



BIGMUN ONLINE THIMUN GUIDE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE BOOKLET

THIMUN COMMITTEE PROCEEDING

Lobbying

At the lobbying time which is the first session of the conference, there will be only one resolution per committee. All delegates in a committee will work on a draft resolution through Google Docs. Delegates will only write operative clauses since pre-ambulatory clauses will be prepared by chairs beforehand. The house will see the pre-amble clauses in the lobbying session. The resolution as a whole will have a main submitter as well as each operative clause will have its own main submitter.

How will the debates flow?

After the draft resolutions is written and approved by the approval panel and pre-ambulatory clauses are voted, the house will be moving with the open debate upon the operative clauses. Basically, debate will flow clause by clause.

1. Pre-ambulatory clauses will be presented to the house and voted.
2. When the voting is over, the debate upon the operative clauses will start one by one. For each of them;
 - i. the main submitter of the clause will introduce it
 - ii. delegates will be debating upon it and writing amendments
 - a) There will be close debates (generally two in favor and two against speeches) upon the amendments after the submitter's introduction
 - b) The amendment on the floor will go through the voting procedure
 - iii. Each operative clause will be voted separately
3. When the house finishes the debate and voting upon the operative clauses, delegates will vote on the resolution as a whole which will conclude the conference.

**** When a crisis arrives to the committee, the house directly moves on with an open debate regarding the crisis.

**** In United Nations Security Council, P5 members (China, Russia, USA, UK, France) hold the veto power which means when a P5 member votes against for an amendment, clause etc. it automatically fails even if 14 members vote in favor.

THIMUN WHO COMMITTEE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Quorum

Resolutions need a Quorum to be debated and voted upon, and this is achieved when at least one third of the committee is present. Committee sessions can only be opened and debate is only permitted when quorum is achieved.

Roll Call

Roll call occurs every time delegates collectively return to committee, i.e. after a break or lunch. Roll call is also taken before the morning's committee session. Delegates may respond "Present" or "Present and Voting". When a delegate says present they are allowed to vote in favor, against and abstaining however present and voting doesn't give delegates the permission to abstain.

Opening Speeches

Each and every delegate is obliged to make an opening speech at the beginning of the first session during maximum of 30 seconds.

Lobbying

At this time of the conference delegates will be writing the resolution. All delegates in a committee will work on a draft resolution through Google Docs. The resolution as a whole will have a main submitter as well as each operative clause will have its own main submitter.

Open Debates

The open debate will start with the presentation of the main submitter of the whole resolution. Delegates will be debating clause by clause. Each clause will have a main submitter who will submit their clause before the debate upon it starts.

Close Debates

A close debate is conducted to discuss upon an amendment submitted by a delegate. After the submitter entertains the amendment, two speakers in favor and two speakers against it take the floor. No points of information are accepted during the close debate. Delegates are only allowed to write amendments upon the clause on the floor since the debate flows clause by clause.

Points

1. Point of information directed to the speaker on the floor

Basically it is a point in order to ask the delegate a question. Delegates are discouraged to make a speech rather than ask a question.

2. Point of information directed to the chair

It is asked in order to be informed about the procedure or it can refer to anything that is not covered in other points.

3. Point of order

A question raised if the delegate believes the Chair has made an error in procedural matters such as keeping time, order of debate, etc.

4. Point of personal privilege

A question raised regarding the delegate's personal needs. It is the only point that can only be raised by a speaker.

Motions

Motions are actions proposed by delegates that require support from the rest of the committee and the Chair's approval.

1. Motion to move directly into voting procedures

Calls for the closure of debate at the time and for an immediate transition into voting procedures. Requires a "second" from the house. Ultimately up to the Chair's discretion.

2. Motion to divide the house

This motion can be raised following a vote where there were a large number of abstentions (larger than the number for or against). This is essentially calling for a roll-call vote where abstentions are no longer permitted. Objections are not permitted, but it is ultimately up to the Chair's discretion.

3. Specific motions

Raised in order to entertain a clause or an amendment.

4. Motion to Move to Previous Question

This motion is also known as the "Motion to Move Directly into the Voting Procedure." When

discussing an amendment, in time in favor, this motion means to move to time against an amendment. It may be moved by the Chair or a delegate but cannot interrupt a speaker. This motion requires a second delegate's approval but can be overruled by Chair if there are time constraints. Chairs still should ask if there are any objections.

5. Motion to Follow Up

This motion is to ask further question to the delegate on the floor.

6. Motion to move to the previous question

This motion is used when delegates would directly want to move on with the agenda speeches when a close debate upon an amendment is being conducted.

Yielding

When the speaking delegate finishes their speech, they need to yield the floor to the chair or another delegate.

1. Yield to another delegate

It is only possible if that delegate accepts it.

