Esteemed Delegates,

Welcome to the Valdosta State University Model United Nations Conference of 2015 and to the Peacebuilding Commission. My name is Kenneth D. Holiday, and I, along with the other staff members who have helped prepare this background guide for you, are very excited to be part of the 2015 conference. I am proud to say this will be my second year of being on staff for the Valdosta State’s Model United Nations conference. Since I have become involved in the VSU Model United Nations, I have had the chance to participate in the Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) Conference in Atlanta and the National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference in New York. Model United Nations has introduced me to some amazing individuals, took me to some incredible places, and let me test my skills against some remarkable people from all over the world. I highly recommend that you continue your participation in Model United Nations throughout your time in High School and also once you move on to college.

To help you prepare for your committee, this background guide has been provided for you to give a general understanding of the history, recent developments, and current issues on each of these topics we have provided for you. Delegates should conduct their own research outside of the background guide in order to be fully prepared for the committee and the conference as whole. Also, each delegation is required to submit a position paper on their countries stance on all three issues, while following the guidelines we have provided. For more information about the Valdosta State University Model United Nations conference please refer to the teacher’s manual, or visit our web site.

Good luck, delegates, and we look forward to seeing you in March!

This background guide was prepared by: Kenneth D. Holiday (kholiday@valdosta.edu) Jessie Jamie (jpjaime@valdosta.edu) William Jeffers (wjjeffers@valdosta.edu) GaWon Kwon (gwkwon@valdosta.edu) Taylor Malone (tmalone@valdosta.edu) Jamie Mauldin (jcmauldin@valdosta.edu)
The Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) mandate is as follows:

- To bring together all relevant actors to marshal resources and to advise on and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery;
- To focus attention on the reconstruction and institution-building efforts necessary for recovery from conflict and to support the development of integrated strategies in order to lay the foundation for sustainable development;
- To provide recommendations and information to improve the coordination of all relevant actors within and outside the United Nations, to develop best practices, to help to ensure predictable financing for early recovery activities and to extend the period of attention given by the international community to post conflict recovery.\(^1\)

The topics for this year’s Peacebuilding Commission are:

I. Case Study: Sierra Leone
II. Disarmament and International Security
III. Increasing women’s participation in peace building

**History of the Peacebuilding Commission**

The term "peace building" first emerged in 1970s through the work of Johan Galtung who called for the creation of “peace building” structures to promote sustainable peace by addressing the root causes of violent conflict and supporting internal relations for peace management and conflict resolution. Since then, the term peace building has covered a wide range of tasks including the disarming of conflicting Member States to the rebuilding of political, economic, judicial and civil society institutions. \(^1\) Established in December of 2005, the Peacebuilding Committee was formed as an inter-governmental agency that promotes aid in countries during times of post conflict, recovery, construction and development. The Peacebuilding Commission plays a unique role in the cooperation of Member States including international donors and financial institutions, national governments and countries that are willing to contribute troops during times of unrest. The Commission was founded on creating solutions for countries with post conflict that are at risk of collapse or where there is a potential for war. Finally the Peacebuilding commission was set up to give advice to countries on what to do during post conflict and recovery and helps to eliminate any threat to the peacetime of countries.\(^2\) Being relatively new, as the committee has only been established in 2005, the Peacebuilding commission has been successful in its implementation of resolutions and mandates. Including the 2009 elections in the country of Sierra Leone, in which the commission recommended that the government reinforce good governance by engaging all national stakeholders to help build national unity. The Commission also recommended for international partners to align behind Sierra Leone’s peace building strategies.
The committee is broken down into three different organizational structures in order to help benefit all countries, both specifically and through international relations. The Organizational Committee, Country-specific Configurations and the Working Group on Lessons Learned are the three structures that bring together the United Nations’ broad capacities and experiences on conflict prevention, mediation, peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance, reconstruction, the promotion of human rights and the rule of law and long term sustainable development assistance.3

