1. The United Nations, MUN, and WASMUN

Overview and History of the United Nations and MUN

Countries committed to preserving peace through international cooperation and collective security established the United Nations on October 24, 1945. Today, 191 countries are members, nearly every nation in the world. The United Nations is comprised of more than 30 affiliated organizations.

The UN Charter outlines the four main purposes of the United Nations as the following:

1. To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime brought untold sorrow to mankind,
2. To reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,
3. To establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and
4. To promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.

May these lofty goals guide you in your studies and deliberations during WASMUN 2004. The Model United Nations has existed since 1945 as a forum for involving students in the processes of the United Nations, international leadership, and current international affairs. Model United Nations conferences are held in cities throughout the world and range from 20 to over 2000 delegates.

Overview and History of WASMUN

The first annual Washington State Model United Nations conference was a joint initiative between the World Affairs Council and students at the University of Washington, and convened in March 2001. High school students from throughout Western Washington gathered for three days at the University of Washington to discuss global issues and practice their skills as delegates.

In April 2004, the University of Washington, in partnership with the World Affairs Council, will host the fourth annual Washington State Model United Nations conference. Over 500 students from high schools across the Pacific Northwest will assemble at the University of Washington campus for an intensive two-day conference simulating United Nations committees. WASMUN delegates will engage in negotiating culturally appropriate and viable solutions to pressing world problems, examining and discussing complex international issues, consensus building, caucusing, and diplomacy.
2. Preparation Guide

The following are the essential six steps in preparing for the WASMUN conference.

1. Research your assigned country. **Knowing your country well is the most important step in the preparation process.** See appendix 13.1, a useful Country Research Guide.

2. Research your committee and your committee’s topics.

3. Prepare two Position Papers, which are **due March 6, 2003.** Write one Position Paper on each of the two topics assigned to your committee. The one page paper is a short outline of the position of your country on a certain topic. See Section 7 for further explanation of Position Papers. These Position Papers will be reviewed by your committee chairperson and returned to you for final drafting. Prepare your position papers early and leave plenty of time for peer and advisor editing.

4. Practice these effective UN Delegate skills in advance of the conference:
   - Writing working papers;
   - Writing resolutions;
   - Amending resolutions;
   - Caucusing; and
   - Public speaking.

5. Review the WASMUN Rules of Procedure and plan to bring them with you to the conference. Study and know the “Parliamentary Points.” For this, see page 27.

6. Know your “Delegate Responsibilities” and come prepared for the conference.
3. Responsibilities

Delegate Responsibilities

1. Prepare to:
   - Express the actual positions of your country, not just what you think;
   - Listen to views of others and be ready to defend and modify positions if necessary and;
   - Negotiate with other delegations to gain support for a resolution.
2. Develop a systematic plan of individual and group study. Finding time for regular delegation meetings will help keep the delegation on track:
   - Read the Delegate Manual;
   - Divide responsibility and set deadlines;
   - Have a session on Parliamentary Procedure;
   - Have sessions to practice public speaking; and
   - Do a review of the UN structure, especially the Charter’s provisions.
3. Dress in western business dress or the formal attire of a representative of your nation for all committee sessions; sneakers or jeans are not acceptable. Males are to wear suits or sports coats and ties. Females are to wear dresses, suits, or professional pants.
4. Obey instructions by any advisor or WASMUN conference staff member both inside and outside of committee session.

Faculty Advisor Responsibilities

- Assist delegates as they prepare for the Model United Nations;
- Facilitate their extensive research efforts;
- Work with delegates as they discuss the foreign policy goals of various regions;
- Provide guidance relating to research, the writing of position papers and resolutions;
- Assist in role-playing and parliamentary issues;
- Following the Conference, faculty should take the lead in follow-up discussions and debriefing to bring a sense of closure to the experience; and
- Encourage and support students’ efforts.

Chairperson Responsibilities

The chairpersons will be college students from UW who make sure that the sessions proceed in an orderly fashion.

- Be thoroughly familiar with the Rules of Procedure;
- Read the Delegate Manual and attend the Delegate Workshops;
- Call the sessions to order and preside continuously;
- Have an agenda and strategy for conducting the committee sessions. Announce both of these at the beginning of the session and allow time for questions regarding these items;
- Remind the delegates of the Code of Conduct, briefly cover the Rules of Procedure;
- Be knowledgeable about their committee topics and;
- Be impartial, fair, honest, and respectful.
4. Timeline

Registration

- Priority Registration October 6 – December 12, 2003
- If Unfilled, Registration Ends – March 1, 2004

Preparation Workshops

Advisors and parents are always welcome to attend all workshops

- **Introduction to WASMUN – November 22, 2003**
  Delegates and advisors will learn the ins and outs of WASMUN. Participants will learn what to do to prepare for the conference, what to expect at the conference, and have the opportunity to ask questions.

- **Researching for WASMUN – January 24, 2004**
  Delegates representing a country or an NGO at WASMUN will be trained in research techniques, focusing on online resources that will help prepare students to represent their countries accurately and to write their position papers correctly. College students will also assist delegates in understanding the history and core issues behind their committee topics and answer questions about the topics.

- **Gaining an International Perspective – February 21, 2004**
  This workshop will be presented in regional groups. Local experts will help students to understand the perspective of their country or their country’s region as related to the different topics being covered at WASMUN. The goal of this workshop is to help students gain the perspective of the country they will represent.

Please note:
It is recommended that your school RSVP if you are planning to attend the workshops. This will enable us to ensure that your country and or committee topics are well represented.

Position Papers

- **Position Papers on both Committee Topics due – March 6, 2004**
  For more on position papers, see Chapter 7.
- **Edited Positions Papers mailed back to schools – April 12, 2004**

Conference

- **WASMUN 2004 – April 23 & 24, 2004**
WASMUN Conference April 23 & 24, 2004

The University of Washington

Friday, April 23, 2003

- 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Registration: Delegates sign in for their committee sessions
- 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Opening Ceremony
- 10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Committee Sessions
- 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lunch Break
- 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Committee Sessions
- 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. - Delegate Reception
- 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Committee Sessions

Saturday, April 24, 2003

- 8:45 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Morning Briefing
- 9:15 a.m. -12:00 p.m. – Committee Sessions
- 12:00 p.m. - 12:10 p.m. – Break
- 12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Working Lunch Break
- 1:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. – Committee Sessions
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Closing Ceremony
5. Committees and Topics

**General Assembly: Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISC)**

The General Assembly serves as the main deliberating organ of the United Nations. This subcommittee was specifically created to deal with issues involving disarmament and international security.

**Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security**

The development of information and communications technology (ICT) provides opportunities for human, economic, and even political advancement, but also raises pressing questions about international security. As Member States become more reliant on ICT for civilian purposes, such as commerce, emergency services, and energy grids, motivated individuals, criminal and terrorist groups, or hostile states can wreak havoc on a Member State without ever stepping on its soil. Meanwhile, the trafficking of drugs, arms, contraband, and people across borders, along with terrorist operations, have all been boosted by the power of ICT. In drafting a resolution on this topic, a careful balance must be struck between the need for security and the need for technological advancement. Besides hampering the further development of ICT, too-stringent security measures could slow the free flow of information itself. Privacy could be a concern, too. A resolution could also have to account for the concerns of states without a high degree of technological development, who might object that strict controls on the use of technology would build a permanent divide between the technological haves and have-nots.

**Terrorism and Disarmament: Measures to Prevent Terrorists from Acquiring Weapons of Mass Destruction**

The September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States, along with the vigorous lobbying of the US and its allies, have highlighted the potential danger of international terrorists acquiring and using weapons of mass destruction. In the past, even without arms control and disarmament, it was believed that the use of WMD’s, particularly nuclear weapons, could be deterred with threat of retaliation. Modern terrorism makes this strategy obsolete. Terrorists are, in a sense, immune to deterrence because they are not interested in self-preservation and have no national territory that can be bombed in response to their attack. This is vindicated by the stated ambition of groups like Al Qaeda to acquire WMD’s. This problem compels delegates to consider the security of fissile materials, the tracking of the precursors of chemical and biological weapons, export controls, controls on missile technology, security at ports and airports, the international inspections regime, etc. Through deliberations, delegates might articulate how a resolution fits into the existing UN frameworks for combating terrorism and curbing the proliferation of WMD’s. A resolution might include calling for action by Member States, the Secretary-General, the Security Council, UN specialized agencies, or a new committee. If truly ambitious, the 2004 DISC might articulate principles for dealing with potential threats once they are known to the international community.
General Assembly: Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SHC)

The General Assembly serves as the main deliberating organ of the United Nations. This subcommittee was specifically created to deal with social, humanitarian, and culturally sensitive issues.

