



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America
AND THE BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR THE UNITED NATIONS



THE MUNGLO: INDIA MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

December 3-5, 2004

BACKGROUND GUIDE

SECURITY COUNCIL



Delhi Public Schools R.K. Puram
New Delhi



SECURITY COUNCIL

DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMITTEE

Under the *UN Charter*, the Security Council is responsible for maintaining international peace. It meets throughout the year to address the most serious security issues facing the UN and the world. The Council is made up of 15 countries, five of which are permanent members (the remaining 10 spots rotate every two years among the nations in the General Assembly). The five permanent members are China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States, and each of these nations has “veto power.” This power means that whenever any one of these countries votes “no” on a resolution, that resolution automatically fails. For a resolution to pass, nine of the 15 members must vote for it, without a “no” vote from a permanent member.

When fighting breaks out, the Council’s first goal is usually to call for a cease-fire, or an end to the violence. It may also send peacekeeping forces to protect citizens and ensure that UN decisions are carried through. The Security Council can use more forceful measures to achieve its goals as well, such as issuing economic sanctions (or measures that prevent a country from receiving money or trade) or using military force in the most serious circumstances.

COMMITTEE OPERATION

Delegates in the UN Security Council at the MUNGLO: India Model UN Conference should be aware that the issue introduced below may change dramatically in the weeks leading up to the conference. Therefore, it is essential that all Security Council participants keep track of daily international news stories.

Students should read the background guide and use the resources provided at the end to continue their research up until the conference. Unlike other background guides used at the Model UN Conference, the Security Council’s will not provide a complete description of the topic at hand. Instead, delegates must focus on studying the issue as it unfolds over the coming months. At the conference, additional information may be provided based upon recent events.

TOPIC A: THE SITUATION BETWEEN ERITREA AND ETHIOPIA

HISTORY

Together with Somalia and Djibouti, Eritrea and Ethiopia make up the East African region known as “the Horn,” named for its unusual shape. The Horn of Africa has long been a site of conflict between countries and it is a region of great ethnic diversity. Throughout the past century, the borders of this land have undergone many changes and nations have fought battles over territory and authority.

One of these conflicts has been between Eritrea and Ethiopia, which share a border. Each country desires more land and both would like to push the border further into the other’s territory. However, both Eritrea and Ethiopia claim that they alone have a right to the disputed land and refer to historical events or documents to prove this. To date, these two countries have not agreed to a border resolution.

A great deal of fighting has taken place between the two countries over the past four decades. Initially, Eritreans battled the Ethiopian government for independence. When Eritrea became its own independent country, more fighting between the two broke out over precious resources, economic policies and access to important trade routes including rivers leading into the Red Sea. Their most recent conflict, which began in 1998 and officially ended in 2000, took the lives of over 70,000 people.

The UN has taken steps to help draw a new border and has tried to prevent violence from breaking out again. However, both countries continue to argue about the territory. The Security Council may have to take action to stop another violent outbreak, protect the Eritrean and Ethiopian people, and settle the longstanding dispute.



ETHIOPIA



ERITREA

Source: Perry-Castaneda Library Map Collection, University of Texas at Austin, www.lib.utexas.edu/maps.

The following timeline provides a brief history of Eritrea and Ethiopia. However, this is not a complete description of the conflict. Delegates should research on their own in order to find out more about the historical developments in the region and between the two nations. This will also help reveal which attempts at peace have worked and which have failed. Then, delegates will be better prepared to debate what the Security Council is capable of doing to resolve this situation.

1880 – World War II

Colonialism: The Beginning of the Conflict

- 1880** Italy begins to colonize land around **Ethiopia**, Africa’s oldest independent nation (it is over 2,000 years old).
- 1890** **Ethiopia** gives up land in its north to the Italians in order to appease them. Italy officially claims the land as a colony and names it **Eritrea**.
- 1900** Ethiopia and Italy draw up borders dividing the land in the Horn of Africa. Several different maps are made over the next eight years and many different borders are used.
- 1935** Italy attacks Ethiopia. By 1936, Italy has complete control over the country.
- 1945** Italy is defeated at the end of World War II and Ethiopia is given back its independence. The United Nations, created at the end of the war, takes control over Eritrea.

