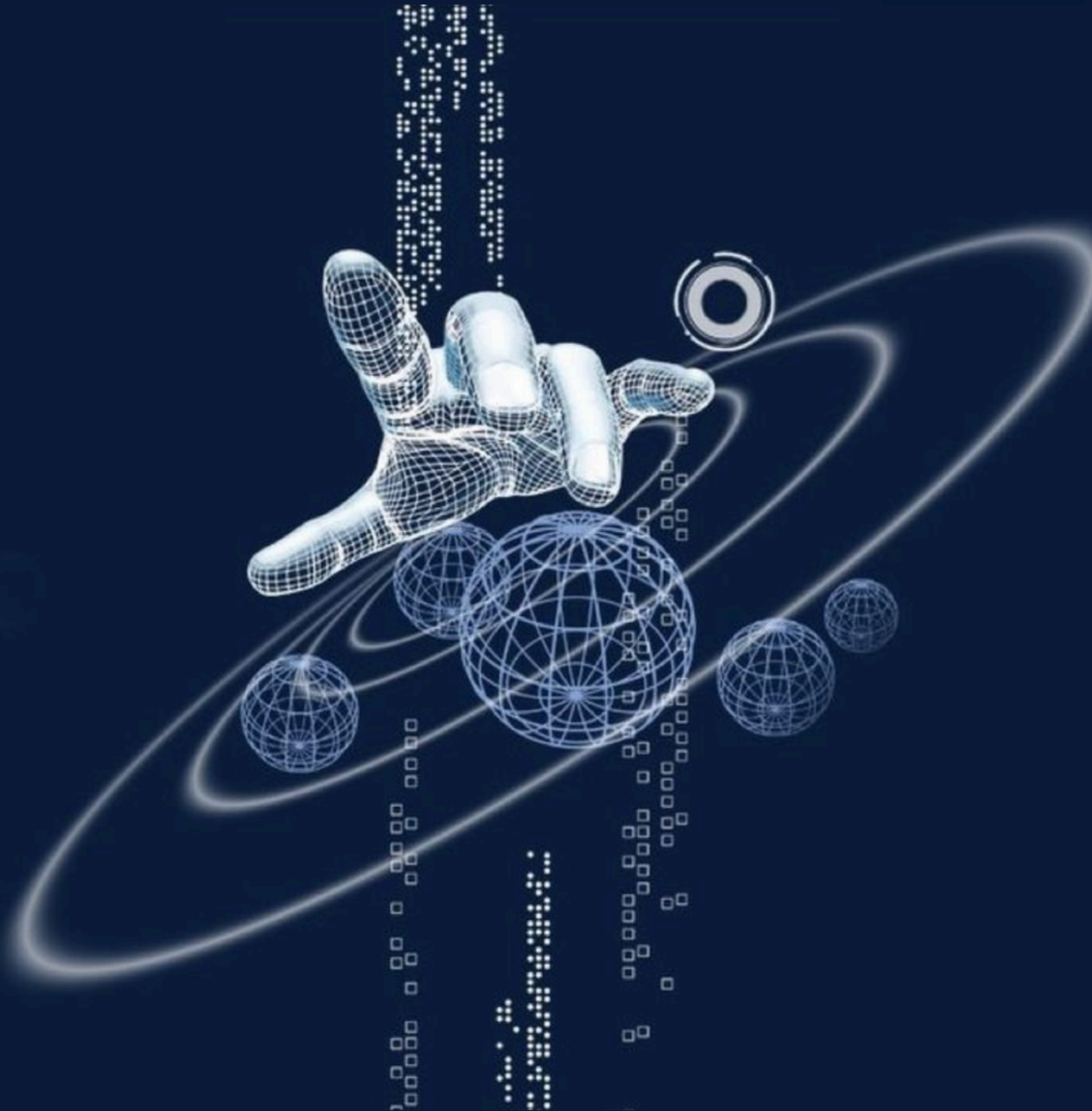




مدارس الظهران الأهلية
Dhahran Ahliyya Schools



Delegate Guide

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Message from DSG's

Distinguished delegates,

We are delighted to extend a warm welcome to you, as you join the esteemed DASMUN family for the sixteenth annual Dhahran Ahliyya Schools Model United Nations (DASMUN XVI) conference. We are thrilled to witness the culmination of our collective efforts, and we truly believe that this conference will be a remarkable experience filled with exciting debates, meaningful connections, and valuable insights.

As a delegate, you will have the incredible opportunity to embrace the roles of explorers, thought leaders, and collaborators, as we come together to discover our theme Innovate to Elevate: Harnessing Digital Transformation for Sustainable Development. We encourage you to fully immerse yourself in this experience, actively engaging in respectful and constructive debates with your fellow delegates. This conference serves as a platform for you to refine and enhance your leadership, communication, and collaboration skills, empowering you to become an effective agent of change.