Child Labor

Each year, millions of children are forced to work to support their families. In this, they often forgo education and with it a chance for cognitive development and future economic success. Additionally, many must work long hours under poor conditions, a detriment to their physical and mental health. How can we combat this issue of child labor, recognizing that many families depend on the additional income of their children for their survival? How can we ensure that the conditions under which children work are suitable? Is it more effective to impose regulations, or to try to combat the poverty which leads to the problem?

Global Drug Trafficking

Drug trafficking has plagued nations around the world for some time, but especially in recent years it has ballooned out of control. An industry worth $50 billion annually, it knows few borders and few restraints. With it comes organized crime, corruption, and a flow of money toward corrupt individuals, not to mention its high social costs to a society. How can governments and the international community combat drug crime around the world? Should there be an increasing focus on treatment of users or on the break-up of drug rings? Finally, how can we encourage citizens of developing countries, for whom growing and trading drugs is one of only a few lucrative businesses, to give up these for other more legitimate economic pursuits?
Equal Access to Education for the Disabled and Functionally Impaired

The Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee has long been a champion of human rights issues, including equality. One realm of influence covered by equality is that of education and the resolve to ensure that all students are treated equally in states’ education system. However, there is still an unanswered question of whether disabled or functionally impaired students are receiving the same educational opportunities as their peers. Currently, disabled and functionally impaired students take separate classes from the rest of the school population if they take them at all, and their class subjects are at a lesser degree of advancement than that of the regular school course, thus cutting them off socially and academically from the rest of the school. As delegates, it is your responsibility to represent your countries position on whether such courses of action in regard to disabled and functionally impaired students are equal compared to other students, and whether school systems should adopt a more academically stimulating course load for said students, even in lieu of the students’ disabilities. How can countries with less-developed educational systems afford to comply with the rules in this area?

Promotion of Multilingualism and the Education Thereof

Of all the academic subjects taught in school, the study of different languages has long been one of the more necessary, yet under-represented topics of study. As nations and people become more interconnected and the need for multilingualism increases, many schools worldwide have begun to require students to study foreign language. It has proven not only to improve communication and therefore job prospects and cross-cultural understanding, but cognitive development as well. Yet communication barriers still exist, and other options are needed to aid multilingualism in its goal to interconnect coexisting cultures. One option being considered is a “universal language,” which can be taught worldwide from primary school. How does your country view multilingual education? Would its promotion benefit your populace, or are there worries of “losing” culture? Finally, what course should the United Nations taking in aiding cross language communication.
Question of the Legitimacy of International Separatist Movements

Sometimes citizens within an existing state decide that they cannot secure their rights within the laws of that nation. Often, this will lead to a movement within the nation to separate from it. During the last fifty years the United Nations has dealt with numerous threats to world peace. National separatist movements, however, have been frequently ignored by the UN because it has been the policy of the UN to not interfere in the internal affairs of a country. While the UN does become involved in many internal struggles on a humanitarian level, it would be a clear violation of national sovereignty for the UN to involve itself in the politics of a country. Many believe that there should be a standard established where more than humanitarian assistance is the appropriate course of action for the UN. At what point should the UN take action beyond their humanitarian aid? What limitations should be set, if any, for action? Military action has in the past been the prevue of the Security Council. If a policy is established to intervene in the internal affairs of a country beyond humanitarian assistance, what role will the General Assembly and the Security Council have and which body will authorize military action, if either?

Enforcement of the Law of the Sea

Under the modern scheme for environmental management, courts assume a subsidiary role in enforcement to administrative agencies. However, a number of new and innovative techniques are available to bolster the role of the courts in environmental protection including tort, administrative, and criminal law. In addition, courts play a role in determining the adequacy of quantification of environmental damage. Still, there are so many agencies trying to control an individual area of legislation that there are conflicts between different laws and regulations. How should it be determined which should have jurisdiction? Which countries should have jurisdiction and why? How should these laws be enforced and monitored? What are the possible conflicts of interest? What other problems might occur?
Development Program (UNDP)

UNDP is the United Nations’ provider of development advice. Its core programs focus on countries that are home to 90 percent of the world’s poorest people. The mission of the UNDP is to provide policy advice on reducing poverty.

Implementation of Agenda 21’s Environmental Stipulations

Recognition of the earth’s environmental health has been widely discussed since the 1960s. The environment, however, was only discussed in terms of general awareness, and no specific action was taken until years later. Agenda 21 is the most comprehensive document created by the United Nations that deals with earth’s environment. Agenda 21 was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as Earth Summit, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992. It is a foundation for nations to promote healthy environmental practices. Some of the aspects in Agenda 21 include biodiversity, usage of natural resources, protection of bodies of water, and waste disposal. In 1997, the United Nations General Assembly came out with a report on how Agenda 21 has been implemented. Overall, the implementation of Agenda 21 has not been fully realized. In this committee, we will be continuing the discussion on Agenda 21’s environmental stipulations at the current time.

Implementation of Agenda 21’s Economic Stipulations

The United Nations Development Program is greatly concerned with helping developing nations reach a stable level of self-sufficiency. Agenda 21 is one of the main documents produced that recognizes the relationship between the environment and sustainable development. At the Earth Summit, the United Nations estimated a full implementation of Agenda 21 would cost 625 billion US dollars annually. According to United Nations reports, 20% of the fund is to be received by developed nations, while the remaining 80% of developing nations contribute the rest. The parts of Agenda 21 that promote sustainable development have not been successful. In this committee, we will be continuing discussion on Agenda 21’s economic development stipulations, including the creation of new programs to promote economic sustainability, and overall analysis of how Agenda 21 has impacted nations.
Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR)

This committee drafted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and has since conducted investigations on human rights violations. Recently they have begun advising and providing assistance to states to help them guarantee rights to all citizens. Special emphasis is placed on economic, social, and cultural rights.

Treatment of Prisoners, Focusing on Political Prisoners in Israel and the Occupied Territories

According to figures released by human rights groups, more than 28,000 civilians have been illegally imprisoned in the current intifada, of which 322 are estimated to be children. Many of these prisoners are ‘administrative detainees,’ which are individuals that can be held without charge or trial for renewable six-month terms. A detainee can be interrogated repeatedly for up to 180 days without access to a lawyer or medical treatment. In addition, human rights organizations regularly accuse Israel of physical and psychological torture and poor treatment within Israeli prisons and detention centers. Israel charges that this is necessary for national security, but there is still large disagreement. The purpose of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights will be to determine the best solution to this international human rights dilemma.

 Trafficking of Minors, Focusing on International Child Adoption

The United Nations General Assembly defines trafficking of humans as: “the illicit and clandestine movement of persons across national and international borders, largely from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition with the end goal of forcing [them] into sexually or economically oppressive and exploitative situations for the profit of recruiters, traffickers, crime syndicates, as well as other illegal activities related to trafficking, such as forced domestic labor, false marriages, clandestine employment and false adoption.” UNICEF estimates that 1.2 million children are trafficked each year around the world. Trafficking in general occurs for a variety of purposes, including sexual exploitation, child labor, participation in armed conflicts, marriage, and adoption. This committee will particularly deal with the issue of international adoption, and the problems lying therein.
Drug Control Program (UNDCP)

UNDCP's approach to the global drug problem is multifaceted. Prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programs are designed to involve grassroots organizations and businesses as well as governments.

Transnational Drug Trafficking

Transnational Drug Trafficking marks one of the most lucrative illegal businesses in the world. The concerns presented by drug trafficking are wide-ranging and diverse. Drugs pose a major public health problem. Countries where drugs are plentiful must pay for healthcare for the addicted, costing millions of dollars each year. Drugs also pose a major problem to law enforcement. Tasked with dealing with the problem, law enforcement must spend money on enforcement, and the criminal justice system must be able to process and incarcerate those caught. In many countries sufficient resources are not available to counter the drug traffickers. As a result, drug traffickers have been able to operate without fear of punishment, and in some cases even control the government. Presently, the issue gathering the most attention is the use of drug money and the drug trade by terrorists to fund their operations. With the global campaign against terror, the campaign against drug trafficking has taken on new importance, and more resources are sure to become available. This committee needs to work towards a plan of action to prioritize the steps that need to be taken to counter transnational drug trade.

