



XXIX TecMUN

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights



XXIX TecMUN

HORARIO DE SESIONES

Lunes 28 de abril

Registro	8:00 – 9:00 hrs
Ceremonia de Inauguración	9:00 – 10:00 hrs
Receso	10:00 – 10:30 hrs
Primera Sesión	10:30 – 12:30 hrs
Receso	12:30 – 13:00 hrs
Segunda Sesión	13:00 – 15:00 hrs
Comida	15:00 – 16:00 hrs
Tercera Sesión	16:00 – 18:00 hrs

Martes 29 de abril

Panel de Discusión	8:00 – 9:30 hrs
Receso	9:30 – 10:00 hrs
Cuarta Sesión	10:00 – 12:30 hrs
Receso	12:30 – 13:00 hrs
Quinta Sesión	13:00 – 15:00 hrs
Comida	15:00 – 16:00 hrs
Sexta Sesión	16:00 – 18:00 hrs

Miércoles 30 de abril

Séptima Sesión	8:00 – 10:00 hrs
Receso	10:00 – 10:30 hrs
Octava Sesión	10:30 – 12:30 hrs
Receso	12:30 – 13:00 hrs
Novena Sesión	13:00 – 14:30 hrs
Comida	14:30 – 16:00 hrs
Ceremonia de Clausura	16:00 – 17:30 hrs



XXIX TecMUN Sr.

Agenda

"Sólo en las manos del hombre está el destino de la humanidad"

Secretario General: Aldo Adrián Acosta Medina

ASAMBLEA GENERAL

Subsecretaría General: Carla Denise Paucic Osorio

Asamblea General Plenaria

Presidente: Zajari Almaraz Quintana

- A) Infracción radical egipcia en contra de migrantes refugiados sirios como forma de represión y crímenes dentro de éste y otros países de Medio Oriente.
- B) Inestabilidad política y enfrentamientos militares dentro de Sudán del Sur, resultante de tensiones étnicas, culturales y diplomáticas.

Primera Comisión en Desarme y Seguridad Internacional

Presidente: Juan Ramón Díaz Maldonado

- A) Acuerdos entre la OTAN y la Federación Rusa en busca de la paz y regulación de armamento peligroso en Medio Oriente.
- B) Consolidación del régimen establecido en el Tratado para la Proscripción de las Armas Nucleares en América Latina y el Caribe.

Tercera Comisión en Asuntos Sociales Culturales y Humanitarios

Presidente: Gabriela Zaragoza Meza

- A) Convenio del Consejo de Europeo sobre prevención y lucha contra la violencia de mujeres y la violencia doméstica.
- B) Violación de los derechos humanos dentro de las cárceles de América Latina.

Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados

Presidente: Uriel Trejo Pecero

- A) Desplazamiento de grupos congoleños a Uganda debido al conflicto M23, medidas para la protección de estos grupos y posible erradicación del conflicto.
- B) Medidas de protección a refugiados centroafricanos y resolución al conflicto de la República Centroafricana.

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

President: Juan Carlos Velázquez Quiroz

- A) Solutions to an Arising Cultural Hegemony and Talibanisation within Indonesia.
- B) Banditry and insecurity Hindering Humanitarian Efforts in Timbuktu and Fellow Malian Cities.





Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

President: Andrea Cuéllar Medina

A) The Recruitment of Child Soldiers in Darfur, Sudan by the Rebel Sudan Liberation Army.

B) Intimidation and Abduction of Children by Maoist Groups in India for their Recruitment.

CONSEJO ECONÓMICO Y SOCIAL

Subsecretaria General: Paola Rodríguez Escobedo

Comité Contra el Terrorismo

Presidente: Héctor Palafox Prieto

A) Disminución de la violencia dentro del territorio libanés provocada por el grupo de Hezbollah.

B) Creación de una resolución para los posibles enlaces entre las protestas civiles en Egipto con grupos de agitadores o terroristas.

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

President: Gil Zárate Santiago

A) Espionage Activity between Countries and Their Repercussion on Sovereignty.

B) Thailand Violations to International Law towards Military Activity in Cambodia, Modern Irredentism and Measures to Avoid It.

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Presidente: Nelly Elizabeth Marín Vargas

A) Medidas para prevenir y reparar los daños causados por los desechos humanos en el lago victoria en África.

