

## HPS FG MUN 2.0

### UNITED NATION SECURITY COUNCIL

#### BACKGROUND GUIDE



### **AGENDA- The issue of Taliban violence in Afghanistan**

#### **LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:-**

Welcome Delegates,

To start, it is with significant privilege, tremendous delight and extraordinary humbleness that we fill in as the Executive Board for the UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL at HPS FG MUN 2.0 with the most extreme satisfaction and warmth that we invite you to this board of trustees. We genuinely trust that these two days will be soaked with serious discussion, special suppositions and points of view, important meetings, exciting joy and in conclusion, noteworthy responses to a portion of our greatest unanswered issues in these difficult occasions. We accept that this Online MUN will give you a stage to develop, both as a debater and as a concerned resident and person, and will offer you the chance to interface with other unmistakable people, along these lines instilling charming discussions and associations both all through this board of trustees.

If you don't mind note that while you are in the board of trustees, you are world pioneers, and we would accentuate upon your discretion. Safeguarding world harmony, security and universal participation has been an essential piece of the arrangement of the United Nations itself. Be that as it may, the current situation needs future pioneers to haggle upon the issues of world significance. Model United Nations brings to you the stage wherein you research, comprehend, control and arrange. Through this gathering, we trust that you are created as a "hero" for mankind and a "friend in need" of a worldwide emergency. We guarantee a

productive discussion coming your direction. We trust all representatives would have the option to build up an expansive point of view about living in the worldwide society clearing route for scholarly arrangements.

Anyway, however genuine a MUN might be, we, despite everything, need you delegates to have some good times and reclaim an important learning experience. In spite of the fact that it does make a difference as well, a MUN isn't just about passing a goal, or official statement/report and causing your board of trustees to succeed, all things considered, it is progressively about discovering some new information and completion panel with the inclination that YOU have succeeded and that you have gotten the hang of something different which is significant and is relevant to our reality. Have confidence that we will try to make this an exceptional encounter for every one of you. We expect you to be conscious not exclusively to the plan yet in addition to each delegate in council. We additionally truly trust that you discover this Background Guide advantageous and supportive. On the off chance that you do confront any trouble with the plan or whatever else appropriate to the MUN, if it's not too much trouble don't hesitate to get in touch with us. We anticipate meeting every last one of you.

We trust that this gathering ends up being an incredible learning experience for us all and we have meaningful conversation and discussion on the two days of the meeting.

With Warm regards,  
SAGAR SAREEN  
CHAIRPERSON  
KHUSHI SHARMA  
VICE CHAIRPERSON

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE:-**

The Security Council held its first session on 17 January 1946 at Church House, Westminster, London. Since its first meeting, the Security Council has taken permanent residence at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. It also travelled to many cities, holding sessions in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in 1972, in Panama City, Panama, and in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1990.

A representative of each of its members must be present at all times at UN Headquarters so that the Security Council can meet at any time as the need arises.

### **MAINTAINING PEACE AND SECURITY**

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 agreement by peaceful means. The Council may:

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- 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;  
or even 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.

## **IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS**

The following is a list of important International Documents the delegates must be thorough with so as to facilitate debate in any committee with agenda's under the ambit of WHO. Kindly note that this list is not exhaustive and delegates are free to explore beyond these minimum requirements:

1. The UN Charter
2. All related covenants and international legal instruments

## **CREDIBLE SOURCES OF PROOF**

1. News Sources: a. REUTERS – Any Reuters article which clearly makes mention of the factor is in contradiction of the fact being stated by a delegate in council.

(<http://www.reuters.com/>)

b. State-operated News Agencies – These reports can be used in the support of or against the State that owns the News Agency. These reports, if credible or substantial enough, can be used in support of or against any Country as such but in that situation, they can be denied by any other country in the council. Some examples are,

- i. RIA Novosti (Russia) <http://en.rian.ru/>
- ii. IRNA (Iran) <http://www.irna.ir/ENIndex.htm>
- iii. BBC (United Kingdom) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>
- iv. Xinhua News Agency and CCTV (P.R. China) <http://cctvnews.cntv.cn/>

2. Government Reports: These reports can be used in a similar way as the State Operated News Agencies reports and can, in all circumstances, be denied by another country.