Drug Related Money Laundering

The transnational drug trade is facilitated by large amounts of money laundering. Money laundering refers to the process used to make money gained from illicit enterprises appear legal. Accomplishing this can be done in many ways, via seemingly legitimate business. Money is laundered through cash exchange and smuggling, as well as through careful exploitation of the banking system. Laundering can also occur in areas such as gambling and real estate. There are many systems that rely on money to operate, and most of these systems can be used to launder money. Current reporting rules allow drug traffickers to break up their proceeds into smaller deposits and transfers, allowing them to pass through the system unnoticed. Nations with lax banking laws also provide a safe location for drug money to be stored and processed. The international community needs to examine the failings of current laws, and find ways that will enable the current laundering operations to be stopped. Stopping the easy flow of drug money will in turn hinder the flow of drugs.
International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA)

The IAEA was created to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to ensure that nuclear energy wouldn’t be used to serve any military purposes. It is the world’s leading nuclear institution. The agency has the most experienced investigators, most advanced released technologies, and is responsible for creating global safety standards for nuclear power. It is in this role that we examine this year’s topics.

Nuclear Waste Disposal

Nuclear Waste Disposal is a major issue for the world, as many new nations begin to develop Nuclear Energy Programs, new safeguards and methods must be created to solve this issue. The IAEA has made several reports on two different types of acceptable methods surface level storage or underground disposal sites. Other methods are in research although no official research has commenced. As of 2002 411 nuclear reactors were in operation with an additional 32 being constructed. Many new nations have begun nuclear energy development and it will become necessary to create a sustainable and realistic global standard.

Development of Nuclear Energy in Developing Countries

Many concerns are presented about the threat of nuclear weapons. Many of these threats come from nations that are developing or have developed nuclear energy, Iran, DPRK, Pakistan, and many more. The possibility of aiding nations to develop nuclear energy is a serious topic. Several factors must be taken into account, security, waste disposal, safeguards, training, infrastructure, technology, etc… It will be up to this agency to create a standard for aiding nations on the development of nuclear energy, including a list of qualities a nation must have in order to receive aid.
World Health Organization (WHO)

The objective of the WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Health, as defined in the WHO Constitution, is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

Cloning and Genetic Engineering

The focus of this topic will be on cloning used for human health. Specifically, the delegates will tackle the issue of therapeutic vs. reproductive cloning (how to define it, what is acceptable and what is not, etc.). In the general public there is a lack of knowledge and an excess of misinformation and negative propaganda associated with cloning, so people tend to label cloning as bad even though it may not be; delegates will therefore also address the issue of public education and awareness. Additionally, delegates may want to consider coming up with a proposal to make the standards universal, and how they would ensure that the advancing technology and procedures are not abused. Along with this idea, delegates should consider how individual states could benefit from these advancements (developed vs. developing nations). Should there be equal sharing? How?

Disease Control in Prisons

Tuberculosis in prisons is a huge problem and continues to grow at a rapid pace. The WHO has declared it an emergency. Prisons are institutions which do not have the funding, motivation or backing by governments or outside health institutions to deal with this problem effectively. There is high traffic in and out and within prisons, so the spread of the disease could affect all other prisoners and the general public. Furthermore, considering the shrinking size of our world, the global community is also at risk, since migration and travel are so common. Thus, it is to the benefit of all States represented to figure out a solution to this growing threat. The delegates are asked to address the question of how they would ensure a higher rate of curing TB, and how they would prevent further cases. This therefore entails that delegates have a good grasp on the disease and available treatments. Also, they will have to figure out how the developing and relatively poor countries (in which the problem is greater) will be able to handle the problem. What kind of help is necessary from wealthier countries?
Security Council

The Security Council’s primary responsibility is to maintain international peace and security. It is so organized to function continuously, thus a representative of each of its members must be present at all times at the UN Headquarters.

Open Agenda

Security Council delegates will determine the agenda and topics to be discussed on the day of the conference. This topic will be a current crisis at that time. It is therefore advised that each delegate be familiar with current events and crises around the world. The delegates in this committee will draft position papers on a variety of topics.
International Court of Justice (ICJ)

The ICJ is the primary judicial organ of the UN. The Court has a dual role: to settle in accordance with international law the legal disputes submitted to it by States, and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by duly authorized international organs and agencies.


WASMUN Justices will rule on the following current ICJ case after listening to counselors and expert witnesses from the University of Washington: Application of the Convention on the Prevention & Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Croatia v. Serbia and Montenegro). The Court may also be faced with a crisis to solve.

To prepare for this committee, it is important to remember that the ICJ is a court, and thus is structured differently from other committees. Thus, it will be beneficial to the entire process for all delegates to come prepared to the conference, having studied the ICJ. Use resources specified in the topic synopsis, and consult the Court's website here: www.icj-cij.org/icjwww/icj002.htm

You will be asked to submit a position paper like other WASMUN Delegates. However, 1) as Justices of the ICJ, you do not represent your countries: you are individuals who provide independent legal counsel to the Court. Further, 2) you are not to propose a verdict to the case without hearing the case at the Court in April in your position paper; rather, you are to display strong background knowledge of the region of the world that the case concerns, namely Croatia, Serbia, and Montenegro (former Yugoslavia). Write about the history of the above conflict and the crime of Genocide.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>European Union</th>
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<tr>
<td>The European Union, a collection of countries from Europe who agreed that the only way to promote a lasting peace between their countries was to unite them economically and politically. It currently has 15 members.</td>
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**Unemployment**

Unemployment has long plagued Europe, and it is no different under the common market of the European Union. In some countries unemployment rates are at or above 10%. High rates of unemployment require governments to focus resources on providing unemployment benefits, while at the same time receiving reduced funding from income taxes. Additionally, European unemployment is characterized by long-term unemployment, which means that workers are unemployed for long periods of time, and unemployment rates are fairly constant rather than cyclical. Many economists say that long-term unemployment is caused by institutional failure rather than market cycles. What policies can we adopt to reduce unemployment permanently? Some possible solutions to consider include increased market flexibility (in hours, pay arrangements etc.), supply-side policies (i.e. increased demand of European products), or specific solutions for various groups eligible to work but widely unemployed.

**Addition of New Members**

The European Union is considering 10 prospective additions to the continent-wide political and economic bloc. These Eastern European additions are primarily members of the former Soviet Union, and are much more likely to suffer from economic problems. Most of these nations have significantly lower per-capita consumption levels as compared to the existing EU nations. Their GDPs are significantly lower, ranging from one quarter to one half of the current EU members’ GDPs. Additionally, the prospective nations contain much higher levels of economic inequality within their respective borders. Finally, there are many concerns by the prospective nations of protecting agriculture in the competitive European market. Many of these concerns have been addressed, but questions remain. How can we equalize economic power nationally and within the Union? How can we integrate these new members into the European Union market without ruining their fragile economies?
Organization of American States (OAS)

Within the United Nations, the Organization of American States is a regional agency and has 34 members. It seeks to draw countries closer, promote regional understanding, and work together on problems that might occur which affect all countries involved.

National Debts

In the years leading up to the new millennium, a worldwide movement was growing. Known as Jubilee 2000, this international call for justice was based upon the biblical Jubilee, in which debts were forgiven. In this spirit, Jubilee 2000 called for the foreign debt of third world countries to be forgiven by creditor governments and banks in the developed world. Jubilee 2000 was not successful, but it did call attention to the plight of the third world. In Latin America, the world came to realize that massive debts require governments to drastically reduce spending on social services, including education and health care, in order to pay off their debts. Latin American debt is debilitating the region. In 1999, it was estimated that Latin American states owed $706 billion and that $123 billion was due to be paid in that year alone. Latin American nations had already paid $739 billion in debt service between 1982 and 1996, while the total debt of the region still continues to increase every year. For the most part, this debt was entered into by dictatorships that are no longer in power, and as a rule, the loan money was spent primarily on projects that did not benefit the masses. Obviously, foreign loans are not working to alleviate poverty in the Americas’ underdeveloped countries, as indebtedness and inequality are increasing. The ongoing challenge for the OAS is how to restructure the institutions of debt in a manner that benefits the debtor nations and will be acceptable to their creditors.

