



Model United Nations

Curriculum Packet

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Introduction

What is the United Nations?

The United Nations began in 1945 at the end of World War II in an effort to build and sustain global peace. The goal of the United Nations is to create a place for countries of the world to come together to work for peace and development, based on the principles of justice, human dignity and the well-being of all people. It is up to you, the delegate, to research the UN before the conference. A good place to start is the United Nations' Cyber School bus (<http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/>) and more specifically their "Introduction to the United Nations" (<http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/unintro/unintro.asp>).

What is Model United Nations?

Model UN is a simulation of what the United Nations actually does. Delegates become ambassadors from UN member states and come up with solutions to the many problems on the UN's agenda. Delegates debate the issues, make speeches on their countries' positions, write draft resolutions, negotiate, form alliances and resolve conflict. The goal of Model UN is to initiate and continue "international cooperation."

Forums

Forums at MUN conferences vary, but usually include the following:

The General Assembly (GA)

The General Assembly is the main organ of the United Nations, and by far the largest. It includes representation from all UN Member States. Each Member State has one vote. Under the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly has the power to discuss any issue that falls under the UN umbrella, and its resolutions represent the recommendations of the majority of the world's nations. However, the General Assembly does not have the authority to force its resolutions on any state, nor can it make recommendations on issues or disputes while the Security Council is debating them. The General Assembly's main session takes place from September to December of each year. Throughout the rest of the year, the General Assembly's work is carried out by its six main committees, the UN Secretariat and other subsidiary bodies in the UN family.

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

The Economic and Social Council is responsible for discussing international economic and social concerns, and for coordinating UN work in those fields. The ECOSOC works closely with the General Assembly and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in formulating recommendations and promoting worldwide economic and social development. It consists of 54 members that are elected by the General Assembly for three-year terms. Although it convenes throughout the year, the Council's major session takes place in July. ECOSOC has five regional commissions that are responsible for promoting and monitoring development in their respective regions. Additionally, ECOSOC has many subsidiary organs, which hold regular meetings and report their decisions or findings back to the Council. The issues addressed by these bodies include human rights, development, gender empowerment, crime prevention, narcotic drugs, and environmental protection and sustainability.

The Security Council (SC)

Under the Charter of the United Nations, the Security Council is responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security, and all UN Member States are obliged to carry out its decisions. It may convene at any time to discuss pressing issues. The Security Council is comprised of 15 members. China, France, the Russian Federation, the UK and the USA hold permanent seats on the Security Council. The Permanent Five also hold Veto power. The other 10 members of the Council are elected for two-year terms by the General Assembly. There is currently a lot of debate on making changes to the structure of the Security Council, with the possibility of increasing the number of permanent seats. The Council addresses conflicts by first exploring peaceful measures to settle or mediate the problem and establishing ceasefires to violent clashes. To enforce its decisions, the Security Council has the power to deploy peacekeeping missions, impose economic sanctions and/or order an arms embargo. The Security Council also consults with the General Assembly on the appointment of a new Secretary-General and on the admission of new Members to the UN.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ)

The International Court of Justice, also known as the “World Court”, is the United Nations’ judiciary organ. It consists of a panel of 15 judges, who are elected jointly by the General Assembly and the Security Council. The ICJ’s main function is to settle conflicts that arise between nations. Although the participation of States in ICJ proceedings is voluntary, their compliance to the Court’s decisions is mandatory should they agree to participate. Other functions of the ICJ include providing advisory opinions to the General Assembly and the Security Council upon request.

The Human Rights Commission (HRC)

The Human Rights Commission focuses on producing comprehensive action plans to address very specific issues. The HRC is based upon the Human Rights Council in the actual UN, its topics centre mainly on those concerning Human Rights.

The Advisory Panel

While the Advisory Panel, like the HRC, produces an action plan at the end of the conference on one issue only, it needs delegates of quite a different type. For the topic of the Advisory Panel remains unknown to most of the conference until the very last day, and delegates participating in the Advisory Panel will not know the specific main topic till the first day of the conference. The Advisory Panel is a truly challenging forum to be involved in, and will only take delegates who are serious, hardworking and can think on their feet. Delegates will be required to produce policy papers on various issues for their position, which again will not be a country, but rather a specific individual or organization.

The Disarmament Commission

The Department of Disarmament Affairs was established in January 1998 as part of the Secretary-General's program for reform in accordance with his report A/51/950 to the General Assembly. It was originally established in 1982 upon the recommendation of the General Assembly's second special session on disarmament (SSOD II) and functioned as a department until 1992. From 1992 until the end of 1997, it was a Centre under the Department of Political Affairs. Thereafter it became the Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) and in 2007 it was changed to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA). The Office promotes the goal of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and the strengthening of the disarmament regimes in respect to other weapons of mass destruction, chemical and biological weapons. It also promotes disarmament efforts in the area of conventional weapons, especially land mines and small arms, which are the weapons of choice in contemporary conflicts.

The Arab League

The Arab League, officially called the League of Arab States, is a regional organization of Arab states in Southwest Asia, and North and Northeast Africa. It was formed in Cairo on March 22, 1945 with six members, and currently has 22 members. The main goal of the league is to "draw closer the relations between member States and coordinate collaboration between them, to safeguard their independence and sovereignty, and to consider in a general way the affairs and interests of the Arab countries."

