WELCOME TO

THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Presented by:

University of Pittsburgh Model United Nations Club

University Center for International Studies

With special acknowledgment of:

Asian Studies Center
Center for African Studies
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European Studies Center
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WELCOME TO THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Dear Delegates and Faculty Advisors,

On behalf of the University of Pittsburgh and all sponsors, I would like to welcome you to the Twenty-Sixth Annual University of Pittsburgh Model United Nations Conference. It is with great pleasure that I am able to officially confirm that this will be our first in-person conference on the University of Pittsburgh's campus in over two years as well.

We would like to thank everyone who took time out of their busy schedules and lives to come to this conference. It is our belief that the ability to hold respectful and meaningful discussions about complex and relevant issues is more important than ever, as well as more difficult. We convene this conference in the midst of the deadliest war in Europe in almost 70 years, with the pandemic still ongoing in the background of many of our lives, and multiple ongoing civil wars and conflicts throughout the world. Despite these events, it is our hope that delegates will be able to maintain a habit of diplomatic and thoughtful discussion both in the conference and in their lives outside of Model United Nations. Delegates will have the chance to engage with some of these current conflicts, such as the ongoing civil war in Ethiopia's Tigray region in one of the Specialized Committees, as well as some past conflicts which still hold immense relevance today, such as the NATO involvement in the Kosovo War. We encourage students to think critically and be respectful, yet not to be afraid to engage with challenging or potentially distressing topics. The other topics were chosen to display to delegates the wide array of issues that currently face our world, both in and outside of the United Nations and its policies.

This Conference Manual will familiarize delegates with the rules and procedures of the conference and contains useful information for both novices and veterans. In addition to explicit instructions for writing position papers and drafting resolutions, the judging criteria that will be used to determine awards are also included for your reference. Furthermore, you will find the background guides for each committee in this Manual as well. Please pay special attention to the *Standards of Conduct* specified at the end of this Manual. This section includes the dress code and behavioral terms, which must be strictly adhered to at all times. Failure to attend to these guidelines will result in consequences or even expulsion from the Conference. Please feel free to direct any questions about the Manual and its content to the Secretariat via e-mail at **pittmodelun@gmail.com**.

Once again, welcome to the Twenty-Sixth Annual University of Pittsburgh Model United Nations Conference! We look forward to seeing you at our conference this October. and it is our sincere hope that this opportunity provides a valuable learning experience for you.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Plichta
Secretary-General, PittMUN XXVI
University of Pittsburgh Twenty-Sixth Model United Nations

SECTION 1. OVERVIEW OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Text excerpted from http://www.un.org/ and American Model United Nations International's "Issues at AMUNHandbook," copyright September 1996

Delegates participating in Model United Nations should be familiar with the history of the United Nations as well as the rapidly changing role that the organization plays in international affairs.

1.1 ORIGINS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The name "United Nations," coined by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt, was first used in the "Declaration by United Nations" on January 1st, 1942, during the Second World War, when representatives of 26 countries pledged their governments would continue fighting together against the Axis Powers.

The United Nations, however, was not the first attempt at international cooperation for peace. In 1899, the first International Peace Conference was held in The Hague to elaborate instruments for settling crises peacefully, preventing wars, and codifying rules of warfare. It adopted the Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes and established the Permanent Court of Arbitration, which began work in 1902. The forerunner of the United Nations was the League of Nations, an organization conceived in similar circumstances during the First World War, and was established in 1919 under the Treaty of Versailles "to promote international cooperation and to achieve peace and security."

In 1945, representatives of 50 countries met in San Francisco at the United Nations Conference on International Organization to draw up the United Nations Charter. Those delegates considered proposals developed by representatives of China, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States at Dumbarton Oaks, United States in August-October 1944. Delegates of the 50 attending countries signed the Charter on June 26th, 1945. Poland, which was not represented at the Conference, signed it later and became one of the original 51 Member States.

The United Nations officially came into existence on October 24th, 1945, when China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States, and a majority of other signatories ratified the Charter. United Nations Day is celebrated on October 24th each year.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The primary purposes for which the United Nations was founded are detailed in Chapter I, Article 1, of the Charter:

1. To maintain international peace and security;
2. To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights

and self-determination of peoples, and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace;
3. To achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinctions as to race, sex, language, and religion;
4. To be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.

Since 1945, the United Nations has established itself as a forum for the discussion of international disputes. Also, Member States recognize that the United Nations has established machinery that can be used to solve international problems.

The United Nations seeks, both through its principal organs and various subsidiary bodies, to settle disputes through peaceful means, without resorting to the threat or use of force. It should be recognized that the United Nations is not a world government, nor does it legislate. Rather, the actions of the United Nations, as evidenced by resolutions passed by its bodies, have a strong persuasive effect. The Member States frequently find it within their own best interests to follow U.N. recommendations.

1.3 STRUCTURE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Originally comprised of only 51 members, the U.N. today represents nearly every country in the world with 193 Member States. When states become members of the United Nations, they agree to accept the obligations of the U.N. Charter, an international treaty that sets out basic principles of international relations.

The United Nations is not a world government and it does not make laws. It does, however, provide the means to help resolve international conflicts and formulate policies on matters affecting all of us. At the U.N., all Member States — large and small, rich and poor, with differing political views and social systems — have a voice and a vote in this process.

The United Nations has six main organs. Five of them — the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, and the Secretariat — are based at U.N. Headquarters in New York. The sixth, the International Court of Justice, is located in The Hague in the Netherlands.

- **The General Assembly (GA):** The GA is the central organ of the United Nations and has been described as the nearest thing to a "parliament of mankind." All Member States are members of the GA and each member has one vote. The GA makes recommendations on international issues, oversees all other U.N. bodies, approves the U.N. budget, and apportions U.N. expenses. On the recommendation of the Security Council, the GA elects the Secretary-General and has the authority to admit and expel Member States. Voting in the GA is ordinarily by simple majority, although for "important questions" a two-thirds majority is required.

- **The Security Council (SC):** The Security Council is charged with the primary responsibility

of maintaining international peace and security. It is the only body that can draft binding resolutions. It has the power to employ United Nations peacekeeping forces and direct action against threats to peace. Fifteen members sit on the Security Council, including the five Permanent Members (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) along with ten "at-large" members that are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms. A majority in the Security Council consists of nine members voting "yes." However, a "no" vote by any of the Permanent Members will veto or block the passage of resolutions.

- **Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC):** ECOSOC is the primary body dealing with the economic, social, humanitarian, and cultural work of the United Nations system. ECOSOC oversees five regional economic commissions and six "subject-matter" commissions, along with a sizable system of committees and expert bodies. ECOSOC is composed of 54 Member States elected by the GA for three-year terms. In addition to the six main bodies, the United Nations includes a large "family" of specialized agencies and programs. These agencies have their own charters, rules, and memberships; ECOSOC merely coordinates their activities. Examples include the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF).

- **Trusteeship Council (TC):** In 1945, there were 11 Trust Territories or regions without their own governments. These 11 regions were placed under the TC, which helped them prepare for and achieve independence. With the admittance of Palau as a Member State in 1994, the TC completed its original mandate. The TC today is inactive but is formally composed of the Permanent Members of the Security Council.

- **The International Court of Justice (ICJ):** The International Court of Justice, or World Court, is the primary judicial organ of the U.N. and decides international legal disputes. All U.N. members are automatically able to bring matters before the ICJ. However, a state must agree to accept the jurisdiction of the ICJ before it can decide a dispute involving that state, as the Court's decisions are binding on the parties. Fifteen judges serving nine-year terms sit on the Court.

- **Secretariat:** The Secretariat is composed of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Staff. Approximately 16,000 persons are employed as the staff of the U.N., one-third of whom work at the U.N. headquarters in New York City. The other two-thirds work for various subsidiary bodies of the United Nations. The Secretary-General serves a five-year renewable term.

The United Nations System

UN Principal Organs

General Assembly

Subsidiary Bodies
- Main and other sessional committees
- Disarmament Commission
- Human Rights Council
- International Law Commission
- Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

Programmes and Funds
- **UNCTAD** United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
  - **ITC** International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO)
- **UNDP** United Nations Development Programme
  - **UNCDF** United Nations Capital Development Fund
  - **UNV** United Nations Volunteers
- **UNEP** United Nations Environment Programme
- **UNFPA** United Nations Population Fund
- **UN-HABITAT** United Nations Human Settlements Programme
- **UNHCR** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- **UNICEF** United Nations Children's Fund
- **UNODC** United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- **UNRWA**[1] United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
- **UN-Women** United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- **WFP** World Food Programme

Research and Training Institutes
- **UNICRI** United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
- **UNIDIR**[1] United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
- **UNITAR** United Nations Institute for Training and Research
- **UNRISD** United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
- **UNSSC** United Nations System Staff College
- **UNU** United Nations University

Other Entities
- **UNAIDS** Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
- **UNISDR** United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
- **UNOPS** United Nations Office for Project Services

Security Council

Subsidiary Bodies
- Counter-terrorism committees
- International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR)
- International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)
- Military Staff Committee
- Peacekeeping operations and political missions
- Sanctions committees (ad hoc)
- Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

Advisory Subsidiary Body
- United Nations Peacebuilding Commission

Related Organizations
- **CTBTO PrepCom** Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
- **IAEA**[2] International Atomic Energy Agency
- **OPCW** Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
- **WTO**[3] World Trade Organization

Economic and Social Council

Functional Commissions
- Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
- Narcotic Drugs
- Population and Development
- Science and Technology for Development
- Social Development
- Statistics
- Status of Women
- Sustainable Development
- United Nations Forum on Forests

Regional Commissions
- **ECA** Economic Commission for Africa
- **ECE** Economic Commission for Europe
- **ECLAC** Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- **ESCAP** Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
- **ESCWA** Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Other Bodies
- Committee for Development Policy
- Committee of Experts on Public Administration
- Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
- Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
- Other sessional and standing committees and expert, ad hoc and related bodies

Specialized Agencies[4]
- **ILO** International Labour Organization
- **FAO** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- **UNESCO** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- **WHO** World Health Organization
- **World Bank Group**
  - **IBRD** International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
  - **IDA** International Development Association
  - **IFC** International Finance Corporation
  - **MIGA** Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
  - **ICSID** International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes
- **IMF** International Monetary Fund
- **ICAO** International Civil Aviation Organization
- **IMO** International Maritime Organization
- **ITU** International Telecommunication Union
- **UPU** Universal Postal Union
- **WMO** World Meteorological Organization
- **WIPO** World Intellectual Property Organization
- **IFAD** International Fund for Agricultural Development
- **UNIDO** United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- **UNWTO** World Tourism Organization

Secretariat

Departments and Offices
- **EOSG** Executive Office of the Secretary-General
- **DESA** Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- **DFS** Department of Field Support
- **DGACM** Department for General Assembly and Conference Management
- **DM** Department of Management
- **DPA** Department of Political Affairs
- **DPI** Department of Public Information
- **DPKO** Department of Peacekeeping Operations
- **DSS** Department of Safety and Security
- **OCHA** Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
- **OHCHR** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **OIOS** Office of Internal Oversight Services
- **OLA** Office of Legal Affairs
- **OSAA** Office of the Special Adviser on Africa
- **OSRSG/CAAC** Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
- **UNODA** Office for Disarmament Affairs
- **UNOG** United Nations Office at Geneva
- **UN-OHRLLS** Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
- **UNON** United Nations Office at Nairobi
- **UNOV** United Nations Office at Vienna

International Court of Justice

Trusteeship Council[5]

NOTES:

1 UNRWA and UNIDIR report only to the General Assembly.

2 IAEA reports to the Security Council and the General Assembly.

3 WTO has no reporting obligation to the General Assembly (GA) but contributes on an ad-hoc basis to GA and ECOSOC work inter alia on finance and developmental issues.

4 Specialized agencies are autonomous organizations working with the UN and each other through the coordinating machinery of ECOSOC at the intergovernmental level, and through the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) at the inter-secretariat level. This section is listed in order of establishment of these organizations as specialized agencies of the United Nations.

5 The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994 with the independence of Palau, the last remaining United Nations Trust Territory, on 1 October 1994.

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This is not an official document of the United Nations, nor is it intended to be all-inclusive.

SECTION 2. ROLE-PLAYING AND PREPARATION

2.1 THE DELEGATE

Delegates are fundamental to any Model United Nations Conference. A Delegate's job is to research the positions of a U.N. Member State on the specific issues that his/her committee will discuss at the Conference as well as on general issues that influence that nation's foreign policy. Delegates then prepare appropriate documents for debate. See *Preparation*.

On the floor of the Model U.N. Conference, a Delegate assumes the role of the Distinguished Delegate from his/her respective country with all the rights and responsibilities that this entails. Thus, Delegates are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting international diplomats. Delegates should extend courtesy and respect, both in speaking and in behavior, to fellow Delegates, faculty members, and the Secretariat at the Conference. The University of Pittsburgh Model United Nations (PittMUN) reserves the right to expel any Delegate not acting in a courteous or professional fashion. *See Standards of Conduct.*

Each delegation will consist of at least one and at most two Delegates for each Committee on which that delegation is represented. While all countries are automatically represented on the General Assembly Committees, some Committees consist of a select group of delegations.

