

Position Paper Writing Guidelines:

A position paper is the foundational document for discussions in Model United Nations conferences. It reflects a "country's" principled stance on the issues being discussed and offers the country's opinions on how to address these issues. It also sets the tone for a nation's speeches in the conference. A position paper should aim to realistically and comprehensively reflect the stance of the simulated country, requiring team members to conduct extensive research on the country's internal and external policies.

A position paper is not a rigid document; its content arrangement and structure can be decided by the writer. The following elements can enrich the content of a position paper:

- A general overview of the country's stance on the issue and its historical context.
- How the issue affects the country.
- The country's policies on the issue and the reasons for implementing these policies.
- Agreements signed or resolutions approved by the country on the issue.
- How the stances of other countries on the issue affect the country's position.
- Quotations from national leaders on related issues.
- Relevant data supporting the country's strategies on the issue.

There is no fixed content or format for a position paper. Generally, in Model United Nations activities, a position paper should not exceed two pages. Therefore, it is best to focus on one or two major aspects of the issue, detailing your viewpoints and proposing solutions for the international community. Secondary aspects can be briefly mentioned. A good position paper should be focused and balanced, highlighting the team's stance on the issue within the limited space. When drafting a position paper, pay attention to the following points:

- Reasoned and Evidenced: Cite relevant provisions from the UN Charter, past UN resolutions, and related international conventions.
- Clear Stance: Quote statements made by your government on the issue and actions taken to promote its resolution.
- Broad and Diverse References: Cite speeches by the UN Secretary-General and senior officials, or measures taken by the UN on the issue.
- Specific and Practical: In addition to relevant principles, the document should include specific suggestions for the international community's responses and actions.

Moreover, the writing style should appear official and formal. Pay special attention to word choice and sentence structure. Provide data when necessary and relevant to the topic. Cite examples instead of merely discussing policies and attitudes. Use footnotes or endnotes to indicate the sources of citations. Ensure the stance and wording align with the country's actual situation, which is crucial in any document drafting.

An excellent and persuasive position paper can help the team gain more support. With continuous practice and guidance from teachers, students will surely be able to write impressive position papers.