

SAMPLE MUN DIALOGUE

Here you will find a short walkthrough of what is likely to happen during a Model UN committee meeting. *Your committee meetings will not necessarily happen exactly like this, but this can be a good way to familiarize yourself with the way it MIGHT happen.*

Note – The Chair and the Assistant Chair will often share duties as agrees with the rules and as fits their style. In this simulation, for simplicity, all talking is done by a Chair.

OPENING MEETING

The chair may introduce his or herself and let the other members of the staff do the same. After whatever the Chair may have in mind, the session will commence...

Chair: All right, we will now begin with roll call. I will read off an alphabetized list, so please say “Present” if you are here. Afghanistan?

Afghanistan: Present.

Chair: Australia?

Australia: Present

The Chair goes through the rest of the roll call.

Chair: We have 25 delegates present. So 13 positive votes will be required for a majority, and 17 will be needed for any motions requiring 2/3.

AGENDA

Chair: We are in formal debate, are there any points or motions on the floor?

Chilean Delegate raises his placard

Chair: To what point do you rise delegate?

Chile: I move to set the agenda to Topic A.

Chair: The delegate from Chile has moved to set the agenda to topic A. Is there a second?

Several placards go into the air.

Chair: Seeing seconds, we will now establish a speaker’s list for and against setting the agenda to topic A. All those wishing to speak in favor of setting the agenda to topic A, please raise your placard now. (The Chair notes France and Russia). All those wishing to speak against, please raise your placard. (The Chair notes China and Pakistan). Any further additions to the list? Seeing none, delegate from France you have one minute.

French delegate speaks.

Chair: Thank you, delegate. Are there any points or motions on the floor at this time? Seeing none, delegate from China, you have 1 minute.

China speaks, followed by Russia and Pakistan.

Chair: Thank you, delegate. Are there any points or motions on the floor at this time?

Australian delegate raises her placard.

Chair: Australia. To what point do you rise?

Australia: Motion to close the speakers' list.

Chair: Since we've heard at least two speakers for and two speakers against that motion is in order. That motion requires one speaker against. Are there any nations willing to speak against closing debate?

Placards go up.

Chair: Brazil. Brazil, you are recognized to speak against closing debate for 30 seconds.

Brazil speaks.

Chair: Thank you honorable delegate from Brazil. We will now vote on the motion to set the agenda to topic A. All those in favor, raise your placards.

Placards are raised and the chairs count.

Chair: All those opposed.

Other placards go up and the chairs count.

Chair: With a vote of 16 in favor and 9 opposed, the agenda is now set to topic A.

FORMAL DEBATE

Chair: We are in formal debate are there any points or motions at this time before we create a speaker's list? ... Seeing none, all those wishing to speak please raise your placard. (The Chair note names) ...Any points or motions? The first delegate on the list is the US. You have 1 minute, delegate.

U.S. delegate speaks, and yields remaining time to the UK at the end of his speech. UK finishes and yields to Germany.

Chair: Delegate, you are out of order. You may not yield after you have already been yielded to, please take your seat. Thank you, delegates. Any points or motions?

Togo delegate raises his placard.

Chair: Togo, to what point do you rise?

Togo: Motion to set the speakers' time at one minute, thirty seconds.

Chair: That is in order. All those in favor of extending the speakers' time to one minute, thirty seconds, raise your placards.

A few placards go up.

Chair: All those opposed.

A large number of placards go up.

Chair: That motion clearly fails; the Speakers' time will remain at one minute. Any other points or motions? Seeing none, Bahamas, you are recognized for one minute.

Several speakers speak according to the speakers' list. In the middle of the Russian Federation's speech, France's placard goes up.

Chair: Excuse me delegate from the Russian Federation. Delegate from France, to what point do you rise?

France: Point of Personal Privilege. Could the delegate from the Russian Federation please speak up so that the delegations in the back can hear?

Chair: Yes, dually noted. Will the delegate please try to speak louder?