Delegates draft and discuss resolutions, caucus, and work to reach a universal solution on the issues at hand with fellow Delegates. Resolutions under discussion at PittMUN may be accepted by consensus, adopted, amended, combined, or even debated to the point where no final document can be produced on a given issue.

Name badges, which include the Delegate's country, act as his/her credentials for the Conference and are **mandatory** at all times during the day of the Model U.N. Conference. No one will be admitted to any Conference area without approved credentials.

2.2 ROLE-PLAYING

Since PittMUN is a simulation of the U.N., the tone of debate will be dramatically different from the "real" U.N. In the U.N., Delegates and their consular staffs spend months in preparation by caucusing "behind closed doors" and interacting with other nations before an issue is brought to a vote. A U.N. Delegate, or Head of State, generally makes a prepared speech that will not be "news" to the other Delegates present.

However, Delegates at PittMUN have only one day to assume the role of their nation's Distinguished

Delegate and simulate the actions of the U.N. This consolidation of time leads to many different circumstances with which each delegation will have to contend. For example, Delegates will rarely have the opportunity to make a pre-written speech on an issue. Instead, they will often be forced to react extemporaneously to circumstances as they arise. They may find themselves in a position where it is necessary to reinterpret their nation's position in light of new facts. Delegates should not simply read from their country's established record on the issues presented. They should be prepared to compromise with the other nations represented.

Delegates should research and follow the policies of their countries, modifying them as new circumstances arise. Successful role-playing involves walking a careful line on policy. Note that this in no way gives delegations license to act "out of character." Avoid the extremes of either reading a country's past statements verbatim or creating ad hoc policy with no previous basis either in past policy or at the Conference. Students attending the Conference are not career diplomats, and most will not have lived in the countries they are representing. It is understood that students will not have a perfect knowledge of their country's policy.

Each delegation is responsible for being "in character," however. The ultimate responsibility falls to its Permanent Delegate and/or its Faculty Advisor. There is no substitute for extensive preparation on a country and the issues to be discussed *before* attending the Conference. PittMUN expects the members of each delegation to enter the Conference prepared to represent their country with integrity and with more knowledge about their respective nation's policies than any other Delegates present.

Sometimes at a Conference, questions arise as to whether the actions of an individual are "out of character" concerning the country's policy in the real world. At the Model U.N. Conference, if a Delegate feels that another Delegate is not prepared, is misinformed, or is acting "out of character" on a particular issue, PittMUN recommends that:

1. The Delegate revisits the actions taken by the Delegate in question. Is the Delegate "out of character" given the particular resolution and situation on the floor? Have circumstances, either in the real world or at the Conference, changed such that the Delegate could realistically modify the country's stance on a particular issue? Are you certain that you know the actual stance of the country in question on the issue? Many cases of a Delegate appearing "out of character" are actually just misinterpretations of what was said or of a country's previously stated policies.

2. If you still feel that the Delegate is "out of character," PittMUN asks that you talk to the Delegate about the issue before bringing the problem to the Secretariat. This can be easily done in a non-confrontational manner by stating something like: "I hadn't realized that was your country's position on the issue. Where did you see that?" - or - "I thought I read something in (state your source) about your country having a different opinion on this issue. Have you seen that information?" Directly confronting a Delegate by saying "You're wrong on this" will likely not succeed and could damage your diplomatic relations in the future.

3. The Delegate will likely respond in one of two ways to your question.
    a. He or she may provide information that justifies the statements, with a statement such as "I did the research and this is my country's view on the issue."
    b. He or she may show interest in the new information that has been provided. If the response

answers your question, the problem is resolved.

Please note that PittMUN Chairs are specifically instructed NOT to provide advice to Delegates on the issues being discussed. The Chairs' purpose in committee is to facilitate debate objectively. Providing research or assistance to a Delegate on his/her country position diminishes the Chair's ability to act independently and objectively. Chairs may arbitrate disagreements, but will never render an opinion on whether a delegate is "out of character."

Since all participants at PittMUN are learning about the United Nations as they participate, these situations may arise. PittMUN also asks that Delegates not jump to conclusions about other delegations' role-playing without having a detailed background on the other country's position on the issue(s). Finally, PittMUN reiterates that all Delegates handle potential "out of character" situations diplomatically and with the utmost courtesy shown to all involved.

2.3 THE PERMANENT DELEGATE

PittMUN has decided to eliminate the position of the permanent delegate. All students should participate in the conference as regular delegates.

2.4 THE FACULTY ADVISOR

PittMUN emphasizes that the main role of the Faculty Advisor lies in working with and preparing Delegates before the Conference. Regardless of whether the Faculty Advisor is a class teacher or club sponsor, he or she can assist the delegation in both logistical and content preparation for the Conference. Logistically, the Faculty Advisor likely will be the main contact for both the Conference and the school administration. This role could include working with finances and group organization, registering the school for the Conference, preparing travel arrangements, and a host of other preparations. Alternately, these roles could be delegated or assumed by the club officers.

In helping a delegation prepare for the specific issues it will face at the Conference, a Faculty Advisor could either develop a full class curriculum or serve as a sponsor for a Model U.N. Club or other organization. He or she may use a well established, proven curriculum or utilize this handbook as a guide in preparing the students who will attend. PittMUN strongly recommends that the Faculty Advisor coordinate and run mock sessions to better prepare students and give them a feel for the Conference. The United Nations Association can provide excellent background materials. *See Sources of Information.*

In the interest of fairness, we ask that Faculty Advisors do not assist their students during the Conference. Faculty Advisors will not be permitted to sit with their students while committees are in session. Additionally, PittMUN strongly recommends that Faculty Advisors do NOT grade students based on their performance at the Conference. This very often leads to poor role-playing as students concentrate more on their grade than portraying their country accurately. PittMUN specifically **discourages** grading regarding:

- Students getting *their* resolutions or amendments to the floor or passed;
- Students speaking a certain number of times (stressing quantity versus quality);

- Students making a certain number of motions.

If grading is necessary, PittMUN suggests the following as possible areas for appraisal:

- Pre-Conference preparation (possibly including testing or paper submission);
- Quality of country profiles, position papers and resolutions submitted;
- Punctuality for assigned committee sessions;
- The effectiveness of the students at the Conference in playing their delegation's role based on direct faculty observations, rather than the quantitative items listed above. This could include:
    - Clearly stating and basing actions on the positions of their countries;
    - Effectively working with other delegations, both on the floor and in caucusing;
    - Effectively working toward a consensus;
    - Developing a post-conference paper based on their learning experience at the Conference.

The interactive nature of the Model U.N. experience provides excellent learning opportunities for students who attend and become immersed in the experience. PittMUN requests that Faculty Advisors not dilute the students' experience by linking grades to quantitative performance at the Conference.

SECTION 3. RULES OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

3.1 SESSIONS

The University of Pittsburgh Model United Nations Conference shall meet every year in regular session commencing and closing on dates and at a location that is designated by the Secretariat.

3.2 AGENDA

The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretariat and communicated to delegations prior to the start of the Conference. The agenda provided by the Secretariat shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the session. The order of consideration for agenda items shall be determined by a majority of Members present and voting in each Committee.

3.3 CREDENTIALS

3.3.1 SUBMISSION OF CREDENTIALS

Proper registration of a Delegate shall be construed as sufficient evidence of his/her credentials. Such registration must be submitted to the Secretariat prior to the opening of a session.

3.3.2 THE SECRETARIAT'S AUTHORITY

The Secretariat has the sole authority to decide all questions concerning credentials. Committees shall be bound by the actions of the Secretariat in all credentials matters and shall take no action regarding the credentials of any Member State.

3.3.3 OBSERVER STATUS

Those delegations having Observer Status shall be accorded all rights in Committees except the right to:

- Sign working papers or amendments.
- Vote on any substantive matter.

3.4 PRESIDING OFFICERS

3.4.1 CHAIRS, VICE CHAIRS, AND SECRETARIES

The Secretariat shall appoint Chairs and other officers to help conduct the sessions of PittMUN.

3.4.2 ACTING OFFICERS

If the Chair or other officer must be absent during any meeting, or is unable to perform his/her functions, the Secretariat shall appoint an acting officer to take his/her place pro tempore or permanently.

3.4.3 GENERAL POWERS OF PRESIDING OFFICERS

In addition to the powers conferred on him/her by these rules of procedure, the Chair and his/her designate shall:

- Declare the opening and closing of each plenary meeting of the Committee;
- Direct discussions in plenary meetings, ensure observance of these rules;
- Accord the right to speak;
- Put questions to and announce decisions and communications from the Secretariat;
- Rule on points of order;
- Have full discretion over all proceedings in Committee;
- Be responsible for the maintenance of order.

The presiding officer may:

- In the course of discussion of an item,
  - Propose the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers;
  - Propose the limitation of the number of times each Delegate may speak;
  - Propose the closure of the speakers' list or the closure of debate;
- Propose the suspension or adjournment of the meeting or of debate.

3.4.4 VOTING BY OFFICERS

The Chair and other officers do not have a vote in Committee.

3.5 SECRETARIAT

3.5.1 COMPOSITION

The Secretariat consists of the staff members of PittMUN. The Secretariat shall act as the Rules Committee for the duration of the Conference. All decisions by the Secretariat pertaining to the rules shall be final.

3.5.2 FUNCTIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat shall:

- Appoint the Secretary-General and other officers and staff;
- Draft the PittMUN agenda;
- Amend the rules of parliamentary procedure, except during a session;
- Conduct all other business required for the planning of the Conference;
- Register Delegates and provide credentials before the Conference begins;
- Receive, print, and distribute resolutions and other documents of the various Committees;
- Have discretion to recruit and dismiss staff members and to control all access to the

Secretariat's equipment and facilities;

- Have authority to refuse any document submitted by a Delegate for copying or distribution. Delegates may appeal such decision to the Secretary-General. A document may be refused if the Dais finds it inappropriate or purposely disruptive.

3.5.3 FUNCTIONS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Secretary-General shall serve as President of the General Assembly when the body is in session. He or she may designate a Member of the Secretariat to act in his/her place at any time and must do so when absent from the Conference. The duties and prerogatives of the Secretary-General are established by these rules.

3.6 CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

3.6.1 QUORUM

The Chair may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when Delegates of at least one-third of the participating Member States are present. The presence of a majority of the participating Member States shall constitute a quorum for voting.

3.6.2 SETTING THE AGENDA

A motion to set the order of consideration for agenda items is in order at the beginning of Committee session. The motion is debatable and a speakers' list shall be established for and against the motion.

3.6.3 SPEAKERS' LIST

The Committee shall have, at all times, a Speakers' List for the topic area being discussed. Separate Speakers' Lists shall be established as needed for procedural motions and debate on amendments. A Delegate may move to open or close the Speakers' List. The motion is not subject to debate and requires a majority vote of the Members present. Members may appear only once on the Speakers' List, but may be added again after having spoken. Upon the exhaustion of the Speakers' List, debate is automatically closed and the Committee enters voting procedures.

3.6.4 SPEAKING RIGHTS

No Delegate may address a Committee without having obtained recognition from the Chair. The Chair shall call upon speakers in the order in which they have signified their desire to speak and been placed on the Speakers' List. The Chair may call a speaker to order if, in his/her judgment, the speaker's remarks are irrelevant to the subject under discussion, disruptive, or dilatory.

3.6.5 TIME LIMIT ON SPEECHES

A Committee may, by majority vote, limit the time allowed to each speaker on the suggestion of either a Delegate or the Chair. Once the Delegate's speaking time expires in limited debate, the Chair shall call him/her to order without delay.

3.6.6 YIELDS

When speaking time is limited, a speaker shall yield all or part of his/her time. The speaker must indicate the intention to yield time before his/her time has expired.

Delegates may yield to:

- **Another Delegate.** Yielding to another Delegate results in the Chair's recognition of that Delegate for the remainder of the speaker's time. The second Delegate may not yield to a third.
- **Questions.** Yielding to questions results in the Chair's selection of Delegates who have questions for the speaker, with the speaker responding until his/her time has expired. Questioners shall be selected by the Chair and limited to one question each. All questions should directly pertain to the speech just completed. The Chair shall have the right to call to order any Delegate whose question is, in the Chair's judgment, rhetorical, leading, or not designed to elicit information. Only the speaker's answers to questions shall be deducted from the speaker's remaining time.
- **The Chair.** Yielding to the Chair ends the speaker's time without an opportunity for questions or comments.
- **Comments.** Yielding to comments results in the Chair's selection of two Delegates wishing to speak. Comments must be relevant to the speech just completed, and commentators may not yield after commenting. Comments may not exceed thirty seconds. If a Delegate does not yield before the end of his/her speech, the speech is subject to two thirty-second comments. No comments shall be in order during debate on procedural motions, such as setting the agenda.

