Security Council

STUDY GUIDE

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1. <u>Letter from chairs</u>

Dear delegates,

I am very pleased to welcome you in Security council at ZAMUN 2016! I hope you are already excited for the conference even if you have never participated in such event.

As you can read the description of our committee on ZAMUN official webpage, the topic for this conference concerns jihadist groups in Sub-Saharan Africa. Since you might not have heard about such terrorist activities in the region before, this document was written for you in order to approach you in the issue, clarify your knowledge and direct you in further research. You will wind here analyse of geographical and historical preconditions for creation of terrorism, closer presentation of such organizations in the region and finally the explanation of current menaces in the area.

I strongly encourage you to read attentively a whole document for being well prepared for the conference. It will be extremely necessary for further fruitful debates and for negotiations of the resolution as well. If you underestimate the preparation, you might have serious problem to join the discussion, so the participation will be consequently pointless for you. To support your activity, there are also useful links for additional research at the end of the study guide.

For all delegates, I urge you to read Rules of procedure which you can download here: http://www.zamun.sk/rules-of-procedure/.

Shortly you will obtain an invitation to join the committee group on Facebook, where you can easily contact me in the case of any kind of problems. Moreover, all other useful information about the conference, links for the research and your position paper as well will be published there.

I wish you now a lot of success and well spend time with preparation and pleasant journey to Žilina. I am very excited to meet you all!

Best regards,

Your distinguished chair Matus Durana

2. OVERVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC), which was established in 1946, is the most powerful body of the United Nations. The Security Council can authorize the deployment of troops from UN member countries, mandate cease-fire during conflict, and can impose economic penalties on countries. Its main goal is primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.[1]

The UNSC is composed of representatives from fifteen countries. Five of the Security Council members are permanent members. The current five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council are: United States, United Kingdom, China, Russia, and France. Each of the five permanent members of the Security Council has veto power over any matter voted upon by the Security Council. The remaining ten non-permanent members of the total membership of fifteen countries are chosen based on various regions of the world. The division among the ten non-permanent members is as follows[2]:

1)**Africa** – three members,
2)**Western Europe and Others** – two members,
3)**Latin America and Caribbean** – two members,
4)**Asia** – two members,
5)**Eastern Europe** – one member.

[1] https://www.globalpolicy.org/security-council.html
[2] http://geography.about.com/od/politicalgeography/a/securitycouncil.htm

3. INTRODUCTION

The menace of empowering Islamic state frightens the whole world. Its success in Syria and Iraq encouraged the jihadists in their terrorist activities in several unstable countries, such as Libya or Yemen. Moreover, it is not only mental support- ISIS directly engages in conflicts, where they are provided with the army, including fighters and military equipment. The results are unfortunately seen in both mentioned states, where government totally lost control of territories of huge surfaces, where civil war, oppression of human rights and violence takes place in.

History of all African countries during last decades after having independence shows us significantly how the continent is fragile for military extremism. Ethnic, boundary and conflicts caused by decolonization were problems which Africa dealt and still deals with. As the result, millions of victims and refugees, destroyed infrastructure, hunger and poverty, unstable political system, weak and corrupted governments and creation of militant groups which gain easily a wide popularity in areas of theirs actions.

These groups were mostly formed due these 2 reasons: ethnic and religious. Great example of ethnic extremism is the tribe Hutus in Rwanda, who accomplished the genocide of Tutsis in 1994. Among the major representatives of the religious extremists belong militant Islamists, whose origin is mainly located in the Horn of Africa. For example, al-Qaeda's first major terrorist strike, the bombing of the U.S. embassies in 1998, occurred in Kenya and Tanzania. Since 90´s, numerous terrorist attacks and armed conflicts were held in the area. Some of the jihadist groups are still active, either they directly occupy a part of the territory or they just organise bombing of governmental buildings, kidnapping strangers or civilians according to the different religion or low level of knowledge of Koran.

Therefore, considering the presence of *Boko Haram, Al- Shabaab* or *Al-qaeda in the Maghreb*, jihadist terrorist organization in connection and deep cooperation with IS in the region and the weak governments, it is for Africa and whole world an urgent call of these countries to resolve the issue in order to achieve finally peace in the region and then to accelerate a development.

