



UN SECURITY COUNCIL



PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

General Rules

01. **Scope:** These rules for the United Nations Security Council and the Council of Ministers of the European Union are self-sufficient, except for modifications to voting procedures, and shall be considered adopted in advance of session. No other rules of procedure are applicable. The only modifications to these pertain to voting.

02. **Delegations:** Each country will be represented by one or two delegate(s) in each committee of which it is a member and will have one vote in that committee. Observer Member-States will be allowed to vote on procedural, but not substantive matters.

03. **Language:** English shall be the official working language of the Security Council, the Historical Security Council and the Council of Ministers of the European Union. In case a delegate wishes to speak in a language other than the official, he/she shall provide for translation into the official language on his/her own. The time for translation shall be included in the speaking time limit.

04. **General duties of the delegates:** Each V MINI-ONU delegate has the duty to respect the decisions of the Director, obtain the Floor before speaking, safeguard and advocate their own nation's interests, grant due courtesy and respect to fellow delegates and other conference participants, and act in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Delegates shall also respect unconditionally the proper diplomatic attire as stated in the Study Guide. The use of non-diplomatic language will be observed by the Director and the delegate may be advised for it.

05. **Statements by the secretariat:** The Secretary-General, or a member of the Secretariat designated by him as his representative, may, at any time, make either oral or written statements to the Committees concerning any matter.

06. **General duties of the committee director:** In addition to exercising the powers which are conferred upon him/her elsewhere by these rules, the Director of the Committee 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/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 Director may, in the course of the discussion of an item, propose to the Committee the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers, the closure of the Speakers' List, or the closure of debate. He/she may also propose the suspension or adjournment of the meeting or of debate under discussion. Furthermore, the Director shall have the power to rule on any motion without appeal. All decisions of the Director are final. There will be no appeal to decisions made by the Director.

Rules governing debate

07. **Quorum:** The Director of any committee may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when at least one third of the registered members are present. The presence of a simple majority (1/2 + 1) of registered members shall be required for any substantive decision to be made.

08. **Speakers' list:** The Committee shall have at all times an open Speakers' List for the Topic Area being discussed, so that delegates may add their names to the list in order to address to the Committee. The Speaker's list will guide the debate and it will be always under delegate's convenience. The Speaker's List can only be interrupted on the following situations:

- 1 • On the adoption by the Committee of either a moderated or an un-moderated caucus;
- 2 • On a Crisis Situation submitted by the Secretary General to the Committee, when a new Speaker's List shall be open for the sole discussion on the new topic;
- 3 • On the introduction of an amendment, when a new Speaker's List shall be open on the format established by the item AMENDMENT (24).

Once finished the interruption situation, the debate shall be again guided by the Speaker's List. To have his/her name added to the Speaker's List, a delegate must raise with his/her identification placard to the Assistant Director.

09. **Speeches:** No representative may address the body without previously attaining the permission of the Director. The Director shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Director may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

10. **Yields:** At the conclusion of his/her speech, a delegate may yield to another delegate, to the Director, to questions or to comments. If the delegate yields to questions, the time taken to answer them, but not the time taken to ask them, shall be included in the allotted time limit. The questions must not take more than 30 seconds to be asked. If the delegate yields to the Director, the next speaker on the Speakers' List shall have the floor. If the delegate yields to another delegate, the second delegate shall have the remainder of the first delegate's speaking time. In order to yield its time, a delegate must have at least 10 seconds remaining in his allotted speaking time. Yields are in order only in debate on the Speaker's List. Any delegate who is yielded to may not yield its time again. At the conclusion of his/her speaking time, the delegate must yield the floor to the Director. When a delegate ends a speech without making use of all his/her speaking time and doesn't signify his/her yield, the Chair will assume the time was yielded to the Director.

11. **Point of order:** Such rules relate only to the observance and maintenance of these rules and cannot interrupt a speech. A member may rise to Point of Order, at the interval between speeches when allowed by the Director, which shall be immediately ruled by the Chair. The Director may refuse to recognize a Point of Order if the delegate has not shown proper restraint or decorum regarding the use of such a right, or if the point is negligent in nature.