1950 – 1991

Fighting for Control

- 1952** Eritrea and Ethiopia become a “federation”—a single nation where the two regions are separate, but they share governing authority. The Ethiopian emperor claims much of the governing power. Many Eritreans protest in order to gain their own control.
- 1961** Fighting breaks out as Eritreans try to break away from Ethiopia. The next year, Ethiopia invades and takes over all of Eritrea. Struggles continue for the next 30 years.
- 1974** An Ethiopian military group overthrows the emperor and *socialism** is declared.

Groups such as the **Eritrean People’s Liberation Front (EPLF)** gain influence and fight for Eritrean independence. Other groups, such as the **Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF)**, look to overthrow the socialist regime in Ethiopia.

- 1980** Drought and famine are becoming worse in the region and many people suffer from disease and die due to malnutrition (not getting enough food) or dehydration (not getting enough water). These problems add to those already created by constant fighting and violence.
- 1991** The TPLF and EPLF overthrow the socialist regime in Ethiopia. The TPLF takes over Ethiopia itself while the EPLF establishes a government in Eritrea. Two years later, the UN sponsors a referendum, or vote, in Eritrea. 99.81 percent of the people vote for independence for Eritrea. It then becomes its own independent state.

The 1990s

Conflict after Independence

Although they were two separate countries, Eritrea and Ethiopia continued to have problems. In addition, the Eritrean independence agreement did not state where the border was between the two countries. This became a serious issue when economic tensions began to surface. In the mid-1990s, Ethiopia banned the use of Eritrean currency. Once Eritrea gained its independence, Ethiopian land was cut off from the Red Sea, so Ethiopia no longer had direct access to ports or harbors. Eritrea used this to impose heavy taxes and shipping fees on commerce from Ethiopia, which had to go through Eritrea to reach the water.

**Socialism* – A system where all or most of a country’s economy and production is controlled by the government. This differs from *capitalism* (the system in the US), where most control over production is in the hands of private citizens. Many of the ideas behind socialism were made popular by Karl Marx in the 19th century. Socialism is closely related to other ideologies such as Marxism and Communism.

On May 6, 1998, in response to the economic disputes and the poorly defined border, troops from Eritrea moved into **Badme**, a mostly barren piece of land next to Ethiopia. The Ethiopian government fought back, claiming that the land was its own. By the following year, the border dispute turned into a full-blown war.

Eritrea claims that it owns the land because the area appears on maps from the Italian colonization. However, Ethiopia claims that despite these maps, it now holds the land and has been governing the area for years. Today, some maps show Badme in Ethiopia while others show it in Eritrea.

The Human Rights Situation

According to *Human Rights Watch*, a nongovernmental organization (NGO) monitoring human rights worldwide, the war that began on May 6, 1998 caused many human rights problems:

- An estimated 100,000 people died in Eritrea and Ethiopia;
- Over one million people became *refugees*, or those who are forced to leave their home and country (refugees abandon their possessions, homes and many times, their families);
- Both the Eritrean and Ethiopian governments deported, or forcefully removed, people from their countries; and
- Due to drought and famine, as many as eight million people in the region suffered from hunger, dehydration or death.

Source: www.hrw.org and the UN Department of Public Information.

PAST INTERNATIONAL ACTION

During the conflict of 1998, the **United States** and **Rwanda** submitted a proposal (*The US-Rwanda Peace Initiative*) that requested both sides to retreat from the conflict area. The proposal also requested the creation of a commission that would draw up a border that both sides could agree to. Later that year, the **Organization for African Unity (OAU)** accepted the *US-Rwanda Peace Initiative*. The OAU then included it into the *OAU Framework Agreement* intended to put an end to the conflict. Both countries accepted the OAU agreement at a meeting in Algiers, Algeria. In doing so, they agreed to move their troops out of any land taken on or after May 6, 1998.

After less than a year, Ethiopia claimed that there were still problems that the *OAU Framework Agreement* had not addressed. Once again, fighting broke out. The same day fighting restarted, the Security Council adopted two resolutions:

- **Resolution 1297** expressed the Security Council's concern regarding the human rights situation in the region caused by war and famine. It also urged both countries to immediately stop fighting and resume negotiations.
- **Resolution 1298** demanded that peace talks resume immediately based on the *OAU Framework Agreement*. It also tried to limit the sale of weapons and arms to either nation by issuing an arms embargo.