B) Consecuencias para el medio ambiente por las posibles violaciones del Tratado de Prohibición Completa de Ensayos Nucleares.

Commission on the Status of Women

President: Karla Andrea Hernández Andrade

A) Domestic Violence and Sexual Assaults Against Women in Fiji and the Islands in the Pacific.

B) Eradication of Abortion and Female Infanticide in China and India.

World Health Organization

President: Melanie Vértiz Jiménez

A) Possible Solutions to the Increasing Levels of Obesity in Urban Settings and Its Multiple Repercussions on Health.

B) Potential Positive Use of Genetically Modified Foods and Their Impact on the Prevention of Diseases and the Eradication of Poverty and Malnourishment.



Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra la Droga y el Delito

Presidente: Mariana Ceja Bojorge

- A) Extensión de la distribución de nuevas drogas como el Krokodil.
- B) Tráfico de mujeres entre Europa Occidental y Rusia.

AGENCIAS ESPECIALIZADAS Y ORGANISMOS REGIONALES

Subsecretaria General: María del Carmen Salas Alvarez

Council of Europe

President: Valeria Fernanda Valencia Flores

- A) Attacks Perpetrated within Council Borders by Active Terrorist cells.
- B) Racial Crimes Committed against European Ethnic Minorities.

League of Arab States

President: Moisés Romero Guzmán

- A) Needed Actions to Enhance Public Security due to Transgressions by Extremist Paramilitary Groups in the Arab Region.
- B) Course of Actions Towards the Reduction of Oil and Gas Dependence on Persian Gulf Countries with Oil Based Economies.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

President: Iván Gilberto Martín Enciso

- A) Consequences of ISAF's Withdrawal from the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in 2014 after the Country's Democratic Elections.
- B) NATO-Russian Federation Plans in order to Achieve Peace in Middle East with Special focus in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Security Council

President: Emiliano Reyes Pardo

- A) Violations of the International Humanitarian Law by Seleka Elements within the Central African Republic.
- B) Peace Implementation in Liberia following their Civil Conflict regarding the Influence of the United Nations Mission in Liberia

Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission

President: Emilio González Rentería

- A) Possible Nuclear Breakout regarding Iran's Nuclear Fuel Facilities.
- B) Course of Action towards the Control of Improvised Nuclear Devices and their Assembly by Terrorist Groups.

International Court of Justice

President: Marco Antonio Casas Moreno

- A) Jurisdictional Immunity of the State regarding Post World War II Proceedings (Germany vs Italy).
- B) Belgian Arrest Warrant of April 2000 (Democratic Republic of Congo vs Belgium).





Delegados,

Siempre pensé en la importancia de esta carta, de este último discurso, de esta despedida. Al escribirla sólo pienso en la manera correcta de englobar todo lo que TecMUN me ha enseñado, lo que espero que les enseñé a ustedes , y las altas expectativas que tengo de todos los presentes. Como sé que es imposible lograrlo en su totalidad, a través de palabras y en tan poco tiempo, tendré que conformarme con darles sólo los aspectos que considero más importantes de la experiencia que ha significado TecMUN para mí. Quiero platicarles que soy una persona que genuinamente cree en las corazonadas y, hasta el momento , nunca me han fallado. Una de esas corazonadas se llama TecMUN.

Gracias a esa corazonada fui delegadas, moderadora, vicepresidente, presidente y ahora subsecretaria, y por fin, 13 años después de mi primer contacto con TecMUN, entiendo por qué la vida puso esto en mi camino. Les puedo decir que este modelo es parte fundamental de lo que soy hoy y quiero invitarlos a que encuentren algo, como lo ha sido TecMUN para mí, que les de identidad y fuerza para levantarse todos los días y hacer lo que desean. La gente con pasión hace mejor las cosas, la gente con pasión es exitosa y cambia al mundo.

Aquí voy de nuevo, hablando del éxito, como siempre lo hago. Para mí, la clave del éxito se encuentra en hacer las cosas con coraje y entrega, pero sobre todo, la clave está en confiar en uno mismo. Créanme que todo lo que necesitan para ser aún más grandes en la vida ya lo tienen, ya les fue otorgado. Ustedes tiene la máquina perfecta para lograr todo lo que se propongan, su única limitante, escúchenme bien, es su mente. Lamentablemente, uno suele darse cuenta de esto hasta que es llevado al límite y hasta que sólo cuenta consigo mismo. Es por eso que me gustaría ahorrarles unas cuantas decepciones y garantizarles que ustedes son los dueños de su destino.

