

RULES OF PROCEDURE: UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF THE WOMEN

Author: Spandan Bandyopadhyay

(Chairperson)

For the UNCSW committee of HPS Fairgaze MUN 2.0, we'd be following the UN4MUN Rules of Procedure

What is UN4MUN?

It is a program introduced by the United Nations Department of Global Communications in 2009 with an intention to bring Model UN simulations closer to how the real UN functions. The term symbolizes accurate simulations of the UN, ie: Rules of Procedure which accurately reflect the decision-making process of the real UN. In 2019, the name of the office interacting with Model UNs at the UN became "The United Nations Model UN Programme."

(Source: UN Ambassadors: What is UN4MUN?)

The MUN Format widely followed by most Model United Nations is UNA-USA, which is, in certain aspects different from the UN4MUN format, which we'd be following in this conference.

UN4MUN more accurately represents the procedure followed at the United Nations General Assembly while UNA-USA follows a more parliamentary procedure, which in certain aspects is more resembling of the US Congress than United Nations.

FLOW OF DEBATE

The flow of debate just has three phases: Formal Meeting (Speakers' List), Informal Meeting (unmod or lobbying), and action phase (voting or adoption of consensus).

1. **UN4MUN** procedure recognizes a small number of motions to be proposed by delegates. Motions can be made for suspension and adjournment of meeting, and adjournment and closure of debate. On the other hand, the conventional procedure prescribes more complex motions for tabling of debate, reordering of time, opening the speaker's list, introducing draft resolution etc. The UN4MUN procedure makes it simpler for the delegates by developing a simpler flow of debate – rather than switching in and out between formal and informal debate, there is a clear progression for the committee to follow.

2. **ROLL CALL:** In UN4MUN, members are just required to answer the Roll Call as “Present”. There is no “Present” and “Present and Voting” as used in the UNA-USA Format.

3. **The SPEAKER'S LIST** is the main component of the flow of formal debate in the UN4MUN format that recognizes that at the UN dignitaries' utterances in formal debate are not to be taken lightly, as they are watched by the world, from potential trade partners, neighbouring countries and the countries' own people. It reminds delegates that diplomats must carefully weigh every word they say in public, as the smallest of slights can become international incidents. This is where delegates take turns making speeches in front of the room by the order that they are listed on the Speakers List as selected by the Chair. Speeches are typically around 1 minute or 1 minute and 30 seconds, but the speaking time can be changed by a majority vote from the delegates.

4. FORMAL AND INFORMAL DEBATES

After a certain number of speeches, the delegates may vote to change up the debate format to either Formal or Informal Debate. Formal Debate is when the committee decides to focus on a sub-issue and get a back-and-forth debate going. Delegates will raise

their placards to be called on to speak, and the Chairperson will call on speakers one-by-one until the Formal Debate time has expired.

Formal Debates (similar to Moderated Caucus): Formal Debates is when the committee decides to focus on a sub-issue and get a back-and-forth debate going. Delegates will raise their placards to be called on to speak, and the Chairperson will call on speakers one-by-one until the Moderated Caucus time has expired.

Informal Debates (similar to Unmoderated Caucus): Informal Debates is when delegates are free to get up out of their seats and roam around the room to work with other countries with similar policies. The first one or two unmoderated caucuses will be spent finding allies, but afterward most of the unmoderated caucuses are spent writing draft resolutions with your caucus bloc (your group of allies).

All delegates are encouraged to be a sponsor — an author — of a draft resolution.

Group Discussions (Proposal by the Chair): As per Rule 163 of UNGA Rules of Procedures - The Rules of Procedure may be amended by a decision of the General Assembly, taken by a majority of members present and voting.

What does this mean? This means if the committee wishes, it can vote upon to decide to amend the rules of procedure.

I propose one amendment here:

We could also add Group Discussions as a Debate Format. Group Discussion are similar to Unmoderated Caucus but instead of lobbying, they are used to directly discuss with all the members in

the committee. They are considered to be formal and public. The delegates must respect the other delegates' right to speak and therefore adjust his/her statement accordingly.

This might be a custom format that might be added if the size of the committee is relatively smaller.

5. POINTS

Unlike the UNA-USA Format, there are only two points used in the UN4MUN format:

- a. **Point of Order:** This point is raised when someone draws attention to a violation of rules in the meeting.

- b. **Right to Reply:** Generally, in UN4MUN, delegates who have been granted the Right to Reply take their speaking time after the Speakers' List has been closed. However, depending upon the strength of the committee, we might decide to allow a delegate to use his/her right to reply during the Speakers' List.

6. RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions would be presented towards the end of the meeting. Post-Presentation, there would be a question-answer session. The resolution would be passed by consensus unless objects are raised and would only move to voting if any objections are raised.

Amendments can be suggested post the question answer session. Unlike the UNA-USA format, there would be no friendly or unfriendly amendment and the amendment would only come into effect with the consent of signatories and consensus of the committee.

If you're new to MUNs and are unaware of the procedure for writing resolutions, feel free to [click here](#) to understand more about resolutions.

7. BUT WHY UN4MUN?

Unlike UNA-USA, UN4MUN focuses more on cooperation and collaboration than competition, which by the nature of UNHRC is what all member states need to do than indulge in differences. Therefore, the delegate who is more inclusive and cooperative would be more valued than a dominating delegate for this MUN Format.

8. YOU DON'T NEED TO USE THIRD-PERSON

It has somehow become an unspoken rule of the MUNs that delegates should be talking in third person. This “unspoken rule” is not mentioned in any of the UN

Formats.

Therefore, I would recommend you to speak normally and use personal pronouns like “I”, “you”, “me” etc. In fact, in the real United Nations, delegates always use personal pronouns.

9. FINAL NOTE

UN4MUN rules have often been modified to suit the needs of a respective conference and this MUN stands as no exception. Therefore, I would recommend you to strictly follow this document as well as any other link mentioned in this document for the Rules of Procedure. **However, if you feel that you would like to modify some rules, you can feel free to raise a motion to do the same.**

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