Delegate
Preparation Handbook

Wichita Area Model United Nations (WA-MUN)

January 2022

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Topic Research Guide

Topic 1: Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control

With the adoption of the [Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women](#) in 1979, the United Nations recognized the importance of complete disarmament in achieving full equality between men and women. Since then, the international community has increasingly examined the unique, nuanced and diverse ways in which armed conflict disproportionately affects women, and often in gender-specific ways. In 2019, [96 percent of conflict-related sexual violence](#) targeted women and girls. Explosive weapons also often target marketplaces, the second highest location for civilian casualties, which [disproportionately affects women](#), who are often responsible for buying food and household necessities at markets. Despite carrying many of the burdens of the consequences of conflict, women tend to be underrepresented in decisions that are made regarding disarmament, with only [three out of every 10](#) peace agreements between 1992 and 2019 including any women in their negotiation or signing. Ensuring the equitable representation of women's voices on the issues of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control is necessary to promote collective security and stability for all Member States, as research has shown that peace talks which meaningfully involve women yield a [greater likelihood](#) of lasting peace.

In 2000, the Security Council [passed a resolution](#) encouraging Member States to include the perspective of women in all fields of operations, including in peace negotiations, post-conflict reconstruction and disarmament. Subsequently, the Office of Disarmament Affairs adopted a [Gender Action Plan](#) in 2003 to explore the connection between disarmament and gender equality, incorporate gender into its ongoing work, and advocate for including gender perspectives and advocates in disarmament discussions. Progress in implementing this plan was slow and uneven; by 2004 the [Secretary-General noted](#) that women's participation in developing policies and guidelines had increased, while substantial gaps remained in directly including women in conflict resolution processes. The ad hoc nature of voluntary financial contributions for initiatives focused on increasing attention to gender perspectives, protecting the human rights of women and promoting women's participation in the arms control space have contributed to slow progress in the resolution's implementation. In 2006, the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects convened and established [concrete recommendations](#) for gender mainstreaming and including women in the implementation of the original 2001 United Nations [Programme of Action](#) (PoA), a foundational policy document in arms control. While the original PoA provided detailed policy recommendations, it did not discuss how the illicit small arms trade affects women or what their role is in addressing disarmament. The report created a set of guidelines focused on four areas: women's relevance in combating the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons; planning and implementation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration; national and regional foci; and civil society and public awareness initiatives. These guidelines were reviewed again in [2010](#) and [2016](#) and have served as references for efforts moving forward.

The General Assembly passed a [resolution](#) in 2010 focused solely on women's role in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, the first of its kind, and adopted the [Arms Trade Treaty](#) (ATT)

in 2013, now the primary international agreement regulating the legal movement and transfer of arms. Articles Six and Seven of the ATT call on States to assess the risk of arms being used to commit violence against women and children and deny any arms transfer if there is an overriding risk that the arms may be used to commit or faciliate gender-based violence, finally formalizing the need to address gender in armed conflict. While the ATT marks a step toward progress in the women and arms control space, a lack of accountability mechanisms for States that violate the treaty, as well as the failure of many States to provide their assessed financial contributions for implementation efforts, may be limiting the agreement's potential to address gender-based violence.

With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, the United Nations continued its efforts to address women's participation in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, notably through Goal 5 on gender equality and eliminating gender-based violence and Goal 16 on reducing illicit arms trafficking. In 2018, the Secretary-General reported that some progress had been achieved among Member States in increasing female representation within their disarmament efforts. The United Nations has seen increased funding to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women. Many countries have reported increased numbers of women in government and armed forces positions. Women increasingly participate in peace negotiations. The Office of Disarmament Affairs also implemented the Women Scholarship for Peace initiative to train young female professionals on peace, disarmament and non-proliferation, leading to 170 early career female professionals from the global South receiving scholarships in the program's first year. Despite this progress, as of 2019, women still only account for 32 percent of the participants at disarmament meetings, and account for 24 percent of delegation heads in the General Assembly First Committee, the Conference on Disarmament and the Non-Proliferation Treaty preparatory committee meetings.