Research Overview

The first step in preparing for a rewarding Model UN experience is to gather information. Give yourself plenty of time before a conference to research, read and then formulate your arguments. While conducting research, try to keep in mind that your primary goal is to represent your country as realistically as possible. To do so, you will need to research three different areas. Researching each of the following three components:

1. Your country and its positions.
2. The issues to be debated at the conference.
3. The UN system.

Helpful Sites about the UN:

1. Organization of the United Nations System: www.un.org/aboutun/chart.html
2. The Charter of the United Nations: www.un.org/aboutun/charter/index.html
3. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: www.un.org/Overview/rights.html
4. Economic and Social Council: www.un.org/esa/coordination/ecosoc/
5. General Assembly: www.un.org/ga/58
6. International Court of Justice: www.icj-cij.org/
7. Secretariat: www.un.org/documents/st.htm
8. Security Council: www.un.org/Docs/sc/

Additional Resources

UN Cyberschoolbus:

The United Nations runs a website designed especially to help students and teachers learn about the United Nations and prepare for Model UN conferences called the UN Cyberschoolbus. Besides information about Model UN, the Cyberschoolbus includes curricula for teachers to use to educate their students on various aspects of international affairs and the programs of the UN, a forum for Model UNers and much more. To help you navigate the website.

Sites: <http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/infonation/index.asp>
<http://www.un.org/Pubs/CyberSchoolBus/infonation3/menu/advanced.asp>

UN Cyber School Bus can help you in:

- Collecting Country Information
- Researching Conference Topics
- Researching the UN System
- How to Find UN Documents in Five Steps or Less

MUN Terminology

Basic Procedural Terms

Specialized Committee (or Regional Body/Bloc) – A committee that is smaller than the GA, typically it contains 20-30 delegations. The specialized committees are usually focused on particular geographic area (such as the African Union, or League of Arab States), or on a particular problem.

Debate – is what goes on in the committee. Formal debate is governed by the *Speakers' List* and moderated by the *Chairperson*. Debate is regulated by official Rules of Procedure.

Chairperson (Chair, Chairman, Chairwoman) – the person who is responsible for the smooth running of the Committee. He/she writes the study guides, moderates the entire proceedings of the Committee, decides on some matters that are at his/her discretion and generally does everything to keep the debate smooth and productive.

Caucus – is an opportunity for a less formal debate for a duration of the caucus delegates are not according to the speakers list. There are two kinds:

Unmoderated Caucus – delegates are free to discuss without the guidance of the Chairperson or the formal rules.

Moderated Caucus – Speakers' List is abandoned; delegates raise their *placards* to speak and the Chairperson chooses the next speaker.

Floor – essentially means the opportunity to speak, or it can denote the subject matter that is currently debated. If someone “has the floor”, it means they are allowed to speak. If a resolution is “on the floor”, it has been formally introduced, it is being debated and it will be voted on.

Placard – the sign that has the name of the country you are representing on it. You *raise* your placard to vote or to propose a point or motion – it is a way for the Chairperson to see you have something to say.

Dais – officially, the table upfront behind which the Chairperson is sitting. Practically, the Dais denotes also the Chair and the staff of the Committee. Any concerns related to the proceedings of the Committee you may have you should address to the Dais. Same goes for notes to the Chairperson, or resolutions/amendments you want approved.

Procedural – all points/motions that have something to do with the official procedure of the debate – e.g. motions for caucuses, motion for a roll call, etc...

Point – if you want to ask a question, or point the attention of the Chairperson to something, you use a Point.

Motion – A motion is essentially a suggestion for action to the Committee. If you want to change the way of debating, introduce a resolution or generally move the proceedings forward, raise your placard and make a motion.

Abstain - During a vote on a substantive matter, delegates may abstain rather than vote yes or no. This generally signals that a state does not support the resolution being voted on, but does not oppose it enough to vote no.

Adjourn - All UN or Model UN sessions end with a vote to adjourn. This means that the debate is suspended until the next meeting. This can be a short time (e.g., overnight) or a long time (until next year's conference).

Agenda - The order in which the issues before a committee will be discussed. The first duty of a committee following the roll call is usually to set the agenda.

Amendment - A change to a draft resolution on the floor. Can be of two types: a "friendly amendment" is supported by the original draft resolution's sponsors, and is passed automatically, while an "unfriendly amendment" is not supported by the original sponsors and must be voted on by the committee as a whole.

Background guide - A guide to a topic being discussed in a Model UN committee usually written by conference organizers and distributed to delegates before the conference. The starting point for any research before a Model UN conference.

Binding - Having legal force in UN member states. Security Council resolutions are binding, as are decisions of the International Court of Justice. Resolutions of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council are not.

Chair - A member of the dais that moderates debate, keeps time, rules on points and motions, and enforces the rules of procedure. Also known as a Moderator.

Decorum - The order and respect for others that all delegates at a Model UN conference must exhibit. The Chair will call for decorum when he or she feels that the committee is not being respectful of a speaker, of the dais, or of their roles as ambassadors.

Delegate - A student acting as a representative of a member state or observer in a Model UN committee for a weekend.

Delegation - The entire group of people representing a member state or observer in all

committees at a particular Model UN conference.

Director - A member of the dais that oversees the creation of working papers and draft resolutions, acts as an expert on the topic, makes sure delegates accurately reflect the policy of their countries, and ensures that decorum is maintained during caucuses.

Division of the Question - During voting bloc, delegates may motion to vote on certain clauses of a resolution separately, so that only the clauses that are passed become part of the final resolution. This is known as division of the question.

Draft resolution - A document that seeks to fix the problems addressed by a Model UN committee. If passed by the committee, the draft resolution will become into a resolution.

Faculty Advisor - The faculty member in charge of a Model UN team, class or club.

Flow of debate - The order in which events proceed during a Model UN conference. See Flow of Debate chart.

Gavel - The tool, shaped like a small wooden hammer, that the Chair uses to keep order within a Model UN committee. Many conferences give the gavel used in a committee to the delegate recognized by the dais as the best in that committee; therefore, the term is frequently used to refer to the award given to the best delegate, even in cases where no actual gavel is given.

Head Delegate - The student leader of a Model UN club or team.