"Africa shall be free from armed conflict, terrorism, extremism, intolerance and gender-based violence as a major threat to human security, peace and development"

Agenda 2063 of African Union

4. History, geography, economy , religion and current social situation in Sub- Saharan region
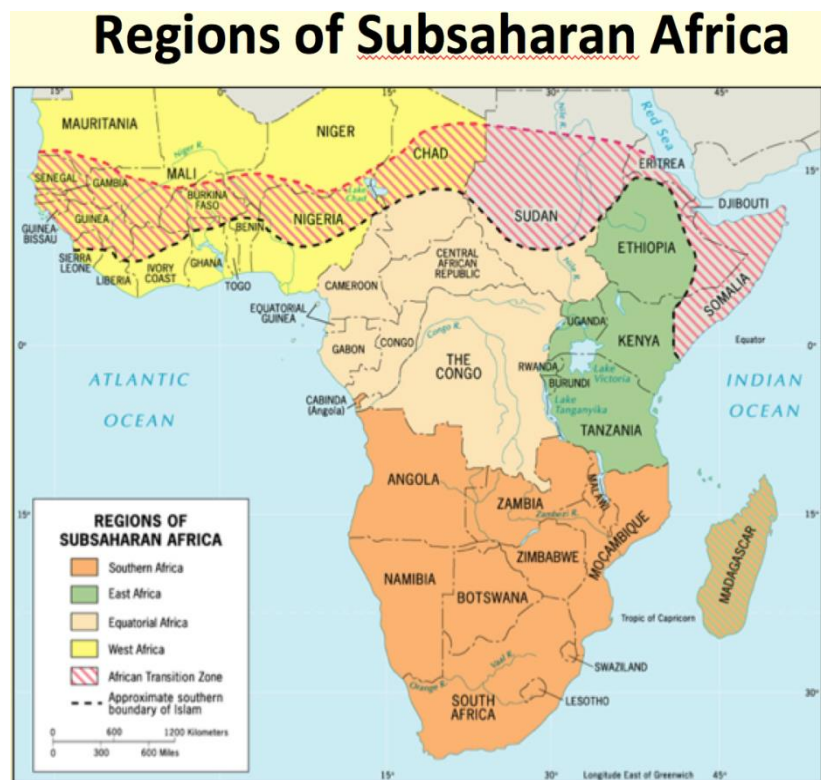
The continent of Africa is geographically divided in 5 groups of states: Western Africa, Northern Africa, Central Africa, Eastern Africa and South Africa. Therefore it is impossible to define exact borders of Sub- Saharan Africa.

The easiest definition we can find is the region includes the African countries south of the Sahara Desert **alongside with African Transition Zone**, such as Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Nigeria, Burkina Faso or Mali. The other term this region is called is **Sahel**.

As the name says, it represents the transition between the Islamic cultures that dominate North Africa and the

Regions of Subsaharan Africa

Christian and animist cultures that dominate the South. The countryside also changes from the desert in the North to tropical savannas and rainforests in the South.

Sahel is considered the poorest region in the world. Due climate changes, the desert of Sahara has been expanding more and more in the south in last decades. The desertification caused horrible impacts for these countries which the major section of economy and main employer is still agriculture. People normally suffer from hunger, food insecurity and insufficient water supplies. The economic development is very slow because of the high rate of corruption and political instability. Most of countries suffered from civil wars, ethnic and borders conflicts or

military regimes. The democracy and freedom are hardly searching for a place in local society. Weak political parties and leaders continue to hamper democratic governance and the whole progress of the region. As it was already mentioned, the transition between Islam and Christianity was origin of several religious conflicts and attacks. Hand to hand with high rate of illiteracy and unemployment, the Sahel represents easy target for military Islamist groups to increase their strength.
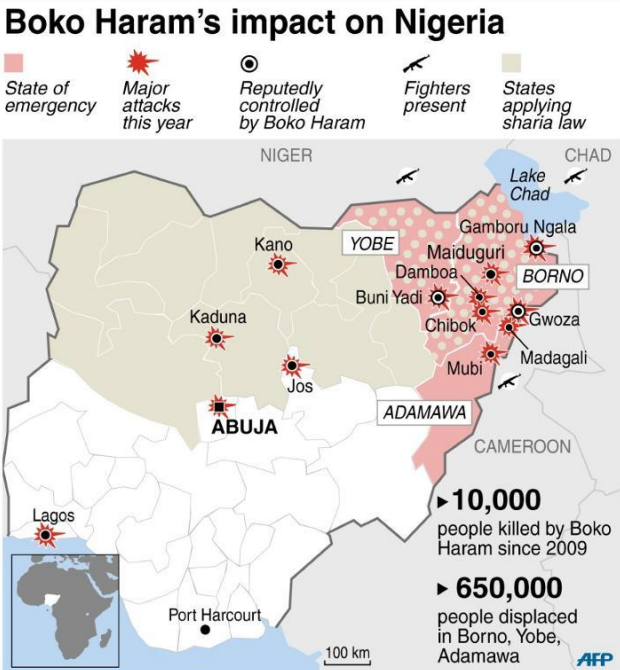
5. Main jihadist groups in region

