

**JUNIOR
REIMUN**



MODEL UNITED NATIONS

DELEGATE PREPARATION GUIDE

What is Model United Nations?

A Model United Nations, MUN, conference is an event in which students play the role of a diplomat representing a particular country at the United Nations. An MUN is run by students for students and this gives it a unique and exciting atmosphere. Those who participate fully have tremendous fun.

The Purpose of the UN

The purpose of the United Nations is for the countries of the world to work together to find answers to some of the big problems in the world. The United Nations was set up after the Second World War to try to prevent war and the causes of war in the future. The United Nations also promote human rights and development around the world. The purpose of the United Nations is set out in the Preamble of the UN Charter. This is given below.

We the Peoples of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

And for these ends to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours, and to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest, and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples, have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims.

Accordingly, our respective Governments, through representatives assembled in the city of San Francisco, who have exhibited their full powers found to be in good and due form, have agreed to the present Charter of the United Nations and do hereby establish an international organization to be known as the United Nations.

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1. What you need to prepare and bring to the conference

- Some ideas on your country's opinion about the Motion
- A policy statement on the Main Topic you are debating in your committee
- Some notes to help you write a resolution on the Main Topic, including three or four points each on:
 - Why the issue is important
 - What you want the United Nations to agree to do about the issue
- Some note-paper headed with your country name
- This booklet!

The other sections of this booklet will tell you how to do these things.

2. The Purpose of Junior ReiMUN

This conference is aimed at first time or inexperienced MUN delegates. You may have only recently joined an MUN club in your school. Perhaps you have been to a conference, but you felt overwhelmed by all the older and more experienced delegates.

This conference is intended to help you develop the skills needed to perform well at the major MUN conferences. You will receive coaching on, and will have the opportunity to practice:

- writing resolutions
- lobbying (persuading other delegates to support your resolution)
- debating

3. Junior ReiMUN 2013 - Committee Agenda

Your MUN advisor should have assigned you to a country and to a committee. The topics you will be debating are set out below.

Committee 1 – Human Rights

Motion: “Free contraception should be made available to women 16 years of age or over”

Main Topic: The question of human rights abuses in Myanmar

Committee 2 – Political

Motion: “Production of electrical products made with conflict minerals should be banned”

Main Topic: The question of cyber terrorism

Committee 3 – Economic & Social

Motion: “The national debt of all African countries should be cancelled”

Main Topic: The question of tax havens and tax avoidance

4. JUNIOR REIMUN 2013 - PROGRAMME

SATURDAY 22nd JUNE 2013

9.30 – Opening ceremony in General Assembly

9.50 – Move to committee rooms. Overseers to brief on debate procedure.

10.00 – Position statements on Motion

10.05 – Debate on Motion

10.25 – Policy statements on Main Topic.

10.45 – Break for refreshments.

11.00 – Move to computer lab. Overseers to give short seminar on writing operative clauses, followed by time for delegates to write short resolutions on Main Topic 1 (3-4 operative clauses) individually or in groups in computer labs.

11.30 – Overseers to give short seminar on preamble clauses and layout, followed by time for delegates to add 3-4 preamble clauses, format and print resolutions.

12.00 – Overseers to brief on lobbying, followed by time for lobbying.

12.20 – Resolution submission, then break for lunch.

13.15 – Debate time on Main Topic in Committees. Aim for three resolutions.

14.30 – General Assembly debate

15.10 – Closing ceremony

15.25 – End of day

5. Preparing for the Conference

Researching the Issues

You will need to start with a team meeting to decide which member of the team, (or delegate) will take part in which particular committee. Each committee will have an agenda and the first stage is to research the issues on the agenda. The agenda for this conference is printed on page 4.

Researching your Country

The next stage is to find out about the country the team (or delegation) is representing. Gather information on the type of government, economy, geography, history, language(s) and culture. You may find it useful to look up the website of the country's Embassy or High Commission.

Information can also be found on

http://www.theodora.com/wfb/abc_world_fact_book.html and on www.un.org, looking in - Member states – Home Pages of Permanent Missions.

Now put the first two stages together and work out your country's policy on each item on the agenda.

Policy Statement

Having established what the policy of your country is on an issue, you should then convert this to a policy statement. Each delegate will need to prepare a policy statement of about 45 seconds on Topic 1 for their committee, which you will need to read out. It will also be useful to have a policy statement on Topic 2 as well, although you will not need to read this out, because it will help you to decide what to say and which resolutions to support.

