The South China Sea dispute has long being discussed and also complicated. Controlling the Paracel Islands and the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea is not only claiming the countries’ territory, but mainly gaining economic benefits of the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). These benefits include natural resources: the US Energy Administration estimates that 11 billion barrels (bbl) of oil reserves and 190 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of natural gas reserves under the South China Sea. The US Geological Survey (USGS) in 2010 estimates that an additional 5-to-22 billion barrels of oil and between 70-to-290 Tcf of gas lies under the South China Sea. The other benefit is the trade passage. The total trade passage is 5.3 trillion per year, and 23% of it is from the US.

There are different strategies for the settlement of the dispute. One of them is applying the dispute to the International Tribunal Law of Sea (ITLOS), like what the Philippines did on March, 2014. However, this strategy is unpractical for the situation. First, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), part 15, section 3, article 298 states that if the issue includes sovereignty of continents or islands, it is not necessary to have compulsory arbitration. That is, China is able to stop the suing at any time. Second, the arbitration results are not promised to be practiced since there are no precise laws to ensure it, which causes many countries to refuse obeying.

It may be possible for building a multilateral framework between the ASEAN and China, and cooperate together to make the most of exploiting the resources in South China Sea. It would be beneficial to all countries for putting aside the political claims and discuss economy first, like the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) signed between Taiwan and China. While signing treaties of distributing benefits, different country can contribute different resources such as technology and working force to exploit the resources together and meet the mass profit.

Being also a country of large coast areas, Argentina is greatly concerned about the disputes and the rights of every country. Argentina calls upon all countries to cooperate and make UNSC more active to solve this issue. We as well welcome any further discussions.
Since the discovery of abundant natural resources in the SCS islands by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in mid-twentieth century, territorial claims over SCS islands, especially Spratly islands has increased sharply. China, Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Taiwan have sent forces and built infrastructures to show their intention or will to acts as sovereign over Spratly islands. Several incidents have occurred recently, including the exploitation of the China oilrig HD-981 in the overlapped exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of China and Vietnam. The incident has triggered large-scale street protest in Vietnam, in which has severely threatened life of Chinese in Vietnam. Despite Philippines has requested an arbitration, China has refused the proposal. It has announced a declaration based on article 298 of United Nations Convention on the Laws of the Sea (UNCLOS), in which states that China refuses to accept any international tribunal or arbitration mentioned in Part XV, section 2. Article 298 of UNCLOS has given China the legitimacy to avoid any form of international adjudgment. This is why the dispute remains unsolved.

As Australia’s geographic proximity to the SCS, the government of Australia has always been focusing on two main aspects: economic factor and SCS’s strategic position. Situated in the southern atmosphere, Australia has always been a trade dependent country as it ranks 19 in 2012 in the imports of world trade. “Almost 60 per cent of our trade goes through the South China Sea, so strategic stability is very important”, said by the Prime Minister of Australia, Tony Abbott, during East Asia Submit in Brunei, 2013. Six out of top ten export markets are Asian countries. Also, 46.5% of Australia’s imports come from Asia while 70.3% of its exports go to Asia. Australia’s interest in developing relations with Asian states has grown steadily since World War II. A new foreign policy “Australia in the Asian Century” has been commissioned in September 2011, in which the government of Australia aims to identify “opportunities for deepening our engagement with Asia across the board”. The highly connection with Asian countries made Australia unwilling to see the rising tensions. Therefore, the maintenance of peace and stability with in the SCS has been always the main interests of Australia.

Australia believes that shelving controversies could be the first step to the stabilization of the SCS, by refraining from taking antagonistic actions, maintaining de facto status on the sovereignty of islands without further escalation on military or territorial conflicts and keeping the continuance of regional dialogues. To reach consensus on both ASEAN countries and China, Australia also believes that having joint exploitations on natural resources can enhance the harmony within the region. With the establishment of Joint-development Company, in which the proportion of participating countries’ share will allocate incomes, both political and economic growth are definitely foreseeable. Having intense commercial shipping, the rights of innocent passage and the freedoms of navigation and over flight in the SCS should be ensured as well. It is also highly recommended to follow the step of European Coal and Steel Community (predecessor of European Union). Through out the years, the European Union has been proven to be an extremely successful intergovernmental organization. Therefore, perhaps the establishment of “ South China Sea Union” could be one of the options.

