

National Model United Nations

Week A

March 17 – March 21, 2013



Alternate Security Council - B

Documentation

Code: SCB/1/1
Committee: Security Council B
Subject: Resource Scarcity and its Relation to Conflict

1 *Cognizant* of Article 24 of the United Nations Charter that tasks the Security Council
2 with the maintenance of international peace and security,
3

4 *Recalling* Resolution 1625 regarding resource scarcity in Africa and its capacity as a
5 threat multiplier for conflict through the prevention of illegal exploitation and trafficking
6 of natural resources and commodities,
7

8 *Recalling* General Assembly Resolution 64/292, recognizing the right to safe and clean
9 drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of
10 life and all human rights,
11

12 *Recalling* Resolution 2053 describing a resource dispute as a cause of the conflict in the
13 Democratic Republic of Congo,
14

15 *Recalling* that the UN definition of resource scarcity refers only to a situation where the
16 supply of renewable resources is not sufficient to meet demand, as stated in the United
17 Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Report on Renewable Resources and Conflict,
18

19 *Keeping in mind* the definition of resource scarcity given by the UNEP Report on
20 Renewable Resources and Conflict,
21

22 *Observing* that natural resources are a contributing factor to economic growth and
23 sustainable development of Member States,
24

25 *Recalling* Resolution 1625 which reflects the Security Council's determination to
26 condemn and prevent the illegal exploitation and trafficking of natural resources and
27 commodities, in areas where this contributes to conflict, particularly the clause
28 highlighting the Secretary-General's responsibility to report on regions of concern,
29

30 *Noting with deep concern* that resource scarcity resulting from floods, fires, storms,
31 earthquakes and other devastating forecasted and unforeseen natural disasters can be
32 detrimental to the short-term supply of resources, which can lead to conflict,
33

34 *Commending* the work of United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)
35 Resource Mobilization Plan regarding management, allocation and disbursement of
36 resources,
37

38 *Acknowledging* the lack of unity between United Nations programs in addressing
39 resource scarcity and its relation to conflict,
40

41 *Recognizing* the support system of the United Nations Interagency Framework Team for
42 Preventive Action (UNIFTPA), and the need to expand their mandate ensuring greater
43 interagency collaboration on the topic of resource scarcity and its relation to conflict,
44

45 *Emphasizing* the relevance of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Regional
46 Commissions towards managing scarce resources, which may prevent conflict,
47

48 *Recognizing* that resource scarcity is affected and compounded by relevant and
49 contextual cultural, religious and geographical factors,
50

51 *Aware* of the outstanding work directed at reducing scarcity and increasing the
52 availability of resources such as water through multiple measured efforts by the United
53 Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), particularly the efforts of
54 the Division for Sustainable Development, United Nations Development Programme
55 (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Water, and the United Nations
56 Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD),
57

58 *Encouraged* by the UNDP Department of Political Affairs (UNDP-DPA) Programme on
59 Building National Capacities and Conflict Prevention, and the UNDP's Bureau for Crisis
60 Prevention and Recovery (BCPR),
61

62 *Reiterating* the letter from the delegation of Belgium to the Security Council in 2007,
63 particularly emphasizing the importance of preventive measures during the pre-conflict
64 stage to ameliorate resource scarcity,
65

66 *Recalling* the impact and frequency of natural and man-made disasters on resource
67 accessibility,
68

69 *Noting* that there is currently no international legal status for environmentally displaced
70 persons, and acknowledging the potential threat to peace and stability arising from large-
71 scale migrations caused by environmental degradation,
72

73 *Drawing attention* to the distinction between resource scarcity conflict and resource
74 abundance conflict,
75

76 *The Security Council*,

- 77
- 78 1) *Recommends* expanding the definition of resource scarcity to define it as a
79 situation of insufficient availability of resources related to basic human needs in a
80 certain region such as food supplies, access to clean water including distribution
81 networks, and infrastructural needs such as energy access and shelter;
82
 - 83 2) *Further calls upon* the General Assembly to consider the definition for revision
84 and recommends the General Assembly distinguish, in order to take appropriate
85 actions, the following causes of resource scarcity which include: mismanagement,

- 86 excessive harvesting, misallocation, corruption and poisoning of natural
87 resources, natural disasters, as well as climatological and geographic conditions;
88
- 89 3) *Further reminds* the General Assembly that the actions necessary to address
90 resource scarcity and resource abundance respectively are fundamentally
91 different;
92
- 93 4) *Introduces* the term “resource conflict” as a dispute catalyzed by resource
94 scarcity, as previously defined;
95
- 96 5) *Firmly condemns* any illicit action directly catalyzing resource scarcity and illicit
97 trade of natural resources across the world which can cause instability, and further
98 recommends all Member States to criminalize these activities;
99
- 100 6) *Recommends* Member States to develop or revise a national plan for disaster
101 preparedness in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk
102 Reduction (UNISDR), which should include early warning systems and
103 forecasting, in an effort to prevent resource conflicts;
104
- 105 7) *Suggests* the United Nations Legal Committee to develop an update to the *1951*
106 *Refugee Convention* establishing a status for environmentally displaced persons;
107
- 108 8) *Authorizes* the UNDP BCPR to encourage the creation of Regional Forums to
109 manage resource scarcity by:
110
- 111 a. Drawing membership from voluntary Member States according to the existing
112 guidelines provided by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD),
113 Standard Country and Area Codes Classification,
114
- 115 b. Including participation from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as
116 civil society groups and scientific experts,
117
- 118 c. Managing the long-term effects of natural and man-made disasters, which
119 exacerbate resource scarcity,
120
- 121 d. Discussing best practices for managing resource scarcity, resource conflict
122 mitigation, regional progress and setbacks, and identify possible threats to
123 peace and security;
124
- 125 9) *Recommends* the UNIFTPA and the UNDP BCPR to monitor, evaluate, and
126 report to the Secretary-General regions experiencing resource conflicts, including
127 regions that are unable to come to consensus on managing resource scarcity
128 including conflicts internal to Member States;
129