12. **Point of inquiry:** Such points are questions asked to the Director concerning the rules of procedure and/or substantive matters. It must be raised only at the interval between speeches when allowed by the Director, which shall be immediately ruled by the Chair.

13. **Point of personal privilege:** During the discussion of any matter, a member may rise to a Point of Personal Privilege and shall be immediately acknowledged by the Director. Such a point is the only one which may interrupt a speaker when a delegate is experiencing personal discomfort or being prevented from following properly the discussion or speeches. It is advised however against the interruption of a speech. Preferably it should be raised at the interval between speeches when allowed by the Director.

14. **Questions:** Presuming the speaker who has the floor has consented to yield to questions, any delegate may ask him/her a straightforward question related to his/her speech. A series of questions will not be in order; this right must be limited to one question. A delegate must have at least 20 seconds so as to be able to yield to questions and the Director will accord 30 seconds for any delegate that wants to ask a question. As soon as the remained time to answer is over, no more questions are allowed.

15. **Limitation of speaking time:** The Director shall determine the time limit for speeches at his/her discretion and he/she may also consult delegates to decide on the matter. When a delegate has spoken his/her allotted time, the Director shall call him/her to order without delay.

16. **Closure of speakers' list:** During the course of debate, a member may move for the Closure of the Speakers' List on the matter under discussion. This motion is moved in order to automatically initiate the voting process. This motion requires a simple majority to pass, but a motion to reopen the Speakers' List requires a two-thirds one. If approved, no delegations will be allowed on the Speaker's List and it will be immediately closed after the last delegation on the list has made its speech.

17. **Unmoderated caucus:** The purpose of the caucus is to facilitate substantive discussion outside the rules of formal debate. Delegates may motion for an un-moderated caucus when the floor is open. The delegate must suggest a time limit and a reason for the caucus. There is no moderation by the Chair on the un-moderated caucus and delegates are allowed to leave their seats and walk throughout the chamber. The motion will be put immediately to a vote and requires a simple majority to pass. The Director may rule the motion out of order, and this decision is not subject to appeal.

18. **Moderated caucus:** As with the un-moderated, the purpose of the moderated caucus is to facilitate debate in a more flexible way than the formal debate. When the floor is open, delegates may at any time motion for a moderated caucus. During the Moderated caucus, the Director chooses the delegate that is going to make its appraisal to the Committee. The delegate must suggest a time limit for each speech, a reason and a time limit for the caucus. The motion will be put immediately to vote and requires a simple majority to pass. Yields are out of order during a moderated caucus.

19. **Adjournment of the meeting:** During the discussion of any matter, a member may move for the Adjournment of the Meeting. Such a motion shall not be debated, but shall be put to an immediate vote. A two-thirds majority is required for the passage of this motion. After adjournment, the Committee shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time or at the time stated by the Director. There is no adjournment on the final meeting.

20. **Closure of debate:** On the proper time, delegates may move to close debate on whichever substantive or procedural matter under discussion. The Director may rule such a motion out of order. After closure of debate is moved, the Director will recognize two speakers against the motion. To pass, the motion to close debate requires a two-thirds majority. If the motion to close debate passes, the Committee will move to immediate vote on the matters on the floor.

Rules governing substance

21. **Working papers:** Delegates may propose working papers for consideration by the Committee. Working papers are informal, unofficial documents that aid the Committee in their discussion of the substantive matter at hand. They may not be written in resolution format, and must be approved by the Director for distribution to the Committee.

22. **Draft resolutions:** A draft resolution requires the approval of the Director and the signatures of five (5) members of both the Security Council and the EU Agency to be submitted for debate. There are no official sponsors of draft resolutions. Signing a draft resolution need not indicate support for the resolution, and a signatory is not required to vote for the draft resolution. It is allowed to any delegate up to the start of the voting procedure to add or to remove his/her signature from the Draft Resolution. Draft resolutions require a simple majority to pass.

