



TXMUN
**Texas Model
United Nations
Assembly**



TXMUN PROGRAM
“MUN”UAL

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What is MUN?

Model United Nations (Model UN or MUN) is a youth club dedicated to **simulating** the authentic United Nations and its respective bodies. Through debate, collaboration, and research, Model UN allows delegates to gain insight into current and past global issues in order to develop critical and innovative solutions based on real-world environments. The three key goals are **collaboration, depth, and detail**.

Goals

Collaboration: Ultimately in Model UN, delegates should strive for collaboration and a peaceful synthesis of ideas, rather than tearing others apart.

Depth: When participating in a Model UN conference, delegates should walk into the committee with extensive research on the topic and their country to allow for a deep and insightful debate. It is key for delegates to conduct research and analyze not only the background behind issues but also how each action the MUN ratifies impacts the greater geopolitical environment.

Detail: Considering that the issues the MUN will tackle are challenges the UN grapples to solve, attention to detail is extremely important. Attention to detail not only includes the framework and goals of a resolution but also the correct and effective employment of operative and pre-ambulatory clauses. Overall, through Model UN students can become better debaters, more aware global citizens, and most importantly key **team** players.

Preparation

Preparation is the key to success at MUN conferences. The greater a delegate's preparation, the better their mastery of critical information. When a delegate is as prepared as possible, they have the confidence to be as successful as possible. When preparing, delegates should keep in mind a few key aspects of the debate:

- MUN is what it models – the actual United Nations – and therefore, delegates must remember to act in alignment with their country's position on committee topics.
- Every nation has a voice regardless of geopolitical size, and every nation's policies and values ought to be respected. Whether a delegate represents Afghanistan, Australia, Uzbekistan, or the United States, all members of the United Nations and their opinions are created equal.
- Cooperation and collaboration are critical to excelling at a MUN conference. There are a number of different skill sets necessary for a fruitful experience at MUN conferences, and cooperation between different delegates with different personalities is crucial to success.

ITEMS TO PREPARE FOR CONFERENCE

The Position Paper

The Position Paper is a one-to-two-page document that is essentially a summary of your knowledge of the topic and the position your country plans to take when it enters the committee. This is a report that helps you gain a **holistic insight** into your topic, committee, and country, and its requirements can vary between conferences. For TXMUN, the position paper is NOT currently required, but it is highly recommended for conference success.

Those who submit position papers before conferences will be eligible for a Position Paper Award. There are 4 components to an effective Position Paper:

- **Background Information**
- **Past International Actions**
- **Country Policy**
- **Possible Solutions**

Submission Guidelines: Information on submitting position papers should be available four to six weeks before the date of the conference. All delegates are expected to use the template provided (linked here) **by making a copy of it**, sharing edit access upon submission to the conference, and following the document naming requirements. **All position papers should be titled per the following format:** [Committee]/[Country], [First and Last Name]. Example: UNICEF/Ethiopia, First Name Last Name. Delegates should be sure to include the appropriate information in the header (their name, country/committee, topic, and the conference the paper is for) and submit their papers on time. **Academic honesty and integrity are minimum standards for students participating in this program** - all students should author their own papers, conduct their own research, and be sure the work they submit is their own.

Research Binder

The Research Binder helps organize your research, committee notes, and speeches during debate, and is highly recommended for conferences.

GSL/Opening Speech

The Opening Speech is one of the few speeches for MUN that can be written beforehand and introduces your country's stance on the topic, past solutions, and viable solutions for the problem at hand. The opening speech is crucial for making a good first impression on the chair and the delegates around you.

IN COMMITTEE

Strategy

Figure out the social and political dynamic of your committee and how you can contribute or adhere to it. TXMUN's unique awards and ranking system allow students to compete based on their skills, ability to collaborate with others, and the quality of their participation in the committee simulation. To get Best Delegate, your **personality**, **collaboration**, and **character** matter! Find your allies and utilize their influence within a committee. Think about how you are going to present yourself and your ideas, as well as when you're going to do it.

Speaking

Whenever you are speaking in front of your committee, avoid the use of pronouns like "I", "me", "he", or "she". Instead, refer to yourself and other delegates by their country in the third person narrative. Be concise! Most speeches last for 90 seconds or shorter, so be sure that you are only describing the information you find most important, and that you leave time for questions if need be. Speak in a way that inspires others to follow in your pursuit, rather than just hear.

