

WHAT TO EXPECT & RULES IN THE MORNING COMMITTEE - REFORMING THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL (3 HOURS, 20 MINUTES)

1. Each committee begins with the Chairperson (Chair) explaining the rules and taking roll call.
2. The Chair asks which Delegates would like to make Opening Remarks, which should be everyone since Delegates have had time to research and prepare statements. Students make their speeches in alphabetical order by country name. Speeches are limited to 1 minute and are given at the front of the room.
3. Once the opening remarks are complete, formal debate will begin. The default debate format is the **Speakers' List**. Delegates may ask to be added to the Speakers' List. At the opening of the session, countries that wish to be added will be added by having their names drawn at random. Thereafter, countries are added by passing a note to the chair expressing their desire to be added. Countries can only be listed on the Speakers' List once at any given point. Once they have spoken, they may ask to be re-added.
4. The **default Speakers' List Speaking Time is 90 seconds**, but this can be changed by Delegates motioning to change the Speakers' List time from 30 seconds to 3 minutes at 15 second intervals. The Chair, at their discretion, may or may not entertain such a motion. If the Chair entertains the motion, then students will vote on the change. As this is a procedural vote, abstentions are not allowed. A simple majority is required to change the speaker's time. There are no speeches for or against time changes.
- 4A. Note that it is permitted for students to get up from their seats at any point (including during speeches) to go work on resolutions or for strategizing. This can either be done in a separate room or in the back of the room; the Chair will make clear the location for this at the start of the committee session.
5. At any point thereafter in between speakers, a delegate may motion for either a **Moderated Caucus** or an **Unmoderated Caucus** for a suggested length, though the Chair may deny this motion at their discretion. If a motion for a Moderated Caucus or Unmoderated Caucus is accepted by the Chair, then the delegate raising the motion speaks in favor, and one country, selected by the Chair, can speak against (if there is any that does not desire the change in format). Such speeches are limited to 30 seconds. As this is a procedural vote, abstentions are not allowed. A simple majority is required to change the debate format.
5. In a **Moderated Caucus**, the Chair recognizes delegates who indicate their desire to speak by raising their country placards. The Chair will call on speakers one-by-one until the Moderated Caucus time has expired. The default Moderated Caucus speaking time is 45 seconds, but this can be changed from 30 to 90 seconds through motioning and voting (again, it is at the chair's discretion whether to allow such a vote). Whoever motions for a moderated caucus should specify its duration. The Chair may then extend the moderated caucus time at their discretion. At the end of this time, debate format reverts to the Speakers' List.

6. An **Unmoderated Caucus** allows Delegates to move around the room to talk informally with any other Delegates. This format is conducive to allowing students to work on drafting resolutions. Whoever motions for an Unmoderated caucus should specify its duration. The minimum amount of time is 5 minutes; the maximum is 15 minutes, though the Chair may extend an Unmoderated caucus unilaterally at their discretion. At the end of this time, debate format reverts to the Speakers' List.

7. During Moderated Caucuses or Speaker's List format, students can **yield the balance of their speaking time** to another delegate (the delegate to whom time is yielded cannot further yield the balance, however), provided the balance is at least 15 seconds. Yielding is not permitted during speeches to change the debate format, for speeches in voting procedure, or during opening statements.

8. Students can pass paper notes to other students during moderated caucuses or speakers' list format. A typical note may read something like "Dear France, Will you yield the balance of your speaking time to me when you are next up on the Speakers' List, and then I will do the same for you? - China" or something like "Italy, will you meet me in the back to work on an amendment to our resolution? - Brazil". Passing notes is encouraged, but please be clear, brief, and show respect at all times. Please do not open notes meant for another country that are being passed.

9. It is not permitted to use any electronic devices during the Model UN sessions, including during unmoderated caucuses. It is permitted to bring printed resources (book, notes, printouts, etc.) into the committee room, but resolutions should NOT be drafted in advance: these are meant to be written during the committee sessions with the participation of a minimum of 2 separate delegates (and usually, at least 3-4).

