

Pakistani Cabinet

Welcome

Dear Delegates,

Assalam-o-alaikum and welcome to BUSUN 2009! My name is Nikhita Raman and I am going to be your chair for the Pakistan cabinet of the Indo-Pak interconnected crisis. I am currently a junior at Brown and I am majoring in Applied Mathematics and Economics. An Indian citizen, I grew up in Indonesia and finished high school in Pune, India before coming to Brown. It was about six years back when my headmaster signed me up for my first model UN conference without my knowledge, and that I was introduced, in a rather unforgettable manner, to this 'model world' that I've since grown to know and love. I've been involved in my fair share of conferences, large and small, as delegate, chair and behind-the-scenes, and this is my second time chairing a crisis committee. In the BUSUN 2007 conference, I directed the General Assembly Plenary Committee and at BUSUN 2008, I chaired the Saudi Arabian National Security Council of the interconnected crisis. At Brown, I am also involved with the Brown International Organization and the International Mentoring Programme, and I spent this summer interning for the Centre for Microfinance in India.

This background guide, as the name suggests is meant to provide an overview of the history and workings of the Pakistani parliament and its foreign relations, especially with India. This guide does not discuss particular crisis topics due to the highly unpredictable and tense political climate between India and Pakistan. However, I have provided suggestions for further research at the end of this guide and I strongly suggest that you come well-prepared, for it will make committee more exciting and the experience more rewarding. In particular, when researching your official, I recommend that you examine specifically whom they support and the kind of under-pressure decisions they have taken in the past, so you understand the ways in which you can specifically contribute to the resolution of crisis in the country.

Feel free to email me with any questions you have about the committee or about Brown – I'm more than happy to answer them.

Yours sincerely,
Nikhita Raman
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Committee Format and Rules of Debate

Committee will be conducted in informal debate, similar to moderated caucus in normal Model UN debate. Speaking

times will be proposed either by the Chairman or by the members. The Chairman reserves the right to suspend the debate should such a situation arise as the entrance of a guest speaker, the arrival of a message, or the need of members to discuss issues in a more informal setting or write decisions.

Rather than UN style resolution writing, the Pakistani Cabinet will rely on a few forms of decisions. During normal debate, the Cabinet will decide on bills that will then be presented on the floor of the Assembly by either the Prime Minister or by the relevant Minister. There are two types of bills prepared by the Cabinet – money and non-money bills. Money bills need the sanction of the President before it is presented in the Assembly. Non-money government bills are generally passed in the Assembly due to the majority party support. Due to its important role in legislations, the Cabinet is like a mini-legislative committee.

The Prime Minister's role is crucial in guiding the decisions and evolving a consensus. Although, in principle, all policy decisions must be taken by the cabinet, in times of crisis, the Prime Minister can make policy decisions on his own, and that becomes, through due process, the decision of the cabinet. Decisions of the cabinet are announced to the public and the press by the Prime Minister or by any member of the Cabinet authorized by him. It is the responsibility of the Minister and the Secretary of the concerned department to ensure the implementation of a Cabinet decision.

Like the other Joint Crisis Committees, the Pakistani Cabinet may release press releases to state or private media outlets and diplomatic communiqués to India and other states.

Background on Pakistan

Making of Pakistan and Partition of India

The idea of a separate Muslim state in British India first emerged in the 1930s. On March 23, 1940, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, leader of the Muslim League, formally supported the "Lahore Resolution," which called for the formation of a new sovereign state in areas which had majority Muslim populations. Following the end of World War Two, the United Kingdom acted quickly to give independence to the Indian people. In June 1947, the British Government confirmed that it would grant full dominion status to the secular state of India and the Islamic state of Pakistan and individual states could freely join either India or Pakistan.

The Partition devastated both of the newly formed states and many lives were lost in riots. Rape and looting were common phenomena. Desecration of women, in

particular was a tactic used by both Hindus and Muslims; "ghost trains" laden with the disembodied breasts of women were sent across the borders from both sides. Over 15 million refugees crossed frontiers into utterly foreign lands, leaving their regional homelands based on their religious identities.

