

# Delegate Guide 2017-18

The background of the cover features a large, light blue watermark of the United Nations logo. It consists of a world map with latitude and longitude lines, surrounded by a laurel wreath. The word 'iMUN' is superimposed on the map in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

**iMUN**

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# Welcome to Model United Nations!

Model United Nations, also known as Model UN or MUN, is an extra-curricular activity in which students typically role play delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees. This activity takes place at MUN conferences, which is usually organised by a high school or college MUN club. At the end of most conferences, outstanding delegates in each committee are recognised and given an award certificate; the Best Delegate in each committee, however, receives a gavel. Thousands of middle school, high school, and college students across the country and around the world participate in Model United Nations, which involves substantial researching, public speaking, debating, and writing skills, as well as critical thinking, teamwork, and leadership abilities.

| Step | Task                          | Check List |
|------|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1    | Country/ Organisation Profile |            |
| 2    | Committee                     |            |
| 3    | Topics & Position papers      |            |
| 4    | Opening Speech                |            |
| 5    | Resolution                    |            |

Before attending any MUN conference, whether local or international, a number of steps must be taken in order for you to be fully prepared; this is your guide to achieve the best delegate award. There are **five** steps you will need to take in order to complete your preparation- Do not participate in any conference if you are not able to complete this list before lobbying and merging.

## STEP ONE: COUNTRY/ ORGANISATION PROFILE

Start off by researching your country or organisation.

### Country:

#### Political Structure:

Origin of Political Structures: Refers to the political regulations and laws and how they came to be that way.

Constitution and Government: Research the principles of your country; is it a democratic, republic, monarchy ... etc. state?

Present Stability and Policy: Is your country stable? Are there any present wars or conflicts?

Foreign Policy: How does your country interact with other countries?

Allies: Who is your country on good terms with?

Disputes: Who is your country in war/ dispute with?

#### Natural Resources:

Basic Commodities Produced: What products does your country export?

Trade Agreements: What countries does your country export to and import from?

Degree of Self Sufficiency: Does your country have enough resources to survive on its own?

### **Cultural Factors:**

Ethnic groups: What ethnic groups exist within your country?

Religions: What is the primary religion in your country? Is your country a secular state? What are the secondary religions in your country?

Cultural History:

### **Defence:**

Military Structure:

Dependency on other nations:

Allies:

### **View on World Problems:**

Role and influence in the world: Did your country make any influential decisions?

### **Economy:**

Economy in General:

Dependency and Debt:

### **History:**

General History:

Last 50 years:

Recent Events:

## **STEP TWO: GETTING TO KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE**

Now that you are familiar with your country/ organisation, you now must familiarise yourself with your forums rules and procedures.

### **The Security Council**

The Security Council is an independent organ of the UN System. The Security Council has the highest authority in the UN and they debate the most challenging and controversial of topics such as: "The Situation in Afghanistan", "Eliminating Somali Pirates", "Nuclear Arms of North Korea" etc. The Security Council consists of 15 members. Five of these 16 are permanent members, (Permanent 5 or **P5**), and the other 10 serve a two year term. The Five Permanent Members are:

- The People's Republic of **China**
- The Republic of **France**
- The **Russian Federation**
- The **United Kingdom** of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- The **United States of America**

These countries were permitted permanent membership of the Security Council by the United Nations Charter and for Historical reasons, leading to the end of the Second World War. These countries were also the first nations of the world to possess Nuclear Weaponry. There are 5 permanent members as well as 10 rotational members of the Security Council which serve a two-year term. They nominate themselves to serve in the council, and at the annual General Assembly Plenary, they are voted on whether they will serve or not. Their term starts on the first of January and five countries are replaced each year. Each Regional Bloc is allocated a number of seats to be served in the Security Council. The seats allocated to each Bloc are set as shown below:

| <b>Regional Bloc</b>        | <b>Number of Seats for that Bloc</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Russian Federation          | Permanent member                     |
| United Kingdom              | Permanent member                     |
| United States of America    | Permanent member                     |
| France                      | Permanent member                     |
| China                       | Permanent member                     |
| Asia                        | 2                                    |
| African                     | 3                                    |
| Eastern Europe              | 1                                    |
| Latin America and Caribbean | 2                                    |
| Western Europe and Other    | 2                                    |

\* Of the Asian or African Seats, between them, one country must be an Arab Country being represented.

When the Security Council debates issues that specifically concern one or a few nations (up to three), the Council will call in the Ambassador of that delegation as a guest if they are not already represented in the Security Council. These nations are called in for their view on the situation and to add debate to the Council, providing views from an opposing side to better the debate. These states cannot vote and serve only as observers to the Council. Some (i.e. If the issue debated was piracy in Somalia, the ambassador of Somalia would be a guest in the debate session)

Please note, when representing a country that is active in an issue in the Security Council, if you are appointed as Ambassador you will be called in for your country's views, so it is advised that you should be prepared for when you are called in!

## **Veto Power**

The Five Permanent Members of the Security Council have Veto Power. The Veto Power entitles them to strike in a clause a specific clause of a resolution, or a resolution as a whole without question or without voting taking place. If a P5 nation uses their veto, the clause or resolution is struck immediately.

## **P5 Caucus**

A P5 Caucus is an informal meeting in the Security Council that breaks debate. All P5 members leave the council's room into a secluded area accompanied by one of the Student Officers of the Security Council. There they discuss a certain aspect of the resolution without needing to speak in the third person.

