

THE BOOK OF DOLLAR

A Student's Survival Guide to MUN

Introduction

Model United Nations (MUN) is an extra-curricular activity in which students act as delegates of the United Nations and simulate UN committees. High school and college students around the world participate in MUN conferences, which develop a student's researching, public speaking, debating, and writing skills, as well as critical thinking, teamwork, leadership abilities, and a better understanding of international events.

It's your job to best represent and further the interests of the country that you represent. You must remember to dissociate your personal views and portray only the views of your designated country. You will need to compromise and persuade other delegates via speeches, resolutions, and caucuses.

Enclosed in the Book of Dollar, you will find vital information that will help guide and enrich your MUN experience, including explanations of committee structure to key terms used in caucus.

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Research and Preparation

Proper research and preparation is essential to effectively participate in any Model United Nations conference. The delegate needs to become familiar with the United Nations itself, the country being represented, the committee topics, and the country's position on said topics.

The United Nations

The delegate must be familiar with the history and organization of the UN and of his or her assigned committee. Most importantly, the delegate should be familiar with the past actions of the UN on the committee topics as well as the present status of those topics in the UN system.

Specific Country Research

Country research is best done in two steps:

- 1) **Background research** into the country's political, economic, and cultural systems and institutions
- 2) **Assimilation** of this information so that the delegate can effectively act as an actual representation of the country

Background research should encompass the economic and political systems of the country, the history and culture of the society, the demographics of the society, the geography of the country, the international and regional associations the country belongs to, and the present influences the domestic situation has on the formulation of international policy.

In general terms, it is crucial to know:

- 1) The **geography** of the nation; size, description, location, resources
- 2) Statistics of the nation (**demographics**); population, density and growth rate, literacy rate
- 3) **Culture**; majority and minority components, religions and their influences
- 4) **Economy**; type of economy, gross national product (GNP), strength of the economy, debt owed, exports, trading partners
- 5) **Government**; type of government, leaders, political parties and opposing political factions, allies and enemies, role in international politics
- 6) **History** of the nation; general history and reasons behind present-day foreign policies

Topic Research

It is important to recognize the various factors and processes that influence decision-making within the country, and applying this knowledge to the topics at hand.

The delegate must first note the existing policy problem areas in order to formulate the country's policy.

If no national policy exists on the topic, the delegate should look at the various groups in the country with stands on the issues.

If there is limited information, rely on the ideology of the government, power, and the role of the individual upheld by the country in order to make an educated and defensible guess about the country's policy on that particular issue.

The following is a guide also meant to assist you in the different types of sources and information that might aid you in topic/country/country policy research:

Conference

1. Awards Policy. If you're trying to win an award, then you should know what the conference values and what your chair is looking for.

2. Rules of Procedure. Rules tell you how committee is going operate, and what you can and cannot do. They differ for every conference — not just what the rules are, but how they are applied.

Committee

3. Your committee's actual UN website. The goal of a committee is to pass a resolution, which depends on what a committee can and cannot do. You want to understand your committee's mandate (why it was created), powers (what it can do), organization (how it fits into the UN and the larger international community), and membership (who's in it).

4. UN Charter. If you are in a GA, ECOSOC, or Security Council committee, then the source of your committee's power is the UN Charter. If you are in a regional organization like NATO or OAS, then you are still affected by the Charter, particularly Chapter VII on international security and Chapter VIII on regional arrangements.

Country

5. CIA Factbook. Every MUNers go-to source for essential information on their country. You want to know your country's location, neighbors, population size, type of government, type of economy, trade partners, and the international organizations it's a part of. Not knowing this information as your country's representative can be potentially embarrassing.

6. Wikipedia. Information on your country's history and its recent controversies. There should be articles on your topic, too. Wikipedia might not be edited as rigorously as a print publication, but you are not writing a paper – you're attending a Model UN conference. Just take note of any potential issues that are listed at the topic of Wikipedia pages, e.g. "This article needs additional citations for verification."

Topics

7. Background Guide. Either you, another delegate, or your chair will inevitably refer to something written in the committee's background guide during a conference. Also, what your chair has written about is what he'll focus on in committee. Use that knowledge to craft speeches and operative clauses that grab the chair's attention.

