

SBAMUN 2018

9/11 - Crisis Committee

BACKGROUND GUIDE

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Letter from the Chairperson

Dear delegates, welcome to the 9/11 Crisis Committee for SBAMUN 2018! My name is Varun V, and I will be your Chairperson for this committee. I could not be more thrilled to seeing you all in November. I sincerely hope that this conference will give you an enriching experience, and you will go back not only with increased knowledge, but with a wider perspective on the various ways you can deal perform in a crisis committee. My only request is that you are open minded and approach the conference with a diplomatic mind, and are tolerant of the various ideas that will be put forward during the conference.

I expect delegates to be well versed about the agenda and the technicalities, and the first step towards achieving that step is completely reading this background guide carefully. It contains important information pertaining to crisis committees in general, and what tools you will have access to as delegates. Whether you're a first timer or a veteran MUNner, please do not be intimidated by the Rules of Procedure, or overwhelmed by the agenda itself.

We appreciated logical and factual arguments more than anything. Research well and present your countries policies in a coherent manner. It is imperative that you understand Model UN is really not about awards, but about learning and developing skills; the benefit of which you will realize only later in life.

Once again, it's a pleasure to serve you as an Executive Board member for this committee, and if there are any questions at all, please do not hesitate to email me about your queries.

Chairperson

Varun V

me.varun.v@gmail.com

Crisis Committees

Crisis committees, in many aspects, represent the upper echelon of the Model United Nations circuit. While other councils may be equally difficult, the difficulty of a crisis committee resides in the more research-oriented setting rather than the low probability of being called on in a large body.

The most exciting part of such committees is that crises move forward in time and can be affected by events that occur in the outside world. Wars may break out, natural disasters can occur, and scandals or corruption can be revealed. You will have many chances to speak; therefore, your speech must maintain substantive quality as well as strength. This requires you to respond intelligently with leadership coupled with logical debate. The ever-changing dynamics of the committee also means that lost momentum can easily be regained as crises develop. During the simulation, you should try your best to represent your allotment and his or her interests by reacting to situations appropriately.

However, its nature as a hypothetical council does not make foreign policy any less important - whatever approach you choose to take must be in line with your country's interests, and if that means a rejection of whatever the council comes up with, then that is what you will have to do. This opens the door to a multitude of approaches, both realistic and idealistic.

Tools

Your reaction to a situation expresses itself through six tools that you can use: Directives, Secret Directives, Communiqués, Secret Communiqués and Press Releases. Please read this carefully. **Additionally, whenever releasing any of the following, it is imperative that they are extremely detailed and are really possible. Maintaining reality is paramount, even (and especially) in a fictional committee like this. You are therefore advised to learn about the capabilities of your allotment, what and jurisdiction you have.**

If you are one of the al-Qaeda delegates, you should keep in mind what can actually be done, given what we know of what is possible.

Note that the Chairperson will be acting as the President of the United States of America.

Above all remember: This is the first time you are experiencing it. While we all know what really happened, **it is your job to act as though it is happening for the first time.** For example, if you are a delegate in the US government, you cannot do something like “stop the terrorists at

the airport” or something of the like. You do not know the future. Remember. You are in 2001. Not in 2018. You do not know what is going to happen. You are also limited by the technology 2001 and you must be prepared accordingly.

Directive

As the representative of a state, you can send in a directive to the EB, highlighting what you want your nation to do next in the light of the crisis and recent updates. This can be sent via chat. Two or more countries can also send in a Joint Directive. This is generally used to show support for a delegate’s plan of action, and to provide military or any other support for them as well. The EB will have complete discretion over whether or not to pass the directive. The best directives are those that are not just approved by a large majority of the committee, but those that also prove that a representative (or a bloc) has in-depth knowledge of the situation.

Secret Directive

It is of the same nature as a directive except that the content of the directive is not communicated to the committee. The outcome of the directive is however, communicated to the committee. This can include anything from troop positioning to assassination orders.

Communiqué

Communiqués are messages from the entire committee to another country, organization, person or group of people. These facilitate dialogue with relevant actors in a crisis. Communiqués often include negotiations, threats, and requests for aid or support but are not limited to the above stated.

Secret Communiqué

It is of the same nature as a communiqué except that all communication is kept private between the delegate(s) and the recipient(s) involved.

Press Release

This is a statement issued by the delegate, generally, after providing reasons for certain actions via directives. Press releases are similar to communiqués in the fact that they are sent from the committee as a whole; the difference lies in the fact that a press release is addressed to the public.

Timeline

Committee will start at 7:00AM, September 11, 2001. Until this moment, nothing major has happened yet. It is up to you, and your allotment to undertake whatever action that you desire, bearing in mind the policy of your allotment. While you are undertaking your actions, and based on your directives, I may add slight twists or create new updates. So be diligent in your directives.

Conclusion

In conclusion, further your own agenda, and take into account every single possibility. See the larger picture in the crisis. Committee will be medium – fast paced so be prepared accordingly. It can be however you want it to be. You can do what you want. You can avert the crisis, or you can escalate it to a World War (not really, but you get the point). The choice is yours. Be pragmatic in your approach, and above all, have a lot of fun!