One outstanding issue is the lack of access and resources allocated to address the specific challenges facing women. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) programs provide support in many forms—including services, cash incentives, healthcare, training, travel remittance, small business grants or housing support—to halt conflict and reintegrate people and groups involved in armed conflict into society at large, contributing toward peace, security and disarmament. One barrier is that women do not register for DDR programs at a high level. Prevailing gender norms in some countries may prevent women from declaring themselves as members of an armed force out of fear for social sigma. Some DDR programs also fail to sufficiently address the gender-specific needs of either women and girls or men and boys, and how gender-specific needs fluctuate as gender norms change. Inhibiting access for women and girls to DDR support packages makes it less likely that they will make it to the negotiation table, and diminishes the likelihood that the economic and physical needs of women affected by armed conflict will be acknowledged, hindering the success of disarmament efforts.

Questions to consider from your country's perspective:
- What steps can the international community take to further implement the Arms Trade Treaty and reduce the risk of arms being used to perpetuate violence against women?
- How can the United Nations and Member States increase women's participation, at all levels, in the field of disarmament?
- How can Member States improve women's access to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs? How can DDR programs be more responsive to the gender-specific needs of women?

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Topic 2: The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

Consistent access to safely-managed sanitation and hygiene facilities and a sufficient supply of safe, affordable water for drinking, cooking and cleaning are fundamental human rights and universal necessities. While access to water, sanitation and hygiene has improved in the 21st century, 29 percent of the world's population is still without access to safely-managed drinking water services and 55 percent is without access to safely-managed sanitation services. Lack of access to these facilities also perpetuates other human rights issues, including lack of access to education, lack of safe healthcare facilities and gender inequality. Safe drinking water and sanitation facilities are also frequently targeted in conflicts, with forced displacement during armed conflict further hindering access. Through Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, the United Nations has set the goal of achieving universal access to clean drinking water and equitable sanitation and hygiene services by 2030.

Treating access to water and sanitation as explicit human rights is a relatively recent concept, with neither right formally recognized in either the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights or the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). The final report of the 1977 United Nations Water Conference, the first international conference on water scarcity, was the first time the United Nations explicitly recognized water as an essential right, with "similar considerations" for sanitation. This shift led to the inclusion of language regarding water and sanitation in subsequent human rights documents, including the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Recognition of the importance of access to water and sanitation grew rapidly with the turn of the century. In 2000, the United Nations adopted the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for international development. MDG Target 7.C set the goal of halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015. Two years later, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights formally acknowledged that the rights to water and sanitation were implicit in the ICESCR's articles on standards of living and health. In 2010, the General Assembly explicitly recognized a human right to safe drinking water and sanitation for the first time, representing the culmination of these changes. The Human Rights Council followed suit later that year. This also coincided with the international community meeting the goals for water access set in MDG Target 7.C.

Building on these successes, the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals included SDG 6, dedicated to ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030, and setting eight specific targets for measuring progress, ranging from increased development assistance for water and sanitation facilities to greater integrated water resources management implementation. That same year, at the urging of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the General Assembly recognized the right to safe drinking water and the right to sanitation as separate human rights, due in large part to a consistent lack of focus on sanitation access.

In 2016, the General Assembly declared the period from 2018 to 2028 as the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development," with the goal of increasing discussion around best practices for providing universal water resources. Numerous reports and resolutions across the United Nations system have highlighted the importance of water and sanitation access and outlined

regional strategies for progressive realization of SDG 6. In their commemorative report on progress made between 2010 and 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation identified three critical components of a human rights-based approach to water and sanitation: assessing the root causes that drive exclusion from access to water and sanitation, incorporating the human rights framework into policy making and ensuring that people in affected communities, particularly those in marginalized groups, remain centered and protected in all decisions.

Despite notable progress and consistent attention from the United Nations and NGOs, the international community is currently far from ensuring universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation by 2030. While the United Nations continues to highlight the importance of sustainable development in meeting the need for water and sanitation access, large development projects often fail to utilize a human rights-based approach, leading to further harms against the communities they are ostensibly supposed to benefit. There is also significant competition for water use in the agricultural, industrial and energy sectors, creating conflict over limited water resources. Climate change also exacerbates water and sanitation issues, further straining existing resources as access and affordability remain central challenges to securing the right to water and sanitation.

Unequal attention to the right to sanitation has also been a significant challenge to achieving SDG 6, with progress on and funding for sanitation-related goals lagging far behind those for safe drinking water. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the inherent risks of lack of sanitation and hygiene access, with lack of handwashing facilities and sanitation facilities contributing to further spread of the virus. Implementing safe, accessible, affordable and culturally appropriate sanitation and hygiene facilities alongside improving water access is necessary to meet the needs of all peoples and ensure the full enjoyment of their human rights.