Rest assured, should any doubts or queries arise during the conference, our dedicated chairs and the DASMUN Executive Team are here to provide assistance and guidance. We are committed to supporting you every step of the way, ensuring that you make the most of this remarkable opportunity.

Once again, we extend our heartfelt welcome to you as a valued member of the DASMUN family. We trust that you will approach this conference with a sense of responsibility and motivation, and we are confident that it will be an unforgettable experience for all.

Best of Luck!

DSG's of delegates- *Kenda AlOyouni, Jude Bakhaider, and Norah AlJasser.*



Defining a delegate

As a delegate you will be assigned a country (delegation) to represent during the conference, To do that you must:

Before the conference

Before the conference the delegate must:

- Research their country thoroughly. (Understand the country's stance and policies on the issue).
- Investigate the topic that was assigned for the committee the delegate belongs to.
- Create a thorough and detailed resolution that addresses the issue clearly.

During the conference

- 1- To lobby (work to merge and draft resolutions with other delegates).
- 2- To engage in fruitful debates regarding the resolutions you've drafted.

Research Process

Research is a crucial part of your performance as a delegate. As a representative of a country, you have to be well-versed in the country's laws, culture, economy, and views. You will also need to thoroughly research the issues on the agenda. Here are some useful sources to aid you in the research process:

- Reports: The research provided by the committee chairs, which provides an overview of each subject and the sources that were used, is a trustworthy source that can guarantee that all delegates are in agreement. Chair reports are available on the DASMUN XVI website, arranged according to topic. They present the situations with the greatest and most accurate sources possible. It can be a fantastic way to gain an overview of the problem at hand and a great place to discover trustworthy graphs and data in addition to the status of the world.
- United Nations Official Site: The easiest way to get information is to search the sources. Delegates can use the UN website to determine their country's position on a specific topic based on the address of their ambassador, as well as resolutions to get ideas for ways to prepare for the issue that the delegate shall be discussing. Furthermore, it has the ability to provide approximations of statistics and current data regarding the status of previous resolutions, as well as significant dates pertaining concerning and referring to international law.
- The internet: An often used source, the internet can be one of the most convenient and efficient ways to gather information regarding many different topics, with its never ending diversity, delegates must be wise when choosing where to exactly find information. To stick to reliable news outlets and avoiding inaccurate information can guarantee a strong stance and points when mentioning during speeches, a delegate must find impactful yet meaningful information to convey their stance and point. Through that, the internet is the right place to start. Through finding encyclopedias and the stances of other fellow delegates, it's a great way to prepare for the DASMUN XVI conference.
- Digital Archives: Signed and discussed old agreements and documentation. Digital archives are easily accessible via websites like Bodleian Libraries, which can provide delegates with access to historical paperwork and agreements that can expand their knowledge and understanding of a topic, in particular when it necessitates in-depth background information. These archives are credible and an excellent source for historical data and agreements.

- People: Word-of-mouth can be a useful tool for learning about complex issues. Delegates can become aware of how a scenario may affect society and other factors that aren't discussed sufficiently by hearing about it from others who were present during the time period. Individuals can provide more information about specifics, consequences, and firsthand accounts. A delegate can ensure that they will have a comprehensive understanding of the topics at hand by seeing things through the perspective of experts and witnesses.



Policy statements

A policy statement is your delegation's opportunity to introduce itself in terms of their position regarding the issue at hand to other delegations. You can also share facts and general positions that might help other countries decide if they would like to align or rebuke your stance. It is a formal presentation of a country's position and recommended course of action on the issue being debated in the committee. It allows you, as the delegate, to clearly articulate your country's stance to the other members.

A good policy statement should:

- Be presented within the duration of 30 seconds.
- Outline the key national interests and priorities related to the topic for the country you represent.
- Summarize the country's historical perspective and current policies on the issue.
- Take a clear stance in favor or against specific policy proposals or resolutions under discussion.
- Provide logical justifications and evidence to support the stated position, citing relevant facts, data and expertise from your research.
- Suggest realistic policy prescriptions, guidelines or frameworks your country thinks should be included in any resolutions agreed upon. Demonstrate an understanding of opposing views but maintain advocacy for your country's perspective in a respectful manner.
- Leave room for negotiation and compromise by suggesting alternative solutions that could find broader consensus.

* In regular MUN procedure delegates have the right to reply to policy statements, DASMUN does not entertain this motion, so there will be no right to reply for policy statements.

Sample policy statement

DELEGATION: UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE)

FORUM: GA1 (DISEC)

Measures to build developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

As technology develops, people unwittingly rely on it more and more in every area, most importantly in communication, as well as in the financial and healthcare sectors. Technology may currently appear to be the best invention that humankind has ever created, but setbacks like cyber-attacks against nations and individuals have caused many to reconsider. As cyberspace is an electronic area where access from anyone is available, it puts both the nation and the resident's personal space at jeopardy and that has been proven many times as cyberattacks have increased in the past decade.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is a country that highly supports the increase and development of cybersecurity but also condemns acts of cybercrime. UAE created a cyber security council and has placed various cyber laws and regulations. UAE also refers to many previous UN attempts and resolutions such as resolution A/76/135 that focus on addressing issues related to cyber security and placing potential laws and regulations that limit cyber-attacks.

