
Helpful information for delegates

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How to write a Clause?



❑ Preambulatory Clauses

1. should clearly state something which justifies action (recognizing a situation or a law)
2. direct quoting, or citing
3. mentioning the previous resolution on the issue

❑ Operative Clauses

1. it is a written instruction.
2. the first step - have an idea of what you want to
3. it should have no adjectives
4. SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timely)
5. make sure your instruction is open to as little interpretation as possible

Useful vocabulary



Useful verbs to be used in the pre-ambulatory clauses:

Affirming	Keeping in mind
Alarmed by	Noting with
Approving	Nothing with
Bearing in mind	Observing
Believing	Reaffirming
Convinced	Realizing
Declaring	Referring
Deeply concerned	Welcoming
Emphasizing	
Expecting	
Fully aware	
Guided by	

Useful verbs to be used in the operative clauses:

Affirms	Hopes
Approves	Invites
Asks	Proclaims
Calls for	Proposes
Calls upon	Recommends
Condemns	Strongly affirms
Congratulates	Strongly urges
Confirms	Supports
Declares	Urges
Encourages	
Expresses its hope	

Examples



❑ Preambulatory Clauses

Recalling the obligation under the Quartet Roadmap, endorsed by its resolution 1515 (2003), for a freeze by Israel of all settlement activity, including “natural growth”, and the dismantlement of all settlement outposts erected since March 2001.

❑ Operative Clauses

Calls upon all Afghan and international parties to coordinate with UNAMA in the implementation of its mandate and in efforts to promote the security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel throughout the country;

MUN Clause Rules

Most Important Comes First

- It is especially important that the main idea is seen in the first few words

Example:

Expresses hope that the Director-General of the World Health Organization can initiate promptly a research and reporting program on the epidemiology of drug dependence

Use Data in Clauses

- The more you can use statistics and data to back up a clause, the more powerful it will be.

Example:

Calls upon each member nation to give 0.002 percent of their GDP to help rebuild critical governmental institutions in Afghanistan, up to twenty billion dollars;





Clause Writing – What Not To Do

- Don't Be Long Winded
- Avoid Adjectives and Flowery Language
- Don't Be Afraid of Numbers

BAD EXAMPLE: Taking note, with much appreciation, of the report the extremely competent Secretary-General submitted to the extremely efficient committee of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on the date of June 20, 2017 calling for the lessening of the extremely harmful and unethical illegal wildlife trafficking which hurts so many poor, sad and abused animals by at least fifteen percent by the year 2021 so that more animals will not be subject to pain torture and humiliation;

GOOD EXAMPLE: Takes note of the 2017 report of the Secretary-General to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to reduce illegal wildlife trafficking by at least 15% by 2021



Policy Statement Structure

- ❑ It is a short speech of a delegate (90 seconds) that gives an overview of a country's opinion on the agenda , as well as the measures a country proposes to solve the problem.
- ❑ The paper usually addresses only one issue to underline the priority of the country.
- ❑ A policy statement should include:
 - Brief background of the topic;
 - Past actions taken by the international community and evaluation of their (in) effectiveness;
 - Country policy;
 - Possible solutions.

Amendments



- The nations wishing to propose an amendment needs to send a note to the Chair, stating the amendment in written form.
- There are three possible types of amendments: **to delete** (to strike out) certain clause or sub-clause, **to modify** an existing clause or **to add** a new point. The type of the amendment must be clearly specified in the note.
- As soon as the Chair received a note, he / she **reads the amendment**, asks if it is **seconded** or if there are objections, and **yields the floor to the author** of the amendment;

Examples include:

- Adds an operative clause that reads “14. Encourages all Latin American countries to...”
- Deletes operative clause 9.
- Modifies operative clause 1 to read “1. Calls upon the Red Cross to provide low-cost medicines...”

Exploring the Agenda



- A delegate should thoroughly examine the questions of the agenda in order to make his participation fruitful and maintain effective and constructive working process of the Committee.
- We recommend to learn the agenda using the following guide:
 - **General Background** (history and current state of the problem, its reasons and outcomes, countries involved, salience of the issue);
 - **The country's position** (impact of the problem on the country, the country's role in its resolution and its policy);
 - **The UN efforts to solve the problem** (the mandate of the UN, previous efforts / documents etc.)

Useful sites to prepare



<https://bestdelegate.com/mun-made-easy-how-to-get-started-with-model-unit-ed-nations/>

<https://outreach.un.org/mun/content/delegate-preparation>

<https://www.wisemee.com/how-to-write-a-mun-position-paper/>

<https://www.amun.org/sample-position-papers/>

<http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/global-issues-overview/>

<http://www.un.org/en/documents/index.html>

Thank you for your attention!