In June of 2000, the two countries agreed to a cease-fire. Similarly, they agreed to let a UN peacekeeping mission enter the region to protect people from future violence. The UN deployed the United Nations Mission to Eritrea and Ethiopia (UNMEE) with over 4,000 troops.

By 2002, a neutral boundary commission declared that it had developed a suggested border. The commission recognized many of Ethiopia's claims along the 1,000 km area, but it also ruled that Badme should officially be located in Eritrea.

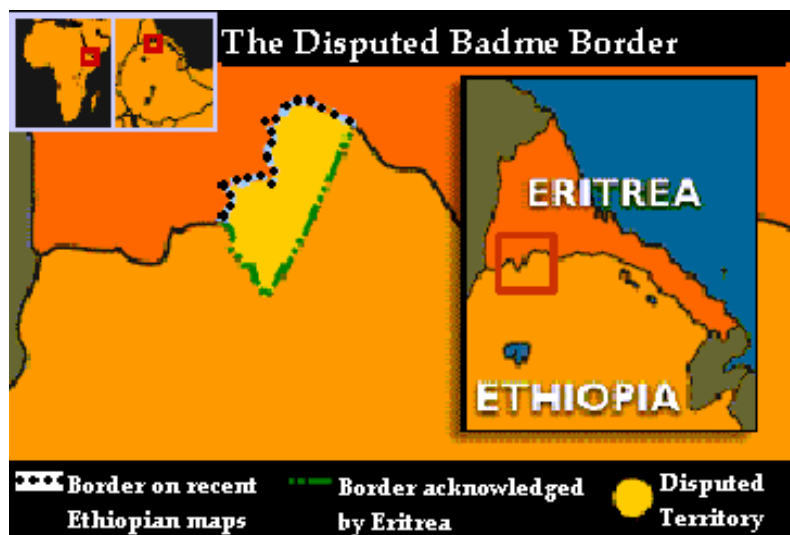
Although Badme itself is a mostly barren area, it has special significance for both parties. In response to the border commission's placement of Badme, Ethiopia refused to accept the redrawn boundary.

The Current Situation

Today, the two countries have essentially stopped official communication, making the issue more difficult to resolve. In September of 2003, Eritrea called for sanctions against Ethiopia since Ethiopia refused to accept the boundary commission's decision (the Security Council never actually issued the sanctions, though in resolution S/RES/1531 (2004) it asked Ethiopia to accept the suggested boundary). Ethiopia still demands that it is entitled to the Badme area.

At the end of 2003, a shooting incident occurred along the disputed border and many in the international community feel that without swift action, more violence could break out. Eritrea has also rejected a UN-appointed mediator. The nation claims that the border commission's ruling must be upheld, and that further action is unnecessary if Ethiopia will not accept the commission's recommendations.

Most recently, both Ethiopia and Eritrea placed restrictions on the movement of UN troops (operating through UNMEE) along the shared border areas in order to investigate security issues. On March 15, 2004, Ethiopia lifted these restrictions, allowing free movement for UNMEE troops; but Eritrea claims that it needs more time to study the situation before allowing UN peacekeepers free movement on its side.



Badme – Both Eritrea and Ethiopia claim the lightly shaded area, known as Badme. The two nations also dispute ownership of other regions along the border.

Source: BBC News, <http://news.bbc.co.uk>, "Border a Geographer's Nightmare," 12 May 2000.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- According to your country, how could the UN fairly decide how the border should be drawn? Was the border commission a good idea?
- Has your country ever been involved in a border dispute, or has a border dispute ever occurred in or near your country?
- If fighting began again, how does your country suggest the international community act to stop the violence? What can the Security Council do in this situation?
- Should the Security Council renew the arms embargo issued through Resolution 1298?

INTRODUCTION

For over 50 years, the United Nations has sought a peaceful resolution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. Today, new developments in the region offer some positive signs, though other crucial factors, including the conflict in Iraq, may complicate work toward a solution. The issue warrants close scrutiny by the Security Council—at this critical stage in Middle East politics, any number of events may permanently derail progress toward peace in the region.