8. News Articles. You want to know the latest news on your topics, as well as your own country. The simplest way to do this is to run searches on Yahoo! News and Google News, and print out the headlines. BBC Online also features easy-to-use timelines and profiles on your issues and country. Large publications like the New York Times and Wall Street Journal also have in-depth coverage on their websites.

9. Resolutions, Treaties, and Conventions. Before you can do anything on the topic, you need to know what's already been done. You can find past resolutions through the [UN documentation center](#), although it can be difficult to navigate. Once you've found the latest resolution, the perambulatory clauses should direct you to other resolutions. Also, the most relevant piece of international law on your topic might not be a past resolution, but instead a treaty or convention.

Policies

10. Speeches and Press Releases. These are the ways that policy-makers set policy. Be sure to use speeches and press releases from people in the executive branch of your country's current government (President, Prime Minister, Foreign Minister / Secretary of State, Ambassadors). Legislators and judges may say something different, but as a representative of your country, you work for the Head of State / Head of Government. Start with the website for your country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Department of State.

11. Voting Record. Actions speak louder than words. If your country's leaders have not clearly articulated a policy on your topic, then you can infer it from how your country has voted on past resolutions, treaties, and conventions (or whether they were even present). Note that recent speeches may indicate a change in policy away from however your country has voted in the past, especially if your government has changed administrations. Nonetheless, you still want to know how your country's past actions on the topic, for your own knowledge, and in case anyone asks.

Solutions

12. Op-Ed and Blog Articles. These writers are coming from a personal or journalistic perspective, but they can still give you ideas that you can propose in committee and use in resolutions. You can start with large publications like the New York Times or Wall Street Journal, but don't forget about blogs, too. Just be aware of their biases, and make sure their ideas conform to your country's policies.

13. Think Tanks. Organizations like [RAND](#) are paid to come up with solutions to the topics you discuss in Model UN. Think tank publications have more depth and evidence than an opinion article, but they're typically not as dense as an academic paper. They might also be pushing a certain agenda, so be aware of that. Otherwise, they are a great starting point for proposing potential solutions.

14. Academic Papers. These are tough reads and the information is way too dense for Model UN. But they are probably the most insightful and rigorously edited sources you will find online. You can use Google Scholar to find papers. Don't spent time trying to process a paper the way you would do for a class. Read the abstract and skim the paper for ideas that you can use in committee.

15. Your Ideas. Include in your binder your position papers, working papers, notes, thoughts, as well as blank lined paper – Don't rely on a conference to bring enough paper for draft resolutions and note passing. You can do all the research you want, and you can be really fast and efficient at it, but none of that matters until you boil down what you've read into ideas that you can explain in your own words.

Quick Reference

16. Organization. Include a table of contents page, page numbers, spacers, tabs & headers for each section so that all your research can be referenced quickly at the conference.

Committee Breakdown

Chronology of an Average Committee

1. Open Debate
2. Ordering Topics
3. Taking a speaker's list (for speeches)
4. Opening of General Debate
5. Speeches
 - i. Typically 1-2 minutes in length
6. Caucusing intermixed within speeches
7. Closing of General Debate; Opening of Substantive Debate
8. Speeches and Comments
 - i. Typically 2 comments @ 30 seconds
9. Closing of Substantive Debate; Presenting Resolutions
 - i. Resolutions created during caucuses
10. Entry into Voting Bloc
11. Voting on Resolutions and Amendments

When it comes time to vote, remember your country's interests. On substantive proposals (resolutions and amendments) you can vote for, vote against, or abstain.

General Debate: Delegates present background information on their country's stance on the topic. This is the first section of debate of the conference - General Debate is used to review the topic background and give country policies, but DO NOT go into your country solutions (that's for Substantive Debate).

Substantive Debate: Delegates may now offer solutions to issues discussed, in addition with country policy. Background information is usually considered redundant at this point, unless new information is presented.

Caucus: 5-15 minute periods where delegates may interact with other representatives to discuss country policies and possible resolutions. The goal is to form a resolution group with countries offering similar solutions and then offer a formal resolution to be presented to the committee.

Position Papers

Position Paper Format

Committee Name:

Country Name:

Committee Topic:

Title of Position Paper

A. Brief Background of the Topic

- Historical background and causes of the problem
- What nations are directly involved with or affected by the issue?
- What effect does this problem have on the international community?