A. Boko Haram[3]

The group's official name is *Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad*, which in Arabic means "People *Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad,"* shorten version *Boko Haram* may be translated as „*Western education is forbidden*". Its formation is dated in 2002, when Muslim cleric Mohammed Yusuf set up religious complex in Maiduguri, which included a mosque and an Islamic school.

The region was historically part of Sokoto caliphate, now the northern Nigeria, Niger and southern Cameroon, till 1903, when it fell under British control. Afterwards, European missionary workers brought there Christianity and western education, which was not accepted positively by whole population. Local Muslim community has rejected the secular state of Nigeria, which was established after becoming independent. That fact increases the violence and refusal attitude of radical Islamists, who prohibit taking part in any political or social activity associated with Western society including voting in elections, wearing shirts and trousers or receiving a secular education. For example, in 1982 the uprisings against the government increased and Nigerian police in turn brutally repressed them. Only in that year more than 7,000 people died.

In the beginning, charismatic Mohammed Yusuf became very popular and many poor Muslim´s families enrolled

Boko Haram's impact on Nigeria

State of emergency | Major attacks this year | Reputedly controlled by Boko Haram | Fighters present | States applying sharia law

▶10,000 people killed by Boko Haram since 2009

▶ 650,000 people displaced in Borno, Yobe, Adamawa

[3] http://www.eposweb.org/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=211:boko-haram-the-origins-of-nigerias-militant-islamist-group&Itemid=65

their children at his establishment. As it was shown later, they were not only interested in education, but its political goal was to create an Islamic state, and the school became a recruiting ground for jihadists.

The situation changed in 2009 when the Nigerian government launched an investigation into the group's activities following reports that its members were arming themselves. *Boko Haram* carried out a spate of attacks on police stations and other government buildings in Maiduguri, capital of Borno state. This led to shoot-outs on Maiduguri's streets. Nigeria's security forces eventually seized the group's headquarters, capturing later its fighters and killing Mr Yusuf. His body was shown on state television and the security forces declared Boko Haram finished.

But its fighters regrouped under a new leader, Abubakar Shekau, and stepped up their insurgency. Since 2013, they have been cooperating with other militant groups, such as al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, to wage a global jihad. The group's fighters launched mass attacks on villages and towns from Sambisa forest to the south and the Mandara Mountains, close to the border with Cameroon in 2014, looting, killing, abducting women and children and conscripting men and boys into their army.

In April 2014[4], jihadist abducted more than 200 schoolgirls from Chibok town in Borno state, saying it would treat them as slaves and marry them. In August 2014, Abubakar Shekau declared the Islamic caliphate in areas controlled by *Boko Haram*. Later, Mr Shekau pledged allegiance to Islamic State (IS), turning his back on al-Qaeda. The IS accepted it and named the territory as Islamic State of West Africa Province.