3.6.7 RIGHT OF REPLY

If a remark directly *insults* the integrity of a Delegate or a Delegate's State, the offended Delegate may request, and the Chair may permit, a right of reply at the end of the speaker's remarks. The Chair shall impose an appropriate time limit for the reply. The Chair's ruling on a right of reply is not subject to appeal. A right of reply to a reply is not in order. Requests for a right of reply should be made to the Chair in writing and may be denied at the sole discretion of the Chair.

3.6.8 PROPOSALS, DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Proposals must be submitted to the Chair in writing, in correct format with the required number of signatories. **Total signatories must be greater than or equal to one-half the quorum.** The Committee Chair may then at their discretion approve and accept the proposal, at which point it shall be known as a working paper and will be distributed to the Committee, or alternatively the Chair may send the proposal back with suggestions for improvement. *See Quorum.*

Upon the distribution of the draft resolution, the Committee will have an appropriate amount of time to read over the draft resolution. The co-sponsors, upon the *discretion* of the chair, will be allotted five minutes to explain any parts of the resolution, or answer any structural or grammatical questions. Delegates may ask the co-sponsors questions by raising their placards and waiting to be called on by the chair. Any explanations, questions, or answers shall be included as part of the five minutes allotted to the co-sponsors.

No draft resolution shall be put to a vote in Committee unless copies have been circulated to all delegations. If copies are required for distribution, the Chair must sign the original before submission to the Secretariat.

Delegates **may not** bring pre-written proposals, working papers to the Conference. **Pre-written proposals will not be considered by the Committee**. *See Reference Guide to Working Papers and Resolutions.*

3.6.9 DECISIONS OF COMPETENCE

A motion to question the competence of the Committee to discuss a draft resolution or amendment is in order only immediately after the draft resolution or amendment has been distributed to the floor. The motion requires a majority to pass, and is debatable to the extent of two speakers for and two against.

3.6.10 ON MOTIONS IN GENERAL

Substantive motions are motions relevant to the subject under discussion: motions for adoption of a resolution, recommendations, etc. Procedural motions are motions affecting the rules of procedure, conduct of the session, conduct of an individual Delegate, or personal safety.

Any Delegate (including those with Observer status) may offer a motion at the appropriate time by verbal application to the Chair. All motions offered to the Committee shall be considered only when seconded, except where otherwise stated.

Motions are stated as follows: "I move that..." "So moved," or "I make a motion that..." Motion is a noun, not a verb: "I motion that..." is incorrect.

The Chair may rule motions to be in order, out of order, or dilatory. The Chair may rule a motion in order if it is appropriate and there is enough time for debate. The Chair may rule a motion out of order if, in his/her judgment, the motion is repetitive, redundant, or will not further debate at that time. The Chair may rule a motion dilatory if, in his/her judgment, the motion is purposely disruptive or denigrating to debate or the Committee. An out of order motion may be appealed to the Chair; a dilatory motion may not be appealed.

3.6.11 WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS OR MOTIONS

A proposal or motion may be withdrawn at any time before voting has commenced, provided that it has not been amended. A motion or proposal thus withdrawn may be re-introduced at any time by any Delegate. When a proposal is re-introduced, it shall be considered as a new proposal.

3.6.12 PRECEDENCE

Oral or written statements from the Secretary-General or his/her designate shall take precedence over all other business. The Chair and other officers may accord themselves precedence for the purpose of clarifying rules or explaining any business before the Committee. Otherwise, the order precedence of motions is as follows:

1. Point of Personal Privilege
2. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry
3. Point of Order
4. Appeal the Decision of the Chair
5. Suspension/Adjournment of the Meeting
6. Reconsider a Motion, Issue, or Proposal
7. Decisions of Competence
8. Open/Close Speaker's List
9. Unmoderated Caucus
10. Moderated Caucus
11. Postponement and Resumption of Debate
12. Closure of Debate

3.6.13 POINTS

There are three points that exist in Model United Nations. The points are to be used for the purposes outlined below and *not* for substantive speech.

- **Point of Personal Privilege.** A point of personal privilege shall be used to attempt to rectify violations of the rights, health, or comfort of any or all Delegates. These may include, but are not necessarily limited to a disturbance or disruption of business, an interference with the Delegate's ability to participate in the proceedings, or threats to the safety of any or all Members. Points of personal privilege may interrupt a speaker. The Chair shall immediately rule on the validity of the point of personal privilege and decide whether and how to rectify the situation.
- **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry.** A point of parliamentary inquiry may be used to make inquiries on parliamentary procedure. If a speaker attempts to make a substantive comment, rather than have a parliamentary matter clarified, the Chair shall call him/her to order immediately. At the Chair's judgment, points of parliamentary inquiry shall be submitted in writing. A point of parliamentary inquiry may not interrupt a speaker.
- **Point of Order.** During discussion of any matter, a Delegate may rise to a point of order to indicate an improper usage of parliamentary procedure. The Chair shall immediately rule on the point in accordance with these rules of procedure. A Delegate may *not* appeal the ruling of the Chair. A Delegate rising to a point of order may not speak on any other matter. A point of order may not interrupt a speaker. Following a point of order, if a Delegate is still unsatisfied with the ruling of the Chair, he/she may submit a request in writing to the Chair

requesting that the Secretary General review the Chair's ruling. The Secretary General shall consider all requests.

3.6.14 APPEAL THE DECISION OF THE CHAIR

A Delegate may appeal decisions made by the Chair, unless otherwise stated. The Chair may briefly defend the ruling. An appeal shall immediately be put to a vote. A "Yes" vote indicates a desire to overrule the original decision of the Chair. A "No" vote indicates that the Delegate does not wish to overrule the decision of the Chair. The Chair's ruling shall stand unless overruled by "Yes" votes from a majority of Members present. Dilatory rulings cannot be appealed.

3.6.15 MODERATED CAUCUS

A Delegate may move for a moderated caucus. He or she must specify the time limit for the caucus, the speaking time for each speaker, and the motion must garner a second from another Delegate. The motion is not subject to debate and shall be put to an immediate vote. A majority of Members present must vote for the motion for it to pass. The Delegate who successfully moves for a moderated caucus will be allowed to be the first or last speaker at their option.

3.6.16 UNMODERATED CAUCUS

A Delegate may move for an unmoderated caucus. He or she must specify the time limit for the caucus, and the motion must garner a second from another Delegate. The motion is not subject to debate and shall be put to an immediate vote. A majority of Members present must vote for the motion for it to pass. Successive unmoderated caucuses may not exceed twenty minutes.

3.6.17 SUSPENSION/ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

At this conference, a Delegate may move for the suspension of the meeting for *lunch only*. Such motions are not subject to debate and shall be put to an immediate vote, unless ruled out of order or dilatory by the Chair. A simple majority is required for the motion to pass. Suspension of the meeting suspends all Committee functions until the next meeting within the Conference.

A Delegate may move for the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions are not subject to debate and shall be put to an immediate vote, unless ruled out of order or dilatory by the Chair. Adjournment of the meeting suspends all Committee functions for the duration of the Conference and requires a majority of Members present to pass.

3.6.18 CLOSURE OF DEBATE

A Delegate may, at any time, move for the closure of debate, regardless of the number of Delegates on the speakers' list. The Committee will hear two speakers for the motion and two speakers against, chosen by the Chair. The motion shall be voted upon, requiring a two-thirds majority of the Members present to pass. If the motion passes, all debate on the agenda item is ended and the Committee shall immediately proceed to vote on all working papers introduced under that agenda item.

3.6.19 POSTPONEMENT AND RESUMPTION OF DEBATE

During the discussion of any matter, a Delegate may move for the postponement, or tabling, of debate on the agenda item under discussion. The Committee will hear two speakers for the motion and two speakers against, chosen by the Chair, after which the motion shall be put to an immediate vote, requiring a majority of Members present to pass. If the motion passes, the topic is tabled. The Committee must re-set the agenda to an alternate topic. A motion to resume debate passes with a two-thirds majority and debate continues where it was postponed.

3.6.20 RECONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

When a draft resolution or amendment has been adopted or rejected, the Committee, if decided by a two-thirds majority of Members present, may reconsider it. The Committee will hear two speakers for the motion and two speakers against, chosen by the Chair, after which it shall be put to an immediate vote. The motion should be made at the conclusion of voting procedure after all draft resolutions or amendments are voted upon. The motion may be ruled dilatory if, in the Chair's judgment, a previous successful draft resolution or amendment will create a contradiction with the draft resolution or amendment for reconsideration.

3.7 VOTING

3.7.1 VOTING RIGHTS

Each participating Member State of the United Nations shall have one vote. Official observers may participate in debate, but cannot vote. A vote may be cast only by raising a placard, with the exception of roll call voting. *See Observer Status.*

As soon as a motion to close debate passes, or the Speaker's List is exhausted, the Committee is in "voting procedure." No one may enter or leave the room until the procedure is complete. This includes Delegates who would otherwise have the right to vote, but are absent when voting procedure begins. No voting *in absentia* will be permitted.

3.7.2 CONDUCT DURING VOTING

After the Chair has announced that the Committee is in voting procedure, no Delegate shall interrupt the voting except with a point of personal privilege or point of order relating to the conduct of the voting procedure.

3.7.3 VOTING PROCEDURE

For procedural matters, a Delegate may vote either in the affirmative or negative. All Delegates who are present must vote on procedural matters, and no roll call vote will be permitted.

For substantive matters, a Delegate may vote affirmative, negative, or abstain. If a delegate feels that

a given vote diverges from his/her Member State's policies, the Delegate may vote with a right of explanation. In this case, the Delegate will have thirty seconds to explain the vote at the conclusion of voting procedure. Immediately prior to a vote, a Delegate may motion for a roll call vote. A roll call vote is always in order on substantive matters. In this case, Delegates shall vote verbally in English, by English alphabetical order. If a Delegate is not prepared to vote when called upon, he or she may pass. Delegates choosing to pass will be returned to in English alphabetical order after all other delegates have cast their votes. Delegates may not pass a second time.

3.7.4 DEFINITIONS OF PASSING VOTES

For procedural matters, votes requiring a simple majority pass when more than fifty percent of Members present vote in the affirmative (the fifty-percent-plus-one rule). For example, six Members present must vote affirmative for a procedural matter to pass both when ten Members or eleven Members are present. Likewise, Votes requiring a two-thirds majority follow the two-thirds-plus-one rule: nine Members present would need seven votes in the affirmative to pass a two-thirds majority.

For substantive matters, votes requiring a simple majority pass when more than fifty percent of Members *present at the last quorum check* vote in the affirmative. Likewise, votes requiring a two-thirds majority require more than two-thirds of Members *present at the last quorum check* to vote in the affirmative. Note that this may not be the number of Delegates present if quorum has not recently been updated. The exception to these voting rules is the veto power of the permanent Members of the Security Council. *See Security Council Veto.*

3.7.5 IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Decisions on important questions before the General Assembly shall require a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting. Important questions may include:

- Budgetary questions;
- Admission of new Members to the United Nations;
- Suspension of the rights and privileges of Membership;
- Questions relating to the operation of the trusteeship system;
- Recommendations with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security.

The Committee may declare any issue an important question. On such a motion, the Committee will hear two speakers for the motion and two speakers against, chosen by the Chair, after which it shall then be put to an immediate vote, requiring a two-thirds majority of Members present for passage. Amendments to an important question also require a two-thirds majority. Any question not declared an important question shall be decided by a simple majority vote of Members present and voting.

3.7.6 DIVISION OF WORKING PAPERS AND AMENDMENTS

Immediately before a proposal or amendment is voted upon, a Delegate may move that parts of the proposal or amendment be voted on separately. The motion shall be voted upon by majority rule. If more than one motion is made for division, the divisions shall be voted on in order from most to least destructive, as determined by the Chair. If all operative clauses of a working paper are rejected, the

working paper shall be regarded as having been rejected as a whole. After voting upon all divided portions, all portions that were successful are then voted upon as a whole. The Chair may refuse to divide a working paper or to pass a working paper if, in his/her judgment, it is rendered incoherent by the proposed division. The preamble of a working paper cannot be divided.

3.7.7 VOTING ON AMENDMENTS

An amendment may add to, delete from, or revise any part of the proposal. Amendments must be submitted in writing to the Chair prior to voting procedure.

Amendments may be friendly or unfriendly. Friendly amendments are those that all co-sponsors have agreed upon, and will be automatically adopted into the proposal without a vote.
An unfriendly amendment is one that at least one of the co-sponsors has not agreed to, and shall be voted on separately from a working paper. When an unfriendly amendment to a working paper is proposed, the amendment shall be voted on before the working paper. When two or more amendments are proposed, the Committee shall vote on them in the order that they are submitted. However, where the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter amendment shall not be put to a vote if the first one is adopted.