Questions to consider from your country's perspective:
- How can the United Nations help to ensure that implementation of new water and sanitation-related development projects and new technologies follow a human rights-based approach?
- How can the international community ensure that the realization of the right to sanitation is met with the same level of effort as the right to safe drinking water?
- How can the international community expand access to safe drinking water and sanitation in the face of climate change, water pollution and other threats to the water supply?
- How can the Human Rights Council help secure the rights of marginalized groups which disproportionately suffer from a lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation?

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Rules and Procedures

This conference provides delegates with an opportunity to practice parliamentary procedure. It is not our intention, however, to be so strict about procedure that it gets in the way of a good educational simulation. Delegates will spend part of their time in formal session, making speeches on the topics and on the substance of their resolutions. They will also spend time in informal session, seeking like-minded delegates with whom to write resolutions. Our goal is to help delegates craft solutions to major global problems in the form of Resolutions. This means that delegates will be working cooperatively with other delegations. Hopefully, delegates will be able to develop a consensus within the committee because history has shown that consensus solutions are the most effective in obtaining cooperation between countries. If students get off topic or make motions that are disruptive to the proceedings, the Chair will rule them dilatory.

Session Overview:

1. Roll Call
2. Motion to move a topic to the floor (second required; debatable; simple majority)
3. Option to establish a Speakers' list OR to motion for suspension of the meeting for a caucus
   - Raise hand/name placard to be acknowledged
   - Move to open a Speakers' List (second required; debatable; simple majority)
   - Motion to limit speaker's time to __ minutes (second required; debatable)

   OR
   - Motion to caucus for [up to 15 minutes] (must be seconded; simple majority)
4. Delegates take turns making formal speeches according to the Speakers list
5. Students caucus in informal session to write resolutions (15 minute maximum request at a time)
6. Approved draft resolutions circulated to all committee members (must have support / signatures of 25% of the delegations).
7. Delegates take turns making formal speeches on the content of the resolutions.
8. Students Caucus to combine resolutions / Chair approves select resolutions for a vote.
9. Motion to Close Debate and move into voting procedure (Second required; debatable; simple majority)
10. Vote taken on each resolution approved by the Chair (maximum of 4).
11. Motion to move to the next topic area. (Repeat steps 3-10)

Roll Call

The session begins with a roll call of all of the countries in the Plenary Session. Delegates should respond that they are Present when they are called.

Call for Points or Motions

Following Roll Call, the Chair will call for any Points or Motions from the floor. This is an invitation for delegates to raise their placards in order to make a motion. Motions that would be appropriate at this time might include: moving a topic to the floor for discussion, or establishing a speaker's list with a speaker's time. When a motion requires a Second, the Chair will ask if there is a Second and delegates can raise their placards in order to Second the motion. Multiple motions can be on the floor at once. Once all of the motions have been moved, the Chair will call for debate and a vote on each motion in the order that it was made. (ex: a motion for a 1 minute speaking time and a motion for a 2 minute speaking time can both be made and then voted on by the body.) If a motion is Debatable, the Chair will call for one speaker to speak in favor of the motion, and one speaker to speak opposed to the motion. These speakers will be called upon in turn to briefly state why the body should or should not support the motion on the floor. Following debate, a vote will be taken on the motion.

When voting on Procedural motions (such as establishing a speakers list, limiting speaker's time, suspending the meeting, or closing debate), delegates can only vote yes or no. When delegates vote on Substantive matters (such as accepting or rejecting resolutions before the body when in voting procedure), they may vote yes, no, or abstain.

If there are no motions on the floor, the Chair will ask for any Speakers. At this point, any delegate who is recognized by the Chair can make a speech to the committee. If a Speaker's List has been established, names will be placed on it and called upon in order to speak.

We hope that each delegate will take an active role in the committee deliberations while in formal session. We want to make sure that everyone desiring to do so has a chance to address the committee. If delegates choose not to establish a speaker's list (or to close it), we will give preference to those who have not yet had an opportunity to speak over those desiring to speak for a second time. Our goal is to assure that every delegate has an equal opportunity to address the committee. During the first part of the session, delegates will likely speak on the importance of addressing the topic and their proposed solutions to the problem.

