

King's Christian Collegiate Model United Nations

African Union

African Union



Delegate Guide

February 25th- 26th, 2022

Mekhi Arthur and Rebecca Coleman

Dear Distinguished Delegates,

It is my honour to welcome you to the eighth annual King'sMUN Conference: Voices of the Voiceless. Since the debut of the King'sMUN conference in 2013, we have striven to create a conference that enables students to push past their comfort zones, connect with their peers, and learn more about the world around them.

Model United Nations (MUN) is a youth simulation of the United Nations where students have the chance to debate the world's greatest issues, problem-solve, and produce creative resolutions with their peers. Throughout my MUN journey I have developed my critical thinking, teamwork, leadership, and communication skills, which have transferred into many different avenues of my life and which I attribute to many of my successes in high school.

We are living in a time where certain people groups are marginalized and discriminated against based on prejudice and unjust systems. At King'sMUN we strive to lift the songs of those who are oppressed and listen to the stories and experiences of those whose mouths have been sealed for far too long. This year, the theme of the King'sMUN conference is Voices of the Voiceless. I hope you take this to heart both during the conference and as you move forward into your future.

These past few years have, without a doubt, been ones of hardship and challenge. The COVID-19 Pandemic has built many barriers not only between countries, but within countries, communities and families. At King'sMUN we acknowledge the past to live actively in the present, but look to the future with hope. One thing the COVID-19 Pandemic has not taken away is our creativity and will to connect to one another. With a range of committees branching from tutorial to advanced, and real to fictional, delegates with all levels of experience have an opportunity to collaborate with peers and grow as young leaders and changemakers at King'sMUN, despite the current predicaments.

Once again, I am extremely excited to greet each and every one of you at the eighth annual King'sMUN conference. Myself and the King'sMUN Secretariat look forward to seeing you on Friday, February 25th and Saturday, February 26th, 2022.

Sincerely,
Arianna Mastrolonardo
Secretary-General, 2022
King'sMUN

AFRICAN UNION

History:

Before 2002, when the African Union (AU) was launched, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) had been in place. In May of 1963, 32 leaders of independent African States met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to create Africa's first post-independence continental institution. The OAU's main priority was to rid the continent of the remaining vestiges of colonisation and apartheid; to promote unity and solidarity amongst African States; to coordinate and intensify cooperation for development; to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of member states and to promote international cooperation. Later in September of 2002, the OAU created a new continental organization to expand on its work. In Durban, South Africa the African Union took over with a continental body consisting of 55 members, making up the countries of the African Continent. This new organization started with the goal to increase the cooperation and the integration of African states, as well as drive Africa's growth and unity among countries of the continent. This would fully enable Africa to better participate in the global economy.

The AU has a master plan for transforming Africa into the global powerhouse of the future. Agenda 2063 encapsulates all of Africa's goals for the next 50 years ahead. It came to many African leaders' attention that there was a need to refocus and reprioritize Africa's agenda. The OAU initially focused on the struggle against segregation and discrimination on grounds of race as well as the attainment of political independence for the continent. However, the African Union wanted to take a different approach. Instead, they wanted to prioritize inclusive social and economic development, continental and regional integration, democratic governance and peace and security amongst other issues. This vision was all in attempts to reposition Africa as a dominant player in the global arena. The need to envision a long-term 50-year development trajectory for Africa is currently very crucial. Africa needed to revise and adapt its development agenda and the overall economy is already seeing some improvements. Some of these improvements include increased peace, reduction conflict, renewed economic growth and social progress, gender equality and youth empowerment, increased globalization and the ICT revolution. Overall and most importantly, the unity of Africa has significantly increased. Agenda 2063 encapsulates not only Africa's many aspirations for the future, but also identifies the many endeavours put in place, which are helping to boost Africa's economic growth. Ultimately, leading to a rapid transformation of the continent.

Since 2002, the African Union has become a more democratic institution, more focused on the well-being of its citizens and ready to intervene in cases of bad governance or a breakdown of peace and security. Fifty years on, it remains a work in progress, facing many challenges, including the consequences of climate change and the need to create jobs for a rapidly increasing and youthful population.

Topic 1: The Situation in Ethiopia

This topic concerns Ethiopia's recent Civil War. Civil wars are very troublesome for countries and usually do more harm than good. Civil wars are described as violent conflicts between a country and one or more organized non-state actor that reside in the state's territory. Civil wars are distinguished by interstate conflicts, violent conflicts or riots. They negatively impact the way people live and can destroy a country's economy.