B. United Nations Involvement

- How is the UN involved? How did it originally become involved and what actions has the UN taken on this issue (ie. Resolutions, conferences, aid contributed, etc.)
- Organs, NGOs, and other UN affiliated groups which are involved in the situation

C. Country Policy and Involvement

- Your nation's involvement (if any) with the topic
- Your nation's position and policy on the topic and opinion on the UN's actions regarding the topic
- Your nation's past actions regarding the topic (ie. Voting records, resolutions sponsored, conferences attended)
- Your nation's proposals or plans in dealing with the issue.

What makes a good position paper?

A good position paper should:

- *Clearly outline the country's policies on the topics and what factors contribute to these policies*
- *Refer to domestic and international documents and correctly cite the sources*
- *Provide suggestions of solutions that address the problem areas*

Graders look for:

- *Original and critical thinking*
- *True understanding of the dynamics of your nation*
- *Functional and applied knowledge of the topics*

Position Paper Grading Rubric

Country: _____
Topic: _____

Name: _____

Grade: _____/100

Format /15

1. Three pages double-spaced minimum; four pages maximum /3
2. 1 inch margins /3
3. 12 pt standard Times New Roman font /3
4. Name of country and committee in top left hand corner /3
5. Sections properly labeled /3

Background /25

1. Who is directly involved? /5
2. What are the historical causes of the topic /5
3. Your country's policies with respect to the issue /5
4. Your country's justification for these policies /5
 - a. statistical data
 - b. quotes from country leaders
5. Why is this a problem to the world? /5

UN Involvement /25

1. How/Why did the United Nations get involved? /5
2. How has your nation involved itself with the UN on the issue /5
3. Organizations, committees, agencies, or NGOs of the United Nations that are involved /5
4. United Nations action /10
 - a. resolutions passed
 - b. committees set-up
 - c. organizations established
 - d. peacekeeping forces

Country Policy /35

1. Country involvement with the topic /5
2. Country positions on the topic
3. What your country believes regarding what the UN has done so far /5
4. What actions has your country taken to solve the problem (or problems similar to it) in the past?
 - a. Why? /5
 - b. Was it/has it been successful? /5
5. Possible solutions that your country plans to propose, or has proposed in the past.
 - c. Originality in solutions /5
 - d. Possible repercussions or effects of the solution /5
6. What does your country hope to gain from the proposed resolution /5
7. How the positions of other countries affect your country's position /5

Please check your topic synopses, as some committees have specific instructions

Sample Position Paper

Committee Name: IAEA

Country Name: Togo

Committee Topic: Iranian Nuclear Crisis

I. BACKGROUND

The IAEA is concerned about the increasing movement of Iran towards nuclear weapon creation. In November 2011, the IAEA released report of Iran's nuclear program, with new evidence insinuating that Iran is secretly working to obtain a nuclear weapon. Iran has repeatedly denied claims as false. The reports include experiments on detonation and testing of nuclear explosions and other activities that could only be used for nuclear weapons. Iran has used computer modeling on to tests the behaviors of nuclear devices. In several months, Iran could very much be able to create a uranium bomb. The UN has encouraged Iran to cease its nuclear actions, because the technology used to enrich uranium can be used to make nuclear explosions. Iran has hidden an enrichment program for 18 years. Iran refuses to stop enrichment and other nuclear activities. Even though sanctions have been imposed, some companies still provide nuclear technology to Iran.

II. UN INVOLVEMENT

In November 2011, The UN has ordered Iran to stop the enrichment of uranium, and has created sanctions under Article 41, which allows it to decide “what measures not involving the use of armed force are to be employed to give effect to its decisions” (“Iran Nuclear Issue”). The UN has also asked Iran to implement an arrangement allowing more extensive and thorough inspections as a way of keeping confidence in Iran's peacefulness. There is a nuclear non-proliferation treaty that says that a signatory state has the right to enrich uranium as long as it is only used as fuel for nuclear power. However, the aforementioned signatories must be inspected by the IAEA, but Iran will not let the UN inspect under the strictest rules. The committees involved: the subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia, and the subcommittee on Terrorism, Non-Proliferation and

Trade. On 21 and 22 February 2012, the IAEA is appointed to inspect Iran.

