

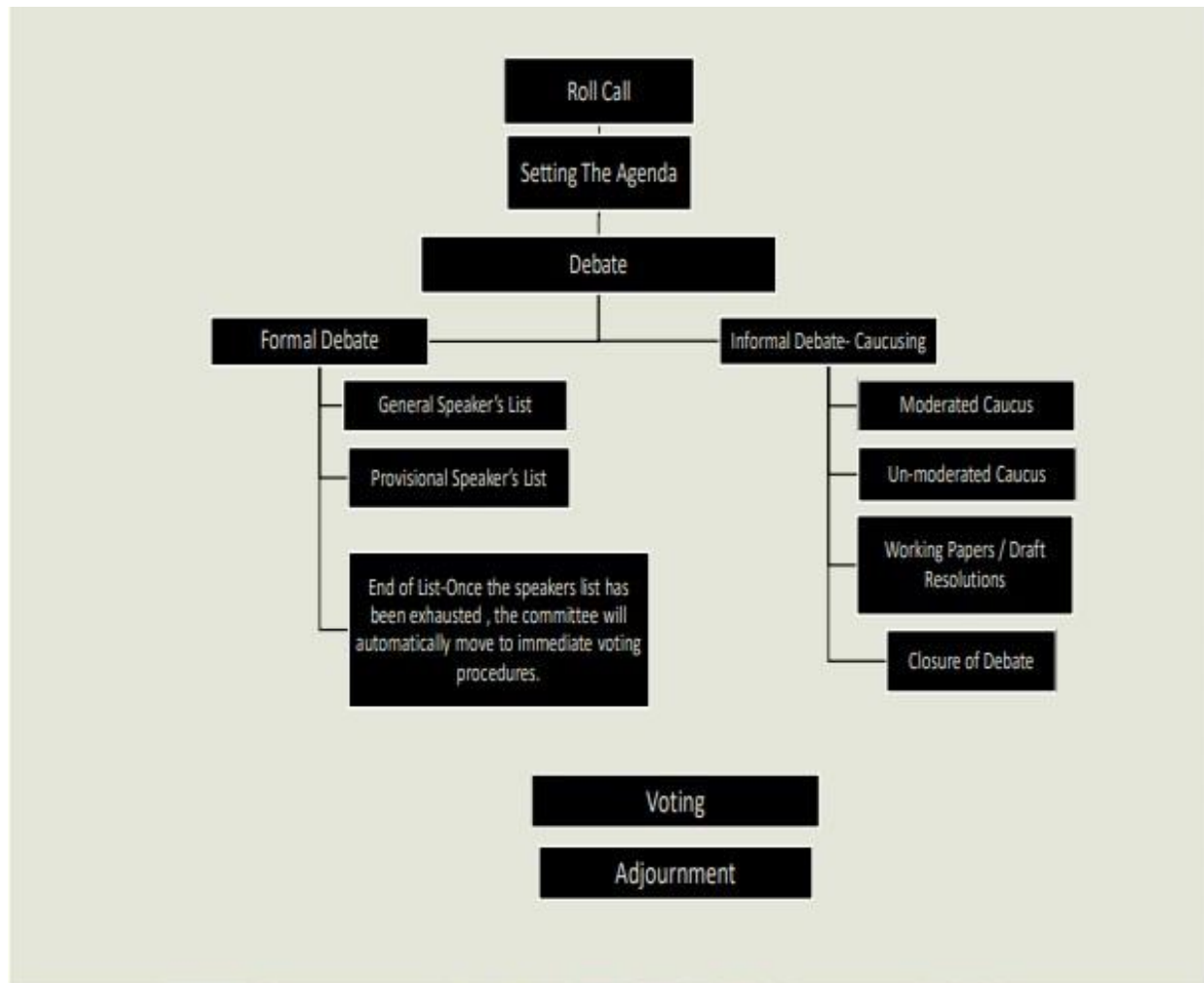
BLUE BELLS MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE



**Blue Bells for Social Innovation
and Transformation**

RULES OF PROCEDURE

(PLEASE NOTE THAT UNCONVENTIONAL COMMITTEES WILL BE FOLLOWING DIFFERENT RULES OF PROCEDURE WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THEIR RESPECTIVE MICROSITE)



Roll call

Every committee session starts with the roll call, without which quorum cannot be established. No debate can ensue without Quorum being established. A delegate may change his/her roll call in the next session the roll call takes place.

