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An Admonition to the Delegates

We are aware that it is impossible to completely leave behind your own feelings and opinions, but we ask you to remember one important fact: you are not at this conference to espouse your own ideals, but to represent the country to which you are assigned and play the part of its delegate. If you are the People’s Republic of China, you will refuse to recognize Taiwan as a state. If you are North Korea or Iran, you will not throw your support behind the United States. The single most important job of the delegate is to stay in character and support your country’s views, even if you find those views nonsensical and repugnant. This is why it is a matter of rule and custom that no speech should contain personal viewpoints or the word “I,” nor should a delegate begin a speech with “the delegate from India believes,” which is effectively the same as using “I.” “The delegate” does not believe; “India” believes, or the “people of India” believe.

Committee Rules of Procedure

Overview

A committee session has five general ‘stages’, from beginning to end, that will result in resolutions being written and voted on. These stages are:

- I. Introduction: Getting delegates settled and eventually opening debate
- II. Primary Speaker’s list: Delegates debate on *which topic* should be covered first, out of the two given per committee. Note that this stage will be skipped upon finishing the first topic, as with only one topic remaining, no argument is needed to choose the only remaining topic.
- III. Secondary Speaker’s list: Delegates debate on *the topic at hand*. Delegates may either raise their placards to add themselves to the list at the Chair’s notice, or may introduce a point or motion. Typically, a number of delegates will be allowed to speak in order of addition, after which the Chair will ask for any points or motions. However, delegates may raise their placards at any point should they want.
- IV. Resolution writing and presentations: As the Secondary Speaker’s list progresses, delegates will begin to form alliances and find likeminded nations to resolve the issues at hand. Delegates can collaborate to write **working papers** during unmoderated caucuses and submit them to the Chairs for printing. These will later be distributed as **draft resolutions** to the entire committee. Once the committee has access to the printed documents, those who sponsored the draft resolution may motion to present their resolution to the committee.
- V. Voting procedures: Once all resolutions have been presented and discussed, debate must be closed to vote on each resolution individually. Voting procedures are the most complicated part of a JCYMUN conference, so note the flowchart included later to ensure you are aware of what can and must be done at all stages of the process.

Once all resolutions have been voted on, the committee will need to open a new Secondary Speaker’s list to start discussing the second topic. Repeat steps III - V and you will have successfully completed a JCYMUN conference!

These stages have many moving parts and complicated steps. Below is a detailed breakdown of what can and must happen at each stage to ensure properly completed committee sessions.

IMPORTANT NOTE: JCYMUN’s Rules of Procedure may differ slightly from other Model UN conferences. For example, several conferences include opening statements for their delegates, while we do not. Delegates are expected to follow the rules of our conference. Nevertheless, **the Committee Chairs are the final arbiters of all rules.**

General Rules

1. Function of the Chair

In addition to everything in the following rules, the Chair will declare the opening and closing of each session, ensure that the rules are obeyed, call on delegates to speak, call for votes, and announce decisions. The Chair may also suggest that a motion would be appropriate, and rule out of order any inappropriate motions. Always remember, the Chair is the final arbiter of all rules. The Chair shall *not* participate in the discussions of the committee, nor attempt to affect its decisions, except to enforce and arbitrate the rules of debate and to maintain decorum.

2. Roll call

At the beginning of each session, the Chair will take attendance by roll call. At this point, members (i.e. delegates) will declare themselves to be either “present” or “present and voting.” Present and voting members cannot abstain from substantive votes, whereas those who declare themselves as present can.

3. Quorum

A committee has attained a quorum if at least 50% (rounded up) of its members are present. If quorum has not been attained, formal debate may not commence (though it can continue if already begun) and no votes may be taken. A member may call on the Chair at any time to verify quorum.

4. Majority

- A simple majority is 50% + 1 of all present members.
- A substantive majority is 2/3 (rounded up) of all present members.

5. Official language

English is the official language of all JCYMUN committees. A committee may change its official language by unanimous vote, subject to veto of the Chair. Any committee which changes its language must produce English copies of all documents it produces. A speech may be made in any language, but the delegate must give an interpretation of the speech into the working language. If there is a time limit, both speech and interpretation must fit within that limit.