Human Rights

During its 55 years of existence, one of the OAS’s most pronounced failures has been that of preventing atrocious human right abuses. The majority of these abuses have been carried out by the governments of OAS member states, despite the Organization’s stated commitment to defending human rights throughout the Americas. The governments of member states from Argentina to Cuba, and Guatemala to the United States have all been implicated in a wave of Cold War era atrocities throughout the Western Hemisphere. It is only today that we are learning the degree of terror that existed in many nations as a result of military dictatorships, civil wars and foreign interventions. The challenge before the OAS today is that of healing the scars of the past while making sure that the past does not repeat itself. Additionally, the OAS has a number of other contemporary human rights issues at hand, including Cuba’s recent crackdown on free speech and political dissidents, the rights of indigenous peoples, workers’ rights, poverty, lack of health care, and the impact of free trade on human rights. While all member states are outwardly committed to the protection of human rights, the history of the region shows that nations are very selective about which human rights they deem important. The Organization of American States thus finds itself in a position where human rights are very difficult to protect, and agreements on the subject are nearly impossible to enforce. Creative thinking and diplomacy are needed to resolve the issues of past and present, and bring the Americas into a more just and safe future.
**Arab League (AL)**

The Arab League has served as a forum for its 22 member states to coordinate their policy positions and deliberate on matters of common concern, settling some Arab disputes and limiting conflicts such as the Lebanese civil wars of 1958. The Arab League has served as a platform for the drafting and conclusion of almost all landmark documents promoting economic integration among member states, such as the creation of the Joint Arab Economic Action Charter.

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**Iraq**

The Arab League is concerned about the issue of how to handle the question of Iraq. Now that major combat is over, there needs to be a reconstruction that is comprehensive and beneficial to the Iraqi people and to the country. The League needs to be expansive and aid to the best of its ability. Many nations in the gulf have volunteered to help Iraq with their financial burden, but more is necessary. Iraq also needs manpower, and the League should encourage Iraqi citizens to hold the majority of jobs. However, should there be extra labor assistance required, the League must be ready to provide it. The Iraqis have a long journey ahead of them. The League must be there for support, both for their economy and a community that they feel comfortable to turn to.

**Economic Competitiveness of the League**

The Economic competitiveness of the nations in the Arab League must rely on the strength of their unity. To strive for the best in their economy means they need to strive for the best in their community. A suggestion for this is to lessen the border restrictions between the countries of the League, thus increasing economic flow. As of now, regulations for visas and mandatory waiting periods hinder access of the citizens of countries in the League to travel. Not only does this limit trade opportunities, but also tourism, commerce, and industry. The individual governments and the Arab League as a whole should make an alliance that eases this burden, which affects every aspect of life. Their countless historical, natural, and tourist sites have been lacking attendance, which must be remedied. Domestic use of raw materials, both within nations and the League, should be looked into more avidly to replace imported goods. A large portion of their wealth may come from oil now, but a more efficient source of productivity, resources, and material should be sought. Their usage and handling of water needs to be evaluated and perhaps committed to a more beneficial policy. Their relations and natural resources are assets that should not be compromised or exploited, but rather strengthened. A commitment to continue on this path or any advantageous objective will help them obtain these goals.
Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

ASEAN was created as an intergovernmental organization in 1967, and was created to let all nations in the Southeast Asia area have a forum that spoke to their specific interests, while promoting ideas of peace and understanding through adherence to the United Nations.

Maritime Piracy

Piracy is a substantial problem in today’s seas, and one of the most problematic areas is South East Asia. The Malacca Strait, for example, through which 200 ships pass daily, accounted for 87% of the world’s reported piracy between January 1992 and September 2003. Clearly, this is a threat to the safety of private shipping and to the free flow of goods. Though numerous reports, recommendations, and working groups have been directed at piracy, the problem persists. Additionally, enforcement has been slowed by the reluctance of governments and private firms to report acts of piracy. It will be your job to answer the critical questions regarding piracy today. How can maritime vessels be protected? What measures should be taken to better enforce anti-piracy laws? How can this be incorporated into the existing legal framework?

Deforestation and Environmental Degradation

South East Asia possesses some of the richest forests in the world – forests abundant with a multitude of plant species and wildlife. And yet South East Asia is also a region with a growing economy and growing population. As a result, 9.6 million acres of forest are cut down annually. The foremost reason for deforestation is logging, though the need for hunting grounds, firewood, and temporary farmland also play a role. Clearly, none of these economic considerations can be ignored, but a few questions must be asked. What are the consequences of deforestation in SE Asian areas? What are some alternate fuel sources that should be considered by your state? How can sustainable forest management be implemented more effectively? Are there any substitutes to logging to aid the economies of developing countries? What kind of regulations should be placed on the logging corporations? It will be your job to give your country’s answers to these questions.
6. Resources

WASMUN’s Research Director for 2004 is Maria Vassilieva. Please feel free to contact her at wasmun@u.washington.edu with any questions you may have.

Country Information Sites

Collection of different countries info- www.geocities.com/jhsmun/researchresources.html

United Nations Sites

WASMUN website- www.wasmun.org
UN Association of the United States of America- www.unausa.org
UN International Computing Center- www.unicc.org
The UN Scholars’ Workstation- www.library.yale.edu/un/index.html

Committee Websites

UN General Assembly- www.un.org/ga
UN Security Council- www.un.org/sc
UN Drug Control Program- www.unodc.org
UN Commission on Human Rights- www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/2/chr.htm
Organization of American States- www.oas.org
League of Arab States- www.arabji.com
European Union- http://europa.eu.int
World Health Organization- www.who.int
International Atomic Energy Association- www.iaea.org/worldatom
International Court of Justice- www.icj-cij.org
Association of Southeast Asian Nations- www.asean.or.id

International Affairs and International Organizations

The International Institute of Sustainable Development- www.iisd.ca/linkages/index.html

Additional internet resources can be found at www.wasmun.org
Local Sources

- World Affairs Council
  2200 Alaskan Way, Suite 450
  Seattle, WA 98121
  Phone: (206) 441-5910
  E-mail: dsl觇omb@world-affairs.org

- United Nations Association (UNA)
  PO Box 22434
  Seattle, WA 98122-0434
  Phone: (206) 568-1959
  Fax: (206) 652-5022

- Suzzallo Library
  Government Publications
  UN Resources
  University of Washington
  Box 352900
  University of Washington
  Seattle, WA 98195-2900

- Washington State Consular Association Directory
  See appendix 14.3

Library Sources

- Reader’s Guide to Periodicals
- PAIS (Public Affairs Information Service)

Treaty Texts and Citations

- “The United Nations Treaty Series” - Source of all files and recorded treaties and agreements
- “Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary General” – About multilateral treaties
- “International Legal Materials” - Provides text and ratification information

Secondary Sources

- Hovet, Thomas, Jr., & Erica Hovet. *Annual Review of United Nations Affairs*
- Muldoon, James P., *A Guide to Delegate Preparation*
- Osmanczyk, Edmund Jan, *Encyclopedia of the United Nations International Agreements*
7. Position Papers

Position Papers are due March 6, 2004.

We can not guarantee feedback for late papers. Papers are to be sent to WASMUN by delegates for review and feedback by the committee chairs. Your papers will be returned to you in early April and final drafts are due at the conference. Please do not send your position paper directly to the committee chair.

Send your position papers to:

WASMUN
SAO Box 294, UW Box 352238
Seattle, WA 98195-2238

Please note: Positions Papers will not be accepted via e-mail.

A Position Paper is a short outline stating your country’s position on the topic assigned to your committee. Two topics have been assigned to every committee. This means that every delegate hands in two Position Papers. Delegates to the Security Council and the International Court of Justice have different requirements and a special format for position papers. For the Security Council please see the Security Council topic synopsis at www.wasmun.org for details. For the International Court of Justice please see the topic brief above and the synopsis on the WASMUN website at www.wasmun.org.