Yo no me dirijo a ustedes como futuros líderes del planeta, sino como líderes actuales del mundo, porque el desempeño que han tenido estos tres días lo demuestran. Tengo la certeza que el universo está mejorando por personas como nosotros, con hambre de cambiar el orden actual, empezando por cambiarnos a nosotros mismos. Porque nosotros no tenemos miedo a equivocarnos, nosotros únicamente tememos a quedarnos con los brazos cruzados mientras todo se queda igual.

Claro es, que necesitamos la suma de fuerzas para cambiar los problemas globales que nos aquejan; por lo cual es indispensable que aprendamos a escuchar, dialogar, alzar la voz y sobre todo, a ceder. Y esto es algo que sí se aprende en tres días y que se aplica para toda la vida, así es que vayan y aplíquenlo día con día.





Les deseo lo mejor,

Paola Rodríguez Escobedo

Subsecretaria General para el Consejo Económico y Social para el XXIX TecMUN





Hello, old friend.

And here we are. You and me on the last page.

So many years ago I was sitting right there where you are, like so many before, anxious about how this whole project would unfold, and not sure if this was what I wanted to do for the next three days of my week, let alone the next 6 years of my life. Then I grew up and got to make my dream of standing right here in front of you and write this letter came true. Thank you for sharing this moment with me, thank you for choosing to be here; you may have just made the most important decision in the universe.

So many people have told me throughout the years that TecMUN is just not worth it, that TecMUN is a lie. And maybe it is, but for almost thirty years thousands of ordinary human beings just like you have fought, quarrelled, spoken up, negotiated, and spent countless hours to make it an extraordinary truth. The same goes out to human rights. They have been source of debate ever since they were born; nevertheless, they should not be considered a universal truth, or an empty shell of possible ideas –they should be considered something we choose to believe in, in order to empower ourselves and the society we live in through compassion, respect, integrity and empathy.

For the next three days, I want you to believe in your potential and your knowledge, “give every man thine ear, but few thy voice; take each man's censure, but reserve thy judgment”. People make explanations; assign meanings to things without knowing, because it's reassuring, comforting. Do not ever do that. You will need to let your ego, insecurities and prejudice at the door so that we can work together to push this committee forward, and think of a solution to the topics at hand. It may not be easy, and there may come times when you start questioning why on Earth are you doing this, since any resolutions you can come up with will never come to fruition in the real world. But what you must realize is that you are giving the first step, you are throwing the first blow at the walls of indecision, inaction and nihilism. You have the potential in your hands, and you have the power to start a revolution of thought and consciousness to try and make this world a better place, as clichéd or as impossible as it may sound. Being an initiator of change puts you already halfway through.





When you leave the earth, nobody is going to care about what mistakes you made, or how smart or wrecked up you were. They are not going to care about your appearance, what you studied, or how many people knew you. They are going to care about the changes you made in the world you live in, the people whose hearts and souls you touched. “They are going to care about that one person you told that one little inspirational thing to, and they look back at you and knew they were not alone. So be that for each other right now, and when you leave tonight, go home, grab your guitar, grab your piano, and grab your pen and paper, and don’t give up”.

In this world of progress and technology, it is easy to lose touch with your crazy dreams and hopes. Don’t ever let the machine take you into a place where you don’t belong. Stay right here on this earth, not on the day before or the day after. We need you. We need you to have crazy thoughts in your head.

The floor is now coming to a close, at least for your president. Keep fighting on and keep pushing forward. Go to people, and tell them a story. Tell them to be kind to one another, to stand up for what’s right. Tell them that if they are patient and willing to open their mind to the impossible, things will get better. I promise.

This is my story with you, TecMUN, and this is how it ends.

AFTERWORD

By Juan Carlos Velázquez

President of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

For the XXIX TecMUN.





Topic A: Impact of an arising social and cultural hegemony in the Indonesian archipelago.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights was born as a mandate on December 20th, 1993, and was consolidated with the Centre for Human Rights as a whole on September 15th, 1997. It derives from Articles 1, 13 and 55 of the Charter of the United Nations and is headed by the United Nations' High Commissioner. Its headquarters are located in Geneva, but it has a fellow base of operations in New York City, NY.