3.7.8 VOTING ORDER ON WORKING PAPERS

If two or more proposals are related to the same question, the Committee shall vote on them in the order submitted.

3.8 SECURITY COUNCIL VETO

The five permanent Members of the Security Council in the United Nations possess a veto power in the Security Council. By voting "No," a permanent Member can veto a draft resolution and it shall fail, regardless of the number of affirmative votes. If a draft resolution specifically targets a permanent Member, as determined by the Chair, that Member may not use the veto power to defeat said draft resolution. The veto may not be used in procedural matters. However, out of a desire for a fairer competition, to avoid unfair advantage and mitigate the factor of luck, and to increase the need for diplomacy, **PittMUN does not use the Security Council veto in its UNSC committee.**

3.9 STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS

A Committee normally proceeds in the following manner:

1. Call to order.
2. Announcements and explanation of rules, if necessary.
3. Roll call.
4. Determination of order of agenda items.
5. Opening of speakers' list.
6. Speeches and motions.
7. Caucuses, as necessary.
8. Voting.
9. Adjournment.

SECTION 4. PREPARATION

Text excerpted in part from American Model United Nations International's "Issues at AMUN Handbook," copyright September 1996

4.1 PREPARATION AND RESEARCH

Delegates should become familiar with several topics before their participation in the Conference so they can represent their countries or positions to the best of their abilities.

- **The U.N. System.** Students should be aware of the purpose and goals of their committee as well as how it fits into the United Nations system. *See Structure of the U.N.* and *The United Nations System* chart.
- **General background of the country or position.** Students should gain a historical context in their study of the country or position to better understand policies towards specific issues. Suggestions for research include: population, type of government, natural resources, trade data, allies, adversaries, previous colonial status, etc. Much of this will be included in the recommended country profile. *See Country Profile.*
- **Specific background.** Crucial to Model U.N. research are the country's previous views on issues, especially those to be discussed at the Conference, and how those views have changed. A position paper will help guide this research. *See Position Paper.*
- **The delegation's relationship with the international community.** Knowing where the country you represent fits in the current world geo-political context, as a complement to your country-specific research, can answer many questions that may come up during the simulation, especially concerning illegal substances, industry, colonization, and health.
- **Views of other delegations.** Though difficult to research, it is important to know other countries' stances on the Committee's agenda topics. Most likely, Delegates will learn other delegations' formal policies during committee.
- **Past U.N. action.** Many topics have been previously discussed and acted upon by the United Nations, but the problems still persist. By knowing past action, Delegates may be able to build on them to bring the problem to a resolution. Also, knowledge of the problem's origin is beneficial so that a historical prospective can be brought into debate.
- **The PittMUN rules of procedure.** While the rules for PittMUN set by this manual are similar to those of the real U.N., there are discrepancies between them and also between rules from other conferences students may have attended. *See Rules of Parliamentary Procedure.*

Delegates should take advantage of all the people in their delegation by assigning different topics to each individual to research and report to the group.

4.2 COUNTRY PROFILE

PittMUN recommends that in addition to position papers, each delegation prepare a country profile, which may be copied or neatly removed from this book. Most of the information can be found on the CIA World Factbook (www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook).

COUNTRY PROFILE

COMMITTEE: _____
DELEGATION: _____
HIGH SCHOOL: _____
DELEGATE NAMES: _____

1. General Information

Conventional Long Form Country Name _____
Government Type _____
Chief of State _____
Head of Government _____
Language(s) (note which, if any, are official) _____
Population (include yr of statistics) _____
Major religions (include %s) _____
_____

2. History

Describe this country's founding (how, when, from whom, etc.) _____
_____
If your country has controlled colonies, where and for how long? Do you have friendly relations with your former colonies? _____
If your country was ever a colony or occupied territory, in whose sphere of influence and for how long? _____
_____

3. Geography

Size (in sq. miles or sq. km) _____
Bordering countries_____
Capital & major cities _____
Major ports _____
Major waterways _____
Climate _____

4. Status of Living

Annual per capita income (include yr) _____
Literacy rate (of total population; include yr) _____
Birth rate (include yr) _____
Death rate (include yr) _____
Infant mortality rate (include yr) _____
Unemployment rate (include yr) _____
Major ethnic/cultural issues _____
_____
Current refugee/Internally Displaced Persons concerns _____
_____

5. Politics

Political allies/blocs _____

Conflicts; both past and present _____

Do women freely participate in the political process (vote, hold office, etc.)? _____
Is there freedom of speech and of the press in this country? _____
Does this country regularly hold elections? _____
What are the active political parties, and is more than one party tolerated? _____

6. Economy

GDP and growth rate (include yr) _____
Major trade partners _____
Major exports and total amount (include yr) _____

Major imports and total amount _____

Amount of ODA (Official Development Assistance) given _____
Amount of ODA received _____
Agricultural products _____

Industries _____

Natural resources _____

Energy sources (include %) _____

7. Military

Military expenditures (% GNP spent on defense; include yr) _____
Major weapons, arsenal, nuclear capability, etc. _____

Is this country threatened by neighboring countries? Which countries? Do they have nuclear weapons? _____

8. U.N. Relations

Date admitted to U.N. _____
Has this country signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights? _____
Has the U.N. ever had to intervene in any conflict involving this country? If so, what conflict(s)? _____

4.3 POSITION PAPERS

A well-written and well-researched position paper can serve as an excellent preparatory tool for committee. It helps to guide preparation among members of a delegation. The position paper will outline your country's policies regarding topics that will be discussed in your Committee.

Please note that PittMUN's policy regarding position papers has changed from previous years. **Position papers are no longer required from all delegates.** Position papers will be optional, but those submitted will be considered for an award. The top three position papers will be recognized at closing ceremonies, with the top paper receiving the Clarke Thomas Memorial Award.

In order to be considered for an award, position papers must be emailed to **ucisengage@pitt.edu** no later than **12:00 PM Wednesday, October 12, 2022. To be eligible for an award, position papers must adhere to all of the following requirements.**

Position papers will only be accepted if the country and committee are specified (for example, "France in the Security Council"), and only if ***both*** scenario topics are addressed. All of these formatting requirements **must be followed** to receive consideration for an award:

- Position papers should be attached to an email in .doc or .docx format
- The file should be named as follows: country_committee
- Both scenario topics must be addressed
- Each topic should be addressed in a separate section, but both should be contained in one file
- Each topic must be covered in no more than 500 words
- There should be a header with the country and committee name
- Student and school names should not appear in the position paper
- The font should be 12 pt Times New Roman
- There must be at least **three sources** cited for ***each*** topic – no specific citation format is required, but the source must be reasonably identifiable.
- **Wikipedia does not count as a source.** Any paper citing Wikipedia will be disqualified.

Please take care to follow these directions. Every year a significant number of position papers are disqualified from award consideration for failure to follow these requirements.

The content of the position paper should follow this format:

First paragraph: Overview of the topic
- General history of this issue
- How this topic affects your country
- Specific events that have occurred related to this issue in the past 3-5 months

Second paragraph: Country's specific history in regard to the topic
- Your country's previous policies and actions towards this topic
- Policies and actions of neighboring and/or allied countries
- Neighboring and/or allied countries' reaction to your country's policies and actions

Third paragraph: Goals for the conference

- Propose solutions for the future
- Action that your country believes needs to be taken
- What your country is looking for in a resolution
- Aspects of this topic on which your country is willing to compromise

Answering the questions above will help you to prepare your position papers, and for the actual conference. Sometimes you need to dig deep to find answers to many of these questions. In other cases, your country may be indifferent to a topic. However, in the United Nations, indifference is an opinion too. Agreeing with a block of countries on one issue may help or hurt you in negotiations in which your country has a vested interest.

A panel of judges drawn from the PittMUN staff will review position papers for the award. Due to the volume of papers, they will not be returned and critique or criticism will not be offered. The judges may disqualify any position paper at their discretion for failure to adhere to the above guidelines or for plagiarism. Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated and will disqualify the student for any award at the PittMUN conference, and the student's teacher will be notified.

Please direct any questions regarding position papers to **ucisengage@pitt.edu.**

4.4 SAMPLE POSITION PAPER

University of Pittsburgh Model United Nations XXV

Committee: Special Political Terrorism
Delegation: United Kingdom

The Issue of Terrorism in the Middle East

For many years, the issue of terrorism has plagued the United Kingdom. Racist bombings by terrorists within the country as well as the recent bombings in London by the Irish Republic Army (IRA) have caused us to remain closely engaged in efforts to urge an end to violence and a rebuilding of confidence. These acts of terrorism represent a problem not only for the United Kingdom but also for the world. The bombing of the World Trade Center in the United States on September 11, 2001, shows how terrorism has globally spread and continues to do so. This is a fear that the United Kingdom, along with many other nations, is faced with.

In attempts to minimize the apprehension, the United Kingdom has responded with military action, laws to prevent and prosecute terrorism, humanitarian aid, and diplomatic assistance. We have deployed over 10,000 troops in the Middle East, 4,000 of them in Afghanistan. With the passage of the Anti-Terrorism Crime and Security Act of 2001, the United Kingdom enhanced its existing anti-terrorism legislation directly following the events of September 11, 2001.[1] Our Department for International Development has contributed 60 million pounds for humanitarian support, and an additional 40 million pounds in funds have been allocated to United Nations' agencies, the Red Cross, and other non-governmental organizations. We have renewed diplomatic relations with Afghanistan and our government is backing international efforts to control nuclear terrorism with a 250,000-pound pledge to the International Atomic Energy Commission.[2]

The United Kingdom's overall objective is to eliminate terrorism as a force in international affairs. We plan on achieving our goal by using all political and military means, such as isolating the current Taliban regime from all international support; taking direct action against Osama bin Laden, al-Qaeda Networks, and terrorist facilities in Afghanistan; and fragmenting the Taliban regime if there is a refusal to comply with the United States' ultimatum, providing economic and political support to the neighbors of Afghanistan to help with the burden of this conflict, and building the largest international coalition with maximum support from the United Nations. The issue of terrorism is not to be taken lightly. The events of September 11, 2001, IRA bombings, as well as other terrorist acts that have occurred in the world, were aimed not just at the United States and the United Kingdom but also at civilized values and the civilized world. The war against terrorism is being fought not only for our citizens but also for all the people in the world. With the full support of other countries, however, it is possible to cleanse the world of this force of evil.

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[1] The National Archives. Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001.
http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2001/24/introduction

[2] Peter Pringle. Washington Urges N. Korea Embargo. The Independent. June 16, 1994.
http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/washington-urges-n-korea-embargo-1422896.html

4.5 SOURCES OF INFORMATION

PittMUN recommends the following sources of information to use when researching:

You may contact **UNA-USA Publications** requesting *A Guide to Representative Preparation, A Model U.N. Preparations Kit*, and/or *A Global Agenda: Issues Before the United Nations 2011-2012.* The Model U.N. kit contains many of the most useful U.N. documents for your preparations.

Documents are also available through the U.N. **Department of Public Information/Publications** for *Everyone's United Nations*, *Basic Facts about the United Nations*, and/or *UNDPI Catalog*. You may write to them for a publication list.

UNA-USA Publications
801 Second Avenue, 2nd floor
New York, NY 10017
(212) 907-1300.

U.N. Department of Public Information/Publications
Room DC2-0853
New York, NY 10017
(212) 963-1234

The United Nations Information Center provides copies of U.N. documents free of charge upon request. Call (202) 331-8670.

Many U.N. documents and country resources can be accessed via the Internet. International databases containing information are easily accessible.