Since early November of 2020, the Ethiopian government and Tigray fighters have been in conflict with each other. This has had a devastating impact on the country of Africa. The war has resulted in the death of thousands of lives as well as a severe famine affecting over 400,000 people. Since June of 2021, the conflict has escalated rapidly. Fighters began to retake most of Tigray and expand into neighbouring regions. The fighters have managed to recruit allies and are approaching the capital, Addis Ababa. Fighters from Ethiopia's northern region of Tigray surged south toward the capital, Addis Ababa. This resulted in the government declaring a state of emergency. Foreigners were forced to flee the country as embassies had warned them that flights out of the city could be cancelled. More than 60,000 Ethiopians have had to flee to neighbouring countries like Sudan in search of refuge.

Ethiopia's government has had a lot of trouble with the rebel Tigray group. They have caused conflict as well as started a humanitarian crisis. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has recently allowed many high-profile criminals to be released during the Orthodox Christmas. On top of their release, their criminal record would be totally erased. The overall objective of this is to encourage peace between the two groups. The Ethiopian government is seeing this as an opportunity to bring everyone together after years of conflict. Although, some government officials are arguing that this is nothing other than a publicity stunt. They stand unanimously in the belief that this is a bad idea. Drone airstrikes as well as a strong military presence at the borders have shown that maybe the government does not want a peaceful end to this war. The AU is needed in this situation to peacefully solve this ongoing war between the people of

Ethiopia and the Tigray group. Keeping the situation contained in Ethiopia is vital so that it does not start to affect neighbouring countries like Kenya, Uganda, and South Sudan.



Questions to Consider:

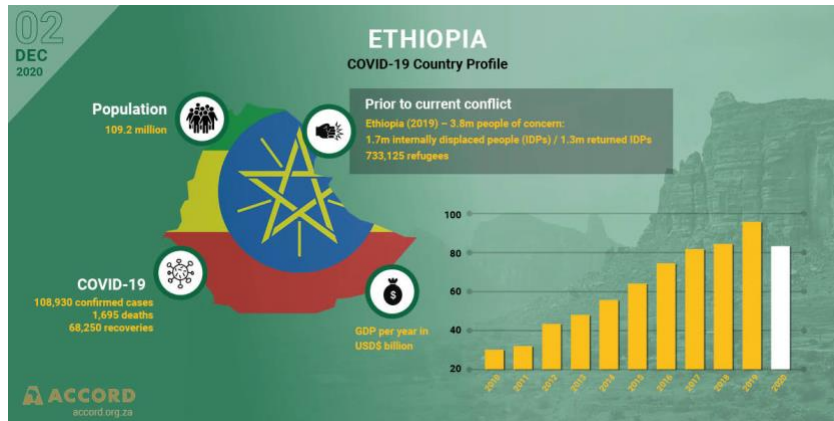
1. How can the government eliminate confusion and solve the civil war?
2. What are some ways that the AU could help your country?
3. How can your country resolve this conflict without releasing high profile criminals?
4. Does releasing high profile criminals help to reduce conflict?
5. Where does the AU get its funding from?
6. How will the AU contain this situation before it becomes a problem for neighbouring countries?

Video Resources:

The Conflict in Ethiopia—Who's Fighting Who, and Why? | Start Here
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQ3aUGceKA8>

What's Happening in Ethiopia? | Start Here
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_GHSCBBGfjo

Maps and Graphs:



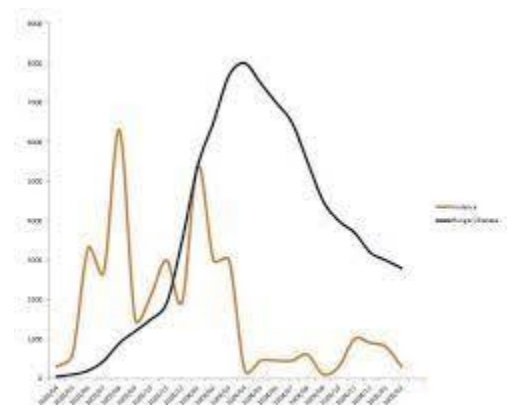
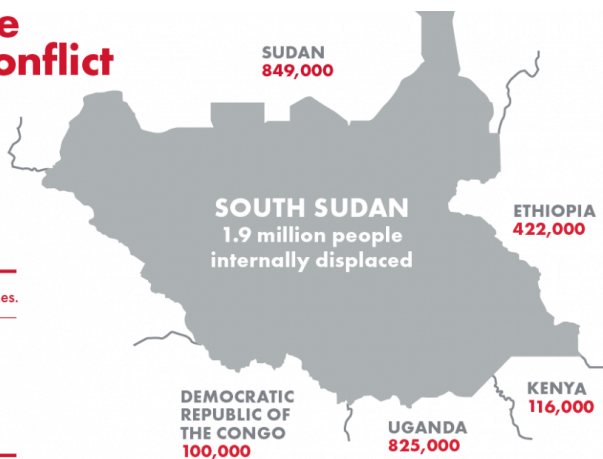
Families flee to escape conflict