The Office seeks to build commitment in the international community around the notions of equality and human dignity, while encouraging individuals to empower each other and themselves with respect and "otherity". It's priorities can be found in the OHCHR Plan of Action and its Annual Management Plan, but among these we can find greater country engagement, implementation of the human rights standards on the ground, and partnership with civil society and other agencies in the UN.

It also supports other mechanisms that work to keep the beliefs of human rights alive, such as the Human Rights Council and the core treaty bodies.

Background

The very concept of cultural hegemony varies from region to region, from continent to continent, since it is linked to the historical and cultural context of every society.

What all those diverse notions have in common when denoting cultural hegemony, at least under a Marxist philosophy, is that they describe the term as a culturally diverse group getting subjugated by the ruling class. Subjugation and domination not always in a violent, archaic way, but also as a slow and steady command on the points of view, practices, explanations, mores, values and perceptions of a society. Being the controlling factor means they have sway over the speech – whomever controls the speech controls power.



Diversity

The Indonesian archipelago is home to over 180 million people, 300 ethnic groups and 600 dialects. Ethnic and cultural disagreements are not unusual, but when they are not controlled they may escalate. With that in mind, Indonesia's center — Java—possesses a strong military force and state ideology that brutally silence any sign of dissatisfaction.

There are at least three major ideologies clashing and overpowering Indonesian autonomy — the New Order state, Javanisation Talibanisation.

New Order

A far-reaching component of the central control focuses on the national philosophy of Pancasila, which forms the ideological framework for the state. Pancasila is the official philosophical foundation of Indonesia, and used to be based on five principles regarding notions like belief in the divinity of God, unity, social justice in Indonesia, and democracy. Prior to being elected Indonesia's first president, leader Sukarno shifted the philosophy's priorities to reflect a fusion of socialism, nationalism and monotheism.

Under the contemporary New Order, all organisations are forced to adhere to it as a basic principle. The 1985 Cultural Policy states "care is taken that destructive superstitions are not tolerated in these local beliefs. All local groups must have a belief in God."

Since the philosophy's values are ambiguous, in practice, political and social actors have exploited them to justify their grim actions, even attacking anyone who opposes them by condemning them 'anti-Pancasila'.

Decolonization

Several events have taken place since Sukarno, the first President of Indonesia, announced Indonesia's independence in 1945. These include the decolonization of museums, the blurring of the distinction between ethnographic artifact and fine art



(ethnographic and art museums experienced parallel development), and the indigenization of museums within Indonesia. Currently, in both Western and Indonesian museums, Indonesian material culture is increasingly seen, once again, as vested with special meaning, value, and a social structure. Recently, a vast amount of research has focused on the encoded symbolism in the objects.

The term "decolonization" deliberately implies the conscious attempt to disrupt the balance of power that characterized the colonial period. The most important element of decolonization, from the point of view of the museum and its collecting practices, is the recognition that the people who created the material culture are a fundamental part of the museum's spectatorship. The Indonesian regional museum affords increased participation in the process of assembly and collecting, resulting in an interesting cultural hybridization. Western museums have also begun to reassess their methods of display. The Tropen Museum in the Netherlands, cast in point, has pioneered the decolonization of Dutch museums. They have changed the function of the active colonial institution into a new cross-cultural evaluating forum. The new public forum established a discussion of the past biases and future intercultural understanding. Exhibitions at the Tropen are now designed to involve viewer participation in the overall understanding of the cultural background of the object displayed.

Art and object, socially, contain very powerful social messages. Indonesian artifacts continue to possess strong ethnic and community messages specific to a time and place. Because of the suggestive and evocative powers of the traditional arts and cultures, they have become one of the most stimulating powers and topics of debate in Indonesia's national construction.

In the process of creating an Indonesian national culture and identity, many cultural art forms experience cultural hybridization or become "selected traditions", via the process of redefinition and recontextualization of the object's "evocative" ethnic and community messages. Indonesia selects "high points" of the various regional cultures to create a hybrid national culture within the context of the New Order state.



