

Western Model United Nations

Resolutions & Precedence Reference Guide



RESOLUTION PAPERS

Resolution papers are the cornerstone of constructive debate in Model UN committees. Resolution papers reflect the meticulous pre-conference research and hours of committee session debate. A successful resolution paper will outline a comprehensive solution to each major issue of a given committee topic and will manage to be implemented through pragmatic means.

Before a resolution is adopted by a committee, the corresponding sponsors must submit the document to the dais for presentation. At this point, the document is named a working paper. After introduction and presentation to the committee, it will now be appropriately named a draft resolution. After a draft resolution is voted upon and passed, at that point will it be formally addressed as a passed resolution.

Furthermore, the resolution paper should be able to adequately address the needs of the majority of the committee. Sponsors of a draft resolution should strive to write a document that explores issues outside of the scope of their own bloc, to accurately represent the goals of the committee. In the event that a committee is simply unable to create one resolution on behalf on the floor at any given time. However, only one draft resolution may be voted in by the committee to become the official resolution paper for the given topic.

SAMPLE PREAMBULATORY PHRASES

Affirming, Alarmed by, Approving, Aware of, Bearing in mind, Believing, Confident, Contemplating, Convinced, Declaring, Deeply concerned, Deeply disturbed, Deeply regretting, Desiring, Emphasizing, Expecting, Fully alarmed, Fully aware, Fully believing, Further deploring, Further recalling, Guided by Having adopted, Having considered, Having examined, Having heard, Having received, Having studied, Keeping in mind, Noting approval, Observing, Reaffirming, Realizing, Recalling, Recognizing, Taking into consideration, Taking note, Reaffirms, Recognizes, Recommends, Regrets, Resolves, Requests, Strongly condemns, Supports, Transmits, Trusts, Urges

Sample Perambulatory Clause: *Alarmed by* the threats made by North Korea over the past year regarding its nuclear program and delivery capabilities

SAMPLE OPERATIVE PHRASES

Accepts, Adopts, Affirms, Appeals, Appreciates, Approves, Authorizes, Calls, Calls upon, Commends, Condemns, Confirms, Congratulates, Considers, Decides, Declares, Deplores, Designates, Directs, Emphasizes, Encourages, Endorses, Expresses its appreciation, Expresses its hope, Further invites, Further proclaims, Further reminds, Further recommends, Further requests, Further resolves, Instructs, Invites, Proclaims

Sample Operative Clause: *Endorses* the total isolation of North Korea politically, economically, and all other ways that is within the power of a state

Note: Perambulatory clauses are used to articulate the reasons that this resolution is needed, while operative clauses outline the action taken by the resolution, commonly referred to as the 'teeth.' For further clarification, please speak to your chair.

PRECEDENCE OF MOTIONS

Where multiple points or motions have been made, the committee shall consider them in the following order of precedence, dealing with every point or motion of higher precedence before others lower.

(1) Point of Order	(10) Motion for the Verification of Quorum
(2) Point of Personal Privilege	(11) Motion for Closure of Debate
(3) Right of Reply	(12) Motion for Closure of the Speakers' List
(4) Motion to Set the Speaking Time	(13) Motion to Table Topic
(5) Motion to Adjourn	(14) Motion to Divide the Question
(6) Motion for Recess	(15) Motion for an Important Question
(7) Motion for Censure	(16) Motion to Introduce an Amendment
(8) Motion for Unmoderated Caucus	(17) Motion to Introduce a Draft Resolution
(9) Motion for Moderated Caucus	(18) Motion for Reconsideration