

M A S M U N

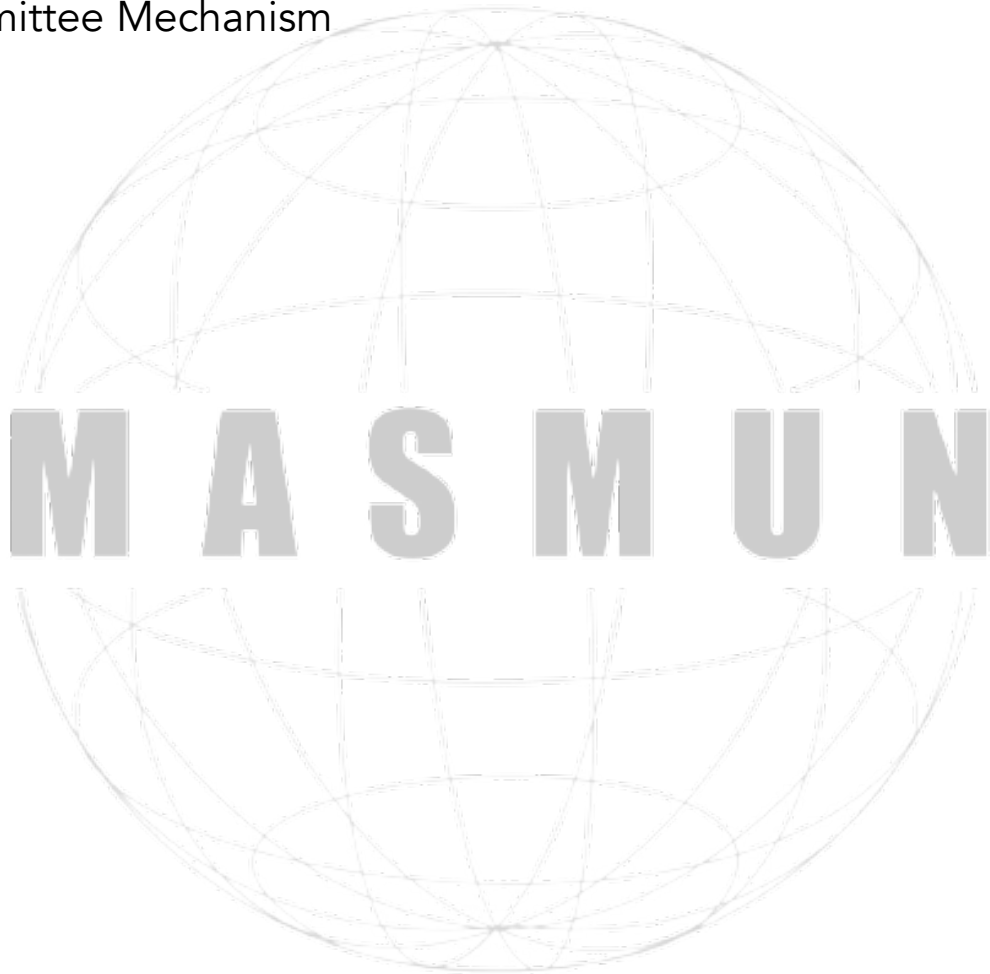
Urgency for Justice



Singapore Parliament Guide

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Committee Overview

Singapore Parliament is a committee that focuses on political injustice and inequality. For the past decades, the People's Action Party (PAP) has been winning every parliamentary election with great margins (60-70%).

Throughout the conference, delegates of the opposing party should find ways to resolve this injustice and exercise their right to implement and uphold democratic values for the betterment of society.

The delegates will be taken back to the 2008 economic recession and the past will be rewritten through their action statements, alliances and debates. This committee encourages creativity, critical thinking and thinking outside of the box.

Topic: 2008 Economic Recession

In 2008, the ripples caused by the economic recession in the U.S made its way to Singapore. Affecting stocks, the manufacturing sector, and trade, Singapore's rapid growth was stumped and many people were laid off by their jobs as a result. This recession was hailed as the worst recession in Singapore's history.

News of massive losses incurred by the country's sovereign wealth funds, Government Investment Corporation of Singapore and Temasek Holdings, through wide exposure to US "toxic assets" raised public furore. Ordinary citizens who had poured their life savings into financial products such as Lehman's Minibonds, DBS High Notes 5 and

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became angry when their investments soured, and they clamored publicly for redress from banks and brokerages that had sold them the products. At the center of the minibond fiasco was the Development Bank of Singapore (DBS), which took the drastic step of retrenching 900 staff in November 2008 to cut costs. The move was criticized as being sudden and pre-emptive by then Labor chief Lim Swee Say. Other local companies and businesses resorted to wage cuts, wage freeze, hiring freeze, shorter working hours and even compulsory leave to ride out the crisis.

Committee Mechanism

What is an Action Statement?

An action statement dictates a course of action taken by a person or a group of people. The action statement is written to describe what action will be taken, the location, the time and the strategy behind each action. The chairing panel will decide whether the action statement passes or fails (depending on the direction it will lead the debate to). If an action statement passes, the action is implemented and the repercussions are presented by the panel. If it fails, no action is taken.

Sample:

“Leader of the People’s Action Party, with the support of other PAP members, reduces the tax on

imported goods from 16% to 2% to make them more accessible and affordable to civilians. This will be implemented as soon as the next cargo ship arrives."

Types of Action Statements

- 1.Procedural: this action statement is used to alter the procedure of handling national affairs (building a hospital, renovating public utilities, etc...).
- 2.Foreign: this action statement is used to alter a foreign policy, alliance or treaty (creating new allies, altering an old treaty, setting trade policies, etc...).

3. Destructive: this action statement is used to disrupt peace through assassinations, demotions, sanctions or even war.

Secret Agendas

Each member will have a secret agenda that he/she must achieve throughout the conference. Each agenda will comply with the member's struggles and some members may share an agenda. Secret agendas are also used to determine the **Best Delegate**. How well and strategically you achieve your agenda will determine your chances of getting the coveted title.