Participation

Participation is important especially since there will be many delegates trying to get their own opinion and voice across. Remember, you are participating as a delegate representing a member of the international community, and our program emphasizes the value of everyone's input. Don't be afraid to voice your stances! Connecting with others can build unexpected friendships and support for yourself or your ideas. Make sure you try to take initiative as this is what will truly inspire others and make a difference. Everyone participating and observing can respect a leader who is inclusive towards everyone – be that leader!

Collaboration

The person always writing the resolution, sponsoring, or making amendments isn't necessarily the person who will win Best Delegate. Remember to collaborate with others rather than fight over signatures and writing. Communication is key to pushing forward progress, so make sure you're actively trying to communicate. If you obstinately push forward a point, it will not get you anywhere. Instead, try to negotiate and compromise with others – that's what truly makes the world work.

Sample Order of Debate (Not for Security Council Use)

1. Roll Call
2. Setting the Agenda
3. Open Speakers' List
4. Motion for Moderated Caucuses
5. Motion for un-moderated Caucuses
 - a. Regional caucus
6. Motion for second moderated Caucus/ Re-Opens the Speaker's List
7. Motion for un-moderated Caucus
 - a. Resolution writing
8. Resolution debate
 - a. Open Speaker's List
9. Motion to end debate/end committee

Roll-Call Procedure

The chair will call the roll at the beginning of each session in order to take attendance. Delegates shall reply EITHER **“present”** or **“present and voting”** when the name of their delegation or country is called. Those who reply **“present and voting”** **must vote with an affirmative or negative on any substantive matter**. Members may not be announced by proxy. The chair will have the time of the last roll call posted. Delegations who were not considered present at the time of the last roll call and wish to be accorded full voting rights must submit a note, **in writing**, to the chair requesting that they are considered present.

Procedural Voting

A procedural vote **applies to the actions of the committee rather than to policy** or resolutions pertaining to policy. **Each delegation shall have one vote**. No member may cast a vote by proxy or on behalf of another member country. Procedural motions shall pass with the affirmative votes of **a simple majority of the members of the committee**.

Setting the Agenda

The body shall examine a topic set by the Secretariat. In the case that two topics have been provided, delegates will be expected to research both, and the body will set the order of the topics at the beginning of the first committee session. This will be done via a **procedural vote**. The first topic will be the one which received the most votes, and the second topic will follow the first topic. In case of a tie, the chair shall cast the deciding vote. For agenda-setting, delegates may use only the topic(s) provided for the committee. Once debate on a topic has concluded, a new topic will be chosen using the same selection process.

The Speaker's List

A Speakers' List is established for each topic and expires when a topic is tabled, the meeting is adjourned, or when a resolution has passed. At the beginning of the debate and at every new topic, a speaker's list is automatically opened by the chair. The chair will invite delegates to join the Speakers' List by asking those who wish to be added to raise their placards. Delegates can be added to the Speaker's List at any time by sending a written request to the chair via a note.

Closing the Speakers' List

When the Speakers' List is exhausted, the debate is automatically closed on the Topic Area. A delegate may move to close the Speakers' List at any time motions are accepted. If there is opposition, it is debatable (one speaker for and one against the motion) and passes with the affirmative votes of a majority of the members. If the motion passes, there can be no more additions to the Speakers' List. A delegate may move to reopen a closed Speakers' List whenever the floor is open. If there is opposition, it is debatable (one speaker for and against the motion) and passes with the affirmative votes of a majority of the members.

Speeches and Debate

As the chair leads the committee in accordance with the rules of procedure, no delegate may address the body without the permission of the chair. The chair shall call upon speakers in accordance with the Speakers' List; when called, speakers must deliver speeches while seated or standing next to the delegation's assigned position or from a point designated by the chair. Speakers will be deemed out of order by the chair or dais in the following conditions: 1) the delegate's remarks are frivolous, dilatory, or not germane to the set Agenda Topic under discussion; 2) the delegation's allotted time has expired; or, 3) the speaker's remarks are directed to an individual or nation rather than the current topic.

Limit or Extend Speaking Time

Whenever the floor is open, a delegate may move to further limit or extend the amount of time each delegation may speak while on the Speakers' List. This time limit remains in effect for the remainder of the conference, unless it is changed in accordance with this Rule. If there is opposition, it is debatable, to the extent of one speaker for and against the motion and passes with the affirmative votes of a majority of the members.