HISTORY

At the end of World War I, British officials occupied the area that is present-day Israel. Pressured by “Zionist” leaders (those who sought greater unity among Jews along with an independent Jewish homeland), Britain then announced that it would create a state within the Middle East region of Palestine, the biblical cradle of both Jewish and Arab civilization, as a national home for the Jewish people.

During the 1920s and 1930s, the Zionist movement and Nazi persecution in Europe prompted a mass migration of Jews to this area. However, clashes soon broke out between the immigrating Jews and the local Arab population. In 1947, Britain gave control of most of the region over to the newly-formed United Nations.

Later that year, General Assembly Resolution 181 recommended that Palestine be divided into two separate states, one Jewish and the other Palestinian Arab (the city of Jerusalem, a religious center for both groups, was to be internationalized and controlled by the UN). However, the plan was rejected by the Palestinians, who did not want to lose their homeland. By 1948, British forces left the area entirely and Israel declared itself an independent nation, angering neighboring Arab countries. Several of these Arab states staged attacks to regain the land Israel had claimed as its own.

These attacks ended with an armistice that, among other things, redrew the boundaries of Palestine—Israel received most of the land while Egypt and Jordan also gained key sections. Nonetheless, occasional fighting continued along many borders.

By 1967, Egypt and Jordan appeared to be mobilizing troops for an attack and Israel launched a pre-emptive strike to defend its land and claim other disputed areas. The war, lasting only six days, resulted in Israeli occupation of all Palestinian territory. Israel then refused to acknowledge the Security Council’s calls for withdrawal.

Palestinians living in the area have since kept small sections of land within the occupied territories, while Israelis continue to build new settlements in the regions they believe are their own. The Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), under the leadership of Yassir Arafat, declared an *intifada*, or uprising, against Israeli occupation. However, both Israel and the Palestinian leadership have so far seemed unwilling to stop the cycle of violence in the region. Palestinian suicide bombers ravage Israeli settlements while Israeli troops continue to invade Palestinian areas. Both parties are responsible for many civilian deaths.

The UN has affirmed the Palestinians’ right to independence and has tried to drive the peace process in the region, but key points remain unsettled. The division of land, ownership of key religious sites, continued attacks on civilians and terrorist activity in the region all complicate the peace process.

RECENT ACTION

Last April, a “road map for peace” was released by a quartet of international parties: the United States, Russia, the European Union and the United Nations. The plan calls for the definition of temporary borders (creating an independent Palestinian state) before more negotiations can occur at a later date. It also calls for Palestinian authorities to control the violent attacks by their people and for Israel to stop dismantling Palestinian homes while moving out of any settlements it has built in the past three years. However, little progress has been made toward fulfilling the road map, despite the

election of new Palestinian leadership and pressure from the international community for both sides to join in negotiations.

In late 2003, Israel began construction on a dividing wall that would separate its territories from Palestinian regions. According to Israel, the wall was a necessary defense against Palestinian suicide bombers who have ravaged Israeli civilian centers. However, many nations have protested the wall's construction, pointing out that in several places, it extends too far over the armistice line created in 1949 (otherwise known as the "Green Line").

On October 15, 2003, the United States vetoed a Security Council resolution calling for the wall's removal. According to the US, the resolution was unbalanced and failed to address the terrorist and security concerns that Israel has faced for years. Since then, the Security Council has acknowledged that both sides face legitimate pressures from the other, but that negotiations and compromise must ensue nonetheless.

While the UN will remain a key player in negotiations toward a lasting peace, the Security Council must remain wary of the potential for large-scale conflict to erupt. Following the war in Iraq, tensions between Israel and the Arab world may again mount due to intensified Arab nationalism or terrorist activities. As a result, any number of events could again ignite widespread violence in the region.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Does your nation support the creation of an independent Palestinian state? Does your nation provide aid or assistance to either Israel or Palestine?
2. Has your country been involved in the peace process?
3. According to your nation, what are the key factors that have prevented a peace between Israel and the Palestinians?
4. What does your nation feel about the dividing wall that Israel intends to construct?