Therefore, UAE urges fellow nations to collaborate in order to restore cybersecurity in nations and placing international laws that help promote cyber security and manage cyber-attacks, such as blocking certain suspicious websites and domains. These approaches can help restore faith in technology and can offer a safer space for individuals and nations.

Unmoderated Caucus

Unmoderated Caucus (Lobbying and Merging):

Here at the conference, delegates can have direct, casual conversations with one another. Which is important when with an unmoderated caucus, delegates can concentrate on drafting resolutions or even just having talks within a set time frame while still being cordial and tactful. It includes creating stances and resulting with written resolutions, you're free to ask your chairs for assistance.

The two-day conference will be exciting and interesting if you take the time to get to know the delegates around you, meet your peers, and create a pleasant environment for debating and presenting and even learning.

Moderated caucus

A moderated caucus is a form of debate where the chairs quickly recognize multiple delegates in succession, without allowing interruptions or points of information. It enables delegates to provide brief comments on a specific sub-issue. Typically, delegates interested in speaking indicate their desire by raising their placards, and the chairs call on them one by one.

To initiate a moderated caucus, a motion must include the total speaking time, time allocated per speaker, and the sub-issue to be discussed. For instance, Italy proposes a 5-minute moderated caucus with each delegate having 30 seconds to speak, focusing on finding solutions to women's rights. Compared to an unmoderated caucus, this type of caucus is more organized because it includes a speaker's list, designated speaking time, and a subtopic related to the committee's overall subject matter. Proper usage of United Nations terminology and appropriate modes of address are expected in this style of debate.

Resolutions

Understanding Resolutions:

To begin, resolutions are written paragraphs discussing the issue from a targeted or specific perspective, used in the UN, they hold criticism towards a certain action, declarations, treaties, precautions, and etc..

After lobbying and merging throughout the unmoderated caucus, the resolution gets reviewed and passed, hence becomes part of the UN order and policy.

However, resolutions are typically the end product that will be discussed during a moderated caucus throughout the conference; by format, resolutions are divided into two different clauses. Preambulatory (*introductory, they are always written in the beginning to state background information and ground basis. It mentions the things that have been previously done.*) and Operative clauses (*the actual resolution, holding orders, declarations, modifying policies. To put it simply, it has all the actions that will be done it's the part that's mostly focused when being written and discussed*).

Therefore, delegates must be aware of the realism behind the argument. To remain realistic and pragmatic, you have to ensure that the resolution's clauses are doable and effective within your countries.

* In regular MUN procedure, delegates must write resolutions for all topics discussed in committee; however, in DASMUN Delegates may choose what resolution they wish to write based on the topics provided.

Writing resolutions

During lobbying, you will prepare draft resolutions with a working group made up of your delegation and other like-minded member states in the committee known as your bloc. Ideally, you will want at least some elements of your delegation's policy and priorities included in the text of the Resolution. A committee will typically produce multiple Resolutions — some competing, some complimentary — and vote on them at the end of the conference. The three components of a successful resolution are as follows:

Part I. Heading – defines which U.N. organ (committee) the resolution is addressed to, the subject/ question of the resolution, the main and co-submitters, and signatories.

Part II. Preambulatory Clauses – define and give the historical context and clarification of the problem the resolution seeks to resolve [“Preambulatory” – literally means “preceding; going before; introductory”]. You will write your references to former UN resolutions, ratified conventions, and/or declarations. You will provide official figures, the most recent ones possible, to illustrate the issue, and emphasize the difficulties that have been encountered in the past, and mention important events that help clarify the scope of the problem. You will need to begin the perambulatory clauses with a present or a past participle or an adjective, examples are listed on the next page).

Part III. Operative Clauses – are the recommended policies of changes/solutions for the problem outlined and points of concern expressed in the Preambulatory Clauses. In other words, these are the action plans: what you and other delegates want the UN, member states, NGOs, etc. to do. You must ensure that your proposals are feasible and fully reflect the existing policies of the country that you represent, and your bloc's stance/ position. You encourage and/or invite countries to sign/ratify a convention/declaration. The opening phrases for operative clauses are listed below.

Part I of Resolution: HEADING

FORUM: The Economic and Social Council

QUESTION OF: The Enlarged Emergency Disaster Relief Fund

Main Submitter: The United Kingdom

Co Submitters: Australia, Saudi Arabia, United States of America

Signatories: Pakistan, Afghanistan, Japan, Ukraine...

Part II of Resolution: PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES

Questions for writing Preambulatory Clauses: What is essential for delegates to know to debate the issue? Do the clauses clarify the parts of the problem & the pre-existing solutions?