A policy statement should contain the following:

- An outline of the particular issue
- A statement of the country's position on the issue
- Suggestions for a solution to the problem

On the next page are some example policy statements, so that you can get an idea of the kind of thing you might want to say.

Dress

Dress for the conference is formal. Gentlemen should wear suits with collar and tie, and ladies should also be formally dressed. Delegates who are incorrectly dressed will not be allowed into the General Assembly

Headed notepaper

You should bring with you some note-paper with your country name on the top, which you can use to send notes during the conference (see ‘Note-passing’ below).

6. Example Policy Statements

Country: Sweden

Topic: Provision of primary education

Sweden believes strongly in education for all. Education is essential for citizens to develop the skills needed to be productive in adult life. Sweden has compulsory education for all children aged 7 to 16. We believe that this has helped our country to become prosperous.

Sweden believes that all countries should make the provision of free primary education for all children a priority. Some countries struggle to provide free education, and Sweden believes that the richer countries in the world should be willing to provide financial support in order to enable this to happen. Countries with more educated people are more prosperous and able to trade more, so it is in the interests of richer countries to help poorer countries educate their citizens, so that they can trade with them. Education is also the best way to prevent human rights abuses, to prevent the exploitation of children, and to promote the well-being of women and girls throughout the world.

Country: Saudi Arabia

Topic: Exploitation of women

Saudi Arabia is an Islamic kingdom and follows the teachings of the Qur'an and the principles of Sharia law. Islam teaches the protection of women by their male relatives, to safeguard them against being exploited.

Saudi Arabia rejects the Western idea that women and men are the same. It is because we understand that men and women have different roles and obligations in life that we protect our women from having to fend for themselves in a man's world. Saudi Arabia condemns the exploitation of women practised in Western countries, which encourage women to excite men's sexual desires. Saudi Arabia calls for the honour and dignity of women to be preserved and defended in all countries.

7. At the Conference

Resolution writing

At most conferences you need to prepare resolutions in advance and bring them to the conference. However, at this conference you do **not** need to do this. You need to research the issues from your country's point of view, and at the conference you will receive training in how to write a resolution.

In order to be prepared to write resolutions, it will be helpful to have noted down some ideas in advance. Note down three or four points about:

- 1) Why the issue is important
- 2) What you want to achieve

Bring these notes to the conference, and you will be shown how to turn them into a resolution. The following two pages show some examples of resolutions. You do not need to study these in advance of the conference, but you may be interested to do so.

Lobbying

After you have written your resolution, you need to try to get it debated. Many other people will have resolutions too, and there won't be time to debate them all. How do you make sure yours gets debated? That's what lobbying is for.

If you have written a resolution, you are called the **submitter**. However, before it can be debated, you need to show that other people support it as well. The more people support the resolution, the more likely it is to be debated.

During the lobbying process, you show your resolution to other delegates and encourage them to support it. If they agree, they add their name to the resolution as a **co-submitter**. You may also choose to co-submit other people's resolutions that you think are good. Please note the following points:

- You may only co-submit one resolution, so choose carefully.
- You need at least three co-submitters for your resolution to be debated. (If you have more than three, that is even better!)
- If you co-submit a resolution, that means you agree to vote for it.
- Once you have all your co-submitters, you need to submit your resolution to the chairs.

Debating

Once the resolutions have been submitted, the chairs will choose a resolution to debate. They will photocopy the resolution so all delegates can see it.

The chair will invite the submitter to **take the floor** (ie. come up to the front to speak). The submitter will read the **operative clauses** of the resolution (the bits of the resolution that say what the United Nations should do). They will then have some time to explain why it is a good resolution and why other countries should support it.

When the speaker has finished speaking, it is normal to invite **points of information** (questions about what they have said). The chair will then say, “The speaker has opened him/herself to points of information. Are there any points from the floor? Please raise your placards.” If you want to ask a question, you should raise your **placard** (the sign that says which country you are representing), which you will be given at the start of the conference.

If you are asking a question, please note the following points:

- This takes a bit of getting used to, but you should ask your question to the chair and ask about the speech that was made, rather than asking the person you spoke. So instead of saying, “Do you think that...?” You should say, “Does the delegate of Syria think that...?”
- Make sure that you ask a question, and make sure the question is about what has just been said. If you want to make a statement of your own about the resolution, you should wait until the speaker has sat down and ask to take the floor.
- You should stand up in your place to ask your question, and you should remain standing until they have answered it.
- If you want to ask a second question, or if you feel they haven’t answered your question, you must ask the chair for a **right of reply**. To do this, say, “Right of reply?” If the chair agrees, then you may ask another question.