Java

The Javanese are an ethnic group in the Indonesian archipelago. It is centered in the Yogyakarta, East and Central Java provinces of Indonesia. Anthropologist Clifford Geertz used to argue that to the present day it “remains the axis on which Indonesian life turns”. The group, imposing Javanese aesthetics and policies and an inherent cultural prejudice that enforces this Java-centric viewpoint, has colonized the country within its own borders. Several political and social parties insist this process will help unify the country in the long run, but not all regions get equal benefits or import.

Under the motto “Unity and Diversity”, the government takes the license to rewrite history in order to accommodate their version of the present. Customs and art forms have to undergo javanisation to make the leap into the “Unity in Diversity”, and those that cannot cope with the adjustment do not fare well. The modernisation that the government is pushing for is rapidly fossilizing past behaviors; icons of local culture that quarrel with state ideology risk becoming cultural dispossessed and preserved as "traditional".

With the governments help, these ideas are massively spread out with the aid of radio and television. Through this, the government is promoting a state creed that prevents ethnic, linguistic, regional and religious differences from becoming political forces in the whole archipelago.

Public Reaction

A common sentiment among local cultures is that the Indonesian central government does not recognize the autonomy of local cultures to express and live reaction to the marginalization and enforced modernization process, local cultures have sought to set themselves apart from the dominating centralized culture. Rallies and mass gatherings have been common since the 1980's. Yet, the government neglects their past to establish a hegemonic, modern nation according to Javanese standards; but what they' fail to see is that these local cultures are becoming self-aware populations in response to the enforced conformity, and are potentially a political force to be reckoned with. By itself, it is a



reasonable and recommended next step, but political parties perceiving it as a threat might ignite confrontations and instability. The policies repressing the ethical and cultural differences are thereby creating even more dissonances as a result.

Islamic Vehemence

Talibanization is an evolved branch of cultural hegemony. It is a term coined by liberals to describe the situation taking place in several eastern countries, like Indonesia. As a social Islamic movement grows more powerful and popular, other religious movements or groups have started following or imitating the strict practices of the Taliban.

Practices emulated by groups following the Taliban revolve around a discriminatory sentiment towards minorities and philosophies foreign to the Taliban, and particularly aggressive towards citizens with different sexual orientation or practices and women. Regarding the latter, we find an authoritarian regulation of their being and their undertakings. For instance, two years ago the Indonesian parliament started working on plans to ban mini-skirts claiming “wearing clothing like that could trigger [men] to do things.” After a series of rapes, this seemed to place the blame of the crimes against women on the very victims. Mini-skirts and related samples of more liberal, Western-inspired clothes are very popular in the region, namely Jakarta, where they are seen in all the dance-clubs and other social gathering sites. The Speaker of the People’s Representative Council Marzuki Alie even said he was preparing draft rules banning female politicians and staff members from wearing mini-skirts because ‘there have been a lot of rape cases and other immoral acts recently and this is because women aren’t wearing appropriate clothes’. These regulations led to an outcry from women’s rights activists and supporters in the social media.

Other attitudes and practices banned on the grounds that they are Western-influenced include:



- Several mass media communication forms are prohibited: movies, television, videos, music...
- Non-Muslim artifacts and icons, including carvings and statues such as Buddha's of Bamyán, are forbidden and destroyed on sight.
- Shelter is given to Al Qaeda and other Islamic groups.
- Sumptuary laws are enacted to segregate non-Muslims like the Afghan Hindus – they are required to wear yellow badges, a practice reminiscent of Nazi Germany's policies.

A religious police is used to enforce the regulations, even though other Muslim groups generally tolerate and accept these differences.

The Taliban's influence has reached other sectors and even religions. Christians have put their differences aside and joined them to stop any show or fellow form of expression that doesn't fit with the Muslim ideals from reaching Indonesia, like traditional theater, for example. Anything that encourages the Indonesian society to think critically about their religion or their society is considered dangerous and a potential threat to the radical Islamist groups.

This has taken its toll on Western Europe, with some Muslims not just resisting occidental values and laws of the countries they have chosen to live in, or not integrating, but actively pursuing to change those laws or be exempted from them, be it violence, death threats, or murder to punish anyone who questions or goes against the compatibility of conservative Islam with liberal democracies.

The alleged multicultural groups are yet oblivious to Islam's fundamental ideology that opposes diversity. Critical thinking, sexual freedom, gender equality, religious plurality and other positions are strongly regulated and even banned.