The Organizational Committee for the PBC brings together 31 Member States to set the agenda, including setting the calendar for the commissions wide range of activities, and the development of peace building strategies that commit to resolutions 60/180 and 1645. Each member of the Organizational Committee serves for two year terms. The second aspect of the Peacebuilding Commission is Country Specific Configuration, which looks at countries and their individual needs and has a set of terms that each country must meet before they are considered to be eligible for peace building help by the United Nations. The third and final aspect of the Peacebuilding Commission is the Working Group on Lessons Learned, which works with countries that have dealt with national and international conflict. The meetings are designed for countries to develop progressive methods and recommendations for strategies and implementations so that the conflict does not happen again.4

In 2007, the UN Secretary-General's Policy Committee agreed on the following definition for peace building to as a guideline for the United Nations: "Peace building involves a range of measures targeted to reduce the risk of countries lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities at all levels for conflict management, and to lay the foundations for sustainable peace and development. Peace building strategies must be coherent and tailored to specific needs of the country concerned, based on national ownership, and should comprise a carefully prioritized, sequenced, and therefore relatively narrow set of activities aimed at achieving the above objectives."5

I. Case Study: Peace Building in Sierra Leone

“The RUF pledge of socio-economic development, political integration and an end to corruption became attractive to ordinary people. Nevertheless, the question remains how the RUF could become so powerful while terrorizing its citizens and using such violence against other civilians.”

-Andrea Iro

Introduction

Peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts, such as diplomacy, economic development, and reform programs, attempt to identify plausible sources of insecurity and violence. Its efforts aim to manage, alleviate, and ultimately absolve conflict through official diplomacy and dialogue. Identifying economic, social and political root causes of unrest promotes positive change and has the potential to lead to a peaceful, cohesive civilization. Changing the stagnant beliefs and attitudes between adversaries to alter the short-term subtleties and long-term effects of perennial conflicts helps to move the topic of conversation to an area in which the seemingly arbitrary goal of a more stable, peaceful coexistence is not only possible, but attainable.

Neighboring countries Liberia and Sierra Leone have been two of the most war-torn nations of the past century.1 Sierra Leone’s history of political unrest, proletarian warring factions, and governmental corruption ushered in an era of civil war lasting throughout the 1990s into the
early 2000s. This prompted the UN to step in and assist the country in its rehabilitation toward a more peaceful state.  

**Background Information**

Sierra Leone became independent in 1961, but decades of corruption, insufficient establishment of security, and an overall failure to provide for the general welfare of citizens reached a boiling point in March of 1991, leading to a civil war that lasted until January of 2002, leaving over 50,000 people dead.  

Previously, in 1991, beginning in the eastern region of the country, a faction known as the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) launched an aggressive campaign to overthrow the government. Initially, Sierra Leone’s government pushed back with the assistance of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Military Observer Group (ECOMOG), but was only able to defend itself for barely a year. Soon the RUF overthrew the government, but did not halt its attacks, prompting the February 1995 appointment of a Special Envoy, Mr. Berhanu Dinka of Ethiopia, by the United Nations Secretary-General. Dinka worked with ECOWAS and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to negotiate a settlement to the conflict and return the country to its original rule. The RUF would prove to be a ruthless rebel cause, contributing to countless cases of lootings, sexual assaults, recruitment of child soldiers, and other atrocities.  

A year later, in 1996, the country held elections, and the RUF agreed to hand over power to the winner. However, they reneged on their promise, and refused to acknowledge the results of the elections as true. Special Envoy Dinka once again was charged with the task of assisting in peace negotiations between the RUF and the government. Yet again, the agreement was disrupted by another military coup in May 1997. This time the nation’s army joined forces with the RUF, forming a ruling coalition. President Alhaji Ahmad Tejan Kabbah and the rest of the administration were forced into exile in bordering Guinea.  