For example, if the Delegate had answered in Present in the first session he can answer in a present and voting in the next session when the roll call takes place.

During the roll call, the country names are called out in alphabetic order and the delegate can answer by saying either Present or Present and Voting.

1. **Present** - A Delegate can vote in Yes, No or Abstain for a Draft Resolution when s/he answers the Roll Call with *Present*.
2. **Present and Voting** - A Delegate is bound to vote decisively, i.e., in a Yes or No only if s/he has answered the Roll Call with a *Present and Voting*. A Delegate cannot abstain in this case.
3. **Abstention**: When a Delegate is in doubt, or if his/her country supports a few points in the resolution and is against the other points, a Delegate may abstain. Abstention can also be used in case the Delegate believes that the passing of the resolution will not as such harm the world, even though it might not be highly specific or exemplary.

An Abstention counts as neither Yes, nor No, and his/her vote is not counted during the total tally of votes. This makes Abstention a commonly used policy in the real United Nations, so as to not obstruct the passing of resolutions and still not compromising on foreign policy; this is the middle way out and in no way counts against a Delegate while being marked for the awards.

Quorum

Quorum (also known as the minimum number of members of a committee required for the committee proceedings to commence) for the Conference, is set at one-third of the members of the committee present. A *quorum* will be assumed to be established, unless a Delegate's presence is specifically challenged and shown to be absent during the roll call. In case quorum fails, committee session will be suspended at the discretion of the Executive Board. In the Security Council, the quorum is 9 members present with the compulsory presence of the five veto members, unless otherwise established by the Executive Board.

Debate in a model united nations conference

Debate is of two types:

1. Formal Debate
 - 1.a. General Speakers' List
 - 1.b. Provisional Speakers' List
2. Informal Debate
 - 2.a. Moderated Caucus
 - 2.b. Un-moderated Caucus

POINTS AND MOTIONS

The flow of debate is in the hands of the Delegates and moderated by the Executive Board with mechanisms called Points and Motions, which are central to the democratic nature of the Committee.

Points are individualistic, and are used in regards to a certain Delegate. **Motions** are liable to voting, and are used to shift from one form of debate to another, or to introduce changes in the scope of debate from time to time. If a motion passes, then the entire committee is bound to that specific form of debate for that period of time. Motions are also used to temporarily or permanently end debate.

Points (In the order of Disruption)

Point of Personal Privilege - A Delegate may rise to a Point of Personal Privilege whenever s/he experiences any inconvenience, which could affect his/her involvement in the proceedings, so that the discomfort may be mitigated or prevented. This Point may interrupt a speaker and thus, should be used with the utmost discretion so as not to disturb others' debate.

Point of Order – A Point of Order is used to point out factual or a procedural error. The final decision regarding a Point of Order rests with the Executive Board. A Point of Order can interrupt the speaker if permitted by the Executive Board. The specifics of this should be verified at the beginning of the committee by the Delegate. It can also be raised against the Executive Board in case they violate their own Rules of Procedure without prior intimation to the committee, in case this hampers debate or is unfair to one or more Delegates in the committee.

Point of (Parliamentary) Inquiry – When the floor is open, a delegate may rise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry to ask the Chair a question regarding the rules of procedure. This however, should never interrupt a speaker.

Point of information (A Question to another delegate about the Agenda) – A delegate may ask a question to another delegate on the agenda topic of discussion through the executive board when the speaker has yielded the floor to Points of Information. This also should never interrupt a speaker.

GENERAL SPEAKER'S LIST (GSL)

"The Delegate of _____ wishes to raise a motion to open the General Speakers' List.

