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## Position Paper

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Position papers are of utmost importance as they allow the Executive Board to roughly understand each delegates' capability, and the delegate's views on the matter. These position papers must be submitted on time and failure to do so will result in EXEMPTION from the award process. Extensions shall only be granted under extreme circumstances. The following guidelines should be adhered to, to write an effective paper that insightfully deals with the sensitive issues of the crisis at hand.

1. Begin the 1st paragraph with a brief history of the topic to introduce the conflict in your words. Write about how your country is related to the agenda, if it is, and why you think the conflict emerged to begin with.
2. Expand your body to talk about the current situation and what your nation plans to do about it. This is a good place to include any statistics and specific scenarios that may be critical to the agenda. Write about the various aspects of the issue to be dealt with and how these issues have impacted humanity.
3. The 3rd paragraph or section is by far the most important section because it allows delegates to introduce solutions to combat the problems. Be creative, but at the same time, realistic. Write about humanitarian aid, financial help, social programs, rescue operations etc.

When writing a position paper, delegates must identify:

- The conflicts and issues that must be addressed by the committee.
- The country's vested interests or concerns in the area relevant to the topic and why.
- A concise solution that would help overcome the problem with much more ease.

A delegate's position paper also must contain the following:

- The country's stance/policy on the topic.
- The country's interpretation of the incident/ topic, e.g.: Violence directed towards another individual or group may be perceived as an act of self-defense or an act of aggression.
- The country's foreign relations with the countries that are under the scanner, and how does that alter the stance of the country.
- Possible solutions that can deal with the conflicts and issues mentioned above.



Position papers for all committees are due by the **15<sup>th</sup> of April, 11:59 PM**, and must be emailed to the committees in the email IDs provided in their respective background guides.

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## Working Paper

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A working paper is a rough draft of the solutions proposed by delegates in committee. This paper has no format, however, to save time, we recommend drafting working papers in draft resolution format. Working papers can be modified via caucus, and do not require formal amendments for the same.

It is important to note that all components of the working paper must have been brought up during committee itself.

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## Draft Resolution

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A draft resolution is in essence, the output of your committee. It is the compilation of the solutions the delegates of a committee have deliberated upon. It is written as one long sentence, with the use of commas, colons and semicolons wherever necessary.

A draft resolution begins with addressing the committee, followed by preambulatory clauses which define the aims as well as the considerations of the committee, and finally, go on to include operative clauses, which enable delegates to formally document their solutions in a “working” (i.e. operative and/or functional) manner

Characteristics of a draft resolution:

- Preambulatory clauses must be italicized, and operative clauses must be numbered.
- Semicolons separate clauses.
- Clauses with sub-clauses must include a colon before the inclusion of sub-clauses.
- Sub-clauses must be bulleted alphabetically, and must be separated by commas.
- Sub-sub clauses must be bulleted with lower-case roman numerals. The clause, in its entirety, must conclude with a semicolon.



- The resolution must conclude with a full stop.
- All abbreviations must be included via an appendix attached at the end of the document, or listed once with the bracketed abbreviation, and consequently used after.

For example: You can mention the Millennium Development Goals in your second operative clause as “Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)” and continue to refer to them throughout the course of your draft as simply.

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## Sponsors and Signatories

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Delegates may be involved in the creation of a draft resolution in the capacity of sponsors or signatories. Sponsors act as authors of a draft resolution, and are directly involved in writing it, whereas signatories simply wish to see the draft resolution be debated in committee.

All draft-resolutions must secure signatories equal to or greater than 1/5<sup>th</sup> of the strength of the committee, in order to be introduced, and require 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of committee support to be passed.

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## Sample Draft Resolution

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Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Resolution 1.1

Topic: Eliminating gender disparities in education by 2015

Sponsors: Saudi Arabia, Iran

Signatories: Jordan, Syria, Oman, Qatar, Venezuela, Cuba, Russian Fed.