Yielding to Questions

It can be helpful in facilitating dialogue among countries for delegates to choose to 'yield to questions' after they have finished making a formal speech. At this time, the Chair will ask if there are any questions for the delegate who has made the speech, and will then recognize raised placards one at a time. At any point the delegate answering questions may choose to stop and be seated by 'yielding their time to the Chair' (they do not have to answer questions if they don't want to). Delegates cannot continue a dialogue back and forth, questions must be raised by being recognized by the Chair. The Chair has discretion to end questioning at any time if the committee has not set a time limit for speaking.

Motion for Suspension of the Meeting

Once a topic area is open for discussion, it is appropriate to motion to suspend the meeting for a caucus. During a caucus session, delegates should seek out other countries with similar viewpoints on a specific issue. Delegates should work to draft resolutions that will address the problem at hand and have sufficient support from other delegations to pass. This may require working out compromises with those who have different views. This can be very challenging and requires good listening skills to understand the concerns of other delegates.

Drafting Resolutions

Delegates should craft resolutions in committee. Please do not bring pre-written resolutions to the conference. Delegates are encouraged to incorporate as many of their ideas as possible into a single resolution rather than pursuing multiple resolutions that might contain conflicting provisions or may not gain majority support.

Draft resolutions need to have the signatures of 25% (or more) of the delegations in the session. Delegates becoming 'signatories' to the resolution indicate that they would like the resolution to come before the committee for debate (whether they support or oppose it). Once a resolution has significant support, the Chair will review it and then circulate copies to all delegates. Any amendments that delegates would like to incorporate into a resolution should be made during caucus session before a vote is taken (i.e.,' friendly amendments').

Formal Session

Delegates take turns making formal speeches according to the Speakers list, or by raising their placards to be recognized by the Chair. As resolutions are drafted, speeches will speak more to the substance of the resolutions and seek to convince delegates to support the different resolutions.

Closing Debate

If a delegate believes there has been enough debate on a topic and is ready to bring the resolutions that are on the floor to a vote, s/he can move to Close Debate. This motion requires 2/3's support from the body. If the motion passes, then the committee moves directly into voting procedure. If it fails, delegates continue their work on their resolutions.

Voting

Voting is done by Roll Call, with countries being called alphabetically by the English spelling of country names. Delegates can vote in favor of a motion, against the motion or abstain. A country voting to abstain is indicating that it neither favors nor opposes the motion. Abstentions are not included in determining whether the proposal passes or not (i.e., if a resolution gets 10 in favor, 8 opposed and 20 abstentions, it still passes). A country may choose to Pass once. When the roll call is done, any delegations that have passed will be called upon to cast their vote.

The only motion to be made in voting procedure is a Point of Information.

Courtesy

At all times delegates should remember that they are simulating a diplomatic process and diplomats are always courteous to each other even when they disagree. Delegates should address each other as "The honorable delegate from ....." When criticizing another country, delegates should avoid directly mentioning that country's name. Committee chairs have been instructed to enforce proper courtesy and a speaker's right to continue speaking may be revoked at any point by the chair if considers the speaker's words to be a breech of courtesy. Also, as in any public forum, courtesy also requires that a speaker be heard. It is a breech of courtesy to talk or otherwise distract the audience while a speaker is speaking and the chairs will move quickly to resolve any such problems. If a delegate persists in disrupting his/her committee, the chairs may remove that delegate from the committee

Rules Short Form

Point or Motion	Debatable	Second required	Vote required	Description
Point of Information	No	No	No	This point is made if a delegate has a question regarding rules or other concerns, or needs clarification from the Chair.
Suspend the meeting for ___ minutes to caucus (up to 15 mins).	Yes	Yes	Simple Majority	This motion is made when delegates want to break from formal session in order to begin writing resolutions, or to seek support from other delegates for their draft resolutions.
Close debate	Yes	Yes	2/3's Majority	This motion is made when students have completed their work on their resolutions and are ready to put them to a formal vote. Only two resolutions will be approved by the Chair for a formal vote.
Move topic to the floor	Yes	Yes	Simple Majority	This motion is made in order to begin discussion on one of the two topic areas. Delegates get to decide which topic they want to address first.
Establish a Speaker's list	Yes	Yes	Simple Majority	This motion is made if delegates want to establish a list of speakers. Delegates will be invited put their names on the list so they can address the body when it is their turn. If there is no list, delegates will be called on as they raise their placards.
Move to Close Speaker's list	Yes	Yes	Simple Majority	This motion is made if delegates would prefer to be called on as they raise their placards instead of following the order on an established Speaker's List.
Limit Speaker's Time	Yes	Yes	Simple majority	This motion allows delegates to limit how long each speaker is allowed to speak. (Usual limits are between 1 – 3 minutes). This motion can be made multiple times if a different time limit is desired.