Moderated and Unmoderated Caucuses

A delegate may make a motion for a moderated or unmoderated caucus whenever the floor is open. **This motion is not debatable and passes with the affirmative votes of a majority** of the members.

A motion to begin a **moderated caucus** requires **a time limit, the purpose of the moderated caucus, and a speaking time**. If the motion passes, the delegate who made the motion will have the option to speak first or last and the chair will grant speaking rights to successive delegates wishing to speak until the allotted time has elapsed. The chair may revoke this right should a delegate repeatedly speak off-topic.

A motion to begin an **unmoderated caucus** only requires **a time limit**. If the motion passes, the current rules of the committee are suspended, and delegates are permitted to move about the room freely and talk with one another. **This time is generally used for writing working papers and debating freely with other delegates.**

The chair will call the body back to order at the appointed time. The body may not reconvene from a caucus early unless all delegations are present and there is unanimous consent. The motion to extend the time for the ongoing caucus may be heard at the chair's discretion. **Unmoderated caucus time will be capped at 2 hours for all conferences.** This should be enforced by the chair.

Yields/Motions

A delegation on the Speakers' List, after having been recognized to speak, may yield the remainder of their allotted time in one of the following ways:

To the Chair	When the delegate may conclude his or her speech by yielding to the chair.
To the Delegation	A delegate may yield unused time to another delegate or delegation. The intention to yield to another delegation may be declared at any time during the delegate's speech. Time may not be yielded to more than one delegate, and yielded time may not be yielded again, except to the chair.
To Questions	A delegate may yield to questions after the delegate's speech. The chair shall recognize delegates to ask questions, and those recognized to ask a question shall be limited to only one question unless previously specified. Only one member of the speaking delegation may answer a question, but that member may change from question to question. A delegate shall only be assessed for time that is spent answering a question. A delegate that has yielded time to questions yields to questions from all delegates recognized by the chair. A delegation may still yield to the chair at any time. Time yielded to questions may be extended, but may not be yielded again, except to the chair.

Presenting Points

A delegate may interrupt with a Point whenever the floor is open. A delegate may only interrupt a speaker with a Point of Order or Personal Privilege, only when the Point directly concerns the speech being interrupted. A delegate raising a Point may not speak on the substance of the matter at hand but may be granted time to make a short statement concerning the Point. If the chair feels that Points are being used to disrupt or delay business, the chair may rule that they must be submitted in writing before being recognized. This decision is not subject to appeal.

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry	This is used when a delegate has a question about parliamentary procedure or the current procedural status of the committee.
Point of Order	This is used when a delegate believes the chair has made a mistake and not followed proper parliamentary procedure. The chair will then immediately rule on the Point of Order.
Point of Information/Clarification	This is used for asking about information relating to the topic at hand (and not about parliamentary procedure).
Point of Personal Privilege	This is used when there is a discomfort in the room that impairs the ability of a delegate to participate in debate. The chair shall make every reasonable effort to rectify the situation.

Right of Reply

A delegate offended in a personal or national matter by a comment of another delegate may invoke the Right of Reply. Delegates may request a related Reply by making a Point of Personal Privilege immediately following the offending speech. A delegate may **not** interrupt a speaker with a Point of Personal Privilege to request a Right of Reply. **The chair's decision to grant the Right of Reply is discretionary, not debatable, and not subject to appeal.** Once granted, the Right of Reply may be limited in length by the chair. The only yield in order will be a yield to the chair. **A Right of Reply may not be made to a Right of Reply.**

Precedence and Presenting Motions

The chair or dais may accord itself precedence for the purpose of clarifying rules or explaining any business before the body. Parliamentary points that may interrupt the speaker are always immediately considered by the chair once they are recognized.

Motions shall have the following precedence:

- *Privileged Motions*
 - Motion to recess
 - Motion to adjourn
- *Subsidiary Motions*
 - Motion to Limit or Extend Speaking Time
 - Motion to Close the Speakers' List
 - Motion to Table Debate or Take From Table
 - Motion to Adjourn Debate
- *Main Motions*
 - Motion to Introduce (a Resolution or Amendment)
 - Motion to Set the Agenda
 - Motion to Caucus (Moderated or Unmoderated)
 - Motion to Move into Voting Procedures
 - Motion to Divide the House

On Presenting Motions:

When not speaking, **a delegate may make a motion when the floor is open between speeches, but may not interrupt a speaker.** The creator of a motion may withdraw it at any time before a vote has been taken on the motion. Consideration of the motion is immediately ended unless another member immediately assumes sponsorship of the motion.