Default time per speaker in a GSL is 90 seconds. A motion can be raised to change the Speaker's Time (to increase or reduce the speaker's time):

"The Delegate of _____ wishes to raise a motion to change the default speaker's Time for the General Speakers' List from 90 seconds to Proposed Time (in seconds)."

NOTE: Individual speaker time in a GSL can be anywhere within the range of 60-120 seconds, and a multiple of 30 seconds. This motion is only in order can be changed only before the first speaker in the GSL Speaks.

- After the agenda for the session has been established, a motion is raised to open the GSL. All forms of debate during the conference are carried out within the GSL, and this list is open throughout the duration of the discussion on that agenda. **A new GSL is established for each agenda.**
- To speak in the GSL a delegate must intimate the Executive Board, by raising his/her placard when the Executive asks for Delegates wishing to speak in the GSL. The countries' names will be noted in the order in which they will be making their speeches.
- After their GSL speech, a Delegate has the option to *Yield* his/her time to a specific Delegate, Points of Information (questions) or to the Executive Board.

YIELDS

On conclusion of any speech in the GSL, a Delegate can choose to Yield in any one of the following ways:

- **Yield to another Delegate:** In case a Delegate has some time left to speak, and does not wish to utilize it, then s/he may choose to yield the remaining time to another Delegate. This must be done with the prior consent of the other delegate (taken either through chit or in person). The Delegate who has been yielded the other's time may use it to make a substantive speech, but cannot further yield the time.
- **Yield to Points of Information:** A Delegate may also choose to yield to Points of Information. The Executive Board will recognize a certain number of Delegates wishing to ask questions regarding the agenda or the speech made by the Delegate. It is up to the Delegate to answer the question. Ways of refusal include replying via chit at a later time or discussing the topic during an un-moderated caucus.
- **Yield to the Chair:** Should a Delegate yield to the Chair, any leftover time is considered null and the Executive Board will move on to the next speaker in the GSL. Some

Executive Boards may also request the Delegate to answer substantive questions from them in case necessary for debate. This usually happens when a country's stance is crucial to resolution of the problems.

PROVISIONAL/SPECIAL SPEAKER'S LIST (PSL or SSL)

“The Delegate of _____ wishes to raise a motion to open a Provisional Speakers' List”

A PSL is usually established only for Procedural Motions, such as *Motion to Change the Order of the Agenda* or *Motion to Table Debate*. Speakers are recognized by the Executive Board to speak for and against (alternately) on the motion at hand. The Executive Board decides the number of speakers for and against, and specifies the individual speaker's time.

A PSL is started in two circumstances:

A debatable motion – In a debatable motion, before the Executive Board moves for the final vote, it'll ask for certain no. of speakers for and against the topic.

Special Procedure – When a controversial issue is raised and the Committee feels that it cannot be solved through the GSL or Moderated Caucuses, it sets up a PSL, which will work like the GSL but with a Provisional Agenda. E.g. A crisis situation. However, one does not usually encounter this format in MUNs unless it is a decisive committee, such as the Security Council.

- During the Provisional Speakers' List speech, a Delegate attempts to convince fellow Delegates whether to support or not support a motion, citing reasons and arguments why. These reasons might be based in foreign policy, or even the scope of debate.

MODERATED CAUCUS

“The Delegate of *Country* would like to suspend debate and raise a motion for a moderated caucus on the *Topic*, for the time period of *Total Time* and each speaker speaking for *Time Period (in seconds)*”

The delegate proposing the motion must state its purpose and specify a time limit for the moderated caucus as well as the speaking time per delegate.

Example – “The Delegate of Iran wishes to suspend formal debate and enter into a Moderated Caucus on the topic ‘Sources of funding for Terrorist Organizations’, for a total time of 20 minutes, with each speaker speaking for 60 seconds.” (If the Agenda is Terrorism, then Sub-topics can be Causes, Regional Terrorism, Solutions, etc.)

Characterization of Debate through Moderated Caucus

Moderated Caucuses are meant to have specific topics of discussion so that one can narrow down and try to address one sub-topic at a time. Sub-topics can be derived from the main agenda either by common themes/issues, region, legal regime and political debate.