After the points of information are finished, the speaker will sit down. The chair will then invite another speaker to take the floor. If you wish to speak, you should raise your placard.

When you are speaking, please note the following points:

- You must refer to your country, not to yourself. So you should not say “I think that...” but “Sweden believes that...”
- Try to make sure that your comments are about the resolution specifically, and not just about the general issue. You might wish to support or oppose the resolution as a whole, or you might want to comment on just one bit of the resolution (the different bits are called **clauses**).

- Remember that you are trying to persuade other delegates to agree with you.
- When you finish speaking, you may say one of three things:
 - “I open myself to points of information.”* (This is normal, and means other delegates can ask you questions about what you have just said.)
 - “I yield the floor to the chair.”* (This means that you don’t want to take any questions, and the chair will choose another delegate to speak.)
 - “I yield the floor to [another country]”* (This means that you choose the next person to speak. This is rare, but if you know that another person agrees with you then you might want to do this. It is most common for the person first submitting their resolution to yield to one of their co-submitters.”

Amendments

Sometimes you may find that you agree with most of a resolution being debated, but there are a few bits that you want to change in order to make it better. If you wish to do this, you should send a note to the chair explaining how you want to amend the resolution. This will be in one of three ways.

- a) “Strike Clause 3” – this means that you want to remove Clause 3 from the resolution, but leave all the other clauses alone.
- b) “Add new Clause 6: ...” – this means you want to keep all the clauses in the resolution, but you want to add something extra as well.
- c) “Amend Clause 2 to read:” – this means that you want to change the wording of Clause 2, which may include adding words, removing words, or changing the way it is expressed.

If the chair agrees to let your amendment be debated, you will be invited to take the floor to explain why the resolution is better if it is changed. Other speakers may oppose the change. After discussion about the amendment, it will be put to a vote. If the amendment passes, debate on the modified resolution will continue. If the amendment fails, debate will continue on the original resolution.

If someone suggests amending your resolution and you agree with their amendment, you can shorten the debate by making a **friendly amendment**. This means that when the amendment is read out, you say to the chair, “Motion to make this a friendly amendment.” If the chair agrees, then the resolution will be changed without needing any more debate.

Note-passing

It is sometimes useful to pass notes to the chair or to other delegates during the debate. This is why you should bring some headed notepaper to the conference. The main things you may need to pass notes about are about amendments. This will obviously include telling the chair what your amendment is. However, you may want to get

support for your amendment before you submit it, so you may wish to write to other delegates to see what they think about your amendment. You could write to the person who wrote the resolution to ask if they would support a friendly amendment. You may wish to ask another delegate if you can yield the floor to them once you have proposed the amendment, or if they would yield the floor to you after they have spoken.

Voting

At the end of the debate, the resolution will be voted on. You may vote one of three ways:

- For (this means you agree with the resolution and want it to pass)
- Against (this means you disagree with the resolution and want it to fail)
- Abstain (this means you have no view on the resolution and choose not to vote)

For voting on amendments, you may only vote for or against and may not abstain.

Other points

You are unlikely to use these at this conference, but they are useful to be aware of for future conferences as you become more experienced.

A Point of Personal Privilege refers to the well-being of a delegate. It may not refer to the resolution. It may only interrupt a speaker if the speech is inaudible. This is the only point that may interrupt a speaker.

A Point of Order is a question about procedure, or if the speaker says something offensive. It has to be addressed to the Chair. It can be made during a pause in a speech. To make a point of order, you say, "Point of Order" when the speaker pauses or finishes. When the chair invites you to make your point, you should stand and ask the chair, "Is it in order for...?"

A Point of Parliamentary Enquiry is a question to the Chair about the rules of procedure.

Orders of the Day is a call to return to the main topic of the debate, if you think the debate has gone off topic.

Permission to Approach the Chair is a request to discuss a problem with the Chair privately.

Explain Vote is a request, after a vote, by a delegate to explain the way he or she voted. Usually one for each FOR, AGAINST and ABSTAINED would be given half a minute.

Parliamentary Procedure

Move to Extend Debate Time is a request to have further time FOR and AGAINST a resolution. It should have a seconder. If anyone objects, it is put to a vote (without debate), a simple majority being required.

Move to Table is used to propose a stop to consideration of a resolution if that resolution clearly has little support and would be a waste of time to debate fully. It should have a seconder. If anyone objects, it is put to a vote (without debate), a simple majority being required.

Move the Previous Question is a call to end debate time and to vote on the resolution. It should have a seconder. If anyone objects, it is put to a vote (without debate), a two-thirds majority being required.