a. Government Websites like the State Department of the United States of America (<http://www.state.gov/index.htm> ) or the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation (<http://www.eng.mil.ru/en/index.htm>)

b. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of various nations like India (<http://www.mea.gov.in/>), People's Republic of China (<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/>), France(<http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/>), Russian Federation ([http://www.mid.ru/brp\\_4.nsf/main\\_eng](http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/main_eng))

c. Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Reports <http://www.un.org/en/members/> (Click on any country to get the website of the Office of its Permanent Representative)

d. Multilateral Organizations like the NATO (<http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/index.htm>) , ASEAN (<http://www.aseansec.org/>) , OPEC ([http://www.opec.org/opec\\_web/en/](http://www.opec.org/opec_web/en/)) , etc.

3. UN Reports: All UN Reports are considered credible information or evidence for the Executive Board of the Security Council.

a. UN Bodies: Like the SC (<http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/> ), GA (<http://www.un.org/en/ga/> ), HRC (<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/HRCIndex.aspx> ) etc.

b. UN Affiliated bodies like the International Atomic Energy Agency ( <http://www.iaea.org/> ), World Bank (<http://www.worldbank.org/> ), International Monetary Fund (<http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm> ), International Committee of the Red Cross (<http://www.icrc.org/eng/index.jsp> ), etc.

c. Treaty Based Bodies like the Antarctic Treaty System (<http://www.ats.aq/e/ats.htm> ), the International Criminal Court (<http://www.iccpi.int/Menu/ICC> )

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA:-**

An agreement signed between the United States and the Taliban on February 29, 2020, marks a milestone in America's longest ever war. Accordingly, the majority of U.S. troops are expected to withdraw from Afghanistan by the end of 2021. In turn, and if this agreement is successfully implemented, sections of the Taliban could be expected to play a larger role in Afghan politics. This is hardly desirable for a country like India. Indian assets in Afghanistan have been targeted by the Haqqani group, a major Taliban faction. India has also been able to invest in Afghanistan's future partially because of the presence of U.S.-led troops and the relative stability it brought. With this stability at risk, India needs to urgently reposition its priorities. In these fast-changing times, this paper identifies the risks to India's continued presence in Afghanistan and recommends a set of strategies to mitigate them. The first risk has to do with terrorism.

While the U.S.-Taliban agreement states that the Taliban will prevent terrorist outfits from operating on Afghan soil, there is little clarity on how the agreement will be verified and enforced. The second risk has to do with the growing influence of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence Directorate, which shares an undeniable link with the Taliban, especially the Haqqani group. The third risk to India's long-term interests in Afghanistan has to do with the increasing political instability in Kabul. Notwithstanding a power-sharing agreement signed between Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and former chief executive Abdullah Abdullah, on May 17, 2020, it is clear that such alliances cannot be taken at face value. An interlinked set of mitigation strategies could help India protect its interests:

- **Broader Diplomatic Engagement:** India should consider appointing a special envoy dedicated to Afghan reconciliation. The envoy can ensure that Indian views are expressed at every meeting, broaden engagement with the Afghan government and other political actors, and reach out to certain Taliban representatives.

- **Continued Training and Investments:** India should provide more military training to Afghan security forces and invest in longer-term capacity-building programs. It should actively support and invest in the National Directorate of Security (for example, by providing training and sharing intelligence). Finally, given the continued levels of violence and the impact of the coronavirus on the Afghan economy, India should expand its development assistance.

2 • **Working With and Through Others:** India should look to broaden its engagements with Iran and Russia, explore opportunities for cooperation (as limited as they might be) with China, and find common ground with the United States on Afghanistan's future. This does not mean forcing competing interests to align; it means investing in a wider diplomatic initiative with the view to carve out areas of convergence.

## HISTORY

Back in 2001, the US was responding to **the 9/11 attacks on New York and Washington**, in which nearly 3,000 people were killed. Officials identified Islamist militant group al-Qaeda, and its leader Osama Bin Laden, as responsible.

Bin Laden was in Afghanistan, under the protection of the Taliban, the Islamists who had been in power since 1996.

When they refused to hand him over, the US intervened militarily, quickly removing the Taliban and vowing to support democracy and eliminate the terrorist threat.

The militants slipped away and later regrouped.