Position Papers for WASMUN 2004 must be one page single-spaced and single-sided, and shall contain three well-organized sections. Hand written papers will not be accepted. Papers must include the following sections with one paragraph dedicated to each:

1. State the problem, it’s history and effects,
2. Your country’s position on the topic, and
3. Particulars: The committee chairs have outlined some questions to answer in regards to a proposed solution. Answer them briefly in this section.
Sample Position Paper

Topic 1: The Question of Palestinian Refugees  
Country: Palestinian National Authority (PNA)  
Committee: Multilateral Middle East Peace Summit  
School: Generic Washington High School  
Delegate’s name: John Doe

After fifty years of turmoil in the Palestinian and Israeli territories, a number of problems have resulted from the conflict. One of the most severe of these problems is that of the over 4 million Palestinian refugees dispersed throughout the Middle East and the world, millions are still living in refugee camps. Many Palestinians feel that the refugees should be given the “right to return,” thus allowing them to repatriate back to their native land. On the other hand, the Israeli position is that repatriation is not an option because it would have damaging impacts on the population of the small country and also create a significant Palestinian majority. For the Israelis this can pose two problems. First is a question of sustainability: can the small country sustain such a substantial population increase? Second: Israeli authority in the land may be challenged by the presence of a large Palestinian population, thus threatening their control of power, and ultimately the fate of nation of Israel.

The Palestinian National Authority will stand strong on the issue of the “right to return” for all Palestinian refugees. It is our belief that it is the inalienable right of our people who have been expelled from their homeland to return as Palestinian citizens. We are not alone in our belief that all Palestinian refugees should have the “right to return;” in fact many international organizations, such as Amnesty International, recognize and support the same need. The “right to return” is not only agreed upon within international organizations, but more importantly was specifically outlined in the UN resolution 194 (1948). It may also be understood that all successful peace negotiations will be contingent upon the acceptance of this policy.

To respond to the first concern of the Israelis, the question of sustainability, all refugees that return to the area will return to the Palestinian territory. This makes the question of sustainability a question for the Palestinian National Authority, not for the Israeli government. As for the second concern that Israeli sovereignty in the region would be threatened by the increased Palestinian population, this is also an unfounded concern. With the support of the United States, Israel undoubtedly proves that as long as the US possesses the world’s most powerful military, and declares absolute support for Israel, their existence will not be threatened. The “right to return” for all Palestinian refugees will in no way endanger the state of Israel. In fact if Israel makes the decision to concede this demand for peace, then the Palestinians may become more willing to sit at the table for further and more drastic peace concessions. One of the major points of anger for the Palestinian people is the plight of their refugees, and resolving this matter would ultimately be progressing towards the resolution of the greater problem of peace in the land.
8. Working Papers

A working paper is an informal, unofficial document written in committee, intended to aid the discussion of the committee. Generally, it is the first written draft of an idea that allows you to introduce an opinion to the Committee. Working papers provide delegates with the opportunity to receive feedback from other delegates before taking the time to draft a formal resolution.

Working papers are generally no longer than a few sentences and cover only one topic. They should be neatly written prior to submission. Working papers do not require any signatures for submission. They are never formally voted on. After being accepted by the chair, working papers will be posted or distributed to the committee.

The ideas presented in working papers are combined with opinions introduced in committee and caucus to form resolutions.
9. Resolutions

A resolution is a carefully drafted single sentence asking the assembly to express an opinion, affirm a policy, or take an action. It is a formal proposal made to the assembly by a delegate or group of delegates. If delegates wish to submit preliminary drafts of resolutions in the form of a working paper, they may do so once a committee session is declared open. However, all resolutions must be drafted while at the conference and the chair will consider resolutions at his or her discretion.

Usually the chair will accept the introduction of resolutions after there has been substantial debate on the topic and on working papers. Multiple resolutions per committee and per topic may be passed. To be submitted for debate, a resolution requires the approval of the Chair and the signatures of a minimum number of delegates. See Rule 24: Resolutions.

Guidelines for Drafting a Resolution

1. A resolution must be clear and concise. It should not be longer than one double-spaced typed page.
2. At the top of the resolution, the following information should be given:
   • The name of the committee in which the subject was discussed,
   • The subject of the resolution, and
   • The nation or group of nations sponsoring the resolution.
3. Technically, the resolution is written as one sentence. Sections are set off by colons, and clauses are ended with a semicolon (see sample resolution).
4. Because it deals with a specific issue or problem, a resolution is more limited in scope than a position paper.
5. The resolution must be accurate and complete, so that delegates can decide how to vote based on the information presented in the Preamble and the request for action in the Operative Clause(s).
6. A sponsor of the resolution must be prepared to explain and defend the views expressed and action requested in the resolution. It is not appropriate or sufficient to ask delegates to vote “yes” because “this is a good resolution and it should be passed.”
7. A resolution has two sections, each having a specific, important function. The clauses under each section should be numbered to aid in discussion. The two sections are introduced under the next heading.
Structure of the Resolution

The Preamble

This section explains the purpose of the resolution and states the chief reasons for the recommendations that follow in the Operative Clause(s). Often, the Preamble refers to a previous UN action, a resolution, or to the United Nations Charter. This section of the resolution sometimes begins with a brief statement to introduce the main part of the section which consists of preambular clauses. Each preambular clause begins with an initiating word. For quick reference during debate, delegates number each preambular clause. Words that can be used to introduce preambular clauses are as follows:

- Whereas
- Having studied
- Acknowledging
- Emphasizing
- Keeping in mind
- Approving
- Observing
- Concerned
- Referring to
- Deeply disturbed
- Recognizing
- Realizing
- Sensing the need
- Fully aware

The section ends with a semicolon followed by the word “Therefore.”

The Operative Clause

This section states the policy or action you wish the delegates to adopt. It must be clearly and succinctly worded. This section must be based on the positions and arguments you have made in the Preamble. If you use more than one Operative Clause, each must deal with only one complete idea and set forth a clear action to be taken. For quick reference during debate, delegates number each Operative Clause. This section begins with the words “Be It Resolved that the United Nations (or Security Council): ” These words are followed by one or more Operative Clauses that begin with an action word. Some of the action words that can be used to introduce an Operative Clause are as follows:

- Affirm
- Proclaim
- Institute
- Authorize
- Recommend
- Reduce
- Condemn
- Reject
- Censure
- Confirm
- Request
- Attack
- Establish
- Organize
- Build
- Invite
- Remind
- Destroy
- Initiate
- Form
- Give
- Provide
- Encourage
- Urge

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Sample Resolution

Committee: Disease Control  
Subject: Modernization of Health Care

Sponsored by: St. Lucia, Yemen, and Bahrain

Preamble
Delegates, the members of the Disease Control Committee have studied the issue of modernizing world health care and come to the following conclusions:

1. Realizing that poor medical facilities and under-trained medical personnel decrease the quality of life for citizens of countries throughout the world;

2. Recognizing that proper health care supplies are insufficient and even totally absent in many areas of the world;

3. Acknowledging that in certain countries health care systems are poor or non-existent

4. Deeply disturbed by the alarming growth of AIDS and other life-threatening diseases throughout the world;

5. Observing that the governments of some countries have totally ignored the health and welfare of their citizens and focused instead on the build-up of weapons and the acquisition of personal gain for its leaders; therefore

Operative Clause
Be it resolved that the United Nations (or Security Council):

1. Urge the member nations and nations throughout the world to increase the quality and quantity of medical supplies, adequately trained medical personnel, and medical care within their borders;

2. Establish a loan program which will allow countries with documented low socio-economic ability to acquire the funds to build medical facilities, purchase medical supplies, and attract properly trained medical personnel;

3. Authorize an oversight effort to determine if a government is willfully and systematically endangering the health and welfare of its citizens;

10. Amendments (see Rule of Procedure C-26)

Amendments introduce a change, a deletion, or an addition to a resolution. Delegates from other countries will draft amendments to:

- Clarify a resolution;
- Change a position stated in a resolution; or
- Arrive at a consensus on the rejection or adoption of a resolution.

When preparing your resolution, take into account various positions on the issue (not just the policy of your country). A well researched, clearly stated resolution that can be supported by many countries has a better chance of being selected for presentation, debate, and adoption. A poorly written resolution with a very narrow point of view, if selected, will be subject to a lengthy amendment process, and may end up being rejected.

When listening to other delegates’ resolutions, be thinking of ways in which your country might amend or accept this resolution.

When amending a resolution your focus should be on the action recommended in the Operative Clause. However, there may be some instances in which to amend Preambular Clauses (e.g. wrong date, sovereignty clauses). Sometimes, you will have to reverse this action in order for your country to support the resolution. Other times, you may have to add action words to strengthen or clarify the intent of the Operative Clause. Your ability to make logical and well-worded amendments will make you look good in the assembly.

Amendments are debatable and need only a majority vote for adoption, but they do require the approval of the Chair and signatures from delegates in the committee. Discussion on an amendment, however, must address only the words and ideas that are actually in the amendment.

