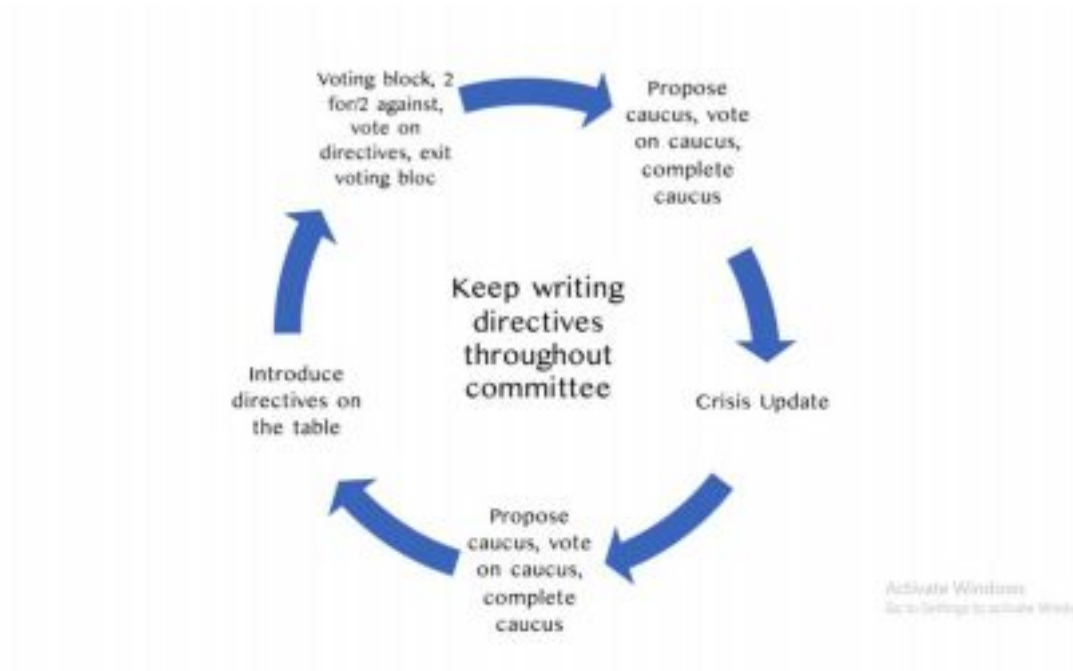


Chair: Hamadi Barry Braimah

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

The crisis committee in MUN simulates a real-time and developing crisis and involves delegates discussing and coming up with realistic solutions to said crisis in a less structured setting. Compared to the GA (General Assembly), the crisis committee allows delegates to speak more freely and openly and is usually pacier in the discussion. Also, the crisis committee usually features dramatic updates on the crisis, which may not always be accurate today; however, it allows delegates to think on their feet. (TritonMUN at UCSD)

General Flow of Proceedings of the Crisis Committee



ARISMUN CRISIS COMMITTEE

DOCUMENTS

- **Directives**

Unlike in the General Assembly, delegates in the Crisis Committee do not draft resolutions but instead frequently write a document called a Directive in response to crisis updates. This document includes sponsors, signatories, and operative clauses just like a draft resolution, however, preambulatory clauses are not required. They must be very specific, detailed, and must be a good attempt at

solving the crisis at hand and must be done quickly, so other, equally important, issues are addressed. (Wyszynski)

- **Crisis Notes**

These are notes written by delegates, and they give detail on how the delegate wants to use their resources. They must be specific and sent privately to the intended recipient. Unlike directives, crisis notes are not voted on and do not represent the views of the committee. (GatorMUN)

*Note that due to the virtual nature of this conference, there may be some changes to how the documents will be 'written' or carried out. This will be addressed in our pre-conference training sessions.

THE MALI CRISIS

On the 18th of August 2020, the President of Mali, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, along with the Prime Minister, Boubou Cisse and the rest of the cabinet were ousted by the Malian Armed forces in a coup d'etat. Their resignation was televised and sent shockwaves across West Africa and even around the world. This is 8 years after Mali's previous coup in 2012, which highlights the fact that Mali's current crisis has its roots in the past.

