MESSAGE REGARDING POSITION PAPERS FOR THE 2011 NMUN-APEC CONFERENCE

At the 2011 NMUN-APEC Conference, each delegation submits one position paper for each committee it is assigned to. Delegates should be aware that their role in each committee impacts the way a position paper should be written. While most delegates will serve as representatives of Member States, at some NMUN conferences they may also serve as observers, NGOs or judicial experts. Review the matrix for specifics about your NMUN simulation. To understand these fine differences (if applicable), please refer to the Delegate Preparation Guide.

Position papers should provide a concise review of each delegation’s policy regarding the topic areas under discussion and establish precise policies and recommendations in regard to the topics before the committee. International and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action of relevance to the policy of your State should be identified and addressed. Making recommendations for action by your committee should also be considered. Position papers also serve as a blueprint for individual delegates to remember their country’s position throughout the course of the Conference. NGO position papers should be constructed in the same fashion as traditional position papers. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned NGO. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee. It will be judged using the same criteria as all country position papers, and is held to the same standard of timeliness.

Please be forewarned, delegates must turn in material that is entirely original. The NMUN Conference will not tolerate the occurrence of plagiarism. In this regard, the NMUN Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind delegates that although United Nations documentation is considered within the public domain, the Conference does not allow the verbatim re-creation of these documents. This plagiarism policy also extends to the written work of the Secretariat contained within the Committee Background Guides. Violation of this policy will be immediately reported to faculty advisors and may result in dismissal from Conference participation. Delegates should report any incident of plagiarism to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

Delegation’s position papers can be awarded as recognition of outstanding pre-Conference preparation. In order to be considered for a Position Paper Award, however, delegations must have met the formal requirements listed below. Please refer to the sample paper on the following page for a visual example of what your work should look like at its completion. The following format specifications are required for all papers:

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- Margins must be set at 1 inch for whole paper
- Country/NGO name, School name and committee name clearly labeled on the first page; the use of national symbols is highly discouraged
- Agenda topics clearly labeled in separate sections

1. A separate e-mail each position paper (.doc or .pdf) for each assigned committee to dirgen.apec@nmun.org.no later than February 15, 2011. The NMUN Director-General will distribute the individual papers to committee directors.

   PLEASE TITLE EACH E-MAIL/DOCUMENT WITH THE NAME OF THE WORKING GROUP, ASSIGNMENT AND DELEGATION NAME (Example: FOOD_USA_Central_University)

2. An additional e-mail with all position papers (.doc or .pdf) attached to dirgen.apec@nmun.org.no later than February 15, 2011. This second set will serve as a backup copy in case of problems with individual e-mail documents.

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Once the formal requirements outlined above are met, Conference staff use the following criteria to evaluate Position Papers:

- Overall quality of writing, proper style, grammar, etc.
- Citation of relevant resolutions/documents
- General consistency with bloc/geopolitical constraints
- Consistency with the constraints of the United Nations
- Analysis of issues, rather than reiteration of the Committee Background Guide
- Outline of (official) policy aims within the committee’s mandate

Sincerely yours,

Michael Aguilar
Secretary-General
Introduction

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the 2011 National Model United Nations-APEC Conference team, especially your working group staff Sarah Tulley and Laura Bate, we would like to welcome you to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Working Group on Internal Security. Everyone at NMUN-APEC has worked diligently to prepare for this conference, and we sincerely hope that you will conclude your time at the conference with a greater appreciation for global politics.

Model UN programs provide an excellent environment for delegates to learn and improve important life skills and academic knowledge. To begin, we have prepared this background guide to help you start your search in your economy’s policies and to understand the committee topics. During the conference, the intimate nature of this committee will ensure that you will rely not only on your knowledge but also your tact, oration and negotiation skills to fulfill your positions.

As an economic cooperation, the internal security working group is new territory for APEC. However, the growing threat of international terrorism and the financial networks that supply them make it an emerging priority. Furthermore, the inherently trans-border nature of terrorism necessitates an international, cooperative solution to ensure domestic security. APEC has emerged as an ideal forum to address these violent threats that destabilize populations and markets.

We are privileged to play a role in your education experience here at NMUN-APEC and look forward to working with all of you.

History of the Working Group on Internal Security

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation first met as an informal, ministerial-level meeting in 1989 with twelve members. Its membership expanded to reach 21 in 1998, and the practice was established to meet annually. APEC’s primary goal is to “support sustainable economic growth and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region.” The preferred tools to achieve this economic growth and prosperity include free and open trade, regional integration, and a favorable business environment. Past meetings, held in a different location every year, have covered a wide range of topics. Issues such as financial crises, climate change, and internal security have emerged as key issues.