Move to adjourn is a proposal to finish proceedings. It should have a seconder. If anyone objects, it is put to a vote (without debate) a simple majority being required.

Refer the Question is a proposal to send a resolution to be considered by another committee. It should have a seconder. If anyone objects it is debated (3 minutes FOR and 3 minutes AGAINST) and is then put to a vote, a simple majority being required.

Awards

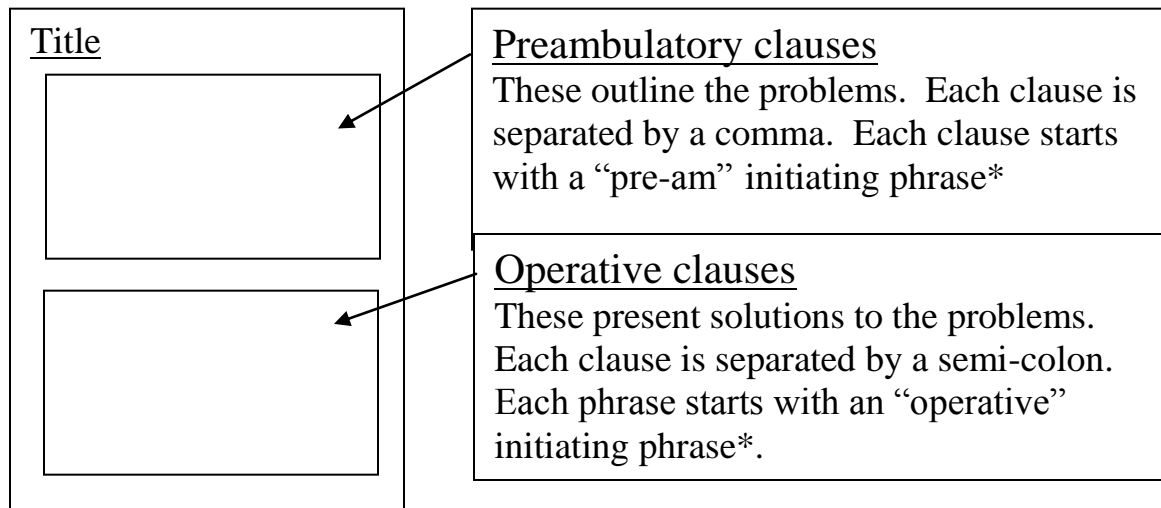
At the end of the day, awards will be given to the best delegates in each committee. The chairs will decide on awards based on

- how accurately you represent the views of your country
- how well you construct resolutions
- correct use of proper debating style and language
- the level of respect you show to the chairs and other delegates

8. Writing a Resolution

You do not need to write a resolution in advance of this conference, as you will be given training on how to write a resolution during the day. However, the information below may be of interest to help you plan ahead, or to prepare for future conferences.

The basic structure of a resolution is shown below.



*A list of initiating phrases is given at the end of this resolution writing section.

The heading of a resolution should include the following.

- The name of the committee debating the resolution
- The question (what the resolution is about – the title given on the agenda)
- The names of the submitter (the country of the person writing it),
- The names of the co-submitters (countries supporting it) and
- The UN body to which the committee reports (the GENERAL ASSEMBLY).

To see how a resolution is written, we shall look at the problem of global warming. We shall look at it from the point of view of a developing country such as Mali. Start by considering the key points.

- ◇ Various gases, but particularly carbon dioxide trap heat from the sun and are thought to cause global warming.
- ◇ Carbon dioxide is produced by industry and vehicles burning fossil fuels.
- ◇ Global warming could cause devastating effects on sea level and climate.
- ◇ At the Earth Summit, industrial nations agreed to keep carbon dioxide emissions to 1990 levels, but in most cases this is not being kept to.
- ◇ One way of reducing carbon dioxide production would be to introduce a carbon tax..
- ◇ It is industrialised countries that are mainly responsible for the production carbon dioxide.
- ◇ Mali is an extremely poor country so economic development is a much higher priority than environmental considerations.

These problems would be outlined in the “Preamble” (often shortened to ‘pre-am’) section of the resolution. There is a list of preambulatory and operative phrases at the end of this section on writing a resolution.

The pre-am section of the resolution might read as follows

Concerned that levels of carbon dioxide continue to rise,
Noting that this increase is due mainly to burning of fossil fuels in industrialised countries,
Deeply concerned that continued global warming is likely to have extremely serious environmental consequences,
Further noting that the Earth Summit agreements are not being fully implemented,

Each phrase is indented 5 spaces. Each phrase can only be used once, although “Further” can be used a number of times. For example you could have “Further noting” two or three times, but only of course if “Noting” has been used before.