Nowadays, *Boko Haram* lost all the towns under its control as a regional coalition - made up of troops from Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger - was formed to fight it. Jihadists retreated to the Sambisa forest with at least 2000 children in captivity. The size of its group is seized to 9000 fighters so far.
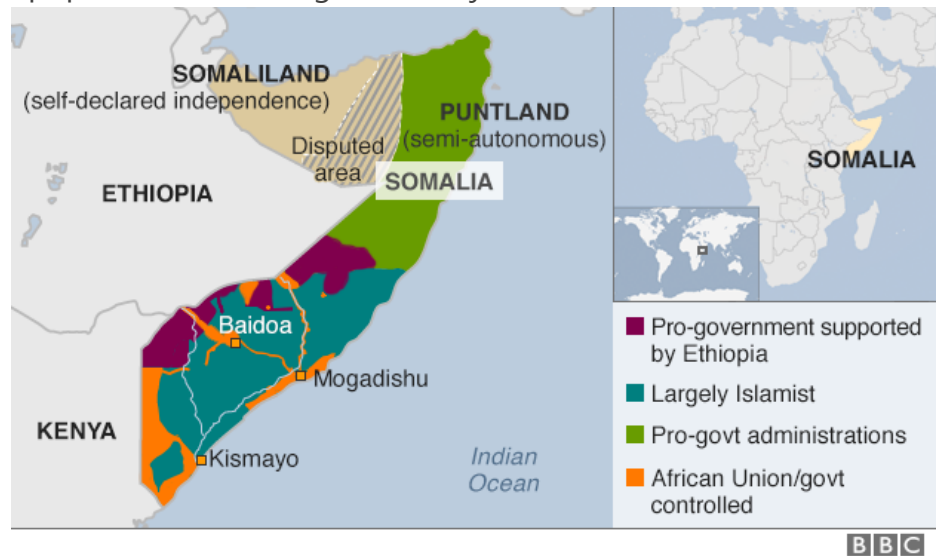
B. Al-Shabaab[5]

Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujahidee, or more commonly *Al Shabaab*, is a jihadist terrorist group based in Somalia. As the translation of its name from Arabic means „The youth" or the „youngsters", the group was emerged as the radical youth wing of *Islamic Courts Union(ICU).*

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[4] http://citizen.co.za/afp_feed_article/nigeria-allies-call-for-help-to-stop-boko-haram-funding-arming/

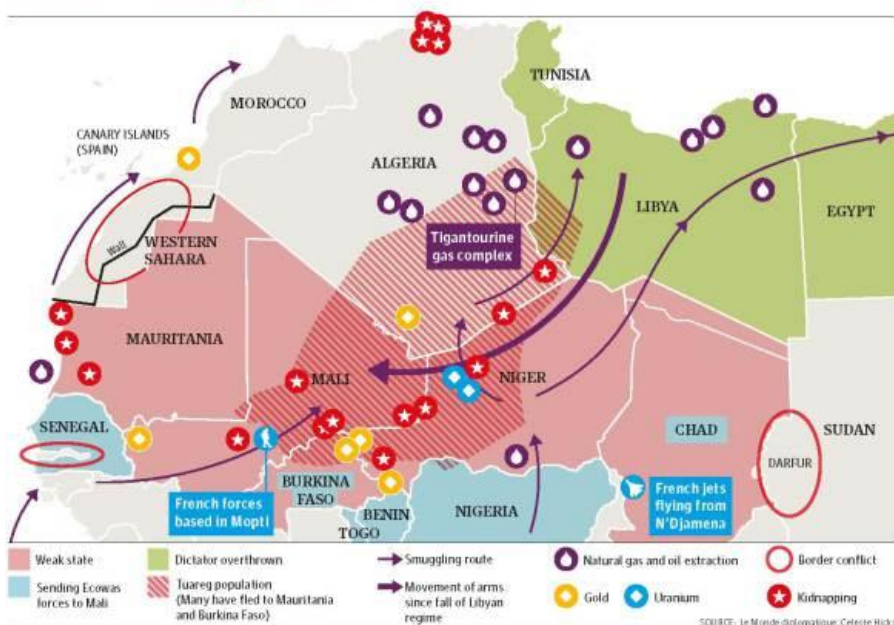[5] http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-15336689

ICU was a group of Sharia courts which controlled most of southern Somalia and the vast majority of its population, including most major cities such as Jowhar, Kismayo, Beledweyne and the capital Mogadishu. In 2006, they were forced out of the capital by Ethiopian forces. Afterwards, ICU´s power went drastically down and it was *Al Shabaab*, who engaged in the combat against the Federal Government of Somalia and the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM).