It is generally advisable to keep documenting the suggestions being made so as to make a more comprehensive Resolution in the Committee.

- This motion needs a **simple majority vote (50%+1)** in order for it to pass.
- However, the Executive may rule such a motion out of order if it is not worded properly or in case it is out of the scope of the agenda.
- As the agendas can be quite multilayered, Delegates are urged to use moderated caucuses to focus debate and discussion on parts of the main agenda so that it can be broken down and resolved.
- A moderated caucus is presided over by the Executive Board, and Delegates wishing to speak must raise their placards when asked, so that they may be recognized immediately after the previous speaker.
- A Delegate can be recognized multiple times in a moderated caucus, but not immediately after they have just spoken.
- The difference between a GSL and a Moderated Caucus Speech is that there is no provision for Yields, thus, all the questions, answers and arguments have to be fit into the time slot you are given for the speech.
- Another motion is for the **extension of a moderated caucus**. It may be called for if any delegate wishes to further discuss the issue at hand. This motion is then put to vote and requires a simple majority to pass.

Reasons to propose an Un-moderated Caucus

- If the committee feels that certain clarifications need to be made regarding the agenda which formal debate is not permitting, or the delegates wish to giving a certain direction to debate with consensus.
- To start working on the Draft Resolution and to prepare official committee documentation. Lobbying is required to persuade countries to join a bloc, and it forms an integral part of being a Negotiator.

UN-MODERATED CAUCUS

“The Delegate of *Country* would like to suspend debate and move into an Un-moderated Caucus for a Total Time of minutes”.

- Only the total time needs to be specified when raising this motion. When it is put to vote, it requires a simple majority to pass.
- An un-moderated caucus will mean that Delegates can informally interact with their co-Delegates without moderation by the Executive Board. They can utilize this time to discuss pertinent issues within their blocs, or it can be used to frame draft resolutions, working papers or amendments, depending upon the stage the committee is at.

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Motion to Table Debate

During the discussion of any matter, the committee may consider a **motion to table debate** on the item under discussion at the recommendation of the Chair or any Delegate. If the motion is seconded, two representatives may speak in favor of, and two against the motion. Then, the motion shall immediately be put to a vote. A **two-thirds majority (substantive majority)** is required for passage.