Map of Israel



Source: Perry-Castaneda Library Map Collection – University of Texas
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/cia02/israel_sm02.gif

INTRODUCTION

After September 11, 2001, terrorism became a central issue on the UN's agenda and the major concern for many member states. A great deal of debate has come about over the topic and in early October of 2001, more UN members met to address the problem than for any other item on the organization's agenda ever.

But today, the UN has still not actually defined what a multinational terrorist group is. Many nations stress that there are important differences between terrorist groups and "freedom fighters," or people who wish to escape foreign control or oppression.

The so-called "war on terrorism" has sparked other concerns too. Recently, nations have considered fighting multinational terrorist groups on their own. Several member states have argued that attacks by terrorist groups are threats to national security. As a result, they feel they can resort to taking action (even military action) against a specific group or country that is suspected of aiding a terrorist organization.

Today, the UN has the opportunity to frame international anti-terrorism efforts for the future. But concerns over sovereignty (or a nation's right to control what happens within their borders), funding and commitment have to be addressed. While international coordination is essential, many countries will be reluctant to give up their own anti-terrorism efforts or provide intelligence information to UN groups. Similarly, worldwide efforts require money—much of which will be difficult to obtain.

BACKGROUND

Terrorism has occurred throughout history and in all parts of the world. For centuries, governments have fought groups that use violence in order to achieve their goals. Today, as in the past, these groups are motivated by radical ideals, patriotism and religious beliefs. But unlike the past, a single terrorist group can now operate across the globe.

Terrorist organizations take advantage of serious developmental problems in nations. They are able to attract members with promises of education, money and the lure of serving a higher, often religious, cause. Basically, these organizations often claim to offer people a better life. Individuals remain members due to indoctrination (the persuasive teaching of certain beliefs and ideologies). This teaching can often be so powerful that people risk their lives for a terrorist group.

The tactics used by terrorist groups, while horrible, are often also very simple. Unlike modern warfare that is conducted with expensive equipment, many soldiers and high-tech weapons, terrorism relies upon very basic means. Terrorists may make homemade bombs, steal guns and ammunition, and even perform suicide missions, where they personally detonate an explosive killing themselves and the victims around them. These tactics are not only difficult to prevent, but also almost impossible to forecast.

Terrorist groups have also tried to obtain weapons of mass destruction (WMD) such as biological, chemical and nuclear devices. Certain chemicals can be manufactured in home laboratories with minimal technology and then released to infect civilians. Other weapons, such as nuclear warheads, cannot easily be produced, but may be stolen from governments around the world.

Regional Terrorism

Terrorist groups in the past have mainly been focused in distinct regions. In the United Kingdom, the Irish Republican Army (IRA) carried out bombings and attacks throughout the second half of the 20th century. This violence was meant to achieve independence for Northern Ireland from Britain and was also motivated by the religious conflict between Protestants and Catholics in the region. Similarly, some extremist groups in the Middle East, such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), have resorted to airline hijackings and assassinations for their cause.

In Latin America, groups such as the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) promote radical ideologies (in FARC's case, a Marxist agenda) through kidnappings, extortion and murder. And the Aum Shinrikyo, or "Supreme Truth," once recognized as an official religious group by the Japanese government, today violently seeks the overthrow of the country. On March 20, 1995, the group released a deadly gas into the subways of Japan, killing 12 people and injuring thousands.

As these examples show, terrorism affects all regions and nations. The US Department of State officially recognizes over 30 major terrorist groups throughout the world and there are many more small groups that are cause for worry. Of course, the terrorism itself has changed dramatically over the past decade and radical organizations now set their sights on global targets.

Al Qaeda and Global Terrorism

Arguably the most well-known multinational terrorist group today is al Qaeda. Al Qaeda was first formed to fight the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan in the 1980s. But under the leadership of Osama bin Laden, the group soon began to target the United States, protesting the country's presence in the Middle East, considered Islam's "Holy Land," during the Gulf War. In 1998, bin Laden issued a formal declaration for all Muslims to begin killing Americans. Even though these efforts contradict the peaceful teachings of Islam, the group claims it fights for all Muslims in the region.