Member State - A country that has ratified the Charter of the United Nations and whose application to join has been accepted by the General Assembly and Security Council. Currently, there are 191 member states. The only internationally recognized state that is not a member state is the Holy See.

Observer - A state, national organization, regional organization, or non-governmental organization that is not a member of the UN but participates in its debates. Observers can vote on procedural matters but not substantive matters. An example is the Holy See.

On the floor - At a Model UN conference, when a working paper or draft resolution is first written, it may not be discussed in debate. After it is approved by the Director and introduced by the committee, it is put "on the floor" and may be discussed.

Operative clause - The part of a resolution which describes how the UN will address a problem. It begins with an action verb (decides, establishes, recommends, etc.).

Page - A delegate in a Model UN committee that has volunteered to pass notes from one delegate to another, or from a delegate to the dais, for a short period of time.

Perambulatory Clause - The part of a resolution that describes previous actions taken on the topic and reasons why the resolution is necessary. It begins with a participle or adjective (noting, concerned, regretting, aware of, recalling, etc.).

Quorum - The minimum number of delegates needed to be present for a committee to meet. In the General Assembly, a quorum consists of one third of the members to begin debate, and a majority of members to pass a resolution. In the Security Council, no quorum

exists for the body to debate, but nine members must be present to pass a resolution.

Rapporteur - A member of the dais whose duties include keeping the speakers' list and taking the roll call.

Resolution - A document that has been passed by an organ of the UN that aims to address a particular problem or issue. The UN equivalent of a law.

Right of Reply - A right to speak in reply to a previous speaker's comment, invoked when a delegate feels personally insulted by another's speech. Generally requires a written note to the Chair to be invoked.

Roll Call - The first order of business in a Model UN committee, during which the Rapporteur reads aloud the names of each member state in the committee. When a delegate's country's name is called, he or she may respond "present" or "present and voting." A delegate responding "present and voting" may not abstain on a substantive vote.

Second - To agree with a motion being proposed. Many motions must be seconded before they can be brought to a vote.

Secretariat - The most senior staff of a Model UN conference.

Secretary-General - The leader of a Model UN conference.

Signatory - A country that wishes a draft resolution to be put on the floor and signs the draft resolution to accomplish this. A signatory need not support a resolution; it only wants it to be discussed.

Simple majority - 50% plus one of the number of delegates in a committee. The amount needed to pass most votes.

Speakers' List - A list that determines the order in which delegates will speak. Whenever a new topic is opened for discussion, the Chair will create a speakers' list by asking all delegates wishing to speak to raise their placards and calling on them one at a time. During debate, a delegate may indicate that he or she wishes to be added to the speakers' list by sending a note to the dais.

Sponsor or submitter - One of the writers of a draft resolution. A friendly amendment can only be created if all sponsors agree.

Working Paper - A document in which the ideas of some delegates on how to resolve an issue are proposed. Frequently the precursor to a draft resolution.

Veto - The ability, held by China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States to prevent any draft resolution in the Security Council from passing by voting no.

Vote - A time at which delegates indicate whether they do or do not support a proposed action for the committee. There are two types: procedural and substantive.

Voting bloc - The period at the end of a committee session during which delegates vote on proposed amendments and draft resolutions and nobody is permitted to enter or leave.

Patterns of Formality

Customs observed by delegates:

Address the chairperson with the utmost respect, as “Mr. Chairman” or “Madam Chairman” only. Do not use “you,” refer to the chairperson in the third person as “the chair”. The same protocol should be use for other persons with title of office, i.e. the president of the General Assembly should be referred to as “Mr. President” or “Madam President”. Address only the chair, or address each other through the chair. Speak when you have obtained the floor only.

Refrain from using personal pronouns: only speak of yourself in the third person. Use “the Delegate of Spain,” or “Spain,” for example, instead of the personal pronoun “I.” Use “the Counsel,” or “the Security Council,” for example, instead of the personal pronoun “we”. Use “the delegation of England,” “the Honorable delegate,” or the such to refer to other delegates instead of using the personal pronoun “you.”

Call to Order:

The chairperson opens a meeting, by standing, waiting or signaling for quiet, then will announce, “*The meeting will come to order.*”

Resolutions and Amendments: Voting on resolutions and amendments is normally by a show of placards, which should always be counted. If voting is very close and the chair is in doubt about the result of a vote then he/she may order a roll call vote.

Note: Unless otherwise told the Security Council voting on resolutions are always by roll call vote. Voting on amendments and procedural matters is by a show of hands. Procedural motions and amendments in the Security Council do not require a second.

Obtaining and Assigning the Floor:

Before any member of the assembly can make a motion or speak in debate he or she must *obtain the floor*; that is he/she must be *recognised* by the chair. To claim the floor a delegate raises his/her placard at an appropriate time. The chair will then announce, “*The chair recognizes Iraq.*” The delegate may then address the assembly. Another delegate may not claim the floor until it has been *yielded*. It is out of order to raise a placard, raise or be standing when another delegate is making a speech. The only exception to this is when making a “*point of personal privilege*” relating the audibility of the speech. The floor can only be yielded consecutively once from one delegate to another. Where delegations consist of more than one member, delegates from the same delegation may not yield the floor to each other.

Rules of Procedure

Like real UN bodies, Model UN committees have lengthy agendas and many delegates who want to convey their country’s positions. To help maintain order, Model UN conferences adopt rules of procedure to establish when a delegate may speak and what he or she may address. Some conferences adopt a few simple rules, while others use lengthy and complex rules of procedure. Because each conference is independent – there is no governing body for Model UN – rules of procedure vary. A few conferences adapt their

rules of procedure directly from the United Nations rules while most use variations of the Roberts Rules of Order. It is essential to familiarize yourself with the rules of each specific conference you plan to attend.

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 speakers 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 a temporary recess, the rules of procedure are suspended. To go to a moderated 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.