Article 32 of the 1945 Constitution states that the government will develop a national culture that expresses the personality and vitality of all the people in Indonesia. By the mid-1980's, local traditions that were wrongly perceived as political obstacles to the unity of the nation, its sense of progress, and its modernity were slated for change. The traditions that actually survive are those that retain a function useful to the ruling class in the modern context, leaving huge gaps of neglected cultural development behind.

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Topic B: Banditry and insecurity hindering humanitarian efforts in Timbuktu and fellow Malian cities.

Background

The historical past of Sub-Saharan Africa has been one of instability and sociopolitical shifts. In the region of Mali “the nature of the transition from 23 years of Moussa Traoré's military dictatorship to a democratic regime has, to a great extent, shaped the character, strategies and needs of human rights Non-Governmental Organizations in contemporary Mali”. Under an authoritarian African regime, all institutions and organizations, including women’s organizations and trade unions, were required to join the one-party ruling the state. Nevertheless, in 1982 the government ratified the African Charter on Human Rights and Peoples Rights. By the end of the Cold War, people revolted seeking for a democratic reconstruction of their African society, with Mali right in the center of the quarrel. Traoré’s government replied with mass killings of students and children in 1991. Many Non-Governmental Organizations rose to put an end to the situation, particularly those that stood by women’s rights.

Moussa Traoré was overthrown, and Mali’s political space was now open for mass politics and treaties. Over ninety-seven national NGO’s exist ever since the political transition in Mali.

In practice, however, these social secessions and transitions have not been easily applied in the entirety of the country. Examples of the issues regarding the Tension between state security and human rights, as well as the ongoing structural adjustment policy, are numerous.

Disenchanted population and corrupt military forces

A sentiment of skepticism towards human rights advocacy and democracy is common in the population. This is in large part due to the difficult economic and social situation, which in turn causes rebels and bandits to take arms and stand up.

In the middle of one of the worst food shortages since last century, researcher Gaetan Mootoo says: “The entire north of the country has been taken over by armed groups who



are running riot. Ten of thousands of people have fled the region, creating a humanitarian crisis in Mali and in neighboring countries.”

Attacks against peacekeepers from the United Nations are not unlikely, as assailants attack their camps in North Mali. Delegates found evidence that Tuareg people and Islamist groups in this same region have child soldiers within their ranks, who receive the same treatment and live under the same conditions as any other involved in the conflict.

Both parties are responsible for the violations to human rights. Malian soldiers have been known of imprisoning, beating and even executing civilians under the slightest accusations or signs of suspicion. “The Malian security forces’ human rights record since January is, simply, appalling. They continue to violate human rights with apparently no fear of being held accountable,” said Gaëtan Mootoo, Amnesty International researcher and member of this research mission. Malian authorities have indeed recognized there have been trespasses and violations, yet so far no one has been brought to justice.

Insecurity hinders aid distribution in northern Mali

As Mali tries to restore order after a coup in March 2012, a key challenge for the interim civilian government will be getting aid to people as the country verges on a humanitarian disaster. The security breach that followed the uprising allowed Tuareg rebels to take over the northern part of the country. Dioncounda Traore took over as Mali's interim president on Thursday after rebel leaders agreed to return power to civilians. Nearly 80 percent of Malian territory comprising the northern regions of Gao, Timbuktu and Kidal is under the control of a mix of Tuareg-led rebels, who have declared an independent state in the north, and armed Islamic groups. France launched a military offensive on 11 January to oust them, but remnants of the rebels remain.

Aid agencies say about 100,000 internally displaced people urgently need assistance including shelter. Residents of some northern towns say they are trapped without food, water, electricity, money and medical care. But for international aid groups bound by



principles of independence and impartiality, securing access to communities must be based on humanitarian best practices that do not encourage the use of armed groups.

“I don’t see how armed escorts would make the situation safer for us in the north,” said Olivier Vandecasteele, head of the medical charity Medecins du Monde (MDM) in Mali.

He also said Non-Governmental Organisations need to urgently redeploy their teams across Mali, adding MDM, which was also hit by the attacks in the north, is restarting work in the northern towns of Kidal and Gao where there is a high need for basic healthcare. Aid groups say the involvement of local militias and Islamist groups in what was initially a conflict between Malian forces and Tuareg-led rebels of the Movement for the Liberation of the Azawad (MNLA) has shifted the situation, making it harder to negotiate and secure humanitarian access.