6. Setting of the Agenda

The committee’s first business will be the setting of the agenda, whose topics must be confined to those on the provisional agenda provided before the conference (i.e. the topics in the background guides). The Chair may open a Primary Speaker’s list for the purpose of debating the order in which the topics will be discussed.

Any discussion of the actual topics will be considered out of order, as the job of a member is to discuss which topic to first address.

A motion to begin debate on any of the topics may be presented, requiring 2 speakers for and 2 against. Once debate on a topic is closed, the committee will return to consideration of the agenda and the primary speaker's list.

7. Speaking and the Speaker's List

A member may address the committee when called on by the Chair. The Chair may call a speaker out of order if the speech is not relevant to the topic at hand. The committee must set a limit on the allowed time for speeches. (Important note: A speaker **does not** have to fill the time, so don't be afraid to allow high speaking times). A speech which exceeds the time limit shall be halted by the Chair. Speaking time on procedural matters (points and motions) is by Chair's discretion.

The order of upcoming speeches will be recorded in the speaker's list, which is created at the beginning of debate. Once created, the list may be added to via a written request to the Chair (i.e. if you want to speak, send a note to the Chair, who will then add you to the list) or by raising a placard.

There are 2 speaker's lists:

1. Primary: this is used during the setting of the agenda
2. Secondary: this is used during debate on a topic

A member may move to close or reopen the speaker's list (a closed list cannot be added to). Each such motion requires 2 speakers for and 2 against. Both require a substantive majority. If the speaker's list is exhausted, the committee must vote on any draft resolutions on the floor.

Between speeches, the Chair may call for points or motions from the members (terminology: one "makes" a motion, but "rises" to a point or a right of reply - all points and motions are included later in these rules).

The speaker must always address the Chair. Speakers should also avoid the use of the word "I." These are not **your** opinions, they are your **country's**.

8. Yielding

A member who is recognized to speak may yield (give away) any unused time in one of the following ways:

- To the Chair
- To points of information (questions about the speech)
- To another member

A member who is yielded to cannot yield in turn.

Time should be yielded at the end of a speech.

The time given for questions or to another member cannot exceed the time remaining in the speech.

If a yield is not specified, it defaults to a yield to the Chair. The default may be changed by a procedural vote.

9. Point of Order

A member may rise to a point of order to call attention to a procedural error made by the Chair or another member. A point of order takes precedence over all else, except for points of personal privilege. A speaker may be interrupted, though this is generally considered rude and is highly discouraged.

10. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

A member may use this to ask the Chair for clarification on the rules.

11. Point of Information

A speaker who has yielded to points of information may be asked a **direct question about the speech** by any delegate who rises to this point. Only the answer to the question will take up the remaining time of the speech.

12. Point of Personal Privilege

A delegate may rise to a point of personal privilege to alleviate any problems which prevent them from participating in the proceedings. Common examples are “would the honourable delegate please speak more loudly”, “could we please have some water brought in”, or “could the heat be turned on.” This point supersedes everything else, and is always in order. It is for serious matters and should not be abused (going to the bathroom is not a point: just get up and go).

13. Right of Reply

If a delegate’s personal or national integrity is **explicitly** insulted or slandered in a speech, they may then rise to a right of reply immediately following the speech (and after a yield). The Chair will ask for grounds, then rule the request in or out of order. There may be no right of reply to a right of reply. Remember, this is a *single*, 30 second comment, not a sub-debate. One right of reply per person insulted by *the initial speech*. Once it is finished, normal debate shall resume. *A right of reply is not an excuse to violate the Code of Conduct.*

14. Tabling (Adjournment of debate)

The committee may table a topic and return to the primary speaker’s list and setting of agenda through a substantive majority vote. Such a motion requires 2 speakers for and 2 against. The topic may no longer be discussed, and its draft resolutions may not be presented until the new topic is either closed or tabled, and the committee returns to the initial topic via the primary speaker’s list.

15. Closure of Debate

The committee may close debate and move into voting procedures, disregarding any remaining speakers. This requires a substantive majority, with 2 speakers against. (See below for voting procedures) Delegates can motion to close debate and open voting procedures in either one motion or two.

16. Suspension of the Meeting (Unmoderated Caucus)

The committee may vote to caucus for a specified time period, which must be less than 20 minutes. The delegate who moves to unmoderated caucus must specify (1) the length of and (2) the reason for the caucus.