Basic Model UN Rules of Procedure	Required to Pass
A motion to set the speakers time sets or changes the amount of time each delegate has to speak.	Simple majority vote
A motion to open the speakers list allows delegates to sign up to speak. At some conferences a motion to close the speakers list closes the list for the remainder of the session or topic. However, at most Model UN conferences the speakers list can be opened and closed multiple times. This motion requires an immediate vote.	Simple majority vote
Delegates propose a motion to suspend debate for the purpose of holding a caucus. If you move to suspend the meeting, be sure to specify the purpose and the amount of time.	Simple majority vote
A motion to adjourn meeting ends the committee session until the next session, which might be the next year’s conference, or after lunch or dinner.	Simple majority vote

A **motion to adjourn debate (also known as motion to table debate)** is not the same as a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rather, it is used to table, or put on hold, all of the work that the committee has completed on a particular topic. At some Model UN conferences you can return to this topic later, while at others the topic cannot be discussed again.

Two-thirds majority vote

A delegate makes a motion to **close debate** in order to move the committee to a vote, usually when the delegate has made his or her country's position clear and there are enough draft resolutions on the floor.

Two-thirds majority vote

A **point of order** is used when a delegate believes the chair has made an error in the running of the committee. The Delegate should only specify the errors they believe were made in the formal committee procedure, and may not address the topic being discussed.

Decision of Chairperson

A **point of inquiry** (also known as a **point of parliamentary procedure**) can be made when the floor is open (i.e. when no other delegate is speaking) in order to ask the chairperson a question regarding the rules of procedure.

No vote

A delegate may raise a **point of personal privilege** in order to inform the chairperson of a physical discomfort he or she is experiencing, such as not being able to hear another delegate's speech.

No vote

Flow of Debate

It is sometimes helpful to think of a Model UN conference as if it were a play in which delegates are the actors and Secretariat members are the directors. The storyline of a stage show is similar to what Model UNers call the "flow of debate" – the order in which events proceed during a Model UN conference. The chart below shows the various stages of debate that take place during a Model UN simulation.

Roll Call

The Chairperson will announce each country's name. After delegates hear their country, they should answer.

Setting the Agenda

When Model UN committees have more than one topic available, the body must set the agenda to begin working on one of these issues. At this time a delegate typically makes a motion, stating "The country of [name] moves to place [topic A] first on the agenda, followed by [topic B] and then [topic C]." Once the motion has been made, three

delegations must speak in favor of the motion, and three other delegations will speak against it. These speeches should alternate between those in favor and those opposed. Once these six speeches have been given, a vote is taken. Setting the agenda requires a simple majority vote.

Debate

Formal Debate: Formal debate revolves around a speakers list. The Chair begins by asking all delegates interested in addressing the other members to raise their placards. The Chair then chooses delegates to be placed on the speakers list. A country may only be on the speakers list once, but delegates may add their country to the end of the list after their speech.

1a. When the session begins, speeches focus on stating country positions and offering recommendations for action.

2a. After blocs have met, speeches focus on describing bloc positions to the entire body.

3a. Delegates now make statements describing their draft resolutions to the committee.

4a. Delegates try to garner more support through formal speeches and invite others to offer their ideas.

5a. Delegates make statements supporting or disagreeing with specific draft resolutions.

6a. Delegates present any amendments they have created.

Informal Debate: Informal debate involves discussion outside of the speakers list. During moderated caucuses, the Chair calls on delegates one-by-one so that each can address the committee in short speeches. During unmoderated caucuses, the committee breaks for a temporary recess so that delegates may meet with each other and discuss ideas.

1b. After several countries state their positions, the committee breaks for caucuses (often in blocs) to develop regional positions.

2b. Writing begins as countries work together to compose draft resolutions.

3b. Countries and groups meet to gather support for specific draft resolutions.

4b. Delegates finalize draft resolutions.

5b. Draft-resolution sponsors build greater support for their resolution and look to incorporate others' ideas through friendly amendments.

Close of Debate

Once the speakers list is exhausted, the committee automatically moves to voting. Also, once a delegate feels that his or her country's position is clear to others and that there are enough draft resolutions on the floor, he or she may make a motion to proceed into voting procedure by moving for the closure of debate.

Voting Procedures

Once a motion to close debate has been approved, the committee moves into voting procedure. Amendments are voted on first, then resolutions. Once all of the resolutions are voted on, the committee moves to the next topic on the agenda.

Position Papers (Policy Statements)

Many conferences require that each delegation submit a position paper—an essay detailing your country's policies on the topics being discussed in your committee. Writing a position paper will help you organize your ideas so that you can share your country's position with the rest of the committee. If you conduct extensive research, a position paper should be easy to write.

Most conferences that require position papers ask for them about one month before the conference so that staff members can read them and get a feel for the direction debate will take. If the conference you are attending does not require a position paper, you should still consider writing one to help you organize your research and prepare your speeches. Many delegates use their position papers as their opening remarks.

How to Write a Position Paper

Writing a position paper might appear to be a daunting task, especially for new delegates. But with enough research, you will find that writing a position paper will be easy and useful.

Position papers are usually one to one-and-a-half pages in length. Your position paper should include a brief introduction followed by a comprehensive breakdown of your country's position on the topics that are being discussed by the committee. A good position paper will not only provide facts but also make proposals for resolutions.

Many conferences will ask for specific details in a position paper, so be sure to include all the required information. Most conferences will provide delegates a background guide to the issue. Usually, the background guide will contain questions to consider. Make sure that your position paper answers these questions.