U.N. Database

- United Nations: www.un.org
- U.N. Charter: www.un.org/aboutun/charter/
- E-mail addresses for Representatives: www.un.org/members
- U.N. Wire daily newsletter: www.UNFoundation.org
- United Nations Cyberschoolbus: www.un.org/pubs/cyberschoolbus
- U.N. Family of Organizations: www.unsystem.org.
- U.N. Chronicle monthly magazine: http://www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/index.html
- U.N. Documentation Center: www.un.org/documents
- U.N. National Government Information: www.un.org/esa/national.htm
- Permanent Mission to the U.N.: www.un.int

Specific Committees

- Security Council: www.un.org/Docs/sc/index.html
- Security Council Resolutions: www.un.org/documents/scres.htm
- General Assembly: http://www.un.org/ga/
- Disarmament and International Security Committee: http://www.un.org/ga/first/index.shtml
- Economic and Financial Committee: http://www.un.org/ga/second/index.shtml
- United Nations Development Programme: http://www.undp.org/
- United Nations Environment Programme: http://www.unep.org/
- United Nations Human Rights Council: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/

Country-Specific Information:

- CIA World Fact Book: www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook
- Country Reports: www.countryreports.org
- Foreign Embassies of Washington, DC: www.embassy.org/embassies
- Official Government Sites: www.library.usyd.edu.au/subjects/government/official.html
- US Department of State Country Information: www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn

Regional Sites

- African Union: www.africa-union.org
- All Africa: www.Allafrica.com
- Britain-USA: www.britainusa.com/index.asp
- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO): www.ctbto.org
- EUROPA (European Union): www.europa.eu.int/
- German Federal Foreign Office: http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/en/Startseite.html
- Global Policy Forum: www.globalpolicy.org
- Google Asia Governmental Sites: www.google.com/Top/Regional/Asia/Government
- Google Middle East Governmental Sites: www.google.com/Top/Regional/Middle_East/Government
- International Atomic Energy Agency: www.iaea.org
- International Criminal Court (ICC): www.icc-cpi.int/home.html
- International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL): www.interpol.int
- Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons: www.opcw.org

Selected Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

- Amnesty International: www.amnesty.org/
- The Center for Defense Information: www.cdi.org/
- The Center for Strategic and International Studies: www.csis.org
- Citizens for Global Solutions: http://www.globalsolutionspgh.org/
- Global Issues: http://www.globalissues.org/whatsnew/2008/june.php
- The Henry L. Stimson Center: www.stimson.org/home.cfm
- The Heritage Foundation: www.heritage.org/
- Human Rights Watch: www.hrw.org/
- International Crisis Group: http://www.icg.org/
- United Nations Foundation: www.unfoundation.org

Television

- Network News Programs
- BBC: http://news.bbc.co.uk/
- CNN: www.cnn.com
- CNN International: http://edition.cnn.com/
- C-SPAN: http://www.c-span.org/

Radio

- National Public Radio: www.npr.org

- BBC World News Service: www.bbc.co.uk/radio/

Newspapers

- The New York Times: www.nytimes.com
- The Washington Post: www.washingtonpost.com
- Financial Times News: www.ft.com
- International Herald Tribune: www.iht.com
- Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: www.post-gazette.com/

Magazines

- US News and World Report: www.usnews.com
- Time: www.time.com
- The Economist: www.economist.com
- World Press Review: www.worldpress.com

For Students

- The Model U.N. Discussion Area: www.un.org/pubs/cyberschoolbus/munda/index.html
- Stanford Model U.N. Site: http://www.stanford.edu/group/Jonsson/mun.html

For Educators

- Introduction to the Model United Nations: A booklet and videotape designed to acquaint teachers and students with the workings of MUN.

United Nations Bookshop
46th Street and 1st Ave
New York, NY 10017
(2120 963-7680)

U.N. Publications Office
2 United Nations Plaza
Room DC2-853, Dept. C001
New York, NY 10017
(212-963-8302)

- United Nations Curriculum Guide: A project of UNA-USA, the curriculum guide is an excellent resource for teachers. A descriptive brochure/order form is available from UNA.

Pitt Model United Nations *does not* recommend that students use Wikipedia. While it can provide basic information about an event or a country's policies, it is an unreliable source of information. Students should only use Wikipedia as a starting point and not an actual resource.

Please contact PittMUN via e-mail at **pittmodelun@gmail.com** if you need any assistance conducting your research.

SECTION 5. JUDGING CRITERIA FOR AWARDS

The Pitt Model United Nations (PittMUN) is a simulation of the actual United Nations and its committees. Delegates to PittMUN are area high school students who are assigned to represent specific countries. The PittMUN Secretariat chooses the committees and the topics that the students will be debating. Members of the University of Pittsburgh's undergraduate Model UN Club moderate the committee sessions. PittMUN is a competitive event, and the delegates are judged by professionals, graduate students and educators from the community. There are two types of judges, stationary and roving.

Each stationary judge will be assigned to one PittMUN committee and will observe that committee for the entire day-long conference. Together with the committee moderator(s), the stationary judge will select the two country delegations that demonstrated the best performance in that committee to receive first- and second-place awards. (Please note that two delegates acting as a team may represent one country. In such cases, an award will be made to both students.) The portion of the PittMUN manual concerning a judge's assigned committee will be reviewed by the judge in advance of the simulation.

There will also be a team of several roving judges. This group of judges will select the top delegations, or countries, of the entire conference. These are the delegations that performed at the highest level across all committees. First- and second-place country awards will be given to both large and small delegations. Typically, large delegations are those that are represented on at least five committees, while small delegations are those that are represented on four or fewer committees. Roving judges are asked to spend an equal amount of time observing each committee, and to review the portions of the PittMUN manual concerning the debate topics for all committees in advance of the simulation.

Decisions of the stationary judges will be made in consultation with moderators from the relevant PittMUN committees during the judges' meeting at the end of the day. Decisions of the roving judges will be made by a process of cumulative voting led by a member of the PittMUN Secretariat. Stationary judges may participate in the roving judges' discussion, but they do not vote on country awards. The committee moderators and stationary judges may answer questions about particular delegates if necessary to assist with the roving judges' decision process.

Throughout the conference, delegates are only identified by their country and committee. The PittMUN registrar maintains a list containing school information. Judges are not informed of which school represents which country until after the award decisions are made.

Please note that delegations are not required to submit position papers to the PittMUN Secretariat in advance of the conference. Delegations are invited to submit position papers to compete for the Clarke Thomas Memorial Awards for the strongest papers, but delegations that do not submit position papers will still be eligible to receive awards for their performance at the simulation. The position papers will be reviewed by a separate panel of judges from the team that judges the delegates on the day of the conference.

Delegates are evaluated on the following interrelated criteria:

A. Representation of Country/Position (most important criterion):

- Staying in character of the country/position

- Having relevant information about the country/position
- Being knowledgeable of:
    - The history of the country/position, including its international obligations and the treaties to which it belongs
    - The country/position's allies and adversaries
    - Current events, as related to the country/position, and to the committee in general
- Demonstrating thorough research and prior preparation

B. Knowledge of Topics under Discussion:

- Being knowledgeable of:
    - Past UN resolutions and/or activities
    - Any relevant treaties and/or international agreements
    - Current events, as related to the country/position, and to the committee in general

C. Adherence to Formal Procedures:

- Being familiar with:
    - Resolution-writing
    - Formal Debate
    - Parliamentary Procedure

D. Adherence to Unstructured Proceedings:

- Maintaining diplomacy and overall effectiveness during caucuses
- Practicing conduct befitting of a diplomat

Some delegates may attempt to attract the attention of judges during the course of committee proceedings in order to influence the award outcomes. This behavior is considered out of character and not an accurate portrayal of a UN committee meeting. Delegates will be judged accordingly.

SECTION 6. REFERENCE GUIDE ON WORKING PAPERS AND RESOLUTIONS

6.1 RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions are the basis for all U.N. debate, bringing one or several issues to the floor in a form that Delegates can discuss, amend, reject, or ratify as circumstances dictate.

Resolutions usually state a policy that the U.N. will undertake, but in some bodies, they also may be in the form of treaties, conventions or declarations. They range from very general to very specific in content. Depending on the body involved, they may call for or suggest a course of action, condemn an action, or require action or sanctions on the part of the Member States. The General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council may only call for or suggest actions. It should be noted that nobody other than the Security Council can require action or sanctions from Member States. In some cases, final conventions and treaties may also require action, but this would be only on the part of the signatory countries.

A resolution has two parts – the preambulatory clauses and the operative clauses. Preambulatory clauses state the "why" of the resolution. Why is this resolution being written? Why is this U.N. body concerned with this issue? Operative clauses state the "what" of the resolution. What does this body recommend to resolve this issue?

6.2 WORKING PAPERS

Resolutions first start out as working papers, which are written in the same form (spacing, punctuation, language) as resolutions. After you have written a draft, take it to other Delegates to get their opinions and perhaps their support as a sponsor. Modify the working paper to fit the goals of its supporters. Continue revising the language of the draft until you believe that it is finished. Take the working paper to the chair at any time. The chair will read over the draft to make sure that it is appropriate, approve it, and have copies made for all of the delegations.

It is important to remember that prior to its submission to the Chair, a working paper can **never** be referred to in formal debate or in a speech given from the Speaker's List. All working papers must be written during the conference. **Working papers that were written prior to the conference will not be accepted.**

Once the working paper has been discussed and changed as much as the sponsors see fit, sponsors must once again submit the draft to the chair. The chair will again review it and, if it is deemed acceptable, will give the draft resolution a designation (e.g. Draft Resolution 1.1) and have the revised paper copied for the other delegations. The draft resolution is formally introduced by one of the sponsors from the Speaker's List by reading aloud the draft resolution to the body. After that time, the draft resolution may be referred to while speaking in formal debate.

6.3 AMENDMENTS

As stated above, the best time to change a working paper is in the drafting process. However, there will be times when it may become necessary to change it after its formal introduction. This is done with either "friendly" or "unfriendly" amendments. *See Amendments.*

6.4 GUIDELINES

The following list includes important points to consider when writing a resolution:

- Preambulatory clauses can describe the recent history of the situation, referencing past United Nations actions and resolutions, when available;
- Operative clauses include actions which will solve the problem;
- Do not be blatantly antagonistic in the content of the resolution;
- Take into account the viewpoints of other countries;
- Refer issues which need further discussion to appropriate existing bodies;
- Don't create new Committees/Commissions/etc. without considering funding or if other similar bodies already exist.

6.5 RULES FOR SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions must be submitted using the following format. Any resolutions received in any other format will **not** be accepted. All Committee titles and topics must follow the exact wordings given in the *Issues at PittMUN* Handbook. Resolutions are:

- One sentence, with preambulatory clauses ending with a comma, operative clauses ending with a semi-colon, and the final operative clause ending with a period;
- Single-spaced throughout resolution, with double spacing between clauses;
- Clauses must begin with proper introductory words/phrases in capital letters;
- Each operative clause must be numbered and indented.

6.6 PREAMBULATORY & OPERATIVE CLAUSES

PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES

Acknowledging
Affirming
Alarmed by
Approving
Aware of
Bearing in mind
Believing
Cognizant of
Confident
Considering also
Contemplating
Convinced
Deeply concerned
Deeply conscious
Deeply convinced
Deeply disturbed
Deeply regretting
Desiring
Emphasizing
Expected
Expressing its appreciation
Expressing its satisfaction
Fulfilling
Fully alarmed
Fully aware
Fully believing
Further deploring
Further recalling
Gravely concerned
Guided by
Having adopted
Having considered
Having considered further
Having devoted
Having examined
Having heard
Having received
Having studied
Hoping
Keeping in mind
Noting further
Noting with approval
Noting with deep concern
Noting with regret
Noting with satisfaction
Noting with zest
Observing
Reaffirming
Realizing
Recalling
Recalling with concern
Recognizing
Referring
Seeking
Taking into account
Taking into consideration
Taking note
Viewing with appreciation
Welcoming

OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Accepts
Adopts
Affirms
Appeals
Approves
Authorizes
Calls
Calls for
Calls upon
Commends
Condemns
Congratulates
Confirms
Decides
Declares
Demands
Deplores
Designates
Draws attention
Emphasizes
Encourages
Endorses
Expresses its appreciation
Expresses its hope
Further endorses
Further invites
Further proclaims
Further recommends
Further reminds
Further requests
Has resolved
Notes
Offers
Proclaims
Reaffirms
Recommends
Reminds
Renews
Regrets
Requests
Resolves
Solemnly affirms
Strongly condemns
Supports
Takes note of
Transmits
Trusts
Urges

6.7 SAMPLE RESOLUTION

The Agenda Topic

The Committee Name

Co-Sponsors: Names of delegations who are sponsors
Signatories: Names of delegations who are signatories

The Committee Name,

Recognizing that it is crucial that all proposals, working papers, and resolutions be written in the correct format,

Having studied the resolution format in depth,

Deeply concerned that some nations may still use an incorrect resolution format,

Aware of the fact that pre-ambulatory clauses are followed by commas, while operative clauses are followed by semicolons, and that the last operative clause is followed by a period,

1. Requests that all Delegates read the resolution format in depth;
2. Draws attention to the fact that operative clauses are numbered;
3. Urges Delegates to contact the Secretariat via e-mail at **pittmodelun@gmail.com** if they have any questions.

SECTION 7. COMMITTEES AND TOPICS

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

7.1 AD HOC COMMITTEE

Introduction

Format

As delegates will not be aware of the topics or committee assignments beforehand, the flow of this session will vary slightly from others in this Conference:

Debrief: Once all of the delegates to this session are assembled, the Chair will debrief them on the most urgent situation facing the committee at the present time. Delegates will then use the formal speakers' list to discuss the topic before moving into formal debate.

Debate: The goal of this session, as in all committees, will be to pass a resolution that attempts to solve the issue at hand; however, delegates will receive updates on the situation, which they should incorporate into their debate and working papers. Furthermore, as representative of a country or other body, delegates will have access to a number of resources that their country or role would have under normal circumstances. A delegate may use these resources at any time to further their goals in the committee by contacting one of their staff members in character. In order to do this, a delegate should write a note addressed to an appropriate staff member and send it to the Chair, who will send it to the appropriate person.

