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Chair Report
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VIMUN 2.0 SECURITY COUNCIL
Chair Report
"The Situation in Libya"

Meet the Secretariat

Secretary General- Pavel Moroz

Greetings everyone and welcome to the UNSC Chair report. My name is Pavel Moroz, the Secretary General of this committee, and I will be taking care of you all along with the Chairs. As a Russian-Brit, I have been exposed to two very contrasting political views, which is why I decided to start my MUN journey four years ago. It was in order to solidify my own personal rights and wrongs as well as find a well-founded perspective on the world as a whole. The agenda at hand, the Libyan Crisis, can be seen as deeply engrossing due to its unfamiliarity to some, yet also of great significance considering its severity. I look forward to a stirring debate between all delegates, especially those representing P5 members. Good luck!

Chair- Sulaiman Bhatti

Hello everyone, I am Sulaiman Bhatti, a chair of this committee alongside Chair Amjad and the Secretary General Pavel. Being a British-Pakistani, I had a somewhat culturally different upbringing. Having an aspect of both European and Asian culture, my feelings towards situations between the two countries have always mixed, whether it was political or even a cricket match. This mixed view only recently built a desire in me to know more about not only countries I associate to, but also other countries that may be experiencing something similar. Luckily for my first conference, I had the privilege to debate about the Situation in Palestine where there were factors of the issue that were somewhat related to me. I wish everyone the best of luck in the upcoming debates.

Chair- Amjad Al-Askari

Hey guys, my name is Amjad Abdul-Majeed Bin Hassan Al-Askari; it is my honour and privilege to serve as a chair in the Security Council along with Sulaiman and Secretary General/President Pavel. Since everyone is talking about their background and upbringing, I might as well do that too. Being a Saudi Arabian, I didn't really have any contrasting political views or have experienced a mixed cultural upbringing, however; I have always had a major interest in upholding the law and exploring reasons behind why certain ones are created; which is why I enjoy doing MUN because it is all that and more. I am looking forward to all the declarations of wars, invasions of countries and much more. Bearing that in mind, I wish you all good luck. 'Let The Games Begin' - Hunger Games

Committee Introduction

Distinguished delegates, welcome to the Security Council.

The Security Council can be seen as the most powerful and important body of the United Nations. The purpose of this council is to investigate any dispute or situation which may lead to international friction, to formulate plans for the establishment of a system to regulate armaments. Based on these purposes, this committee has the authorization, as agreed upon by all members, to accept the Security Council's decision, to deploy peacekeeping troops from its member countries, operate economic sanctions to nations, as well as mandate a ceasefire during conflict.

Its main structure comprises 15 nations with 5 as its permanent members which are China, Russia, United Kingdom, United States, and France. The current 10 rotating members are Angola, Chad, Chile, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Spain, and Venezuela. These members are chosen based on the regional groupings: Western Europe & Others, Eastern Europe, Latin America & Caribbean, Asia, and Africa.

During a security council conference, the 5 permanent members hold veto power, meaning they can vote off a resolution even if it passed with a simple majority; nations also hold unilateral decisions, which are resolutions that are brought up by a single nation and will operate without a voting procedure (unilateral resolutions though, will not be entertained during this conference.)

Topic Introduction:

The question of Libya refers to the political instability, economic challenges and security threats that have troubled Libya since the start of the Libyan civil war and the death of the dictator Muammar al-Gaddafi in 2011. After the end of Gaddafi's regime, the whole country fell into chaos, due to the absence of a state authority exercising control over the territory. According to the Fund for Peace organisation

in 2012, Libya's index declined more than any other country´s has ever declined in the history of the Fragile States Index, where countries are placed in the order of their social stability on the basis of indicators such as those of political, social and economic.

Libya has no single government with authority over the country as a whole. Instead, the power in Libya is spread out amongst three leading powers. In addition to that, there are various rival militia groups and military forces controlling some parts of the country.