Nato allies had joined the US and a new Afghan government took over in 2004 but deadly Taliban attacks continued. President Barack Obama's "troop surge" in 2009 helped push back the Taliban but it was not long term.

In 2014, at the end of what was the bloodiest year since 2001, Nato's international forces ended their combat mission, leaving responsibility for security to the Afghan army.

That gave the Taliban momentum and they seized more territory.

Peace talks between the US and the Taliban started tentatively, with the Afghan government pretty much uninvolved, and the agreement on a withdrawal came in February 2020 in Qatar.

The US-Taliban deal did not stop the Taliban attacks - they switched their focus instead to Afghan security forces and civilians, and targeted assassinations. Their areas of control grew.

## Background

In February the Afghan Taliban signed a peace agreement with the USA ahead of a proposed withdrawal of US troops. The agreement included a pledge to release "up to 5,000" Taliban fighters held in Afghan government prisons from a list initially given to the USA, in exchange for 1,000 members of the Afghan security forces held by the armed group. The Afghan government resisted releasing 400 fighters from the list, who were alleged to be responsible for serious crimes. The

proposed release of certain Taliban fighters also triggered concerns from France and Australia as it included those responsible for killing their soldiers. However, under pressure from the USA they too were released; a few who were accused of killing foreign citizens were subsequently transferred to Qatar. Eventually, more than 5,000 Taliban prisoners were released, including prisoners accused of serious crimes.

The US-Taliban peace agreement deferred the question of a political settlement in Afghanistan to direct talks between representatives of the Afghan government and various mainly political groups on one side, and representatives of the Taliban on the other. The so-called “intra-Afghan talks” began in September in Doha, Qatar. There was little representation of women on the side of the Afghan government, and no representation of women in the Taliban delegation. There was also no representation of conflict victims, despite the demands of human rights groups. By December, the negotiating teams had only agreed on an internal guiding principle for the negotiation processes.

The newly formed interim government in Afghanistan includes neither women nor minority leaders, but contains many figures who are on the United Nations Sanctions List, speakers in the Security Council said today, urging the now-ruling Taliban to live up to their promises and establish a more inclusive and representative administration.

“The lives of millions of Afghans will depend on how the Taliban choose to govern,” said Deborah Lyons, the Secretary-General’s Special Representative and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), describing the all-male cabinet as “disappointing”. Of the 33 names presented, many are the same figures who were part of the Taliban leadership between 1996 and 2001, she added, noting that the prime minister, the two deputy prime ministers and the foreign minister are under United Nations sanctions.

Although the 15-member Council must do something about those sanctioned individuals, Afghanistan’s current humanitarian situation cannot wait for such political decisions, she stated, emphasizing the immediate need to deliver, on a huge scale, the required aid in such areas as health, food security, non-food items and sanitation. Another crisis that must be avoided is economic collapse, she cautioned, stressing the need to resolve the issue of frozen overseas Afghan assets, while ensuring that those resources will not fall into the wrong hands.

“The best, and still possible outcome,” she continued, “would be for the Taliban to demonstrate that they seek to create an Afghanistan where people do not live in fear, where those with talents are invited to participate in rebuilding their country, and where boys and girls, young women and men, can receive the sort of education that will allow this development to continue”.

## REFERENCE LINKS

1. [https://carnegieendowment.org/files/Chaudhuri\\_Shende\\_-\\_Afghanistan.pdf](https://carnegieendowment.org/files/Chaudhuri_Shende_-_Afghanistan.pdf)
2. <https://www.hrw.org/report/2020/06/30/you-have-no-right-complain/education-social-restrictions-and-justice-taliban-held>

3. <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=27403&LangID=E>
4. <https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/PW102-Rhetoric-Ideology-and-Organizational-Structure-of-the-Taliban-Movement.pdf>
5. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-11451718>

### **Scope of debate/Closing Remarks:**

The Executive Board recommends the delegates to let this handbook just be a guide to serve as a baseline/foundation for research. Don't confine yourself to the content mentioned in this study guide or the resources in the reading material. The actual scope of debate escapes all confines and boundaries of this background guide. They are expecting well-researched content in the speeches backed up by facts and statistical data along with new, innovative solutions to the grave problem at hand. They wish all the delegates the best of luck and are looking forward to seeing what they have to offer.