The Caucus generally happens when one of the P5 delegates are considering on voting against (vetoing) a clause that other P5 delegates are in favour of. In the caucus, the P5 delegates discuss whether the clause is worth having in the resolution or should be struck. To ask for a P5 Caucus, you need to motion or send a note to the chair for one. The motion is called "Motion for P5 Caucus".

Please note: when in the Security and are a P5 Member, if you're unhappy with the clause, instead of vetoing it, try:

- Amending the clause with Amendments
- Abstaining when voting on the clause (if you are unhappy with it, but don't mind if it remains in the resolution)

If it cannot be improved at all, and is a flaw in the resolution, it is suggested that you then should veto (vote against) the clause.

## **The Advisory Panel Question**

The Advisory Panel is a committee at many MUN conferences, which focuses on one topic over the entire length of the conference. At the end of the conference, the Advisory Panel presents their resolution to the Security Council, which will then be debated, and then voted on.

The Advisory Panel consists of a panel of delegates representing both countries and organisations, relevant to the topic. As the Advisory Panel functions like the Security Council, their debate functions from the start of the conference and they do not lobby resolutions, but rather create a resolution together, debating clause by clause. No delegations can veto clauses in the Advisory Panel, which therefore results in continuous amendments to the clauses/resolution.

## **The Human Rights Commission**

The Human Rights Commission (also named the Human Rights Council) is a council at MUN conferences that specifically debates human rights issues. This council was formed as part of the UN system for the purpose of trying to improve human rights situations in specific places and to be able to monitor the control of human rights in countries that violate these rights. Please note that the main essence of debate in regard to the topics of the Human Rights Commission is not what to do to solve the problem, but rather, how to solve the problem (as the majority of the states agree to stop a situation, but differ on how it should be done).

## **The Disarmament Commission**

The Disarmament Commission is a commission that has topics, which relate specifically to weapons trading and disarmament. The first committee of the General Assembly also deals with disarmament; however, this commission debates more aspects of disarmament. The Disarmament Commission debates topics involving weapons trading with regard to the impacts of the trading and usage and tries to improve the situation addressing all of the different aspects.

## **The Environment Commission**

The Environment Commission (also known as the Environment Program) is an initiative set up by the UN to handle and debate issues specifically concerning the environment. The EC/EP debates topics that deal with sustainable development and conservation of both animals and resources. The Environment Commission's goal is to create solutions that concern the world's environment and have the ultimate goal of creating a world of sustainable growth and development, and countering climate change, and its causes and effects.

## **The Economic and Social Council**

The Economic and Social Council was established by the United Nations in 1945. The Council consists of 54 member states that serve for a three-year term. The aim of ECOSOC is to help the United Nations establish

stronger economic development in countries and situations and stronger social cooperation between states and situations.

The issues that are debated in ECOSOC have an impact on both society and the economy if left unresolved. By resolving one of these two aspects in a situation, the other can be solved easier as funding and economics has been taken care of, or social cooperation has been established allowing people to work together to solve the remainder of the problem.

ECOSOC tries to provide solutions to economically related social problems, which prevent societies and countries from developing and having higher development. Other aspects that are debated in ECOSOC are in relation to health problems found across the world, and overcoming the economic challenge of providing health benefits, nutrition, education and other such aspects to less developed societies. In ECOSOC, issues concerning granting all members of society rights and freedoms regardless of their race, gender, age, status, religion and culture.

In ECOSOC there are 54 members states represented that serve for a three-year term. The table below depicts the Regional Blocs and the number of countries represented for them in ECOSOC:

ECOSOC follows the debate procedure as that in the GA committees and in DC, EC, HRC, and SPC, however, also has the power to create sub committees in the UN and organisations in assisting a situation. ECOSOC has many commissions under it, these can be noted in the following subsection.

## Commissions of ECOSOC

ECOSOC has the function in the UN to create commission that deal with specific issues that are found in the world and through these commissions, they improve situations around the world. The two most important types of commissions created by ECOSOC are the **Regional Commissions** and the **Functional Commissions**.

The purpose of a **Regional Commission** is to serve as an ECOSOC representative for a region of the world and be the highest responsibility of the UN to that region in solving matters of Economic and Social concerns. There are five Regional Commissions:

- Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

The purpose of a **Functional Commission** is to help a specific global problem be resolved. The main goal of the commission is to resolve that problem alone across the world and better the world by resolving it. There are nine Functional Commissions and they all relate directly to social issues across the world, and are able to be solved through the use of economics and will sustain through economic funding and social cooperation. These can be found on the following page.

There are nine Functional Commissions:

- Commission on Population and Development
- Commission for Social Development
- Commission on the Status of Women
- Commission on Narcotic Drugs
- Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
- Commission on Science and Technology for Development

| <b>Regional Bloc</b>        | <b>Number of Seats for that Bloc</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Asian States                | 11                                   |
| African States              | 14                                   |
| Eastern Europe              | 6                                    |
| Latin America and Caribbean | 10                                   |
| Western Europe and Other    | 13                                   |

- Commission on Sustainable Development

Please note: The Functional Commissions and Regional Commissions of ECOSOC are used in MUN conferences either as an organisation to be represented by a delegation of students or as a committee.

## The Special Conference

The Special Conference at a MUN Conference is a Commission that debate issues that directly relate to the conference's theme. As every conference has a different conference theme, the issues in the Special Conference would change. What can be found is that some of the issues in the Special Conference are like those in ECOSOC as they relate to economic solutions to social problems. One of the best parts of the Special Conference is that you can be as creative as you like with your solutions the problems, therefore, you'll find that all of the different aspects of the UN relate to the Special Conference, from Disarmament to Human Rights to Environment.