III. COUNTRY POLICY/POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Togo believes that the country of Iran should be able to continue with their activities, without the intervention of the nations. Togo does believe that nuclear weaponry is absolutely unnecessary and quite menacing and aggressive, and that Iran should put a halt to uranium enrichment. No resolutions have been passed by Togo against the nuclear weaponry situation in Iran. The uranium enrichment program is very warlike, and Togo advocates peace between all nations. The Iranian nuclear program has not affected our nation, but Togo feels that if the program should go on as it is now, that the world may very well be affected. Togo does not use or develop nuclear weapons, and it will not change our stance. To solve this issue, the UN must placate Iran. Perhaps the high surveillance causes Iran to feel trapped and suspicious. If the program is as dangerous as it seems, the Iranians will attack the Western Nations for their sanctions and spying. If the nations would just leave Iran be and to be more transparent about the stance and beliefs on this issue, we may be able to stop this problem from becoming full-blown. Togo believes that sanctions do not solve any problems.

Sources

Make sure you cite sources for in APA Format. There are a variety of online resources that can help you with this. Here are a couple:

- 1) APA Cheat Sheet: <http://www.library.kent.edu/files/APACheatSheet.pdf>
- 2) Purdue Online Writing Lab:
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

Drafting a Resolution

Resolution Format

1. The resolution should be single spaced in a standard 12-point font.
2. Title the resolution with the name of the committee, left aligned. After the title, skip a space.
3. List the sponsors, signatories, and the topic, all left aligned. Follow these with a space.
 - a. Sponsors of a draft resolution are the principal authors of the document and agree with its substance. Although it is possible to have only one sponsor, this rarely occurs at the UN, since countries must work together to create widely agreeable language in order for the draft resolution to pass. Sponsors control a draft resolution and only the sponsors can approve immediate changes.
 - b. Signatories are countries that may or may not agree with the substance of the draft resolution but still wish to see it debated so that they can propose amendments. A certain percentage of the committee must be either sponsors or signatories to a draft resolution in order for it to be accepted.
4. Write "To the [name of your committee]," followed by a space.
5. Write your preambulatory phrases, each separated by a space.
 - a. Each clause begins with a present participle (called a preambulatory phrase) and ends with a comma. Underline each preambulatory phrase.
 - b. The preamble of a draft resolution states the reasons for which the committee is addressing the topic and highlights past international action on the issue.
6. Write the operative clauses, each separated by a space.
 - a. Number each clause and underline the operative phrase. End each operative with a semicolon.
 - b. Operative clauses are policies that the resolution is designed to create. Use them to explain what the committee will do to address the issue.
7. End your resolution with a period.

Sample Resolution

Sponsors: United States, Austria and Italy

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

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

The General Assembly.

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

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

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

Stressing *[underlined words here are operative clauses]* the fact that the United Nations faces significant financial obstacles and is in need of reform, particularly in the humanitarian realm,

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

[End resolutions with bracket]

Common Motions

Point of Parliamentary Procedure- This point is raised to clarify or correct parliamentary procedure (i.e. rules on yielding time to a speaker)

Point of Personal Privilege- This point is raised if a delegate has a request pertaining to the logistics of the committee, but not the committee itself. For example, a delegate may raise a point of personal privilege to change the air conditioning in a committee room or to turn on a set of lights.

Point of Inquiry- This point is raised when a delegate wishes to ask the secretariat (the chair or vice chair) a question. The delegate may also send a note up to the chair with a point of inquiry.

General Motion- This motion is raised to change the speaking time, number of comments, length of comments, call for caucus, etc.

Suspension of Debate- This motion temporarily suspends debate. Most often, it is used to transition into breaks or lunch.

Adjournment of Debate- Raising this motion ends the debate on the current topic. It is used in committee to move from substantive debate into voting bloc. This motion requires a 2/3rds majority and requires one speaker for and one speaker against.

Closure of Debate- Raising this motion ends debate on the current topic and is used to go from substantive debate to voting bloc.

Glossary

Amendment- This substantive proposal is a written document that specifically defines changes to a resolution. For example, if a resolution contains a clause your country does not like, you may write an amendment that changes that clause.