Preambulatory Clauses will be used to shape the debate and justify the Operative Clauses proposed solutions. When writing or evaluating a resolution, students should consider the following issues: [Students should keep their sources if there is a challenge to their credibility].

Here are some critical issues to include in writing preambulatory clauses:

- Causes and effects of the issue/problem
- Multiple perspectives and nuances of problem
- International/national/regional/local political organizations
- Non-governmental agencies
- Economic
- Social Cultural – religious, gender, race, ethnic, etc.

a. History of the United Nations and how its organizations have treated the problem

- UN Charter
- Past UN resolutions or treaties on the topic under discussion
- Statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or organ/s

b. Responsibility of United Nations in dealing with the problem

Be careful to not create objectives for a resolution that cannot be met. Make sure the UN organ you are part of has the power to take the action suggested. For example, the General Assembly cannot sanction/punish another country. Only the Security Council can do so.

c. History of the United Nations and how its organizations have treated the problem

- UN Charter
- Past UN resolutions or treaties on the topic under discussion
- Statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or organ/s

d. Responsibility of United Nations in dealing with the problem

Be careful to not create objectives for a resolution that cannot be met. Make sure the UN organ you are part of has the power to take the action suggested. For example, the General Assembly cannot sanction/punish another country. Only the Security Council can do so.

Part III of Resolution: OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Questions for writing operative clauses:

- a. Do the Operative Clauses solve the problem(s) in the Preambulatory Clauses?
- b. Do the clauses address the multifaceted nature of the problem (Question of) - environmental, political, traditions, economic, political, religious, gender, race, ethnic, etc.?
- c. Have they addressed what arguments and parties will be opposed to the solution?
- d. What is the timeframe for implementing the steps towards the solution/s?
- e. Do organizations need to be created to solve the problem? Why is it necessary with many existing organizations?
 - Who will fund it?
 - How will it be administered?
 - Structures, powers?
 - Who will be its members?

f. Does each Operative Clause have one main idea or does it contain a mixture of

several ideas that could be separated?

g. Did you follow appropriate formatting?

Operative clause begins with a verb and ends with a semicolon. If a clause needs more explanation, subsequent bulleted lists of letters and roman numerals can be used. After the last clause, the resolution ends in a period.

Urges	Further requests	Congratulates	Stresses	Trusts
*Declares	Accepts	Recommends	Further invites	Solemnly condemns
Suggests	Encourages	*Decides to	Designates	Expresses its hope
Deplores	Considers	*Declares accordingly	Approves	Further resolves
Authorizes	*Demands	Calls	Condemns	Transmits
Endorses	Confirms	Calls upon	Draws attention to	Encourages
Requests	Requests	Further proclaims	Reaffirms	Takes note of



Sample Resolution

FORUM: ECOFIN

QUESTION OF: Procedures to Deal with Residual COVID-19 Financial Effect

MAIN SUBMITTER: Iraq

CO-SUBMITTERS: Egypt, Lebanon

SIGNATORIES: India, Ukraine, Singapore, Greece, South Africa, France

Notes with concern the drastic negative effects that the COVID-19 pandemic had on the global economy, including underdeveloped, developing and developed nations,

Confirms that around 10% of global GDP was lost in efforts of combatting the Coronavirus pandemic,

Reaffirms the efforts of various UN bodies in the global financial aid to combat COVID-19,

Expresses hope that the negative impacts of COVID-19 on the global economy would be reduced and lessened,

Urges all countries to actively contribute in the development of financial recovery solutions, abiding to the UN policy in terms of collaboration and partnership,

1. Reignite demand by reprioritizing investment in markets, responding to changes in consumer reference to increase consumption, and focusing on domestic tourism through means including but not limited to:
 - a. Rejuvenating supply by expanding air access and mobility, focusing on attraction development and ready south africa for re-opening destination that attract tourists (training, local product engagement, visitor experience);
 - b. Enabling capability, cooperating with neighboring destinations towards a regional value proposition while prioritizing a seamless visitor experience and catalyzing domestic tourism demand through the phases of economic re-opening with informative and inspirational messaging that encourages safe tourism;

2. Designates certain services to developed countries from developing countries in exchange for:
 - a. Supply of natural resources from developing countries to developed countries (e.g. oil, gold, minerals, and freshwater);
 - b. Increased workforce and workers from foreign countries;

3. Promotes cooperation between local and international governments and regions to lessen fragmented responses and resource competition;
 - a. Increasing interest rates
 - b. Working with humanitarian aid organizations to help calm crises caused by COVID and remainder after effects of wars, etc. through;
 - i. Setting up fundraisers and donation boxes;

Terminology

Definition of Key terms:

The Chair: the one conducting the debate (following MUN rules and procedures) and maintaining order while remaining totally impartial.