*   All motions are debatable and require a second before they can be voted on by the body. When a motion is Debatable, it means that the Chair will take one speaker in favor of the motion and one speaker against the motion. Each speaker will briefly state why the motion should be supported by the body or rejected by the body.

*   A simple majority is considered 50% + 1. If a vote is tied, the motion fails.

Position Papers

* Submission of position papers by delegates is <u>optional, but strongly encouraged</u>. Writing position papers serves enhance the quality of preparation of the delegates and to focus their thoughts on the topic areas. The WA-MUN gives position paper awards. (Position papers must be submitted in advance of the conference).

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DELEGATIONS CAN CONDUCT RESEARCH COLLABORATIVELY,
AND WRITE A TEAM POSITION PAPER FOR AN AWARD.

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A position paper is a *two-page statement* of a country's policy *on both topic areas* on the committee's agenda. A position paper should include:

1. A one-sentence <u>introduction</u> with history of your country's involvement and/or interest in the topic.
    > **Ex**: Norway has actively participated in UN peacekeeping for several decades including operations in___ and__ with__ # of troops)

2. Discussion of your <u>country's current policies on the topic</u>.
    > **Ex**: Norway takes an active interest in achieving peace in the Middle East and has been fundamental in the signing of the Oslo Accords. Norway is in a unique position as a mediator because it has a clear understanding of Palestinian demands and a working relationship with the PLO, but the Norwegian people also have considerable interest in and support for Israel as a nation.

3. <u>Policy proposals</u> - list potential solutions to the problems posed in the topic area that your country might be willing to support.
    > (**Ex:** Norway is willing to cooperate with other members of the international community that are interested in providing a peacekeeping force for Jerusalem in accordance with Security Council resolution 255. In addition, we would support further resolutions ensuring Israeli compliance with the Peace Accords).

Formatting Guidelines:
1. Cover page: Student name, school, country represented, and advisor name
2. Position paper: Country name at the top of the page; Subheadings for the two topic areas.
3. Two pages (not including cover page), double-spaced, Times or Times New Roman font.

<u>Papers to be considered for a position paper award should be submitted by January 17 2020</u>

E-Mail to: Dr. Carolyn Shaw
Word or pdf email attachment to: carolyn.shaw@wichita.edu

Delegates *should bring copies of their position papers to the conference* so they can refer to them as they make speeches and draft resolutions.

Tips on How to Write a Position Paper

* Avoid use of "flowery" language. Try to state what you want to say as succinctly and clearly as possible. Diplomats can be round-about and vague, but position papers should not be.

* Writing in the present tense is better than past perfect. Ex: "Finland supports the UN's efforts to____" NOT "Finland has supported the UN____" (the exception is when you are actually referring to specific events in the past. "Finland has supported historical peacekeeping efforts by contributing over 2,000 troops throughout the Cold War").

* Avoid too much use of first person pronouns (I, We). Refer to your position by country name. "Germany believes...", "Germany supports..."

* Avoid superlatives: greatest, best, most, very, extremely. These tend to sound like exaggerations.

* Frequently used terms: international community, global community, member states, mechanisms, guidelines, implementation, conventions, treaties, resolutions, conferences, multilateral, bilateral, national.

* Verbs:

affirms	endeavors	recognizes	allocates
acknowledges	encourages	believes	hopes
recommends	urges	considers	addresses
emphasizes	advocates		

Key questions and structure:

1. State why the problem is important. Who should care about it? Why is it on the UN's agenda?

2. What work has been done already to address this issue? What UN agencies deal with it? You can frame these in terms of an assessment - the agencies are "effective", "successful", "overburdened" etc. What conventions, conferences, meetings, etc have been held? What documents have come out of these meetings? Resolutions, treaties, conventions? Frame these in terms of our countries support (or rejection) of these efforts.

3. Link your country to the work that has been done. Have they contributed funds? Sponsored/attended conferences? Signed treaties? Have they taken notable steps domestically to address this issue?