## The General Assembly

The General Assembly is one of the independent organs of the UN System. The GA was formed in 1945 upon the establishment of the UN. In the GA, all of the members states of the UN are represented and equal. The General Assembly is formed of six committees, who debate and deal with different aspects that concern the world. As all members of the United Nations are represented in the GA, which allows for multilateral debate and discussion to take place, allowing all members to be actively involved in finding acceptable solutions wherever possible.

### GA1— Disarmament and International Security

The First Committee of the GA deals with issues that concern the world in relation to the prevention of weapons trading, and issues that pose a threat to international security. The issues debated in GA1 are strongly similar to those in the Disarmament Commission and are lighter forms of the topics of the Security Council. In GA1, delegates find solutions to issues concerning illicit arms trading and production and try to prevent the impacts of arms trading and production therefore improving international security around the world.

### GA2— Economic and Financial

The Second Committee of the GA deals with issues that concern the world in relation to development and growth of countries by boosting their economies. GA2 is concerned with trying to improve the situation of LEDCs and how to better handle issues where economics and finances are involved and trying to find financial solutions to many of the world's economic issues. The issues debated in GA2 are lighter forms of the topics in ECOSOC and pertain around the idea of sustainable development, economic development and progress, eradication of poverty and better methods of globalisation and trade.

## **GA3— Social, Humanitarian and Cultural**

The Third Committee of the GA works on improving the Social and Humanitarian situation in countries. Along with the development of countries, and improving social concerns, GA works to improve the interior problems posed by differences in cultures of a country, which therefore have an impact on the social situation of a country. As GA3 works closely with improving humanitarian aspects of society, they are similar to both ECOSOC and the Human Rights Council.

## **GA4— Special Political and Decolonisation**

The Fourth Committee of the GA deals with issues that concern the world in relation to political stabilisation and decolonisation of nations. GA4 debates issues with the central idea of the creation of a transitioning stable government into a country so that it can progress in all the different aspects of development. GA4 also evaluates the sovereignty of a nation, and sees whether if a country should be independent and separate from another (such as Somaliland in Somalia). Though GA4 debates in being involved in a transition of decolonisation and establishment of a stable government, they cannot take away sovereignty of a government in a country.

## **GA5— Administrative and Budgetary**

The Fifth Committee of the GA deals with issues that concern the world in relation to evaluating UN Missions and creating budgets for the UN to meet when on a mission. GA4 debates and evaluates past UN missions. GA5 also assesses their successes and their failures finding methods for those problems to not happen again. They look into the spending of the UN and they promote funding from member states towards the UN's many peacekeeping missions.

## **GA6— Legal**

The Sixth Committee of the GA deals with issues that concern the world in relation to legal framework of both countries and the UN. GA6 deals with the establishment of better legal systems in countries for governmental and judicial progress. It also drafts rules of law for the UN to follow when involved in a situation and when sending a mission to have the Peacekeeping troops adhere to a body of law so that cooperation between the UN and the community being helped can be sustained.

# **Inter-Governmental Organisation Committees**

At some MUN Conferences, they will have special committees where delegates with more experience apply to participate in. These committees are model versions of the specific intergovernmental organisations where delegates represent either countries or organisations within the committee and debate on issues that concern that committee. As an intergovernmental organisation is an organisation, the different countries are members and they discuss topics that relate to the members of the organisation and for the purpose of the organisation. An example of an issue would be "The situation in Afghanistan" in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), where delegates of the 28 members of NATO would debate improving their military aims in Afghanistan in combating terrorism.

In these committees, delegates do not write resolutions but write Communiqués, and the procedure in these committees is the same as in the Security Council and the APQ, where delegates debate clause by clause and better the clause by the use of amendments. Though inter-governmental organisation committees create communiqués together, they still speak in the third person as they are representing a nation's beliefs, not their own.

## **Communiqué**

A Communiqué is a written statement that all the members of a specific committee agree on that either describes a situation or gives suggestions on improving the situation. It does not follow a specific format as



resolutions do, however, the Final Communiqué, which is the fully composed document that discusses improvements to an issue, is made into sections. These sections first address what the problem is, and then explain how to improve the situation. This is much like in a resolution, where the first part of the resolution describes the problem; perambulatory clauses; and the second part of the resolution suggests how to solve the problem; operative clauses.

Here are two sample communiqués by Japan in the Group of Eight (G8) Committee on the issue of “Alternative Energy Resources as the International Demand for Oil reaches its Peak”, the first one addresses an issue and the second discusses a solution to it:

### **Communiqué One- Addressing the Issue**

*In the growing world, where more nations are beginning to emerge economically, there is a strong demand for energy resources and as more nations develop and the demand grows, comes a limit to the amount of oil that we have; therefore we as an international community are beginning to reach our “Peak”.*

### **Communiqué Two— Solution to the Issue**

*As education is an essential tool in every country to assist citizens in understanding concepts, we suggest that schools should promote the use of alternative energy resources and teach their students about the advantages of these resources in order to keep the demand and sustaining development, yet at the same time, not cause further damage to our planet, in regard to climate change and continual pollution.*

Though this is one example for Communiqués, they are a more simple to write than resolution clauses as they follow normal format and request things to be done without the use of sub-clauses and sub-sub-clauses, like in Resolutions.