With Special Envoy Dinka’s admirable efforts falling on deaf ears, a new Special Envoy, Francis G. Okelo of Uganda partnered with other officials of the international community to attempt to influence the newly formed governing faction to relinquish its power and step down, but their efforts failed. In October of the same year, a body representing the ruling faction, also referred to as the Junta, met with the ECOWAS Committee of Five on Sierra Leone for peace talks. The agreed upon principle was that there would be a ceasefire supervised by ECOMOG and assisted by UN military observers. Although the Junta agreed to abide by the agreement, it soon began to criticize key components of the contract and, ultimately, failed to implement it. Following an attack by the faction, and after finally growing tired of the stalemate proliferated by the Junta, went on the offensive and launched an attack on the Junta. The Junta collapsed and was exiled. President Kabbah returned to office on March 10, 1998. Seeing the shortcomings of the Special Envoy as displayed in this situation, the Security Council resolved to strengthen the office of the Special Envoy to include military liaison officer and security advisory personnel.  

Unfortunately, the fighting continued. The rebel alliance managed to gain control of nearly half the country. Eventually, the UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) was established on
October 22, 1999 to assist Sierra Leone in disarmament, disbandment and rehabilitation plans. UNAMSIL is a great example for not only peacekeeping, but is a concept for peacebuilding as well. Following its disarmament of rebel alliances and its work towards furthering the goal of curbing violence, UNAMSIL has also gone on to assist in the establishment and operation of elections and has emphasized its efforts in rehabilitating the infrastructure of the Sierra Leonean government as a whole to better serve and protect local communities and the entire nation.

Perhaps UNAMSIL’s most recognizable efforts were its assistance in stopping the illicit trade of “blood” diamonds. While on the surface this seems to easily be solely identified as an effort in peacekeeping, it also doubles as a preventative measure in peacebuilding. The money supplied from the trade of “blood” diamonds fuelled the ongoing conflict by funneling money into the rebel alliances to supply weaponry. UNAMSIL assisted in alleviating this threat.

In 2002, after UNAMSIL had successfully trained police forces, pulled child soldiers out of the clutches of rebels, and demobilized more than 75,000 former fighters, the Sierra Leonean government officially declared that the war had ended.

The overall mission of UNAMSIL was a success. It has assisted in the return of hundreds of thousands of refugees as well as domestically displaced victims, restored the authority and sovereignty of the government, trained peacebuilding personnel, and helped to build up the infrastructure for law enforcement.

**Current Situation**

Today, Sierra Leone is still feeling the effects of 11 years of civil war, but it is making strides. UN efforts to increase political attention and strategic commitment, to improve the mobilization, and to implement financial resources strengthen coordination and cooperation among key officials have largely been successes. Today, a new threat poses risk. The Ebola virus has ravaged West Africa in recent months with 810 cases being reported in Sierra Leone. This has caused unrest, largely due to the distribution of misinformation. For example, the virus has only claimed 50 percent of lives in documented cases. However, it has been reported by some media outlets that it claims 90 percent of lives. Such misinformation causes some to worry if it could serve as a springboard for the rise of new rebel alliances. However, the threat is unfortunately still viewed as minimal.

On a positive note, Sierra Leone’s triumphs in the area of human development are well recognized, especially since 2005. Its Human Development Index (HDI) has increased from 0.329 in 2005 to 0.374 in 2013, and its rank in the 2013 HDI, 183 out of 187, is one spot higher than the previous year. Its 1.84 percent increase in just a year is the highest among all G7+ members and Mano River Union countries. Despite the fact that the increase in developmental status is slight, it does show improvement and sets a standard for years to come. Sierra Leone still needs improvement in alleviation of poverty and gender equality issues, but it appears to be working toward the betterment of itself as a whole.

The 2014 Human Development Report (HDR) highlights the needs in promoting freedom in individual choices and ensuring the protection of human development. For the first time, the
report emphasizes the notion that vulnerability threatens human development and that unless it can be addressed on a systematic level, progress will remain out of reach.  