17. Suspension of Rules (Moderated Caucus)

The committee may vote to go into a moderated caucus. This means that formal debate will be suspended, and that the Chair may simply call on any member who wishes to speak. The delegate who moves to go into caucus must specify (1) the length of and (2) the reason for the caucus, as well as the speaking time limit. The delegate may decide whether they would like to be the first or last speaker in the caucus. All points and right of reply shall be accepted, however motions will be ruled out of order until the moderated caucus has exhausted.

18. Round Table Discussion

The committee may vote to go into round table discussion, whereby each member has a short period of time to speak. The delegate who proposes this motion must specify (1) the reason for the round table and (2) the individual speaking time. It is the chair's discretion as to in what order the members will speak (alphabetically, clockwise, etc.), but each will be called on in turn and the delegate who proposes the motion may decide whether they would like to be the first or last speaker. This is commonly used at the beginning of a session to allow delegates to get their countries' opening positions onto the floor.

19. Notes

Delegates may pass notes to each other or to the Chair. These notes are an additional way of sharing ideas and participating in debate and their contents should be relevant to the committee. The Chair reserves the right to read any notes passed between delegates.

20. Motion to Recess

A member may move to recess the meeting until the next scheduled time. The motion is not debatable, and requires a substantive majority. The Chair may rule this out of order, and such a decision is final.

21. Motion to Adjourn

A member may move to adjourn the meeting. This means that the committee will not meet again during the conference. The motion is not debatable, and requires a substantive majority. The Chair may rule this out of order, and such a decision is final.

22. Precedence of Motions

Motions will be voted on in order from most to least disruptive, as determined by the list below. In the case of a tie, precedence is determined by the complete speaking time of the proposed motion. If there is still a tie, motions shall be voted on in the order they were presented. Motions shall be voted on in the following order:

1. Motion to Adjourn
2. Motion to Recess
3. Motion to Close Debate
4. Motion to Close/Reopen Speaker's List
5. Motion to Set the Agenda
6. Motion for an Extension
7. Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus
8. Motion for a Question and Answer Period
9. Motion to Introduce a Draft Resolution
10. Motion for a Round Table Discussion/Motion for a Moderated Caucus

23. Working Papers, Draft Resolutions, and Resolutions

Any written proposal being worked on by delegates is called a working paper. A working paper becomes a draft resolution under the following conditions:

- It must have at least 2 sponsors and a number of signatories. The total of sponsor + signatory must be greater than 1/4 of the committee members (round up). A draft resolution's sponsors are usually its authors (people who want it to pass), while signatories merely want it debated (not necessarily in favour).
- It must be in resolution format and approved (signed) by the Chair. If it is not in proper format, grammatically correct (this includes spelling), and understandable (a working paper with nonsense sentences does not qualify), it will be returned to the sponsors for a rewrite. The decision to return a working paper is solely at the discretion of the Chair. A working paper may be returned multiple times if this is deemed necessary.
- Working papers, draft resolutions, and resolutions must be submitted handwritten to the Chair to review. If approved, it will be typed and distributed to committee members when introduced.

A draft resolution becomes a resolution only after a vote by the committee (see voting procedures).

24. Motion to Introduce a Draft Resolution

Once a draft resolution has been typed and returned to the committee, its sponsors may move to introduce it (they read it to the committee). Non-substantive (i.e. grammar/spelling) amendments may be introduced at this time. A draft resolution may not be referred to before its introduction.

25. Question and Answer Period

After the introduction of a draft resolution, delegates may motion for a question-and-answer period. The delegate proposing such a period must specify the duration and purpose. In this, sponsors will accept questions from members about their draft resolution and will offer answers to the best of their ability. The questions themselves will not be timed, only the answers will. Only one sponsor can answer per question. Questions may be as long or short as the member asking wishes, however overtly long questions and wasting time will not be tolerated by the Chair.

26. Amendments

Amendments are changes to draft resolutions on the floor. They are usually additional clauses, modifications to clauses, and the striking (removal) of clauses. There are 2 types of amendments:

1. **Friendly Amendments:** these are agreed on by all sponsors, and are incorporated into the draft resolution automatically, requiring only a motion (no vote).

2. **Unfriendly Amendments:** these are not agreed to by the sponsors. They are voted on as substantive matters during voting procedures.

Note: All amendments to all resolutions on a given topic must be proposed *before* moving into voting procedures.