Government of Pakistan

Structure

Pakistan is parliamentary democratic state. It achieved independence from India on August 14, 1947.

Three wings of the State

Executive

The President is the executive chief of state while the Prime Minister is the Head of the government. An electoral college consisting of the Senate, National Assembly, and the Provincial Assemblies chooses the President for a five-year term while the National Assembly selects the Prime Minister for a four-year term. The cabinet, National Security Council, and governors serve at the president's discretion. Each of the four provinces - Punjab, Sindh, Northwest Frontier and Balochistan - has a Chief Minister and a Provincial Assembly. The federal government administers the Northern Areas, Azad Kashmir and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) but they enjoy considerable autonomy. Azad Kashmir, the Pakistani-administered fraction of the disputed Jammu and Kashmir region has a separate and autonomous government, but it holds strong links to Pakistan.

Judiciary

The apex court in the country is the Supreme Court, followed by the provincial high courts and the Federal Islamic (or Shari'a) court. The President selects the Chief Justice and together they appoint the other judicial posts. The judiciary is prohibited from issuing any order which goes against the decisions of the President. The Federal Shari'a Court hosts cases which principally are based off of Shari'a (Islamic law). Legislation enacted in 1991 gave legal status to Shari'a. However, it did not replace the existing legal code.

Legislature

Pakistan has a bicameral parliament called Majlis-e-Shoora, which has the Senate (100 seats; members are indirectly elected by provincial assemblies) and the National

Assembly (342 seats; 60 seats reserved for women, 10 seats reserved for minorities)

Political parties

The main political parties are the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Pakistan Muslim League - Nawaz (PML-N), Awami National Party (ANP), Pakistan Muslim League (PML), Muttahid Majlis-e-Amal (umbrella group) (MMA), and Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM).

Government and Political organization

Asif Ali Zardari, widower of assassinated Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Benazir Bhutto, was elected president and head of state on September 6, 2008, replacing former President General Pervez Musharraf, who resigned on August 18 of the same year. Civilian democratic rule was reinstated following parliamentary elections in February 2008. The election was won by a coalition of two former opposition parties, led by the PPP and Yousuf Gilani was elected prime minister on March 24, 2008. Musharraf had dismissed 13 Supreme Court Justices in 2007, and by the end of 2008, the new government reappointed five; three retired or resigned; and five remained out of the court. The new government lifted the media restrictions which had been created during the 2007 state of emergency, and removed the restraints on unions which Musharraf had set.

Cabinet members

1. Prime Minister (Head of Government – Chair of the Committee) - Yousef Raza Gilani
2. Minister of Foreign Affairs - Shah Mahmood Qureshi
3. Minister of Defence - Ahmed Mukhtar
4. Minister of Commerce - Ameen Faheem
5. Minister of Kashmir Affairs and Northern Areas, Information & Broadcasting - Qamar Zaman Kaira
6. Minister of Interior – Rehman Malik
7. Minister of Law and Justice – Syed Masood Kausar
8. Minister of Minorities and Narcotics control – Shahbaz Bhatti
9. Minister of Youth Affairs – Shahid Hussain Bhutto
10. Minister of Industries & Production - Manzoor Ahmed Wattoo
11. Minister of Planning & Development - Makhdoom Shahabuddin

Special external members

1. Pakistani Ambassador to India (Director of the Committee) – Shahid Malik

2. Pakistani Ambassador to the UN - Abdullah Hussain Haroon
3. Ambassador at Large - Nasir Khan

Foreign Relations

After September 11, 2001, Pakistan's prominence in the international community increased significantly, as it declared its strong alliance with the U.S. in The War on Terror and publically committed to destroying terrorist camps on Pakistani soil. Historically, Indo-Pakistani relations have been strained and volatile, whereas relations with China have been historically been quite close. Pakistan has extensive security and economic interests in the Persian Gulf, and various bilateral relations with other powerful global players including the United States and many Western European countries. It has expressed a strong desire for a stable Afghanistan.