With the provision of regional peace and sustainable development within the region, the delegate of Australia looks forward to discuss the issue with respective delegates in a rational and logical manner.
Committee: United Nations Security Council  Topic: Situation In South China Sea  Country: Chad

Being located in a remote place far from the highly controversial area, yet the delegate of Chad deems the disputes in the South China Sea as a serious problem that the global society could not ignore. The delegate of Chad hopes to express the position of the nation through the work of this paper. Despite the outbreak of the large-scale controversy occurred recently, the area has long been an area without clear definition of which its owners are. With exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of nations overlapping each other, and the complicated historical background under the surface of the tension, the situation is certain to be ambiguous.

According to the Cairo Declaration, signed in 1943, and the Potsdam Proclamation, which was signed right after the World War II, the Chinese government was then legitimately given the right to exercise its sovereignty over Paracel Islands, Spratly Islands, and Taiwan. To clarify and disambiguate the actual sea territory, the Chinese government then published and publicized a map of the respecting area, dubbed “Map of the Precise Locations of South China Sea Islands” in 1947, which contained and named 172 islands, and merged into the “Full Sovereignty Map of China” in 1948. Nations including the Soviet Union, Japan, France, Germany and England ubiquitously reaffirmed the legitimacy in their respective world maps. Furthermore it was officially taken into account of the declaration made in 1958, when The Peoples’ Republic of China announced that under 12 nautical miles of China’s sovereignty, including Taiwan, Peng Hu, Pratas Islands, Paracel Islands and Spratly Islands, are all EEZ of the Chinese Government. And the area mentioned above is called the “nine-dash line”.

However, without the Chinese Government’s permission and attendance, in 1951 of the Treaty of Peace with Japan nations such as France, England and the U.S.A. intended to skip the problem and controversy of the China South Sea on purpose, which Japan only agreed to give up the sovereign over the islands, but didn’t mention which nation shall be yield with the right.

Yet without doubt, in 1947, it was already clear that the area was part of the Chinese government.

It was even more frustrating that further conferences still left the area with ambiguity, due to the lack of compulsive power. The delegate of Chad was saddened by that such problems led to an inevitable dispute recently. Innocent civilians were also involved in this disputing incident, which in Viet Nam numerous Chinese and Taiwanese were murdered during the riot.

Fortunately, it is not the first time in human history had we confronted such kind of problem. With the help of past experiences, Chad regards the Security Council as a role the medium and bridge where China and the ASEAN nations can finally reach a consensus. Whereas the United States of America, being one of the signatories of the “Treaty of Peace with Japan”, which actually dramatically shifted the sovereignty of the islands, can also be considered be the communication agency between the two blocs. Chad also advices to form a cross-regional marine peacekeeper around the area to ensure the safety, before the nations can clearly define the complicated borderline.

Chad is glad to see that nations are having the eager to seek peace over the region, and discard the treachery deeds conducted. Recalling and having the purpose of the establishment of the United Nations in its mind, Chad is sure that after this conference, peace and the termination of conflicts can arrive to the situation in South China Sea.
Committee: United Nations Security Council  
Topic: Situation in South China Sea  
Country: Chile

As the 21st century came, the relationship between countries is getting closer. Conflicts and disputes concerned the natural resources and financial benefits cannot be avoided, and the South China Sea is one of the most intense regions. Nations which are surrounded by the South China Sea regarded the competition as a prior policy. In recent decades, there are several incidents happened. Since 2011, the tension between China and Vietnam over South China Sea has escalated. Meanwhile, China also has direct disputes with Philippines; both two countries claim their legal sovereignty over South China Sea, leading to numbers of protests and fights happening in both countries. As the situation is getting worse, seeking capable solutions is a must for the international society nowadays.

