

RULES OF PROCEDURE

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

VISMUN26

1. Delegations

1.1. Members

The Security Council shall consist of fifteen members of the United Nations. The People's Republic of China, the French Republic, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America shall be Permanent Members of the Security Council.

1.2. Observers and Non-Council Members

Observers are Non-Council Members included in the initial formation of the Council as set out in the first Quorum, when the Council considers that the topics of the Agenda affect a particular country's interests.

The Security Council also reserves the right to invite a non-Council Member as party to a dispute under consideration whenever it deems appropriate, Non-Council Members are granted the Observer status.

Both Observers and States declared parties to a dispute shall enjoy debating rights and participate in all procedural matters, but shall not have voting rights on substantial issues, nor have the right to submit draft resolutions and amendments.

1.3. Permission to Approach the Bench

Any delegate wishing to contact the Director for a very delicate matter may ask for permission to approach the Bench. This is a last resort in case of *emergency*.

2. Parliamentary procedure

2.1. Roll Call

Attendance shall be kept by the Directorpersons with a Roll Call at the beginning of every Security Council session, or if it is asked for by a member of the Security Council, according to section 5.1 concerning the verification of quorum. Delegates shall establish their presence in the Security Council by raising their placards and declaring "*Present*" or "*Present and Voting*". Delegates having declared themselves Present and Voting cannot abstain during votes on all matters until the next Roll Call.

3. MAJORITY

3.1. Majority on Procedural Matters.

In accordance with Article 27 of the Charter of the United Nations, all votes on procedural matters require a majority of nine (9) votes in favour.

3.2. Majority on Substantive Matters.

All votes on substantive matters require a majority of nine (9) votes in favour, including the concurring votes of all Permanent Members. If one or more Permanent Members vote against a draft

resolution, amendment or on any other substantive matter, the item that the Security Council is voting upon, fails. The abstention of a Permanent Member does not block the approval of a motion.

4. Quorum

Requirement : 14 members. Permanent 5 members and Tenant. 10 members.

5. Agenda

The Agenda items are ordered randomly. This cannot be considered as binding for the order in which topics will be addressed by the council. The Director may entertain a motion to set the agenda immediately after setting the quorum so as to define which topic area takes precedent in the debate.

5.1. Motion to set the Agenda.

Following the *Motion to Set the Quorum*, a *Motion to Set the Agenda* on a specific topic will be in order. The Director will consider the Motions in the order in which they were made. Once the Agenda is set, the Director will entertain a *Motion to Establish a Speakers' List*.

6. Speakers' List

6.1. Motion to Establish a Speakers' List

To establish a Speakers' List, a delegate shall rise to a *Motion to Establish a Speakers' List*, also determining the individual speaker's time. The Motion needs to be first approved by the Director and then is voted upon, requiring a simple majority to pass. If there is more than one *Motion to Establish a Speakers' List*, suggesting a different Speaker's Time, they will be voted upon, starting from the most disruptive one.

6.2 Adding a Delegation to the Speakers' List

A Delegation can be added to the Speakers' List only if not already included. The delegate may either raise his/her placard when the Director calls for Delegates to do so or send a note to the Director persons stating their will to be added to the Speakers' List. Speakers must keep their remarks germane to the subject under discussion. When the Speakers' List is exhausted, debate is automatically closed even if a motion to close debate would not normally be in order.

7. Debate

7.1. Formal Debate

The Security Council shall by default be in Formal Debate unless otherwise advised by the Director. Delegates should refer to the Speakers' List for the speaking order, as described in Sections 8.1 and 8.2.

7.2. Informal Debate

During formal debate a motion can be put forth by any delegate for a Moderated Caucus or an Unmoderated Caucus, both of which constitute informal debate. Informal debate can only occur on substantive issues. Motion to enter informal debate is in order following the procedures outlined in sections 11.2 through 11.5.

7.3. Interruptions

A Speaker may not be interrupted by another Delegate unless that Delegate has risen to a *Point of Personal Privilege*. A *Point of Order* and a *Right of Reply* cannot interrupt a speaker. Only once a Speaker has concluded and the floor is given back to the Director, a delegate may move to a *Point of Order* or a *Right of Reply*.