**United Nations Actions to Date**

The Department of Political Affairs of the United Nation reports significant actions executed by Sierra Leone to maintain peace. Sierra Leone has taken an unrelenting multilateral approach to consolidate peace and govern a smooth transition into regular development. There are continued efforts to maintain peace after a brutal internal conflict that claimed over 50,000 lives. The conflict lasted for nearly eleven years.  

UN peacekeepers withdrew in December 2005. The president of Sierra Leone requested that the United Nations Secretary General establish an internal mechanism in the efforts to create a Special Court for Sierra Leone. The Abuja agreement was then signed in 2001 putting an end to Sierra Leone’s 11 year conflict in 2002. The Trust and Reconciliation Committee began operating within the same year. The UN Secretary General's Special Representatives emphasized strengthening human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and assisted in ushering an era much more conducive to peacekeeping than in years past.  

The United Nations Peace Building Office in Sierra Leone which is compiled of 80 staff members drew down in March 2014. The United Nations Country team consists of 17 agencies, funds and programs that are helping develop their own national development agenda. Also the United Nations has worked alongside this country to achieve the Millennium development Goals. The Millennium Development Goals range from reducing extreme poverty by half to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, all by the target date of 2015. The United Nation Integrated Office for Sierra Leone was established in 2005 The United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone was one of the largest UN peacekeeping missions in history. UNMSIL helped to implement the Lomé Peace Agreement and disarm and demobilize more than 75,000 ex-fighters. The Lomé Peace Agreement was signed on 7 July 1999 between the RUF and the Sierra Leonan government, but again failed to resolve the conflict.  

Although conflict has ended in Sierra Leone, another epidemic is claiming the lives of the Sierra Leonean people. An Ebola outbreak is unfolding in the western hemisphere of Africa. The head of the UN Mission Emergency Response has reported that there has been some general success within the quarantine of this disease within one of the largest countries within Sierra Leone. The United Nations still works very assiduously with Sierra Leone and building peace and prosperity within their country and citizens.  

**Committee Directives**

It is important to understand the dire necessity to implement preventative measures to ensure that not only are peacekeeping efforts continuing, but that peace building efforts are successful as well. Delegates should consider all efforts made by the United Nations Country team of Sierra
Leone, especially their efforts towards the Millennium Development goals. Delegates should examine and consider how to implement programs similar to the UN Mission in Sierra Leone to assist in disarmament of rebel alliances and rehabilitating governments from civil unrest. Member States have an obligation to incorporate human rights norms in conflict resolution efforts for peacebuilding, especially in cases of civil unrest in the midst of power struggles.\textsuperscript{19}

II: Disarmament and International Security

“Disarmament or limitation of armaments, which depends on the progress made on security, also contributes to the maintenance of peace.”

-Ludwig Quidde

Introduction

The world has always found a use for weapons. Some people may use them offensively, while others use them defensively. Many these weapons are illegally traded and therefore pose a threat to international security. The United Nations established the first committee on disarmament and international security to help solve global challenges, prevent threats to peace, and seeks out solutions in the international security regime. The (UNDC) United Nations Disarmament Commission works instrumentally alongside the Committee on disarmament advocating centralized control of disarmament within the UNDC.\textsuperscript{1} Many developing Member States do not have the means to control the arms trade alone. There are many difficulties with just tracking the flow of legal weapons transactions. 59\% of the world’s weapons are traded through illegal means and cannot be controlled.\textsuperscript{2} The UNDC hopes to eventually create a system whereby munition transactions may be monitored to a higher degree. The UNDC was also meant to focus on nuclear disarmament to strengthen international security. Terrorism has been an ongoing topic of discussion within the UN and the UNDC because of the limited options by which to handle disarmament with regards to terrorists.

