

# Conflicted Views Stall Security Council

Activity was high in Security Council once session began. Following a setback the previous evening due to the guest delegate from Afghanistan's opposition to a summit, the representatives convened to discuss amendments. After an extended caucus, the delegates presented two amendments which struck all previous operative clauses and added two new operatives. With the modifications, resolution 2/4 was deemed satisfactory by the majority of the council and passed after two days of work.

The delegates proceeded to debate on a new

resolution, deciding on resolution 1/110, regarding drug trafficking and organized crime, primarily in Afghanistan. A heated debate ensued when the delegate from Portugal proposed enforcing the "legalize and control policy", which legalizes drugs in order to weaken drug trafficking. The delegate representing Russia insisted: "I have talked to three veto powers, including myself. A "legalize and control policy" will not pass." During an unmoderated caucus, the issue of forcing the end of opium production in Afghanistan was presented.

Economic issues concerning the high rate of opium production were brought up, prompting an informal debate about the repercussions of entirely banning opium production. During the debate, the delegate from India enforced their position: "India is in no way supporting opium production, we just feel that it is unrealistic to end opium production in Afghanistan." The economic impact due to lack of viable agriculture in the Middle East, with the exception of opium, caused an obstacle for the delegates. The passing of an amendment was added to create a conference to address the sale of licensed opium, promote scientific

research to develop more legal uses of opium, and supplement the economic losses through the farming industry of major crops and the fortification of the field appeared to be a satisfactory compromise.

Problematically, Security Council became divided when the focus of the resolution was questioned. Concern focused on whether the resolution should be focused on Afghanistan or international drug trafficking. When the solution of multiple aspects was introduced, the representatives were conflicted as to which of the two focuses should be confronted in resolution 1/110. Complications occurred

when veto power was threatened on any amendment which dealt with Afghanistan. In regards to the halt in progress, Portugal explained: "It definitely hindered our progress and Portugal feels we could have made further progress on other topics had we not argued over that for two good hours." The delegates conceded to add their general operative clauses to another resolution at a later time, closing the debate and passing resolution 1/110.

By: Security Council  
Respondent

As of adjournment, Security Council overcame detrimental halts in progress to pass two resolutions. The delegates went to lunch anticipating the challenges of an upcoming crisis issue.