

SECURITY COUNCIL SC

Handbook



TAEMUN

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“Men are born free, responsible and without excuses”

- Jean Paul Sartre –

Dear Delegates,

First of all, be welcomed to this 9th edition of TAEMUN 2012. It is our pleasure to represent a committee as important as the Security Council of the United Nations Organization. For decades, this subsidiary organ has fought actions that may attempt against international security, and in this case, it is our turn to work on cases inside Somalia and Libya. During the next three days, we will be working together in order to achieve solutions to the following topics:

- Topic A: The Protection of Somali natural resources and waters.
- Topic B: Peace building after conflicts: The case of Libya.

The chair expects the delegates to work together following the principles of the United Nations, so as to accomplish its main goal; peace through international security. Along with this, we want all of the delegation present in this committee to stand for the values of diplomacy, negotiation and international cooperation. As well as paying respect towards the committee, the model and to the other delegations.

Security Council,
TAEMUN 2012



Topic A: The Protection of Somali natural resources and waters.

Since the withdrawal of the British and Italian forces from Somali territory in 1960, the Republic of Somalia has been struggling to establish itself as a democratic political entity. Somalia's government problems started with Siad Barre's coup in 1969, when the country was "proclaimed" a democracy. Along came the Ethiopian war and the rise of petrol's price, hence and economical crisis struck Somalia.

In 1991, with the creation of the United Somali Congress (USC), Barre's dictatorship was threatened and ended after two years of civil war. The people divided the country into three parts, Somaliland, Puntland and Somalia, due to ethnic and interest differences.



This divergence started a set of confrontations within the Somali territory which hasn't ended up to date. In the same year, there was an attempt to reconcile the country with the election of Abdulkasim Salat as president. However, the opposing part or rebel group made its

unconformity be noticed.

Several terrorist confrontations against the Somali government from the group Al Shabaab caused the United States of America to relate Somalia to Al Qaeda, of course, economical sanctions were applied towards the already unbalanced country. The combination of the danger Somali civilians were in, the lack of political and economical steadiness and the external interventions of other military groups in Somalia made a third president resign his position, since he was not able to consolidate a government program that would rescue Somalia from chaos. For any gubernatorial leader, ending with anarchy would mean giving Somalia the opportunity to emerge as a unified country.



Even though all three parts of the country are recognized as one, the Democratic Republic of Somalia, the whole territory has a great influence in the income Somalia receives. Being desert, the country has got several cons in terms of its development as a powerful economy.

Since Somalia is located in the Horn of Africa, it has got an arid 637 660 km² territory. In spite of this, a great part (40%) of Somalia's gross domestic product¹ (GDP) comes from agricultural activities because more than 70 per cent of the land is used for these. Pastoralism has been the most common livelihood for the people of the country for centuries, as well as becoming a top supporter of national economy and maintenance. The rural population has taken the main role in pastoralism, which consists in the nomad and sedentary herding of camels, sheep and goats. Also, the United Nations and World Bank Coordination Secretariat has reported that 55 per cent of households in Somalia depend on agro-pastoralism².

The country has been unlucky when it comes to the frequent droughts (1987, 2000, 2004, 2008 and 2010-2011) it has been affected by. These natural phenomena and unproductive conditions have decreased Somalia's agricultural potential noticeably. For instance, livestock has been affected gravely because of the many diseases the lack of water causes, along with this situation, the country's exports decrease, hence, the whole population is damaged economically. On top of this, it is estimated that in 2004, 43 per cent of the Somali population lived with a per capita income of less than a U.S. dollar³ a day.