2. Yield to the chair

The delegate can choose to yield the floor back to the Chair following Points of Information, and therefore the floor is open to all delegates once again.

Amendments

An amendment is written in order to change, add or strike out something in the resolution or in a clause. Once an amendment has been submitted, it is then debated upon for a period of time set by the Chair, is voted upon, and if it passes, is included in the original resolution. If it fails, no changes are made to the resolution. Amendments are submitted in written form to the Chair, and can either change, strike or add a part. Since the debate goes on clause by clause, it is not permitted to give an amendment in order to strike out a whole clause.

A second degree amendment

An amendment written for a change in the amendment that is being debated.

Voting Procedure

Only member states of the United Nations are permitted to vote on resolutions and amendments. Non-member delegations and organizations are not permitted to vote. In any vote, delegates may vote for, against, or abstain from voting, except for when a Motion to Divide the House is in effect, in which abstentions are not permitted. Note-passing is not permitted during voting.

Language

The official language is English. Delegates need to speak in a professional, diplomatic manner, refer to themselves and other delegates in third person or by their delegation. For example, to refer to themselves, the delegate may say "this delegate" or "the delegate of the UK."

Note-Passing

Since the conference will be conducted online, delegates are only allowed to send notes to chairpersons by using “chat” only for conference related topics and emergency situations.

Miscellaneous

Please only raise your placard once the Chair has finished speaking, and only when the Chair calls for speakers or if a Point/Motion needs to be made.

WRITING AMENDMENTS, PRE-AMBULATORY CLAUSES AND OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Pre-ambulatory Clauses

A pre-ambulatory clause mainly addresses a sub-question of the topic. The pre-ambulatory clauses states all the issues that the committee wants to resolve on this issue. Preamble clauses may state the reasons for why the committee is acting on a given topic. It has to start with an italicized pre-ambulatory phrase and end with a coma.

Preambulatory clauses can include:

- References to the UN Charter;
- Citations of past UN resolutions or treaties on the topic under discussion;
- 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 pre-ambulatory clause:

Alarmed by the 17% increase in HIV/AIDS contraction among sub-Saharan African countries in the past five years,

Sample preambulatory phrases

Sample Preambulatory Phrases

Affirming	Expecting	Having studied
Alarmed by	Expressing its appreciation	Keeping in mind
Approving	Expressing its satisfaction	Noting with regret
Aware of	Fulfilling	Noting with deep concern
Bearing in mind	Fully alarmed	Noting with satisfaction
Believing	Fully aware	Noting further
Confident	Fully believing	Noting with approval
Contemplating	Further deploring	Observing
Convinced	Further recalling	Reaffirming
Declaring	Guided by	Realizing
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Recalling
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Recognizing
Deeply convinced	Having considered further	Referring
Deeply disturbed	Having devoted attention	Seeking
Deeply regretting	Having examined	Taking into account
Desiring	Having heard	Taking into consideration
Emphasizing	Having received	Taking note
		Viewing with appreciation
		Welcoming

Operative Clauses

An operative clause is basically for explaining solution proposals upon the agenda item. An operative clause starts with a number followed by an italicized phrase. An operative clause ends with a semicolon. The last operative clause finishes with a period.

You should use sub-clauses, subsub-clauses in order to add details to the operative clause. The operative clauses should address the issues specifically mentioned in the pre-ambulatory clauses above it.

Sample operative clause

Calls upon the developed countries and major pharmaceutical countries to provide low-cost, generic medicines for HIV/AIDS to sub-Saharan African countries;

SAMPLE OPERATIVE PHRASES

Sample Operative Phrases

Accepts	Encourages	Further recommends
Affirms	Endorses	Further requests
Approves	Expresses its appreciation	Further resolves
Authorizes	Expresses its hope	Has resolved
Calls	Further invites	Notes
Calls upon	Deplores	Proclaims
Condemns	Designates	Reaffirms
Confirms	Draws the attention	Recommends
Congratulates	Emphasizes	Regrets
Considers	Encourages	Reminds
Declares accordingly	Endorses	Requests
Deplores	Expresses its appreciation	Solemnly affirms
Designates	Expresses its hope	Strongly condemns
Draws the attention	Further invites	Supports
Emphasizes	Further proclaims	Takes note of
	Further reminds	Transmits
		Trusts

Amendments

By writing an amendment, delegates can change, add or strike out something in the draft resolution or clause.

Second degree amendment: An amendment which aims to change something on the amendment which is being debated.

Sample amendments

- Adds an operative clause that reads “14. Encourages all Latin American countries to...”
- Deletes operative clause 9.
- Changes operative clause 1 to read “1. Calls upon the Red Cross to provide low-cost medicines...”
- Sample second degree amendmet to the first sample above: changes Latin American countries to MEDC’s