7.4. Relevance of Speech

A Director may call a Delegate to order if his/her speech is not relevant to the subject being discussed or is not stated according to diplomatic courtesy.

7.5. Time Limit

When a delegate exceeds his/her allotted time, the Director may call the Speaker to order without delay. However, the Director has the discretion to be flexible (within reason) about the time limit to allow a Delegate to finish his or her thought in order to account for the varying fluency of English among the Delegates.

8. Yields

Only during formal debate, a Delegate may yield any remaining time at the end of his/her speech in one of the following manners:

8.1. To Questions

The Director will use the remaining time to entertain questions for the Speaker from the Security Council. Delegates wishing to ask questions shall raise their placards and wait to be recognised by the Director. The Director shall rule questions that are rhetorical, leading or not relevant to the Speaker's speech out of order. Only the Speaker's answer shall be subtracted from the remaining speaking time.

8.2. To Another Delegate

A Speaker wishing to give the remaining time allotted to his/her speech to another Delegate can do so. That Delegate has to immediately take the floor. A Speaker that has been yielded to cannot yield his/her time again.

8.3. To the Board

A Delegate can yield any remaining time back to the Board. It is in the discretion of the Director to yield the floor to the next speaker on the Speakers' list or open the floor for Points or Motions. If a specific yield has not been established by the Speaker, the floor will automatically be given back to the Director. During Moderated Caucus the floor will also be automatically given to the Director.

9. Points

9.1. Point of Personal Privilege

A delegate may rise to a *Point of Personal Privilege* if a matter impairs the delegate's participation in council activities. The Directorpersons shall try to effectively address the source of impairment. A *Point of Personal Privilege* can interrupt the speaker in any case. However, this motion should be used with the utmost discretion.

9.2. Point of Order

A Delegate may rise to a *Point of Order* if a Delegate or the Directorpersons are not properly following the Rules of Procedure. The Director will rule on the validity of the point immediately. A Delegate rising to a *Point of Order* may not comment on the topic of the discussion. A *Point of Order* ruled dilatory by the Director may not be appealed. This point may not interrupt a Speaker.

9.3. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

A Delegate may rise to a *Point of Parliamentary Inquiry* requesting an explanation from the Director on the Rules of Procedure. This point may not interrupt a Speaker.

9.4. Right of Reply

A Delegate whose personal or national integrity has been impugned by another Delegate's comments may rise to a *Right of Reply*. Disagreement with the content of a Delegate's speech does not constitute sufficient justification for a *Right of Reply*. The Director will recognise the *Right of Reply* at his/her discretion as well as decide on how to resolve the matter. This point may not interrupt a speaker but should be addressed the moment he/she will has finished his/her speech. Should the Director rule the *Right of Reply* out of order, the decision cannot be appealed. No delegate may call for a *Right of Reply* on a *Right of Reply*.

10. Motions

Motions are proposed by the Delegates in order to facilitate the debate or the overall procedure, by raising their placards and waiting to be recognised. All proposed Motions shall be first approved by the Board, which will then ask for Seconds and Objections, as defined in Rule 12. If there are more than one Motions proposed, the Council shall vote upon them starting from the most disruptive one.

10.1. Motion for a Moderated Caucus

A Delegate may proposing a *Motion for a Moderated Caucus* must indicate a total duration of the caucus, speaking time for each individual speaker and purpose of the Motion. The Director may suggest a more appropriate total duration, speaker's time or purpose, or may rule the Moderated Caucus out of order without possibility of appeal. If the Motion passes, the Security Council will enter informal debate whereby the Director will recognise at his/her discretion Delegates who raise their placards to speak about the issue at hand.

10.2. Motion to Extend the Moderated Caucus

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Extend the Moderated Caucus* if he/she feels that additional time benefits the work of the Security Council. The Delegate proposing an Extension of the Moderated Caucus must suggest a duration for the extension, not exceeding the initial Moderated Caucus. The individual speaker's time and the purpose of the Caucus remain the same. The Director may suggest a more appropriate total duration and put it to vote or may rule the Motion out of order without possibility of appeal. Only one extension of the Moderated Caucus is allowed.