The Presidential Council (PC) is one of the three leading powers. It is also known as the unity government, which was created when the Libyan Political Agreement (LPA) was signed in December 2015. The PC is based in Tripoli and is led by Fayez al-Sarraj. According to the Libyan Political Agreement, the PC oversees the Government of National Accords and appoints military leadership. The Presidential Council is Libya's internationally recognized government .

The second center of power is the National Salvation Government, led by Prime Minister Khalifa Ghwell. Its authority is based on the General National Congress, the parliament originally elected in 2012. The National Salvation government no longer controls any relevant institutions. The third main power holder is made up of the authorities based in al-Bayda and Tobruk. The Tobruk and al-Bayda authorities are under the control of the general Khalifa Haftar, who is the leader of Libyan National Army.

The absence of a working government and the failure to disarm and demobilize militias has led to a lack of security. The justice system is seen as dysfunctional and offers no prospects for accountability. Courts in the east of Libya are also mostly shut, causing different militia groups to continue partaking in mass killings as well as torturing people. Politicians, journalists, civilians are being abducted for political and monetary gain by militias.

Refugee crisis has also become a severe problem in Libya, as Libya has become one of the main routes to flee to Europe. Tens of thousands of asylum seekers and refugees from Africa and the Middle East pass through Libya on their route to

Europe. While in Libya many are subjected to torture, forced labour, sexual abuse and extortion. Slave auction has also become a problem, as the Libyan Coast Guard has managed to reduce the number of boats that make it out to the sea. Due to that, the smugglers are left jobless and the only way to make living can be by selling refugees as slaves. Many of the refugees that make it to the sea do not make it alive while crossing the Mediterranean from Libya to Europe.

Libya has also faced economic challenges after the war. The stability of Libya's economy has been disturbed by armed takeovers of Libya's oil facilities in 2013.

Historical Background

Libya became independent in 1951 after being under foreign rule for centuries. After becoming independent, Idris Al-Harir proclaimed Libya and declared himself as the king of Libya. Soon after becoming independent oil was found, and Libya earned immense wealth. In 1969 King Idris' rule ended when Muammar al-Gaddafi seized power in a political coup. Gaddafi ruled for over four decades before being overthrown in 2011 following an armed rebellion.

 The rebellion in 2011 was sparked by the Arab spring and the protest in Benghazi on the 15th of February 2011 signaled the beginning of an uprising and brutal civil war in Libya. Due to many human rights abuses, social mismanagement and political corruption in Libya under Gaddafi's rule, the atmosphere of the country was optimal for rapid growth of tensions and the country was divided into those who supported Gaddafi, and those who were against Gaddafi's government, also known as the rebels. The conflicts between the government and the rebels escalated and spread through the whole country. The conflict got more complex when armed rebel groups entered the conflict against government forces. In March the National Transitional Council (NTC) was formed, when rebel groups united. The NTC was recognized by 60 countries as well as the African Union. The UN's Security Council also impacted the conflict, when they passed resolution 1970, imposing an arms embargo on Libya and sanctioning the regime. They also ordered all mandatory measures, except an occupation force, to help protect the civilians of Libya and ordered a no-fly zone over Libya in the resolution 1973.

In October 2011 the rebels successfully overthrew Gaddafi, with the help of Western military intervention and Libya was declared as liberated on the 23th of October by The National Transitional Council (NTC). After the civil war the NTC took over governing the country. NTC did not achieve full authority over the country and the absence of an organized military, leading to clashes between different militias and rebel groups. The NTC held elections in August 2012 and handed the power to the General National Congress (GNC). However GNC was unable to control several different militias.

In June 2014, elections were held and Council of Deputies (CoD) was elected as the new parliament to take over the GNC, with very low turnout of voters. However a new protest erupted when the GNC refused to disband after its mandate expired and conflicts between the GNC and CoD formed creating two governments; The Council of Deputies also known as the Tobruk government and the government of National Salvation Government endorsed by GNC and based in Tripoli. The conflicts between these two governments and other forces such as various militias has been an ongoing crisis in Libya since 2014.