- 130 10) *Urges* Member States to support the adoption and use of integrated
131 comprehensive and verifiable rubrics with annual increments of strategic forecast
132 expectations while:
133
- 134 a. Urging reciprocal sharing of technological advancements of highly advanced
135 Member States with Least Developed Countries, especially science and
136 technology advancements related to resource scarcity,
137
 - 138 b. Recommending the UNSD establish an International Rating Index (IRI), as an
139 early advance warning mechanism to measure developing and developed
140 countries propensity for resource scarcity related conflicts in order to promote
141 transparency in all practices related to the extraction and trade of natural
142 resources;
143
- 144 11) *Calls upon* the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*
145 (UNFCCC) to consider issuing a yearly report evaluating climate change in
146 relation to resource scarcity that leads to conflict while:
147
- 148 a. Identifying areas of concern before they become volatile, to be reported to the
149 Secretary-General to be included with the annual report to the Security
150 Council,
151
 - 152 b. Analyzing the advancement of climate change and how this affects resource
153 scarcity;
154
- 155 12) *Recommends* the expansion of UNIFTPA in order to strengthen the effectiveness
156 of preventive action, which will:
157
- 158 a. Coordinate, collaborate and share all work, information, and support networks
159 relevant to resource scarcity within relevant UN organs, adding the following
160 agencies to the twenty-two current UNIFTPA organizations: the UNFPA, UN
161 Water, and the UNCSD,
162
 - 163 b. Incorporate additional expert personnel from Member States with relevant
164 successful experience and technology on resource specific scarcity,
165
 - 166 c. Encourage transparency by requesting the Secretary-General to prepare an
167 annual report to the Security Council in collaboration with the existing
168 ECOSOC Regional Commissions and the BCPR relating to resource scarcity
169 as a conflict multiplier, the critical nature of transparency, and to evaluate the
170 progress of the UNIFTPA,
171
 - 172 d. Create and manage a single objective electronic database, in regards to
173 conflicts relating to resource scarcity, regions experiencing particular scarcity,
174 regions currently experiencing disputes over shared resources, stemming from

175 the reports of the Secretary-General and current UN information and past UN
176 actions, including the IRI index,
177
178 e. Provide a platform allowing Member States to access personnel and training
179 to regions affected by scarcity such that the affected Member State will gain
180 skills and techniques necessary to manage disputes over resource scarcity,
181 including adjudication, mediation and technical education,
182
183 f. Share information on renewable and alternative energy sources;
184
185 13) *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Code: SCB/4/1
Committee: Security Council B
Subject: The Situation in Syria

1 *Fully aware* of Article 24 of the UN Charter that assigns the Security Council with the
2 maintenance of international peace and security,
3

4 *Recognizing* the potential threat the exacerbated conflict in Syria poses to the maintenance of
5 international peace and security;
6

7 *Noting with deep concern* the acknowledgement by Human Rights Watch (HRW), that the
8 situation in Syria is growing dire and unmanageable,
9

10 *Recalling* the existence of already one million refugees present in the region, and at least 2.5
11 million Syrians internally displaced,
12

13 *Taking note* of more than 50,000 Syrian civilian refugees recently displaced in a twenty-four
14 hour period, due to recent escalations in violence within the region,
15

16 *Bearing in mind* the HRW report that over a 12-day period in February 2013, more than 160,000
17 Syrian refugees fled the country,
18

19 *Aware of* a request from UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN HCR) for greater
20 humanitarian assistance;
21

22 *The Security Council,*
23

- 24 1. *Calls upon* the Military Staff Committee to assist and advise the Security Council, as
25 outlined in Chapter VII Article 45 and 47 of UN Charter, in the event conditions warrant
26 military intervention;
27
- 28 2. *Recommends* a provisional measure, as outlined in Chapter VII Article 40, 42, for the
29 creation of civilian refugee ceasefire safety zones, combat free fly zones, and arms free
30 neutral zones of up to 30 miles on the borders of Syria, Turkey and Lebanon;
31
- 32 3. *Further authorizes* the United Nations High Commission on Refugees to provide needed
33 humanitarian aid and supplies with verifiable delivery which includes:
34
 - 35 a). Humanitarian no conflict zones for use as hospitals and health care
36 facilities;
37
 - 38 b). Erecting temporary portable housing, and providing medical and sanitation supplies;
39
- 40 4. *Condemns* attacks to hospitals and civilian targets as acts of aggression and blatant
41 disregard to human life;
42
- 43 5. *Decides* to remain seized of this matter.