A good position paper includes:

- A brief introduction to your country and its history concerning the topic and committee.
- How the issue affects your country.
- Your country's policies with respect to the issue and your country's justification for these policies.
- Quotes from your country's leaders about the issue.
- Statistics to back up your country's position on the issue.
- Actions taken by your government with regard to the issue.
- Conventions and resolutions that your country has signed or ratified.
- UN actions that your country supported or opposed.
- What your country believes should be done to address the issue.
- What your country would like to accomplish in the committee's resolution.
- How the positions of other countries affect your country's position.

Position Paper Tips

Keep it simple. To communicate strongly and effectively, avoid flowery wording and stick to uncomplicated language and sentence structure.

Make it official. Try to use the seal of your country or create an "official" letterhead for your position paper. The more realistic it looks, the more others will want to read it.

Get organized. Give each separate idea or proposal its own paragraph. Make sure each paragraph starts with a topic sentence.

Cite your sources. Use footnotes or endnotes to show where you found your facts and statistics. And write a bibliography.

Read and reread. Leave time to edit your position paper. Ask yourself if the organization of the paper makes sense and double-check your spelling and grammar.

Let the bullets fly. In your position paper try not to let your proposals become lost in a sea of information. For speechmaking, create a bulleted list of your points along with your most important facts and statistics so that you will not lose time looking for them during debate.

Sample Position Paper

Committee: International Labor Organization

Topic: Globalization and Development

Country: Romania

*This sample position paper was submitted by the delegation of Romania at the 2007 UNA-USA Model UN Conference in New York City.

In the past two decades the rapidly growing world trend has been toward globalization. With the emergence of the internet as a means of communication and the increasing accessibility of international trade physical barriers are not the only barriers withering away. Protective tariffs are plummeting and free trade agreements are becoming more prevalent. Romania appreciates that globalization creates favorable situations for expansion of commercial as well as economic assets. In the past year Romania has seen a foreign direct investment (FDI) increase of 199%. Inward FDI increased from EURO 234 million in 2005 to EURO 699 million in 2006. However, Romania realizes that increased globalization does not automatically produce more equality.

Globalization and Development can contribute to the advancement of the overall international human condition; however, the delegation of Romania recognizes that without proper regulation the potential for advancement will remain limited to an elite few individuals, businesses, and nations. Unless checked and aimed toward the common good, globalization cannot effectively serve the global community. Crucial in dealing with the complexities of globalization, good governance must act with solidarity and responsibility. Romania believes that in involving people in globalization we must promote moral values, democratic principals, inclusive global political culture, institutions that safeguard both individual civil rights and inherent freedoms, and the common good. In addition, coping with the influx of information from globalization governments must act with solidarity and insight. Access to digital education will undoubtedly result in the confidence of citizens in their respective administrations and allow for a greater degree of transparency, and therefore a lesser degree of corruption.

Romania believes the multinational business community has the ability and the obligation to support pertinent values in human rights, labor standards, and environmental preservation. As stated by the president, Mr. Traion Basescu, Romania feels a "heartfelt attachment to multilateralism, as an effective instrument designed to identify the adequate answers to the challenges brought by globalization."

Romania is party to the majority of multilateral treaties and conventions identified as such by the Secretary General in the context of the Millennium Summit in 2001. Romania has always supported innovative and effective ways of establishing cooperation within and between regional organizations. As one of the newest members of the European Union, Romania is an active member of the World Trade Organization, and looks forward to offering its support to the redirection of globalization to best benefit the global community.

Resolutions

The final results of discussion, writing 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.

Draft Resolutions

Draft resolutions are all resolutions that have not yet been voted on. Delegates write draft resolutions alone or 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 along with the resolution number. It also lists the draft resolution's sponsors and 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., the General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, or Security Council). The preamble and operative sections then describe the current situation and actions that the committee will take.

Bringing a Resolution to the Floor for Debate

A draft resolution must always gain the support of a certain number of member states in the committee before the sponsors (the delegates who created the resolution) may submit it to the committee staff. Many conferences require signatures from 20 percent of the countries present in order to submit a draft resolution. A staff member will read the draft resolution to ensure that it is relevant and in proper format. Only when a staff member formally accepts the document and assigns it a number can it be referred to in formal debate.

In some cases a delegate must make a motion to introduce the draft resolution, while in other cases the sponsors are immediately called upon to read the document. Because these procedures can vary, it is essential to find out about the resolution process for the conference you plan to attend.

Tips for Resolution Writing

Be sure to follow the format for resolutions provided by the conference organizers. Each conference may have a slightly different format.

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.

Try to cite facts whenever possible.

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.

Try to find multiple sponsors. Your committee will be more likely to approve the resolutions if many delegates contribute ideas.

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.

Preambulatory Phrases	Operative Phrases
<p>Acknowledging, affirming, alarmed by, approving, aware of, believing, bearing in mind, confident of, congratulating, contemplating, convinced of, declaring, deeply concerned, deeply conscious, deeply convinced, deeply disturbed, deeply regretting, deploring, 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 studied, keeping in mind, noting further, noting with appreciation, noting with approval, noting with deep concern, noting with regret, noting with satisfaction, observing, pointing out, reaffirming, realizing, recalling, recognizing, referring, reminding, seeking, taking into account, taking into consideration, taking note, viewing with appreciation, welcoming.</p>	<p>Accepts, affirms, approves, asks, authorizes, calls for, calls upon, congratulates, confirms, declares accordingly, designates, encourages, endorses, expresses its appreciation, expresses its hope, further invites, further proclaims, further recommends, further requests, further resolves, hopes, invites, proclaims, proposes, recommends, regrets, requests, resolves, seeks, strongly affirms, strongly urges, suggests, supports, trusts, transmits, urges.</p>

Note that:

- The assembly is addressed before beginning the resolution.
- The introductory word or phrase of each line is underlined.
- There is a line-space between each clause.
- Every line is numbered in brackets. (This only applies to the final and merged resolutions that are submitted to the Approval Panel.)
- Each operative clause is numbered.
- Sub-clauses are lettered, and sub-sub-clauses are numbered.
- Resolutions are written in Times New Roman, size 12.
- Preambulatory clauses end with a comma, while operative clauses end with a semi-colon.
- All sub-clauses end with a comma; the last one ends with a semi-colon.