- **The House:** all the members of the forum excluding the chair.
- **The Motion:** the proposal for debate, which will eventually be voted upon.
- **A Point of Information (POI):** a question directed either to the speaker who has the floor or to the chair by a delegate who has been duly recognized by the chair.
- **A Point of Order:** a question directed to the chair by a delegate who feels that a mistake has been made in the order of debate or who requires clarification of the rules of procedure.
- **A Point of Personal Privilege:** a question directed to the chair by a delegate who refers to the comfort and well-being of the house (e.g.: audibility, temperature in the house).
- **To have the floor:** to have been given the right to speak in debate before the House
- **To yield the floor:** to give up one's right to the floor either finally or temporarily for a point of information to be asked

A) Parliamentary behavior by delegates

1. Speakers need to address each other in the **Third Person** at all times. Always “honorable speaker” or “fellow delegates”, never “You” or “I”.
2. Delegates must avoid the use of insulting or abusive language.
3. Delegates should address the chair and the House before presenting their speech.
4. There are no fact checks in the DASMUN procedure.
5. There are no rights to reply.

Example: “Honourable Chair, fellow delegates...”

B) Phrases to be used by delegates of the House

- “Mr./Madam Chairman...”
- “The delegate of ... requests the floor” or “wishes the floor”
- “The delegate of ... would like to raise a point of information/ point of order”
- “The delegate of ... wishes to speak in favor of/against this motion/resolution/amendment because...”

*Delegates can present for and against speeches regarding amendments.

- “Is the chair /the speaker (not) aware that...”
 - “Does the speaker (not) agree with me that...”
 - “The speaker stated in his/her speech... Does he/she (not) realize that...”
 - “The delegate of ... moves to amend the resolution by striking/inserting/adding the words...”
- “The delegate of ... urges the House to give its support by voting for/against this motion/resolution/ amendment”
 - “The delegate yields the floor back to the chair”
 - “Motion to move into an unmoderated caucus for *x* minutes...”
 - “Motion to extend moderated caucus...”
 - According to the DASMUN procedure, motions to divide the house will NOT be entertained.

*Motions must have seconds or objections (objections must be justified)

C) Points of information (POI):

- There are no POI’s when giving for and against speeches for the resolution as a whole.
- No follow ups are allowed for POI’s.
- No POI’s will be given for Policy statements.

Security Council Terminology

Term	Definition
P5	The five members of the Security Council who never rotate their seat (China, France, Russia, The United Kingdom and the United States).
Veto	When a P5 nation votes against a resolution or motion draft. If P5 votes against it, it automatically fails.
Procedural Voting	Voting on something that does not impact the world outside.
Substantive Voting	When the vote has real-world consequences. Such as the vote on the resolution proposal.
Binding	A UN resolution that nations are legally obligated to adhere with. Only decisions voted by the Security Council are legally binding, but resolutions



	made by other UN organizations are not. Voting on something that does not impact the world outside.
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Security council procedure

1) Roll Call

This is the first order to every committee in the United Nations conducted by the chairs. The President or Chair will call out the nations in alphabetical order and the delegation must respond with “present” or “present and voting”. Be aware that a delegation who has responded with “present and voting” may not abstain during a vote.

If a delegation does not respond when their nation is called out or is late to the debate, it is understood that the nation will not be present to vote. The delegation must send a note to the chairing staff in order to regain voting rights.

2) Introduction

Once the committee is in order, the chairs will conduct an introductory session to which they will introduce themselves, explain the procedures of the Security Council, the veto powers of the Permanent 5 nations, and will entertain questions from delegates.

3) Opening Speeches

The Security Council only consists of 15 delegates, all of which are required to have written an opening speech before the start of the conference which will be presented at the podium.

4) Resolution and Lobbying

Delegates are required to draft a resolution before the start of the conference as it ensures the quality of the whole debate. Keep in mind, the Security Council does not debate by resolution, but by clause. During the time of lobbying and merging, delegates may combine their clauses with those written by other delegates as well as look for co-submitters and signatories, depending on the requirements of the conference. The chairs may assist and interact with the delegates. At this stage, clauses, and resolutions that are alike or have similar meaning should be removed if they are merged.

The Debate

- Clause by clause will be called out by the chairs, and the main submitter is required to give a speech to which the time duration varies depending on the conference.

- Afterward, the delegate may choose to yield the floor to points of information or to another delegate present in the committee. This is in order only if it is approved by the chair and in most conferences, can only be done once. For example:
 - Delegate of Germany: (comes to closing remarks)
 - President: Thank you, delegate. Is the delegate open to any points of information?
 - Delegate of Germany: The delegate would like to yield the floor to the delegate of the Netherlands.
 - President: Does the delegate of the Netherlands accept the yield?
 - Delegate of Netherlands: The delegate accepts the yield.
 - President: That will be in order. Delegate of Netherlands, you have the floor