Sample Amendments to the Sample Resolution

There are three types of Amendments, Amend, Delete, and Add. An example of each is presented below:

I. Amends Operative Clause three to read “Authorize an oversight effort by the WHO, and funded by UNICEF to determine if a government is willfully and systematically endangering the health and welfare of its citizens, especially children;” in order to clarify which body has the authority in these efforts, and where the funding will come from.

II. Deletes operative clause number four.

III. Adds an operative clause to read “Recommend to the WHO distribution of adequate birth control to all citizens of the world who desire it.”
11. Oral Presentations

Types of Presentations

**General Debate** - for obtaining information and is given in the form of a prepared statement that has been written and practiced earlier. Because many countries will want to outline their positions, a **time limit** is set for each presentation.

**Substantive Debate** - delegates will express their countries’ policy in relation to specific proposals and urge support or opposition on the part of others. These presentations are usually made on short notice and cannot be written ahead of time. You should clearly express your views to support or oppose and explain why you recommend that action as your goal.

**Caucus Sessions** - delegates will have the opportunity to converse and debate informally. Delegations can have private meetings to discuss the topics that are on their agenda. This is a way for the delegations to prepare for the actual committee sessions.

Presentation Skills

**Planning ahead**

- Research and know your country.
- Prepare and practice your presentation.
- Know your audience and determine their expectations.

**Structure**

- Keep your presentation focused and concise.
- Introduce your agenda, deliver your content, and conclude by summarizing your key points.

**Delivering your presentation**

- Rehearse your presentation with a critical listener.
- Attitude is essential. Be confident, knowledgeable, and enthusiastic about what you are saying.
- Dress in formal business attire.
12. Rules of Procedure

I. General Rules

Rule 1. INTRODUCTION: These rules of procedure shall be binding in all Washington State Model United Nations Committee meetings, Committees shall proceed in the following manner: A Delegate may raise his or her placard, at which time the Chair will recognize the delegate, who must state the rule under which he or she rises.

Rule 2. CREDENTIALS AND ATTIRE: All participants must wear their credential badges and be dressed in Western business attire or its non-Western equivalent at all times. Any participant who does not have his or her badge will not be recognized by the Chair to speak or vote on any motion. Any Delegate found to be dressed in a manner that disrupts Committee proceedings or offends his or her fellow Delegates may be dismissed by the Chair.

Rule 3. GENERAL DUTIES OF DELEGATES: Each Delegate to the conference has the duty to respect the decisions of his or her Committee Chair; obtain the floor before addressing the Committee; safeguard and advocate his or her own national interests; accord due courtesy and respect to fellow Delegates and other Conference participants; and act in accordance with the United Nations Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Any Delegate may be removed from Committee proceedings if he or she is found disrespectful of these duties.

Rule 4. GENERAL DUTIES OF THE SECRETARIAT: The Secretary General shall hold his or her position throughout the Conference. He or she may designate a member of the Secretariat to act in his or her place at any meetings of the Conference. All rights and privileges accorded to the Secretariat in these rules apply to the Secretary General, the Undersecretaries General, the Director General, and any other individual so designated by the Secretary General. The Secretary General shall provide and direct the staff required for Committee session. The Secretariat shall receive, print, and distribute resolutions of the Committees, and have custody over and ensure proper preservation of documents.

Rule 5. GENERAL DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIR: The Committee Chair shall hold his or her position throughout the Conference. The Chair may confer any or all of his or her duties upon a Committee Moderator and/or Committee Secretary, on a temporary or permanent basis. All rights and privileges accorded to the Chair in these rules are also accorded to the Moderator and Secretary. In addition to exercising the powers which are conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the Chair shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Committee; direct its discussions; ensure the observance of these rules; accord the right to speak; and announce decisions. He or she shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Committee and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. The Chair may, in the course of the discussion of an item, recommend to the Committee a change in its state of operations. The Chair may also unilaterally change any function of the Committee to expedite discussion and efficiency.

Rule 6. QUORUM: One third of the present members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. A quorum shall be assumed present unless challenged and shown to be absent. Regardless of quorum, the Chair may open any meeting and commence with its proceedings at his or her discretion. A quorum is required to have a substantive vote, i.e. to vote on a resolution and/or amendment.

II. Committee Operations

Rule 7. REORDERING OF THE AGENDA: The agenda will be the first order of business for the Committee. A motion to reorder the agenda requires a second and two speakers (one in favor, one opposed). Multiple proposals for reordering the agenda are in order. Once voting has begun on motions to reorder the agenda, no further motions will be accepted. The motions will be voted on in the order of in which the Chair accepts them. The first motion to receive a majority will be adopted by the Committee. Should no proposal receive a majority vote, the Committee’s agenda will proceed in the order set forth by the Secretariat.
Rule 8. GENERAL DEBATE: After the agenda has been determined, the Committee will be in General Debate on the first agenda topic. Speakers may speak generally on the topic being considered, and may address any resolution currently on the floor. Resolutions may be proposed only when the Committee is in General Debate on the relevant topic.

Rule 9. REORDERING OF RESOLUTIONS: Immediately after closing General Debate, the procedure for which is described in Rule 18, Delegates may then motion to reorder the resolutions on the floor. If there are no motions to reorder the resolutions, the Committee will immediately proceed to Substantive Debate, described in Rule 10. If a Delegate does motion to reorder the resolutions, another Delegate must second it for the Committee to vote on it. The Chair shall then call for two Delegates to rise to speak about the motion (one in favor of, one opposed). The Chair shall allow multiple motions for reordering resolutions. Once there are no further motions on the floor, the Committee will vote on the proposals in the order in which the Chair accepted them. Once voting has begun on motions to reorder the agenda, no further motions will be accepted. The first motion to receive a majority will be adopted by the Committee. Should no proposal receive a majority vote, the Committee will discuss the resolutions in the order in which the Chair accepted them during General Debate.

Rule 10. SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE: After the closure of General Debate and any reordering of resolutions, Substantive Debate will commence on each resolution in the appropriate order. Speakers must limit their content to issues specifically relating to the resolution at hand or its proposed amendments. During Substantive Debate, the resolution will remain on the floor until debate is postponed or closed. Amendments may be proposed only when the Committee is in Substantive Debate on the relevant resolution.

III. Debate

Rule 11. SPEAKERS’ LIST: The Committee shall have an open Speakers’ List at all times during General and Substantive Debate. The Speakers’ List shall be drawn up at the start of debate. At the Chair’s discretion, a Delegate may add his or her name to the Speakers’ List by submitting a written request to the Chair, provided his or her country is not already on the Speakers’ List. The names of the next several countries to speak shall be posted for the convenience of the Committee. Should the Speakers’ List be exhausted in General Debate, the Committee shall automatically postpone debate on the agenda topic in question and move into General Debate on the next topic. Should the Speakers’ List be exhausted in Substantive Debate, the Committee shall automatically close debate and proceed with Voting Bloc on the resolution in question.

Rule 12. SPEECHES: No delegate may address the Committee without having previously obtained the permission of the Chair. The Chair shall call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion or display a lack of courtesy. The Chair shall determine the time limit for all speeches. Time limits may differ depending on the motion under discussion. When a Delegate’s allotted time has expired, the Chair shall call him or her to order. Replies to Points of Information are considered to be part of the speech. A speech may be interrupted only by a Point of Personal Privilege, and then only if the speech is inaudible or if the Delegate experiences acute discomfort that prevents him or her from fully participating in the work of the Committee.

Rule 13. YIELDS: During General and Substantive Debate, a Delegate may yield to the Chair, to Points of Information, or to another Delegate. If the Delegate yields to the Chair and there are no motions on the floor, the next speaker on the Speakers’ List shall have the floor. If the Delegate yields to Points of Information, the time taken to answer the Points of Information shall be included in the allotted time limit, but not the time taken to ask them. If the Delegate yields to another Delegate, the second Delegate shall have the remainder of the first Delegate’s speaking time. The second Delegate may not yield to another Delegate or to Points of Information; at the conclusion of his or her speaking time, the Delegate must yield the floor to the Chair.
Rule 14. SHORT COMMENTS: Delegates may present the Committee with a short comment that must pertain directly to the last speech heard by the Committee, or, in the case of speech during which a yield was made to another delegate, it must pertain to the part of the speech made by the second delegate. Comments are not in order for speeches pertaining to procedural motions. No Delegate may comment to the Committee without having previously obtained the permission of the Chair. The Chair shall call a Delegate to order if his or her comment is not directly relevant to the preceding speech, or if he or she displays a lack of courtesy. The Chair shall determine the time limit for all short comments, and the number of short comments per speech.

