



APL MUN 2024 UNSC BACKGROUND GUIDE

**Invasion of Iraq
Freeze Date : October 2nd, 2003**

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Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 9th edition of APL MUN 2024 and to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), which will be held on July 19 and 20. The central focus of this session will be the "Iraq Invasion "

FREEZE DATE- October 2nd 2003

In this Historic UNSC committee of APL MUN 2024, the implementation of a freeze date is of paramount importance. This freeze date signifies the cut-off point for all research and information considered during the conference, ensuring that all delegates operate with the same set of data and developments. By establishing a freeze date, the committee fosters a fair and structured environment where decisions and debates are based on the same verified facts, avoiding the confusion and potential misinformation that could arise from constantly evolving real-world events. This approach not only upholds the integrity of the conference but also allows delegates to focus on formulating well-researched, thoughtful resolutions without the disruption of last-minute changes. The freeze date thus ensures a level playing field, promoting effective and equitable discussions on the critical issue of human rights violations related to religious hatred and violence.

To move forward effectively with this Historic UNSC session, delegates should prioritize understanding the incidents post-2003, and identifying key incidents that have shaped the current global landscape.

Delegates are expected to be well-versed in their research. At the conference, the Executive Board may informally request that you cite your sources in speeches, questions, draft resolutions, and other contributions. Please save all sources you reference to ensure smooth and effective sessions without impediments. **This background material is essential reading for all delegates.** We look forward to a productive and insightful conference where we collectively address one of the most pressing human rights issues of our time. We wish you the very best for this conference.

Yours Sincerely,

Aaryan Vishnu Anand - Co-Chairperson

Om Rajkumar - Co-Chairperson

Meiyammai Ramanathan - Vice Chairperson

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the purpose of the background guide?

Though the extent of your preparation and expertise on the subject cannot be limited by the EB, the BG ensures that all you attending the simulation have a basic idea of the agenda and the committee. This BG hopes to acclimatize the prospective delegates with the minimum requirements.

And the idea is to give delegates their creative space. To ensure that the EB has refrained from providing personal opinions. And most of the content presented here is derived from credible sources.

But, at the same time though the BG gives standard facts and opinions, the delegates are free to research further and even contradict the content presented here. But it is advisable to research extensively before taking any such steps.

How to prepare for the role of a delegate?

The answer to this question is very subjective and changes from person to person. But the basic idea is to recognise your strengths and weaknesses. And strategize to reap the full benefits of your preparation. And preparation should be regarding the agenda as well as your **foreign policy** (the policies and actions of your respective governments concerning the agenda, it includes certain aspects of domestic policy which have an impact on the international arena). Also ensure to study your relationship and role for various intergovernmental and international organizations.

If we were to give you a guideline, you should first research the foreign policy of your country in detail, what is their general modus operandi when it comes to foreign policy and diplomacy, if they engage in multilateral cooperation, and to what extent, if they have a positive or negative view of the current power dynamic in those multilateral organizations, you can then move on to their past and present actions when it comes to the agenda and the committee we are discussing that agenda in, their voting stances on official documents and such.

Then you do substantive research on the agenda at hand, what are the actions required by individual countries, a regional group of countries, and the world community in general. We would even go so far as to say learning of terms and definitions regarding the agenda should come after the foreign policy research because the definition itself might differ based on your country's stance on the agenda, that is the state of affairs in the realm of geopolitics.

You can then move on to know more about other countries' stance on the agenda, their individual and multilateral actions.

So, please start with knowing everything about your country's polity and foreign policy before you continue with the rest of the background guide.

Your orientation as a delegate is completely left to your discretion and it is expected that you try to strike a balance between your foreign policy and conduct in the committee.

You can extend your sources to official UN sources, Government statements and reports, and even credible Non-Governmental Organizations. There are multiple Audio- Visual sources which can act as a starting point.(eg UN Library, or alternative news media)

What are Rules of Procedure (ROP)?

To ensure smooth functioning of the simulation a set of rules are followed, which are referred to as ROP.

There are various acceptable ROPs and they differ from one conference to another. In this simulation we will be following the United Nations Association- United States of America (UNA-USA) rules of procedure. There would be certain deviations from the established procedures as the rules allow for that from the EB's end. Nonetheless, we will be explaining the ROPs in the initial sessions of the conference. If you would like to gain a pre-conference perspective you are free to go through the **long form of the UNA-USA ROP**.

Are there any restrictions for delegates during the conference?

Apart from the general restrictions that the Organising Committee provides for, there are a few aspects we would like you to keep in mind during the course of the conference.