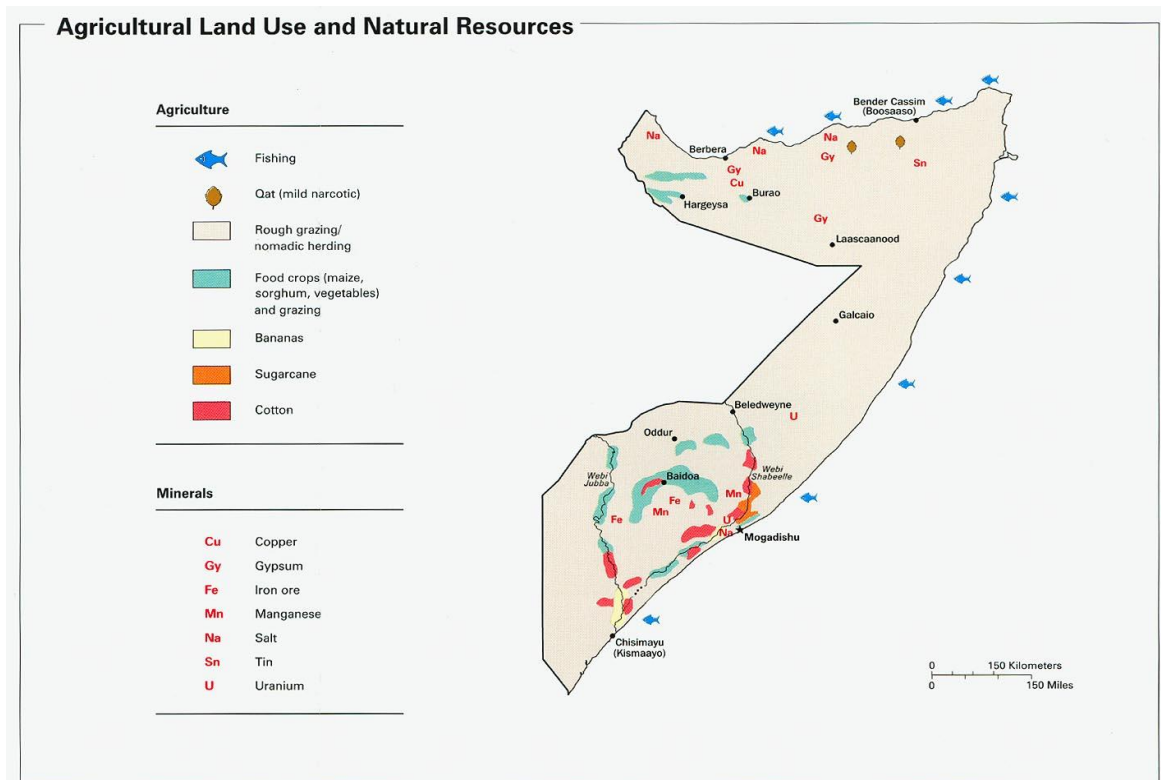
Somali agriculture has its basis on products such as sorghum, corn, coconuts, rice, sugarcane, mangoes, sesame seeds and beans. In the following map we can see the distribution of the production of these and other products.

¹ Please do check the FAO STATS web page.

² Available at <http://www.somali-jna.org>

³ According to AQUASTAT





FAO (2012) *Somalia Natural Resources* at <http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/index.asp?lang=en&iso3=SOM&subj=2>

Due to the droughts and lack of government support, there have been food shortages and famine status for more than 400 million people in Somalia. Pest infestations are one of the results of the water contamination problem the country suffers from. Most of the available amount of water for the population is saline and there are a lot of water shortages all over the country. The main cause of food and water shortages is that the country prioritizes needs, and in this case, exports are something to focus on because of the importance it has in national economy.

Programs designed to protect the population from food and water shortages, as well as from hazardous waste have not been able to be sustained economically. As we already know, the rebel group in Somalia has played an important role during its history; this is why it has got a lot to do with the shortages in the country. It has been estimated that the terrorist group Al-Shabaab generates between \$70 and \$100 million due to illegal international trading of goods. Also, within the country, there are approximately 750 thousand people at risk of death because of the lack of food



insecurity.⁴

In Somalia there is no legal framework for environmental and natural resources protection because of the lack of unity within the country. There have been several attempts to establish this necessary framework but they have only been accomplished within the regional administrations of Somaliland and Puntland. Piracy and armed robbery in the seas is a main indicator of the need of a national framework, in which the whole country is included in order to have a peaceful community. International cooperation is desperately needed in Somalia in order to accomplish national integration and security.

Guide Questions

1. What can your delegation do in order to help Somalia with the creation of a national legal framework?
2. In order to end with the violence and shortages in Somalia, what action plan can the Somali government abide?
3. Has your delegation taken any actions to reactivate Somali economy?

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⁴ Data from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (OCHA)



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