National Model United Nations
Week A

March 17 – March 21, 2013

Alternate Security Council - B

Documentation
Alternate Security Council - B

Committee Staff

Director        Lauren Shaw
Chair           Dezelle Bennett

Agenda

1. Resource Scarcity and its Relation to Conflict
2. Achieving Peace and Stability in Somalia
4. The Situation in Syria

Resolutions adopted by the committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Code</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Vote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC/1/1</td>
<td>Resource Scarcity and its Relation to Conflict</td>
<td>Acclamation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC/4/1</td>
<td>The Situation in Syria</td>
<td>Acclamation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cognizant of Article 24 of the United Nations Charter that tasks the Security Council with the maintenance of international peace and security,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Acknowledging the lack of unity between United Nations programs in addressing resource scarcity and its relation to conflict,
Recognizing the support system of the United Nations Interagency Framework Team for Preventive Action (UNIFTPA), and the need to expand their mandate ensuring greater interagency collaboration on the topic of resource scarcity and its relation to conflict,

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

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

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

Encouraged by the UNDP Department of Political Affairs (UNDP-DPA) Programme on Building National Capacities and Conflict Prevention, and the UNDP’s Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR),

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

Recalling the impact and frequency of natural and man-made disasters on resource accessibility,

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

Drawing attention to the distinction between resource scarcity conflict and resource abundance conflict,

The Security Council,

1) Recommends expanding the definition of resource scarcity to define it as a situation of insufficient availability of resources related to basic human needs in a certain region such as food supplies, access to clean water including distribution networks, and infrastructural needs such as energy access and shelter;

2) Further calls upon the General Assembly to consider the definition for revision and recommends the General Assembly distinguish, in order to take appropriate actions, the following causes of resource scarcity which include: mismanagement,
excessive harvesting, misallocation, corruption and poisoning of natural
resources, natural disasters, as well as climatological and geographic conditions;

3) *Further reminds* the General Assembly that the actions necessary to address
resource scarcity and resource abundance respectively are fundamentally
different;

4) *Introduces* the term “resource conflict” as a dispute catalyzed by resource
scarcity, as previously defined;

5) *Firmly condemns* any illicit action directly catalyzing resource scarcity and illicit
trade of natural resources across the world which can cause instability, and further
recommends all Member States to criminalize these activities;

6) *Recommends* Member States to develop or revise a national plan for disaster
preparedness in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk
Reduction (UNISDR), which should include early warning systems and
forecasting, in an effort to prevent resource conflicts;

7) *Suggests* the United Nations Legal Committee to develop an update to the 1951
Refugee Convention establishing a status for environmentally displaced persons;

8) *Authorizes* the UNDP BCPR to encourage the creation of Regional Forums to
manage resource scarcity by:

   a. Drawing membership from voluntary Member States according to the existing
guidelines provided by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD),
   Standard Country and Area Codes Classification,

   b. Including participation from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as
civil society groups and scientific experts,

   c. Managing the long-term effects of natural and man-made disasters, which
   exacerbate resource scarcity,

   d. Discussing best practices for managing resource scarcity, resource conflict
   mitigation, regional progress and setbacks, and identify possible threats to
   peace and security;

9) *Recommends* the UNIFTPA and the UNDP BCPR to monitor, evaluate, and
report to the Secretary-General regions experiencing resource conflicts, including
regions that are unable to come to consensus on managing resource scarcity
including conflicts internal to Member States;
10) **Urges** Member States to support the adoption and use of integrated comprehensive and verifiable rubrics with annual increments of strategic forecast expectations while:

a. Urging reciprocal sharing of technological advancements of highly advanced Member States with Least Developed Countries, especially science and technology advancements related to resource scarcity,

b. Recommending the UNSD establish an International Rating Index (IRI), as an early advance warning mechanism to measure developing and developed countries propensity for resource scarcity related conflicts in order to promote transparency in all practices related to the extraction and trade of natural resources;

11) **Calls upon** the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) to consider issuing a yearly report evaluating climate change in relation to resource scarcity that leads to conflict while:

   a. Identifying areas of concern before they become volatile, to be reported to the Secretary-General to be included with the annual report to the Security Council,

   b. Analyzing the advancement of climate change and how this affects resource scarcity;

12) **Recommends** the expansion of UNIFTPA in order to strengthen the effectiveness of preventive action, which will:

   a. Coordinate, collaborate and share all work, information, and support networks relevant to resource scarcity within relevant UN organs, adding the following agencies to the twenty-two current UNIFTPA organizations: the UNFPA, UN Water, and the UNCSD,

   b. Incorporate additional expert personnel from Member States with relevant successful experience and technology on resource specific scarcity,

   c. Encourage transparency by requesting the Secretary-General to prepare an annual report to the Security Council in collaboration with the existing ECOSOC Regional Commissions and the BCPR relating to resource scarcity as a conflict multiplier, the critical nature of transparency, and to evaluate the progress of the UNIFTPA,

   d. Create and manage a single objective electronic database, in regards to conflicts relating to resource scarcity, regions experiencing particular scarcity, regions currently experiencing disputes over shared resources, stemming from
the reports of the Secretary-General and current UN information and past UN actions, including the IRI index,

e. Provide a platform allowing Member States to access personnel and training to regions affected by scarcity such that the affected Member State will gain skills and techniques necessary to manage disputes over resource scarcity, including adjudication, mediation and technical education,

f. Share information on renewable and alternative energy sources;

13) *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.
Fully aware of Article 24 of the UN Charter that assigns the Security Council with the
maintenance of international peace and security,

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Security Council,

1. Calls upon the Military Staff Committee to assist and advise the Security Council, as
outlined in Chapter VII Article 45 and 47 of UN Charter, in the event conditions warrant
military intervention;

2. Recommends a provisional measure, as outlined in Chapter VII Article 40, 42, for the
creation of civilian refugee ceasefire safety zones, combat free fly zones, and arms free
neutral zones of up to 30 miles on the borders of Syria, Turkey and Lebanon;

3. Further authorizes the United Nations High Commission on Refugees to provide needed
humanitarian aid and supplies with verifiable delivery which includes:

   a). Humanitarian no conflict zones for use as hospitals and health care
   facilities;

   b). Erecting temporary portable housing, and providing medical and sanitation supplies;

4. Condemns attacks to hospitals and civilian targets as acts of aggression and blatant
disregard to human life;

5. Decides to remain seized of this matter.