Relations with India

Since partition, relations between Pakistan and India have been characterized by rivalry and suspicion. Many issues have strained the relationship including nuclear weapons, cross-border terrorism and cultural issues, but by far the most sensitive one since independence has been the status of **Kashmir**.

Position on Kashmir

Pakistan's principled position on Jammu and Kashmir is based on the UN Security Council Resolutions, which provide that the final disposition of Jammu and Kashmir will be made in accordance with the will of the people. Pakistan has always emphasized the necessity of a meaningful, constructive and results-oriented dialogue to resolve the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. Pakistan holds that rigidity and aggression must be replaced by accommodation and flexibility.

Over the course of their fight for self-determination, the Kashmiri people have experienced tremendous hardship. Pakistan holds that the Kashmiri people must be included in some fashion in the Pakistan-India dialogue process in order to reach a just and sustainable solution.

India and Kashmir

India now claims that Kashmir is an integral part of India. This contention is misleading and incorrect because of the following reasons:

1. The UN has recognized the fact that Jammu and Kashmir is a disputed territory, and both India and

- Pakistan have accepted this recognition
2. The Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir does qualify as an international boundary and India has recognized this fact.
3. There strong dissent and alienation against Indian Rule in the Indian occupied Kashmir (IoK)
4. Pakistan and India signed a Joint Statement on the 6th of January, 2004 in which they stated that they are both committed to seeking a long term solution to the Jammu & Kashmir dispute.

Several rounds of negotiations held during the past five decades have not resulted in any meaningful or substantive progress as India adamantly maintained that the status quo could not be changed.

For over half a century, the people of Kashmir have been waiting to exercise their right to self-determination. Non-implementation of the Security Council resolutions coupled with the massive violations of the human rights by the Indian Security Forces has compelled the people of Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK) to resist Indian occupation. In 1989, the people of Jammu and Kashmir staged an uprising against Indian occupation. India tried to suppress the demonstration with mass violence, murdering hundreds of innocent men, women and children.

Over 90,000 Kashmiri people have died in the conflict since 1989. There are more that 700,000 Indian troops in IOK and human rights violations have been rampant. In fact, state terrorism committed by Indian Forces has only become stronger in the post September 11th world. India has tried to take advantage of the anti-terrorism sentiment to paint its repression of the Kashmiri liberation struggle as fighting terrorism. In an attempt to badly portray the Pakistan and the Kashmiri freedom movement, India has stepped up its propaganda campaign, accusing us of crossing the Line of Control involvement in so-called cross border terrorism. Such accusations are simply a tactic to shift focus away from the immense violations of human rights being carried out by the Indian Security Forces in IOK. While India has been more than willing to make such false accusations, it has refused any sort of neutral mechanism to investigate the charges.

Confrontation with India

Pakistan has fought three wars with India over Kashmir, in 1948, 1965, and the Kargil conflict in 1999. The 1971 Indo-Pakistan war resulted in the creation of an independent Bangladesh. In 1974, India conducted a nuclear test, causing great anxiety in Pakistan, forcing us to develop our own nuclear weapons program. In 1999, serious fighting flared in the Kargil sector of Kashmir. However, the invaders retreated after a meeting between Prime Minister

Sharif and President Clinton.

Afghanistan

Ever since the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the Pakistani Government has been a crucial figure in supporting the Afghan resistance struggle and assisting Afghan refugees. Following the withdrawal of Soviet troops in 1989, Pakistan cooperated with the world community to give extensive support to displaced Afghans. Due to continued unrest in Afghanistan, many refugees were unable to return to their homeland and even by 1999, over 1.2 million registered Afghan refugees were still in Pakistan. At the time only three states recognized the Taliban regime, and Pakistan was one of them. However, pressures from abroad after September 11, 2001, impelled Pakistan to reconsider its stance, and eventually came to support the U.S. and international coalition in Operation Enduring Freedom to remove the Taliban from power. Pakistan has been a public ally of Afghan President Hamid Karzai, pledging \$100 million for the reconstruction of the state. Additionally, they are working together to enhance cooperation and coordination in the tense border region between the two states.

