic Caliphate. Misuse of social media by the jihadist has exacerbated radicalization, posing more challenges to the security of the State.

The terror movement, initiated by Pakistan's spy agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) under the garb of calls of 'Azadi' (freedom) and right to self-determination, has slowly and steadily transformed into a low-intensity conflict that stands on the pillars of "religion and radicalisation" today, the officials said.

In a change in its strategy in fomenting the three-decade-long cross-border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan is again employing the tactics of brainwashing the local youth in the name of religion and exploiting the "religious fault lines", Indian officials said on Sunday.

The change in tactics should also be seen in the light of Pakistan's desperate attempt to get out of the grey list of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). From 2016, to get itself out of the FATF grey list, the ISI started creating multiple pseudo terror groups like The Resistance Front (TRF), Kashmir Tigers (KT), The People's Anti-Fascist Force (PAFF) and Kashmir Janbaz Force (KJF), to name a few.

Terrorism in Israel and Palestine

The Palestinian group Hamas has launched the biggest attack on Israel in years with many killed, hostages taken, and fighting raging after a surprise assault that included gunmen entering Israeli towns after a barrage of rockets fired from the Gaza Strip. Palestinian militants on Saturday fired more than 5,000 rockets from
the Gaza Strip toward Israel, killing at least 250 people and wounding several others, setting off air raid sirens across the country and raising the likelihood of a new round of heavy fighting. Hundreds of Hamas militants have infiltrated Israel in SUVs, motorcycles and paragliders and opened fire at civilians. The early

morning barrage lasted more than 30 minutes.

Israel said Hamas has declared war as its army mobilised and air force launched strikes on Gaza with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promising harsh retaliation. The international community has so far invested billions in the Palestinian Authority (PA) in order to establish infrastructures and an organised civil society. However, the European and international hopes were met with a reality of corruption in the PA and the allocation of funds for completely different objectives.

Future Threats:

Looking ahead, marginalised groups continue to pose significant threats to global security. The rise of nationalist and xenophobic sentiments in various countries provides fertile ground for extremist ideologies to take root. Moreover, the internet's vast reach has facilitated cyber recruitment, allowing radical ideologies to spread rapidly. As climate change exacerbates resource scarcity, marginalised communities might resort to violence to secure basic necessities, potentially leading to localised conflicts with far-reaching global repercussions.

Links for Further Research (in addition to the delegates' research on their own)

1. https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/senegalese-president-dismisses-government-reappoints-prime-minister-ba-2023-10-06/
2. https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/5/17/sahel-at-a-crossroads-as-armed-groups-gain-sway-in-africa-un?_gl=1*1jfz55b*_ga*QTlDQlpwZHphbnRvd2VxLVRya2k2N2ZBZFFEdEd5YW15X0diM1JZQWdNTWlteXozSFM5S3FMd1BvSE1UcEx0ZQ..
3. https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/violent-extremism-sahel
4. https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/un-global-counter-terrorism-strategy
5. https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-58438905