PRIVILEGED MOTIONS

Motion to Recess	This motion is used to suspend debate at the end of each committee session, usually following a request from the chair for a motion to Recess.
Motion to Adjourn	This motion is used to end the last committee session, usually following a request from the chair for a motion to adjourn. This motion ends the committee's work during the conference.

SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS

Motion to open or close the Speakers' List	After a delegate moves to open a new Speakers' List, the chair will call on delegates who want to be added to the list. This is used at the beginning of the conference when a Speakers' List has to be opened to set the agenda; it is also used to create a new Speakers' List after the agenda has been set.
Motion to Table Debate	This motion is used if a delegate wishes to immediately end debate on a topic and move to the next item on the agenda; there will be two speakers for and two speakers against this motion. The motion can be used at any time.
Motion to Adjourn Debate	The body may adjourn debate on the current topic area, closing that topic for the remainder of the conference. Upon adjournment, all resolutions on the floor are withdrawn from consideration. If there is opposition, it is debatable to the extent of one speaker for and against the motion and passes with the affirmative votes of a majority of the members.

MAIN MOTIONS

Motion to Set the Agenda	Motion used to set the order in which the topics will be debated; there will be two speakers for and two speakers against the motion. The motion is used after there has been sufficient debate upon which of the topics on the agenda is preferred by the body and will be entertained at the discretion of the chair.
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<p>Motion to Caucus(Moderated andUn-moderated)</p>	<p>Moderated Caucus: A motion for a moderated caucus allows all committee members to share their opinions and suggestions about the resolution. These are quicker discussions without yielding or questions. Recommended speaking time is 30 seconds to 1 minute, and should last 5 to 20 minutes. Afterward, the committee goes back to the Speakers' List. Un-moderated Caucus: A motion for an un-moderated caucus is in order at any time during debate or after a previous caucus. It is used for casual discussions, like delegates talking or working on resolutions together. Delegates must specify the length of the caucus (suggested to last 5 to 15 minutes). There are two kinds: one for regional discussions and one for resolution writing. Use "Motion for an un-moderated regional caucus" to start.</p>
<p>Motion for Right of Reply</p>	<p>If one committee member personally attacks another delegate, the targeted delegate can respond. However, if the attack is on a delegate's idea, they can't respond. For example, "Country A is stupid..." gets a response, but "Country B's satellite idea is idiotic..." doesn't. The targeted delegate should ask for a response right after the offending speech.</p>
<p>Motion to Close Debate and Go into Voting Procedure</p>	<p>Motion is used if a delegate wants to end debate on a topic and move into voting procedure; there will be two speakers against this motion. This motion can be used at any time (but it will not be taken seriously unless an ample amount of debate on the issue has occurred).</p>
<p>Motion to Divide the House</p>	<p>Motion is used if a delegate wishes to divide out a portion (certain clauses) of a resolution; each portion of the resolution will then be voted on separately. This requires two speakers for and two speakers against the motion to divide. This motion is used during voting procedure. A delegate would use this motion if he/she agrees with the majority of a resolution but cannot or will not vote for it because of a certain clause.</p>

RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Overview

UN committees formally express their decisions and rationales through resolutions. Resolutions are written in committee to address committee topics. The resolutions should be the result of verbal debate in the committee; thus, resolutions should be jointly written by delegates during the committee with input from other delegates. **Note that resolutions that were written in full or in part outside of the committee may NOT be submitted.**

Format

Each resolution must have a total number of signatories that add up to **at least one-third of the whole committee**. Sponsors are delegates who actively participated in writing the resolution. Signatories are delegates who support debating the resolution. This is not an endorsement as one could act as a signatory for the purpose of debating against the resolution. **Each resolution may have a maximum of 4 sponsors.**

All resolutions follow a very similar format consisting of a header, pre-ambulatory clauses, and operative clauses. The header consists of the committee name, list of sponsors, list of signatories, and topic name. The pre-ambulatory clauses consist of the reasons why the committee is addressing the topic and the background of the topic. The operative clauses consist of actions the committee recommends be taken by countries, NGOs, the UN, and other international organizations.