Structure of Resolution

- FORUM: name of forum, including sub-commission where appropriate (ex. General Assembly "B")
- QUESTION OF: the issue which the resolution deals with (ex. Protecting Children's Rights in Disaster-Ravaged Areas)
- SUBMITTED BY: name of country (not delegate)

Forum (ex. General Assembly),

Preambulatory phrase preambulatory clause,

.....

(25) 1. Operative phrase operative clause;

(26) 2. Operative phrase operative clause,

(27) a) Operative sub-clause (does not begin with operative phrase),

(28) b) Operative sub-clause,

(29) i) Operative sub-sub-clause,

(30) ii) Operative sub-sub-clause,

(31) c) Operative sub-clause;

(32) 3. Operative phrase operative clause;

(33) 4. Operative phrase operative clause;

(34) 5. Operative phrase operative clause;

Sample Resolution

QUESTION OF: Illegal Production and Trafficking of Drugs Worldwide

FORUM: General Assembly (B)

SUBMITOR/S: Norway

SIGNATORIES: Spain, Venezuela, USA, Egypt, Sweden, Saudi Arabia, Iceland,
Turkey, Iran.

General Assembly,

Realizing that governments encouraging freedom and liberty for their citizens often encounter abuse of these rights and privileges that result in the spread and prosper of dangerous activities, such as the use of drugs and their trade,

Believing that freedom and tolerance does not have to include complete lawlessness, and the need for an international breakdown on drugs is upon us,

Recognizing the efforts of both individual nations and the United Nations as well as those of NGOs towards fighting this phenomenon,

Reaffirming its respect for the national sovereignty of all states, and the governments of all nations as the main governing force that should not be sacrificed in order to achieve our aims, as this would lead to a collapse of all stability in our nations,

Taking into consideration resolution 46/1 (which renews emphasis on demand reduction prevention and treatment efforts in compliance with the international drug control treaties), resolution 46/3 (which enhances international cooperation in combating drug trafficking by sea), resolution 46/4 (which supports the international drug control system through joint action), resolution 46/5 (which improves the exchange of electronic information among Member States and communication with international organizations), as well as all other passed UN resolutions on the abuse and trade of drugs,

Expressing its appreciation for all of the work of the UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) and all of its efforts towards solving these impediments in our common road towards development,

Gravely concerned that, despite continued increased efforts by States and relevant international organizations, there is a global expansion of illicit demand for, production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, which threatens the health, safety and well-being of millions of persons, in particular young people, in all countries, as well as the political and socio-economic systems and the stability, national security and sovereignty of an increasing number of States,

Reaffirming and stressing the need for increased efforts to implement the comprehensive framework for international cooperation in drug control provided by the existing drug control conventions, namely: the Declaration of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, the Political Declaration and Global Program of Action

(adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session, which was devoted to the question of international cooperation against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic and psychotropic substances), the Declaration adopted by the World Ministerial Summit to Reduce the Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat, the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control, the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime, as well as other relevant international standards,

Calls upon states to implement the mandates and recommendations of the Global Program of Action, recognized as a comprehensive framework for national, regional, and international action to combat illicit production of, demand for and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

Urges all Governments and competent regional organizations to develop a balanced approach within the framework of comprehensive demand reduction activities, giving adequate priority to prevention, treatment, research, social reintegration and training, in the context of national strategic plans to combat drug abuse, which should include raising public awareness on the detrimental effects of drug abuse;

Calls for immediate enhancement of national awareness programs targeting youth with the aim of increasing consciousness and knowledge of the horrors resulting from the use and trade of these substances;

Encourages formulating all national policies related to education, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation;

Proposes the establishment of branches in all governments concerned with the supervision of all areas related to law enforcement, and all institutions' respective roles in this area, as well as a reexamination of border checkpoints and policing in their countries to ensure that drug trafficking is being countered and that corruption in these facilities is obliterated;

Recommends recruiting and training qualified professionals to lead the war on drugs from the bottom up;

Further recommends recruiting volunteers to complement the professionals' role;

Further urges immediate and serious research to be carried out by all governments in the area of substitution crops for farmers who will otherwise lose their livelihood without the ability to plant drug crops;

Encourages governments to provide subsidies to farmers who have suffered losses as a result of a ban on drug plants, as well as providing markets more open to these farmers and their other crops;

Also calls upon governments to provide jobs for farmers suffering losses, whether these jobs be in agricultural fields or others, while keeping in mind that training may need to be provided to these farmers concerning jobs in

fields they are not familiar with;

Underlines the need for the international community to provide increased economic and technical support to Governments that request it for programs of alternative and sustainable development, which have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production and which take fully into account the cultural traditions of peoples;

Endorses an increase of transparency in all governments as well as banking systems, recognizing this as the only way we will be able truly root out the major drug operations that often include involvement from the inside of governments as well as from the outside;

Expresses profound concern about and unequivocal condemnation all drug operations that provide assistance to terrorist organizations or individuals planning to carry out acts of terrorism;

Expresses support for the specialization of groups to be established within all governments, which would be responsible for the following:

Tracking down chemicals used to make illicit and harmful drugs and finding ways to limit their availability,

Establishing the boundaries of the medical use of these drugs and the ways with which we can control their passage through countries safely;

Emphasizes the need for liberalization of extradition laws, in order to give drug barons (or possible drug barons) their right to fair trials under neutral and just judicial systems, clean of influence of drug bribes or any other such corruption.