Resolutions: After receiving an update on the changing situation, delegates will be asked to pass one or more resolutions that deal with the topic at hand. Delegates may even send messages to their government suggesting how it can respond to a resolution and its repercussions before moving forward in the debate.

Although the format of this session is notably different, Parliamentary Procedure (ParliPro) will still be in effect. While the Chair will entertain any questions about ParliPro or Format, all delegates are expected to maintain a high level of decorum throughout the Conference.

Participation

As this Committee will require rapid decision-making and spontaneous action, the University of Pittsburgh Model United Nations Secretariat highly recommends that only experienced delegates who are comfortable with brisk debate and have a working knowledge inter-nation diplomacy participate in this simulation. The simulation requires careful debate in order to be effective, so delegates must be prepared and willing to bring their voice to the table.

Further Information

The purpose of this committee is to test your knowledge of current events and your ability to think on your feet. To facilitate this, delegates will **not** know their country/role or the committee topic prior to the day of the conference. You can best prepare for the committee by keeping up to date with current events and important events that have occurred within the last 2 or 3 years.

SECTION 7. COMMITTEES AND TOPICS

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

7.2 UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Introduction

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization was founded in 1945 during the founding of the United Nations. It is a specialized committee of the United Nations. UNESCO is aimed at promoting world peace through international cooperation in education, arts, sciences, and culture. It also has a large focus on sustainable development.

References
https://www.unesco.org/en/our-expertise

Topics:
1) Promoting Literacy in Developing Nations
2) Sustaining Stateless Cultures

Promoting Literacy in Developing Nations

One of the major problems that countries of low-income status face in terms of social development is the issue of illiteracy. Statistics show that 86% of people older than 15 years globally are literate. In the year 1820, only about 12% of the world's population was able to read and write. Today this number has been reversed in the opposite direction, with only around 14% of the globe's population being illiterate as of the year 2016. Currently, Burkina Faso (38%), Niger (19%) and South Sudan (32%) are the countries with the lowest literacy, and this reflects the fact that illiteracy tends to be higher and much more prevalent in lower income/developing countries than in the developed world.

Over the last 65 years, the global literacy rate has gone up by an average of about 4 % every year, indicating significant progress. But there is still work to be done, as in many parts of the developing world especially, illiteracy is still a major impediment to socio-economic progress and development. Statistics estimate that there are around 826 million illiterate adults in the world today, and these adults mostly live in countries where many factors exist that impede development, such as civil wars, coups, and political instability.

Also, in countries where there are higher levels of gender inequality between men and women, illiteracy tends to be a lot more prevalent, especially among the females. This is mainly since in these areas, parents typically spend more time educating their male children than their female children, with the expectation that the females will eventually end up as homemakers. According to statistics from the World Bank, the literacy rate for young women is lower than the

rate for young men, especially in poorer countries. UNESCO estimates that the global illiterate population for young females is around 61.5 percent. These statistics are very troubling and finding solutions to this global problem will go a long way in making sure that our world is more socio-economically just and sustainable for all of us in the long run. Good solutions would help counter the core issues of illiteracy such as education funding and nation development. A good place to start would be focusing on helping to close the gender gap in education.

Questions to Consider:

1. How can the UN respect cultural integrity while increasing female literacy rates?
2. What is the responsibility of higher income nations toward helping with literacy rates?
3. What role do corporations play in helping the close the literacy rate gap in lower income countries?

References:
https://ourworldindata.org/literacy
https://uis.unesco.org
https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/how-was-life_9789264214262-en
https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE.ADT.LITR.ZS

Sustaining Stateless Cultures

The 1954 convention relating to the status of stateless persons defines a stateless person as an individual who is not considered a citizen or national under the operation of the laws of any country. States define which people it considers citizens or nationals. Because of this many people or groups of people around the world may find themselves stateless. Stateless people have difficulty accessing basic rights afforded to citizens and nationals such as education, health care, employment, and the freedom of movement. Freedom of Movement is especially important as it allows stateless people to find states with more favorable immigration laws. Without this people are left with a lifetime of obstacles and hardships.

Statelessness can occur for a variety of reasons such as discrimination against minority groups, lack of birth records, denationalization, war. For example many nationalities find themselves without a state, such as the Palestinians and Kurdish, making it hard to attain citizenship in other states. The 1954 convention establishes basic rights for stateless people such as education, employment, and housing; however, these have been notoriously hard to enforce because no state takes responsibility for stateless persons.

The number one cause of stateless people is gaps in countries' nationality clauses that leave people within their borders unable to obtain citizenship. Thus, the 1961 Convention created a framework to reduce statelessness over time and attempts to have countries establish safeguards to eliminate statelessness. However, as of 2014 only 61 States were party to the 1961 convention. In 2014, the UNHCR launched the IBelong campaign which aimed to end statelessness by 2024. Still today millions of people remain stateless. A good solution to this would aim at fixing the faults of the current IBelong campaign and incentivizing countries to care for their stateless populations within their borders. A good start to this would be focusing on why only 61 out of 193 member states have signed the 1961 convention.

Questions to consider:

1. What resources can be given to stateless people until they are able to achieve citizenship?
2. What should be done for stateless people who do not want foreign citizenship?
3. How can countries reform their laws to better help stateless people?

References:
https://www.unhcr.org/ibelong/
https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/un-conventions-on-statelessness.html
https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/statelessness.html
https://www.unrefugees.org/news/statelessness-explained/#:~:text=For%20example%2C%20a%20country%20may,ties%2C%20leaving%20entire%20generations%20stateless

SECTION 7. COMMITTEES AND TOPICS

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH MODEL UNITED NATIONS

7.3 DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE

Introduction

The DISEC Committee addresses disarmament, global challenges and threats that affect the international community and works to create solutions in the international security regime. It considers all security matters within the parameters of the Charter or relating to other organs of the UN, including the principles of cooperation for peace and security, current regulation and governance, and measures for the increased stability that comes with lower levels of armament. The Committee works closely with the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament. It is the only Main Committee of the General Assembly entitled to verbatim records coverage.

References:
https://www.un.org/en/ga/first/

Topics:
1) Demilitarization of Satellites
2) Nonproliferation of Biological Weapons

Demilitarization of Satellites

In 2018, the U.S. issued its first National Space Strategy to address the potential of space to become a military domain. Historically, the militarization of space started with the Sputnik crisis in October 1957 that triggered the space race between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. More recently, an increasing number of countries are looking into the pursuit of military uses of space with some having already taken action to do so. In 2019, India conducted an anti-satellite weapons test. Iran launched its first military satellite launch just one month later. Also in 2019, China established the Strategic Support Force, which handles the fields of space, cyber, and the electromagnetic spectrum, and Russia set up an independent Space Force. Consequently, France created the Space Command in September 2019, and the U.S. organized the Space Force at the end of 2019.

Efforts in the United Nations to maintain outer space for peaceful purposes began in 1957, months prior to the launch of the first artificial satellite into Earth's orbit. Early proposals for prohibiting the use of space for military purposes and the placement of weapons of mass destruction in outer space were considered in the late 1950s and early 1960s by the United Nations.

The Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies ("Outer Space Treaty") entered into force in 1967, after consideration by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the General Assembly. The Treaty provides the basic framework for international space law. In particular, it prohibits the placement of nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction in outer space and the stationing of such weapons on celestial bodies. It also establishes basic principles related to the peaceful use of outer space. This includes that the exploration and use of outer space shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries and that the moon and other celestial bodies shall not be subject to national appropriation or claims of sovereignty.

Since the early 1980s, the Conference on Disarmament (CD) has considered further proposals under the agenda item "prevention of an arms race in outer space", including draft treaties aimed at, inter alia, preventing the placement of weapons in outer space and prohibiting the use of anti-satellite weapons.

In 2008, the Governments of China and the Russian Federation introduced the draft text of such a treaty to the CD.They presented a revised draft treaty in 2014. The General Assembly has also been engaged in the matter of ensuring peace and security in outer space. In 2017, the General Assembly decided to establish a Group of Governmental Experts to consider and make recommendations on substantial elements of an international legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, including, inter alia, on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space.While the Group held some of the most in-depth discussions on the matter in more than a decade, it was ultimately unable to reach consensus on a substantive report.

In 2020, the General Assembly adopted a resolution on reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviors. The Assembly sought, inter alia, ideas from Member States on the further development and implementation of norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviors and on the reduction of the risks of misunderstanding and miscalculations with respect to outer space.

Concerns surrounding the future of the demilitarization of satellites involve the rapid evolution of technology and the growing accessibility to information and new technologies by any interested party. With this accessibility comes the concern of weaponization by governments and/or third parties.

Another concern surrounds the prospect of the hacking of satellites. However, as technology evolves, cyber security does as well. It is an important consideration to keep in mind when creating new policy and providing guidance into the future of satellites.

Questions to consider:

1. What is my country's stance on the militarization of satellites?
2. In the past, what have the consequences been of the militarization of satellites – and were they worth it?
3. How can my country encourage peaceful endeavors in space? Does it wish to do so?

References:

https://www.un.org/disarmament/topics/outerspace/
https://www.spf.org/iina/en/articles/nagashima_02.html
https://thediplomat.com/2020/12/how-much-longer-can-space-remain-demilitarized/

Nonproliferation of Biological Weapons

The Geneva Protocol, also known as the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gasses, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, was signed in June of 1925 and entered into international law in February of 1928. It was the first step towards a comprehensive ban on biological weapons but the protocol was not ratified in its entirety with many states having reservations on the applicability of the protocol. This rendered the Geneva Protocol as nothing more than a no-first-use agreement.

After the Second World War, disarmament talks initially grouped both biological and chemical weapons together. These decisions stalled out for over two decades and there was little progress made until 1968. That year, which saw the ratification of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, also saw a UK initiative to separate biological and chemical weapons and to consider them independently. It was decided to begin with biological weapons and to hopefully reach a consensus on them before moving to chemical weapons.

The Biological Weapons Convention or BWC was negotiated in Geneva, Switzerland within the Eighteen Nation Committee on Disarmament (ENDC) and the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (CCD) from 1969 to 1971. On August 5 of 1971 the United States and Soviet Union filed separate but identical versions of a drafted agreement, and the agreement between the two superpowers was the final step in negotiations. The negotiation was concluded by the CCD on September 28 of 1971 and commended by the UN General Assembly on December 16 1971. On April 10, 1972 signatures on the BWC began in Washington, London, and Moscow. The United States ratified the treaty on January 22, 1975 with the USSR ratifying the treaty on February 11, 1975 and the UK also signing on March 2, 1975. The Biological Weapons Convention officially entered into force on March 26th, 1975. Throughout the years, nations have met every five years to revise and update the treaty with a total of eight review conferences having taken place beginning in 1980.

The need for this convention and agreement originally rose out of the First World War. Biological weapons spread disease-causing organisms or toxins that aim to kill humans, animals, and plants. They are deadly, highly contagious, and have long been thought of as contrary to the laws of humanity. Deliberately releasing these weapons could lead to loss of life, environmental catastrophe, economic loss and widespread illnesses. The Biological Weapons Convention addressed this by prohibiting the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling, and use of biological and toxin weapons. It was the first multilateral disarmament treaty signed that banned an entire category of weapons of mass destruction.

In a 2021 meeting of the First Committee for Disarmament and International Security, delegates stressed their continued commitment that the use of biological weapons was unacceptable. The Canadian representative claimed that his country was working with 20 other members of the UN on strengthening biosafety and biosecurity. The Chinese representatives also pointed out that the Americans withdrew from the Biological Weapons Convention in 2001 and operates more than 200 biological labs outside the country. The Russian and Chinese delegations expressed their concern that these labs operate in an opaque manner and urged the US to operate in an open manner and to resume negotiations on a legally binding mechanism.

Concerns regarding the usage of biological weapons range from economic damage to agricultural problems to assassinations. Countries all around the world fear that outside of military

application, biological weapons can also be used for the creation of environmental catastrophes and to introduce widespread illness in order to cultivate fear in the public.

Other concerns with biological weapons include the fact that there is such a wide range of possibilities for both the weaponized agent and the delivery mechanism. Almost any disease-causing organism or toxin can be used in biological weapons. In addition these delivery systems can take a variety of forms with past programmes using missiles, bombs, and rockets. There are also a variety of sprays, brushes, and injection systems that can be used to contaminate food and clothing and spread biological weapons.

In addition, there is widespread concern that not only could biological weapons be used by nations but that recent technological advances could allow for these weapons to be produced or acquired by non-state actors such as terrorist organizations. The 20th century saw the use of these weapons by groups committing criminal acts and targeted assassinations as well as the accidental release of pathogens from laboratories. There were also false accusations of biological weapons use and as the widespread theories around the origin of Covid-19 show, it can be difficult to differentiate between accidents, deliberate use of biological weapons, and naturally-occuring disease.