In order to encourage stable growth and prosperity, it is essential to maintain reliable internal security in Member Economics. NMUN-APEC’s representation of the Internal Security Working Group is a compilation of the different efforts made by APEC to promote this internal security. The 2001 APEC Leaders Statement on Counter-Terrorism and the 2002 Statement on Fighting Terrorism and Promoting Growth demonstrate the body’s commitment to addressing counter-terrorism issues both jointly and individually. Among the landmark actions taken are the Secure Trade in the APEC Region (STAR) initiatives, which bring executives and officials together to secure imports and exports, and a variety of finance initiatives designed to address counter-terrorism financing and money laundering.
I. Enhancing Regional Cooperation through Counter-Terrorism Financing

- What types of regional cooperation need to be developed or enhanced to further work on counter-terrorism? How effective have mechanisms developed both internationally and regionally been at cutting off financing for terrorists? What more can or should be done to enhance counter-terrorism financing efforts?

- What efforts has your national government taken to implement the regional and international standards for counter-terrorism financing?

The financing of terrorist organizations and ways to combat their financing has become an increasingly important issue for the international community, including among Member Economies of the Asian Pacific Economic Community (APEC). While the issue has gained more prominence since the 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, efforts, particularly at the international level, predate those attacks. In 1989 the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), an inter-governmental organization that is mandated to establish international standards to combat money laundering and financing of terrorist organizations, was formed. Among the FATFs key documents are the 9 Special Recommendations (SR) on Terrorist Financing (TF), which were issued in 2001 and revised in 2004. The 9 Special Recommendations are essential to the combating the financing of terrorism as they set out the basic framework to detect, prevent and suppress the financing of terrorism and terrorist acts. These 9 recommendations include ratification and implementation of UN instruments; criminalizing the financing of terrorism and associated money laundering; freezing and confiscating terrorist assets; reporting suspicious transactions related to terrorism; international cooperation; taking measures to ensure that alternative remittance are licensed and registered; taking measures to ensure that financial institutions conduct enhanced scrutiny of and monitoring for suspicious activity funds transfers; detect abuse of non-profit organizations for the financing of terrorism; and detect illegal cash couriers for the purpose of terrorist financing. Along with the FATF, the UN itself has actively engaged in issues relating to terrorist financing. In 1999, the UN General Assembly adopted the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, also known as the Terrorist Financing Convention. Along with the Terrorist Financing Convention, and 12 other Conventions related to terrorism, the United Nations also adopted the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2006, which consists of a GA resolution, A/RES/60/288, and a Plan of Action. The Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is an important international document as it marked the first time that all Member States of the UN agreed to a common strategic approach to fighting terrorism. The numerous international documents listed above have served to set the stage for regional actions on counter-terrorism and have largely driven the work of APEC.

APEC has become increasingly involved in issues relating to counter-terrorism in the last decade. In 2001, at the Economic Leaders Meeting in Shanghai, China, the Leaders of APEC released their Statement on Counter-Terrorism, which, among other things, recognized the need to increase cooperation in counter-terrorism efforts vis-à-vis the development of policies to prevent funding to terrorist organizations. Following the adoption of the Statement on Counter-Terrorism, in 2002, at the Los Cabos meeting, the Economic Leaders released their Statement on Fighting Terrorism and Promoting Growth, a key aspect of which was the halting of terrorism financing through: the implementation of UN and other conventions relating to terrorism, including the FATF 9 Special Recommendations; promoting better monitoring of alternative remittance systems and non-profit organizations; and enhancing law enforcement and regulatory capabilities of Member Economies. Moreover, this statement provided the following priorities: a joint commitment to fully implement the Shanghai Counter-terror statement; to enhance secure trade in the APEC region; to halt terrorist financing; to promote cyber security; to develop further capacity building to participate further in the above endeavors. In an effort to increase the monitoring of these activities, APEC created the APEC Counter-Terrorism Task Force in 2003. At the same time APEC has promoted the development and implementation of national Counter-Terrorism Action Plans (CTAP) that serve as a tool for tracking the progress of economies in implementing the principles laid out in the Leader’s Statements and on issues relating to the Secure Trade in the APEC Region (STAR) Initiative. Furthermore, APEC continues to host regional conferences and meetings on counter-terrorism, with a number of them focused on the issue of counter-terrorism financing.
II. Applying Mechanisms for Combating Corruption and Money Laundering

- What types of measures has your country taken to combat corruption and fight money laundering? Are you party to the international conventions on corruption? If not, what are your countries reasons for not being party to them? What are the major international obstacles to fighting corruption and money laundering?