History

With the establishment of the United Nations the Charter called for a committee on disarmament and international security. The first committee as it was known set up the UNDC in January of 1952 with authorization from the Security Council with a general mandate on disarmament questions.\textsuperscript{3} It was later made a subsidiary special session body. The UNDC under A/RES/52/192 was mandated to make recommendations on various issues in the field of disarmament and design recommendations for special session to report annually to the UN committee on disarmament and international security.\textsuperscript{4} The UNDC discovered that regional and global disarmament and weapon limitation could be pursued at the same time to promote international cooperation on disarmament.\textsuperscript{5} The (RDB) Regional Disarmament Branch used at a regional platform around the world for regional arms treaties and local disarmament operations. The RDB is a branch of (UNODA) United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs together these groups have worked regionally and globally to help better manage arms trade and operate disarmament
campaign programs. Voluntary to all Member States, the RDB provides initiatives including disarmament protocols, conflict prevention, and post-conflict peace building methods. Historically the UN has promoted the UNDC in all its endeavors for arms control. The UNDC appropriates funds from the UN budget, but requires donations to carry out its many operations.

**Current Issues and reoccurring Issues**

With an issue like disarmament it is very difficult to approach other nations and impose regulations. Most nations will not adhere to regulation because they feel it is a violation of their sovereignty. The UNDC guarantees nations that its purpose it to see to the disarmament of groups who have no need for such weapons. Some Member States have used the UNDC to combat rampant illegal arms trade within their borders. The first step in ensuring the national security of any nation is monitoring its trade flow and preventing the non-authorized trade from occurring. The DDR groups work almost directly with local agencies to ensure that the process of disarmament is undertaken safely and securely. One very large issue is that of extremist groups that avoid disarmament at any cost. Every region of the world is susceptible to terrorism and it is one of the main threats to DDR. Some ways that the UNDC has gone about combating the threats of those unwilling to disarm is once contact with a group is made the group will decide if it wants help disarming. The DDR groups are only meant to be a stabilizer so that the process remains peaceful.

**Development of a strategic plan**

There are growing concerns from private, national, and even international groups for example the United Nations General Assembly has stated in numerous resolutions that one of the largest tragedies we face in our world today is the use of weapons to oppress and harm those without a means to defend themselves. The UNDC believes that it is their sole mission to eliminate unnecessary weapons and violence from the world stage. One of the primary focuses of DDR groups is what the UNDC refers to as warm zones. These are areas of the world that have been ravaged by violence before and may endure the same fate again unless someone intervenes. These warm zones are key to the success of disarmament and in turn promote a country’s national security. A warm zone is referred to by the UNDC as a region or local area where conflict has occurred, but tensions have gone down though the is still the possibility of a reoccurrence of armed conflict. The UNDC issues a regional report of every region with a recent history of violence which has caused a shift in how DDR groups handle escalating and deescalating conflict. The growing shift of focus has led to a shift from a more long term strategic outlook to that of a more centralized outlook. In creating a new Centralized outlook the goal is to change the length of time between reports in that more information will be available on the current standings as well as being able to feed better decisions constantly that will be later able to be molded if needed into long term evaluations. The plan is for more of the results that will be fed from the UNDC will be driven from a 4-5 year wide ranged report time span to allow a constant revival of modern information available to all authorities as well as DDR specialized groups.

**Flaws in Progress**
While many feel that this process of disarmament tracking is effective, statistics have come available that show there are still flaws within the monitoring of such progress. One of the most notable flaws is the inability to track all of the signs and initiators of conflict in Member States that need the most assistance recovering from conflict. With the growth of DDR groups with specialized directives and programs there can be a more precise application of disarmament assistance given to those nations or key regions that need the most stability. Groups like Inter Agency Working Group or IAWG continue attempting to track not only the reoccurring outbreaks of violence but the growing effects it has on individuals globally in the attempt to be able to not only ensure that more secure process of disarmament is achieved, but also to maintain the integrity of every Member States’ citizens and their national security. The effects of violent incidents are far too great for any nation or nations to overlook. From preventing genocide to the smallest national disturbances conflict can disrupt and even displace local communities and lead to the collapse of entire governments.