27. Voting Procedures

Voting procedures are used to vote on all draft resolutions. Once they have begun, the room is sealed (no one can enter or leave). There is no speaker's list. No points or motions are considered in order except for division of the question, quorum, roll call voting, declaring a resolution an important question, order, parliamentary inquiry, or personal privilege. Once voting is complete, the topic is considered closed, and the committee returns to the consideration of the agenda. Unless specified otherwise, votes are by simple majority.

Note: More than one resolution can be adopted, ALL resolutions on the floor are put to a vote, and the **committee MAY NOT return to the topic**.

The order of voting procedures is as follows:

1. Verification of Quorum
2. Motions for division of the question, declaring a resolution an important question, and roll call votes
3. Voting on unfriendly amendments for the draft resolution under consideration
4. Voting on the amended draft resolution under consideration
5. Repeat for each draft resolution on the floor

28. Voting Rights

Each member has one vote. All committee members must either vote yes or no on procedural matters (they cannot abstain). Observer states (e.g. The Holy See) may not vote on substantive matters, while all others may vote yes, vote no, or abstain. During a roll call vote, members may demand a right of explanation and will be given 30 seconds once the vote is complete to explain their decision. A roll call vote also allows a member to "pass" and then vote once all other members have voted. If there are multiple passes, they will be called in alphabetical order. A member may only pass once per vote.

29. Division of the Question

During voting procedures, any member may move to divide the question immediately before the vote on a draft resolution takes place. This means that the various parts of the draft resolution can be voted on separately. The member divides the various operative clauses into different groups (e.g. clauses 1 and 3 together, and clauses 2 and 4 together). Division of the question is a procedural matter and requires a simple majority, with 2 speakers for and 2 against. There may be more than one such motion on the floor at a time, and they will be voted on in order of presentation. Once one such motion passes, the rest fail. The preamble may not be divided.

30. Important Question

A member may move to have a draft resolution declared an "important question" if it fits the following criteria:

- Recommendations with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security
- The admission of a new member into the UN

- The expulsion of members
- Suspension of the rights and privileges of UN membership
- Budgetary questions

Declaring a draft resolution to be an important question is a procedural vote. Once it has become an important question, however, this draft resolution needs a substantive majority to pass.

31. Competence

A member may question the competence of the committee to discuss a draft resolution (i.e. it's beyond the scope of the committee's powers). There will be 1 speaker for and 1 against. The final decision, however, is a ruling from the Chair.

32. Changes to Procedure

The committee may change these rules of procedure. This motion requires a substantive majority vote with 2 speakers for and 2 against, and is subject to the veto of the Chair.

NOTE: Some rules of procedure have changed over the years or may vary slightly between schools and other MUN conferences. To avoid confusion, the general rules mentioned above are the ones that will be followed by JCYMUN. However, your committee chairs may **alter procedure** in the interest of time, convenience, or any other reason. For example, although unmoderated caucuses may be motioned for up to 20 minutes' length, the chair may deem this out of order if time is running thin. In any case, it is at the chairs' discretion.

Special Rules for GA's, Security Council and Crisis Committee

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. General Motion Procedure
 - a. A main motion must go through three steps before being approved:
 - i. Be motioned by a delegate, seconded (agreed upon) by another delegate, and stated by the Chair before discussion can begin.
 - b. Delegates should state, "I motion to/that..." when making a motion.
 - c. The Chair will ask:
 - i. "If you second the motion, raise your placard."
 1. If seconded (only one delegate is required), the Chair will call a vote: "All those in favor of the motion, raise your placards." If the motion receives a simple majority/quorum, it passes.
 - ii. "If you wish to speak to or amend the motion, stand and raise your placard."
 - d. The Chair will determine whether the motion is in order or out of order before proceeding.
 - e. If in order, the motion will be seconded and voted on, with more disruptive motions being considered first.
 - f. Speaking to a motion does not require a second; the delegate who introduced the motion may speak first.
2. Types of Motions
 - a. To **amend, defer consideration, move the previous question, speak to a motion, motion to reconsider, divide the question, motion to set a time limit on speeches, motion to reconsider time limits on speeches or kill a motion**, stand and raise your placard.
 - i. **If you support the general idea of a motion** but want to modify it, motion to **amend the motion**. If seconded and passed by a **simple majority/quorum**, the amendment is adopted.
 - ii. If more time is needed to consider a motion, move to **defer consideration** to a specific time. If seconded and passed by a **simple majority/quorum**, the motion is deferred.
 - iii. If further discussion is unnecessary, motion to **move the previous question (also known as motion to close debate)** to call an immediate vote. If seconded and passed by a **two-thirds majority**, debate ends and a vote is taken.
 - iv. If further discussion is needed on a matter already voted upon, move to **reconsider the motion**. If seconded and passed by a **simple majority/quorum**, the motion is reopened for debate.
 - v. If a motion contains multiple parts and you wish to vote separately on each, motion to **divide the question**. Example: If a motion proposes a change in time limits but you disagree with the new limit, you can move to divide the question