The whole resolution should read like a sentence, using commas and semicolons where applicable. Each pre-ambulatory clause starts with a pre-ambulatory phrase (e.g., "Affirming", or "Keeping in mind") and ends in a comma. Each operative clause starts with an underlined present tense verb (operative phrase e.g., "Calls upon", "Condemns") and ends with a semicolon. There should be a period at the end of the last operative clause.

Rules on Resolutions

1. Multiple resolutions may be on the floor at any time and are **called "working papers" until accepted by the chair as a draft resolution.**
2. To become a resolution, **one-third of the body's members, rounded up, are required to be sponsors and/or signatories in order for a working paper to be introduced.** The chair should provide the exact numbers (based on committee membership) to delegates during committee.

3. Once a working paper has had the appropriate number of sponsors registered with the chair, the sponsor may email the working paper to the chair.
4. When the chairs review it, they may make formatting changes or suggestions for the sponsors to consider. When the chair accepts the working paper, it becomes a draft resolution and will be considered on the floor for debate.
5. Only **seven minutes** will be allotted for reading and explaining each resolution during its introduction and presentation to the committee.

Amending Resolutions

1. **Delegates must make a motion to propose an amendment.** If ruled germane, the delegate must state the location of the amendment on the resolution, what is being changed, and the change itself. If dilatory, the body shall continue without regard to the proposed amendment.
2. Amendments that have the approval of the sponsor and all the co-sponsors are considered **friendly amendments** and **automatically become a part of the underlying resolution when introduced by the sponsors.**
3. An **unfriendly amendment is voted on during voting procedures prior to voting on the underlying resolution.** Unfriendly amendments to unfriendly amendments are **out of order.**
4. The chair may rule an amendment which has the effect of negating the main policies or actions of the underlying resolution or which bears no resemblance to the underlying resolution out of order.

Voting Procedure

1. To enter voting procedure, **the committee must pass a motion to close debate.** At this time all draft resolutions accepted by the chair will be read, debated, and voted on. During Voting Procedures, **there shall be no talking or passing of notes.**
2. **During this time, only 3 points or motions can be raised:** 1) point of inquiry, 2) adopt by roll call vote, or 3) adopt by acclamation. During adoption by acclamation, the chair will ask, “Is there any opposition?” three times. If there are no objections, the resolution passes.
3. During Voting Procedures, only conference staff may leave or enter the room.
4. Any delegate or observer who disrupts Voting Procedure shall be ruled out of order.

5. The body shall first consider each of the unfriendly amendments in the order they were introduced. The question of adopting an amendment shall be considered substantive. Once all unfriendly amendments have been considered, the body shall consider the resolution.

6. The chair will invite some or all of each draft resolution's sponsors to **present their draft resolution and take questions for seven minutes**. The chair will then ask for **two speakers for and two against** who will alternate speaking on the draft resolution.

7. Voting procedures shall be concluded once the chair has announced the final vote on the last resolution.

Resolution/Amendment Voting Procedures

1. Voting shall normally be conducted by a show of placards.

2. In the Security Council, all substantive votes shall pass with the affirmative votes of a majority of the members and the absence of a veto (a 'no' vote by one of the five permanent members: China, France, Russia, U.K., and U.S.) **In all other bodies, all substantive votes shall pass with the affirmative vote of a majority of the members.**

3. Once a resolution has passed, the Topic Agenda is adjourned. If the resolution fails, debate continues until the Speakers' List has been exhausted.

Tabling and Taking from the Table

1. A delegate may move to table a motion, resolution, or agenda topic whenever the floor is open. If there is opposition, it is debatable to the extent of one speaker for and against the motion and passes with the affirmative votes of a majority of the members. No action or debate will be permitted on a motion, resolution, or Agenda Topic that has been tabled until it has been taken from the table.

2. Whenever the floor is open, a delegate may move to resume debate on a motion, resolution, or topic that had previously been tabled by moving to take it from the table. If there is opposition, it is debatable to the extent of one speaker for and against the motion and passes with the affirmative votes of two-thirds (2/3) of the members, rounded up.

Adjournment of Debate

The body may Adjourn Debate on the current topic area, closing that topic for the remainder of the conference.

Upon adjournment, all resolutions on the floor are withdrawn from consideration. The purpose of adjourning debate is to signify that debate on the current topic is concluded. If there is opposition, it is debatable to the extent of one speaker for and against the motion and passes with the affirmative votes of a majority of the members.