**Enhancing Disarmament Techniques**

Advances in disarmament implementation and technology are allowing disbarment groups to make ever more accurate judgments when crisis emerge. The UNDC has stated numerous times that the increase in technologies will lead to a more direct focus on precise regions where conditions would otherwise be deplorable. The focus of more recent efforts is on the proactive project with measures the rising tensions and predicts counteractions of the international community and the affected area. The greatest concern is that countries with issues not understood or misperceived could inhibit these newer applications. It is estimated that newer conflicts are becoming more frequent and more unpredictable making it impossible for disarmament programs to be implemented. The UNDC acknowledges the great value of new technologies. However the increases over the last few years have caused the realization that the process of disarmament may face challenges in the future too insurmountable for it to handle.

**Conclusion**

In theory the UNDC has made the world a safer place, while improving disarmament programs, it has created a positive international response toward the mission of international peace and security that the UN agreed to in the charter with its creation. The effects of disarmament programs around the world have been extremely beneficial not only to international security but also to the fragile economic and social balance between all Member States. As more projects are implemented, the UNDC foresees unimaginable records of non-violence thanks to disarmament countries have a chance to stabilize and secure themselves. The UNDC has been successful for the most part in identifying what needed to be done about certain world disturbances and individual national crises. What are the two main causes of breaches in security of national governments or acts of violent groups within national borders? Can the UNDC create a new process whereby entire regions could be subject to safety fail safes that could detour or reverse violence as a result of disarmament before things have the ability to intensify into international tragedies? Can technology allow disarmament groups to be as tactful and efficient as possible
helping ensure peace and international security as part of their contribution to the Millennium development Goals of 2015?

III. Increasing women’s participation in peace building

“We simply can no longer afford to deny the full potential of one half of the population. The world needs to tap into the talent and wisdom of women. Whether the issue is food security, economic recovery, health, or peace and security, the participation of women is needed now more than ever.”

- Michelle Bachelet

Introduction

The realization of women’s rights around the world is an important indicator to build sustainable peace and security. Increasing women’s participation in peace building has been improved through the response of local, national and international systems, but it has remained one of the most unfulfilled aspects of women in peace and security. It is feasible that contributions to the engagement of women in peace and security has improved agendas for gender-responsive peace building issues and has caught the attention of international and national committees to enhance women’s capacity to participate in peace building. However, there has been a concern that women cannot be independent based on life situations, ranging from cultural, social and economic situations. These situations also affect their involvement on the peace building and security. In common sense, half of the world’s population is women, but women have been marginalized in all sectors, especially in peace building. In the last decade, according to a UN study, only 3% of the signatories of peace agreements were women, and less than 1/5 made any reference to gender issues. Instead, men tend to dominate most formal roles in a peacebuilding fields; they are significantly more powerful in peacekeeping, peace negotiating, politics, and leaders. Therefore, it is crucial to increase women’s participation for the eradication of structural gender inequalities in their lives, as well as their empowerment of long-term involvement in peace building and security.

History of women’s participation in peace building

The focus on women’s participation in peace building implies that the experiences and opinions of women are multi-dimensional, depending on factors such as ethnicity, class, religion, and so on in their countries. In 1992, the former Secretary-General, Boutros-Ghali, introduced the concept of peacebuilding in his ‘Agenda for Peace’. Since then, the international community has already acknowledged that women must be part of the peace process. This acknowledgement has reflected the changing nature of conflict situations and complex emergencies, as well as the role of international committees to increase women’s rights and participation in public sectors. In 1995, the Platform for Action, which was an agenda for women’s empowerment, was adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women. In spite of this recognition, during the 24 peace
processes since 1992, only 8% of the negotiators, 5% of the witness, 3% of mediators, and about 2% of signatories were women.\(^7\)