What you will find is that, when you submit a Communiqué to the committee, it will be amended by many other delegates, adding their ideas to it, and will be discussed by the committee for approximately 10 minutes before being finalised, with which you will find that your Communiqués will have improved more and cover an aspect of an issue much more in-depth.

## **The International Court of Justice (ICJ)**

The International Court of Justice was established by the United Nations in 1945 and is based in The Hague, the Netherlands. It is the primary judicial organ of the United Nations and deals with legal conflicts between two states. The court is structured in having advocates, judges, a President, and a Registrar. The ICJ has the authority to call upon other UN organs for an advisory opinion, where the ICJ participants can get a better understanding of a situation and consult other UN organs on the situation at hand.

For every case, there are two Advocates representing one country. As there are two member states per case, there are a total of four Advocates. Along with the Advocates, there is a panel of 15 Judges, a Registrar, a Vice President, and a President. The ICJ follows the ICJ Statute<sup>1</sup>, and the Rules of Court<sup>2</sup>, which explains the procedure at the ICJ.

At most MUN conferences, you need to apply to participate in the Model ICJ held at the conference. It is advised that delegates read and revise the ICJ Statute and the Rules of Court. The majority of the conferences that have the ICJ send their participants of their own conference guidelines to the procedure. The reason the procedure of the ICJ is not explained in this guide is because the rules of procedure in the ICJ do not follow the rules of procedures in UN committees such as the GA, or ECOSOC. As the ICJ is an intense committee, where the participants are experienced in MUN, it is strongly advised that all participants revise the rules of court thoroughly and are prepared and know the topics of debate well.

## **The International Criminal Court (ICC)**

The International Criminal Court was established by the United Nations in 2002, and is situated in The Hague, the Netherlands. Both the ICC and the ICJ function similarly. The ICC is a permanent court to the United Nations, where individuals are prosecuted for acts of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

For every case, there is a President, two Vice Presidents, and a panel of 18 judges and a Prosecutor. Members of the court try Defendants on accounts of war crimes, genocides and crimes against humanity. Unlike the ICJ, the ICC functions independently from the UN.

Like with the ICJ, participants are very experienced MUN and undergo vast preparation. It is advised that delegates read and revise the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court<sup>3</sup> and the Rules of Court. The majority of the conferences that have the ICJ send their participants of it there own conference guidelines to the procedure. The reason the procedure of the ICJ is not explained in this guide is because the rules of procedure in the ICJ do not follow the rules of procedures in UN committees such as the GA, or ECOSOC.

### **Now that you are familiar with your committees rules, you now must familiarise yourself with the procedures.**

1. Each committee is led by a Chairperson who facilitates the discussion for the committee. The committee will start with the Chairperson taking roll call. Afterward, the committee will vote on which of the assigned topics to discuss first. After the topic is selected, the committee is ready to begin debate on the selected topic.

2a. There are three debate formats. The default debate format is called the Speakers List. This where delegates take turns making speeches in front of the room by the order that they are listed on the Speakers List as selected by the Chair. Speeches are typically around 1 minute or 1 minute and 30 seconds, but the speaking time can be changed by a majority vote from the delegates.

2b. After a certain number of speeches, the delegates may vote to change up the debate format to either Moderated Caucus or Unmoderated Caucus. Moderated Caucus is when the committee decides to focus on a sub-issue and get a back-and-forth debate going. Delegates will raise their placards to be called on to speak, and the Chairperson will call on speakers one-by-one until the Moderated Caucus time has expired.

2c. Unmoderated Caucus is when delegates are free to get up out of their seats and roam around the room to work with other countries with similar policies. The first one or two unmoderated caucuses will be spent finding allies, but afterward most of the unmoderated caucuses are spent writing draft resolutions with your caucus bloc (your group of allies). All delegates are encouraged to be a sponsor — an author — of a draft resolution.

Committee will switch between Speakers List, Moderated Caucus, and Unmoderated Caucus until draft resolutions are complete, merged, and ready to be presented.

3. Resolutions will be presented either as they are ready or all at once near the end of the conference (sometimes this is called Formal Caucus). Some conferences allow a question-and-answer period after the presentations, and some conferences will also allow time to make mergers or amendments to the resolution.

4. Finally, all the countries in the committee will vote on whether or not they want a resolution to be passed. Afterward, committee will repeat the same process again for the second topic, or if you do not have a second topic then you are done!

At a Model UN conference, there is formal debate as well as informal debate, called caucusing.

**Formal debate:** during formal debate, the staff maintains a speaker's list and delegates speak in the order they are listed. At this time, delegates have an opportunity to share their views with the entire committee. Delegates make speeches, answer questions, and introduce and debate resolutions and amendments. Formal debate is important to the committee's work. By not knowing the rules of procedure, delegates slow down the debate and hold back their committee's progress.

**Moderated caucus:** During a caucus, which is temporary recess, the rules of procedure are suspended. To go to a moderate caucus, a delegate makes a motion to suspend debate and the committee votes. Caucusing helps to facilitate discussion, especially when there is a long speakers list. A moderated caucus is a mixture of both formal and informal debate. Anyone may speak if they raise their placard and are called on by the Chair.

**Unmoderated caucus:** In an unmoderated caucus, delegates meet informally with one another and the committee staff to discuss and negotiate draft resolutions, amendments and other issues.

## The Trusteeship Council

In setting up an International Trusteeship System, the Charter established the Trusteeship Council as one of the main organs of the United Nations and assigned to it the task of supervising the administration of Trust Territories placed under the Trusteeship System. Major goals of the System were to promote the advancement of the inhabitants of Trust Territories and their progressive development towards self-government or independence. The Trusteeship Council is made up of the five permanent members of the Security Council --China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and United States. The aims of the Trusteeship System have been fulfilled to such an extent that all Trust Territories have attained self-government or independence, either as separate States or by joining neighbouring independent countries.