Caucus- These can be called by motioning for a “suspension of debate” and explaining the caucus’s purpose (i.e. to form resolution groups). Rather than a rigid schedule of speeches and comments, a caucus embodies free and open discussion among groups of delegates. There are two types of caucus, moderated and un-moderated.

Moderated Caucus- Caucus directed by the chair. Moderated Caucus speakers can be in the order of the speaker’s list or selected by the chair. If you are making a motion for moderated caucus, specify how you would like the speaking order to be decided and the purpose by which you are requesting a moderated caucus.

Un-moderated Caucus- Caucus in which delegates can freely roam around the committee and discuss the topic in a conversational setting. Purpose of the un-moderated Caucus must be specified here as well.

Note- These can be written to the chair to ask a question or add your country’s name to the speaker’s list. These can also be written to other delegates to communicate information. In crisis committees, notes serve a special purpose (i.e. communicates, directives)

Resolutions- These are formal declarations for action by the United Nations or by the organization in which it is voted upon. The resolution is a one-sentence directive voted upon during voting bloc. Resolutions are written during Substantive Debate.

Sponsor- A sponsor is usually a country that has contributed in the writing of a substantive proposal. As such, it is listed at the top of each substantive proposal it has contributed to.

Substantive Proposals- These include resolutions and amendments.

Voting Bloc- The period when voting occurs. No talking or note-passing is permitted. Amendments are voted upon before the resolution they amend so that the resolution will be voted upon as amended if one or more amendments pass. Substantive proposals require more votes for than against to pass.

For more information:

<http://www.unausa.org/global-classrooms-model-un/how-to-participate/getting-started/model-un-glossary>

Terms to Know

1. **Non-governmental organizations (NGOs):** Organizations that are not conventional for-profit businesses and not a part of a government. Organized on a local, national or international level to address issues in support of the public good. Below is a list of commonly used NGOs.
 - a. **Doctors Without Borders:** Provides medical assistance to those in need. Operates in over 70 countries.
 - b. **International Committee of the Red Cross:** Works worldwide to provide humanitarian help for people affected by conflict and armed violence and to promote the laws that protect victims of war.
 - c. **Amnesty International:** Campaigns to end human rights abuses. Operates in over 150 countries.
 - d. **Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE):** Humanitarian organization that fights global poverty. Focuses on women.
 - e. **Human Rights Watch (HRW):** Dedicated to protecting and defending human rights. Focuses international attention on human rights violations
 - f. **Save the Children:** Leading independent organization creating lasting change in the lives of children in need.
2. Financial organizations
 - a. **International Monetary Fund (IMF):** An organization of 188 countries working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world.
 - b. **World Bank:** Provides low-interest loans, interest-free credits, and grants to developing countries. Goals are to end extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity.
 - i. **International Finance Corporation (IFC):** Member of the World Bank Group. Focused on the private sector. Helps developing countries achieve sustainable growth by financing investment and mobilizing capital.
 - ii. **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD):** Lends to governments of middle-income and creditworthy low-income countries.

- iii. **International Development Association (IDA):** Provides interest-free loans and grants to governments of the poorest countries.

3. Country Groups

- a. **European Union (EU):** 28 member states. Economic and political partnership between European states. United under a single currency, promotes human rights, and laws are passed through democratically agreed upon treaties.
- b. **Organization of American States (OAS):** 35 member states. Established to achieve an order of peace and justice, promote solidarity, strengthen collaboration, and to defend sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence.
- c. **Arab League:** 22 member states. Regional organization of Arab countries in and around North Africa, the Horn of Africa, and Southwest Asia. Goal is to draw closer the relations between member States and co-ordinate collaboration between them, safeguard their independence and sovereignty, and consider in a general way the affairs and interests of the Arab countries.
- d. **African Union (AU):** 54 member states. Covers all of Africa except Morocco.
- e. **Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD):** 32 member states. Covers most of East and south Asia and some of the Middle East.
- f. **Commonwealth of Nations:** 53 member states. Mostly territories or former territories of the British Empire.