Conflict in the world's newest nation has spread across the country, creating a severe humanitarian crisis. **South Sudan has the third largest refugee crisis**, after Syria and Afghanistan.

3.7 million have fled their homes.

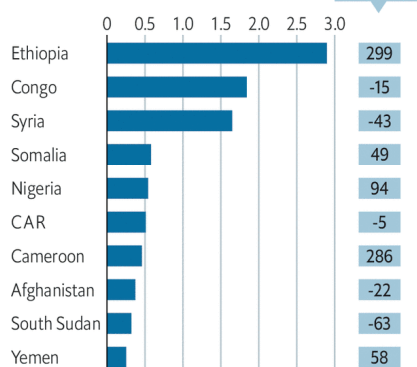


6 out of 10 South Sudanese refugees are children.



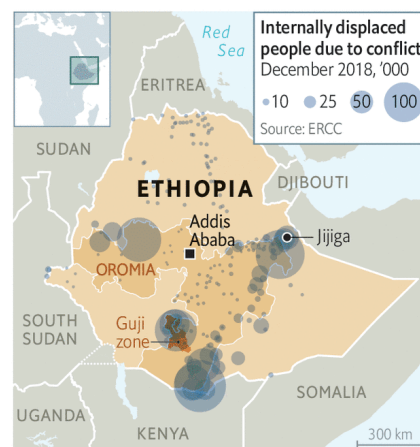
Flight from fight

Internally displaced people due to conflicts in 2018, m



Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

The Economist



Topic 2: The Situation in Sudan

This topic focuses on the current conflict and terrorism in Sudan. Since October, there have been protests in Sudan, bringing the government to resign on January 2nd, 2022, seizing power to the generals. The people of Sudan are fuming and are determined to push towards the search of a new prime minister. Protesters are being shot and killed and security forces are cracking down on the protests. The rights of all humans are being completely violated as peaceful protesting is a basic human right. The violence during these protests is out of control. In order to stop the protestors, guns and other weapons are being used. Since January 1st, a large number have individuals have made attempts to get into the centre of Khartoum, the capital of Sudan. These individuals are trying get the authorities to respect international laws and human rights. The people fear that with the absence of a proper government, no one will investigate cases of sexual violence, or cases of excessive force.

This is not the first protest in Sudan, as many occurred in the year of 2018. The reason for protesting in Sudan includes demand for resources, political reasons, human rights issues, and more. With regards to the sustainable development goals, the African union is working towards a handful of them at their own pace. Bettering the country and their citizens' lives is the ultimate goal. Realistically, Africa, specifically Sudan, is in need of economic improvement. Moreover, with acknowledgement to the current situation (protests against government and wanting better respect, leading to violence and weapons), the African Union has set up an organized chart of goals they would like to achieve, as well as the UN sustainable development goals in which they directly cover. A brief synopsis of their agenda is described below, listed in order by their top priority.

1. A higher standard of living, quality life and well-being for citizens. This is tied to the SDG's one, two, eight, and 11.
2. Well educated citizens and skills improved by science technology and innovation, which is a directly tied to SDG number four, ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.
3. Health and nutrition for citizens, which is a direct tie to the SDG number three, ensuring healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages.
4. Transformed economies, this is tied to SDGs number eight and nine.

5. Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production, which is a direct tie to SDG number two, ending hunger, achieving food security and improving nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture.
6. Blue economy for accelerated economic growth, which is a direct tie to SDG number 14, conserving and using the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
7. Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities. This would be achieved through SDG's number six, seven, 13 and 15.
8. A united Africa, federal or confederate. This is an independent goal the AU has set for itself, not relating to any of the SDG's.
9. Continental, financial, and monetary institutions established and functional, this is also another independent goal.
10. World class infrastructure criss-cross in Africa. This relates directly to SDG number nine, building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation.
11. Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law entrenched. This is a direct tie to SDG number 16, promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
12. Capable institutions and transformative leadership in place. This is also another direct tie to the SDG number 16, promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.
13. Peace, security and stability is preserved. This is again, tied to SDG number 16, promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
14. A stable and peaceful Africa. This is an independent goal. The AU is looking for institutional structure on peace, defence and security.
15. A functional and operational APSA. This is another independent goal, the AU is looking for fully-operational and functional APSA pillars, while valuing the idea of pan-Africanism. APSA stands for African Political Science Association.