Chile is located in South America and has already had about two-hundred years history. We don’t have direct connection to the situations in South China Sea; however, with the changes of time, we are a global village nowadays and we are unwilling to see the disputes amongst all countries in Southeast Asia escalate. Chile stands strongly against those countries which do not follow the regulations and rules made before. In the other hand, we realize that there are some contentions in the definition of boundaries. Regardless of the actual underlying causes, we believe that making the existing code of conduct more comprehensive and more powerful is necessary.

Chile believes that the improvement of understanding and communication is necessary. To reach the consensus, we could build up a demonstration area under the United Nations’ supervision; potential solutions such as cultivating and sharing the resources together and putting in all possible elements should be observable; in this way, we can evaluate the effect of all elements to find the best way for this region. Also, we could solve the conflicts and distinctions by setting up a neutral media for the involved nations. Under the peaceful atmosphere, it will be much easier for us to reach a successful negotiation.

In conclusion, the prospects of this very issue in the South China Sea remain fulfilling possibilities. By the methods offered above, we could not only overcome the difficulties among all nations but also have chances to know others and the world better. We believe that the world still have chances for those concerned countries and the involved innocent people.
The People’s Republic of China is deeply concerned of the mounting tension at the South China Sea. Reaching a consolidated and sustaining peace is essential for allowing surrounding nations of the South China Sea to develop enduring relations and to strengthen economic ties. China’s inalienable sovereignty within the nine-dotted line, which includes the Xisha islands, the Nansha islands, the Dongsha islands and their adjacent waters, is indisputable. However, surrounding nations of the South China Sea have failed to respect the territorial sovereignty of China, which have stirred up minor conflict and in turn jeopardizes economic partnership among nations. China has maintained strategic and cooperative relationship for peace and development with the relevant states parties of the current situation at the South China Sea. High-level exchanges have been frequent and economic cooperation has been fruitful. Yet, states parties involved have constantly acted provocatively towards China’s economic exclusive zones (EEZ), maritime and land territories, which have resulted in escalating tension and armed clashes. The Sino-Vietnamese War, Mischief Reef Incident and the 1998 Johnson South Reef Skirmish all proved costly to the regional stability and the long-term partnership among the nations in the late-20th century. The consequences of the past incidents, however, have not ended their aggressive incursion into China’s own EEZ, maritime and land territories. Earlier this year, Vietnam began an oil exploratory drilling with a foreign energy company within the economic exclusive zone of China. Tensions at the South China Sea escalate further with the involvement of the United States. China has routinely intercepted reconnaissance activities within its EEZ undertaken by the United States. Without the consent and notice of the administration, these activities not only infringe upon the China’s domestic law and international law but also undermine the stability of the region. China strictly abides by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. In accordance with the aforementioned document, China has been continuously carrying out its work to safeguard the territorial integrity in respond to deliberate provocations, recalling President Xi Jinping’s remark, “We are strongly committed to safeguarding the country's sovereignty and security, and defending our territorial integrity.” In 2013, China established the State Oceanic Administration (SOA), which exercises China’s jurisdiction over the marine area. Besides defending our territorial waters and EEZ, the SOA is also for the environmental protection of our waters. With respect to oil drilling, since China has indisputable sovereignty over the Dongsha, Xisha and Nansha islands and their adjacent waters, any planned activities by the Xi’s administration fall completely within the Chinese internal affairs, China therefore continues its operation at the South China Sea. China firmly believes that mutually beneficial cooperation could be reached with our partners of Southeast Asia. For such a purpose, China sponsors a two-phased plan for strengthening peace and stability at the South China Sea. During the first phase, China supports bilateral pact of mutual cooperation between relevant states parties. After years of cooperation in maritime development, the plan will then enter the second phase – a multilateral settlement on disarmament which will ultimately bring greater stability to the region. China believes confidence building among nations is critical in resolution towards the current situation. Thus, we will continually work towards a peaceful coexistence in coordination with relevant parties. China stands ready to actively pursue a harmonious maritime order at the South China Sea.
France, along with the United States, China, Russian Federation and the United Kingdom are the five permanent members of the Security Council with veto power. Ten other non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for a two-year term not immediately renewable.