Rebellion and Public Reaction

Over three and a half million people have suffered without the aid of the humanitarian efforts, and even though several institutions (Oxfam, ECOWAS, UNHCR) have tried to help the region to grow a stronger economy and change its current social and political situation, the government still punishes the groups that try to stand up to it. Mali’s government closed borders and harbors to avoid external influence, and this greatly affected the economy because around 40% of the region’s basic supplies are imported from other countries. As well as basic goods the import of fuel was also limited, reducing possibilities to use transportation and thus putting the economy and the people in a worse situation.

The UN fears that the closure of borders and limited access to basic supplies and fuel will also affect the natives that try to seek refuge in neighboring countries. Around 210, 000 malians have been forced to flee their birthplace because of the constant riot and social discrimination. Last year the UNHCR registered that 400 persons arrived per day to refugees in Burkina, Faso and Mauritania.





Humanitarian Health and Nutrition Aid to People Displaced by Violence

As the crisis continued, the food situation worsened by the first weeks of January 2012; then in April 1st the International Committee of the Red Cross' warehouses, staff and properties were stolen, and this forced the Committee to temporarily reduce its presence in Timbuktu and northern Mali. The situation was too dangerous for the ICRC to return considering all the weapon bearers and rebels in the region; with the help of the Malian Red Cross the ICRC was able to reinstate the humanitarian efforts.

Speaking about the armed groups, Boris Michel, the ICRC's Head of Operations in Northern and Western Africa said: "It is imperative that we establish or re-establish a dialogue with them [...] The strictly neutral and impartial humanitarian role of the ICRC must be accepted by all. Our staff, and our buildings, vehicles and other property - all of which are indispensable to providing aid for victims of the fighting - must also be respected."

After starting their labor once again, the ICRC staff distributed food and basic supplies to over 40,000 to people displaced by violence.

On account of the aggravation of the crisis, countries divided, with some withdrawing their support to Mali. On the other hand, countries like Canada actually increased their investments to aid the region in health care needs, malnutrition, and humanitarian assistance. Prime Minister Julian Fantino stated: "Canada will continue its life-saving work in Mali through humanitarian and development assistance." Such support is distributed to United Nations Agencies and Non Governmental Organisations who will purvey nutrition services, health care, shelter, water and sanitation to Malian refugees.

But the aid is not perceived as enough by some. In the WIDER Working Paper Foreign Aid in Dangerous Places: The Donors and Mali's Democracy, Nicholas Van de Walle comments on the actions of donors towards Mali, claiming their efficacy should not



be over-rated, and thinks the international community could have done more to help avert the recent political turmoil. Van de Walle argues that while aid has had a positive impact on some areas of democratic consolidation, it has so far failed to address the three significant structural problems with Mali's democracy: weak institutions of accountability, regional divisions between voting blocs, and the gap between elites and the average Malian.

Fringe future

Last summer, the Security Council received reports that Mali witnessed the most successful and peaceful presidential election in years. Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta, from the Rally for Mali party won by an astounding 77.61% over his peers.

Events like these during the last few months are important displays of progress and opens up talks about new prospects for Mali's possible recovery and long-term future development. Nevertheless, recent attacks also display the need to address the root causes of the country's problems. Just last year Mali nearly collapsed thanks to its volatility along with shocking malnutrition levels and serious humanitarian needs.



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Operative Clauses

- Accepts
- Affirms
- Approves
- Authorizes
- Calls
- Calls upon
- Condemns
- Congratulates
- Considers
- Deplores
- Designates
- Emphasizes
- Encourages
- Expresses in appreciation
- Further proclaims
- Further recommends
- Further requests
- Further resolves
- Notes
- Proclaims
- Reaffirms
- Recommends
- Regrets
- Resolves
- Solemnly affirms
- Strongly condemns
- Supports
- Urges

Preambulatory clauses

- Affirming
- Alarmed by
- Approving
- Aware of
- Conscious of
- Confident
- Contemplating
- Deeply concerned
- Deeply disturbed
- Desiring
- Emphasizing
- Expressing its appreciation
- Expressing its satisfaction
- Fully aware
- Alarmed
- Further recalling
- Guided by
- Having adopted
- Having considered
- Having examined
- Having studied
- Keeping in mind
- Noting
- Reaffirming
- Realizing
- Welcoming
- Having Heard
- Believe