The Russian Federation delegate complies, and continues speaking, louder. Several more speakers go, the last of which is the Algerian delegate.

Chair: Thank you Algeria. Are there any points or motions?

The delegate from Libya raises her placard.

Chair: Libya, to what point do you rise?

Libya: Point of Parliamentary Inquiry. If I have a draft of a resolution, how many signatories do I need before I introduce it?

Chair: Excellent question Libya. Well, as it states in Rule 32, you need the signature of 1/3 of the body, which in our case would be 8 and a third, or simply 9 (because we always round up). Thank you Libya.

UN-MODERATED CAUCUS

Chair: Any points or motions?

The Argentinian delegate raises her placard.

Chair: Delegate from Argentina, to what point do you rise?

Argentina: I move for an un-moderated caucus for 10 minutes to discuss various working papers on the floor with an aim at achieving greater consensus in the body.

Chair: That is in order. All those in favor of the motion please raise your placards. (The Chair notes a number of placards) All those opposed. (The Chair notes a few placards) Seeing an overwhelming majority in favor, we will not have an unmoderated caucus for ten minutes.

Committee caucuses for ten minutes, and then reconvenes.

MODERATED CAUCUS

Chair: Points or motions?

The Mongol delegate's placard goes up.

Chair: Mongolia, to what point do you rise?

Mongolia: Motion for a 5 minute moderated caucus with a speakers' time of 30 seconds, to discuss, specifically, the health issues of our topic.

Chair: If there are no other motions...I will entertain that Mongolia. All those in favor of the Mongolian delegates motion, please raise your placards...all those opposed... By a clear majority, that motion passes. We are now in moderated caucus. All delegates wishing to speak, raise your placards.

Many placards go up.

Chair: Gabon. You are recognized for 30 seconds.

Gabon speaks.

Chair: Thank you Gabon. Those wishing to speak...

Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Turkmenistan, Indonesia, Chile, Canada, Slovenia, South Africa, and Yemen speak.

Chair: Thank you distinguished delegate from Yemen. The five minutes is now up. We will now return to Formal Debate.

INTRODUCING RESOLUTIONS

The delegate from China approaches the Chair and informs him that he has a resolution he would like to submit. The Chair verifies that it has the required number of signatories, that it is in proper resolution format, and that the content is relevant, finally, giving his approval to it. The Chair submits the approved resolution to the Conference Staff, who type up the resolution, copy it, and return the copies to the committee. As the committee proceedings continue unabated, the copies of the resolution land on the Chair's desk.

Chair: We are still in formal debate. Are there any points or motions on the floor?

China: China motions to introduce Resolution A/1.

Chair: That is in order. China please come to the front and read it to the assembly.

China reads his resolution. The Chinese delegate remains on the floor to correct any typos in the resolution.

Chair: We will now vote on the motion to introduce Resolution A/1; a majority is needed. All those in favor... Opposed... This vote passes. Resolution A/1 is now on the floor for your discussion.

INTRODUCING AMENDMENTS

India has an amendment and approaches the Chair with it. The Chair confirms that it is in proper format, has the right number of sponsors, and is relevant. If the amendment is long, it can be copied, but since most amendments are short, most can be introduced immediately after approval.

Chair: Any points or motions?

India: I move to introduce Amendment A/1/1 to Resolution A/1.

Chair: Please come to the front India and read the amendment.

India reads it and answers orthographic questions.

Chair: We will now vote on introduction of the amendment. All those in favor... all opposed... it passes. We will open a speakers' list. All those wishing to speak in favor of amending the resolution with this amendment, please raise your placards... Those wishing to speak against... If there are no points or motions on the floor, delegate from Egypt, you have 1 minute.

Egypt speaks for inclusion of the amendment, delegate against speaks, delegate for speaks, delegate against speaks, then a delegate for speaks.

Chair: Thank you delegate from Portugal. Points or motions?

Bahrain raises his placard.

