

WESTERN MUN PRESENTS

HOW TO WRITE A RESOLUTION PAPER



WHO WRITES A RESOLUTION?

Any delegate in the committee can write a resolution. The author of a resolution is called a sponsor (MAX. 3 SPONSORS PER RESOLUTION). Most resolutions have multiple sponsors because it takes a group of countries to share good ideas and to come to a consensus. Sponsors are typically the writers of the resolution and those who contribute the ideas that are included in the resolution.

WHAT IS A RESOLUTION?

A resolution is a document that contains all the issues that the committee wants to solve and the proposed solutions to that issue. It's called a resolution because that's what the United Nations calls the documents they produce. Technically, the resolution should be called a draft resolution before it is voted upon and then called a resolution after it is successfully passed during voting.

WHEN/WHERE ARE RESOLUTIONS WRITTEN?

Resolutions are written during the conference. Specifically, resolutions are usually written during unmoderated caucus where delegates are free to roam around the committee to collaborate on ideas with each other, and sometimes students work outside in hallways as well. Resolution-writing becomes more focused during the latter sessions of committee when different country policies are clear and different ideas have been mentioned already.

WHY DO WE WRITE RESOLUTIONS?

The ultimate purpose of a committee session is to pass a resolution. All the speeches, debate, negotiation, and teamwork is supposed to lead up to a resolution which contains all the proposed solutions to the issue. The resolution(s) that the majority of the committee agrees upon will be passed during voting bloc and the sponsors will be informally commended for building consensus on good ideas. Conferences allow multiple resolutions to pass if they have time and as long as they do not contradict each other. A resolution has three main parts: the heading, the pre-ambulatory clauses, and the operative clauses.

OUTLINE!



1. HEADING

The heading contains four pieces of information: the committee name, the sponsors, the signatories, and the topic.

1. HEADING EXAMPLE

World Health Organization

Sponsors: Canada, Switzerland and Greece

Signatories: Bolivia, Guatemala, South Korea,
China, Japan, Chile

Topic: “Combating unsafe abortions in
developing countries”

2. PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES

The pre-ambulatory clauses states all the issues that the committee wants to resolve on this issue. It may state reasons why the committee is working on this issue and highlight previous international actions on the issue.

2. PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES

Pre-ambulatory clauses can include:

- Past UN resolutions, treaties, or conventions related to the topic
- Past regional, non-governmental, or national efforts in resolving this topic
 - References to the UN Charter or other international frameworks and laws
- Statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or agency
 - General background info formation or facts about the topic, its significance, and its impact.

2. PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES

Here are some examples of preambulatory phrases:

Affirming
Alarmed by
Believing
Emphasizing
Further recalling
Guided by
Contemplating
Expressing its appreciation
Having adopted
Convinced
Expressing its satisfaction
Having considered further
Noting with deep concern
Recalling
Recognizing

2. PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES EXAMPLE

Alarmed by the approximately 25 million unsafe abortions occur each year, with 4.7 - 13.2% leading to maternal death,

Believing that unwanted pregnancies are avoidable through knowledge and contraceptive use, however due to the prevalent stigma against premarital sex in developing areas, neither is promoted,

Recognizing that sexuality education of any kind is not available in many regions of the world and that adolescents' knowledge of sexual and reproductive health is not detailed, and myths are common,

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2. OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Operative clauses state the solutions that the sponsors of the resolution proposes to resolve the issues. The operative clauses should address the issues specifically mentioned in the pre-ambulatory clauses above it. Each operative clause begins with a verb (called an operative phrase) and ends with a semicolon

2. OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Here are some examples.

Calls upon
Requests
Condemns
Further invites
Supports
Encourages

2. OPERATIVE CLAUSES

EXAMPLE

1. Encourages the creation of a subcommittee in WHO for women that would focus on preventing unwanted pregnancy globally by education on family planning methods, risks of illegal abortion, and the distribution of safe sex tools and information;
2. Calls upon nations to collaborate despite their varying views on the issue of abortion, 3. Supports the adoption of a well rounded sex education that is recommended by the WHO in all member nations, that takes into account the different views of the global community;

**NOTES: FRIENDLY
AMENDMENTS**

A friendly amendment is a change to the draft resolution that all sponsors agree with. After the amendment is signed by all of the draft resolutions sponsors and approved by the committee chair, it will be automatically incorporated into the resolution.

**NOTES: UNFRIENDLY
AMENDMENTS**

An unfriendly amendment is a change that some or all of the draft resolutions sponsors do not support and must be voted upon by the committee. This also refers to delegates who did not write this resolution at all but see potential in it as long as several changes are made to it. The sponsors of the amendment will need to obtain a required number of signatories in order to introduce it. Prior to voting on the draft resolution, the committee votes on all unfriendly amendments.

THANK YOU!