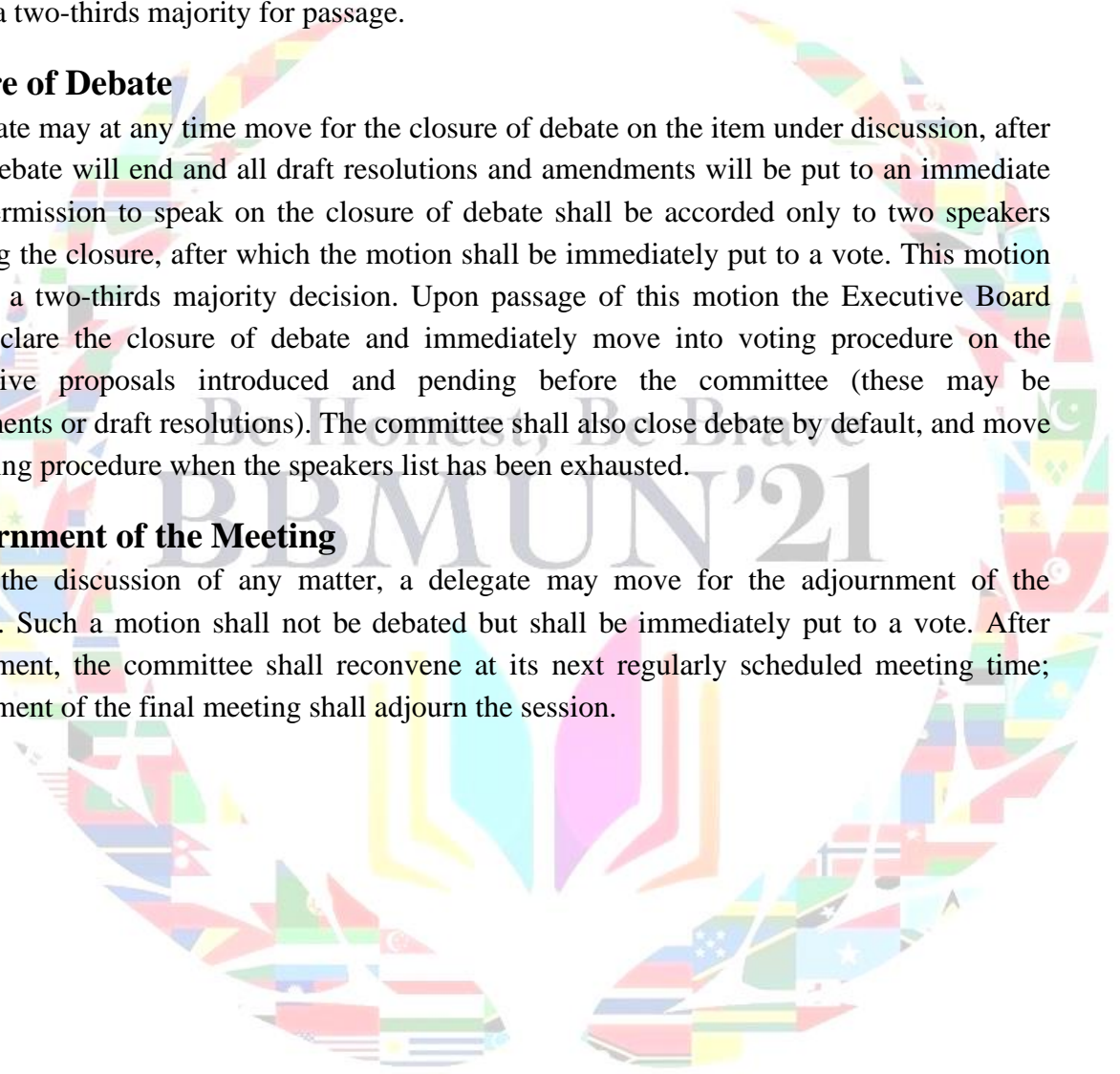
If a motion to table debate is passed, the topic is considered tabled and no further actions or votes will be taken on it. A topic may be reintroduced to the committee so that debate can resume through the same process. The motion to resume debate on a tabled topic shall also require a two-thirds majority for passage.

Closure of Debate

A delegate may at any time move for the closure of debate on the item under discussion, after which debate will end and all draft resolutions and amendments will be put to an immediate vote. Permission to speak on the closure of debate shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be immediately put to a vote. This motion requires a two-thirds majority decision. Upon passage of this motion the Executive Board shall declare the closure of debate and immediately move into voting procedure on the substantive proposals introduced and pending before the committee (these may be amendments or draft resolutions). The committee shall also close debate by default, and move into voting procedure when the speakers list has been exhausted.

Adjournment of the Meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move for the adjournment of the meeting. Such a motion shall not be debated but shall be immediately put to a vote. After adjournment, the committee shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time; adjournment of the final meeting shall adjourn the session.



Special Motions

Right to Reply

The Chair may recognize the Right to Reply only in instances of a grave personal insult. **Rights of Reply must be submitted in writing to the Chair as a first step**, and may only be granted after a speech is completed. The Chair shall inform the Secretariat of the circumstances surrounding the Right of Reply. **No ruling on this matter is subject to appeal.**

Appeal to the Chair's Decision

An appeal is made when a delegate feels that a member of the Executive Board has made an incorrect ruling. The Delegate formally challenges the said member in writing by sending a note to the dais, moving to appeal the Chair's decision. The appeal will be taken to the Secretariat, who will decide if the appeal shall be considered or not. Once the motion is acknowledged, the Advisors will hear from both the Delegate and the Chair before taking a decision.