However, France advocates for a reform of the Security Council, due to the fact that the security challenges nowadays have been changing constantly. France supports the demand for expansion put forward by Germany, Japan, India and Brazil. It also supports a greater African presence, including among the permanent members so that more diverse measures can be taken facing new threats and challenges.

Concerning the role the Security Council plays, one of the conflict-causing issues is the situation in the South China Sea. Natural resources and the strategy importance in the area have gathered attentions from the surrounding countries. Claiming the sovereignty according to its historical background is China, whose “nine-dash line” almost covers the entire area. The other countries concerned in South East Asia hope to gain sovereignty by the help of the international law. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Seas (UNCLOS) which clarifies the procedure for setting up maritime boundaries is the current prevailing law to follow.

Third parties such as the United States calls for the rebalance of the Asia-Pacific regions, demanding cooperation between US and ASEAN countries in order to rationalize its intervention and measurements in the area. The US should not only cooperate with the ASEAN countries, but it should also seek resolutions with China, for the strategic rebalance in the region is about China. The US military also gains access to the north of Australia, who is concerned about its northern shores where the security may be compromised and its seaborne trade and energy supplies may be threatened. Australia will reinforce its northern part with the US military.

Regarding the topic, France expects to see peaceful negotiations amongst the countries concerned. Despite the claims of “nine-dash line” from China and the Treaty of Paris of 1898 which left behind unclear territorial boundaries for the Philippines and its neighbors, we should emphasize on the current international law. UNCLOS is relatively problem-free since it was concluded in 1982 and should serve as a better guideline for setting up maritime borders. Thus, parleys based on the codes of UNCLOS should be done as soon as possible.

The South China Sea is rich in natural resources and highly valued for its strategy importance, and yet it is equally an important waterway for navigations. Tensions among the countries should be relieved in a peaceful way so that the safety in the area can be secured together by the neighboring nations.
In the past few weeks throughout November 2013, various incidents have sharply demonstrated China’s foreign policy preferences in relation to disputes with neighbors over the East and South China Seas, as well as its self-perception of its broader hegemonic role in the Asian region. Yet, origins of the dispute predate WWII, and goes back to Sino-French dispute over the control of Paracel and Spratly Islands that started in early 1930s. For the current debate on the SCS dispute, it is important to note Chinese efforts to map its claim. However, SCS is not only crucial for sea-borne trade; it is believed to contain unknown volumes of hydrocarbons. Moreover, SCS is also crucial marine life source for all parties and as such is very important for regional food security.

First, the questions in the Philippine claim, taken in their totality, in reality amount to territorial questions that fall well outside the scope of the subject-matter jurisdiction of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. China’s foregoing conduct in the past month certainly introduces questions about the actual nature of its bid to be Asia’s dominant maritime power. Notably in August 2013, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi stressed the importance of continuing to implement the ASEAN-China Declaration on the Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea. The Declaration specifically mandates that: 1. in and overflight above the South China Sea as provided for by the universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Parties reaffirm their respect for and commitment to the freedom of navigation aw of the Sea.

2. The Parties concerned undertake to resolve their territorial and jurisdictional disputes by peaceful means, without resorting to the threat or use of force, through friendly consultations and negotiations by sovereign states directly concerned, in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

3. The Parties undertake to exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability including among others refraining from action of inhabiting on the presently uninhabited islands, reefs, shoals, cays and other features and to handle their differences in a constructive manner.
The southern sea of China—not so long ago known primarily as a rich fishing ground—have turned into an international flashpoint as Chinese leaders insist with increasing truculence that the islands, rocks, and reefs have been, in the words of Premier Wen Jiabao, “China’s historical territory since ancient times.” On September 4, 2012, China’s foreign minister, Yang Jiechi, told US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton that there is “plenty of historical and jurisprudence evidence to show that China has sovereignty over the islands in the South China Sea and the adjacent waters.” More importantly, in its territorial disputes with neighboring India, Burma, and Vietnam, Beijing always took the position that its land boundaries were never defined, demarcated, and delimited. But now, when it comes to islands, shoals, and reefs in the South China Sea, Beijing claims otherwise. In other words, China’s claim that its land boundaries were historically never defined and delimited stands in sharp contrast with the stance that China’s maritime boundaries were always clearly defined and delimited.