4. Propose some specific steps to resolve the problem. These may not be directly linked to your country's position, but should not be contradictory to your interests. Focus can be on multilateral steps, or on regional organizations, or on pursuing domestic/national legislation that will address the problem.

Country: France
Committee: Plenary Committee
Delegation: ___ High School

France believes the work of the Plenary Committee is [adjective] for addressing [issue(s)].

I.   Topic I

This is a serious problem that affects the world [how specifically?].

France has supported the work that has been done in the past through [____agencies, organizations, international conferences (dates)]. France has ratified the_____[treaty, convention]. France has taken steps domestically to address this issue by [passing specific domestic legislation].

France recommends that the following steps be taken to resolve/address this problem: First____. Second,___. Finally,___. [three proposals for action are plenty].

II.   Topic II

[Same as above.]

Writing Resolutions

The final results of research, caucusing and negotiation are resolutions—written suggestions for addressing a specific problem or issue. Resolutions, which are drafted by delegates and voted on by the committee, normally require a simple majority to pass (except in the Security Council). Only Security Council resolutions can compel nations to take action. All other UN bodies use resolutions to make recommendations or suggestions for future action.

Students are encouraged to practice writing resolutions as part of their conference preparations, but _should not bring pre-written resolutions to the conference_. Part of the learning experience is working to a draft document as part of a group with varied interests on the topic.

Draft Resolutions
Draft resolutions are all resolutions that have not yet been voted on. Delegates write draft resolutions with other countries. _There are three main parts to a draft resolution_: _the heading, the preamble and the operative section._ The heading shows the committee and topic. It also lists the draft resolution's signatories (see below). Each draft resolution is one long sentence with sections separated by commas and semicolons. The subject of the sentence is the body making the statement (e.g., Plenary Committee). The preamble and operative sections then describe the current situation and actions that the committee will take.

A draft resolution must gain the support of half of the member states in the committee before it can be approved by the Chair. The Chair will read the draft resolution to ensure that it is relevant and in proper format. Once approved the Chair will circulate copies to all members of the committee for further consideration and potential amendments.

Tips for Resolution Writing

*   Preambulatory clauses are historic justifications for action. Use them to cite past resolutions, precedents and statements about the purpose of action.

*   Operative clauses are policies that the resolution is designed to create. Use them to explain what the committee will do to address the issue.

*   Try to cite facts whenever possible.

*   Create a detailed resolution. For example, if your resolution calls for a new program, think about how it will be funded and what body will manage it.

*   Be realistic. Do not create objectives for your resolution that cannot be met. Make sure your body can take the action suggested. For example, the General Assembly can't sanction another country – only the Security Council can do so.

*   Solicit the views of many states. Your committee will be more likely to approve the resolutions if many delegates contribute ideas.

 *   Be sure to follow the format for resolutions provided by the conference organizers.

Preambular Clauses

The preamble of a resolution states the reasons for which the committee is addressing the topic and highlights past international action on the issue. Each clause begins with a present participle (called a preambular phrase) and ends with a comma. Preambular clauses can include:

*   References to the UN Charter;

*   Citations of past UN resolutions or treaties on the topic under discussion;

*   Mentions of statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or agency;

*   Recognition of the efforts of regional or nongovernmental organizations in dealing with the issue; and

*   General statements on the topic, its significance and its impact.

Sample Preambulatory Phrases

Affirming
Alarmed by
Approving
Aware of
Bearing in mind
Believing
Confident
Contemplating
Convinced
Declaring
Deeply concerned
Deeply conscious
Deeply convinced
Deeply disturbed
Deeply regretting
Desiring
Emphasizing
Expecting

Expressing its
    appreciation
Expressing its
    satisfaction
Fulfilling
Fully alarmed
Fully aware
Fully believing
Further deploring
Further recalling
Guided by
Having adopted
Having considered
Having considered further
Having devoted attention
Having examined
Having heard
Having received
Having studied
Keeping in mind

Noting with regret
Noting with deep concern
Noting with satisfaction
Noting further
Noting with approval
Observing
Reaffirming
Realizing
Recalling
Recognizing
Referring
Seeking
Taking into account
Taking into consideration
Taking note
Viewing with
    appreciation
Welcoming

Operative Clauses

Operative clauses identify the actions or recommendations made in a resolution. Each operative clause begins with a verb (called an operative phrase) and ends with a semicolon. Operative clauses should be organized in a logical progression, with each containing a single idea or proposal, and are always numbered. If a clause requires further explanation, bulleted lists set off by letters or roman numerals can also be used. After the last operative clause, the resolution ends in a period.