- Internet usage is prohibited while the committee is in session, disqualification from awards is possible in proven cases. We request you to think of all possible documents you would need before you attend the simulation.
- Delegates should also be downloaded beforehand. Plagiarising is severely looked down upon. Though references can be made, it is advised that any submissions of documents undersigned by the delegates have the least amount of plagiarism. Documents that do have plagiarism will be negatively marked upon.
- Though there is no hard and fast rule, it is expected that delegates extend courteous behavior to all members attending the conference including the conference staff.

History of the Committee

The United Nations Charter established six main organs of the United Nations, including the Security Council. It gives primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the Security Council, which may meet whenever peace is threatened.

According to the Charter, the United Nations has four purposes:

- to maintain international peace and security;
- to develop friendly relations among nations;
- to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights;
- and to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations.

All members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council. While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to member states, only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter.

When a complaint concerning a threat to peace is brought before it, the Council's first action is usually to recommend that the parties try to reach an agreement by peaceful means. The Council may:

- set forth principles for such an agreement;
- undertake investigation and mediation, in some cases;
- dispatch a mission;
- appoint special envoys; or
- request the Secretary-General to use his good offices to achieve a pacific settlement of the dispute.

When a dispute leads to hostilities, the Council's primary concern is to bring them to an end as soon as possible. In that case, the Council may:

- issue ceasefire directives that can help prevent an escalation of the conflict;
- dispatch military observers or a peacekeeping force to help reduce tensions, separate opposing forces and establish a calm in which peaceful settlements may be sought.

Beyond this, the Council may opt for enforcement measures, including:

- economic sanctions, arms embargoes, financial penalties and restrictions, and travel bans;
- severance of diplomatic relations;

- blockade
- collective military action.

A chief concern is to focus action on those responsible for the policies or practices condemned by the international community, while minimizing the impact of the measures taken on other parts of the population and economy.

COMPOSITION

Article 10

The General Assembly may discuss any questions or any matters within the scope of the present Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any organs provided for in the present Charter, and, except as provided in Article 12, may make recommendations to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both on any such questions or matters.

Article 11(2)

The General Assembly may discuss any questions relating to the maintenance of international peace and security brought before it by any Member of the United Nations, or by the Security Council, or by a state which is not a Member of the United Nations in accordance with Article 35, paragraph 2, and, except as provided in Article 12, may make recommendations with regard to any such questions to the state or states concerned or to the Security Council or to both. Any such question on which action is necessary shall be referred to the Security Council by the General Assembly either before or after discussion.

Article 11(3)

The General Assembly may call the attention of the Security Council to situations which are likely to endanger international peace and security.

Article 23

1. The Security Council shall consist of fifteen Members of the United Nations. The Republic of China, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America

shall be permanent members of the Security Council. The General Assembly shall elect ten other Members of the United Nations to be non-permanent members of the Security Council, due regard being specially paid, in the first instance to the contribution of Members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization, and also to equitable geographical distribution.

2. The non-permanent members of the Security Council shall be elected for a term of two years. In the first election of the non-permanent members after the increase of the membership of the Security Council from eleven to fifteen, two of the four additional members shall be chosen for a term of one year. A retiring member shall not be eligible for immediate re-election.
3. Each member of the Security Council shall have one representative.

FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

Article 24

1. In order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations, its Members confer on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, and agree that in carrying out its duties under this responsibility the Security Council acts on their behalf.
2. In discharging these duties the Security Council shall act in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations. The specific powers granted to the Security Council for the discharge of these duties are laid down in Chapters VI, VII, VIII, and XII.
3. The Security Council shall submit annual and, when necessary, special reports to the General Assembly for its consideration.

Key Terms

1. **Terrorism** - The use of violence and intimidation in the pursuit of political aims.
2. **Extremism** - The holding of extreme political or religious views, often leading to violent or aggressive behavior.
3. **Radicalization** - The process by which an individual or group adopts extreme political or religious views, often leading to violence.
4. **Insurgency** - An armed rebellion or uprising against a government or authority.
5. **Sectarianism** - The division of society into opposing groups based on religious or political beliefs, often leading to violence and conflict.
6. **Sunni/Shia Divide** - The division between the two major branches of Islam, with Sunni and Shia Muslims holding different beliefs and practices.
7. **Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD)** - refers to a type of weapon with the capability to inflict death and destruction on a massive scale,
8. **Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA)**- is the transitional government established to administer Iraq following the U.S.-led invasion in March 2003.
9. **Al-Qaeda** - A militant Sunni Islamist group that has been involved in numerous terrorist attacks around the world,
10. **Gulf War** - A war fought in the early 1990s between Iraq and a coalition of countries led by the

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United States, following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

1. **Guerrilla warfare** - A type of irregular warfare in which small groups of fighters use tactics such as ambushes, sabotage, and hit-and-run attacks against a larger, more conventional military Force.
2. **Foreign Intervention** - The involvement of outside countries or organizations in the affairs of another country, often through military or diplomatic means.
3. **Human Rights** - Basic rights and freedoms that all people are entitled to, such as the right to life, liberty, and equality.
4. **War Crimes** - Acts committed during wartime that violate international law, such as the intentional targeting

5. **Jihad** - A religious duty of Muslims to maintain and spread the faith, which can include armed struggle against those who oppose or threaten Islam.