- Corruption and money laundering requires addressing a number of different aspects of security. What are the key priorities for your country? What are your priorities on a local, national and regional level? How do these priorities relate to those of the other members of APEC? What are the differences in priorities between the developed and developing Member Economies of APEC? How active has your country been in the activities of APEC in fighting corruption?

- How affective has APEC been in developing anti-corruption and anti-money laundering principles? What further steps should APEC take in an effort to combat corruption and money laundering?

Corruption and money laundering serve as major hindrances to promoting the internal security of Member Economies if APEC. While posing a threat to internal security, corruption and money laundering are also major obstacles to promoting economic and social development as well as the further development of business in the region. In 2004, in an effort to codify priorities and actions for members, APEC leaders endorsed the Santiago Commitment to Fight Corruption and Ensure Transparency as well as the APEC Course of Action on Fighting Corruption and Ensuring Transparency. Key priorities agreed to in these documents include the need to deny safe havens to those guilty of corruption; to promote regional cooperation on extradition, mutual legal assistance, and the recovery and return of proceeds of corruption; implementation of punitive and preventive anticorruption policies and practices; to intensify individual and joint actions to fight corruption and ensure transparency; to develop innovative training, targeted-capacity building; and results-oriented technical assistance to fight corruption and ensure transparency; and implement the APEC Transparency standards. Along with these documents APEC has also developed the APEC Transparency Standards and together with the two previous documents form the key principles in the fight against corruption, promotion of transparency and countering money laundering. Responsibility for overseeing and coordinating the implementation of the principles of these three documents falls to the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts’ Task Force (ACT), which was formed in 2005. ACT is also a key partner in promoting cooperation in areas such as extradition, legal assistance and judicial/law enforcement. On an international level, the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) serves as the only internationally legally binding document to fight corruption. And while there is no specific international document relating to money laundering, numerous international treaties address the issue in its various forms, including the UNCAC, the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the 1988 United Nations Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

Fighting corruption and money laundering has been focused on both the private and public sectors in Member Economies. ACT developed a trio of documents for both sectors: A Code of Conduct for Business; Conduct Principles for Public Officials; and Complementary Anti-Corruption Principles for the Public and Private Sectors. The principles in the codes are being promoted through the use of capacity building seminars for government officials, civil society members, chambers of commerce and small and medium sized enterprise owners. ACT has also focused on different areas of work since its formation; for instance, in 2008, money laundering, combating corruption in developing countries and asset recovery were their three areas of work for that year. Examples of the work carried out by ACT that year include a Workshop on Special International Cooperation to Facilitate Asset Recovery and an APEC Anti-Corruption and Administrative Reform Seminar. In 2009, during the ACT Plenary session, discussions focused around the development of the Singapore Declaration on Strengthening Governance, Enhancing Institutional Integrity and Combating Corruption and on APEC Guidelines on Enhancing Governance and Anti-Corruption. ACT has been an important aspect of the fight against corruption and money laundering. Their work to engage the private and public sectors has lead to greater adoption of anti-corruption and anti-money laundering measures by Member Economies. While there remain a number of obstacles for ACT and for members, APEC, along with a number of partners, such as the Association of South-East Asian Nations, are working to fight corruption and combat money laundering in all their forms.
III. Re-Evaluating the STAR Priorities for 2011: The Secure Trade in the APEC Region (STAR) Initiative

- What are your countries main priorities of the STAR Initiative? How has your country implemented the STAR priorities on a national level? What types of cooperation does your country undertake with other Member Economies of APEC, specifically in relation to the STAR Initiative?

- How can the STAR Initiative be enhanced going forward? What, if any, are some of the key aspects that are missing from Initiative at the moment? How effective has the STAR Initiative been at fighting terrorism and promoting cooperation among members?

The Secure Trade in the APEC Region (STAR) Initiative is a key counter-terrorism initiative within APEC that was developed at the 2002 Los Cabos Ministerial Meeting. The main purpose of STAR is to secure and enhance the flow of goods and people through measures that protect cargo, ships, international aviation and people in transit. Through STAR, APEC has developed a number of counter-terrorism programs that have focused on a wide variety of issues, including secure trade, trade recovery, food defense, aviation security, cybersecurity and public-private partnerships. The priorities for work of STAR are laid out during yearly conferences, the most recent being the APEC Star VII Conference which was held in 2009 in Singapore. The theme of STAR VII was enhancing trade security and economic resilience and was focused on four main areas of work: security threats to the global economy; trade security, resilience and effective trade recovery; an integrated approach to secure trade; and building trust and transparency among Member Economies. These areas continue, along with the various counter-terrorism programs developed, to serve as the main priorities of Member Economies.