Rule 15. UNMODERATED CAUCUS: The purpose of the Unmoderated Caucus is to facilitate discussion outside the rules of formal debate. Delegations may motion for an Unmoderated Caucus at any time when the floor is open. The Delegate must suggest a time limit and a reason for the Unmoderated Caucus. The motion will immediately be put to a vote and requires a majority to pass. The Chair may rule the motion dilatory, and may provide organizational assistance is so requested.

Rule 16. MODERATED CAUCUS: As with the Unmoderated Caucus, the purpose of the Moderated Caucus is to facilitate discussion in a more flexible way than formal debate allows. Delegates may motion for a Moderated Caucus at any time when the floor is open. The same rules for motioning for an Unmoderated Caucus apply to motioning for a Moderated Caucus. If the motion passes, the Chair will open the floor to all members to discuss any issue pertaining to the suggested focus of the Moderated Caucus. Delegates shall express their desire to address the Committee by raising their placard, and will be recognized at the discretion of the Chair. No Speakers’ List shall be taken for a Moderated Caucus, and yields are out of order during that period. The format of the Moderated Caucus may be adjusted at the Chair’s discretion.

Rule 17. Q&A SESSION: The purpose of the Q&A Session is also to facilitate discussion in a more flexible way than formal debate allows. Delegates may motion for a Q&A Session at any time when the floor is open. The Delegate must suggest a reason for the session, a time limit, and a single Delegate or representative to be questioned. The Delegate may name him or herself as the Delegate to be questioned. The motion will immediately be put to a vote, requiring a simple majority to pass. If the motion passes, the Chair will moderate the Committee’s questions to the single delegate or representative named in the original motion. Yields are out of order during a Q&A Session. The format of the Q&A Session may be adjusted at the Chair’s discretion.

IV. Procedural Motions

Rule 18. CLOSURE OF DEBATE: Whenever the floor is open during General and Substantive debate, Delegates may move to close debate on the matter under discussion. A motion to close debate requires a second. If there is objection to the motion, the Delegates who proposed and seconded the motion will speak in favor, and two other Delegates will speak against. The motion to close debate requires a two-thirds majority to pass. If the motion passes while the Committee is in General Debate, the Committee will immediately proceed to reorder the resolutions or enter Substantive Debate. If the motion passes while in Substantive Debate on a resolution, the Committee will immediately proceed to Voting Bloc on that resolution and its amendments.

Rule 19. SUSPENSION OF DEBATE: When the floor is open, Delegates may move to temporarily suspend all Committee functions. Such a motion will immediately be put to a vote, requiring a simple majority to pass.

Rule 20. ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE: A motion to adjourn the Committee session is only in order at the completion of the Committee’s deliberations, and only at the specific request of the Committee Chair. This motion requires a simple majority to pass. A motion to adjourn the Conference is only in order at the conclusion of the closing ceremonies, and only at the specific request of the Secretary General.
Rule 21. POSTPONEMENT AND RESUMPTION OF DEBATE: This motion may be made whenever the floor is open during General or Substantive Debate. Postponing debate can mean moving on to the next agenda topic, or, if the committee is in Substantive Debate, it can mean moving on to the next resolution. A motion to postpone debate requires two speakers (one in favor, one opposed), and requires a two-thirds majority to pass. No debate or action on an agenda topic or resolution that has been postponed is in order until the resumption of debate on that agenda topic or resolution. A motion to resume debate for either an agenda topic or a resolution requires two speakers (one in favor, one opposed), and requires a two-thirds majority to pass. Unless debate is resumed, the agenda topic or resolution that was postponed shall be debated after all others. Postponed agenda topics and resolutions shall be debated in the order in which they were postponed.

Rule 22. RECONSIDERATION: Reconsideration of a resolution or amendment that has already been put to a final vote is not in order.

Rule 23. VOTING ON PROCEDURAL MOTIONS: Official observers and non-governmental organizations may vote on procedural motions only. After the Chair has announced the start of voting on any procedural motion, no motions or parliamentary points are in order, except Points of Personal Privilege relating to acute discomfort. Each member shall have one vote, and may vote “Yes,” “No,” or “Abstain.” Each member must vote on procedural matters. A simple majority requires one more “Yes” vote than “No” votes (abstentions are not counted). A two-thirds majority requires twice as many “Yes” votes as “No” votes. Voting on procedural motions shall be done by placard.

V. Substantive Proposals and Motions

Rule 24. RESOLUTIONS: Any member Delegate who is present and voting may rise under this rule to propose a resolution to the Chair. A resolution requires the approval of the Chair and the signatures of Delegates in the Committee. The Chair shall determine the necessary number of sponsors and signatories. Signing a resolution does not constitute support of or require a vote in favor of the resolution. Resolutions require a simple majority to pass. Additional voting restrictions apply in some committees. The Committee may pass multiple resolutions per agenda topic. Delegates may withdraw sponsorship of a resolution.

Rule 25. INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION: The sponsor of a resolution may rise under this rule to introduce the resolution to the Committee once it has been approved by the Chair and distributed to the Committee. The content of the introduction shall be limited to the reading of the operative clauses, whereupon the Delegate(s) who introduced the resolution shall be granted the floor for an allotted period of time. During this time, the speaker may answer only substantive questions regarding the content and meaning of the resolution. There are no short comments or yields during the introduction of a resolution.

Rule 26. AMENDMENTS: Any member Delegate who is present and voting may rise under this rule to propose an amendment to the Chair. Amendments may change, delete from, or add to a resolution. Amendments may be proposed only when the committee is in Substantive Debate on the relevant resolution. An amendment requires the approval of the Chair and the signatures of Delegates in the Committee. The Chair shall determine the necessary number of sponsors and signatories. Signing an amendment does not constitute support of or require a vote in favor of the amendment. Amendments require a simple majority to pass. The Committee may pass multiple amendments per resolution.
VI. Parliamentary Points

Rule 27. POINTS OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Such points must refer to the comfort and well-being of the Delegate and may not refer to the content of any speech. Points of Personal Privilege may interrupt a speech only if the speech is inaudible or if the Delegate is experiencing acute discomfort that prevents him or her from fully participating in the work of the Committee.

Rule 28. POINTS OF ORDER: Such points may relate to procedural matters only, may not interrupt a speech, and may not refer to the content of a speech. Delegates should make this point only to indicate an instance of incorrect parliamentary procedure. The Chair shall rule on a Point of Order immediately and in strict accordance with these rules of procedure.

Rule 29. POINTS OF INFORMATION: Such points may be directed to the Chair or to a speaker who has yielded to Points of Information. A point of Information must be phrased as a single question.

Rule 30. POINTS OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY: Such points are questions directed to the Chair concerning interpretation or understanding of the rules of procedure.

VII. Voting Bloc

Rule 31. SEQUENCE OF VOTING BLOC: The sequence of Voting Bloc is as follows: After the closure of Substantive Debate under Rule 18, the Chair will announce that the Committee is in Voting Bloc. The Committee begins by voting on any amendments. The Committee votes on amendments in the order in which the Chair accepted them. After voting on amendments, the Chair shall accept motions to divide the resolution under Rule 34. Should such a motion pass, the Committee shall subsequently vote on the divided resolution part by part. If not, the Committee shall vote on the resolution as a whole. Rule 35 describes voting procedures.

Rule 32. CONDUCT DURING VOTING BLOC: After the Chair has announced the start of Voting Bloc, no procedural motions are in order, except requests for a roll call vote or division of the resolution. Parliamentary points are in order. During voting Bloc, the Committee room will be closed, and no Delegates will be allowed to enter. Delegates should be silent and not pass notes.

Rule 33. ROLL CALL VOTING: After motions for the division of a resolution have been voted upon, any Delegate may request a roll call vote on the resolution or any of its divided sections. Such a motion must be seconded, and then voted on, requiring a one-third majority to pass. Roll call votes for amendments may be allowed upon the recommendation of the Chair. During a roll call vote, Delegates will be called on by country in alphabetical order and must vote “Yes,” “No,” “Abstain,” or “Pass.” Should any Delegate pass, the roll call will proceed for a second round only.