Introduction to the Agenda

"Invasion of Iraq"

In March 2003, U.S. forces invaded Iraq vowing to destroy Iraqi weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and end the dictatorial rule of Saddam Hussein. When WMD intelligence proved illusory and a violent insurgency arose, the war lost public support.

2003 Invasion

The invasion of Iraq lasted from 20 March to 1 May 2003 and signaled the start of the Iraq War, which was dubbed Operation Iraqi Freedom by the United States.

The invasion consisted of 21 days of major combat operations, in which a combined force of troops from the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and Poland invaded Iraq and deposed the Ba'athist government of Saddam Hussein. The invasion phase consisted primarily of a conventionally fought war which included the capture of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad by American forces with the assistance of the United Kingdom, Australia and Poland. 160,000 troops were sent by the Coalition into Iraq during the initial invasion phase, which lasted from 19 March to 9 April 2003.

About 130,000 were sent from the USA, with about 28,000 British, 2,000 Australian, and 194 Polish soldiers. 36 other countries were involved in its aftermath. In preparation for the invasion, 100,000 U.S. troops were assembled in Kuwait by 18 February. The coalition forces also received support from Kurdish irregulars in Iraqi Kurdistan.

May 23rd 2003

After two weeks on the job, L. Paul Bremer III, head of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq, signs an order disbanding the Iraqi army and intelligence services, sending hundreds of thousands of well-armed men into the streets. The order, coupled with an earlier decision to purge Baathists from the government, has lasting repercussions.

Current state of Affairs (October 2nd, 2003)

By October 2003, the U.S. had around 130,000 troops in Iraq, supported by troops from the UK and other coalition countries. These forces were engaged in counter-insurgency operations and trying to maintain security. The insurgency is intensifying, with groups like Al-Qaeda in Iraq, led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, and remnants of the Ba'ath Party conducting frequent attacks. Roadside bombs (IEDs), ambushes, and suicide bombings were common tactics used against coalition forces and Iraqi security personnel.

At the moment there is frequent sabotage of pipelines and facilities putting a standstill

towards Iraq's oil production which is essential to their economic recovery at this point. The Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) and other international agencies are focused on rebuilding Iraq's critical infrastructure right now . Projects included restoring electricity, water supply, healthcare, and education systems. However, progress is slow due to bureaucratic hurdles, corruption, and ongoing violence and civilian unrest.

Recently on September 7th The President of the United States George Walker Bush had requested an additional \$87 billion from Congress for military operations and reconstruction efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The war and ongoing violence has displaced large numbers of Iraqis, both internally and as refugees in neighboring countries.

Sectarian divisions, particularly between the Sunni and Shia communities, are becoming more pronounced. These tensions are exacerbated by the power vacuum and the actions of various armed groups. The CPA, under Paul Bremer, is continuing to issue decrees aimed at transforming Iraq's political and economic landscape. Key policies included de-Baathification, which removed

Former Ba'ath Party members from positions of power, and efforts to privatize state-owned enterprises to encourage economic growth.

In summary at the present moment Iraq is characterized by ongoing violence, political maneuvering, reconstruction challenges, and significant humanitarian needs. The situation is fluid and complex, with multiple actors and interests shaping the evolving landscape in post-invasion Iraq and it is up to the delegates to mediate and nullify this issue.

Closing Remarks

As delegates of the 9th edition of APLMUN 2024's United Nations Security Council, you are tasked with navigating the intricate and volatile landscape of post-invasion Iraq as of October 2, 2003. Your role will involve addressing the immediate and long-term challenges that have arisen from the conflict, including the insurgency, sectarian tensions, reconstruction efforts, and humanitarian crises. By grounding your discussions in the established freeze date, you will ensure a cohesive and focused approach, drawing on historical context to inform your strategies and resolutions.

This session presents an invaluable opportunity for you to demonstrate your diplomatic acumen, analytical skills, and ability to collaborate towards meaningful solutions. Your preparedness, understanding of your respective countries' foreign policies, and commitment to the principles of international peace and security will be crucial. The Executive Board is confident that through rigorous debate and thoughtful negotiation, you will contribute to developing effective resolutions that honor the mandate of the UNSC and promote stability and human rights in Iraq.

We wish you a productive and insightful conference, where your contributions will help shape a more secure and just world.

Regards,
The UNSC Executive Board

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