Going forward STAR and APEC will continue to face a number of obstacles. One obstacle is the costs associated with increasing security for people and cargo. Addressed at various STAR Conferences, it has been widely recognized among Member Economies that the increased development of public-private partnerships between governments and businesses will enable the cost burden to be shared. Further, the partnerships are a valuable mode of ensuring secure trade, increasing human security and reducing any adverse impacts for trade and investment that may come from counter-terrorism activities. Another obstacle is the lack of coordination among Member Economies and between APEC members and non-APEC members. Furthering international cooperation is an important goal for APEC, not only to combat terrorism but to also promote increased trade and economic development. The intertwining goals of countering terrorism, promoting development, and achieving security for goods and people are essential for the success of STAR and for APEC Member Economies.

Annotated Bibliography

*History of APEC and the Working Group on Internal Security*


*The mission statement of APEC lays out the fundamental goals of the organization and drives the work that it undertakes in a wide variety of areas. Delegates should familiarize themselves with not only the mission but also the history of APEC in order to fully understand what types of actions can be taken in the working group.*

The 2001 Leaders Statement on Counter-Terrorism was the first major effort by APEC to address the multi-faceted issues relating to the fight against terrorism. The Statement lays out a number of areas for cooperation that should be undertaken by Member Economies in order to fight terrorism. As a cornerstone document for APEC, delegates should familiarize themselves with the principles enshrined in this document and determine how they relate to their governments current work on counter-terrorism.


As a follow-up to the 2001 Statement, APEC Leaders’ adopted this 2002 statement that expands on the work of APEC in fighting terrorism while also working to promote growth in Member Economies. Areas of work that were particularly focused on include halting terrorism financing, promoting cyber security, enhancing STAR and capacity building.

I. Enhancing Regional Cooperation through Counter-Terrorism Financing


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This link provides an overview of the different activities that APEC is undertaking within the counter-terrorism arena. It is important for delegates to understand the many different areas and avenues that work is being undertaken in to fully understand how all encompassing counter-terrorism efforts are.

Financial Action Task Force. (n.d.) About the FATF. Retrieved December 23, 2010 from http://www.fatf-gafi.org/pages/0,3417,en_32250379_32236836_1_1_1_1,00.html

The Financial Action Task Force is an essential organization working to combat financing of terrorism and money laundering. Understanding the history of the FATF and what types of work it can carry out is important for delegates, as they are an important partner in combating the financing of terrorism.

The 9 Special Recommendations deal specifically with terrorist financing and provide concrete policies that States should adopt. Delegates should familiarize themselves with all 9 Recommendations in order to fully understanding the scope of work that is being undertaken at the international level and how those policies have been implemented within their own countries.


The Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism is an important international document relating to terrorism financing. As the first treaty of the UN related to terrorism financing it forms the core of the work undertaken by the UN on this issue. As an important partner in combating the financing of terrorism the UN will serve as a vital partner for APEC and Member Economies and it is important for delegates to understand the work that the UN is undertaking.


The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy consists of both a resolution that was adopted by the General Assembly and a Plan of Action. Both documents touch on a number of important issues, from strengthening state capacity to counter terrorist threats to better coordinating United Nations system’s counter-terrorism activities.

II. Applying Mechanisms for Combating Corruption and Money Laundering


This link is to the homepage for the Anti-Corruption Task Force, providing an overview of all the work that APEC is undertaking on the issue. Links to essential documents are provided here, which delegates should familiarize themselves with.


The Santiago Commitment is an important document for the Member Economies of APEC. It sets out specific policies that Member Economies should implement in order to combat corruption and promote transparency, including collaboration among Member Economies. Delegates should familiarize themselves with these and the principles enshrined in other documents.

This link is to the other document that came out of the 2004 Santiago Meeting, the Course of Action Principles. Along with the Santiago Commitments, these principles have helped to shape the course of work of APEC in the subsequent years. As important principles in fighting corruption, delegates should familiarize themselves with what is contained in this document.


Recognizing that corruption was becoming an increasingly important issue to the international community, the UN drafted the UNCAC in 2000. The UNCAC focuses on four main areas: prevention; criminalization; international cooperation; and asset recovery.

III. Re-Evaluating the STAR Priorities for 2011: The Secure Trade in the APEC Region (STAR) Initiative


STAR is an important aspect within APECs counter-terrorism efforts. This link provides basic information on STAR and the most recent STAR Conference, STAR VII, which was held in Singapore.


This link provides access to information on the previous STAR Conferences. There have been six previous conventions, all focusing on different themes and policies. Understanding the evolution of STAR will enable delegates to understand what types of priorities the initiative should have going forward.


This link provides delegates with access to documents from the STAR VI conference. The database also enables delegates to find documents relating to other STAR conferences, including the most recent conference.
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