The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994, with the independence of Palau, the last remaining United Nations trust territory, on 1 October 1994. By a resolution adopted on 25 May 1994, the Council amended its rules of procedure to drop the obligation to meet annually and agreed to meet as occasion required -- by its decision or the decision of its President, or at the request of a majority of its members or the General Assembly or the Security Council.

Sustainable Development appears to become a realistic, potentially reachable concept only when nations unite and harmonise to equalise the calibers around which international standards centralise. These calibers include politics, human rights, economical stability, and educational rights and privileges. The Trusteeship Council was never eliminated as an organ, and remains with unspecific purpose. In I'MUN '15, the Trusteeship is reinstated into operation with a different composition of MEDC's and LEDC's. The cooperation between the Council's new members may form a path to generating global solutions and remedying issues that present obstacles to the course of Sustainable Development.

## STEP THREE: POSITION PAPERS & TOPICS

A position paper is required for each topic to be discussed in your forum. In order to produce a position paper, you need to integrate both your country research, and the research of your given topic.

When researching a topic, start with information about the topic in general. Then go back to the oldest information about the topic that you can find, and work your way to the most recent information (this provides you with a stronger context and origin of the issue); make sure to find good pieces of evidence that are liable during the debate. Always research your country's views on the topic as well as other influential countries'. Never forget to research what the UN actions were regarding the topic.

Questions to consider:

1. Why is it a problem?
2. Are there any recent developments regarding the issue?
  - I. A part of researching in MUN is the **position paper**.
  - II. Don't forget to also use articles from reliable resources as basis for your topic research.

### Position Papers

A position paper (also called a policy statement or a point of view paper) presents one side of an arguable opinion about an issue, the country or the organisation the delegate representing. The goal of a position paper is to convince the audience that your opinion is valid and defensible. It is very important to ensure that you are

addressing all sides of the issue and presenting it in a manner that is easy for your audience to understand. Your job is to take one side of the argument and persuade your audience that you have well-founded knowledge of the topic being presented. It is important to support your argument with evidence to ensure the validity of your claims, as well as to refute the counterclaims to show that you are well informed about both sides.

When writing a position paper, there are three main aspects to look into:

### **1. Introduction: The Abstract:**

*What should your abstract do?*

The abstract has a dual purpose: to indicate both the topic and your delegation's view on it. The other purpose is to grab your reader's attention.

*What should your abstract include?*

Introduce and identify the issue at hand, provide background on the topic to explain why it is important. Assert the thesis (your view of the issue), make sure that your position on the topic is clear *without stating "the delegation is with/ against the specified topic"*, and just give hints!

### **2. Body: More about the Situation and past/ current UN actions:**

*What should the body do?*

The body should give the reader more information about the topic at hand and what the UN had done or tried to do to help in solving the issue.

*What should your body include?*

The body should include more information about the topic, more background information about the topic, including supporting evidence or facts. It should also include any actions that The UN took regarding the issue (such as creating resolutions, using organisations to help with the issue, sending troops... etc.). You can also include what other member states have done regarding the topic.

### **3. Conclusion: Country's Position and Proposals for Action:**

*What should the conclusion do?*

The conclusion should give the reader an insight on what your country thinks of the topic, it should also include possible operative clauses that can be included in your resolutions.

*What should the conclusion include?*

The conclusion should include your country's position **clearly** and should include any possible solutions your country would like to propose regarding the topic.

## **Sample Position Papers**

Committee: Environmental Committee

Topic: Ways to foster economic growth in environmental sites

Country: Turkey

### **I. Abstract**

An environmental site is an area of land, sea or air that is environmentally important and sensitive, it is not necessary to be a conservation area. Some examples include Congolese rainforests. Conservation areas can tolerate no human activity so they are thus aren't viable candidates for economic growth. This position paper will take the issue of economic sustainability in those areas under its wing. Economic sustainability refers to human activity that can be carried for an extended time, by economic definition, meaning profitability and the ability to financially sustain itself. From an environmental perspective, the phrase means without ruining/ destroying natural recourses.

Environmental areas are economic drains on most countries; they are some of the reasons that effect economy crisis. But still, environmental sites continue to be endangered around the world. So even if those areas are bringing down the economy, we are still obliged to protect them.

## **II. The Situation and past and current UN action**

Ecotourism is by many found as the key to solving this issue, ecotourism is the tourism of an environmental areas which are sensitive, its purpose is to increase awareness and is now a primary method of doing so. Ecotourism allows tourism without the destruction of environmental areas.

Kenya is a supporter of ecotourism, Ecotourism Kenya was founded in 1996 to promote ecotourism and sustainable tourism practices in Kenya.

Other countries like Benin, Botswana and New Zealand are supporters of ecotourism and have had major involvements regarding the issue of Economic sustainability in environmental areas.

The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) is a program that records and investigates the situation. Recently, the program has noted the increase of efforts in Africa regarding the issue.

The G8+5 meeting in 2007 underlined the problem and have agreed to support valuation of natural recourses.

Some of the Major UN involvements include The Sustainable Development; the UN recognises tourism as a fat growing industry that contributes to the local and global economy. The UN General Assembly decided to have a further consideration on the topic after reviewing Agenda number 21. Collaboration between The World Tourism Organisation with UNCTAD launched to use sustainable tourism as a force to fight poverty.

