The 6th Houssam Hariri High School Model United Nations Conference
ECOSOC

Topic: Post Conflict Recovery and Peace Building
President: Omar AbouSaleh
Chairs: -Lea BouSalman
     -Abdullah El Ezzi


I. Description of the committee:

Established by the UN charter, the Economic and Social Council also known as ECOSOC is one of the six main organs of the United Nations Organization. The council is responsible to issue economic, social and environmental recommendations and to ensure the implementation of the sustainable development goals. In short, ECOSOC is the principle body of coordination, policy dialogue and review.

II. A. Introduction

Conflicts are inevitable events of our lives, as they have always been present on international, regional and national scales. Throughout our history, we have witnessed war to an extent that mankind’s history has become merely a chronicle of wars following one another and further destructing and damaging our world. Of all these wars, the first two World Wars stand as the most prominent and atrocious, and as it is still quite evident nowadays, multiple countries unfortunately remain caught up in an interminable circle of violence.

As it is widely known, war is not an ordinary incident that swiftly and smoothly passes by, but rather it deeply imprints its audacity and brutality on a certain place, time and history. Africa, for example has been to a certain extent more deeply troubled by wars than other regions, as the continent has known a series of deathly civil wars, violent conflicts and colonial wars. The Central African Republic is frequently perturbed by clashes between Muslims and Christians. Likewise, the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan suffer from a series of clashes with rebel groups.

As for countries previously affected by the Arab Spring, the situation after the civil uprising didn’t turn out better. The bloody civil war in Syria and the trail of political disorder in Libya after overthrowing late Muammar al-Qaddafi have facilitated the spread of ISIS in both regions. Yemen too has been suffering as a result of the Houthis Vs Saudi conflict. The conflict intensified as Houthis rebels captured the capital and as Saudi Arabia launched its airstrikes. Iraq is also held up in a viscous cycle of wars starting with the Iraqi-Iranian war and the invasion of Kuwait in 1990, followed by the American operations against Saddam Hussein and finally reaching to the chaotic spread of terrorism across the
nation. Due to acts of terrorism and violence, countries such as Syria, Libya, Iraq and Yemen among many others face serious challenges and difficulties to restore security and development and to escape the endless pit of conflict. Likewise, as Palestine is still suffering from the ongoing Israeli brutality, the situation in Egypt, Afghanistan and Pakistan has been constantly hovering between war and peace…

Europe is surprisingly no more problem-free. In fact with the Russian military intervention in Ukraine, the refugee influx crisis and the frequent terrorist attacks and crimes have damaged the continent’s long established security. As hurdles are mounting in face of European countries, especially after the intensification of the economic crisis in Greece and the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union, Europe risks falling into a loop of degradation.

Responding to this pandemonium, the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) has embarked on a total of 63 peacekeeping missions since 1948 to maintain balance, peace and a long-term accord between conflicting parties. In an attempt to better secure the world, the formation of the Peace Building Commission was discussed in the 2005 World Summit and was officially established by the resolutions of the General Assembly and Security Council. Some of the ongoing missions are the UNTSO (United Nations Truce Supervision Organization) and the UNDOF (United Nations Disengagement Observer Force). Basically, the average duration of a UN mission is 7.2 years.

The Economic and Social Council has a highly leading role in the process of planning strategies and development programs in effort to help countries emerge from deadly wars and achieve sustainable development. The ECOSOC has issued resolutions, launched sustainable aid programs and encouraged international cooperation between UN member states.

**B. Terminology**
- **Aid:** Grants or loans to recipient countries undertaken by the official sector for economic development and welfare
- **Post war:** occurring or existing after a war
- **Peace:** a stress-free state of security and calmness during which diverse parties coexist in perfect synchronization and freedom
- **War:** a state of armed conflict between countries or groups within a region or country
- **Durable:** long-lasting in the face of time and pressure
- **Reconciliation**: A Situation where groups become friendly upon reaching an accord and agreement.
- **Infrastructure**: Physical and Organizational structures and facilities
- **Innovation**: Revolution, transformation, advances in technology
- **Social reforms/societal transformation**: Social movement aiming at making changes in certain aspects of the society
- **Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)**: Non-profit Voluntary citizens group to put together meaningful actions on a local, national, and international level
- **The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS)**: An intergovernmental set of 17 aspiring goals and 169 targets contained in paragraph 54 of the United Nations Resolution A/RES/70/1 drafted on the 25th of September 2015

III. Sample Subtopics

- Science, Technology and Innovation and their effects on conflict and peace
- Root causes of the absence of peace building
- What are the non-violent mechanisms to resolve conflicts
- How do refugees threaten world peace?
- What are the foundations on which peace should be built?
- Reconciliation and Peace building
- How can societal transformation be a step for piece building?
- Restorative justice systems
- The role of education in building peace
- Gender equality and peace
- Role of NGO’s in peace building
- Global funding of Humanitarian assistance programs and projects
- Sustainable economic growth
- SDGS and their role in promoting peace building
IV. Hints and Tips

What to focus on while researching:

• Has your country succeeded in extirpating conflict in the past? Has it recently suffered from a destructive conflict?

• What were the factors that led to the lapse/relapse of the country into a conflict ground?

• What measures does the country take to prevent conflicts from taking place? Does it rely on local or international assistance for reconciliation and recovery?

• What range of national activities and efforts are taken to complement the international/organizational aid in diminishing conflicts? What are the socio-economic foundations of long term peace?

• What is your country’s role in obtaining a global scope of peace? What actions has it taken internationally? (Resolutions, Grants, services..)

A. Suggested Sites:

• http://www.unpbf.org/application-guidelines/what-is-peacebuilding/
• https://www.usip.org/countries

B. Make sure that:

• The data you collected is up-to-date (As of 2010 till 2016)
• Your resources are credible
• You are well aware of your country’s economic, social and political situation and capability and the actions taken to maintain peace and resolve conflicts.
• Your suggested actions comply with the country's rules and regulations.
V. Countries Represented

A. From Africa: Algeria, Angola, Côte D'Ivoire, Croatia, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Ghana, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tunisia, Central African Republic, the Republic of Congo

B. From Asia: Bahrain, Bangladesh, South Korea, North Korea, China, Armenia, Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Pakistan, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

C. From Europe: Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Russian federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

D. From North America: United States of America.

E. Organizations: Alliance for Peace Building (APB), World Bank (WB), United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO).

VI. Contact Us:

- President: Omar AbouSaleh
  Email: omar-abousaleh@outlook.com
• Chair: Abdullah El Ezzi
  Email: abdullahelezzi@outlook.com

• Chair: Lea BouSalman
  Email: lea_40827@hotmail.com

VII. References: