

GUIDE TO PREPARING A RESOLUTION

INTRODUCTION

Most actions of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) take the form of resolutions. Resolutions are submitted in a uniform style under the sponsorship of one or more delegations.

In the Mississippi Model Security Council (MMSMC), just as in the United Nations Security Council on which it is based, debate centers on resolutions dealing with peace and security issues of international concern. Students, representing one of the fifteen nations comprising the Security Council, submit resolutions of this nature to be discussed and brought to a vote.

Each resolution consists of primarily two separate parts: 1) the preambulatory clauses, or paragraphs, that provide a history of organizational involvement in the issue and detail the current situation; and 2) the operative clauses, or paragraphs, that state actions the council would like taken and outline the execution of those actions.

TEXT

1. Subject line. The subject line of the resolution should indicate the general topic covered.
2. Submitted to. The submitted to indicates what organizational body the resolution is intended for.
3. Submitted by. The submitted to indicates what member state or entity submitted the resolution.
4. Greeting line. The greeting line calls the organizational body or entity's attention to matter prior to discussing the preambulatory and actuating clauses of the resolution.
5. Preamble. Preambulatory clauses are the unnumbered clauses that explain the purpose of the resolution and states the main reasons in support of the actuating clauses that follow. Preambulatory clauses often refer to past actions, Security Council resolutions, or Charter provisions. These clauses are amendable by friendly amendment only.

Common preambulatory clauses begin with:

Affirming	Deeply conscious
Acknowledging	Deeply convinced
Aware of	Deeply disturbed
Bearing in mind contemplating	Deeply regretting
Condemning	Emphasizing
Convinced	Expecting
Declaring	Fully aware
Denouncing	Fully alarmed
Deeply concerned	Further deploring

Guided by
Keeping in mind
Noting with regret
Noting with deep concern
Objecting to
Observing
Perceiving
Reaffirming

Realizing
Recalling
Recognizing
Reminding
Seeking
Taking into account
Taking into consideration
Welcoming

6. Actuating clauses. Actuating clauses, also known as operative clauses, are the numbered clauses that call for action within the resolution. Actuating clauses usually take the form of recommending actions of support, endorsement, condemnation, or declaration for the opinions expressed in the preambulatory clauses that may initiate peacekeeping, peacemaking, or peacebuilding missions, call among the international community for assistance in the matter, or condemn activities that break or disrupt international peace and security. These clauses are amendable by both friendly and written amendments.

Common actuating clauses begin with:

Accepts
Affirms
Appeals
Approves
Calls upon
Condemns
Congratulates
Decides
Demands
Encourages

Expresses
Further...
Notes
Petitions
Recommends
Requests
Supports
Takes note of
Urges

7. The resolution shall be no longer than 1 to 2 pages in length, single spaced between each of the sections, including each of the preambulatory and actuating clauses, with 1 inch margins, and is left justified. The font used shall be Times New Roman at 12 to 14 pitch. The first word or phrase of each section and clause should be capitalized. Each preambulatory should end in a comma except for the very last preambulatory clause, which should end in a colon. The preambulatory clauses initial phrasing shall be underlined. Each actuating clause should end in a semicolon succeeded by an "and" (i.e., and), except in the very last actuating clause, which should end in a period. The actuating clauses shall be indented and numbered consecutively (i.e., 1. 2. 3. etc). The actuating clauses initial phrasing shall be italicized.

8. The co-directors, executive officers, and council officers and delegates reserve the right to correct spelling and grammatical errors, and to put all resolutions in the proper form.