



BrainsMUN
Guide to Delegates

Index

| | |
|---|----|
| Introduction..... | 2 |
| How to be a proper delegate..... | 2 |
| Before the Conference..... | 2 |
| How to research a country..... | 2 |
| How to write a Position Paper..... | 3 |
| Sample Position Paper..... | 5 |
| Who needs to write an opening speech? | 6 |
| How to write an opening speech..... | 6 |
| Sample Opening Speech..... | 6 |
| How to write draft a resolution..... | 7 |
| Sample Resolution..... | 10 |



Introduction

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of BrainsMUN's Secretariat, we welcome you to our 3rd edition of the Brains Model United Nations.

BrainsMUN IV Edition is a Model United Nations organised by Brains International School (in collaboration with...). This is our first edition involving outside schools and we are excited to grant all of you the opportunity to meet new people and learn about our world.

This year our conference will focus on maintaining international peace and security in order to promote economic, social, and political wellbeing amongst nations. We wish that you learn, grow and, overall, get to be part of this experience, which we hope you will enjoy and cherish.

How to be a proper delegate

To be a proper BrainsMUN delegate it is important to always follow the rules of procedure of the conference. These include respectful language, proper attire, respecting timetables and agendas, etc. It is also important to come well prepared to the conference with all the required documents and well informed on your country's position on the issues. Above all, BrainsMUN has a strict policy when it comes to respect and any delegate that wishes to participate in the conference must act politely to their fellow delegates, chairs and staff all throughout the conference.

Before the Conference

How to research a country

Similar Before beginning to research your issues it is important to learn a bit about the country you are representing. Doing this will not only make it much easier to find your position on each of your topics but will also allow you to have a general idea of who will be your allies throughout the conference. To properly research your country it's important to use reputable sources. Some sources you can use are:

United Nations: <http://www.un.org/english>

Permanent Missions in New York: <http://www.un.org/members/missions.shtml>

CIA World Fact Book: <https://www.cia.gov>

Embassies Worldwide: <http://www.embassyworld.com>

The Economist: <http://www.economist.com>



BBC World: <http://www.bbcworld.com>

When later researching your issue, these sources are often great places to start as well. It is also very useful to follow the guiding position paper questions below.

How to write a Position Paper

What is a position paper?:

When preparing for an MUN conference one of the most important documents you will draw up is your position paper. A position paper, like its name suggests, is a document that explains the ideas of your country on a certain topic. The position paper is a very useful tool both before and during your MUN sessions. It helps delegates have a clearer idea of the exact view of their country on the issue they will be debating, and it's a document you will carry with you throughout the conference so you can easily refer back to it when needed. It is also an excellent base for your opening speech.

How do I write my Position Paper?:

Starting to write a position paper may seem like an overwhelming task, especially for new delegates, but once you begin your research you will find this document to be much easier to write than it initially seemed. It is important that, while being thorough in your research of the topic, you keep your final position paper clear, concise and organised. Try to avoid convoluted writing and keep each section as one or two separate paragraphs.

Your position paper should be divided in three main sections:

- General Overview on the Issue
- Effects of the issue and Past Actions
- Current situation and Countries Proposals

In the first section you will need to address the issue in a general manner not yet referring uniquely to your country's situation. It is useful to include key term definitions, actions, policies or treaties that the UN has passed related to this issue as well as the main historical events of the issue.

In the second section you will need to explain how the issue has affected your country, and which actions, treaties or laws have been passed in order to try to solve it. You may need to mention treaties your country has not signed and their reasoning behind said decision. You are also welcome to mention other countries in this section (both allies and opponents).



In the third section you will need to explain the country's current situation and give specific proposals that your country believes will help solve the issue. These proposals can be made up by yourself or by your country, but they must be aligned with your country's views.

Here are some **guiding questions** you may start with when drafting your position paper:

- Which countries is your representing country often aligned with? What is the history between your country and the matter at hand? How does this affect your country?
- What role does your country play?
- What does your government think should be done to address such issue?
- What action has already been taken by your government and/or the United Nations?
- Which actions done by the United Nations are endorsed, supported or disapproved by your country?
- What is your country's stance on UN interference or actions?
- What do you think should be accomplished during the committee's resolution?
- How will the positions of other countries affect your country's position on the matter? What does your country want to achieve? Compromise?
- How will you deal with the opposing opinion?

Position paper structure:

Your position paper should be no longer than two pages per topic and must be written in an Avenir or Times New Romans font, size 12 and 1,5 line spacing. On the top left of your page you will need to include your committee, country, topic (either topic A or B) and delegate name. On the top right you can add the official flag of your country. If you wish to do so you may also add a water mark with your country's National Emblem, but it is of crucial importance that the text is still legible.