10.3. Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus

A Delegate proposing a *Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus* must indicate a total duration and purpose for the Caucus. The Director may suggest a more appropriate caucus length or topic and put it to vote or may rule the Unmoderated Caucus out of order without possibility of appeal. Once the

Motion passes, the Security Council will start an informal discussion on the topic specified in the Motion, without leaving the conference room.

10.4. Motion to Extend the Unmoderated Caucus

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Extend the Unmoderated Caucus* if he/she feels that additional time would benefit the work of the Security Council. The Delegate who proposes a *Motion to Extend the Unmoderated Caucus* must suggest a duration for the extension, not exceeding the initial Unmoderated Caucus. The Director may suggest a more appropriate caucus duration and put it to vote or may rule the *Extension of the Unmoderated Caucus* out of order without the possibility of appeal. Only one extension of the Unmoderated Caucus is allowed.

10.5. Motion to Table Debate on a Topic

A Delegate may move to Table Debate in order to end debate on a substantive issue without voting any Draft Resolutions that may be on the floor. The Director shall entertain a *Motion to Return to a Dismissed Topic* as defined in article 11.7.

10.6. Motion to Close Debate on a Draft Resolution

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Close Debate* in order to end debate on a Draft Resolution. Should there be amendments on the floor, it is highly recommended to follow the procedure regarding Amendments, as discussed in Rules 13.3-13.3.6. Voting on this Motion is considered substantial.

10.7. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

A Delegate may rise to a *Motion for the Adjournment of the Meeting* in order to suspend all Security Council activities until the next scheduled meeting. The Director may rule the Motion out of order without possibility of appeal.

10.8. Motion to Adjourn the Session

A Delegate may rise to a *Motion for the Adjournment of the Session* to cease permanently all Council activities. The Director may rule the Motion out of order without possibility of appeal. Voting on this Motion is considered to be substantial.

11. Resolutions and Amendments

11.1. Working Paper

A Working Paper is an informal document used by Delegates to work on building a Draft Resolution. A Working Paper will be distributed at the Director's discretion if requested by a Delegate. A Working Paper can be presented by the Delegate either when it is the Delegate's turn to speak according to the Speakers' list or when a motion for informal debate passes, with the purpose of discussing the working paper.

11.1.2. Format

Draft Resolutions must be properly formatted according to the guidelines

11.2.3. Sponsor

The Sponsor is recognised as the main contributor to the Draft Resolution. There is a limited number of Sponsors for each draft Resolution. The Sponsor must be present for a Draft Resolution to be introduced to the Council. The Sponsor must agree to support a Resolution unless major changes have

been introduced through the amendment process.

11.1.3. Signatories

Signatories are those countries wishing to see the respective Draft Resolution. Signatories are neither considered as supporters of the Draft Resolution nor bear any obligation towards the sponsor. Amendments to the Draft Resolution are not required to be approved by Signatories. A country can be a signatory to more than one draft resolutions on the same topic. The number of Signatories required to discuss a *Draft Resolution* will be set by the Director to equal at least 1/3 of the total members present at the Security Council.

11.2. Introduction of a Draft Resolution

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Introduce a Draft Resolution*.

requiring simple majority. Once the Motion has passed, the Director shall invite the Sponsor of the Draft Resolution to read out only the operative clauses of the Draft Resolution to the Security Council..

11.3. Amendments

An Amendment may add, strike out or revise a part of the Draft Resolution. The Amendment has to be first approved by the Director. It is highly recommended, that there is at least one co-sponsor of the Amendment. It is in the discretion of the Director to define the period of time, during which the floor will be open for Amendments.

11.3.1. Motion to Introduce Amendments

A Delegate may propose a *Motion to Introduce Amendments* after the time for the submission of Amendments has elapsed. If the Motion passes, the Director will introduce to the Council all Amendments approved by the Board. During this procedure, the Sponsor will be called upon to define to the Council and the Board which Amendments are friendly and which unfriendly.

11.3.2. Amendments to Pre-Ambulatory Clauses

Amendments to Pre-Ambulatory Clauses are not in order. However, the Director may rule such an amendment in order if serious mistakes have been noticed in the Pre-Ambulatory Clauses.

