



ILMUNC XXXIV

**Guide to Writing Resolutions**

During lobbying and debate, delegations with similar suggestions will begin to come together to form working groups, and delegates will combine ideas and suggestions to create resolutions. Resolutions are suggested solutions to the global community for the topic at hand and are the end result of debate and working papers. Resolutions are written by these groups of delegates and voted on by the committee as whole.

## KEY PHRASES OF RESOLUTIONS

While healthy debate and constructive caucusing are very important to MUN, they exist simply to lead the delegates to a final product. – the resolution. Below is a list the basic terms relating to different components of resolutions:

- **Clause:** one section of a resolution, containing one argument or one action
- **Phrase:** Phrases are the first word(s) of a clause. They introduce the clause and define the nature of its recommendations. See Appendix A for a list of operative and preambulatory phrases.
- **Preambulatory Clause:** The preambulatory clauses (also called preambles) of a resolution state the reasons for addressing the topic. Preambles can reference the UN charter and past international actions. Each clause begins with a perambulatory phrase and ends with a comma.
- **Operative Clause:** Actions and recommendations made in a resolution are written in the form of operative clauses (or operatives, for short). Each operative is numbered, begins with an operative phrase, and ends with a semicolon. Operative should be organized logically with each clause containing a single idea or proposal. The resolution ends in a period after the last operative.
- **Amendment:** An amendment is a change that a delegate would like to introduce to the resolution once it has already been submitted to the chair.

## RESOLUTION FORMAT

Basically, a resolution should be written as one continuous sentence. Resolutions have a very specific and strict format that allows the reader to easily follow the resolution and avoids confusion or ambiguity within the clauses. The following is a brief outline of the official resolution format used at ILMUNC. See Appendix B for a detailed example. All resolutions submitted by working groups at the conference must adhere to the format on the following page:

Committee Name  
Resolution #

Topic:  
Sponsors:  
Signatories:

The (Committee Name),

Preambulatory Phrase (preambulatory clause),  
Preambulatory Phrase (preambulatory clause),

...

1. Operative Phrase (operative clause);
2. Operative Phrase (operative clause):
  - a. (Sub-clause),
  - b. (Sub-clause),
  - c. (Sub-clause):
    - i. (Sub-sub-clause),
    - ii. (Sub-sub-clause),
    - iii. (Sub-sub-clause);

...;

7. Operative Phrase (operative clause).

## NOTES ON WRITING A RESOLUTION

### Preambulatory Clauses

Each preamble begins with a preambulatory phrase (See those listed in Appendix A). The clause must meet the following criteria:

1. The preambulatory phrase must be italicized.
2. The first word of the clause must be capitalized.
3. Preambles are not numbered.
4. Each preamble ends with a comma.
5. Skip a line between each clause. Indent all lines of each clause after the first line.
6. Preambles cannot have sub-clauses.
7. Acronyms and abbreviations should be written out completely when they first appear in the resolution. Thereafter, they can be abbreviated.

## Operative Clauses

Each preamble begins with an operative phrase (See those listed in Appendix A). The clause must meet the following criteria:

1. The operative phrase must be underlined.
2. The first word of the clause must be capitalized.
3. Operative phrases are numbered.
4. Each operative clause ends with a semi-colon. The last operative clause ends with a period.
5. Skip a line between each clause. Indent all lines of each clause after the first line.
6. Operative clauses may have sub-clauses. Sub-clauses should be indented, and listed next to letterings a., b., etc. Sub-sub-clauses should be indented once more beyond sub-clauses, and listed next to numberings i., ii., etc.
7. Acronyms and abbreviations should be written out the first time they appear in the resolution. Thereafter they can be abbreviated.

## Sponsorship and Signatory Status

A resolution requires sponsors and/or signatories to be presented on the floor. The number of sponsors and signatories must add to one-fifth of the committee. A sponsor takes part in the writing of a resolution, while a signatory simply wants to see the resolution debated.

## Amendments

An amendment changes a resolution by adding, striking out, or substituting a word or phrase. There are two types of amendments: friendly and unfriendly, all of which must be submitted to the Chair in writing. Amendments may not be amended, and may not amend the preamble of a resolution. (See ILMUNC Rule 36).

### *Friendly Amendments*

A friendly amendment is agreed upon by all sponsors of the resolution. It automatically becomes part of the resolution upon being submitted.

### *Unfriendly Amendments*

An unfriendly amendment is not supported by one or more of the sponsors. An unfriendly amendment requires signatures from one-fifth of the body to be considered. Unfriendly amendments are voted upon at the closure of debate, before their respective resolutions, in the order submitted, and are treated as individual entities (similarly to resolutions). An unfriendly amendment requires a two-thirds vote to become included in the resolution.