23. **Introduction of a draft resolution:** Signatories Delegates may move to introduce a draft resolution once it has been approved by the Director and distributed to the Committee. Such an introduction shall be procedural in nature. The content of the introduction shall be limited to the reading of the operative clauses, whereupon the delegate who has introduced the draft resolution shall be granted the floor for the allotted time limit. During this time, the speaker may only read the clauses and not make any comments on them. Points of inquiry shall be limited to grammatical or technical questions and may not pertain to the substance of the draft resolution.

24. **Amendments:** Delegates may amend any draft resolution that is on the floor. An amendment requires the approval of the Director and the signatures of three (3) members of the Committee (Security Council, Historical Security Council and EU Agency). There are no official sponsors of amendments; signing an amendment does not constitute or require a vote in favor of the amendment. A motion to introduce an amendment that has been approved will be in order when the floor is open by the Director in the interval of speeches on the Speaker's List; this motion will not be in order on Moderated or Un-moderated caucus. General debate shall be suspended and a Speakers' List shall be established for and against the amendment. A motion to close debate on the amendment will be in order after the Committee has heard two speakers for the amendment and two against it. The Director shall recognize two speakers against the motion to close debate, and a two-thirds majority is required for closure. When debate is closed on the amendment, the Committee shall move to an immediate vote. Following the vote, general debate according to the general Speakers' List shall resume. Amendments to amendments and amendments to pre-ambulatory are out of order.

25. **Draft withdrawal:** Draft Resolutions and amendments may be withdrawn at any time before the start of the voting procedure. To do so, signatory delegates must all agree upon its withdrawal on a written request to the Director. If there is the removal of signatories from a Draft resolution and the number of the remaining signatories is below the number requested by the Committee to maintain a resolution on the floor, the Draft Resolution fails and it is automatically withdrawn from the debate.

26. **Conduct during voting:** After the Director has announced the start of voting procedures, no points will be in order except points of parliamentary inquiry relating specifically to the conduct of voting and points of personal privilege relating to acute discomfort. No motions will be in order either, except for division of the question or roll call vote. During voting procedures the chamber will be sealed, and no delegates will be allowed to enter or leave.

27. **Division of the question:** After debate on a draft resolution has been closed, a delegate may move a motion in order that operative clauses of the draft resolution may be voted on separately. The motion requires simple majority to be approved and it is necessary to hear two delegates against it. If the Committee approves such a motion:

- 1• The Director will, at this point, take any further motions to divide the question and will arrange them in order of most to least severe. The most severe proposal shall be the first debated.
- 2• If the proposal receives the simple majority needed to pass, the draft resolution shall be divided in the manner proposed.
- 3• If the proposal to divide fails, the Committee will debate the next most severe proposal to divide.

After it has been determined which operative clauses shall be included in the draft resolution, the final vote on it shall be taken. If all the operative clauses are rejected, the draft resolution shall be considered to have failed on the whole.

28. **Voting:** Each country shall have one vote. Official observers shall be able to vote on procedural matters only. Each member may vote "In favour", "Against", or "Abstain" on substantive matters (resolutions and amendments) and may vote only "In favour" or "Against" on procedural matters, in which they cannot abstain. The abstentions cannot be counted for or against the simple majority. Ties fail. A two-thirds majority requires at least twice as many "In favour" votes as "Against" votes. Voting shall be done by a show of placards, except in the case of a roll call vote. There will be no rights to explain vote on amendments.

29. **Roll call voting:** After debate has been closed on any draft resolution, a delegate may request a roll call vote. The motion for Roll Call Voting requires a simple majority to pass and is in order only for substantive motions. If it passes, delegates will be called by country in the alphabetical order beginning with the member randomly selected by the Director, and must vote "In favour", "Against", "In Favour With Rights", "Against With Rights" or "Abstain". Delegates may "Pass" his/her turn to vote only once, and cannot abstain when he/she is called the second time to vote, neither they can vote with rights. After all the delegates are called to vote, the Director will invite the delegates that voted "With Rights" to explain to the Committee their votes. The vote "With Rights" is only acceptable when the delegate votes against his/her country's foreign policy and it is only valid for the vote on resolutions. The Director may interrupt the delegate if he/she is not using his/her time properly.