Rule 34. DIVISION OF THE RESOLUTION: After debate on a substantive proposal has been closed and voting on all amendments is completed, a Delegate may move divide the resolution and vote on clauses individually or in groups. Preambulatory clauses may not be divided in this manner. The motion will immediately be put to a vote. A motion to divide requires a simple majority to pass. Only one motion to divide may pass, meaning that after one motion has passed, all other motions to divide are out of order.

Rule 35. VOTING: Each member State shall have one vote. Official observers and non-governmental organizations shall not be able to vote on amendments or resolutions. Members may vote “Yes,” “No,” or “Abstain.” Abstentions will not count either for or against the adoption of a motion. All member states must vote on all substantive matters. Amendments and resolutions require a simple majority to pass. A simple majority requires “Yes” votes from more than half of the members voting “Yes” or “No.” Voting shall be done by placard, except in case of a roll call vote. Some committees will have special rules pertaining to voting, which either augment or replace the ones listed here.
VIII. Other Rules of Procedure

Rule 36. STATEMENTS BY THE SECRETARIAT: The Secretary General or a member of the Secretariat may, at any time, make either oral or written statements to the Committee concerning any matter. Such a statement takes precedence over any and all other motions on the floor, and may interrupt caucuses, Q&A Sessions, and Delegates’ speeches. It may not interrupt Voting Bloc.

Rule 37. APPEAL: A motion to appeal the ruling of the Chair requires the presence and approval of a Secretariat member, in addition to a two-thirds majority of the Committee. The Secretariat member may deal with the appeal to his or her discretion, and may rule the appeal “dilatory” or “out of order.”

Rule 38. RIGHT OF REPLY: If any Delegate should be slandered in a public forum, then the offended Delegate may motion for a right of reply. The right may be granted only at the Chair’s discretion, and applies only when the Delegate’s personal and/or national dignity have been specifically slandered.

Rule 39. PRECEDENCE OF MOTIONS: Points and motions will be considered in the following order:

1. Parliamentary points:
   - Point of Personal Privilege (Rule 27)
   - Point of Order (Rule 28)
   - Point of Information (Rule 29)
   - Point of Parliamentary Inquiry (Rule 30)

2. Procedural motions that are not debatable:
   - Short Comments (Rule 14)
   - Suspension of Debate (Rule 19)
   - Unmoderated Caucus (Rule 15)
   - Moderated Caucus (Rule 16)
   - Q&A Session (Rule 17)

3. Substantive motions:
   - Amendments (Rule 26)
   - Resolutions (Rule 24)
   - Introduction of a Resolution (Rule 25)

4. Procedural motions applicable to the resolution or amendment under consideration:
   - Closure of Debate (Rule 18)
   - Postponement and Resumption of Debate (Rule 21)

5. Other procedural motions:
   - Postponement and Resumption of Debate (Rule 21)
   - Adjournment of Debate (Rule 20)
13. Appendices

13.1. Country Research

Finding this information is not mandatory but will give you a comprehensive understanding of your country.

Geography

- What is your nation’s size (square miles)?
- Which countries border your nation?
- What is your nation’s relationship with these countries?
- Where is your country located in the world, and how does that effect it?

Colonialism

- Has your nation ever controlled colonies?
- If so, where and for how long?
- What is your current relationship with your former colonies?
- Was your nation ever a colonial possession?
- If so, in whose sphere of influence?
- When did your nation become independent?
- How was independence achieved? (peacefully? revolution?)
- What is your countries relationship with its former colonizer?

Social, Cultural, and Ethnic Factors

- What is your country’s: population, population density, birth rate, literacy rate, mortality rate, and employment rate?
- How do these statistics rank by world standards?
- Where does your country rate on the HDI (Human Development Index- UNDP)?
- What are the major religions and the percentage of the population represented in each?
- How many languages are spoken in your country?
- Do language differences present problems? If so, what are they?
- What ethnicities are represented in your country and in what percentages?
- If your country is culturally diverse, does this create problems? If so, what are they?
- What is the traditional role of women in your nation’s society?

Political

- Does your country regularly hold national multiparty elections?
- How many different parties do you have?
- Is there freedom of the press in your country? (Does your government control, or in any way restrict newspapers, magazines, TV, internet, or any other media forms?)
• Is there a state religion in your country? If so, are other religions tolerated?
• What role does the military play in your country?
• Do all ethnic groups freely participate in the political process, including voting, holding office, etc.?
• What type of government does your country have?
• How stable if your government?

Economic

• What is your nation’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross National Product (GNP)?
• What is the annual per capita income?
• Have these figures improved over the past 10 years?
• How do these figures rank internationally?
• Is your nation’s economy primarily agricultural, industrial, extractive (oil, minerals), or diversified?
• Does your nation receive economic aid? From whom and in what form?
• Does your nation give economic aid? To whom and in what form?
• How important is any aid, received or given, to your national budget?
• Does your country have trouble meeting its debt payments to anyone? (Remember to consider both debts to other countries and to international organizations such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund).
• What are your nation’s natural resources?
• Is your country resource poor or resource rich?
• Are those resources accessible to your nation?
• Does your country have a balance of trade deficit (does it import more than it exports)?
• If so, what is the deficit?
• Who are your country’s main trading partners?

International Perspective

• Is your nation a world power and/or a regional power?
• Is your nation a military power?
• Does your country possess nuclear capability?
• Is it threatened by a neighbor who does?
• If your country does have nuclear weapons, is it doing anything to control their numbers?
• Is your nation part of any alliances? If so, which one(s)?
• Which nations are most friendly to your government? Least friendly?

How Your Nation Sees Itself

• List the three major problems (domestic or international) facing your country.
## 13.2. Country List
Countries offered are marked with an X, observer nations are marked with an O.

**Committee Index**
- DIS = Disarmament and Intl Security
- SHC = Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural
- ESL = ESL Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural
- WHO = World Health Organization
- UNCHR = UN Commission on Human Rights
- UNDCP = UN Drug Control Programme
- UNDP = UN Development Programme
- LC = Legal Committee
- SC = Security Council
- IAEA = Intl Atomic Energy Agency
- ICJ = International Court of Justice
- EU = European Union
- OAS = Org of American States
- AL = Arab League
- ASAN = Association of SE Asian Nations

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A consul is a government official appointed to live in a foreign city to serve his or her country’s citizens and business interest there. Consulates are branch offices of the embassy, which is always located in a country’s capital city. Consuls from the various regional consuls report to the ambassador at the embassy.

Washington State has five Consulate Generals, twenty-seven Consulates, and 3 trade offices. These diplomats and country representatives are eager to work with students representing their countries. We have informed them about the Model United Nations program. Please feel free to contact your Consul.

**Austria**
Consulate of Austria  
P.O. Box 1027  
416-A East Morris Street  
La Conner, WA 98257  
Phone: (360) 466-1100  
Fax: (360) 466-1101  
Contact: Consul Elisabeth Steinacker  
E-mail: ecsteinack@aol.com

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E-mail: seattle@diplobel.be

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E-mail: edl6@ix.netcom.com

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Fax: (425) 671-0706  
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E-mail: consulate@finlandsea.org

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Fax: (206) 448-4218  
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E-mail: faccpnw@msn.com

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E-mail: cseifert@ibms.cc
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Fax: (206) 624-0812
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Fax: (206) 624-9097
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Fax: (206) 441-7912
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Fax: (425) 745-9520
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Fax: (206) 365-5378
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E-mail: m.velasque@worldvision.org

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Fax: (206) 728-1871
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Seattle, WA 98161
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E-mail: consulateofsweden.org

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E-mail: jweder@aol.com

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Fax: (206) 441-4320
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**United Kingdom**
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Fax: (206) 622-4728
Contact: Consul David Broom

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Consulate of Uruguay
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Suite 4100
Seattle, WA 98101-2338
Phone: (206) 223-4874
Fax: (206) 233-7107
Contact: Consul Hartley Paul
“In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.
There the common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe,
And the kindly earth shall slumber, lapt in universal law.”
- excerpt from “Locksley Hall” by Alfred Lord Tennyson

Thank you to the following people who contributed significantly to the development of the 2004 manual:

Diane Adachi
Matt Beebe
Nicholas Carlson
Jon Frost
Elaine Grimm
Kim Logan
Emi Mizuki
Dana Slocomb
The United Nations Association
Delegate Notes