Questions to Consider:

1. What is my country's status on outlawing biological weapons?
2. What are possible ways in which biological weapons could play a role in the 21st century and what is my country's stated policy if this should occur?
3. How can my country encourage further disarming of biological weapons? Is it advantageous for them to do so?
4. How should my country act should biological weapons be used? What sort of international support should be available and what sort of punishment should an offending nation expect?

References:

https://www.un.org/disarmament/biological-weapons/about/what-are-biological-weapons/
https://press.un.org/en/2021/gadis3666.doc.htm
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SECTION 7. COMMITTEES AND TOPICS

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

7.4 UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Introduction

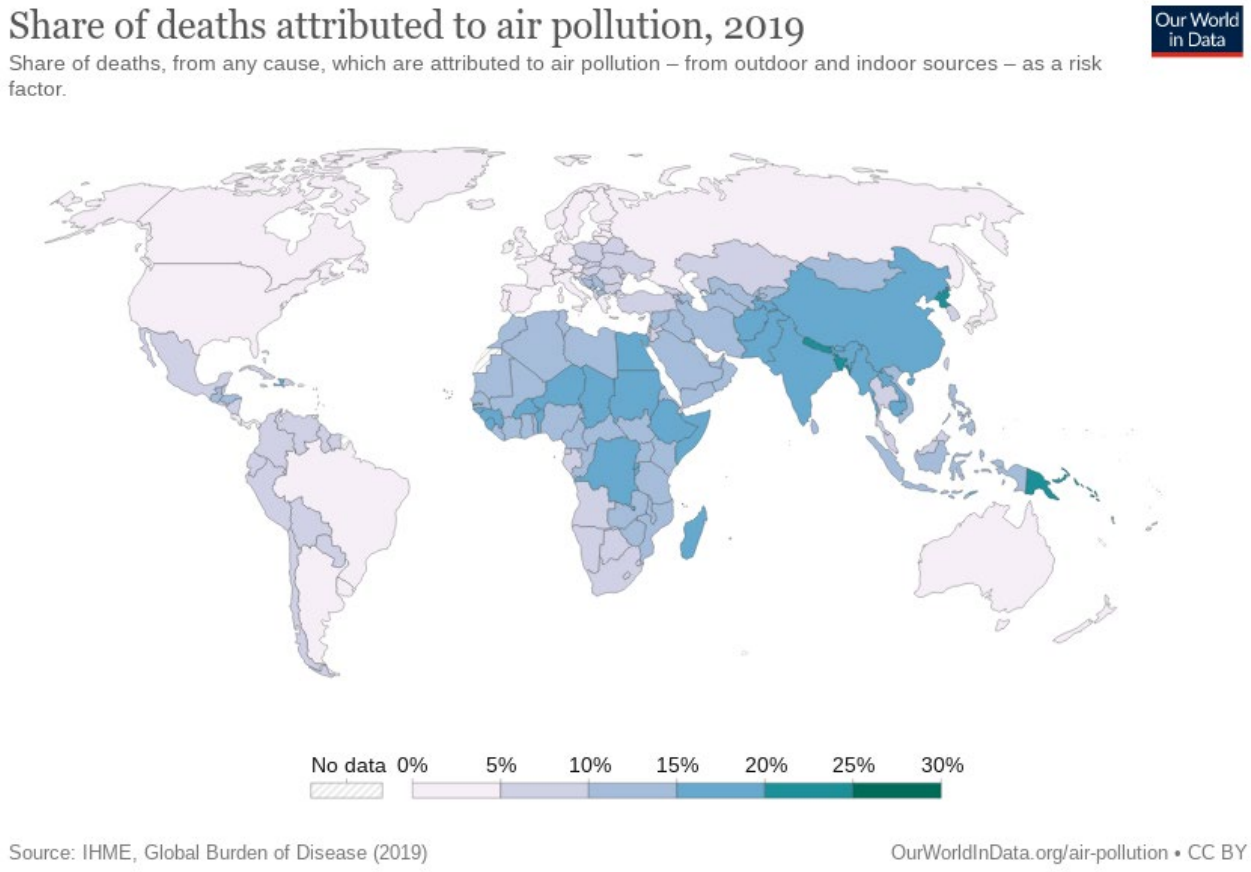
Founded in 1972, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is recognized as the global authority on setting the environmental agenda and promoting implementation of sustainable development within the United Nations. The UNEP oversees seven general subprogrammes which focus on climate action, chemicals and pollutants action, nature action, science policy, environmental governance, finance and economic transformations, and digital transformations. 193 member states, as well as representatives from society, business, and stakeholders collaborate on environmental change through the world's highest decision-making body on environmental issues, the UN Environment Assembly.

References:
https://www.unep.org/about-un-environment

Topics:
1) Combating Air Pollution
2) Development of Sustainable Transportation

Combating Air Pollution

The United Nations Environmental Programme aims to prioritize environmental matters in global conversations. Air pollution is a potent parasite to environment health and to the health of humans. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines air pollution as "contamination of the indoor or outdoor environment by any chemical, physical or biological agent that modifies the natural characteristics of the atmosphere. The Industrial Revolution is cited as the beginning of catastrophic environmental degradation, with all facets of the environment impacted. The burning of coal as an energy source has led to unmanaged air pollution, threatening the health of humans and the ecosystem alike. However, conditions have become worse since the industrial revolution. Now, coal is one of numerous sources of air pollution. Other sources include transportation, other types of fossil fuels, and wildfires. The expansion of fossil fuel usage dramatically increased in the 20th century, with 84% of the world's energy sourced from fossil fuels.



As seen in the map above, air pollution related deaths are higher in certain areas of the world. Regions of Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, and East Asia are at a particularly high risk. In addition, death caused by air pollution disproportionately targets those above the age of 70. The loss of life caused by air pollution can have severe impacts on local and national economies, resulting in them shrinking.

In 2016, the UNEP compiled a report with global air pollution statistics. The report emphasized the importance of air quality testing, citing that much of the world currently does not test the air quality within their nations. Therefore, the UNEP has been attempting to establish the CBAQb, or the Consortium for Better Air Quality data. The five primary steps that the consortium will aim to achieve include developing partnerships, creating data management systems, raising awareness, prioritizing capacity development, and facilitating an exchange of knowledge. The consortium is the primary air pollution fighting tactic of the UNEP for the year of 2022.

Reducing fossil fuel usage is a frequently proposed solution for combating air pollution. While the cost of alternative renewable resources has been in the process of decreasing, they are still more expensive than fossil fuels. A sudden transition to renewable resources is not economically feasible for most nations, especially less affluent nations. As the creation of large scale renewable energy sources are a recent invention, additional time and research is needed to reach maximum operation efficiency.

Questions to Consider

1. How can air quality testing be initiated in nations that lack the funding for air quality testing infrastructure?
2. How can data transparency be maintained between nations?
3. In what ways can the UNEP facilitate the transition to renewable resources as an air pollution fighting tactic?

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*Development of Sustainable Transportation*According to the UNEP, transportation is accountable for 25% of all greenhouse gas emissions, which are a significant contributor to climate change. Carbon dioxide (CO2) is the most common primary greenhouse released by forms of unsustainable transportation. When comparing the emissions of a personal vehicle to a public transportation bus, it is found that public buses create roughly half emissions of cars. The UNEP considers sustainable transportation to be a "fundamental shift in investment patterns, based on the principles of avoiding or reducing trips through integrated land-use and transport planning". The UNEP acknowledges that car-centric societies result in tremendous air pollution contributions. The UNEP has taken various steps in an attempt to limit the amount of greenhouse gasses produced by transportation.

In an effort to promote transportation options that have minimum to no carbon impact, the UNEP designed the Share the Road initiative. The initiative encourages nations to promote alternative transportation options through the usage of infrastructure. This includes making cities more accepting to pedestrians through the creation of more sidewalks and the addition of bike lanes to previously car-centric areas. Non-motorized transportation (NMT) lacks infrastructure on a global scale, and Share the Road aims to change this. A primary deterrent to sustainable transportation is road safety, so it is crucial that NMT infrastructure prioritizes road safety.

The UNEP has endorsed the shift from gas powered cars to electric vehicles. By using regional development banks the organization has been able to effectively fund lower to middle income nations' switch to electrically powered vehicles. The tactic promotes not only electric personal vehicles, but electric buses and other forms of transportation as well. However, it is important to note that electric vehicles are significantly more expensive than petrol powered vehicles. In addition to the funding of policy that favors sustainable transportation, the UNEP has established a database containing various nations' policies regarding electric transportation. This resource is especially important for nations that are in the preliminary stages of structuring their policies. The sharing of different national policies has effectively helped nations make electric increasingly accessible and possible on a large scale.

A primary issue that the UNEP is facing when encouraging the usage of sustainable transportation is the implication this has on rural areas. As public transportation tends to be minimal in rural areas, personal vehicles tend to be the only feasible form of transportation. The

global lack of public transportation in rural areas has become significantly worse in the previous few decades.

Questions to Consider

1. How can nations encourage a transition to electric vehicles given that electric vehicles are not economically feasible for all?
2. When considering that rural communities have been disadvantaged by public transportation infrastructure in the past, how can this problem be mitigated by new sustainable infrastructure policy?
3. In what ways can nations promote public transportation as opposed to personal vehicle usage?

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SECTION 7. COMMITTEES AND TOPICS

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
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7.5 SPECIALIZED COMMITTEE: NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

Introduction

February 27th, 1998. Members of the Kosovo Liberation Army ("the KLA") ambush a unit of Serbian police near the Kosovan village of Likoshan, killing four, another step in the rising tensions between Kosovo and their Serbian neighbors. February 28th, 1998, sees the eruption of a long telegraphed war; large-scale police operations are seen in villages across Kosovo, killing KLA members and civilians alike and launching an armed conflict that would see the deaths of thousands. The Kosovo war was one of many armed conflicts that succeeded the demise of former Soviet Yugoslavia, as old power structures clashed with new social and ethnic identities. Ultimately the question of who the "self" is in self-determination was put to the test, with bloody consequences, and it is your job here today as the members of NATO at the outbreak of the war to determine your coordinated response to what could quickly become yet another humanitarian crisis in the region.

The Republic of Kosovo traces its history back to the 4th century BC. Since then, it has found itself annexed within the Roman, Byzantine, Bulgarian, and Ottoman empires, ultimately landing within Serbian control in the early 20th century. The state's modern history is defined by tension between Kosovo's Albanian and Serb communities, one stressed by religious conflicts between the overwhelmingly Muslim Albanian population and the overwhelmingly Orthodox Christian Serbian population.

In response to rising tensions between Serbia and Kosovo Albanians, the KLA formed around 1990. These tensions were largely a result of the heavily discriminatory and often genocidal policies of Slobodan Milosovich, the then president of Yugoslavia from 1997 to 2000, and the President of Serbia for 6 years prior. Milosovich was also involved in the ethnic cleansing campaigns of the Yugoslavian wars of the 90s prior, especially the campaign in Bosnia. The KLA initiated its first real campaign in 1995 when it launched systematic attacks on Serbian police, something the organization continued to do through '96. In 1997, the KLA managed to acquire a large collection of weapons through Albanian smuggling, which emboldened them to continue their attacks on Serbian authorities through '98. In a response that would become the Kosovo War, Serbian authorities launched a campaign in early 1998 to suppress KLA forces that would result in the deaths of thousands and displacements of hundreds of thousands more.

The international community immediately made clear their concern over the conflict in Kosovo. In June of 1998, the United States declared a national emergency over the "unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States." The United Nations, in resolution 1199, also expressed "grave concern" over the situation and reports of mass displacement. Special sensitivity was given to the issue as hauntingly similar conditions in the

region had seen the Bosnian genoicde less than five year earlier.

Now, the response is up to you. As NATO in early 1999, you have an exceedingly large sum of resources at your fingertips. However, you must balance the interests of your member states, as well as the general opinions of the international community. Even if intervention is seen as the "clear" option, the method by which you intervene is arguably even more important than the decision to do so. Without a clear strategy and objective, you risk adding to the pain of a region whose unquiet ghost of war still dominates the thoughts of every soul in Kosovo. Do not take this job lightly.

Questions to Consider:

1. Should NATO intervene in the Kosovo conflict?
2. If NATO choses for or against intervention, how does that action or inaction manifest in strategy and objective?
3. How does NATO balance the interests of its member states and the rest of the international community?
4. What role do other international bodies like the United Nations play in any multilateral action?

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SECTION 7. COMMITTEES AND TOPICS

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH MODEL UNITED NATIONS

7.6 UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED COMMITTEE ON THE ONGOING CONFLICT IN THE TIGRAY REGION OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA (SECURITY COUNCIL)

Important Note for All Delegates

Although this committee is not officially designated as the Security Council, due to its large nature in terms of delegates, it will follow the same rules as the Security Council specified in the PittMUN Manual. In addition, this committee will have the same powers as the Security Council for the purpose of resolution passing and debate direction.