Sample Position Paper

On the top left of your page you have to include your committee, country (its full name, for example: People's Republic of China), topic (either topic A or B) and delegate name. On the top right you can add the official flag of your country.

Committee: DISEC (Disarmament and Security Committee)



Topic: Prevention of Chemical Warfare: development, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons.

Country: United States of America

Delegate: Juan Pablo Avila, Colegio BRAINS.

Address the issue in a general manner (not referring uniquely to your country's situation). You can include: key term definitions, actions, historical events, policies or treaties that the UN has passed related to this issue.

According to OPCW (Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons), a chemical weapon is defined as "a chemical used to cause intentional death or harm through its toxic properties". Having suffered from the deadly effects of chemical weapons during the Gulf War, the United States has become a leader in the fight against these, effectively becoming a member of the OPCW Executive Council on the 25th of April 1997. However, the issue of the proliferation of chemical weapons has also been an excuse for disastrous foreign policy, namely the Invasion of Iraq in 2003 by the Bush Administration and the approach of appeasement and cooperation carried out by the Obama Administration. Focusing on the present, the delegation of the United States of America is especially concerned about the uncertainty around the state of Syria's chemical arsenal, countries who have not signed the CWC, and the continued development of nerve agents by the Russian Federation.

How has the issue affected your country? Which actions, treaties or laws have been passed in order to try to solve it?
You can mention treaties your country has not signed and their reasons for it. You can also mention other countries (both allies and opponents).

Perhaps the most significant step that the international community has taken in the fight against chemical weapons has been the creation of the CWC (Chemical Weapons Convention) and the OPCW (Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons). The CWC tackles all of the issues related to this topic; it prohibits the development, production, and thus the stockpiling of chemical weapons. The OPCW serves as the organization that ensures that member states comply with the CWC. Although the OPCW has been useful to a certain degree, the United States questions its mechanisms, the commitments of some of its members, and its ability to enforce the CWC. For example, after the Douma chemical attack during the Syrian Civil War, the US, along with France and the UK, had to carry out airstrikes on Syrian government sites. The US was able to do this without the need for the OPCW. In fact, Syria signed the CWC in 2013 and the OPCW has not been able to stop it from the use of chemical weapons. Recently, details about the OPCW's investigation have surfaced and actually revealed that it has withheld key details about the presence of molecular chlorine cylinders related to the Douma attack. The same happens with Russia. In 2018, the Russian Federation used Novichok, a deadly nerve agent, in an assassination attempt against a former Russian spy in the town of Salisbury, UK. Although the OPCW did include nerve agents in its chemical weapon list, its members failed to act. The US immediately followed with economic sanctions against Russia, while the EU did not, even when the attack took place inside of its territory. The United States of America is worried about the fact that European countries have been

further advancing their trade relations with Russia, even with these developments, as is the case with Germany and the Russo-German natural gas pipeline, the Nord Stream.

Explain the country's current situation and give specific proposals that your country believes will help solve the issue. They must be aligned with your countries views.

The US is not only a member of the OPCW but one of its funders. The United States acknowledges that the CWC and the OPCW provide a legal framework for the fight against the proliferation of chemical weapons, but if this cooperation is to continue, then changes in the organization and in the attitudes of its members must take place. In terms of the OPCW itself, this delegation calls for increased opportunity for scrutiny of the Technical Secretariat, the organ in charge of investigations related to compliance with the CWC. This way, it hopes to minimize incidents in the investigations, such as the one with the Douma chemical attack, in order for them to produce truthful results. The CWC must also be amended to allow for the indefinite presence of an OPCW delegation in Syria. In terms of the members of the OPCW, the United States of America resolves that these must distance themselves economically from Russia and Syria until it can be verified that these countries have stopped their ambitions to develop and possess chemical weapons. The US will undoubtedly make use of its economic might to threaten these countries' main trading partners if they continue to advance their economic relationships. If Russia and Syria fear for their economies getting obliterated through economic isolation, they will see themselves forced to verifiably comply with the CWC. Finally, and in relation to the countries who have not yet signed the CWC, this delegation considers North Korea's signing of the convention an issue of the utmost importance, due to said country's threat to global peace. However, the United States is not willing to continue offering nutritional and medical aid in exchange for North Korea stopping its threats temporarily, as past administrations have done. If the DPRK signs the CWC and agrees to verifiably comply with its postulates, that would put a definite end to their chemical weapon ambitions. Only then would the US be willing to offer extensive relief aid for the people of North Korea in exchange.



Who needs to write an opening speech?