(though amending may be more efficient). The motion is divided if seconded and passed by a **simple majority/quorum**.

- vi. If debate is taking too long, motion to **set a time limit on all speeches**. If seconded and passed by a **simple majority/quorum**, the time limit is enforced.
 - vii. If too many time restrictions have been set, motion to **reconsider the time limits with a new proposed limit**. If seconded and passed by a **simple majority/quorum**, the new limit is enforced.
 - viii. If you strongly oppose a motion and voting against it is insufficient, **move to postpone indefinitely (kill the motion)**. This motion **cannot be amended or debated**. If seconded and passed by a **simple majority/quorum**, the motion is permanently dismissed.
2. **Point of Order**
 - a. If a motion is irrelevant to the discussion or violates procedure, raise a **Point of Order** for the Chair to rule on.

SECURITY COUNCIL

3. A majority consists of 9 affirmative votes.
4. Any substantive vote is subject to veto by the 5 permanent members (US, UK, RF, France, PRC).
5. All substantive votes are by roll call.

CRISIS COMMITTEE

1. There is only one topic for the Crisis Committee.
2. The Crisis Committee is always in a moderated caucus, though motions for an unmoderated caucus or a round table discussion are in order. There is no Primary or Secondary Speakers' List.
3. Crisis delegates can write notes to the crisis staff in order to find out information about their resources or have their character take actions outside the committee.
4. Any actions a delegate wishes to take that involve multiple characters or decisions of the whole committee must be voted on as directives. Differences between directives and resolutions:
 - a. Directives do not require a preamble and can have fewer operative clauses than resolutions;
 - b. Directives are voted on immediately after being presented. The committee will not enter formal voting procedures;
 - c. After a directive is passed, it is sent to the Crisis Staff who will then announce the consequences of the actions taken.

MISCELLANEOUS

- GA is short for General Assembly. As the largest type of committee, GA's tend to be focused on broader topics.
- In a GA, yielding time *does not exist*.
- In a GA, there is no primary speakers list; delegates motion to set the agenda and then speak to that motion.
- If a UNSC resolution calls for the expulsion of a member state or the entry of a new one, the General Plenary votes on it as normal, requiring a substantive majority to pass.
- If a motion requires a number of speakers for, and this number cannot be found, it fails automatically. If a motion requires a number of speakers against, and this number cannot be found, it succeeds automatically.
- "Member" refers to a delegate on the committee.
- Unless otherwise specified, procedural matters require only a simple majority.
- All delegates are to be referred to as "The honourable delegate from _____."
- Most votes are simple placard votes (you raise your placard to vote), but a roll call vote may be called for during voting procedures, or by discretion of the Chair. This means that each country will be individually asked its vote. A roll call vote proceeds in alphabetical order.
- Substantive matters are the topics under discussion. Substantive votes are votes on whether to accept or reject a draft resolution or an amendment. All other votes are procedural (voting on motions, etc.).
- "Out of order" means against the rules.
- Documents in rule 5 means working papers, draft resolutions, and resolutions.

VOTING PROCEDURES

Debate Closes. Doors are secured (no entry or exit). There is no debate permitted from this point onward.

1. **1st Draft resolution** □ Points or motions (division of the question, roll call vote, order, personal privilege, quorum verification, important question).
2. Are there any unfriendly amendments? If no, go to 3. If yes, vote on amendments. If an amendment is adopted, the draft resolution is modified accordingly.
3. Vote on draft resolution. If there are more draft resolutions, return to step 1. Otherwise, return to the Primary Speaker's List.