Chair: Bahrain. To what point do you rise?

Bahrain: Motion to close debate.

Chair: That is in order. Now we will move to an immediate vote. A two-thirds majority is required to close debate. All those wishing to close debate... all those opposed. By a clear majority debate is closed. We will then immediately vote on whether or not to add the amendment into the resolution on the floor. All those in favor please raise your placards. All those opposed...By a vote of 22 in favor and 3 opposed, this resolution has been amended.

VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

Chair: Points or motions?

United States raises her placard.

Chair: U.S. To what point do you rise?

United States: Motion to close debate.

Chair: That motion is in order. The U.S. motions that we close debate on the Topic, moving all resolutions currently on the floor to a vote as they are currently amended. After the vote we will move to the next topic area. This motion requires up to one speaker against... Angola, you are recognized for 30 seconds.

Angola speaks against closing debate.

Chair: Thank you Angola. A motion to close debate requires a two-thirds majority. All those in favor... all those opposed... by a clear majority, debate is closed. We will now move into voting procedures. We have two resolutions on the floor, Resolution A/1, and Resolution A/2, both as amended. First, Resolution A/1. Are there any points or motions?

The Iraqi delegate raises her placard.

Chair: Iraq, to what point do you rise.

Iraq: Motion for a roll call vote.

Chair: That motion is in order. That motion requires a simple majority to pass. All those in favor... opposed... This motion passes. We will now proceed with the Roll Call Vote. Delegates may vote "For", "Against", "Abstain", or "Pass" in the first round of voting. All those who passed, must vote in the second round. I will begin at a random point in the list... Gambia?

Gambia: Against

Chair: Germany?

Germany: Against

Voting continues.

Chair: By a vote of 2 “For”, 22 “Against”, and 1 “Abstention” that resolution fails. Now we will vote on Resolution A/2. Any points or motions from the committee?

The delegate from Pakistan raises his placard.

Chair: Pakistan. To what point?

Pakistan: Motion for division of the question.

Chair: That is in order. How do you propose the question is divided?

Pakistan: It should be divided as clauses 1-3, 4-6, and 7-8.

Chair: Very well, are there any other points or motions... Seeing none, we will take speakers for and against, two of each. All those wishing to speak for division of the question... those wishing to speak against... Very well, Italy, please rise for 30 seconds.

Italy speaks for division, Japan against, Uruguay for, Nigeria against.

Chair: All right, we will now move to a vote. This motion requires a simple majority. All those in favor... those opposed... This motion passes. First the committee will vote on the first set of clauses, 1-3. Any points or motions? Seeing no points or motions, all in favor... all opposed... By a vote of 15 to 10, Clauses 1-3 will now be included in the draft resolution. The second set, 4-6, will now be voted on. Any points or motions?

United States raises her placard.

Chair: United States to what point do you rise?

United States: Motion for a roll call vote.

Chair: I'm going to rule that dilatory at this time. Any other points or motions? Very well. All those in favor of clauses 4-6... all those opposed... that fails by a vote of 4 to 21. The committee will now move to a vote on the third set, clauses 7-8. Any points or motions on the floor? Seeing no points, all those in favor of these clauses... all opposed... by a vote of 12 in favor, 11 opposed, and 2 abstentions, these clauses will be included in the draft resolution. We will now move to a vote on the draft resolution. If there are no points or motions on the floor... all those in favor of Resolution A/2 as amended and as divided, please raise your placards... all those opposed... By a vote of 24 in favor and 1 opposed, Resolution A/2 passes. Congratulations, we've completed the first topic. I will now entertain a motion for a five minute suspension of the meeting.

The United Arab Emirates placard goes up.

Chair: U.A.E. to what point do you rise?

United Arab Emirates: Motion for a five minute suspension of the meeting.

Chair: That is in order. All in favor... all opposed... that passes. Break for five minutes delegates, and then we will begin discussion of the second Topic in formal debate.