In 2000, women began to engage more in peacebuilding as the United Nations initiated several Security Council resolutions recognizing empowerment of women in all aspects of conflict and peacemaking. The General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century,” in the Fourth World Conference.\(^8\) As peacebuilding is becoming more complex and challenging for the United Nations, women have been targeted as victims in conflict situations such as war. Despite their civilian status, women and children increasingly have become specific targets of attack. At present, women in peacebuilding and security have widely accepted the change of focus from women in development (WID) to ‘gender and development’ (GAD).\(^9\) This recognizes gender discrimination in institutions, which have penetrated society and caused the absence of most women’s voice and participation in peacebuilding and security; the lack of services, education, justice, laws, and economic securities have forced women out of the safeguard and away from integration of peace building. Indeed, these institutionalized stereotypes, as well as gender inequalities are steadily practiced as barriers of involvement of peace processes in most societies. This recognition has focused on gender equality in social, economic and cultural environment.

**Actions taken by United Nations**

Since international committees initially paid attention to the women’s participation in peace building and security in the1990s, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) targeted women and girl’s education to empower women with the equal access to employment and recruitment with regard to the mandate of the UN.\(^10\) Even though the MDGs did not address the whole women’s issues specifically, it became the motivation of the women’s participation on peace building and security. Due to the lack of integration of women within the nature of peace building, the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security was unanimously adopted on 31st October 2000.\(^11\) The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) was created by Security Council Resolution 1325 to expand the role of women in decision-making in U.N. fields and to protect women’s rights in the gender issue.\(^12\) It was the first time to connect between women and peace building and security on Peace Building Commissions (PBC).\(^13\) Besides, General Assembly set out A/65/354–S/2010/466 on women’s participation in peace building and security to deal with the lack of women’s contributions to conflict prevention.\(^14\) In 2008, the UN Security Council (UNSC) adopted a new resolution, resolution 1820, which reinforces Resolution 1325, as well as the peacekeeping missions to protect women and children from sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict situations.\(^15\) In June 2013, the sixth resolution, Resolution 2016, on women in peacebuilding and security was adopted by the Security Council for the response of sexual violence in conflict. This resolution built on many of the previous resolutions on this topic, especially about sexual violence, but also provided more operational details such as deployment of Women Protection Advisors (WPA) in accordance with Resolution 1888, which was a peacekeeping mission to protect women in armed conflict.\(^16\) The latest resolutions, which were created in 2013, are Resolution 2106 and 2122.\(^17\) These resolutions focused on increasing women’s participation in conflict prevention and all areas of peace processes. The United Nation reaffirmed its commitment to improve all implementations, which have achieved their goals on women’s
involvements in peace building across several areas, and to reinforce all relevant resolutions that have been processed.

**Conclusion**

There are many different options when it comes to increasing women participation in peacebuilding. Half the world’s population are women so they should have an equal right to shape the peacebuilding effort that shape the country or region where they reside. Since the founding of the Peacebuilding Commission one of the main goals has been to increase women’s participation in the peace building process. While there has been tremendous strides in this area there is still room for a massive amount of improvement. Women should have a hand in the initial process of planning and continue when those plans are executed and peace has been achieved. Women’s participation in this process from the beginning to end will help eliminate any practices that may discriminate against women and give everybody a chance to provide valuable input.

Delegates should research the history of women in the Peacebuilding process and what is the general consensus. Delegate should also identify what problems arise when women try to participate in the peace negotiating process. How serious are cultural and religion factors? How can The Peacebuilding Commission involve other United Nations bodies to help in this process? How can we implement programs that ensure women involvement in this process is steadily increasing? How can The Peacebuilding Commission work with individual countries without impeding on that country individual sovereignty?
Resources

Introduction


History


I. Case Study: Sierra Leone


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