The UN commission on Sustainable Development last reviewed the issue in 2001. CSD is expected to review the issue again in 2012.

## **III. Turkey's Position and Proposals for Action**

Turkey is supporting ecotourism and is aiming for a green economy, an economy that has zero negative effects on the environment.

Since Turkey supports ecotourism, promoting respect for the local environment, people and their cultures is a vital possible solution. Those sites will hopefully be protected by the law which means that any human being effecting environmental sites or any promotion in the destruction of the areas will be tolerated since there will be specific stricter rules and laws to abide with, this will help ensure the protection of those sites, that along with legislations to protect those areas.

Close collaborations with environmentalists, biologists, oenologists and geologists will hopefully be made. These will probably conduct surveys and research upon ecotourism and sustainable tourism.

Annual awards to promote competition among ecotourism sites will be hosted. Nations will be educated using means of media, lectures will probably be given.

## **STEP FOUR: THE OPENING SPEECH**

The Opening Speech typically lasts about 1 minute or 1 minute and 30 seconds and is the first speech you give to the committee. It is the best opportunity for you to explain your country policy and the key sub-issues you would like the committee to focus on. Opening Speeches is a main way for countries to determine who they want to work with, so it's important to prepare a speech that conveys this. There are many tips and strategies on how to deliver an Opening Speech, but use your Position Paper as a guide when you are starting out. The most important action is to just be brave and make your first speech.

In most conferences, you will be asked to give an opening speech. An opening speech should last for about 1-2 minutes, and in this minute, you should address very clearly to the audience the position of the country/organisation you represent on the topics that will be debated during the conference.

There are a few things to keep in mind when preparing for an opening speech:

First of all, there is the beginning of the speech. It is customary to address the President and the delegates present by starting your speech, saying something like: "Fellow Delegates, Distinguished Delegates".

Afterwards, go on to the main body of your speech. The main body of your speech should address the issue on the agenda your Delegation feels most strongly about. **Keep your diplomatic and concentrate**

**Focus on getting one single message across.** End your speech by thanking your audience.

### Sample Opening Speech

Dear President, Advisors, delegates and chairperson,

The Delegate would like to take this time to thank the International Academy Amman for giving this opportunity to expand the delegate's educational horizon. The delegation is looking forward to meeting fellow delegates and sign/ read their resolutions, and not to mention, unfolding countless friendships.

The delegation would like to express its deep concern on the issue of unequal pay in Africa, a new form of sexism, unequal payments are neglecting woman's rights. Another issue, honour killing, an unforgivable regime, women on whom suspicion has fallen are not given an opportunity to defend themselves and their family members have no socially acceptable alternative but to remove the shame, therefore making her a victim of honour killing.

Finally, the delegate hopes for a fruitful conference with an even more productive outcome.

Thank you; the delegate yields the floor

## STEP FIVE: HOW TO WRITE A RESOLUTION

A resolution is a document that contains all the issues that the committee wants to solve and the proposed solutions to that issue.

Any delegate in the committee can write a resolution (however in some conferences an observer state and organisations are not allowed to directly write a resolution). The main author of a resolution is called a main submitter (this delegate is the delegate that contributed mostly to the clauses of the resolution). Resolutions have co-submitters as well, this is because it takes a group of countries to share good ideas and to come with a good resolutions. (Remember: always write a resolution with a country your country is on good terms with, preferably an ally). There are also signatories, a signatory is a delegate that thinks that the resolution should be debated, **and this does not necessarily mean that this delegate agrees with the resolution.**

Resolutions should be written in the conference right after lobbying and merging take place (check page). However, this does not mean that the delegate should not prepare clauses before the conference.

A resolution is generally divided into 3 parts; *the heading, perambulatory clauses and operative clauses*:

### 1. The Heading:

The heading contains four pieces of information: the committee name, the topic, the main submitter, the co-submitters and the signatories, usually in this order.

### 2. Pre-ambulatory clauses

The pre-ambulatory clauses state all the information the writers of the resolution think are relevant to the topic and should be mentioned. Most of the time, Information stated in the position paper is used. Here are some of the pieces of information that can be stated in the pre-ambulatories:

- Past UN resolutions, treaties, or conventions related to the topic
- Past regional, non-governmental, or national efforts in resolving this topic
- References to the UN Charter or other international frameworks and laws
- Statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or agency
- General background information or facts about the topic, its significance, and its impact.

When writing a pre-ambulatory clauses, take a statement that you want to write and then combine it with an underlined pre-ambulatory clause starter (see page 14).

Make the pre-ambulatory clauses shorter than operative clauses. More operative clauses convey that you have more solutions than you have problems.

### 3. Operative clauses

Operative clauses state the solutions that the submitters of the resolution propose to solve the issue at hand.

To write a resolution, take the solution that you want to include in the resolution, and then take that solution, combine it with an operative clause starter (see page 15), and end it with a semicolon (the last operative clause ends with a period).

Operative clauses are also numbered. This differentiates them from pre-ambulatory clauses, helps show logical progression in the resolution, and makes the operative clauses easy to refer to in speeches and during the debate.

Usually more details in an operative clause will make it stronger or at least makes the idea more clear to the other delegates. A simple way to strengthen each operative clause is to answer the “who, what, when, where, why, and how” of each solution. These details can actually be broken down into sub-operative clauses underneath the main operative clause.