Sample Operative Phrases

Accepts
Affirms
Approves
Authorizes
Calls
Calls upon
Condemns
Confirms
Congratulates
Considers
Declares accordingly
Deplores
Designates
Draws the attention
Emphasizes   Encourages
Endorses

Expresses its appreciation
Expresses its hope
Further invites
Deplores
Designates
Draws the attention
Emphasizes
Encourages
Endorses
Expresses its appreciation
Expresses its hope
Further invites
Further proclaims
Further reminds
Further recommends
Further requests

Further resolves
Has resolved
Notes
Proclaims
Reaffirms
Recommends
Regrets
Reminds
Requests
Solemnly affirms
Strongly condemns
Supports
Takes note of
Transmits
Trusts

Signatories

Signatories are countries that may or may not agree with the substance of the draft resolution but still wish to see it debated before the body so that they can propose amendments.

SAMPLE RESOLUTION

*Please note: the sample resolution presented below is shown for formatting purposes only. It is intentionally simplistic, and is not meant to represent the content of an actual draft resolution.

COMMITTEE: Plenary
TOPIC: Use of force in international relations
SIGNATORIES:*[all of the countries that would like to see this resolution debated before the committee]*

RECOGNIZING that the use of force in international relations cannot be condoned,
[commas after each preambulatory phrase]

AFFIRMING the principals of the UN Charter in regards to the non-usage of force in international relations,

SEEKING solutions to international problems without the use of force,

DEEPLY CONCERNED that some nations still consider the use of force acceptable,

1.   REQUESTS all nations to refrain from the use of force in international relations;
         [semi-colons after each operative phrase]

2.   SUPPORTS the use of the various United Nations bodies for the settlement of international disputes;

3.   CONGRATULATES all nations which choose to resolve their disputes in a peaceful fashion.

Tips for Public Speaking

Writing and delivering speeches is an important aspect of the MUN simulation. Speeches help delegates convey the positions of their Member States, help build consensus and start formulating resolutions. Usually, the committee sets the speaking time, as the delegates make a motion to set the duration and if the motion has been seconded, the body then votes upon the suggestion.

Although speechmaking is very important to the MUN simulation, many delegates biggest fear is public speaking. It is essential that delegates come to the conference well prepared: meaning that they have completed prior reach, know their country's position, and even have objectives for a resolution.

Delegates should observe 'decorum' (i.e., be polite) when speaking. The opening of a speech should begin with : "Thank you- Honorable-Chair, Fellow delegates…"

An opening speech should include:
- Brief introduction of your county's history of the topic
- Past actions taken by the U.N., Member States, NGOs, etc.. to combat the problem
- The current situation of the topic
- Your country's overall position on the topic/reason for position
- Possible ideas or goals for a resolution
- Whether there is room for negotiation on your position

As there are no set guidelines for how delegates should execute their speeches, delegates should decide how they feel most comfortable delivering their speeches. Some delegates utilize their position papers as their opening speeches, others just write out some key points, and many just speak without any aides. Since public speaking is a skill it is important to practice, practice, practice.

Remember the audience should always be considered when making a speech. Be aware of the audience and their diversity. The beginning of the speech must captivate the audience and motivate them to want to hear more. It must pertain to audiences' interests.

Mr. Anthony Hogan, Model U.N. International, suggests the system of six "C's" to improve your ability:

1.   Confidence:
        Confidence is portrayed by being as knowledgeable as possible on your subject and conveying this knowledge through the power of your voice and eyes. As a Model U.N. delegate, you are the authority and representative of your respective country. Research well and speak as if you know you are undoubtedly right. As the speaker, you must have confidence in yourself; otherwise the audience will have little confidence in you.

2.   Clear:
        A speaker can do many things before-hand to assist them in speaking clearly. Write an outline of the topics that are going to be said, and follow it when speaking. Always speak slowly. This will allow the audience to hear everything that is said. Know your terminology well beforehand to avoid fumbling with words. Try to enunciate words properly.

3.   Concise:
        A good public speaker presents his/her points in a clean and clear-cut fashion. Unnecessary words and information should not be used to fill in the speech. The speech should be brief and to the point--say what you have to say. Do not ramble on about the topic in order to appear knowledgeable.