Recess and Adjournment

1. A Recess is a set period of time during which no official business is conducted. Once a period of recess has been set, it may not be shortened, except by conference officials. When the meeting has reconvened, the business of the meeting shall continue at the point where the recess occurred. This motion is normally made at the end of a session.
2. Adjournment signifies that all business of the body contained in the Agenda has been completed. This motion is normally made only at the last regular meeting of the conference.
3. The motions to Adjourn and to Recess are **not debatable and pass with the affirmative votes of the majority of the members**. The chair may rule either of these motions dilatory, and this decision may not be appealed.

APPENDIX

GLOSSARY:

Abstention	A vote during the voting process; to abstain is to be considered as not voting in favor or against. An abstention may indirectly contribute to the passage of a resolution because only a majority of votes in favor are required. Note: Member States may abstain only if they are “Present” during formal roll call.
Adjournment of Debate	Ends debate on a topic, and on all draft resolutions for that topic, without voting. A motion for reconsideration can reopen debate on this topic.
Agenda	The order in which the topics will be discussed.
Amendment	A change made to an operative clause of a draft resolution. They can add, delete, or change an operative clause in a draft resolution. A Friendly Amendment is written and approved by all the sponsors to a draft resolution and is added to the text. An Unfriendly Amendment is not approved by all the sponsors and must be voted upon before it can be added to the text.
Caucus	A break in formal debate where delegates can further discuss topics.
Chair	A chair runs the committee, ensures that it functions smoothly, follows parliamentary procedure, and makes sufficient progress. If any delegate is unsure of the correct parliamentary procedure or has any other concern, they should bring the issue to the chair. All chairs have extensive experience in Model UN.

Country Status Report	A paper for showcasing your country. It covers aspects like the economy, government, culture, religion, family, population, education, geography, resources, allies, history, UN relations, and voting record.
Crisis	A crisis is a special problem that comes before the Security Council that must be solved during the MUN conference.
Decorum	The basic standard of appropriate and proper behavior by delegates during a conference. A director may call for decorum if they feel that individuals are not being respectful of each other or the chair or dais.
Delegate	Individual acting as a representative of a Member State in the conference. You are a delegate.
Dilatory	A motion is dilatory if it may obstruct or delay the will of the committee.
Draft Resolution	A working paper that has been accepted by the committee, and will then be discussed and voted on by the body.
Formal Debate	The typical form of debate where delegates are allowed to speak for a certain amount of time in an order that is dependent on the Speakers' List.
General Assembly (GA)	The main deliberative organ of the United Nations, comprised of all Member States of the UN.
ICJ	International Court of Justice
Majority Vote	A threshold at which many motions pass. A motion passes with a simple majority vote if more people vote yes than vote no.
Member State	A country that has ratified the United Nations Charter and whose application has been ratified by the General Assembly and the Security Council; currently there are 193 Member States.
Merging	Combining two or more draft resolutions to make a bigger or new draft resolution.
Moderated Caucus	A type of caucus in which delegates are allowed to speak for a shorter period of time typically on one specific topic.

Motion	A request to do something during formal debate; motions are voted on by the body. Procedural motions: all Member States and observers of the committee vote. Substantive motions: only Member States vote.
Motion Out of Order	An incorrect (non-TXMUN) motion or a motion used at the incorrect time during the Conference.
NGO (Non-Governmental Organization)	Non-Governmental Organizations, also known as civil society organizations or CSOs, are nonprofit groups independent from governments.
Observer State	Non-Member State or organization granted status to participate in deliberations. Observers may not sponsor resolutions or vote on substantive matters, but they may act as a signatory and must vote on procedural matters.
Organ	The different parts of the UN (GA, ECOSOC, ICJ, HRC)
Parli-Pro	Short for Parliamentary Procedure. It is the format of debate that MUN will follow in all organs of the UN.
Placard	Cardstock with a country's name on it. Used to indicate that the delegate wishes to speak and is also used in voting.
Position Paper	Summary of a country's position on a topic; prepared in advance of the conference, and evaluated for Position Paper awards.
Preambulatory Clause	Sets up the historical context and relevant international law for a resolution, which justifies future action.
Procedural Vote	Votes on procedural matters (not substantive) before the body, usually procedural motions; all delegates present must vote.
Resolution	Document that has been passed by an organ of the UN that seeks to address a problem or issue.