The global reach of multinational terrorist groups is surprisingly vast. Al Qaeda alone was once believed to run active "cells," or small groups of sympathizers, in over 60 countries (the current number is unknown). The ties it has established among other radical groups extend throughout Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia. In several regions, members in "sleeper cells" wait quietly, living normal lives and interacting with others for sometimes years at a time before receiving a call from the organization to commit a terrorist act.

Source: Kevin Whitelaw and Mark Mazzetti, "One Year After 9/11—A Nation Changed," *U.S. News and World Report*, November 11, 2002: pg. 56.

Today, travel and communication has become much easier. This has helped terrorist groups work on a worldwide scale. In areas such as Eastern Europe, countries do not possess enough resources to maintain strict border controls. As a result, people can move between nations easily without being checked.

After entering other countries, terrorists can inflict vast amounts of damage with small costs by using cheap technology and simple tactics. On September 11, 2001, the United States suffered monetary losses estimated to be between \$100 billion and \$300 billion. However, the total cost of the attack to al Qaeda appears to be somewhere around \$500,000—a mere 2-5 percent of the financial damage to the US.

Violent terrorist acts that are covered in the media actually help promote terrorist groups in many ways. Radio, television and newspaper sources offer an outlet through which terrorists can spread their message to millions of people. Indeed, far more people today are familiar with Osama bin Laden's cause than was the case only five years ago due to media coverage of the September 11th events.

The Self-Defense Argument

In the past, terrorism was considered a domestic problem that should be dealt with by individual nations. Though terrorism has now become multinational, many nations still claim the right to use military force against other countries in order to protect themselves from future threats.



Terrorist attacks have the potential to cause the deaths of many people. But in the end, it is the government's responsibility to provide for the well-being of its citizens. If a government believes that there is a threat to its security, it may look to use force in order to prevent the event from occurring. Some nations believe that this force can only be used within a nation's own borders (through heightened police enforcement for instance). Yet others now look to root out terrorist organizations in foreign countries as well.

PAST INTERNATIONAL ACTION

Prior to September 11, 2001, the international community drafted several declarations regarding global terrorism. In 1937, the League of Nations, the predecessor to the United Nations, was unable to reach an agreement on how to define terrorism during its *International Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of Terrorism*. According to a Dutch study, 109 different definitions of terrorism have been used in official international documents between 1936 and 1983 alone. As a result, it is very difficult to create worldwide agreements aimed at eliminating terrorist groups.

Every decade since the 1960s has produced conventions dealing with particular aspects of the terrorist problem. In 1963, the *Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft* was ratified in Tokyo, establishing responses to possible terrorist acts onboard airplanes. In 1979, the *International Convention against the Taking of Hostages* was written in New York at a time when almost 70 American citizens were being held hostage at the U.S. Embassy in Iran. The 1980s saw documents devoted to additional airline precautions, protection for ships at sea and for the first time, the control of nuclear material so terrorists could not acquire it. Finally, the 1998 *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings* was drafted in response to the increasing number of terrorist bombing campaigns in Israel and the Middle East. But none of these measures dealt with specific multinational terrorist groups and how to stop them.

UN Action before September 11, 2001

In 1994, the *Declaration of Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism* was written. First, the document encouraged countries to share information so that others would know about global terrorist groups. Second, it condemned countries that support terrorists. Finally, it established a basic definition of terrorism by outlawing “criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes.”

UN Action after September 11, 2001

The World Trade Center and Pentagon tragedies dramatically proved that new UN measures were required. International reaction to the day's events was swift and decisive, and by the following evening, the UN Security Council had passed Resolution 1368. The document condemned the attacks and labeled terrorism a “threat to international peace and security.”

In late September of 2001, the Security Council drew up a more specific response to multinational terrorism in the form of Resolution 1373.

First, Resolution 1373 called upon all member states to stop funding terrorists and monitor banks in their nation so that funds used by terrorist groups could be “frozen” (in other words, nations should prevent terrorist groups from getting to money). All over the world, terrorist groups acquire money through criminal businesses (such as the sale of drugs or weapons) and donations from supporters. By limiting access to this money, nations will also limit the ability of multinational terrorist groups to act. However, many developing nations lack the technology and resources to monitor all of their banks. Similarly, in many countries, it is illegal to interfere with private investments and accounts.

