

Model Arab League 2009-2010: Provisional National MAL Agenda

****Please note: there are separate agendas for the Regional and National Models. Two of the three topics used from the Regional MAL agenda will carry over to the National MAL, and two new topics will be added to the National MAL agenda as well.****

Joint Defense Council

1. Reviewing and strengthening the Geneva Conventions (1949) and their Additional Protocols (1977) with special regard given to the treatment of prisoners of war and the protection of civilians in occupied territories
2. Responding to insurgent violence that threatens the territorial integrity and the maintenance of order in member states
3. Scrutinizing the role of foreign military assistance or presence in meeting regional security concerns, as both protection to territorial integrity and threat to national sovereignty
4. Defining and developing a humanitarian assistance mechanism and related training for a joint-Arab peacekeeping force

Council on Palestinian Affairs

1. Fostering dialogue and reconciliation between the Palestinian Authority and other Palestinian factions with the goal of strengthening the Palestinian state and legitimizing domestic political processes
2. Developing an Arab League response mechanism to incursions into Palestinian territory, violations of Palestinian human rights, and destruction of Palestinian lives and property
3. Assuring the flow to and from the West Bank and Gaza of capital goods, financial investment, and export products to foster economic development, protect territorial integrity, and establish Palestinian economic independence
4. Evaluating the current status of the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative endorsed by the League of Arab States, and promoting immediate diplomatic steps to advance and sustain the peace process

Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers

1. Addressing challenges facing political activists and civil society organizations in the Arab world, including the status of minorities
2. Guaranteeing access to basic and continuing education for all people, especially girls, women, and other vulnerable populations
3. Assessing compliance with the Arab Charter of Human Rights and other international human rights conventions to provide safeguards against denials and violations of human rights
4. Re-examining public health as a human right in accordance with the 2009 UNDP Human Security Report, with particular attention paid to concerns related to H1N1, HIV/AIDS, maternal health and infant mortality, substance abuse, and disabilities

Council on Political Affairs

1. Strengthening the relationship between the Arab League and international institutions including, but not limited to, the United Nations, the African Union, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
2. Deepening diplomatic relations between member states with special regard for states weakened by conflict and/or internal strife
3. Facilitating administrative efficiency and transparency by modernizing and strengthening core government functions
4. Considering amendment of the Charter of the League of Arab States

Council of Arab Environmental Affairs Ministers

1. Protecting the natural environment on land and under the sea while promoting economic development and simultaneously preserving Arab cultural and historical heritage
2. Assessing waste treatment procedures and recycling efforts that are critical to sustainable development and public health in order to mitigate the effects of industrial and economic growth
3. Considering new and emerging technologies, such as desalinization, advanced irrigation techniques, and rainwater capture, for increasing fresh water supplies in the region with attention paid to their environmental impact, the transfer of technology, and the distribution of water resources
4. Exploring an Arab League-wide policy on the peaceful and ecologically sound uses of nuclear energy under accepted international guidelines and guarantees such as those under the International Atomic Energy Agency

Council of Arab Economic Affairs Ministers

1. Assessing the role of Islamic Finance and informal financial mechanisms in regional economic structures and development
2. Strengthening and rebuilding local economies and small business, especially after conflicts and natural disasters
3. Enhancing women's role in economic growth and diversification in the Arab marketplace
4. Expanding employment opportunities among rapidly growing populations, particularly for young people entering the workforce

Special Committee on Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

1. Addressing existing protection gaps and considering measures to ensure that vulnerable populations in forced or voluntary migrations, including asylum seekers, internally displaced persons, refugees, returnees, and stateless persons, are protected according to international law and standards
2. Developing League standards for accurate reporting, documentation, and record-keeping of refugee and IDP (internally displaced persons) populations
3. Reviewing the rights and duties of refugee receiving states as well as the obligations of expatriating or displacing states, including such factors as refugee access to supplies and aid workers and the economic consequences for receiving states
4. Re-examining member state adherence to international conventions regarding refugees and internally displaced persons, noting particularly the problem of forced migration related to ethnic, minority, and religious identity