Lithuania likes to cooperate with other European countries to make sure that China doesn’t take away all the resources and to defined the nation’s boundaries fairly.
Position Paper
Committee: United Nations Security Council
Topic: Situation in South China Sea
Country: Luxembourg

The tense situation in South China Sea has been causing bunches of disputes and arguments for many decades, though many efforts were made in aims to solve this problem, the effect is still limited. This delegate thinks that a convention may not be strong enough to regulate or to settle the dispute fundamentally, but this delegate believe that a conference be held will be practical and helpful. Since there’s a precedent that the UNCLOS hasn’t reduce the fights caused by the South China Sea issue, this delegate strongly suggest a new method be taken to solve this problem-a platform for the countries involved in this dispute to communicate. This delegate expect the conference be held by United Nations, thus the enforcement exists. This is a conference which provides a peace platform for the countries to express their standpoints and negotiate. As many strict rules made to regulate them didn’t really work, this delegate believes that a set of regulating system formed up by themselves will be the best way toward this controversial issue. This conference will be held in a third country, which completely isn’t involved in this dispute. So what if some countries don’t follow the rules concluded by themselves? This may be the most hard-to-deal problem, this delegate came up with an idea that all of those countries attending this conference may be made to sign a document that basic rules are written on. For instance, the United Nations are allowed to impose sanctions on countries breaking the rules. In addition, an arbitral court will also be formed up in case of no proper resolutions were made after the conference. The arbitral court is expected to make the best conclusion and be fair to each of them. This delegate sincerely hopes that the tense situation in South China Sea can be eased thus more peace may come into existence in this area.
Lasting for over four decades, the dispute over South China Sea is still raging on. Either due to historical ties or international regulations on territorial waters, nations surrounding such area has been debating on which party is able to rightfully claim these isles. However, with controversy comes conflict. Countless cases have occurred in the South China Sea, with nations trying to fend off who they consider to be intruders of their territory.

In recent periods, on the other hand, plain political matters concerning the South China Sea have been temporarily put aside, and nations have been rather focusing on the economical aspect of this issue. With topics about environmental matters and energy sources rising to the surface, nations have shifted their attention to the abundant resources and therefore lucrative potential buried deep in the land of these isles. Situated thousands of miles away from this specific region, Nigeria does not have direct strings with the South China Sea, be it political or economic. So in our current position, it would be the most ideal for us to be involved in a stable world trade market. This meaning that all the nations Nigeria has a business relationship with, which includes almost every country surrounding the controversial region, should be at peace with all the others. Also, according to economics principle, every party will gain the maximum benefit when cooperating with others compared to when they work alone. Viewing from the various attempts of peace making between multiple countries, it is clear that the nations also long for a more friendly and cooperative vision. Therefore, we propose that, with the assistance and surveillance of the United Nations Security Council, a truce agreement with legal bindings and the right to offer condemnation be compiled with the presence of every single concerned nation.

Soevity might not be able to be shared, but the South China Sea can. It’s high time for the United Nation Security Council did what this organization is designed to, secure this part of the world.
Generally speaking, the importance of South China Sea comprise two main factors: its abundance of natural resources and its crucial military and strategic location. Countries such as PRC, Indonesia, Brunei, Vietnam, the Philippines, Taiwan and Malaysia all claim sovereignty over some of the islands in this area, causing unrest and uprisings. Also, the subtext of such situation may be the contest between three parties, China, the ASEAN and the USA, which is willing to protect its 'national interest in freedom of navigation, open access to Asia's maritime commons and respect for international law in the South China Sea.'

In prevention of developing into further threat to peace, Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea was signed in 2002, however, it doesn't contain a force-conducting power and the hierarchy of it isn't on the same surface with law so the effect is small. Recently, a riot even outbroke in Vietnam to protest against China's construction of rigs around the Paracel islands.