A second provision of Resolution 1373 is the establishment of guidelines for nations to deal with the threat of terrorism domestically. The Security Council decided that all countries should refrain from supporting terrorist groups, deny asylum or safe haven to known terrorists, strengthen national law regarding terrorism, and increase the monitoring of their borders. These ambitious goals, however, are difficult to achieve. Many countries already experience problems associated



with loosely controlled borders. And many nations have little experience in drafting laws to combat the terrorist threat. The UN must help to ensure that domestic efforts against terrorist groups are both possible and effective.

In addition, Resolution 1373 called upon states to exchange information regarding terrorism. This would help track violent groups around the world. However, many states are reluctant to share critical defense information and will likely oppose this measure unless information sharing is strictly confidential and highly protected. The United Nations may not be ready to provide this level of security without additional measures.

Finally, the resolution called for the establishment of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. The responsibilities of the committee are to address terrorism in the mid to long-term by focusing on larger issues that affect the growth of terrorist groups. Specifically, the committee will coordinate training and information sharing issues between states and the hiring of experts in the field of terrorism. However, broader issues such as the definition of terrorism, establishing guidelines for domestic terrorist law, and protecting weapons of mass destruction from terrorists remain the responsibility of the General Assembly.

In summary, the four major aspects of Resolution 1373 are:

1. Stopping the financing of terrorist groups;
2. Helping countries stop terrorism within their own borders;
3. Promoting the exchange of information about terrorist groups worldwide; and
4. Establishing the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FORMULATING A RESOLUTION

To effectively address the question of multinational terrorist groups, delegates should debate a number of concerns. First, a comprehensive resolution will suggest ways that individual countries can help combat terrorism. The Security Council can encourage the coordination of domestic law, suggest heightening regional security, promote stronger border controls, or any of a number of other actions. Second, the Council may look to support the information exchange under the Counter-Terrorism Committee. If this system is properly maintained and controlled, more nations will consider offering sensitive intelligence reports. If the system is loosely organized and poorly run, countries with vast intelligence resources, such as the US and United Kingdom, will be reluctant to provide their information and international efforts will stall.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Delegates should focus their research on the following questions:

1. Has your country ever been the target of a terrorist attack?
2. Has your country been accused of supporting terrorism? If so, what measures has your government taken in response?
3. What anti-terror conventions and treaties has your country signed and ratified?
4. How does your country answer the self-defense argument? Should nations be allowed to act on their own to eliminate terrorist groups? What is the UN's role?
5. What could the UN do to help individual nations, particularly developing nations, write laws and create programs to combat terrorism within their borders?

RESOURCES FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

UN Security Council

www.un.org/Docs/sc

UN News Centre

www.un.org/News

NEWS SOURCES ONLINE

The New York Times

www.nytimes.com

CNN.com

www.cnn.com

BBC Online

www.bbc.com

ABC News

<http://abcnews.go.com>

TOPICAL INFORMATION: ERITREA AND ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia-Eritrea Boundary Commission

www.un.org/NewLinks/eebcarbitration

AllAfrica.com – News selections on a variety of African issues and nations

www.allafrica.com

Federation of America Scientists: “Ethiopia/Eritrea War”

www.fas.org/man/dod-101/ops/war/eritrea.htm

Global Policy Forum: “Ethiopia and Eritrea”

www.globalpolicy.org/security/issues/ethindex.htm

BBC News: “Battle in the Horn”

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in_depth/africa/2000/battle_in_the_horn/default.stm

TOPICAL INFORMATION: ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

UN - Question of Palestine: Overview

www.un.org/Depts/dpa/qpalnew/overview.htm

BBC Profile of Israel and Palestinian Autonomous Areas

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/country_profiles/803257.stm

BBC In-Depth: Israel & the Palestinians

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/middle_east/2001/israel_and_the_palestinians

CNN.com Special Report: Mideast – Land of Conflict

www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2001/mideast

TOPICAL INFORMATION: MULTINATIONAL TERRORIST GROUPS

UN Action against Terrorism

www.un.org/terrorism

UN Counter-Terrorism Committee

www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1373

US Department of State Counterterrorism Office

www.state.gov/s/ct