#### Perambulatory Clauses:

- All perambulatory clauses should end with a comma (,), the last clause should end with a period (.).
- Leave a line between each clause.
- Don't re-use clause starters, if you want to use the same starter over again, add "further" or "with concern" or "with warning".
- Perambulatory clause starters should be underlined and not numbered.

In Perambulatory clauses DO:

- State strong and recent facts concerning the issue.
- Use statistics if possible.
- Mention both the past and present situation regarding the issue.
- Recall any passed resolutions regarding the topic.
- Mention organisations involved in the topic.
- Use the terms MEDCs and LEDCs

In Perambulatory clauses DON'T:

- Be biased
- Use the terms "third world countries"/ "poor countries" or "first world countries"/ "rich countries"

Perambulatory Clause Starter

|             |                             |                          |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Affirming   | Emphasising                 | Having devoted attention |
| Alarming by | Expressing its satisfaction | Having examined          |

|                             |                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Approving                   | Expecting                   | Having studied            |
| Aware of                    | Expressing its appreciation | Keeping in mind           |
| Bearing in mind             | Expecting                   | Noting with regret        |
| Believing                   | Expressing its satisfaction | Noting with deep concern  |
| Confident                   | Expressing its appreciation | Noting with satisfaction  |
| Convinced                   | Further recalling           | Noting further            |
| Contemplating               | Fulfilling                  | Noting with approval      |
| Declaring                   | Fully alarmed               | Observing                 |
| Deeply concerned            | Fully aware                 |                           |
| Deeply conscious            | Fully believing             | Reaffirming               |
| Deeply convinced            | Further deploring           | Realizing                 |
| Deeply disturbed            | Guided by                   | Recalling                 |
| Deeply regretting           | Having heard                | Reorganization            |
| Desiring                    | Having adopted              | Seeking                   |
| Declaring                   | Having considered           | Taking into account       |
| Expressing its appreciation | Having considered further   | Taking into consideration |

**Operative Clauses:**

- All operative clause starters must be numbered and underlined or bolded.
- Sub clauses must be lettered (a, b, c... etc.).
- Sub- sub clauses must be numbered using roman numerals (I, ii, iii... etc.).
- Operative clauses must end in semi-colons (;).
- Leave a line between every clause
- Don't re-use clause starters, if you want to use the same starter over again, add "further" or "strongly".

In Operative clauses DO:

- Aim to solve smaller problems that contribute to the issue.
- Elaborate in your solutions; always answer the 5W's & 1H:



1. What are you planning on doing?
2. Who is going to implement this?
3. When are you going to proceed with this solution? (If applicable)
4. Where are you going to implement this? (Based on topic question)
5. Why is this solution feasible?
6. Most importantly, **HOW ARE YOU GOING TO DO THIS?** (THIS IS THE MOST CRUCIAL ASPECT OF THE CLAUSE)

- Make use of any existing organisations or create ones to help with the issue.
- Emphasise cooperation between governments.
- Explain different methods of approaching the same problem

In Operative clauses DON'T:

- Be vague or state a solution without stating the way of applying it
- Create unrealistic solutions that cannot be applied.

Operative Clause Starter

|   |                          |                               |                   |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Accepts   | Congratulates... invites | Endorses... with appreciation | Reiterates        |
| Adopts  | Commends... the belief   | Expressing... with approval   | Renews its appeal |
| Affirms   | Concurs... the hope      | Further                       | Repeats           |
| Appeals... its appreciation with interest       | Condemns                 | Invites                       | Suggests          |
| Appreciates... its conviction with satisfaction | Directs                  | Instructs                     | Strongly urges    |
| Approves... its regret                          | Designates               | Notes                         | Supports          |
| Authorises... its sympathy its belief           | Decides... reminds       | Reaffirms                     | Takes note of     |
| Calls upon                                      | Declares... requests     | Recognises                    | Transmits         |
| Considers... proclaims                          | Deplores... resolves     | Recommends                    | Urges             |
| Confirms... concurs                             | Encourages               | Regrets                       | Welcomes          |

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### Sample Resolution

This is a sample of how the resolution should be formatted and structured; this sample is from the HRC committee- please note that signatories are optional and not required.

**Forum:** Human Rights

**Topic:** Protection of Children working as soldiers

**Main Submitter:** Britain

**Co- Submitters:** Israel, France, USA and Canada

**Signatories:** Columbia, Jordan and Denmark

Recalling the responsibilities of States to prosecute those who are responsible for crimes against humanity, war crimes and other crimes perpetrated against children,

Stresses the importance of timely, sustained and adequate resources and funding for effective welfare for all children affected by armed conflict,

Accepting the fact that several individuals who are alleged to have committed crimes against children in armed conflict have been brought to justice by national justice systems and criminal courts,

Convinced that the protection of children –especially in armed conflict- is an important aspect of any comprehensive strategy to resolve conflict,

Emphasises the primary role of national governments to provide protection and relief to all children affected by armed conflicts;

1. **Encourages** the UN to collaborate with International NGO's AND governments of all countries especially countries suffering from the problem of child soldiers to spread awareness by:
  - a. Hanging Poster, billboards, and flyers:
    - i. Targeting them to families that might be at risk (such as ones living in rural areas),
    - ii. Hanging in areas where poverty exists in order to grab the attention of potential child soldiers and their families,
    - iii. Ensuring that the posters billboards and flyers have images as well as writing in order for illiterate children and adults to understand.
  - b. Holding Seminars and meetings in schools and large companies to educate the public about the situation;
  - c. Broadcasting TV advertisements that are targeted towards the upper class of the country in order to receive donations and funds;
  - d. Educating children or at cultural centres about the risk of being recruited
2. **Strongly recommends** the engagement of political and community leaders of countries – especially countries with child soldiers- to address the cases of child recruitments as well as monitoring and documenting cases by:
  - a. Establishing an international database that will be monitored by the UN
3. **Calls for** the advocacy and importance of including children in demobilisation plans which include:
  - a. Attending to special needs of child soldiers,
  - b. Providing a legal framework which includes the right to be demobilised
  - c. Providing protection from recruitment
  - d. Providing centres for demobilised children to ensure:
    - i. Food
    - ii. Counseling
    - iii. Temporary shelter
    - iv. Family tracing systems and fostering arrangements