Roll call voting

1. The chair will go through an alphabetical list of countries present. Each member will vote "yes," "no," "abstain," "yes with rights," "no with rights," or "pass." Only those countries not declared as present and voting may abstain.
2. The chair will return to any members who declared "pass" for their votes (a member may only pass once).
3. The chair will proceed alphabetically through the list of members who demanded a right of explanation.
4. The chair will announce the results of the voting.

Resolution Writing

A resolution is a declaration of opinion from a committee, and, eventually, from the UN as a whole (if adopted by the General Assembly). They are not binding on anyone, unless they come from the Security Council, but carry a great deal of moral force.

Resolution Format

The resolution format is very specific. It is essentially a list of statements, called clauses, and is divided into 2 parts: the preamble and the operative section. In both, the first word of each clause must be underlined. The first word of each must be a verb of a definite type (see the suggestions below, but do not feel bound by them). The committee Chair is the final arbiter of resolution format.

Preamble

The preambulatory section is where a resolution lists its justifications. It uses passive verbs like ‘guided by’, ‘alarmed by’, ‘realising’, ‘recalling’, ‘noting’, etc. The preamble does not actually do anything, but it is necessary, because it provides a context for the operative section to draw from. This is also the place to reference (‘recalling’) treaties and resolutions on the subject. In this section, each clause ends with a comma. Preambulatory clauses are not numbered.

Operative

This is the meat of the resolution, where its recommendations are spelled out. The idea is not to be overly specific, but specific enough to get the job done. This sounds tricky, but is easier than it seems. The trick is to not get carried away, and to err on the side of specificity. All clauses in this section are numbered and all end with semicolons, except for the last, which ends in a period. Always remember, resolutions passed by committees other than the Security Council have no actual binding power, so should not use words like ‘demands’ and ‘requires’. This is only a recommendation. Use the language you deem necessary. More common clause beginners would be ‘urges’, ‘asks’, ‘expresses concern’, ‘notes’, ‘recommends’, ‘declares’, etc.

General Tips

1. Avoid using actual dollar figures unless you really do have access to the kind of information which that requires.
2. Respect the scope of the committee (the WHO should not be talking about antiterrorism strategies, for example).
3. Remember that the Security Council must approve any actions taken.
4. Be wary of national sovereignty issues. The UN has fairly strict limitations when it comes to what countries may consider their internal matters or legitimate foreign policy interests.
5. Make sure it is in proper resolution format before taking it to the chair (it will save headaches all around).
6. Be reasonable when choosing the language used (ex. SOCHUM is not in a position to ‘require’ anything).

Suggested words:

Preamble:

Affirming, Alarmed by, Approving, Aware of, Believing, Bearing in mind, Confident, Contemplating, Convinced, Declaring, Deeply concerned, Deeply conscious, Deeply convinced, Deeply regretting, Desiring, Emphasizing, Expecting, Expressing its appreciation, Expressing its satisfaction, Fulfilling, Fully aware, Fully alarmed, Fully believing, Further deploring, Further recalling, Having adopted, Having considered, Having considered further, Having devoted attention, Having examined, Having studied, Having heard, Having received, Keeping in mind, Noting with regret, Noting with satisfaction,

Noting with deep concern, Noting with approval, Observing, Realising, Reaffirming, Recalling, Recognising, Referring, Seeking, Taking into account, Taking into consideration, Taking note, Viewing with appreciation, Welcoming.

Operative:

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

Sample Resolution

Resolution 1.4 (topic 1, resolution #4)

Sponsors: Germany, Thailand, Uruguay, China

Signatories: Sweden, Argentina, Australia, Morocco, United States

JCYMUN: The Commission for the Advancement of Science and Technology

Realizing that the majority of the world's energy is produced by environmentally-hostile fossil fuels,

Aware of the relatively low expense of obtaining energy from nuclear sources,

Noting with deep concern that nuclear power plants and information about nuclear power can lead to the production of nuclear weapons,

1. Proclaims the necessity of using clean energy sources such as solar, or even nuclear, to replace fossil fuels;
2. Recommends the creation of a UN sponsored commission to deal specifically with the distribution of information related to nuclear power to those countries which request it;
3. Further Recommends that this committee not distribute information to countries with militaristic or unstable governments;
4. Designates the above commission as having responsibility to monitor the use of any distributed information;
5. Urges nations with nuclear capability to cooperate with the above commission.