## APPENDIX A: PREAMBULATORY AND OPERATIVE PHRASES

Preambulatory Phrases	Alarmed by	Further recommends
Expressing its appreciation	Approving	Further requests
Expressing its satisfaction	Aware of	Further resolves
Fulfilling	Bearing in mind	Has resolved
Fully alarmed	Believing	Notes
Fully aware	Confident	Proclaims
Fully believing	Contemplating	Reaffirms
Further deploring	Convinced	Recommends
Further recalling	Declaring	Regrets
Guided by	Deeply concerned	Reminds
Having adopted	Deeply conscious	Requests
Having considered	Deeply convinced	Solemnly affirms
Having considered further	Deeply disturbed	Strongly condemns
Having devoted attention	Deeply regretting	Supports
Having examined	Desiring	Takes note of
Having heard	Emphasizing	Transmits
Having received	Expecting	Trusts
Having studied	Accepts	
Keeping in mind	Affirms	
Noting with regret	Approves	
Noting with deep concern	Authorizes	
Noting with satisfaction	Calls	
Noting further	Calls upon	
Noting with approval	Condemns	
Observing	Confirms	
Reaffirming	Congratulates	
Realizing	Considers	
Recalling	Declares accordingly	
Recognizing	Deplores	
Referring	Designates	
Seeking	Draws the attention	
Taking into account	Emphasizes	
Taking into consideration	Encourages	
Taking note	Endorses	
Viewing with appreciation	Expresses its appreciation	
Welcoming	Expresses its hope	
Operative Phrases	Further invites	
Affirming	Further proclaims	
	Further reminds	



## APPENDIX B: EXAMPLE RESOLUTION

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)  
Resolution 1.1

Topic: Eliminating gender disparities in education by 2015

Sponsors: Saudi Arabia, Iran

Signatories: Jordan, Syria, Oman, Qatar, Venezuela, Cuba, Russian Fed.

The Economic and Social Council,

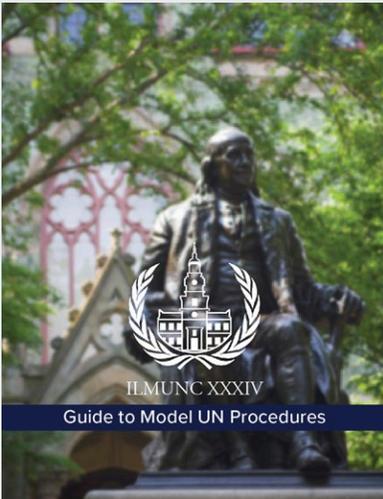
*Alarmed* by the lack of enforcement of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW),

*Cognizant* of the importance of gender-neutral education standards by 2015 as a component of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),

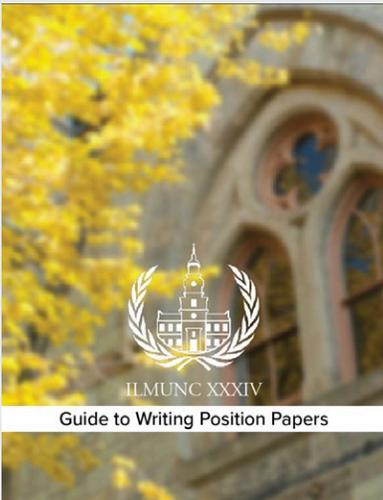
*Noting* with approval those initiatives recently undertaken in Iraq and Afghanistan to ensure increased levels of education for future generations of women in the Middle East,

1. Suggests gender segregation remain in primary and secondary education where this structure is already in place;
2. Reaffirms that select nations do not segregate schools by gender, and is not proposing to divide said school systems;
3. Proposes additional specialization be provided in schools to:
  - a. Further acknowledge and utilize the differences between genders,
  - b. Alter secondary school curriculums to contain more concentrated courses including:
    - i. Female philosophy or psychiatric classes which would prove useful in raising a family and keeping a peaceful household,
    - ii. Improved male physical education and literate or scientific classes;
  - c. Help administer knowledge that will be useful in the everyday lives of both genders;
4. Recommends all school systems exercising gender segregation be kept balanced concerning materials and resources;
5. Further recommends a new observational system be set in place:
  - a. By the United Nations,
  - b. Made available to all nations already segregated by gender or wishing to do so,
  - c. To monitor the equal distribution of supplies, materials, teachers, and resources administered to all public male and female schools;
6. Accepts that each nation will have its own cultural differences and opinions on this matter.

## Also see...



ILMUNC 34's RULES OF MODEL UN PROCEDURE is designed to provide a reference to the many motions, points, and other parliamentary actions that can be taken during committee. Whether you are brand new to Model UN or a seasoned expert that needs a reminder, this guide is available for you to be able to check up on the official ILMUNC rules of debate.



The position paper is not only the first impression that you give to the dais, but also a source for you to refer to during debate. ILMUNC 34's GUIDE TO WRITING POSITION PAPERS outlines how to properly structure and format your position paper for submission as well as a sample position paper. In General Assembly, Economic and Social, and Specialized Agency committees, the ultimate goal is to come to a comprehensive resolution to address critical global issues.