Al Shabaab has imposed a strict version of Sharia in areas under its control, including stoning to death women accused of adultery and amputating the hands of thieves. The militants also spared Muslims, while killing those unable to recite verses from the Koran In 2012, it pledged allegiance to the militant Islamist organization *Al-Qaeda*. Therefore it was consecutively designated as a terrorist group by both the US and the UK.

Currently, mainly after the lost of the port in Kismayo, which cut them of financial sources, they only occupy rural areas (picture above). However, the group is still believed to have between 7,000 and 9,000 fighters and there are many foreign jihadists going to help Al-Shabaab[6] from neighbouring countries, as well as the US and Europe. They have also staged numerous terrorist attacks in Kenya- the one on Nairobi´s westgate shopping centre in 2013, where at least 68 people died, the another one at Garissa University in April 2015, where they targeted Christian students and killed 147 of them.

C. Al- Quaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa

Al- Quaeda in the Islamic Maghreb(AQIM)[7] is an Islamist militant organization founded in

Algeria in 2007 from the former group *Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat(SGPC).* The history of the group is even longer- it all started in 90´s, when the *Islamic armed group* (GIA) violently opposed to secular Algerian state. In 2000, they started to collaborate with Al- Qaeda.

Its political goal is combat not only against Algerian government, but to all governments in Northern Africa in order to get rid of Western influence in the region (which includes attacks in Europe and United States. Additionally, they are unlikely to institute Islamic state or any other fundamentalist regime based on *sharia* on its territories.

They now operate mostly in the area of southern Algeria, northern Mali and western Niger. The group is considered as the wealthiest and best- armed terrorist in Northern and Sub-Saharan Africa even its size is around 1000 fighters in Algeria and smaller numbers in other countries.

Another terrorist group, which broke off in 2012 from AQIM is *Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJWO).*[8] They aimed to concentrate their military activities in Sub-Saharan Africa, where they felt AQIM is not interested in enough. AQIM's tactics include guerilla-style raids, assassinations, and suicide bombings of military, government, and civilian targets. Its members have frequently kidnapped, and sometimes executed, aid workers, tourists, diplomats, and employees of multinational corporations.

In alliance with AQIM, they cooperate actively with *National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA*) in civil war in Northern Mali. MNLA is a political and military organization which was made up by *Tuaregs* rebels in order to obtain independence of *Azawad region*. At first, they were successful in fights against Malian army- they reached and occupied three biggest cities in the area: *Timbunktu, Gao and Kida*l. In that time, they controlled the territory of the size of twice France. At some places which were occupied by Islamist groups, *The Islamic state of Azawad* was established which was ideologically connected to *sharia.* However, after the military intervention of French army and disputes with terrorist groups, they lost most of their territories, which ended in bilateral agreement with Mali government in 2014..

During the war in Mali, new terrorist group *al-Mulathamun Battalion* was formed by Mokhtar Belmohktar, funding member of AQIM who led a batallion on the Algeria- Mali border. He is believed to cause hostage crisis at a natural-gas facility in eastern Algeria that left at least thirty-eight civilians dead, as well as twin suicide bombings in Niger that killed at least twenty-six in May of that year.

Even though the war is over nowadays, many rebels have not signed the agreement and wanted to continue in rebellion. Attacks on or kidnappings of

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[8] http://pulitzercenter.org/reporting/mali-menaka-azawad-tuareg-peace-deal-rebels

foreigners in the region are still strongly present. AQIM, MUJWO, al *al-Mulathamun Battalion* with the military and financial support from Islamic state, Tigantourine gas complex in Algeria and kidnapping strangers, are strongly expected to carry on their activities.

6. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

In the context of domestic countries, where the terrorist organizations have primarily worked in, it now seems the worst is over, national or international armies are rapidly succeeding and governments are starting to control occupied territories. However, regarding the strength of IS in Middle- East and its international goal, which aims to institute Islamic caliphate in the world, we can assume to scary the jihadist terrorism will continue in the region of Sub-Saharan Africa.

On of the most current examples of potential growth of terrorism in the area is Kenya. As it was said, Kenya has recently gone through several terrorist attacks organised by Al-Shabaab[9]. The border regions with Somalia, Mandera, Wajir and Garissa, are the most common target of Somalian jihadist group, concentrating on elimination of Non-Muslims from the territory. On the other hand, Kenya´s military are engaged in AMISOM and nowadays very active in preventing jihadist activities in its country, which from time to time claims to murdering suspected people, may be a reason of increasing rate of such terrorism in the country.