Introduction

The United Nations Security Council is the premier international body concerned with maintaining global peace and stability. The Council's role is to recognize potential threats to peace and facilitate the non-violent settlement of disputes between nations. Investigating crises and recommending solutions are the primary work of the body, but it is also authorized to impose sanctions and approve the use of force to achieve its goals. The Security Council has fifteen members: 10 revolving and five permanent (United States of America, Russian Federation, People's Republic of China, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the French Republic). All members of the Council have one vote, and permanent members have veto power as well.

The Security Council generally meets to discuss pressing issues in international affairs, such as the Syrian Civil War, the Annexation of Crimea, and many other regional crises. To solve these issues, the Council must recognize conflicts, propose solutions, use its authorized powers, or delegate authority to NGOs or other international organizations (such as NATO, the Arab League, the EU, etc). The Security Council possesses a great deal of power, being able to deploy UN Peacekeepers and enact resolutions that UN members are bound to follow under the UN Charter.

References:
https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/
https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/un-security-council

Topics:

1) Tigray War

(Note: Ethiopian names are traditionally referred to with the given name, not the patronymic surnames. President Abiy Ahmed is thus referred to as Abiy).

The state of Ethiopia, inner workings unfamiliar to the average American, is a large, diverse country, the most significant in the Horn of Africa. There is no such thing as an "Ethiopian" ethnicity (though there is nationality); Ethiopia has many diverse cultures, with the largest, in descending order, being the Oromos, Amharas, Somalis, and Tigrayans. These groups have had a varied history, both working together and conflicting at times.

In 2020, a the Tigray War began in the Tigray region of Ethiopia. Tigray is a region in Northern Ethiopia, inhabited by the Tigrayan peoples, a Semitic-speaking, mostly Christian ethnicity located almost entirely in Ethiopia. The most significant movement tied to this was the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which had been in the government ever since it participated in overthrowing the Derg regime, Ethiopia's former military junta, in 1991. Ethiopia had been governed by a broad-tent dominant party system ever since the overthrow, and the TPLF participated in this government, the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPDRF). Though the TPLF was the most significant force in the overthrow of the Derg regime, and served as an important part of the government for decades, its ousting from the government in 2019 is part of what lead to the Tigray war.

The government worked on a delicate balance, which would no longer be sustainable after the sudden death of Prime Minister Meles Zenawi. The collapse of this system would be especially disastrous given the amount of repression needed to uphold it; the repression in the TPLF's stronghold regions was something that scared the United States, even though it saw Ethiopia as an important target in the region. The politics of the country would significantly change with the rise of president Abiy Ahmed. Ahmed, an Oromo, appeared a reformist and non-divisive at first. His work in finding peace with once-hostile Eritrea won him the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019. He dissolved the EPRDF into his new Prosperity Party, a reform to the often-criticized repressive government. However, the TPLF did not join the Prosperity Party, and became more defiant, in ways such as holding its election in September 2020 instead of delaying them like the central government. Of important note is the fact that the exclusion of the TPLF was not an accident; Abiy wished to break the long-standing influence of TPLF.

To elaborate on the elections, the central government delayed elections in September 2020, not holding them due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The TPLF viewed this not as a pandemic prevention, but as illegitimate corruption of the democratic system. When TPLF forces attacked a federal military base in what they called a pre-emptive strike, the war would begin in earnest, with Abiy sending in the troops in kind. The TPLF also allied with another ethnic nationalist movement, the Oromo Liberation Army, who attacked from the other side of the country; this at least somewhat turned the war into a more anti-government rebellion than a pure ethnic nationalist uprising.

The war has already had massive changes in fortune for each side. The anti-government forces secured a surprising amount of success at first, moving quickly through the country until they had almost reached the capital, aided by the capture of a major arsenal and mass conscription. The tides turned for them almost as fast, with the government forces successfully counter attacking and engaging in a siege of the region of Tigray, aided by Eritrea. This siege had been lifted

recently, but the fighting began again after shots were fired on August 24th. Further developments in the war are too recent to be included in this guide, and will likely have to be noted by the time of the conference.

The Tigray War has had massive humanitarian consequences in the region. There have been massacres involved on all sides, of every ethnic group involved, mass detainment based on ethnicity, ethnic cleansing, repression, and most crimes associated with brutal warfare. Up to half a million people are estimated to have died in the war by March 2022, with the death toll continuing to rise. Starvation and death have come to Ethiopia, and the committee must find a response to this ongoing crisis in Africa's second most populated country.

Questions to consider:

1. How can the conflict in Ethiopia be de-escalated, and peace returned to the region?
2. What is the appropriate response to the current atrocities being committed in the region?
3. What can be done regarding the food insecurity crisis in Ethiopia?
4. What is the response to continued ethnic tensions and massacres in the region?

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SECTION 7. COMMITTEES AND TOPICS

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7.7 CRISIS COMMITTEE

The Greco-Persian War

According to the Historian Herodotus the Greco-Persian War was the largest conflict in ancient history. Spanning from 499-479 BC conflict the independent Greek City States rallied together to defeat the Persian Empire led by the emperor Xerxes. This debate will take place starting in the year 481 BC when the Athenian leader Themistocles called upon all Greek City States to come together to repel the Persians who were invading through the north.

The first conflict between the Greeks and Persians was in (insert year here) when the Greek colonies on the coast of Ionia, in modern day Turkey, revolted against the Persian Empire. These Greek colonies initially had success against the Persian Empire and were able to sack the regional capital of Lydia, mainly because of the help city states such as Athens. Success did not last very long as in 493 BC the Persian army defeated the revolt and swore that they would get revenge on Athens for their role in the Ionian Revolt.

This revenge would take place in 490 BC when a Persian army landed in Greece near Marathon. The Athenians learned about this invasion and were able to gather their army and the armies of their allies to confront the Persian army. Though one ally, the city state Sparta, did not send their army immediately as they were celebrating a religious festival and could not send their army until the festival was over. The Athenian General Miletus who oversaw the allied Greek forces was able to lure the Persian army into a trap by retreating the center of his army and then surrounding and defeating the invading army.

A third invasion force would not even reach Greece as a mixture of bad weather and dangerous terrain would destroy much of the Persian fleet. It would be the fourth invasion that Herodotus called the biggest war in human history, as the Persian Emperor was convinced by his commanders that in 485 BC it was time to invade Greece and finally destroy the city of Greece. Xerxes sent a massive army of one million soldiers to conquer the Greeks and they were able to subdue Thrace and parts of Northern Macedon, though this is according to Herodotus. Fearing that they would not be able to defeat the Persian Army, Athens went to the Oracle of Delphi, and they are told that if they are to succeed that they must unite the Greeks into one alliance. In response the Athenians called a conference of all the city states to discuss the making of a Pan-Greek alliance in response to the Persian threat. After much discussion many city states would join with the Athenians and worked together to defeat the Persians. Some of the city states that joined the alliance were Sparta, Corinth, and Thebes, though some would decide that submitting Persia was better than fighting. This alliance would work together and fight the Persians in battles such as Thermopylae, Salamis, and Platea. And while parts of Greece would be destroyed by the Persians including the empty city of Athens, the united Greeks would be successful in repelling the Persian

army.

It is during this conference that the debate will begin. Delegates will be assigned to a different Greek City-State, colony, or potential ally to the Greeks in their fight against Persia. Delegates will have to work together to try and form an alliance before the invading army enters Greece, and then after uniting work together to defeat the Persian army. To help prepare for this debate, researching more about the three different parts of the Greco-Persian War can help to provide context and potential routes that debate can follow. Researching about the culture and religion of ancient Greece can also be beneficial as both aspects played major roles in the decisions that the ancient Greeks made, such as visiting the oracle to receive advice before making a big choice.

SECTION 8. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

PittMUN asks for your cooperation in maintaining order, both in and out of the committee sessions, and providing a safe, educational, and enjoyable Model United Nations simulation. We encourage you to discuss any questions or concerns relating to these rules with the Secretariat. Our Secretariat will work with the Representatives and their faculty advisors throughout the day in order to maintain the following rules.

8.1 PROFESSIONALISM

Delegates are expected to conduct themselves professionally at all times during PittMUN. Members of the Secretariat and fellow Delegates should be addressed with the proper respect due to members and diplomats of the United Nations. Examples of inappropriate conduct include use of derogatory or obscene language and public displays of affection. Additionally, personal electronic devices such as cellular phones and iPods are not permitted in committee. **Please note PittMUN staff will be taking pictures throughout the day for use in promotional materials.** Delegates should maintain professionalism during this time as well.

8.2 ILLICIT DRUGS

Illicit drugs will not be tolerated at PittMUN. Any Delegate using or in possession of drugs will be required to leave immediately and may be subject to further penalties under his/her school's policy. For further information on the University of Pittsburgh's Policy for a Drug-Free School, see: www.pitt.edu/DOC/94/271/42590/policies/06/06-02-01.html

8.3 ALCOHOL

The legal drinking age in Pennsylvania is 21. This will be strictly enforced by the Secretariat. Liquor found in the possession of any Delegate will be confiscated, and the Delegate will be required to leave and may be subject to further penalties under his/her school's policy. For further information on the University of Pittsburgh's Policy for a Drug-Free School, see: www.pitt.edu/DOC/94/271/42590/policies/06/06-02-01.html

8.4 HARASSMENT

An unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favor, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment will be considered an act of sexual harassment. Representatives found committing such an act will be asked to leave and might be subject to further penalties under their school's policies. For further information on the University

of Pittsburgh's sexual harassment policy, see:
www.pitt.edu/DOC/94/271/42590/policies/07/07-06-04.html

8.5 DRESS CODE

The Secretariat requires all Delegates to dress in a manner befitting international diplomats. The appearance of participants at PittMUN provides the first impression of their national character to other Delegates. Attention to proper appearance sets an expectation for professionalism and competence.

The dress code for the PittMUN conference is "business dress," also referred to as "Western business attire."

The following are considered **inappropriate** for the conference: t-shirts, denim (including skirts), spaghetti straps (shoulders and upper arms must be covered), skirts shorter than knee length, shorts, athletic shoes, and clothing with any form of commercial advertising. Men should wear shirts and ties.

Decisions on appropriate attire are at the ultimate discretion of the Secretariat. Representatives who are inappropriately attired may not be recognized during Committee sessions and may be expelled from the PittMUN simulation.

The Secretariat reserves the right to expel any Representative from the simulation due to unacceptable behavior or inappropriate dress. **Strict adherence to the dress code will be observed.**

SECTION 9. SUMMARY OF RULES FOR PITTMUN

Motion In Order of Precedence	Purpose	Interrupt Speaker?	Debatable?	Speakers Needed?	Vote Required	Additional Information
Point of Personal Privilege	To make a personal request	Yes	No	0	No. Decision of the Chair	Deals with health, unable to continue participation
Point of Parliamentary Inquiry	To make inquiries on parliamentary procedure	No	No	0	No. Decision of the Chair	
Point of Order	To correct parliamentary error	No	No	0	No. Decision of the Chair	
Appeal a Decision of the Chair	To reverse the decision of the Chair	No	No	0	Simple Majority	Yes = Overturn No = Uphold
To Suspend/Adjourn the Meeting	To recess or end meeting respectively	No	No	0	Simple Majority	Lunchtime/End Session for the day
Reconsideration of Proposals	Re-open debate on issue or proposal	No	Yes	2 Pro 2 Con	2/3 Majority	
Decisions of Competence	To question competence of committee	No	Yes	2 Pro 2 Con	Simple Majority	Use with digression
Adoption/Revision of Agenda	Approval/revision of Agenda Order	No	Yes	2 Pro 2 Con	Simple Majority	
To Open/Close the Speakers List	To modify the freedom of debate	No	No	0	Simple Majority	Once closed, voting procedure begins
Unmoderated Caucus	To propose an unmoderated discussion with other delegates	No	No	0	Simple Majority	Successive caucuses cannot exceed 20 minutes
To Postpone/Resumption of Debate	Table debate without substantive vote	No	Yes	2 Pro 2 Con	Simple Majority to postpone, 2/3 majority to resume	Defer proposals; Move to next topic
To Close Debate	Move to immediate vote	No	Yes	2 Pro 2 Con	2/3 Majority	Vote on proposals
To Divide the Question	To consider working paper's part's separately	No	Yes	2 Pro 2 Con	Simple Majority	Vote clause by clause

What Can I Do When…

I Have Yield Time?	There Are Unmoderated Caucuses?	I Need Required Signatures?
-Yield to Questions -Yield to Comments -Yield to Another Delegate -Yield to Chair	-Review Research Material -Plan Next Speech -Discuss/Determine Other Delegates' Opinions -Make Alliances -Draft Working Papers -Gain Signatories	-Working papers: sponsors and 25% of committee -Friendly Amendments: all sponsors -Unfriendly Amendments: none needed