- v. Healthcare
4. **Trusts** that the UN and countries that have child soldiers to have reintegration programs that include but are not limited to:
    - a. Alternative education
    - b. Community based psychological programs
    - c. Recreational, cultural and religious activities to restore cultures, morals and values;
  5. **Strongly urges** governments to place punishments upon local child recruiters:
    - a. Putting them in house arrest before and during the trial
    - b. Prohibiting travel by any means such as but not limited to:
      - i. Water transportation
      - ii. Road Transportation
      - iii. Airway transportation
  6. **Recommends** recruiting trained armed forces into countries with child soldiers to:
    - a. Discover the abduction and reasons behind becoming a child soldiers
    - b. Interrogate potential child recruiters
    - c. Check suspicious vehicles leaving and entering poverty stricken- crime prone areas.

### How To Write An Amendment

If a delegate thinks that an improvement can be made to the resolution (such as by adding a clause or striking one out), he should submit an amendment to the chair.

When a delegate submits an amendment, he goes up and presents it to the committee and then the house debates and votes on it.

Important: If 3/4 of the resolution is amended, the resolution automatically fails.

### Lobbying and Merging

Lobbying:

Lobbying is basically presenting you resolution/ clauses to other delegates and convincing them that you have the best set of solutions.

Always appear confident and knowledgeable, give everyone you position paper and draft operative clauses. Be very persuasive and be prepared to work with other countries to fix your clause and MERGE them with other ones. Try to get as many co-submitters as possible, they should understand the resolution fully.

Merging:

Merging is basically combining your clauses with delegations' other clauses to create the best resolution possible.

Always bring your clauses on your laptop or a USB stick because you don't have time to retype the whole resolution. Don't forget... always work as a group!

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## The Debate

The flow of debate described below is a simplified version of the typical of North American high school conferences and many collegiate conferences around the world:

1. Each committee is led by a Chairperson who facilitates the discussion for the committee. The committee will start with the Chairperson taking roll call. Afterward, the committee will vote on which of the assigned topics to discuss first. After the topic is selected, the committee is ready to begin debate on the selected topic.

2a. There are three debate formats. The default debate format is called the Speakers List. This where delegates take turns making speeches in front of the room by the order that they are listed on the Speakers List as selected by the Chair. Speeches are typically around 1 minute or 1 minute and 30 seconds, but the speaking time can be changed by a majority vote from the delegates.

2b. After a certain number of speeches, the delegates may vote to change up the debate format to either Moderated Caucus or Unmoderated Caucus. Moderated Caucus is when the committee decides to focus on a sub-issue and get a back-and-forth debate going. Delegates will raise their placards to be called on to speak, and the Chairperson will call on speakers one-by-one until the Moderated Caucus time has expired.

2c. Unmoderated Caucus is when delegates are free to get up out of their seats and roam around the room to work with other countries with similar policies. The first one or two unmoderated caucuses will be spent finding allies, but afterward most of the unmoderated caucuses are spent writing draft resolutions with your caucus bloc (your group of allies). All delegates are encouraged to be a sponsor — an author — of a draft resolution.

Committee will switch between Speakers List, Moderated Caucus, and Unmoderated Caucus until draft resolutions are complete, merged, and ready to be presented.

3. Resolutions will be presented either as they are ready or all at once near the end of the conference (sometimes this is called Formal Caucus). Some conferences allow a question-and-answer period after the presentations, and some conferences will also allow time to make mergers or amendments to the resolution.

4. Finally, all the countries in the committee will vote on whether or not they want a resolution to be passed. Afterward, committee will repeat the same process again for the second topic, or if you do not have a second topic then you are done!

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## Points and Motions

*Only the chair decides whether to accept your motion/ point!*

### **Point of Information (to the speaker):**

This is when a delegate wants to ask the delegate on the podium a question. This point cannot interrupt a speaker.

### **Point of Order:**

This is when a delegate wants to correct a speaker or state a fact. This point cannot interrupt a speaker!

### **Point of Parliamentary Procedure:**

This is when the delegate wants to inform the chair that the incorrect procedure was taken in the committee.

**Point of Inquiry- Point of information (to the chair):**

This is when a delegate wants to inform/ ask a chair something.

**Point of Personal Privilege:**

This is when a delegate wants to inform the chair of a personal need (such as going to the bathroom, wanting water, opening the windows... etc.). This is the **only** point that can interrupt a speaker.

**Motion to approach the chair:**

This is when the delegate wants to come to the chair.

**Motion to move to previous question/ Motion to move to voting procedure:**

This motion is used when the delegates want to finishing debating on the current resolution and start voting on it. This point cannot interrupt a speaker!!

**Motion to adjourn the debate:**

This is when a delegate asks for a temporary stopping of the debate. The caller of this motion needs to make a short speech on why he/ she thinks that the debate should be adjourned. This point cannot interrupt a speaker!