

# Resolution Paper



# Why Write Resolution



- ☐ *To Summarize the discussion of the committee*
- ☐ *To Find the necessary solution for the agenda of the committee*
- ☐ *To improve your decision making and lobbying skills*

# Draft Resolution

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- ❖ *Draft resolutions are all resolutions that have not yet been voted on.*
- ❖ *Delegates write draft resolutions alone or with other countries.*
- ❖ *There are three main parts to a draft resolution:*
  1. *the heading,*
  2. *the preamble and*
  3. *the operative section.*
- ❖ *The heading shows the committee and topic along with the resolution number. It also lists the draft resolution's sponsors and signatories .*
- ❖ *Each draft resolution is one long sentence with sections separated by commas and semicolons.*
- ❖ *The subject of the sentence is the body making the statement (e.g., the General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, or Security Council).*
- ❖ *The preamble and operative sections then describe the current situation and actions that the committee will take.*

# Introducing the D.R



*A draft resolution must always gain the support of a certain number of member states in the committee before the sponsors (the delegates who created the resolution) may submit it to the committee staff.*

*Many conferences require signatures from 20 percent of the countries present in order to submit a draft resolution.*

*A staff member will read the draft resolution to ensure that it is relevant and in proper format.*

*Only when a staff member formally accepts the document and assigns it a number can it be referred to in formal debate.*

*In some cases a delegate must make a motion to introduce the draft resolution, while in other cases the sponsors are immediately called upon to read the document.*

# Preambulatory Clauses



*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. Each clause begins with a present participle (called a preambulatory phrase) and ends with a comma.*

*Preambulatory clauses can include:*

- *References to the UN Charter;*
- *Citations of past UN resolutions or treaties on the topic under discussion;*
- *Mentions of statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or agency;*
- *Recognition of the efforts of regional or nongovernmental organizations in dealing with the issue; and*
- *General statements on the topic, its significance and its impact.*

# Sample Preambulatory Phrases

Affirming  
Alarmed by  
Approving  
Bearing in mind  
Believing  
Confident  
Contemplating  
Convinced  
Declaring  
Deeply concerned  
Deeply conscious  
Deeply convinced  
Deeply Disturbed  
Deeply Regretting  
Desiring  
Emphasizing

Expecting  
Emphasizing  
Expecting  
Expressing it's appreciation  
Fulfilling  
Fully aware  
Emphasizing  
Expecting  
Expressing it's appreciation  
Fulfilling  
Fully aware  
Further deploring  
Further recalling  
Guided by  
Having adopted  
Having considered

Having examined  
Having received  
Keeping in min  
Noting with deep concern  
Nothing with satisfaction  
Noting further  
Observing  
Reaffirming  
Realizing  
Recalling  
Recognizing  
Referring  
Seeking  
Taking into consideration  
Taking note  
Viewing with appreciation  
Welcoming

# Operative Clauses



*Operative clauses offer solutions to issues addressed earlier in a resolution through the perambulatory section. These clauses are action oriented and should include both an underlined verb at the beginning of your sentence followed by the proposed solution.*

*Each clause should follow the following principals:*

- *Clause should be numbered;*
- *Each clause should support one another and continue to build your solution;*
- *Add details to your clauses in order to have a complete solution;*
- *Operative clauses are punctuated by a semicolon, with the exception of your last operative clause which should end with a period.*

# Sample Operative Phrases



Accepts  
Affirms  
Approves  
Authorizes  
Calls  
Calls upon  
Condemns  
Confirms  
Congratulates  
Considers  
Declares accordingly  
Deplores  
Designates  
Draws the attention  
Emphasizes

Encourages  
Endorses  
Expresses its appreciation  
Expresses its hope  
Further invites  
Deplores  
Designates  
Draws the attention  
Emphasizes  
Encourages  
Endorses  
Expresses its appreciation  
Expresses its hope  
Further invites  
Further proclaims  
Further reminds

Further recommends  
Further requests  
Further resolves  
Has resolved  
Notes  
Proclaims  
Reaffirms  
Recommends  
Regrets  
Reminds  
Requests  
Solemnly affirms  
Strongly condemns  
Supports  
Takes note of  
Transmits  
Trusts

# Sponsors and Signatories



**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.

**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.

# Friendly and Unfriendly Amendments

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*Approved draft resolutions are modified through amendments. An amendment is a written statement that adds, deletes or revises an operative clause in a draft resolution. The amendment process is used to strengthen consensus on a resolution by allowing delegates to change certain sections. There are two types of 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 resolution's sponsors and approved by the committee director or president, it will be automatically incorporated into the resolution.*

*An unfriendly amendment is a change that some or all of the draft resolution's sponsors do not support and must be voted upon by the committee. The author(s) of the amendment will need to obtain a required number of signatories in order to introduce it (usually 20 percent of the committee). Prior to voting on the draft resolution, the committee votes on all unfriendly amendments.*

*Ultimately, resolutions passed by a committee represent a great deal of debate and compromise. They are the tangible results of hours if not days of Model UN debate. As a result, it is important to become familiar with the resolution process and practice drafting resolutions using the proper structure and wording.*

# Tips for Resolution Writing



- ❑ *Be sure to follow the format for resolutions provided by the conference organizers. Each conference may have a slightly different format.*
- ❑ *Create a detailed resolution. For example, if your resolution calls for a new program, think about how it will be funded and what body will manage it.*
- ❑ *Try to cite facts whenever possible.*
- ❑ *Be realistic. Do not create objectives for your resolution that cannot be met. Make sure your body can take the action suggested. For example, the General Assembly can't sanction another country – only the Security Council can do so.*
- ❑ *Try to find multiple sponsors. Your committee will be more likely to approve the resolutions if many delegates contribute ideas.*
- ❑ *Preambulatory clauses are historic justifications for action. Use them to cite past resolutions, precedents and statements about the purpose of action.*
- ❑ *Operative clauses are policies that the resolution is designed to create. Use them to explain what the committee will do to address the issue.*

# Sample Resolution

Resolution GA/3/1.1

General Assembly Third Committee

Sponsors: United States, Austria and Italy

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

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 preambulatory 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 the fact that the United Nations faces significant financial obstacles and is in need of reform, particularly in the humanitarian realm,

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]

Urges member states to comply with the goals of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs to streamline efforts of humanitarian aid;

Requests that all nations develop rapid deployment forces to better enhance the coordination of relief efforts of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies;

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;

Stresses the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

Calls upon states to respond quickly and generously to consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance; and

Requests the expansion of preventive actions and assurance of post-conflict assistance through reconstruction and development. [end resolutions with a period]