10. During the early part of the session, delegates should look for other countries to ally with. During the first unmoderated caucus, if not beforehand, allied delegates should start drafting their first **resolutions**. Resolutions are documents containing proposals for change. **Passing these resolutions is the primary aim in a Standard Model UN Committee!**

11. [This website](#) gives a good overview of how to draft a resolution. Your chairs will also assist you in this process.

12. All resolutions must have at least two co-sponsors. There is no maximum number of co-sponsors.

13. Resolutions may also have signatories. These are countries that are typically broadly supportive of the resolution, but they are not formally responsible for the resolution. There is no minimum or maximum number of signatories that are needed, but resolutions with signatories will stand a better chance of succeeding.

14. Once a resolution has been submitted to the chair, it will be typed up, printed, and brought back to the delegates. When the resolution is formally introduced, the Chair may interrupt the Speakers List or Moderated Caucus to allow up to 2 sponsors (selected by the Chair) to speak each for 30 seconds to introduce it (the balance of the time may not be yielded). Resolutions are not introduced formally during Unmoderate Caucuses.

15. In addition to resolutions, delegates may draft an **amendment** to any resolution. There are two types of amendments: **Friendly and Unfriendly Amendments**. Friendly amendments require the support of all co-sponsors. If this requirement is met, they are adopted without any further voting. Unfriendly amendments by definition lack the support of at least one co-sponsor. They are voted on, like resolutions, BEFORE the resolution itself comes up for a vote. Unfriendly Amendments require at least two co-sponsors, and no specified number of signatories. [This website](#) gives an overview of how amendments work.

16. Amendments are brought to the Chair, and then will likewise be typed up, and formally introduced to the committee when the committee is in Moderated Caucuses or Speakers' List format. Amendments receive 1 speech in their favor for 30 seconds upon introduction. The Chair will select one Co-Sponsor to introduce the amendment (the balance of the time may not be yielded).

16. Approximately 10-20 minutes prior to the end of the session, the Chair will entertain a motion to go into Voting Procedure. Entering into Voting Procedure is done at the Chair's discretion and does not require a vote. It will be closer to 20 minutes if there are at least 3-4 different resolutions and unfriendly amendments that require voting.

17. Unfriendly amendments receive one speaker for and one speaker against for 30 seconds prior to a vote. Resolutions receive two speakers for and two speakers against for 60 seconds prior to a vote. The balance of the speaker's time may not be yielded.

18. During Voting Procedure, delegates are not permitted to leave the room, nor to leave their seats.

19. Parents, other relatives and guardians, teachers, and coaches will be invited into the room on a space permitting basis for Voting Procedure. Note that this may be disallowed if there is insufficient space.

20. If an unfriendly amendment passes, then it becomes part of the resolution prior to it being voted on.

21. Delegates may vote Yes, No, or Abstain. Resolutions and unfriendly amendments need a simple majority to pass. Abstentions do not count towards determining a majority, but tied votes do not pass a resolution.

22. After voting procedure concludes, the Chair will admit any parents, coaches, and other members of the Delegates' entourages into the room who were not present for voting procedure (again, on a space permitting basis) and give concluding remarks. The Awards Ceremony will then take place 5 minutes later.

Note: During the entire process Delegates may choose to play different roles, each of which has its own merit and can lead to an award, if played well:

- *LEADER Takes a strong position, puts forward a Resolution and convinces others to join them.*
- *SUPPORTER Identifies a position to support and helps rally others to support it as well. May help the leader be more flexible.*
- *MEDIATOR Decides that passing a Resolution is critical and brings together other Delegates with differing viewpoints to get a compromise Resolution passed.*
- *CHALLENGER Works effectively to block a Resolution that their country opposes – perhaps offering an alternative Resolution.*