Roll Call	The first order of business at the beginning of a committee session. When a delegate's country is called they may respond with "present" or "present and voting". "Present and voting" means the delegate gives up their ability to abstain when voting on resolutions.
Secretary-General	The Secretary General is the head of the General Assembly (GA). This individual works to support all conference-goers and is always available to hear any concerns, ensures that the General Assembly runs in a timely manner and that it remains formal, and will try their best to get through all the resolutions during the GA.
Security Council	This committee is comprised of ten elected and five permanent Member States, the latter of which are commonly known as "the Big Five" or the Permanent 5 (P5): China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Each year, five Member States are elected to serve on the council for two-year terms. This council handles security and safety issues and is the only organ of the UN whose resolutions are legally binding.
Signatory	A country that wishes for a draft resolution to be presented for debate. This does not mean that they support it.
Sponsor	An author of a draft resolution; can be more than one. A friendly amendment can only be created if all sponsors agree.
Unmoderated Caucus	An informal type of caucus where delegates are allowed to leave their seats and speak freely. This time can be used to discuss differing viewpoints and is frequently used to sort countries into blocs, write working papers, and engage in larger debates about the issues before the committee.
Working Paper	Document where delegates' ideas of how to address the issue or topic are organized; precursor to a draft resolution.

Appendix A: Security Council Response to September 11

Below is a famous real resolution passed by the UN Security Council in response to the September 11 attacks. Model UN resolutions should be formatted like this, though usually much longer.

Resolution 1368 (2001)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4370th meeting, on 12 September 2001

The Security Council,

Reaffirming the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

Determined to combat by all means threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

Recognizing the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with the Charter,

1. Unequivocally condemns in the strongest terms the horrifying terrorist attacks which took place on 11 September 2001 in New York, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania and regards such acts, like any act of international terrorism, as a threat to international peace and security;
2. Expresses its deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims and their families and to the people and Government of the United States of America;
3. Calls on all States to work together urgently to bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these terrorist attacks and stresses that those responsible for aiding, supporting or harbouring the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these acts will be held accountable;
4. Calls also on the international community to redouble their efforts to prevent and suppress terrorist acts including by increased cooperation and full implementation of the relevant international anti-terrorist conventions and Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 1269 (1999) of 19 October 1999;
5. Expresses its readiness to take all necessary steps to respond to the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, and to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations;
6. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

Appendix B: Preambulatory and Operative Phrases

Sample Preambulatory Phrases

Affirming	Deeply disturbed	Guided by	Noting with approval
Alarmed by	Deeply regretting	Having adopted	Observing
Approving	Desiring	Having considered	Reaffirming
Aware of	Emphasizing	Having devoted attention	Realizing
Bearing in mind	Expecting	Having examined	Recalling
Believing	Expressing its appreciation	Having heard	Recognizing
Confident	Expressing its satisfaction	Having received	Referring
Contemplating	Fulfilling	Having studied	Seeking
Convinced	Fully alarmed	Keeping in mind	Taking into account
Declaring	Fully aware	Noting with regret	Taking into consideration
Deeply concerned	Fully believing	Noting with deep concern	Taking note
Deeply conscious	Further deploring	Noting with satisfaction	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply convinced	Further recalling	Noting further	Welcoming

Operative Clauses

- States the solutions that the sponsors of the resolution proposed to resolve the issues.
- Should address the issues specifically mentioned in the pre-ambulatory clauses above it.
- Operative clauses are punctuated by a semicolon, with the exception of your last operative clause which should end with a period.

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

Appendix C: Points and Motions

Motions to	Explanation	Requirement to pass
...set the speaker's time	Adjust the time limit on speeches in any direction.	Simple majority
...close the speakers list.	Means that no one else will be added to the list. Once list is exhausted moved directly into voting bloc.	Simple majority
...set the Agenda	Decide the order of topics for debate	Simple majority
... Moderated Caucus/ Unmoderated Caucus	Include type, time limit of caucus, and purpose of caucus. Mod used to debate on topics. Unmod to write resolutions	Simple majority
... introduce a Resolution	Read resolution to committee for vote/debate.	Simple majority
... introduce an Amendment	Allows a delegate to propose a change to a Resolution.	Simple majority
...move into Voting Procedure	Allows the committee to begin voting on the resolution or amendment	Simple majority
...suspend the meeting for ___ minutes	Suspends meeting for ___ minutes, delegates by default enter unmoderated caucus	Simple majority
...suspend the meeting for ___ minutes for the purpose of	Suspends meeting for ___ minutes only to ___	Simple majority
....adjourn the meeting until ___	Ends session until designated time.	Simple majority