ROK, deeply concerning about and actively participating in maintenance of international peace, believes the only way to solve the dispute is to reinforce the cooperation between countries surrounding the area, joint management and joint exploitation of resources or territory is also suggested to be taken into consideration. And since there are many disputing or overlapping territory under the definition of the current norm, enacting or revising a new United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea specifically regulating South China Sea is also required. Moreover, we believe ICJ's attribution regarding the controversial 'nine-dotted line' should be strictly implemented after it is made. Last but not least, ROK urges countries around the area to put trust in the existed UN mechanism to solve conflicts and takes an optimistic view of more multilateral peace talks.
UNSC

Position Paper for Russian Federation

As the tensions keep rising in the South China Sea, the need for maintaining peace in the region as well as advancing harmonious and progress is becoming increasingly important and urgent. The Russian Federation is strongly against using military forces to settle the disputes. We call upon the Security Council and the ASEAN to take measures to avoid further conflicts, and provide a platform for negotiation. By means of imposing economic sanctions and enacting recognized international laws, the delegate of Russian Federation believes to restrict the potential violence in the region. Although the disputes over sovereignty of several territories are still unclear, we expects the Security Council to guarantee the safety of the personnel and commodity over South China Sea, for the channel is one of the busiest around the globe. We will also be delighted to see a plan for sharing resources in the area. The Russian Federation believes the preservation of peace economic activity can lead to stability in the region, bring prosperity and harmony to the countries, and benefit the international society as well.

The Russian Federation asks the members of Security Council and the involved countries to put effort on solving the disputes, and collaborate to come up with a resolution that could sustain a peaceful situation and pursue progress that benefits all.
From established diplomatic relations with China in 1971. Over thirty years, there has been a profound fateful relationship that just like the friendly relations and cooperation between China and Rwanda. In addition, China gives Rwanda economic support constantly so far. For instance, the agriculture, the medical treatment, the construction, the educational expenditure, and so on. Without doubt, Rwanda is exceedingly thankful for China’s help. But when it comes to situation in South China Sea, Rwanda is here to say something. As a diplomatic nation of China, Rwanda comprehends that China positively imports the natural resources from other plentiful resources countries these years. There is nothing matter on this movement, current or wrong? To maintain economic and political hierarchy system of a country, it’s one of the artifices for most states in the world. Based on the “nine-dash” China has projected. Rwanda sustains the “associate development” to those who is located around South China Sea. But it’s not just a country submitting by itself or at will without any generally acknowledgements internationally. To make territory domains in South China Sea and to divide them into equal parts, the round nations should stand up for themselves peacefully. There are no country can have the natural resources all to themselves. That is to say, “Principles of equality and mutual benefit, stress on practical results, diversity in form and achievement of common progress.”
First of all, the delegate of the United States of America would like to remind the house that maintaining international peace and security is one of the major objectives in the United Nation, and it should definitely be taken into consideration of every decision we are going to make.

Therefore, the delegate of the United States of America stays in neutral about the issue of the South China Sea. The resources in the South China Sea belong to all nations, and the sovereignty should not be taken by any country even if the country is powerful. In other words, every country has the right to share the sovereignty and resources in the South China Sea.

Actually, the United States of America is really concerned about the current situation in the South China Sea. We believe that maintaining world peace is important because it provides the opportunity for countries to understand each other and work together. Moreover, since there have been quite some disputes in the South China Sea, the delegate of the United States of America believes that an annual conference should be held in order to give all nations an opportunity to discuss in further details about the related issues and also point out the inner problems of some particular issues. This may influence countries to be more engaged in the conference such as negotiating and reaching a consensus. Overall, the best solution is that the countries can fully discuss international problems, understanding current situations, and truly reaching an agreement.

In addition, a contract may be a good way for them to trust and also restrain each other because it would be the easier to resolve their argument. If a country signs up a contract, it means that it has the responsibility to obey all of the articles stated in the contract. Also, the delegate of the United States of America encourages all nations to comply with the Declaration on the Code of Conduct on the South China Sea since its purpose is to reduce the disputes in the South China Sea.

In conclusion, the delegate of the United States of America will continue involve in this issue and hopes that all nations will be able to establish an agreement together. We shouldn't just simply fail resolutions, but should consider possible solutions to help the world. The delegate of the United States of America believes that world peace is certainly something that we should all try to fulfill.