The Economic and Social Council,

*Alarmed by* the lack of enforcement of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW),

*Cognizant* of the importance of gender-neutral education standards by 2015 as a component of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),



*Noting with approval* those initiatives recently undertaken in Iraq and Afghanistan to ensure increased levels of education for future generations of women in the Middle East,

1. Suggests gender segregation remain in primary and secondary education where this structure is already in place;
2. Reaffirms that select nations do not segregate schools by gender, and is not proposing to divide said school systems;
3. Proposes additional specialization be provided in schools to:
  - a. Further acknowledge and utilize the differences between genders,
  - b. Alter secondary school curriculums to contain more concentrated courses including:
    - i. Female philosophy or psychiatric classes which would prove useful in raising a family and keeping a peaceful household,
    - ii. Improved male physical education and literate or scientific classes;
  - c. Help administer knowledge that will be useful in the everyday lives of both genders;
4. Recommends all school systems exercising gender segregation be kept balanced concerning materials and resources;
5. Further recommends a new observational system be set in place:
  - a. By the United Nations,
  - b. Made available to all nations already segregated by gender or wishing to do so,
  - c. To monitor the equal distribution of supplies, materials, teachers, and resources administered to all public male and female schools.

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## Amendments

→ Amendments are changes delegates wish to include in draft resolutions after their introduction in committee. There are two kinds, namely, friendly and unfriendly amendments.

→ Friendly amendments are amendments accepted by all the sponsors. These are not voted on and automatically included in the draft resolution.

→ Unfriendly amendments are amendments not accepted by at least one sponsor. These require the support of 1/5<sup>th</sup> of the committee to be considered, and a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority vote to be passed and incorporated into the draft resolution.



- It is worth noting that if more than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of a draft resolution is amended, it is automatically tabled, by virtue of failing to reflect the consensus of the committee.
- Amendments can be used to add, modify or delete clauses in a resolution, and therefore, can be classified into addition, modification and deletion amendments.

Given below is a sample amendment. Please note, amendments out of format will automatically be rejected by the dias.

TO: DIAS/EB

FROM: *insert country name*

AMENDMENT TO DR (*insert draft resolution number*)

ADDITION/MODIFICATION/DELETION

*(body of amendment)*

- In the case of addition, the delegate must write the new clause he/she wishes to add.
- In the case of modification, the delegate must mention the number of the clause (and bullet of sub-clause/sub-sub clause if necessary) he/she wishes to modify. Also, the delegate must write the new version of the clause.
- In the case of deletion, the delegate must mention the number of the clause (and bullet of sub-clause/sub-sub clause if necessary) he/she wishes to delete.

**Please note that all paperwork barring position papers must be handwritten.**

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## Sanskriti Model UN Policy On Plagiarism

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Sanskriti Model UN encourages delegates to utilize their research efficiently and come up with innovative solutions. Delegates found to be plagiarizing any part of their contribution to the committee will be disqualified from competing for awards.

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## Preambulatory Phrases

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Affirming	Having adopted
Alarmed by	Having considered
Approving	Having considered further
Aware of	Having devoted attention
Bearing in mind	Having examined
Believing	Having heard
Confident	Having received
Contemplating	Having studied
Convinced	Keeping in mind
Declaring	Noting with regret
Deeply concerned	Noting with deep concern
Deeply conscious	Noting with satisfaction
Deeply convinced	Noting further
Deeply disturbed	Noting with approval
Deeply regretting	Observing
Desiring Emphasizing	Reaffirming
Expecting	Realizing
Expressing its appreciation	Recalling
Expressing its satisfaction	Recognizing
Fulfilling	Referring
Fully alarmed	Seeking
Fully aware	Taking into account
Fully believing	Taking into consideration
Further deploring	Taking note
Further recalling	Viewing with appreciation
Guided by	Welcoming



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## Operative Phrases

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Accepts	Further proclaims
Affirms	Further reminds
Approves	Further recommends
Authorizes	Further requests
Calls	Further resolves
Calls upon (only UNSC)	Has resolved
Condemns	Notes
Confirms	Proclaims
Congratulates	Reaffirms
Considers	Recommends
Declares accordingly	Regrets
Deplores	Reminds
Designates	Requests
Draws the attention	Solemnly affirms
Emphasizes	Strongly condemns
Encourages	Supports
Endorses	Takes note of
Expresses its appreciation	Transmits
Expresses its hope	Trusts
Further invites	



The sample draft resolution as well as the preambulatory and operative phrases have been taken from the Ivy League Model United Nations Conference guides on drafting resolutions.

Please note that at Sanskriti, we follow the Ivy League Model United Nations Conference procedure, which can be found at:

<http://www.ilmunc-india.com/static/docs/procedure/ProcedureGuide.pdf>