- It is the delegate at the podium who may choose whether or not to entertain points of information. However, it is highly recommended to entertain as many as possible as other delegations will have questions on the submitted clause or amendment. The delegate may choose to answer “any at all” points of information or a specific amount. The chair may adjust the amount due to time constraints if needed.
- The chair will then move into time in favor of the clause. The chair will set debate time or the number of speakers who can speak in favor of the clause.
- The chair will then move into time against the clause. The chair will set debate time or the number of speakers who can speak against the clause.
- The chair will then move into open debate. During this time, delegates are free to speak either in favor or against and may submit amendments to the clause. Amendments to the 2nd degree are in order depending on the chairing staff.
- After amendments are entertained along with speakers for and against, voting procedures require a simple majority for the amendment to pass.
- After the clause is thoroughly debated, the house moves into voting procedures. Since the Security Council is legally binding, votes require a supermajority, meaning there must be at least 9 votes in favor and no more than 6 votes against/abstaining in order for the clause to pass, though the numbers vary depending on the conference.
- In some conferences, the Permanent 5 (P5) nations have the right to call for a meeting amongst them before voting procedures of a clause. This could be because a nation is thinking of vetoing and would like to hear the opinions of the other four nations, or a nation might want to persuade the other four nations to vote in favor, etc. Keep in mind that this ability to call for a meeting should not be abused and should only be called on if absolutely necessary, otherwise it may ruin the flow of the debate. How can a P5 nation call on a meeting?



→ President: Time for open debate has elapsed. We will now be moving onto voting procedures for this clause –

→ Delegate of France: The delegate of France would like to call for a moderated caucus amongst the other Permanent 5 members. President: That will be in order. The Permanent 5 6 members may proceed with their meeting with a time set of

- VETO POWER: P5 nations should be aware that a veto happens very rarely and is highly encouraged not to be done if it is not necessary. These nations must not abuse the right to veto as that is considered a very serious threat.
- How does a P5 nation veto? When in voting procedures and a P5 nation raises their placard against a clause, the President asks the nation if it is a veto. If the nation agrees, the delegates have the right to an explanation that the nation will have to give, and the veto will be in order. If the nation objects when the President asks, then it will only be considered as a regular vote against. Delegates must keep in mind that a single veto means the whole clause cannot pass.

ICJ Terminology

Term	Definition
A.Procedural:	
Oath	A declaration made according to law, before a competent tribunal or officer, to tell the truth; or it is the act of one who, when lawfully required to tell the truth, takes God to witness that what he says is true.
Burden of proof	The standard that the applicant party attempting to prove a fact in court must meet. It just means that the party must persuade the judges that its position is correct, and a simple majority of 51% must be convinced. The party that meets this standard typically “wins” the case. For example, the applicant party must meet the burden of proof in order to prove that the opposing party is guilty.
Hard evidence	Evidence, or proof of a certain matter, that comes from a reliable source. Hard evidence may take the form of written articles, documents, books, internet sources, etc.
Prayer	The request for a specific judgment; what the party hopes to gain from a case.

Resting the case	A party is resting the case when it indicates that it has submitted all evidence available at that stage, and submits the case finally or before rebuttal evidence is presented.
Testimony	A form of evidence obtained from a witness who makes an honest statement of factual significance. The testimony may be oral or written.
Verdict	The final resolution, or conclusion of the ICJ. The verdict contains the final judgments decided by the Court based on the evidence provided and the witnesses' testimonies, with respect to the judgements requested by the parties during the final deliberation.
Weight of the evidence	The level of importance judges will give during the writing of the verdict, based on the credibility of the source and its importance to the case.
B. Questions:	
Clarification	As the name indicates, a clarification is a type of question. During the witness examination, the judge may or may not ask two questions after the direct examination, and two after the cross-examination. The questions are asked of the witnesses and must pertain to what the witnesses said.
Hearsay	a question asking a witness about an out-of-court statement act allegedly made by someone other than the witness in question.
Leading questions	A question that hints at or attempts to bring a specific answer. Typically, yes/no questions count as leading questions. Leading questions can only be objected to during a direct examination.

ICJ Roles

A. President/Vice President

Purpose: The purpose of a president is to moderate the flow of the trial. He/she decides the designated time for each part of the trial.

Role: The president acts as the chair of the committee. He/ she is in charge of writing a court guide as well as moderating the flow of events and implementing the Rules of Procedure. His role also consists of maintaining decorum in the courtroom. He/she is allowed to ask questions to witnesses during the witness examination.

B. Judges

Purpose: Judges decide the final verdict of the case; thus, their purpose is to lead the debate toward a productive presentation. Each judge has one vote in the voting procedure. Prior to the

trial, each judge must read the documents submitted by both parties and be sworn in by declaring: “I, Judge [name, surname]”, solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and exercise my powers as a Judge honorably, faithfully, impartially, and conscientiously.” The judge must remain objective and unbiased; failure to meet this criterion will result in the judge receiving an official warning from the President of the Court.