*Committee Debate - Multiple
Moderated Caucuses and GSL*

*Formation of Working Papers and
their discussion*

Resolution Process

*Mergers and clarifications, formation of
Draft Resolutions*

Verification by EB, Amendment Procedure

Voting Process

WORKING PAPER

A Working Paper may be introduced on the floor at any point of time after viable solutions have emerged. This document is a rough draft of the solutions that the committee members wish to recommend for the agenda at hand. **It has no format as such.** More than one Working Paper can be made in a committee. A working paper has only signatories, not sponsors.

Discussion of the Working Papers is done through a Moderated Caucus. Working Papers should ideally be merged, so that all the ideas that the various members of the committee have can be consolidated into a Draft Resolution. However, the same is not advised in case the reasons for differences arise out of foreign policy concerns. After discussion of the Working paper, an Un-moderated Caucus can ensue to finalize the merger and/or edit the Draft Resolution.

TIP FOR WORKING PAPERS

A Working paper in Draft Resolution Format minus the Roman numbering, or the clauses, can help the delegates format the working paper into a draft resolution at a later point of time.

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Draft resolution

A draft resolution may be introduced when it has the required number of signatories and the approval of the Executive Board. A Draft Resolution requires 20% of support from the committee to be introduced. **The respective Executive Board shall intimate the maximum number of Sponsors to the Council.**

What are Sponsors and Signatories?

SPONSORS: Countries having read ALL the points of the draft resolution, agreeing to it completely. Sponsors have to vote a YES to the draft resolution when it goes to voting. They cannot vote a 'no' or 'abstain' from voting.

SIGNATORIES: All countries that wish to merely hear the draft resolution being discussed. They have no obligation regarding voting, they can vote yes, no or abstain as they wish and according to their roll call.

Structure of the draft resolution

Pre-Ambulatory Clauses

The preamble of a draft 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 pre-ambulatory phrase) and ends with a comma. Pre-ambulatory 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.

Operative Clauses

Operative clauses offer solutions to issues addressed earlier in the preamble of a resolution. These clauses are action oriented and should include both an underlined verb at the beginning of your sentence followed by the proposed solution. Each clause should follow the following principals:

- Clause should be numbered as 1,2,3, etc.;
- Each clause should support one another and continue to build your solution, try to place solutions to one aspect together rather than having them spread out in the draft;
- Add details to your clauses as sub-points, in order to have a complete solution that is self-explanatory, comprehensive, and that can be implemented by a country without interpretation;
- Operative clauses end with a semicolon, with the exception of your last operative clause that should end with a full stop.

Sample Pre-ambulatory Phrases		
Affirming	Expecting	Having examined
Alarmed by	Emphasizing	Having received
Approving	Expecting	Keeping in mind
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Noting with deep concern
Believing	Fulfilling	Nothing with satisfaction
Confident	Fully aware	Noting further
Contemplating	Emphasizing	Observing
Convinced	Expecting	Reaffirming
Declaring	Expressing its appreciation	Realizing
Deeply concerned	Fulfilling	Recalling
Deeply conscious	Fully aware	Recognizing
Deeply convinced	Further deploring	Referring
Deeply Disturbed	Further recalling	Seeking
Deeply Regretting	Guided by	Taking into consideration
Desiring	Having adopted	Taking note
Emphasizing	Having considered	Viewing with appreciation

Sample Operative Phrases		
Accepts	Encourages	Further recommends
Affirms	Endorses	Further Requests
Approves	Expresses its Appreciation	Further resolves
Authorizes	Expresses its Hope	Has resolved
Calls	Further invites	Notes
Calls upon	Deplores	Proclaims
Condemns	Designates	Reaffirms
Confirms	Draws the Attention	Recommends
Congratulates	Emphasizes	Regrets
Considers	Encourages	Reminds
Declares Accordingly	Endorses	Requests
Deplores	Expresses its appreciation	Solemnly affirms
Designates	Expresses its hope	Strongly condemns
Draws the attention	Further invites	Supports
Emphasizes	Further proclaims	Takes note of
Trusts	Further reminds	Transmits

Resolution Writing

Before it is passed by the committee, a Resolution is referred to as a Draft Resolution. Draft Resolutions should ideally deal with ideas and opinions presented in working papers and existing resolutions, as well as new ideas and innovations. It is important that a final resolution has to present a well thought out, feasible solution that will solve the crisis at hand either through short-term or long-term measures. Every Delegate's or Bloc's Draft Resolution should present the same logical flow that will be present in the final resolution.

