

MUNQSMUN '14

9-11 October 2014



United Nations Atomic Energy
Commission
Background Guide

Letter from the Executive Board:

Dear Delegates,

It is my honor and privilege to welcome you to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission at MUNQSMUN 2014.

This commission being a historic one, will digress from conventional MUN committees in its dynamics, debate, direction and most importantly – its impact.

The theme for the Commission is one that requires extensive research and logical reasoning. Please do realize that both research and logic go hand in hand.

The freeze date of the council is **15th March, 1947**.

Please feel free to contact any of your executive board members for any doubts/queries.

The following is a short document to kick-start your research and give you an insight to what you're in for at MUNQSMUN 2014.

Regards,
Sushant Kher
President

Sidharth Basu
Vice President

Suraj Verma
Rapporteur

Agenda

Discussing the possibility and scope of possession of nuclear weapons and material with special emphasis on The Acheson-Lilienthal & Baruch Plans, 1946.

About the Commission

The United Nations Atomic Energy Commission (UNAEC) was founded on 24 January 1946 by Resolution 1 of the United Nations General Assembly "to deal with the problems raised by the discovery of atomic energy."

The General Assembly asked the Commission to "make specific proposals:

(a) for extending between all nations the exchange of basic scientific information for peaceful ends;

(b) for control of atomic energy to the extent necessary to ensure its use only for peaceful purposes;

(c) for the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons and of all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction;

(d) for effective safeguards by way of inspection and other means to protect complying States against the hazards of violations and evasions."

Acheson–Lilienthal Report

The 1946 Report on the International Control of Atomic Energy (also known as the Acheson-Lilienthal Report) discussed issues of nuclear weapons, warfare, and safeguards. The report was produced by the Secretary of State's Committee on Atomic Energy headed by Dean Acheson and David Lilienthal, and was written in large part by the scientist Robert Oppenheimer.

The primary message of the report was that control of atomic energy through inspections and policing operations was unlikely to succeed. Instead, the report proposed that all fissile material be owned by an international agency to be called the 'Atomic Development Authority', which would release small amounts to individual nations for the development of peaceful uses of atomic energy.

Baruch Plan

The Baruch Plan was a proposal by the United States government, written largely by Bernard Baruch but based on the Acheson–Lilienthal Report, to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission (UNAEC) in its first meeting in June 1946.

Proposal of the plan-

1. extend between all countries the exchange of basic scientific information for peaceful ends;
2. implement control of nuclear power to the extent necessary to ensure its use only for peaceful purposes;
3. eliminate from national armaments atomic weapons and all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction; and
4. establish effective safeguards by way of inspection and other means to protect complying States against the hazards of violations and evasions

UNSC Resolution (S/RES/20)

The document stated,

1. That it recognizes that any agreement expressed by the members of the Council to the separate portions of the report is preliminary, since final acceptance of any part by any nation is conditioned upon its acceptance of all parts of the control plan in its final form.
2. It also urged the UNAEC to continue its inquiry into all phase of the problem of international control of atomic energy and to develop as promptly as possible the specific proposals called for by the section 5 of the General Assembly resolution 1(I) and by the General Assembly resolution 41(I), and in due course to draft a treaty or treaties incorporating its ultimate proposals.

Timeline

24th January, 1946.

The **United Nations Atomic Energy Commission (UNAEC)** was founded

16th March, 1946.

The **Report on the International Control of Atomic Energy** was written by a committee chaired by Dean Acheson and David Lilienthal in 1946 and is generally known as the **Acheson–Lilienthal Report**.

15th June, 1946

The **Baruch Plan** was a proposal by the United States government, written largely by Bernard Baruch but based on the Acheson–Lilienthal Report, to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission (UNAEC) in its first meeting.

14th December, 1946

The **General Assembly** passes a follow-up resolution urging an expeditious completion of the report by the Commission as well as its consideration by the United Nations Security Council.

31st December, 1946

The United Nations Security Council received the report by UNAEC.

10th March, 1947

The Security Council passed a resolution, "recognizing that any agreement expressed by the members of the Council to the separate portions of the report is preliminary" and requesting a second report to be made.

15th March, 1947 (Present Day)

A session of the UNAEC has been called upon to discuss and deliberate upon the recent UNSC resolution.