Role: Unlike other MUN committees, students representing judges in the International Court of Justice do not represent a country, delegation, or organization, making their responsibilities as judges very different. As judges, they are responsible for evaluating the case at hand and asking important questions that will help them reach a final verdict on the case. Unlike advocates, who have to obey their countries’ policies, judges obey international laws, whatever the outcome. As there are no juries in ICJ, the judges need to take on the roles of both juries and judges and are responsible for familiarizing themselves with legal documents related to the case at hand as well as the basic facts regarding the case. While judges are not required to do extensive investigations on the case, they are required to independently read about the context of the case. During the trial, the judges ask the advocates and witnesses questions at designated times. 4 Q Questions can be asked after both the applicant and respondent parties present their opening statements, after the parties present their evidence, after the direct and cross-examination of witnesses, as well as after the rebuttal and surrebuttal.

C. Advocates

Purpose and Role: The role of advocates in an ICJ courtroom can’t be emphasized enough. They’re the major players in the case and have the biggest impact on the judges. Skilled and well-prepared advocates can persuade the judges of their stance in the case and convince them to agree on their Prayer of Relief. Advocates in ICJ either present the Applicant Party or the Respondent Party.

Applicant Party

The prosecution or applicant party is the party that submits a complaint to the ICJ in order to institute a case between itself and another nation. It is the job of the applicant party to bring forth evidence and witnesses showing that their case is legally strong. They have precedence in aspects such as opening statements and the presentation of evidence. They need to convey their statements in order to convince the panel that the opposing party is infringing on their jurisdiction. Similar to other Model UN committees, the applicant party represents a state, nation, or delegation.

Respondent Party



The defense, or respondent party, is the party who responds to the accusations set forth by the applicant party to the court. This party agrees to be part of the dispute submitted by the applicant party, which is heard by the Court. This has set the respondent party to be subject to responding to any accusations brought by the applicant party. Just like the applicant party, the respondent party represents a state, nation, or delegation.

D. Witnesses

Purpose: In the ICJ, witnesses serve a vital and major role in the hearing of a court case. Most, but not all, MUN conferences host witnesses in their ICJ committees and procedures. And yet, witnesses are crucial to each and every single ICJ court case, even when they aren't actually present. For this reason, it helps to learn about them and their roles, regardless of whether or not they will be included in a conference. As an ICJ participant, assignment to the role of a witness means you will be representing a specific individual involved in the trial that is to be discussed. You must completely take over the 5 roles of the individual, and every statement you make on trial must apply to him/her. It is imperative that you, as a witness, know exactly what you are doing.

Role: Before a trial, advocates choose the witnesses they would wish to present as part of their evidence. The witness is presented with a fully detailed report of the individual/party. Even though their preparation is almost entirely in the hands of the prosecuting and defending advocates because they provide good evidence to both sides, witnesses should still fulfill their respective roles. An expert and skilled witness studies the aforementioned report given to them extensively and conducts supplementary research about the party and the trial and court case in general as well. Witnesses can be asked about absolutely anything regarding the individual they represent. An additional fact to keep in mind is that a witness's weight in the case is determined by their relevance and the level of involvement they have in the case. Therefore, if you represent an individual who is directly involved in the case, or if you are the direct individual the case is discussing, your words will hold more value to the judges and jury than other witnesses' statements. A witness is under oath during the trial. Anything he or she may say can be used against them later on in any court of law. A witness is aware of the consequences of perjury. Before the witness takes the stand, he or she must recite a sworn testimony initiated by a member of the panel, notably the registrar: "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?"



ICJ procedure

A. Opening Statements

Opening statements are brief speeches presented by both applicants and advocates at the commencement of a court case. They are extremely important, as they set the stage for the rest of the trial and serve as a **first impression**. Designed to reaffirm the position of the applicant/advocate parties and to reiterate the convictions stated in their respective memoranda, opening statements also provide the judges and jury with a brief and strong introduction of the case **from the point of view of the party**. It typically includes:

- a. a general introduction of the issue from the point of view of the party
- b. the judgment requested (what the party wishes for the judges to rule on this case)
- c. some vague snapshots of the pieces of evidence that will be presented further on in the case (optional).

The time allotted for opening statements is pre-determined by the president but is usually between 5-10 minutes. The applicant's opening statement will commence first, followed by the respondent/advocate party's opening statement. Opening statements are prepared before the commencement of a court case.

B. Presentation of Evidence

The presentation of evidence is the most important and decisive part of the ICJ forum, as it is the time when each party presents all of their arguments and points through the evidence they submit. Pieces of evidence are essentially the sources from where you derive your points and can take on any form: a page from a book, a website, UN sources, etc. After the opening statements, before the case commences, the advocates present their evidence to the rest of the committee. Judges will evaluate the evidence based on the following criteria: **Reliability, Accuracy, Bias, Date of Publication, and Relevance**. If judges determine that the evidence does not meet the criteria or determine that it's not substantial enough to support the party's arguments, they will eliminate the evidence, and you will not be able to use the evidence to support your arguments.