A Delegate, having formed alliances with other Delegates, is expected to adhere to such alliances or groups (called blocs) based on similar ideology. But it is important to note that flouting international laws and/or going against one's foreign policy while drafting the Resolution can easily result in a Delegate being marked down by the Executive Board and might also invite criticism from fellow Delegates. However, forming "*strategic alliances*" and making relevant policy changes, which in effect will benefit their respective countries in a manner that's also conducive to the working of the council, will be considered crucial for the entire resolution making process, and be appreciated by the Executive Board.

Time and again it has been noticed that Delegates come up with the formation of new committees/sub commissions in the Draft Resolution as a means to facilitate the consensus building process. It is not discouraged. However, it is important for the Delegates to clearly define the mandate, structure, functioning and funding of the commission/committee suggested to be formed, also to be taken into account is proper research regarding such committees, which in most cases, exist already. This clearly will be a lot time consuming and thus, Delegates have to make an informed choice.

Amendment procedure (in the order of disruption)

Approved draft resolutions are modified through amendments. **An amendment is a written statement that adds, deletes or revises an operative clause in a draft resolution.** The amendment process is used to strengthen consensus on a resolution by allowing delegates to change certain sections. There are **two types of amendments according to the support** from the author(s) or sponsor(s) of the Draft Resolution:



1. A **friendly amendment** is a change to the Draft Resolution that all sponsors agree with.

After the amendment is signed by all of the draft resolution's sponsors and approved by the Committee Director or Vice Chairperson; it will be automatically incorporated into the resolution.

2. An **unfriendly amendment** is a change that one or more sponsors of the Draft Resolution do not support and must be voted upon by the committee. The author(s) of the amendment will need to obtain a required number of signatories in order to introduce it (usually 20% of the committee). Prior to voting on the draft resolution, the committee votes on all unfriendly amendments.

Ultimately, resolutions passed by a committee represent a great deal of debate and compromise. They are the tangible results of hours if not days of Model UN debate. As a result, it is important to become familiar with the resolution process and practice drafting resolutions using the proper structure and wording. A misplaced comma, or even a full stop in between, can change the entire nature of the Draft Resolution.

There are **three types of amendments according to the kind of change** it proposes to the Draft Resolution:

1. **Addition Amendment:** This is to add a clause to the proposed Draft Resolution. The clause, if added, becomes the last point of the original resolution.
2. **Deletion Amendment:** This amendment is to remove/delete a clause from the Original Resolution.

ADDITION AMENDMENT

ADDITION FRIENDLY/UNFRIENDLY

SUBMITTED BY USA

DELETION AMENDMENT

DELETION FRIENDLY/UNFRIENDLY
DELETION OF CLAUSE _____
SUBMITTED BY USA

MODIFICATION AMENDMENT

<p>MODIFICATION FRIENDLY/UNFRIENDLY</p> <p>ORIGINAL CLAUSE</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>NEW CLAUSE</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">SUBMITTED BY USA</p>

3. **Modification Amendment:** This is to allow for changes of any kind in the Original Clauses. In this, the complete original clause has to be written first, followed by the fully amended Clause.

NOTE: All Unfriendly Amendments will be voted upon, and need a 2/3rd majority to pass. All Friendly Amendments are passed automatically.

DRAFT RESOLUTION AND VOTING

Each country will have one vote. Delegates, depending on whether they have said Present/Present and voting in their roll call, can vote either “Yes”, “No”, “Abstain”, or “Pass”.

- A Draft Resolution needs three things before it can be introduced to the floor.