4.   Constructive:
        An effective public speech needs to be constructed properly. Start with a solid foundation that brings together all of your ideas, present your points, and then connect them by reviewing what was said. There should be an introduction, a body, and a conclusion. It is a known fact that three is a magic number. Say it once, say it and review it, then say it again. This method will help the audience to remember what was said.

5.   "Con Passion":
        It is always important to speak from the heart--with passion--hence the Spanish term "con passion". Always maintain eye contact with the audience. In doing so the audience will feel connected to you and your speech. This is what you want. You want to grab and to hold the audience's attention.

5.   Critique:
        It is better to critique than to criticize. Critiquing is constructive and allows for people to grow and improve. Criticizing brings peoples' motivation and confidence down. A critique should be accepted positively, since it is a tool that is used to strengthen one's public speaking.

Some additional tips for effective public speaking:

1.   ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY SPEECH FILLERS from your communication. Fillers are words and phrases such as "umm," "well," "it is sort-a like," "it's kind-a like." These take away from the message you want to convey. Some of the words and phrases to eliminate include: "you know," "I think," "I'm sorry," "just," "but," "should," "like," "um," and, "a," etc.

2.   USE THE POWERFUL PAUSE. Do not be afraid to have a moment of silence between sentences. A pause, after a thought and prefacing a response to a question holds the attention of the listener.

3.   BREATHE from the diaphragm. Breathe deeply and often.

4. PACE YOURSELF. Do not talk too fast or too slow.

5. PHYSICALLY POSITION YOURSELF POWERFULLY. Be aware of your posture when you speak. Slouching, tilting your head and crossing your arms or legs diminishes the message. Stand up straight, shoulders down, feet firmly planted and knees unlocked.

6. PROJECT YOUR PRESENCE. Your voice is the herald that carries your message. Speak from your diaphragm not your throat. Keep the sound in the low- to- medium range. This projects authority. Speak loudly enough to be easily heard. Focus on speaking with enthusiasm, and energy and create color with your voice.

7. GESTURES. Do not be a statue. Consider occasionally exaggerating a gesture. Speaking from a platform is different than holding a one on one conversation. Use your whole body when you speak.

8. CONNECT WITH YOUR AUDIENCE. Use a lot of eye contact. Speak directly to individual members of the audience. Do not take your eyes off your audience or focus on a point over their heads.

9. COMMUNICATE CONFIDENCE. Make a conscious effort to project yourself confidently. This is as important as the message.

Consensus Building in Committee

Consensus building involves finding the middle ground when difficult issues are being debated, and then bringing in more members to support that compromise position so that a resolution has a maximum level of support from member states.

During the Cold War, the UN was very divided and it was difficult for resolutions to pass with more than 60-70% support of the members. Following the end of the Cold War, the UN has increasingly tried to work toward consensus, where many resolutions are adopted unanimously by all voting members. Even without the divisions of the Cold War, this is still difficult to achieve. Delegates must engage in extensive dialogue with each other regarding the specific interests of their countries and their preferences regarding the language in the draft resolutions under discussion.

It takes a particularly skilled diplomat to identify a solution that is agreable to a core set of delegates and then bring others into that group. It often involves a degree of compromise. Delegates should not only seek to clearly articulate their own preferences, they should also listen carefully to other delegates to see where their interests overlap, and where there might be room for compromise.

Code of Conduct and Dress Code

Delegates are expected to conduct themselves, at all times, in a manner befitting international diplomats. This means that every courtesy, both in speaking and behavior, is to be extended to all representatives, faculty, guests, committee chairs and conference staff. WA-MUN reserves the right to expel any delegate not acting in a courteous and professional fashion.

Students should turn off all cell phones, iPods, etc. throughout the conference sessions.

Women: Standard female delegate attire for the conference is business jacket, skirt or slacks, button blouse, and dress shoes. Shirts that expose excessive bare skin on the chest, stomach or are otherwise revealing are inappropriate. Clothes that reveal undergarments are inappropriate.

Men: Standard male delegate attire for the conference is slacks, button down shirt with tie and dress shoes (jackets or suits are optional). Shirts that expose excessive bare skin on the chest, stomach or are otherwise revealing are inappropriate. Clothes that reveal undergarments are inappropriate. Dress sweaters are generally considered too casual, as well as shorts, ball caps, jeans, sneakers and sunglasses.