When presenting the evidence to the court, the advocates will have to provide the following information: **Name/Title of Document, Source, Date of Publication, and Author**. For all



documents, advocates are expected to highlight the important information relevant to the topic, particularly in large documents that are several pages long. However, if the document is several pages long (tens/hundreds of pages), then the advocates will have to only provide the parts deemed relevant to the argument. The 12 pieces of evidence must also be printed from the original page and not copied onto a Word document, as evidence whose original format has been edited or tampered with will not be accepted by the ICJ.

C. Witness Examination

Witness Examination is the time when the witnesses of the case are questioned by both parties as well as judges, this examination is important as it provides human “evidence” in the case. There are two types of witnesses: regular witness and Expert witness. An Expert Witness is a witness who is a qualified expert in the field their testimony is addressing. The only difference between them and regular witnesses is that they might be asked questions about their field by the advocate parties as well as judges. Witness examination consists of four parts: witness testimony, direct examination, cross-examination, and judge examination. We will examine each of these parts in detail. Usually, the first witness called is one from the applicant party, followed by a witness from the respondent party, and so on.

Witness Testimony

After the witness has administered an oath, they will have around 1-3 minutes to talk about their role in the case and mention key evidence/facts to which they would like the house to pay attention. During testimony, they should try to be as accurate as possible as the opposing counsel may draw attention to the faults in witnesses’ testimony during cross-examination.

Direct Examination

Direct examination is the examination of a witness by the party who has introduced the witness. Usually, the introducing party prepares the witness for the set of questions that will be asked before the hearing. During direct examination, leading questions cannot be asked unless the witness is an expert witness. The party should use this time to establish the credibility of the witness as well as help add evidence and facts to their side.

Cross-Examination

Following Direct Examination, the witness is examined by the other party in the case. This is called cross-examination. During this time, the advocates examining the witness aim to make the witness uncredible and create a dispute over the witness’ statements. It is advised that the advocates use the tool of leading questions to the fullest in this part of the

examination. The advocates however can only question the witness on his statements during testimony and direct examination. The advocates cannot ask the witness about events outside of that context, breaking this rule can result in an objection from an advocate of the witness' party and/or the judge overruling the question.

Judge Examination

After Direct/Cross Examination, the judges are free to ask any questions to the witnesses in order to gather information relevant to the case. Unlike advocates, judges are not limited to the testimony of the witness or their statements during examinations and can ask the witnesses any questions that are relevant to determine the credibility of the witness. Judges are allowed to ask leading questions during this period.

D. Closing Statements

Closing statements are brief speeches presented by both applicants and advocates before the adjourning of a court case. They are perhaps the most important speeches to be said during the entire trial. A closing statement should be a powerful, persuasive summary of the case from the point of view of the party. Each party should take this allotted time as a crucial opportunity to sum up its arguments, reiterate its convictions, and solidify its evidence with firm points. A closing statement typically includes: a. The issue, how it should be answered, what the overall decision should be, b. the argument/conviction of the party on the matter, c. a "prayer", i.e. what the party hopes the judgment is, d. the amount to be paid as damages or to help close the case (OPTIONAL). It is crucial to remember that the Court has the ultimate authority when it comes to the actual judgment on the above matters.

The time allotted for closing statements is pre-determined by the president but is usually between 20-30 minutes. It is advised that only one applicant/advocate make the closing statement, to emphasize strength and avoid confusion. The applicants will speak first, followed by the respondent. If the applicant party does not use all of its allotted time, it is possible for the respondent or advocate party to use this time in addition to their own allotted time. Advocates have an additional advantage in that they have the opportunity to include rebuttals for the applicant's closing statement in their closing statement.

E. Deliberation

After both parties conclude their opening speeches, the advocates are required to exit the room, and the court enters a closed session which we call deliberation, with only the judges and president present. It is also mandatory for deliberation to reoccur after both parties finish their



evidence presentation and witness examinations. During these deliberations, the judges discuss the aspect of the case that has been presented just before the deliberation in court: either the opening statements of both parties, the evidence provided by both parties, or both parties' witness examinations. Thus, there are 3 deliberation sessions with each session taking around 5-10 minutes. The President and Vice President may call on an extra deliberation session in order to ensure that all the Judges are on the right track and have a clear view of the trial. This will only occur if there is a presentation overload of info or if there is too much confusion within the session. (Deliberation can only start after the currently discussed section is over) Once the final deliberation is over, each judge announces their decision on the case as a whole. Note that the solution with the majority is deemed as the Majority Opinion, and the judges with separate views form Dissenting Opinions based on their views.

F. Reading of Verdict

The reading of the verdict is arguably the most anticipated part of the ICJ. While delegates in other committees know about the passing of a resolution while the committee is in session, the final verdict is not known until the closing ceremony of the conference. During the closing ceremony, the verdict will be delivered by one of the members of the Presidency (President/Vice president).