Quick Reference

The quick-list below is a summary of all the points or motions which can be made, and what their description and requirements are. The “majority” refers to what kind of majority vote is required to pass the vote in question. The “for” and “against” column refers to how many speakers for or against are required before voting on the motion takes place. We recommend using this table during committee sessions to quickly look up any information you need regarding points and motions.

Name	Description	Majority	For	Against
Point of Personal Privilege	Deals with problems which prevent a delegate’s participation	N/A	N/A	N/A
Point of Order	Points out a violation of the rules	N/A	N/A	N/A
Point of Parliamentary Inquiry	A question to the Chair about procedure	N/A	N/A	N/A
Point of Information	A question to a speaker who is so yielded	N/A	N/A	N/A
Right of Reply	Response to a direct insult (Chair has veto)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Motion to Set Speaking Time	Sets speaking time for primary or secondary speakers’ list	1/2	0	0
Motion to Set the Agenda	Starts debate on a topic	1/2	2	2
Motion to go to a Moderated Caucus	Rules of debate are suspended	1/2	0	0
Motion to go to an Unmoderated Caucus	Debate is suspended	1/2	0	0
Motion for a Round Table Discussion	Gives each delegate an opportunity to speak on a topic	1/2	0	0
Motion to introduce a draft resolution	Gives opportunity to introduce a draft resolution after it has been vetted by the chairs and deemed ready	1/2	0	0
Motion for a Question and Answer Period	Allows delegates to ask questions to sponsors regarding an introduced draft resolution (done before voting)	1/2	0	0
Motion to Close Speaker’s List	No new names can be added to the list	2/3	2	2
Motion to Reopen Speaker’s List	New names can be added to the list	2/3	2	2
Motion to Table a Topic	Returns to the Primary Speaker’s List without having gone into voting	2/3	2	2
Motion to Close Debate	Moves the committee into voting on the topic at hand	2/3	0	2
Motion for a Roll Call Vote	Vote on the resolution will be by roll call (must be re-motoned for each resolution)	1/2	0	0

Motion to Divide the Question	Separates a resolution into different segments for voting (operative clauses only)	1/2	2	2
Motion to Declare a Resolution an Important Question	Resolution will need substantive majority (2/3) to pass	1/2	1	1
Motion to Recess	Ends the meeting until the next scheduled time	2/3	0	0
Motion to Adjourn	Ends the final committee meeting	2/3	0	0

Some Examples of Points and Motions and How to Phrase Them

“*Motion* for a 5 minute moderated caucus on the topic of X with a 30 second speaking time.”

“*Motion* for a 10 minute unmoderated caucus on the topic of X.”

“*Motion* for a round table discussion on the topic of X with a 30 second speaking time.”

“*Motion* to present draft resolution 1.3.”

“*Motion* to strike clause 1.”

“*Point* of Parliamentary Inquiry: how many votes are needed for a motion to pass?”

“*Point* of Order: The honourable delegate did not include a speaking time when proposing that round table discussion.”

Frequently Asked Questions

- ❖ Q: When can I motion for something, or raise a point?

A: At any time! As long as you raise your placard and the chair calls on you, you may motion or raise a point for anything listed in the reference chart above. Note that some motions are specific to certain parts of the committee session [eg. A motion to vote on a draft resolution will only pass if the committee is in voting procedures]; as such, your motion may be called ‘out of order’ by the Chair and thus ignored. If you aren’t sure, raise a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry to ask, and your Chair will answer.

- ❖ Q: Can I add myself to the Speaker’s Lists multiple times?

A: You may try; however, to ensure fairness, the Chairs will often ensure your name is not already on the list before you can be added again.

- ❖ Q: We just set the agenda. Are we in the Secondary Speaker’s List yet, or is that a separate motion?

A: Both the Primary and Secondary Speaker’s Lists are opened via special motions (Open Debate and Set the Agenda, respectively). However, once the list is set, someone still needs to motion to set a speaking time before any debate can occur.

- ❖ Q: What goes on during Voting Procedures?

A: It’s very complicated. Be sure to review that section of this document or keep the flowchart handy- it includes the general process.

- ❖ Q: What notes can I bring to help me?

A: Anything you want, as long as it’s non-electronic. You may bring printed out pages from any site, notes or document that might help you (including this one!), so don’t worry about memorizing everything.

Committee Session Flowchart