11.3.3. Friendly Amendments

Substantive Amendments approved by the Sponsor of a Draft Resolution will automatically be integrated in the Draft Resolution without the need to be voted upon by the Security Council. Amendments to Friendly Amendments are out of order.

11.3.4. Unfriendly Amendments

Substantive Amendments to a Draft Resolution not approved by the Sponsor of a Draft Resolution are considered unfriendly. Unfriendly Amendments will be put to a vote prior to the vote on the Draft Resolution as a whole. Amendments to Unfriendly Amendments are out of order.

Amendment. In order to pass, Unfriendly Amendments need a majority of 9/14, including the concurring votes of the 5 Permanent Members. The Abstention of a Permanent Member does not hinder the adoption of an amendment.

11.3.5. Voting on Amendments

After all Amendments have been defined by the Sponsor as friendly or unfriendly (Rule 13.3.1.), The Council shall vote upon each Amendment separately, after finishing debating on it. All subsequent Amendments shall be discussed and voted upon in accordance with the aforementioned procedure, and in the order defined by their assigned number.

If one Amendment implies the rejection of a second Amendment, the second Amendment will not be voted upon. An Amendment that has passed shall be automatically integrated into the Draft Resolution. Once all Amendments relating to a Draft Resolution have been voted upon, the Board shall read the operative clauses as they have been modified.

12. Voting Procedure

When the Director announces that the Security Council is entering voting procedure, no entering or exiting from the room will be permitted, unless there is an emergency or until the voting procedure has come to an end. All auxiliary personnel, such as Journalists, Observers, Advisors etc. are required to immediately exit the room. The Board may or may not allow the Administrative Staff to remain in the room. Note passing is suspended.

13. Order of Voting

Draft resolutions on the same Topic Area should be voted according to the number they were assigned by the Secretariat.

13.1. Motion to Reorder Draft Resolutions

A Motion to Reorder Draft Resolutions will be in order immediately after entering voting procedure, and before voting has started on any draft resolution. The delegate proposing a *Motion to Reorder Draft Resolutions* will have to state the order in which he/she desires the Draft Resolutions to be voted upon.

14. Method of Voting

Each Delegate of the Security Council has one vote and must demonstrate his/her voting intentions by raising his/her placard at the Director's request unless there is a Roll Call vote (see Rule 17.1). Delegates must vote "in favour" or "against" on procedural matters and "in favour", "against" or "abstain" on substantive matters. No Delegate shall vote on behalf of another Delegate. Abstentions are not counted as negative votes.

14.1. Roll Call Vote

Roll Call Motions are in order only for substantive matters.

14.2. Voting on Draft Resolutions

Draft Resolutions will be voted upon, in the order that they were numbered by the Director, unless a motion to Reorder Draft Resolutions has passed.

17. Appendix of Points and Motions

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Debatable</i>	<i>Votes Required</i>	<i>Interrupt Speaker</i>
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Point of Personal Privilege	Feeling discomfort	No	No	Yes
Point of Order	To point out a misuse of rules	No	No	No
Right of Reply	Reply to an insult	No	No	No
Point of Parliamentary Inquiry	Clarify the rules	No	No	No
Motion for a minute of silent prayer or meditation	Silent prayer or meditation for a major issue	No	At the discretion of the Director	No

Motion to Set the Agenda	Set the Working Agenda	Yes (1+/1-)	9/14	No
Motion to <u>Establish</u> a Speakers' List	Open the Speakers' List	No	9/14	No
Motion to Adjourn Session	Adjourn session to cease permanently all council activities	Yes (1+/1-)	9(+P5)/14	No
Motion to Adjourn Meeting	Adjourn until next scheduled meeting	No	9/14	No
Motion for Unmoderated Caucus	Proceed to an Unmoderated Caucus	No	9/14	No
Motion for Moderated Caucus	Proceed to a Moderated Caucus	No	9/14	No

Motion to Introduce a Draft Resolution	Introduction of a Draft Resolution	No	9/14	No
Motion to Introduce an Amendment	Introduction of an Amendment	No	9/14	No