...close the debate	Debate ends and the body moves into voting bloc	2/3rds Majority
Point of Order	Speaker asks a question regarding procedure.	No vote
Point of Information	Speaker asks a question regarding conference details or some other needed information.	No vote
Point of Personal Privilege	Speaker makes a request regarding an unrelated personal issue, such as room temperature.	No vote

Appendix D: Sample Position Paper

This is a sample position paper written by a delegate of Portugal for the UNSC committee for the topics of Cyberwarfare and Bioterrorism.

Committee: UNSC

Country: Portugal

School Name: ****

Delegate Name: ****

MITMUNC 2011 Position Paper

The people of Portugal would like to open by saying that our position on terrorism is absolutely clear cut and not negotiable. As we said to general assembly in December 2007, "Terrorism is criminal and unjustifiable in any circumstances." Here, we believe that most parties concur. In the past Portugal has not been majorly attacked biologically or through cyber warfare, yet there is significant precedent to believe such an attack could happen, and Portugal has been substantially worried in the past about the fact that echoes of such attacks, especially biological attacks, reverberate over large areas, not necessarily contained by the original target. In the past we have signed numerous drastic anti-nuclear proliferation resolutions, and anti-weaponization resolutions. We see cyber and biological threats as having the potential to be just as harmful and unpredictable as other weapons of mass destruction, and in some cases having more long term affects. We therefore assert that action just as drastic must be taken.

Cyber Warfare

Cyber warfare, Portugal believes, is the intentional destruction of a nation's electronic data or programs by any organization existing outside that nation, be it a small private group or a government, on a scale large enough to incite conventional violence. Due to the inherent destructive nature of cyber warfare in its ability to not only cause physical harm to people and resources but also to damage industry and permanently destroy essential information, we cannot condone this warfare on any account. At this point in human history, it is safe to say that a world wide web is very new and complicated thing. Emerging for public use really only in the mid 1990s, this is a gift and a weapon. We know not what the true dangers are of open cyber networks, and believe that to keep regulations loose would be a huge mistake. The Security Council was founded to keep nations secure, and to continue to leave doors open to hackers is simply not that secure way of the future. Today, the era of wiki leaks is upon us, and offers much insight into the potential threats of the nets. We have, of yet, remained fairly untouched by the rampant spreading of classified information, and yet we realized that in some cases the only thing between our confidential military documents is a few lines of code. We do not want the world to read these documents on account of embarrassing information, but rather on account of positions, plans, and data that could put thousands of lives are at risk. But how can we close a dangerous system? Portugal proposes that governments work not off the internet, but off an entirely separate network. This way, people not directly involved in government already will have no access to government computers. There must be the

passwords and defense mechanisms now in place as well, on top of these new networks. Not only does this make governments more secure from threats from their own people or from other NGOs, but also safe from other governments.

Bioterrorism

Portugal's stance on bioterrorism is similar to its stance on cyber warfare in that we believe that it is our duty, as a United Nations, to do everything in our power to prevent any form or stage of bioterrorism from taking place, as it is a topic with little studied consequences and essentially unknown yet widespread potential. The scariest piece of it is the development of new organisms never before tested by Mother Nature. We don't profess to be able to properly control all these organisms, many of which could be created by organizations with no valuable resources put into the research of containment, control, and prevention. If we don't know how to use most of these to begin with, than we can certainly not hope to be able to use them responsibly, at least for the time being. The nature of the problem is about spreading and chain reactions, and country borders serve as no limit to that. Portugal believes that action on the part of the U.N. is essential, because if this problem is left to sovereign governments, and one decides against taking firm preventive action, disease and infection from an attack on or by that state could spread to every country on the continent, in the world even. The preventative actions that Portugal recommends include, but are not limited to, resolving to not produce or develop bioweapons of any kind in a given country by any person(s) for any purpose, developing instead modern technology that non-invasively tests for infections, and creating a program by which a someone accused of bioterrorism, found guilty by the victim state, may be punished under the harshest law of those countries that were directly involved or majorly impacted.

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