

HISAR SCHOOL JUNIOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Next Forum

Angola

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I. Background Information on Angola

Angola is located in southwestern Africa. It has four borders:

Namibia to the south, the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the north, Zambia to the east, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west. The most important province for Angola is Cabinda, where over 60% of Angola's oil reserves are produced. It is the third biggest Portuguese-speaking country in the World. Its current president is João Lourenço. In 2019, its GDP in total was around 124.600 billion dollars, and in 2017 it was the world's most expensive city. Its most important exports are oil and diamond, and its biggest export/import partner is China. The area of Angola was first home for the San people. The first political entity in the area appeared in the thirteenth century and is known as the Kingdom of Kongo. In 1482, Diogo Cão's Portuguese caravels arrived in the Congo and explored the north-western coast of Angola. They brought firearms and a new religion, Christianity, and in return, they got offered slaves, and minerals. Some entities like the Imbangala and the Mbundu, the groups of Angolan warriors, were active slave traders in the 17th and 18th centuries, the slave trade between America and Portuguese was abolished in 1836. With the arrival of Paulo Dias de Novais in 1575, the Portuguese colony of Angola was founded. In 1605, its center in Luanda was granted city status. In 1641, because of the loss of the King in Portugal, Luanda was occupied by the Dutch. In 1665, the King of the Kongo attempted to capture the island of Luanda, however, they were defeated and lost their independence. In 1951, the New State regime extended to the colony of Angola, and it became a province of Portugal, called the *Província Ultramarina de Angola*. The Portuguese regime continued to refuse the demands of the nationalists for independence and provoked the conflict of the Colonial War, a thirteen-year-long war between Portugal's military and the nationalist movements in Portugal. The protagonists of this conflict were the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA), and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). After thirteen years of conflict, Angola gained its independence on 11 November 1975. However, right after its independence, the country descended into civil war. The war was a struggle of power between the communist MPLA and the anti-communist UNITA. Besides, it was used as a battleground for the Cold War by the Soviet Union, Cuba, South Africa, and the United States. The Soviet Union and Cuba took sides with the MPLA, which gained control over the capital Luanda and most of the rest of Angola, while the US and South-Africa supported UNITA.



HISAR SCHOOL JUNIOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS

intending to take Luanda back before MPLA declared independence. However, the MPLA won the initial phase of the war, and oust the FNLA from Luanda, and became the de facto governor of Angola, but UNITA continued the warfare against the MPLA. After many years, and some ceasefire agreements, Savimbi, the military leader of UNITA, renewed the war in 1998, claiming that the MPLA was not fulfilling its obligations. In 1999 the Angolan military destroyed UNITA's forces. After the death of Savimbi, in 2002, UNITA backed out and the war was over. When MPLA achieved victory, more than five hundred thousand people had died, and much more were internally displaced. Angola's infrastructure and economy were highly damaged. On 21 January 2010, Angola approved a new constitution and is still trying to improve after 40 years of conflict.

II. Previous Attempts of Angola at Resolving the Issues

A. Curbing the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon

- Since 2016, Cameroon has been politically, economically, and socially unstable due to a crisis between the English-speaking (the Anglophones) and the French-speaking region (the Francophones) of the country. English-speaking Cameroonians have complained of economic and social marginalization, and of being unrepresented by the government, for such a long time. The crisis first started when English lawyers and teachers revolted against the government for using French in English schools and judicial systems. The country has been gripped by violence for almost five years now, and there still haven't been any ceasefire agreements. In this current crisis, Angola supports the Anglophones since it had conflicts with France in the past. The French government has supported the militant separatists in Angola's Cabinda province thus they haven't had the best relations. Besides, Angola's reputation had been damaged because of the international political scandal called the Angolagate, in the 1990s. Apart from backing the Anglophones, Angola hasn't had any past attempts to resolve this issue.

B. The Question of the Central African Republic Civil War

- The Central African Republic war has been going on for almost 9 years now, and even though there have been about 8 ceasefire agreements between the two opposing sides, the country hasn't found peace yet. The war is between the Seleka, now known as the ex-Seleka, and the anti-Balaka, which is opposing the rebellious actions. Since the Seleka group is composed of Muslims, and the anti-Balaka is Christian, it is obvious that the war was mistakenly made out to be religious. In 2014, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the then-president of Angola, received Catherine Samba-Panza, the then-president of the Central African Republic, in the capital Luanda. The two

HISAR SCHOOL JUNIOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS

statesmen discussed the political and military conflicts going on in CAR. They then signed three legal agreements. The most valuable one was the Financial Assistance, in which Angola provided 10 million US dollars to CAR so that it can overcome the ongoing humanitarian crisis. Since Angola's popularity is overwhelmingly Christian, and only about 0.5% of the country is Muslim, and since many of the 70 mosques in Angola have been closed, Angola is most likely to support the Christians, anti-Balaka, in this issue.