Merging and Lobbying (Caucusing)

Caucusing, or informal debate, is an important part of the Model UN simulation because it provides an opportunity for delegates to collaborate, negotiate and formulate draft resolutions. To hold a caucus, a delegate must make a motion and the committee must pass the motion.

Many delegates prefer to speak during a moderated caucus rather than being placed on the speaker's list. In a moderated caucus, speakers are usually able to convey one or two key points to the entire committee or share new ideas that have developed through the course of debate. A delegate sometimes chooses to make a motion for a moderated caucus if his or her name is close to the end of the speakers list. By speaking in a moderated caucus, delegates are able to address the committee much earlier.

In most cases, more than half of committee time is used for unmoderated caucusing. Many delegates feel this is the easiest way for them to collaborate and start to formulate draft resolutions.

From their research before the conference, delegates should know, generally, which countries are their allies, and which are not. However, they may find that countries which they may not necessarily regard as 'allies' might have similar points of view on a particular topic. Therefore, Merging and Lobbying day provides valuable time for them to get to know these delegates. Delegates are reminded that they must exchange ideas based on their countries' policies and *not* their own.

Once delegates establish who their allies are, they coalesce and sit together to formulate a resolution. The clauses of this resolution are drawn from the individual resolutions that each delegate is expected to write before the conference starts. The group of allies selects the clauses that they agree on. They may also write new clauses altogether. The delegates within the group negotiate and compromise until they reach a solution they are all satisfied with. The result is referred to as the 'merged resolution'.

Merging and lobbying of resolutions for each topic will be bound by a time limit. Although this is set by the President of each forum on the day, it is typically about 2 hours per topic. Once the time for the first topic elapses, the forum moves on to merging and lobbying resolutions on the next topic.

Main Submitter:

The Main Submitter is the patron of the resolution. This is usually the delegate who contributes the largest number of clauses or ideas to the merged resolution, or the representative of the country with the strongest position in relation to the topic. The Main Submitter must be a strong speaker, and he/she will be the primary country defending this resolution.

The Main Submitter's main responsibilities:

- Delivering the merged resolution to the Approval Panel.
- Reading out the operative clauses of the resolution during debate and giving the first speech of the debate.
- Defending the resolution, and convincing other delegates to vote for it.

Co-Submitters:

Co-Submitters are the other members of the group of allies that contributed to writing and formulating the merged resolution. All Co-Submitters of a resolution have a common policy with regards to the topic in discussion. They are the supporters of the resolution, and they usually speak in its favor during debate.

The Approval Panel:

The Approval Panel is responsible for checking the resolution for errors. If there are any, the Main Submitter will be asked to make corrections. After the merged resolution is given final approval, it will be printed out and given to the organizing committee to make photocopies for debate over the next 3 days.

What to Bring?

Hard copies of your resolutions for delegates to read.

An Editable Soft Copy of your resolution saved on a Flash Disk, CD-ROM etc.

Computers and technological facilities are available to the delegates, but they may still bring their laptops with them if they wish.

Your badge, file and pen.

Tips for Effective Caucusing

Enter the caucus with a plan in mind: Formulate ideas on what your country would like to see included in a resolution. Decide which clauses you are willing to negotiate on and which you are not.

Find delegates in your regional bloc: This is the easiest way to seek out allies. However, if you find that the group you are working with is not meeting your needs, do not be afraid to switch groups.

Provide ideas: Tell others what your country is hoping to achieve. If you do not agree with an idea, do not hesitate to say that it is against your country's policy.

Negotiate: While it is often necessary to give up something that you want, make sure that you are not giving up anything too important.

Listen: By listening to what others are saying you will be able to build on other people's ideas and add more to the discussion. Listening also shows respect for each delegate in your group.

Do not interrupt: Allow other delegates to finish their thoughts rather than interrupting others in the middle of a sentence. It sometimes helps to write down your idea so that you can bring it up when the delegate is finished speaking.

Record ideas: Start to formulate a resolution in writing. Rather than waiting until the last minute, begin recording fellow delegates' ideas right away.

Be resourceful: By providing fellow delegates with resolution text, maps or information as they need it, you will show that you are valuable to the group.

Have one-on-one conversations: Speaking with an individual or in a small group is the best way to find out a delegate's position on an issue. Larger groups are better suited to brainstorming.

Stay calm: In caucuses, delegates can sometimes "lose their cool." Staying calm will not only help your group be more effective, but will be noticed by the conference staff. Always keep your voice at a normal level. If you see that you are becoming upset or raising your voice, excuse yourself from the group for a few minutes.

Use time effectively: Make sure you have enough time to hear everyone's ideas so that you can discuss them during formal debate. Try not to waste time arguing over small details that do not seriously affect the draft resolution.

Show respect: Never give orders or tell other delegates what they should or should not do. Be polite and treat all your fellow delegates with respect.

Provide constructive critique: Rather than negatively criticizing another delegate, focus on providing constructive critique. If you dislike an idea, try to offer an alternative. Critique ideas, not people.

Establish connections with other delegates: Although it can be tempting to call a fellow delegate "Pakistan," "Brazil" or "Sweden", you can form a better connection with a delegate by learning his or her name and where he or she comes from. Ask the delegate about his or her ideas and impressions of the debate. Showing interest in your fellow delegates at the beginning of the conference will help you gain more support later on and can help you to form lasting friendships.

Public Speaking

Public speaking is one of the most important skills you will use as a Model UN delegate. You will need to convey your member state's positions, help build consensus and formulate resolutions. Usually, the length of time a delegate is allowed to speak is set by the conference organizers. Delegates can make a motion to increase or decrease the time allotted to each speaker. If another delegate seconds the motion, then the committee will vote on changing the speaker's time.

You will have numerous opportunities to speak in your committee during a Model UN simulation. The Chair will maintain a speakers list of delegates who would like to make formal speeches. During caucusing you will have an opportunity to speak informally to delegates in your committee, but it is still important to keep the principles of effective public speaking in mind.