4. Business related groups

- a. **World Trade Organization (WTO):** Global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations. Drafts WTO agreements, negotiated and signed by the bulk of the world's trading nations and ratified in their parliaments. Helps producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business.
- b. **International Chamber of Commerce (ICC):** The largest, most representative business organization in the world. Hundreds of thousands of member companies in over 130 countries.
- c. **Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC):** Group of 12 oil-exporting developing nations. Coordinates and unifies the petroleum policies of its Member Countries.

5. Trade unions

- a. **International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC):** World's largest trade union federation.
- b. **World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU):** The United Nations of trade unions.

- c. **International Workers of the World (IWW):** International industrial union formed in 1905.
- 6. Treaty organizations
 - a. **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO):** 28 member states. Military alliance based on the North Atlantic Treaty. Constitutes a system of collective defense whereby its member states agree to mutual defense in response to an attack by any external party. Mostly European members.
 - b. **Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO):** 6 member states. Formed in 1992. The Russian counterpart to NATO.
- 7. Summits
 - a. **Group of 8 (G8):** Annual conference for the world's largest economies by nominal GDP. No administrative structure or permanent secretariat. Discussion of a variety of topics not limited to health, law enforcement, labor, economic and social development, energy, environment, foreign affairs, justice and interior, terrorism, and trade.
 - b. **Group of 20 (G20):** Group of 20 finance ministers from the 20 largest economies. Goal to bring together systemically important industrialized and developing economies to discuss key issues in the global economy.
- 8. Media Organizations
 - a. **BBC:** British Broadcasting Corporation
 - b. **CNN:** Cable News Network
 - c. **Al-Jazeera:** Main Arab news company
 - d. **NHK:** Japan Broadcasting Corporation
 - e. **CBC:** Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
 - f. **NBC:** National Broadcasting Company
 - g. **ABC:** American Broadcasting Company
 - h. **CBS:** CBS Broadcasting
 - i. **NPR:** National Public Radio
- 9. Other Terms
 - a. Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
 - b. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT)
 - c. Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
 - d. Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC)
 - e. Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)
 - f. Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI)
 - g. Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD)
 - h. Task Force (TF)
 - i. Table of Contents (ToC)

Speeches

Speech making tips

Public speaking is one of the most important skills you will use as a Model UN delegate. You will need to convey your member state's positions, help build consensus and formulate resolutions. Usually, the length of time a delegate is allowed to speak is set by the conference organizers, somewhere between 1-2 minutes. Delegates can make a motion to increase or decrease the time allotted to each speaker.

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

How to make an Opening Speech

- Thank the presiding official by saying "Thank you Honorable Chair"
- Begin by providing a brief history on the issue as it relates to your country
- Speak about how the issue is currently affecting your country
- Provide your country's position on the issue. Include an explanation for your country's stance, such as economic or security concerns or political/religious ideology
- Explain how your country's position relates to the positions of other member states such as major powers or regional blocs
- Discuss some of the past actions taken by the UN, member states and NGOs
- Present ideas for a resolution, stressing your country's objectives for the resolution
- Talk about the role that NGOs or regional organizations have to play in addressing the issue
- Indicate to the committee members whether your country is willing to negotiate

How to make a Substantive Speech

- Start again by thanking the presiding official
- Encourage collaboration among member states by proposing ways that your country would be willing to work with other member states

- By referencing what other delegates have said, you can show support for your allies or indicate which proposals your country does not favor
- Present ideas for draft resolutions
- Explain why your country does or does not support other draft resolutions

Public Speaking Tips

Prepare: Decide how you feel most comfortable delivering your speech. You may choose to use your position paper text as your opening speech or you may write out some key points. In time, you may feel comfortable speaking without any written notes at all.

Practice: Rehearsing your speech is the best way to perfect your public speaking skills. When you listen to a speech in class, provide constructive feedback rather than criticism.

Eliminate unnecessary “fillers”: Fillers are words and phrases such as “umm”, “well”, “sort of”, and “like”. These words take away from the message you are trying to convey.

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

Project your presence: Focus on speaking with enthusiasm and energy. Make sure you are speaking loud enough to be easily heard. Gesture, as long as your motions do not distract the audience from your speech.

Be confident: Glance at your notes rather than reading them so that you can make eye contact with the other delegates. Address the delegates and the Chairs. Rather than criticizing another point of view, critique it in a constructive way. Always provide alternatives and be sure to back up your arguments.