The situation becomes even more serious if we take account the ongoing conflicts in the region. The civil war in Central African Republic (CAR), since 2012, with a small military intervention of Republic of France, may become an easy target for Muslim terrorist. In the country with 15% of Muslims, whose human rights are drastically violated by Christian´s majority, is supposed to be a sufficient reason for increasing extremism from the oppressed side(with the military and human aid of other militant groups in region the probability increases even higher).

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[9] http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/kenya-hotel-attack-suspected-alshabaab-militants-kill-48-people-in-mpeketoni-9539402.html

Moreover, the coup in Burkina Faso in 2014 was succeeded with departure of the former president Blaise Comparoe, who led the country for 27 years. His diplomacy enormously helped to build peaceful relations between the neighbour countries. New government might not continue in previous politic, which would mean a loss of regional partner for world diplomacy in political negotiation. The ability of communication among representatives of governments was always appreciated in resolving conflicts, therefore Africa strongly needs someone to replace Blaise Comparoe in order to maintain a relative stability   in Western Africa.

Finally, the issue is even more emerging regarding the high wave of emigration from the area. Due poor condition for living, hunger and thirstiness, political instability and religious problems, millions of people are forced to leave their homes in the vision of better life in richer countries. To decrease a number, the intervention of foreign and countries and UN is extremely demanding. The security and stronger governments would surely launch the economical growth and development of the region, exceptional for religious cohabitation and mineral resources.

7. Useful links

In order to identify with **previous actions and measures of UNSC**, I recommend you to read attentively following documents:

1) http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/somalia/
2) http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/chronology/somalia.php
3) http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/boko-haram-affected-areas/
4) http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/boko-haram-affected-areas/

Additionally, I consider essential to inform yourself regularly about current situation in the region.

5) http://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/21/world/africa/mali-hotel-attack-radisson.html?_r=0
6) http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/12017862/Millions-of-youths-in-Africas-Sahel-could-be-recruited-by-terrorist-groups-UN-envoy-warns.html

As the connection between ISIL(ISIS) and African terrorist groups was proved, watch properly actions of military troops in Syria and Iraq.

7) http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34849063
8) http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/21/un-calls-for-all-able-member-states-to-join-fight-against-isis
9) http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/610286/China-preparing-to-team-up-with-Russia-in-Syria-Boost-for-Putin-in-battle-against-ISIS

8. <u>Position papers</u>

We would also like to inform you about your further policy statements for ICAO committee. We require you to simply write a few paragraphs on your delegation ´s position on the agenda topics before the conference. For our ICAO committee, we will work with a special modified form of position papers, they structure will be a bit different from the model you may have known before.

First of all, you are supposed to introduce **the statement of your country** concerning the topic in **200-300 words**. This part needs not repeat or summarize the issues which we already know. What you need is to-the-point information about what your country thinks about the issue, why it thinks so, how is affected by the issue and its relations with involved parties.

In order to make our committee´s work easier and more effective, the second part of your policy statement should involve certain very concrete points and your suggestions for a solution – presented in identical way as in case of resolution. Here you are supposed to formulate **3 preambulatory and 3 operative clauses**, so later during the procedure, you will already have the base to be implemented into resolution or to be at least discussed.

The preamble section, otherwise called the preambulatory clauses is represents one part of the final resolution. It refers to the background and facts of the topic, past resolutions, actions and events. The language is by and large soft and typically uses the present participle form. Preambles are important because they give background information and state the purpose of the resolution. The preamble is not debatable and cannot be amended in a draft of the resolution. For this reason it is imperative that no controversial or disputable clauses be used in writing this section. Preambulatory clauses are indented and end with commas.

The main section of the resolution (and in this case also of your position paper) contains the operative clauses, which are also called the activating or actuating clauses. This is the policy, action or opinion section. Although you will typically have more than one clause, each dealing with a single aspect, all clauses are supposed to follow a logical pattern and make sense a whole. Each clause begins with an action verb in the third person singular, indented and underlined. Sub-clauses are lettered (a,b,c, etc.) and sub-sub-clauses are numbered (I, ii,iii, etc.). Each operative clause ends with a semicolon except for the last clause, which ends with a full stop.