To keep the conference dynamic only the major parties involved in each issue will be required to deliver an opening speech. Said major parties involved (which will be specified when applying to BrainsMUN and vary depending on the committee and issue at hand) will be directly added to the General Speakers List at the start of the conference but any other delegate that wishes to make an opening speech is welcome to ask to be added as well.

How to write an opening speech

You should begin your speech by addressing the people in the room. For example: *“Honorable Chair and Distinguished Delegates”*.

The rest of your speech should allow the rest of the delegates to understand your position, so you should briefly describe your country's situation regarding the issue and state your proposals and what your country hopes to achieve during the conference. Opening speeches should be around one minute long.

Finish by thanking your audience. You can also add a common saying in your country or a quote from one of its leaders or an important figure.

Sample opening speech:

Committee: UNHCR
Country: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Topic A: Ensuring equal treatment and reception conditions for LGBTQI+ refugees.
Delegate: Alba Borrego; Brains International School



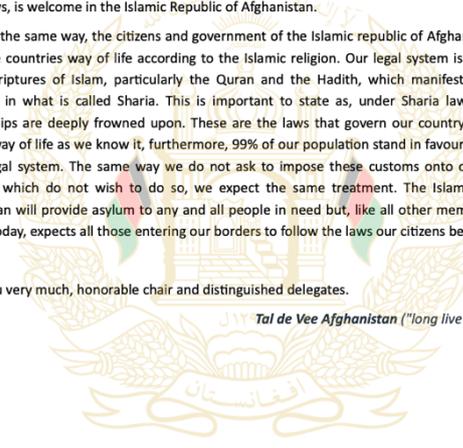
Honorable chair and distinguished delegates,

Being a signatory of the 1951 Geneva Convention, the Islamic republic of Afghanistan is an avid supporter of the integration of refugees into our society. That is to say, any person that would like to come to our country peacefully and fully integrate into our society, follow our customs and stick to our laws, is welcome in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

In the same way, the citizens and government of the Islamic republic of Afghanistan proudly shape the countries way of life according to the Islamic religion. Our legal system is based on the sacred scriptures of Islam, particularly the Quran and the Hadith, which manifest our religious principles in what is called Sharia. This is important to state as, under Sharia law, homosexual relationships are deeply frowned upon. These are the laws that govern our country, our customs and our way of life as we know it, furthermore, 99% of our population stand in favour of this aspect of our legal system. The same way we do not ask to impose these customs onto other member countries which do not wish to do so, we expect the same treatment. The Islamic republic of Afghanistan will provide asylum to any and all people in need but, like all other member countries present today, expects all those entering our borders to follow the laws our citizens believe in.

Thank you very much, honorable chair and distinguished delegates.

Tal de Vee Afghanistan ("long live Afghanistan")





How to write a draft resolution:

What is a resolution?:

When preparing for an MUN conference one of the most important documents you will draw up is your position paper. A position paper, like its name suggests, is a document that explains the ideas of your country on a certain topic. The A UN resolution is a formal expression of the opinion or will of a United Nations organ. It consists of one coherent document divided into clauses and subclauses each with their specific structure. A resolution, being written and/or signed by various countries instead of just one, should represent the position of a large group of countries in a committee.

It is useful to know that resolutions pass through three different stages throughout the sessions: working paper, draft resolution and finally, resolution. A **working paper** is simply used as a mechanism for the debate and a way for delegates to write down their wishes and solutions to the issues presented. Working papers do not need to conform to proper resolution format, nor do they require sponsors or signatories. It is recommendable that delegates bring a working paper with them for each of their topics to make the conference more dynamic. Once we rework these papers into proper resolution format as well as gain sponsors and signatories we begin to call this document **draft resolution**. We will then submit this document to the board to be discussed and if it is accepted, voted on and then passed it will finally be called a resolution. There will only be one final resolution per topic.

When are resolutions written?

Any delegate can write a resolution. The author of a resolution is called a sponsor and there can be multiple sponsors. Resolutions are written during unmoderated caucuses so delegates are free to roam around the committee to collaborate on ideas with each other. This usually takes place once every country has explained their position and ideas have been brought up through moderated caucuses. Once the ideas have been discussed though, a designated writer may be assigned for each resolution to continue writing during the debate and submit the draft resolution as soon as possible.

How to write a resolution?

A resolution has three main parts:

- **Heading:**

The heading must contain the name of the committee, the issue being debated, the sponsors and the signatories. Sponsors are the authors of the resolution and signatories are delegates who would like to debate the resolution, regardless of whether they agree with it or not.