The second part of the resolution consists of outlining how the problem could be solved. Clauses in the operative section start with “operative phrases”, they are numbered and the whole clause is indented 5 spaces.

Returning to the problem of global warming; we might decide on the following as answers.

- ◇ Countries need to abide by the Earth Summit agreement
- ◇ On way of reducing carbon dioxide emissions would be for the industrialised countries to introduce a carbon tax.
- ◇ Income raised by this tax could be used to assist the Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) develop clean energy systems.

These ideas can then be put into a resolution.

1. Calls upon all member states to abide by agreements made at the Earth Summit;
2. Further suggests that one way of achieving a reduction of carbon dioxide production would be for industrialised countries to introduce a carbon tax;
3. Recommends that income raised by the carbon tax is used to assist LEDCs develop clean energy production systems.

If the resolution has several pages, each page is numbered in this way.

The Title. You will often leave the co-submitters line blank and fill this in by hand during lobbying.

Commas separate preambulatory clauses. Initiating phrase indented 5 spaces and underlined.

Operative clauses are numbered and separated by a semi-colon. All the operative clauses are indented 5 spaces. A full-stop is used at the very end of the resolution.

COMMITTEE: Environment
QUESTION OF: Global Warming
SUBMITTED BY: Mali
CO-SUBMITTED BY: Niger, Chad, Sudan, Zaire, Tanzania.

Page 1 of 1

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Concerned that levels of carbon dioxide continue to rise,
Noting that this increase is due mainly to burning of fossil fuels in industrialised countries,

Deeply concerned that continued global warming is likely to have extremely serious environmental consequences,

Further noting that the Earth Summit agreements are not being fully implemented,

1. Calls upon all member states to abide by agreements made at the Earth Summit;
2. Suggests that one way of achieving a reduction of carbon dioxide production would be for industrialised countries to introduce a carbon tax;
3. Recommends that income raised by the carbon tax is used to assist LEDCs develop clean energy production systems.

Initiating phrases are given below. If you want to use a phrase of your own, that is fine as long as it is the same grammatically.

“Demand” is a phrase which can only be used by the Security Council. Strong phrases such as “condemn” are best avoided as they requires a two thirds majority to pass a resolution containing them, rather than the normal simple majority.

During debate, a resolution can be amended. If in debate you were asked a question that shows a weakness in your resolution, you can alter the resolution by making a “friendly amendment”. Other delegates can amend the resolution in open debate or in time against in a closed debate as an unfriendly amendment; this requires a vote to pass.

Clauses in a resolution may well have sub-clauses, where it is convenient to group ideas together. For example in our sample resolution on climate change, clause 2 could be broken into sub-clauses to make it more comprehensive.

1. Calls upon all member states to abide by agreements made at the Earth Summit;
2. Further suggests that some of the ways of achieving a reduction of carbon dioxide production would be for industrialised countries to
 - (a) introduce a carbon tax;
 - (b) introduce subsidies for people to improve their home insulation;
 - (c) give tax incentives to encourage industry to enhance research into alternative energy forms;
3. Recommends that income raised by the carbon tax is used to assist LEDCs develop clean energy production systems.

Introductory Phrases for Resolutions

Preambulatory phrases

Affirming	Deeply regretting	Having adopted	Observing
Alarmed by	Deploring	Having considered	Reaffirming
Approving	Desiring	Having considered further	Realising
Aware of	Emphasising	Having devoted attention	Recalling
Believing	Expecting	Having examined	Recognising
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Having studied	Referring
Confident	Expressing its satisfaction	Having heard	Seeking
Contemplating	Fulfilling	Having received	Taking into account
Convinced	Fully aware	Keeping in mind	Taking into consideration
Declaring	Fully alarmed	Noting with regret	Taking note
Deeply concerned	Fully believing	Noting with satisfaction	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply conscious	Further (+ another term	Noting with deep concern	Welcoming
Deeply convinced	already used)	Noting further	
Deeply disturbed	Guided by	Noting with approval	

Operative Clauses

Accepts	Declares	Further (+ another	Solemnly affirms
Affirms	Deplores	term already	Suggests
Approves	Draws attention	used)	Supports
Asks	Designates	Notes	Takes note of
Authorises	Emphasises	Proclaims	Transmits
Calls for	Encourages	Reaffirms	Trusts
Calls upon	Endorses	Recommends	Urges
Condemns	Expresses its	Reminds	
Congratulates	appreciation	Regrets	
Confirms	Expresses its hope	Requests	
Considers		Resolves	