16. African cultural renaissance is pre-eminent. This is an independent goal. The AU values and idolizes pan-Africanism, cultural values and African renaissance, cultural heritage, creative arts and businesses.
17. Full gender equality in all spheres of life. This directly ties to SDG number five, achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.
18. Engaged and empowered youth and children. This ties to SDGs number four and five. Youth empowerment and children's rights are what are hoping to be achieved.
19. Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful coexistence. This directly ties to SDG number 17, strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development. The AU is looking for Africa's place in global affairs, and more partnerships.
20. Africa takes full responsibility for financing the developmental goals. This ties to SDG number 10 and 17. The AU is looking for African capital markets, fiscal systems and public sector revenue, and development assistance.

These goals are set to be completed by the year 2063. Their top priorities are very clear, looking to improve the country's overall development. A graph of the recorded deaths from conflict and terrorism in Sudan is displayed below. It is evident the rate of deaths has gone down significantly overtime. Although much work still needs to be done, the graph shows that the steps the African Union is taking are presentably effective in resolving the issues of conflict and violence in Sudan.

Questions to Consider:

1. What are some ways that the AU could help your country?
2. How does the AU's 20 list agenda affect your country and what does your country need to do to help make these goals possible?
3. What steps must the government take in order to eliminate protests and the violence during these protests in Sudan?

Video Resource:

What's Behind the Military Coup in Sudan? | Start Here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6T9MKZ8jRE>

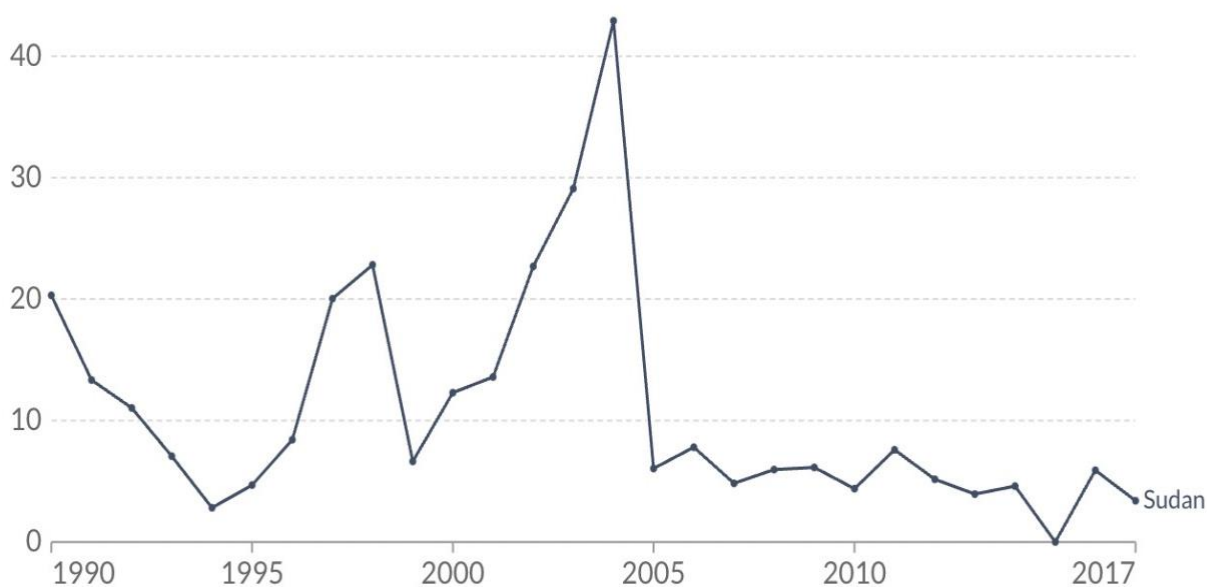
Graph:

Death rates from conflict and terrorism, 1990 to 2017

Annual number of deaths from conflict and terrorism per 100,000 residents of all ages and both sexes.

Our World
in Data

+ Add country



Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

CC BY



1990



2017

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