Although speaking is an important part of any Model UN simulation, many delegates fear speaking in front of a large group. The best way to cope with these fears is to be well-prepared. You should research as much as possible about your country and the issue the committee will be debating. You should be comfortable explaining your country's position and have ideas on what you would like to include in the committee's resolution. If you come to the conference prepared, you will be eager to speak in committee and project confidence.

How to make an opening speech

First, you should thank the presiding official by saying "Thank you Mr./ Madame/ Honorable Chair/ President..."

Then begin by providing a brief history on the issue as it relates to your country.

Speak about how the issue is currently affecting your country.

Provide your country's position on the issue. Include an explanation for your country's stance, such as economic or security concerns or political or religious ideology.

You may choose to give an explanation of how your country's position relates to the positions of other member states such as the major powers or countries in your regional bloc.

You should discuss some of the past actions taken by the UN, member states and NGOs to address the issue.

Present ideas for a resolution, stressing your country's objectives for the resolution.

Talk about the role that NGOs or regional organizations have to play in addressing the issue.

Indicate to the committee members whether your country is willing to negotiate.

How to make speech during debate

Again, you should thank the presiding official by saying "Thank you Mr./ Madame/ Honorable Chair/ President..."

Encourage collaboration among member states by proposing ways that your country would be willing to work with other member states.

By referencing what other delegates have said, you can show support for your allies or indicate which proposals your country does not favor.

Present ideas for draft resolutions.

Explain why your country does or does not support other draft resolutions.

Public Speaking Tips

Prepare: Decide how you feel most comfortable delivering your speech. You may choose to use your position paper text as your opening speech or you may write out some key points. In time, you may feel comfortable speaking without any written notes at all. If you plan to use a word or phrase that is unfamiliar to you, make sure you learn its meaning and how to pronounce it properly.

Practice: Rehearsing your speech is the best way to perfect your public speaking skills. Try practicing in front of a teacher, a parent, or fellow Model UNers from your class or club. When you listen to a speech, provide constructive feedback rather than criticism. When someone critiques your speech, accept the feedback graciously and use it as a tool to

strengthen your public speaking.

Consider your audience: Make your speech appropriate to the age and experience-level of the other delegates at the conference. Remember that the beginning of the speech should captivate your audience and make them to want to hear more.

Eliminate unnecessary “filler” words: Fillers are words and phrases such as "umm," "well," "sort of," and "like". These words take away from the message you are trying to convey. Some additional fillers to avoid are “so,” "you know," "I think," "just," and "uh."

Use meaningful pauses: Leaving a moment of silence between sentences can be a powerful public speaking tool. Pausing after an important point or before answering a question will help to hold the audience’s attention. A pause can also give you time to formulate your next statement.

Breathe: Try to breathe from your diaphragm – the organ below your lungs that controls your respiration. You are breathing properly if you can see your abdomen rising and falling with each breath. Try to inhale and exhale completely.

Pace yourself: Don’t talk too fast or too slow. Remember that most speakers have a tendency to talk too quickly.

Choose a powerful posture: Be aware of your posture when you speak. Slouching, tilting your head and crossing your arms or legs will take away from your message. Stand up straight, relax your shoulders, plant your feet firmly and keep your knees unlocked to help you communicate confidence.

Project your presence: Speaking in a low to medium volume can help to project authority, but make sure that you are speaking loud enough to be easily heard. Focus on speaking with enthusiasm and energy.

Gesture: It is worthwhile to use your face, hands, arms and body to help you communicate as long as your motions do not distract the audience from your speech.

Connect with your audience: Glance at your notes rather than reading them so that you can make eye contact with the other delegates. It is often helpful to speak directly to individual members of the audience.

Get to the point: Speak concisely so that your audience does not lose your main arguments among less-important details. Try not to speak in circles. Instead, go straight to your most important point.

Be confident: Ask any experienced Model Uners and the will tell you that is you feel and talk with confidence all the above points will sort themselves out.

MUN Dress Code

Dressing professionally and appropriately is an important aspect of Model UN preparations. Just like being polite and having proper manners, dressing appropriately is an important way to show respect for the nation you are representing, for your fellow delegates and for the United Nations. At some conferences, delegates may wear their own national dress; however, most conferences will require western business attire.

What is Western Business Attire?

Western business attire, or international standard business attire, serves as customary dress for workplaces. It entails wearing a suit, which is made up of trousers, a matching jacket, a button-down dress shirt, and a tie. Conservative dress shoes and socks are also important. Skirts and dresses may also be worn as long as they fall to a decent length. The main thing to remember is to always insure that your appearance is tidy and put-together, and that you are well-covered.

Clothing	Females	Males
Suits	A suit always looks professional. Be sure to keep suits clean and wrinkle-free.	A suit always looks professional. Be sure to keep suits clean and wrinkle-free.
Tops	No t-shirts. A blouse, sweater, or button-down shirt of any kind is appropriate. Dresses are also appropriate as long as they are not revealing and adequate in length (follow the rules below for skirt length).	No t-shirts. A collared/button-down shirt is appropriate and do not forget a tie!
Bottoms	No jeans or shorts. Slacks and suit-pants are acceptable. Skirts must be worn with pantyhose/stockings and should not be more than two inches above the knee. Bottoms should have a subtle pattern; avoid loud designs.	No jeans or shorts. Slacks, preferable in dark colors, are appropriate.
Shoes	No sneakers or open-toe sandals. Remember: high-heeled shoes may look pretty, but they can also be very uncomfortable, so use your discretion.	No sneakers or open-toe sandals. Loafers or other types of dress shoes are preferred.
Hair	Keep hair clean and out of your face for a professional look.	Keep hair clean and out of your face a professional look.