People's Republic of China

Pakistan was one of the first states to recognize the People's Republic of China in 1950, and relations have only strengthened since then. Pakistan was a strong ally following the Sino-Indian hostilities of 1962, and since then China has provided assistance to Pakistan in a variety of sectors, including economic, military and technical. China supported Pakistan in its opposition to Soviet presence in Afghanistan and is seen to help balance against Indian and Russian power in the region. Favorable relations with China have been and still are a cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy.

United States of America

Diplomatic relations between the United States and Pakistan started out as an agreement by the United States to provide economic and military assistance to Pakistan, in 1947. SEATO, the South East Asia Treaty Organization further solidified relations. However, specific moves by the United States, notably that of suspension of military assistance during the 1965 Indo-Pakistan war, and in April 1979, that of cutting off all economic assistance except food assistance as required under the Symington Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 raised concerns about the United States' reliability as an ally.

A turning point in this relationship was marked when Pakistan joined the United States to fight the Global War on Terror by supporting the U.S campaign to eliminate the Taliban in Afghanistan. In return for Pakistan's commitment to ending the war on terror and helping capture hundreds of Al-Qaeda members, the U.S has reciprocated by providing monetary support through debt relief and by pushing for education reform.

The U.S-Pakistan relationship was once revived in December 1979 the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan that highlighted the countries' common interests, and even today it is built on claimed common interests in building a stable and sustainable democracy, and in promoting peace in the region. In recent years, ties have been especially strengthened by a commitment of \$3 billion worth of military and economic assistance to Pakistan by President Bush that commenced in the 2005 fiscal year. Moreover, by identifying Pakistan as a major non-NATO ally in 2004, the U.S recognized even closer bilateral ties with Pakistan.

Conclusion

Personalities and Alliances within Pakistani Politics

When researching your official, I would recommend that you examine specifically whom they support and the kind of under-pressure decisions they have taken in the past. Also, keep in mind that the since each official will be holding a particular portfolio within the Parliament, you should be well versed with the procedures of your own Secretariat and the manner in which you can specifically contribute to the elimination of crisis in the country.

As you might have noticed, this Joint Crisis committee does not have any particular crisis topics discussed in the Topic guide. Since relations between India and Pakistan are so tense, we feel that the existing political climate is extremely unpredictable.

Suggestions for Further Research:

The main issues of contention between the two states include:

1. Terrorism and Cross-Border Infiltration
2. Nuclear weapons development/test programs
3. Trade and economics
4. Religion and culture dispute
5. Kashmir

For your position paper, we suggest that you delve deeper into a particular aspect of one of these topics and put forth a well-reasoned argument articulating your official's stance.

Bibliography and Additional Readings:

News sources have been used intensely in drafting this topic paper, especially the The Economist and the BBC. Below are links that will be particularly useful.

1. Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Official website
<http://www.ppp.org.pk/>
2. Government of Pakistan – Official website
www.pakistan.gov.pk/
3. Government of India – Official website
<http://india.gov.in/>
4. Articles on Kashmir
<http://www.economist.com/research/articlesBySubject/display.cfm?id=1176561>
5. Foreign Relations – Pakistan
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign_relations_of_Pakistan

How to prepare for a Futuristic crisis committee?

1. Anticipating and Influencing Global Future
http://www.strategicforesight.com/publications_research.htm -
2. The Final Settlement: Restructuring India-Pakistan Relations, 2005
<http://www.strategicforesight.com/finalsettlement.htm>
3. The Future of Pakistan
<http://www.strategicforesight.com/futofpak.htm>
4. India and Pakistan: War in the Nuclear Shadow
<http://www.cdi.org/nuclear/nuclearshadow.cfm>
5. US Department of Defense Report on Asia 2025
http://www.dod.mil/pubs/foi/reading_room/967.pdf