THE ISSUES

For years, Mali has been tackling many humanitarian, economic and security issues especially since the country's last coup d'etat in 2012. One of the most pressing issues since then has been the insurgency that has affected some neighbouring countries (Burkina Faso and Niger) and has spread into vital parts of the country, such as the capital. The lack of action from the government on this issue infuriated many Malians. However, the spark was the abduction of opposition leader Soumaila Cisse by six-shooters while he was campaigning, which resulted in a string of events that led up to 31 seats being overturned after parliamentary elections, giving Boubacar Keita the majority seat in parliament which in turn struck controversy and rage. On the 5th of June 2020, other outstanding issues such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the allegations of corruption against the government, an unstable economy, coupled with the unaddressed insurgency marked the start of widespread protests in Mali which lasted months with some turning violent and leading to hundreds of casualties. (Al Jazeera)

INTERVENTIONS I

Interventions from African countries befell as a result of this. According to Al Jazeera, the

interventions were mainly done out of fear for protests spreading into other countries and causing regional turmoil. In light of this, a five-day summit was organized by ECOWAS to assist in reaching an agreement between the M5-RFP ("Movement of the 5th of June - Rally of Patriotic Forces" opposition group) and Boubacar Keita; however, an agreement was not reached since the opposition was adamant on his resignation. After that, a one-day summit involving leaders of Ivory Coast, Senegal, Ghana, Nigeria, and Niger met with Ibrahim Boubacar Keita and protest leaders of the M5-RFP for the consideration and mediation of proposed solutions. During the summit, mediators suggested the formation of a government inclusive of both the opposition and the ruling government. They also suggested the reappointment of court judges to reduce the chances of electoral bias. Keita swore in 9 new constitutional judges in response. However, this did not resolve the dispute. Additionally, ECOWAS imposed sanctions on Mali while discussions were taking place behind the scenes which did not bear any fruit either. (France 24 and Reuters)

AFTERMATH AND CURRENT SITUATION

As it turned out, these efforts from neighbouring West African countries were not enough to stop the coup d'etat that followed. Immediately, after the coup, the military leaders closed the borders and introduced a curfew however these measures have all been removed. As of now, the new military leaders have promised that there will be new elections soon. However, in the meantime, an interim president has been appointed, Bah Ndaw, and a vice president, Colonel Assimi Goita. Furthermore, the new Prime Minister of Mali, Moctar Ouane, has recently announced the new government of 25 ministers according to The Republic.

INTERVENTIONS II AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Despite celebrations all across the country following the coup, the international community, along with regional bodies and country representatives condemned the coup with the African Union even suspending the country. ECOWAS, with the backing of the UN General Assembly, has also sent a delegation to Mali and called for Ibrahim Boubacar Keita to be put back in power. In contrast, the UN Security Council has demanded a return to 'constitutional order' and has condemned 'all abuses and violations of human rights' in Mali (BBC). Furthermore, ECOWAS has also recently lifted its sanctions against Mali and continues to hold several discussions with interest groups, with the most recent being in Ghana. On the other hand, the African Union says it will continue its suspension of Mali until a civilian government is put in power (The Republic). Lastly, luckily in June, MINUSMA (United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali) renewed its mission without personnel cuts and continues to operate and support Mali during this crisis, according to the UN.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Al Jazeera. "Mali Crisis: From Disputed Election to President's Resignation."

Www.Aljazeera.Com, 19 Aug. 2020,

www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/08/19/mali-crisis-from-disputed-election-to-presidents-resignation/. Accessed 7 Oct. 2020.

BBC. "https://Www.Youtube.Com/Watch?V=PYV43UKsISY." *Www.Youtube.Com*, 20 Aug. 2020, www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYV43UKsISY.

France 24, and Reuters. "West African Leaders Meet in Mali in Bid to Ease Country's Political Crisis." *France 24*, 23 July 2020,

www.france24.com/en/20200723-west-african-leaders-meet-in-mali-in-bid-to-ease-country-s-political-crisis. Accessed 7 Oct. 2020.

GatorMUN. "Writing for Committee: Crisis Notes and Directives." *YouTube*, 13 Jan.

2017, www.youtube.com/watch?v=8EMzhw9o5wU. Accessed 7 Oct. 2020. The

Republic. "West African Regional Bloc Lifts Sanctions against Mali." *The Republic*, 6 Oct. 2020, www.therepublic.com/2020/10/06/ap-af-mali-crisis-2/. Accessed 7 Oct. 2020.

TritonMUN at UCSD. "Crash Course to MUN Crisis." *YouTube*, 20 Oct. 2019,

www.youtube.com/watch?v=R8lgKWS0pR4. Accessed 7 Oct. 2020. Wyszynski,

Claire. "Everything You Need to Know About Crisis Committees." *Best Delegate Model United Nations*, 31 Mar. 2020,

bestdelegate.com/everything-you-need-to-know-about-crisis-committees/

. Accessed 7 Oct. 2020.