Following the death of Gaddafi in 2011 two rival governments and several militias emerged all fighting for power. This struggle for power and the absence of one state authority provided the perfect opportunity for the Islamic State of Iraq and ash--Sham (DAESH) to spread to Libya and become a serious security threat.

In 2012 DAESH made its first appearance in Libya and began to gain supporters. In January 2015 DAESH managed to take control over Sirte, a port city between Libya's two largest cities Tripoli and Benghazi. The group quickly gained followers of displeased Libyans and local rebels. Due to the gain of supporters DAESH managed to take control over Derna and the broader periphery of Nofaliya. However in 2016 DAESH lost control over Sirte and other important cities to the Libyan navy. Nonetheless DAESH is still active in Libya and as long as Libya's rival powers continue to fight over the country DAESH will be able to gather back the power it lost in 2016.

Definition of Key Terms

1) Militia: A military force whose members are from the civil population (soldiers who often have another occupation)

2) Crisis: A time of intense difficulty or danger

3) Refugee: A person who has been forced to flee their country for safety in order to escape war, persecution or natural disaster

4) Asylum seeker: A person who has left their home country as a political refugee and is seeking asylum in another

5) Rebellion: An armed resistance to an authority, such as an established government or leader

6) Civil war: A war between citizens of the same country

7) UNSMIL: United Nations Support Mission in Libya

8) Arab Spring: A series of anti-government uprisings and protests affecting Arab countries of North Africa and the middle east that began in Tunisia, December 2010

9) Materiel: Military materials and equipment

10) Ceasefire: A truce in which there is a temporary suspension of fighting.

11) RCC: Libyan Revolutionary Command Council; the twelve-person governing body that ruled the Libyan Arab Republic from 1969 to 1977, chaired by Muammar Gaddafi.

12) GNA: Government of National Accord; led by prime minister Fayez al-Sarraj and recognized by the UN

13) PC: Presidential Council

14) LNA: Libyan National Army; commanded by General Khalifa Haftar

15) Maritime Boundary Agreement: Treaty or treaties established in order to specify an ocean or sea boundary between two or more countries/territories

16) International Military Intervention: the movement of troops or forces of one country into the territory or territorial waters of another country, or military action by troops already stationed by one country inside another.

Guiding questions

The following questions are simply a guide that delegates may use to assist them in getting started with their research. However, understanding the answers to the following questions from the perspective of your respective nation will greatly benefit your knowledge of this topic in preparation for the committee.

Preliminary Research Questions
1)   Who are your country's strongest allies and enemies? (*your nation will typically have similar political views to your strongest allies)

2)   What power does the Security Council have?

3)   What (if anything) has your country done in response to the Libyan Crisis?

4)   Does your nation contain/plan to contain a Space task force with the center idea being to make Space secure for the nation?

The Libyan Crisis
1)   How has international intervention from other states as well as organizations such as the United Nations affected the ongoing civil war? Is international intervention essential to resolve internal conflict in the country, or does it have a negative effect on the situation?

2)   What role does the country's natural oil reserves play in the Libyan conflict? How can the warring governments in Libya come to a fair agreement given the significant economic potential for oil exports?

3)   How does the civil war affect the ongoing humanitarian crisis with Libyan refugees and migrants? What should the role of the international community be in resolving the humanitarian crisis, and how does it affect the country's relationship with neighboring states?

4)   What are the strengths and weaknesses of the existing government institutions throughout Libya? Is there a particular government structure that is better than the others, or should there be compromise to form a unified government?

5)   What is the best way to address the internal security crisis in Libya, especially when it threatens voter turnout for democratic processes? What should the military's role be in the current government of the country?

Useful resources
-       Country Research Tips
-       Topic Research Tips
-       General overview of the Libyan Crisis