A draft resolution must have the signatures of at least one fifth of the total members of the committee for it to be approved and introduced, of which at least two voting delegations must be designated as sponsors. Delegates may sign a draft resolution even if they do not support the document in question, as being a non-sponsor signatory for a draft resolution only indicates desire to discuss the draft resolution not necessarily pass it.

- **Pre-ambulatory clauses:**

The pre-ambulatory clauses state all the issues that the committee seeks to resolve on the issue, reasons why the committee is working on the issue and highlight previous international actions on the issue. The latter can be done by including:

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 information or facts about the topic, its significance, and its impact.

The pre-ambulatory clauses must be structured as follows: *a preambulatory phrase in cursive*, the statement you want to write and end with a comma. Here are some examples of pre-ambulatory 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:**

Operative clauses state the solutions that the sponsors propose in order to resolve the issue. They should address the issues specifically mentioned in the pre-ambulatory clauses above it.

Operative clauses must be structured as follows: an underlined operative clause, the solution you want to include in the resolution and end with a semicolon (only the FINAL operative clause of the resolution should end in a



full stop). Each operative clause must be numbered and all sub-clauses are labelled with a), b), c), etc.; sub-sub-clauses begin with i), ii), iii), etc. Here are some examples of operative clauses:

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 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 |

Extra relevant information:

Make sure you use proper and understandable language all throughout the resolution. If abbreviations are used they must be written out in full the first time they are used. For example: The World Health Organization (WHO)... Although basing your resolution on past ones by the UN may be useful for beginners, you will be able to defend your position in each topic much better if you write your own resolution from scratch. In most cases (except some exceptions in certain committees) funding is not taken into account when writing a resolution. This means you are allowed to propose certain solutions to the problem at hand without considering the costs involved.

Amendments:

Once a draft resolution has been presented it can be modified through amendments, which can add, delete or change an operative clause, before it is voted upon. There are two types of amendments:

- Friendly amendments:

This type of amendment introduces a change that all sponsors agree with. After it is signed by all the sponsors and approved by the chair, it will be automatically integrated into the resolution.

- Unfriendly amendments:

This type of amendment introduces a change that not all sponsors support, and therefore, it must be voted upon by the whole committee. The sponsors (authors) of the amendment will need a (*exact number of votes*).



Sample resolution:

United Nations



The Special Conference 1

QUESTION OF: Measures to limit the economic, social and political impact of the COVID-19 outbreak
 SUBMITTED BY: Denmark
 CO-SUBMITTERS: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Colombia, Guinea, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Myanmar, Palestinian National Authority, Panamá, Paraguay, Republic of Cameroon, Rwanda, Singapore, South Sudan

THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE,

Aware of the current consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic with a total of 248 million global cases and 5.02 million deaths as of November 4, 2021, alongside an average GDP drop of 11.8% and an average 2.9% drop in employment leaving 126 million people jobless worldwide,

Drawing attention to the fact that some countries have controlled the COVID-19 pandemic situation by implementing strict restrictions and far-reaching health measures,

Expressing its appreciation for the implementation of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Strategic Preparedness and Response plan,

Recalling the General Assembly's 74/274 Resolution for international cooperation to ensure global access to medicines, vaccines, and medical equipment to face COVID-19,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of this committee regarding the improvement of the economic, social, and political conditions of all countries worldwide in relation to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Welcoming international collaboration amongst countries to improve the global circumstances,

1. Calls for the implementation of an international plan outlining the better preparation of organizations such as the United Nations or the WHO to enable them to:
 - a) face current global medical crisis
 - b) properly communicate relevant and truthful information on possible future medical crises
 - c) further implement a better control and supervision of the current ability of countries regarding their possibility to respond to worldwide medical issues, including a future supervision of this ability in a periodic manner;
2. Strongly suggests that governments economically aid their population through subsidies or salary compensations for those citizens most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in order to assure a faster recovery of each country's overall economy;
3. Encourages collaboration between countries to negotiate sensible restrictions on worldwide international travel to assure a safe reopening of this industry while maintaining the safety of all citizens as well as further economically boosting the service and tourism industry;
4. Urges that measures taken by nations during this pandemic are not being taken advantage of by governments by restraining liberties and accessing information;
5. Further Urges that international and domestic responsibility is recognized by member states that incorrectly managed the COVID-19 pandemic and thereby having their country and others suffer the consequences of their lack of proper leadership, and that transparency and accountability by these governments is maintained to ensure democratic values are upheld and protected;
6. Calls upon MEDCs (More Economically Developed Countries) to aid LEDCs (Less Economically Developed Countries) during this global pandemic by:
 - a) encouraging financially stable countries to export vaccine supplies to underprivileged countries that are in desperate need of them
 - b) requesting the WHO to supply further medical assistance to underprivileged countries.