C. Taking Measures to Combat Child Mortality in Central Africa

- Child mortality has been one of the biggest issues in Central Africa for such a long time. The statistics in the region make it clear that unless some effective measures are taken, the number of citizens will decrease inevitably. As having one of the highest infant mortality rates in the world, Angola has to find a solution as soon as possible. In the past, Angola has mentioned several times that it will be trying to reduce the child mortality rate within its country from 2000 until 2019. It has improved in this manner. Between 2000 and 2019, the child mortality rate in Angola shrank from 203.9 deaths per 1000 births to 74.7 deaths per 1000 births. However, the problem is still not fully solved. Other than being willing to provide monetary help for this topic, so that new pediatric hospitals can be built in the region, its past attempts to resolve the issue have not been further specified or detailed.

III. Objectives, Aims and Possible Solutions Proposed by Angola on the Issues

A. Curbing the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon

- Many African countries share the same idea in this manner. They do not want the United Nations to handle the issue but want the African Nation to find a way to stop the Anglophone crisis. Other than asking for cooperation with the Cameroonian government, or just criticizing the government, the rest of the world has not taken any effective action yet. Angola has not done anything either, however, it now proposes steps that should be taken by the Cameroonian government, so that this problem can be solved once and for all. The most effective way to settle the two groups, the ex-seleka, and the anti-balaka, would be getting them to have a conversation and sort their problems out. However, as the opposing sides are full of hatred against each other, achieving to make them talk without one side getting hurt would be undoubtedly hard. Therefore, a mediator group should be formed by the Cameroonian government, so that any harmful event that may arise from the direct conversation between the opposing groups can be prevented. This mediator

HISAR SCHOOL JUNIOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS

group may act as psychologists and suggest both sides ideas about how to solve their problems without taking such violent actions. When this third-party group gets familiar enough with all the details of both sides' concerns, it may then proceed with talking to the government and discussing what should be done so that both sides are satisfied. The establishment of a third-party organization that acts as a mediator between the ex-Seleka and the anti-balaka would be incredibly helpful for the Cameroonian government while it's taking its first steps towards resolving this issue.

B. The Question of the Central African Republic Civil War

- Angola, as aforementioned, has signed three legal documents with the president of the Central African Republic in the past: "General Memorandum of Understanding", "Protocols on the Indicative Cooperation Programme" and "Financial Assistance". All the papers that have been signed had the main topic as the civil war. By signing the Financial Assistance document, Angola promised to provide the CAR monetary help. These agreements indicate that Angola has taken attempts to solve the issue before, but it proposes more ideas since the war has not ended. First of all, because the main reason for the civil war was the citizens not trusting the presidency, the government must prove to its citizens that it is always on their side and is willing to solve any of their problems at all times. The government may accomplish this by changing some of its rules, or laws so that it can satisfy the citizens. The ensured trust would help the CAR overcome this problem. Second of all, since all the citizens have been affected by the war negatively, and lost many of their belongings, the government should focus on improving its citizens' life conditions so that it can prevent any further protests. This can be achieved by determining the most damaged places and asking for monetary, and material support from the more developed countries within the region.

C. Taking Measures to Combat Child Mortality in Central Africa

- The rate of child mortality in Africa can be easily linked with the infant mortality rate. In Central Africa the number of pediatric hospitals is extremely low, thus the infant mortality rate is excessively high. Therefore, to combat child mortality, Central Africa's first objective should be decreasing infant mortality. To ensure a newborn baby is safe, emergency obstetric help, low-weight newborn help, and essential newborn care should be served to the baby. However, these services can be best provided in advanced hospitals, and since the Central African region doesn't have access to such hospitals, their newborns have a 2.7% chance of dying without experiencing life. Therefore, with the funding of both the United Nations and the African Nation, new pediatric hospitals must be built in Sub-Saharan Africa, so that the mothers and their babies

HISAR SCHOOL JUNIOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS

can be provided with the best health services possible. But, even if the infant mortality rate can be decreased this way, other paths should be followed to combat child mortality. First of all, most families living in Central Africa are not familiar enough with the health problems, thus they cannot determine whether their children's health is in danger or not. Therefore, the families, both who have kids and who doesn't, should be educated on this topic, so that they can be more aware of the possible health problems. Second of all, children living in this region do not have access to clean water, sanitation, or hygiene. Hence, some economically developed countries should be incentivized to initiate several social responsibility projects in Central Africa, so that they can contribute to providing clean water for the children in Africa.

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HISAR SCHOOL JUNIOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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