First, it needs the **signatures (but not approval) of at least 1/5th of the total members.** Being a signatory in no way necessitates implicit approval for the resolution. **Being a signatory merely implies that the Representative feels that the resolution should be introduced to formal debate.**

Secondly, a resolution needs to present a logical, simple and above all feasible solution to the situation at hand. **Working papers may contain the most imaginative and creative ideas, but in a resolution these ideas have to stand up against the real world.** If the Executive Board feels that the solutions presented in the resolution are improbable, s/he will not approve the same to be introduced in committee. The Draft Resolution has to be coherent and consistent. What this means is that when you set the intent in the pre-ambulatory clauses, the operative clauses should address those problems and not deviate.

Thirdly, a resolution needs **authors, who will actually be sponsors (although they are not officially recognized as such), and who are willing to amend and emend the resolution until it suits the majority, without compromising the meaning, or diluting the essence of the solutions or original premises of the resolution.** The amendment has

to be presented in resolution format, and along with it a short note specifying which parts of the resolution need to be amended should be added.

- There is only one final resolution. If a resolution passes, all other competing resolutions will have failed automatically. **In case multiple resolutions address different parts of the issue, and none of their solutions clash in implementation, then multiple resolutions can be passed as well.**
- **Voting** proceeds in three rounds – in the first of which voting rights can be asked for. Rights are explanations generally permitted only to sponsors who wish to say no to their own drafts. If the Representative wishes to change his/her vote in the second round, his/her rights are null and void. The first two rounds proceed in alphabetical order by roll call and the last by show of placards. **However, the method of the Voting process is up to the Executive Board of each committee.**
- “The Delegate of *Country* wishes to Close debate and move into the voting procedure.” To close debate on an agenda and move into voting process. No further discussion takes place until a vote has been conducted for the draft resolutions.



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Sample Resolution

Resolution GA/3/1.1

General Assembly Third Committee

Sponsors: United States, Austria and Italy

Signatories: Greece, Tajikistan, Japan, Canada, Mali, the Netherlands and Gabon

Agenda: "Strengthening UN coordination of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies"

The General Assembly,

Reminding all nations of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which recognizes the inherent dignity, equality and inalienable rights of all global citizens, **[use commas to separate pre-ambulatory clauses]**

Reaffirming its Resolution 33/1996 of 25 July 1996, which encourages Governments to work with UN bodies aimed at improving the coordination and effectiveness of humanitarian assistance,

Noting with satisfaction the past efforts of various relevant UN bodies and nongovernmental organizations,

Stressing the fact that the United Nations faces significant financial obstacles and is in need of reform, particularly in the humanitarian realm,

- 1. Encourages** all relevant agencies of the United Nations to collaborate more closely with countries at the grassroots level to enhance the carrying out of relief efforts; **[use semicolons to separate operative clauses]**
- 2. Urges** member states to comply with the goals of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs to streamline efforts of humanitarian aid;
- 3. Requests** that all nations develop rapid deployment forces to better enhance the coordination of relief efforts of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies;
- 4. Calls for** the development of a United Nations Trust Fund that encourages voluntary donations from the private transnational sector to aid in funding the implementation of rapid deployment forces;
- 5. Stresses** the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;
- 6. Calls upon** states to respond quickly and generously to consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance; and;

Requests the expansion of preventive actions and assurance of post-conflict assistance through reconstruction and development. [**Last clause to end with full-stop**]

Division of question

- There exists a motion for Division of Question, wherein the entire Draft Resolution is divided into parts and each part is voted upon one by one.
- In order for this motion to be passed, it requires a 2/3rd majority. After the motion is raised, the Executive Board might ask for Seconds. S/he may also open a Provisional Speakers' List for the motion.
- Once passed, the entire resolution is divided into as many parts as the committee requires.
- Once the parts are made, voting is done for each part takes place one by one. All the parts passed by the committee form the Final Resolution, whereas the Failed parts form the Annexure to the Final Resolution.

CRISIS

A Crisis Situation is introduced in all committees separately on one of the days. It is basically a hypothetical situation given to the Committee to test the delegates on their preparedness. It also tests their ability to behave like actual Diplomats and showcase their diplomatic skills, by utilizing general and specialized research, and the rationale and logic they possess. Their task is to then solve the crisis issue presented to them as quickly and efficiently as possible, so as to resume normal debate on the agendas.