



## **PSCI 3510: UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Simulation**

Monday and Wednesday, November 26/28, 2018

Monday and Wednesday, December 3/5, 2018

### **Conduct Rules**

1. All delegates should participate multiple times.
2. The President has the final say on who may speak as well as when time has expired for each delegate. S/he will also ensure respect for decorum.
3. Engage in genuine role playing: represent actual positions (i.e., don't make stuff up).
4. Engage in diplomacy: no joking and no interrupting. Wait to be recognized. Diplomats conduct themselves with a professional demeanor.
5. Don't repeat points. Responses should add information or argumentation, not repeat what your delegation has already said.
6. You may have devices on hand in order to look up something during the forum. Have the sound turned off. Anyone caught using a device for any other purposes will be asked to turn it off for the duration of that session.

### **Procedural Rules**

#### **I. Roll Call**

The President will begin the session with a roll call consisting first of UNSC delegates followed by invited delegates. UNSC delegates respond with "present and voting." Invited members respond only with "present."

#### **II. The Agenda**

There are only two agenda items corresponding to the two topics:

1. Improving the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
2. Putting an end to ISIS terrorism.
  - At the beginning of the first meeting, the opening of the first agenda item must be moved and seconded. A nine-vote majority passes it.
  - At any point during the two-week simulation, any delegate may:
    - Move closure of the first agenda item (moved and seconded with nine-vote majority) at which point all draft resolutions must be voted on.
    - Move suspension of the first agenda item (moved and seconded with nine-vote majority) at which point draft resolutions are left on the table until (or if) there is a motion to return to the first agenda item.
  - The President has the right to rule against closure of an agenda item if s/he believes that there as been insufficient discussion to move on, but can be overruled with a motion, second and nine-vote majority.

#### **III. Deliberation**

##### **A. Speakers List**

- Raise your placard to get added to the speakers list. The Vice-President keeps the list. Make eye contact with him/her until s/he nods that you are on the list.
- The President calls on delegates to speak in the order they appear on the list.

- A delegate may not be on the list a subsequent time until s/he has risen to the top of the list and spoken.
  - All delegates may be added to the speakers list, not just UNSC members.
- B. Formal discussion
- Delegates are limited to 60 seconds of speaking time except when introducing a resolution, in which case s/he has 120 seconds.
  - The President will strictly enforce the time limits with the gavel. When a delegate hears the gavel, his/her time is up and s/he must yield the floor.
  - If a delegate finishes before 60 seconds is up, s/he should say, "I yield the rest of my time" so that the president knows to move on.
  - Delegates must stand when speaking. There are no exceptions to this rule.
  - Delegates should observe the norms of public speaking: speak clearly, speak slowly, and speak loudly. The time limits may induce you to hurry, but don't. The most eloquent point in the world will have no impact if you race through it and the other delegates don't follow you.
  - Delegates should refer to themselves in the third person. Example: "Brazil supports the new amended language...".
  - A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting has commenced.
- C. Points of Order and Points of Inquiry
- Delegates may raise their placards at any time during deliberations and announce that they wish to raise a Point of Order or a Point of Inquiry (announce out loud "Point of Order" or "Inquiry"). A Point of Order is to raise concern that the President has not adhered to one of the formal rules. A Point of Inquiry is to ask about or clarify procedural issues.
  - The President will recognize Points of Order and Points of Inquiry irrespective of the speakers list.
- D. Informal Caucusing
- Any UNSC delegate may move to suspend formal deliberations and move into informal caucuses. This allows delegates to gather in groups to discuss clauses and amendments informally without rules of debate.
  - An informal caucus may last no more than five minutes. The delegate making the motion must stipulate how long s/he wishes the caucus to be up to the five minute limit. A second is required for the motion and passes with a nine-vote majority.
  - An informal caucus can be extended with motion, second and nine-vote majority. It can be extended for only three minutes, after which no more extensions are allowed.
  - Delegates may not move for another informal caucus until there has been at least ten minutes of formal deliberations.
  - The President has the right to decline a motion for informal caucusing if s/he believes there has been insufficient formal deliberation since the last informal caucus.
- E. Closure of Debate
- Any UNSC delegate may move for closure of the debate at any time. It is not necessary to be on the speakers list. The delegate should raise his/her placard and be recognized by the President. There must be a second from another UNSC delegate.
  - No speech is made supporting closure. Up to two delegate may speak to oppose.
  - Closure requires nine votes.
  - Debate must be closed before voting can commence.
- F. Voting
- If debate has been closed, any delegate can move to commence voting. It requires a second.
  - The President may also independently move the discussion to a vote.

- The President will first ask if there are any objections to approving the resolution. If there are none, it passes by acclamation.
- If there are objections, voting commences.
- Only UNSC members may vote.
- Voting is done by raising placards. Hold them up clearly so that the President and Vice-President can see them and keep them in the air until the count is completed.
- Any member of the P5 can veto any draft amendment or resolution. They can also abstain if they don't like it but aren't willing to veto it. An abstention is not counted in the final vote total. Nine positive votes are still need for passing.
- The P5 cannot veto procedural motions (such as moving to informal caucus or suspending debate). A veto by any member of the P5 on any substantive motion (resolution or amendment) defeats the proposal.
- Members of the P5 should not hesitate to veto a motion if it goes against the interests of their country. Other delegates may not like it, but this is not a popularity contest. Normally, however, the intent to veto would be expressed in informal caucus. That might propel delegates to propose language or an alternative idea that the P5 member(s) find more acceptable.
- Motions pass with a minimum of nine votes.

#### IV. Resolutions

##### A. Submission

- Draft resolutions must be introduced in hard-copy form. Bring 29 copies and submit them to the President and Vice-President.
- Each draft resolution must have a minimum of two sponsors.
- Each draft must also have two signatories. The signatories are other delegates in the committee who do not necessarily agree with the resolution but would like to see it debated.
- Only UNSC members can serve as sponsors or signatories. Invited delegations can lobby SC members and can even help draft resolutions but cannot themselves be sponsors or signatories.
- The President and Vice-President are responsible for ensuring that draft resolutions correspond to this format and for assigning numbers according to the format in the upper right corner. Each new draft resolution should be numbered sequentially (1.1, 1.2, etc.) in chronological order of submission.
- Each draft resolution must have both preambulatory and operative clauses.

##### B. Amendments

- Every clause of a draft resolution is potentially subject to debate and amendment. This includes both preambulatory and operative clauses.
- The delegate proposing an amendment must do so in writing (handwritten is acceptable) by submitting it to the Vice-President. Amendments must have five sponsors.
- The President will introduce draft amendments in the order in which they were received. Only one amendment will be discussed at a time.
- Amendments are debated using the normal rules of deliberation.
- Gaining support for the content and language of amendments is sometimes best done through informal caucusing.
- Amendments can be changed (in fact, amended) either through a "friendly amendment" agreement by the sponsors (one not subject to vote) or by formal motion, second and nine-vote majority.
- Amending a clause requires a motion, second and nine-vote majority.

- Discussion on amendments can be concluded with a vote or voluntary withdrawal by the sponsors (not signatories).
  - Delegates should avoid wordsmithing. Focus on content that you support or object to.
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- C. Format
- Refer to the Guide to Writing Resolutions for format and guidelines.

**Grading Criteria**

- Points are made effectively with substance and evidence (i.e., facts, dates, etc. – you don't need to verbally cite sources).
- Delegates are true to their roles as best they understand them.
- Delegates actively participate in formal debate and informal caucuses.
- The forum conduct and procedural rules are respected.

**PSCI 3510 Terrorism and Political Violence  
Guide to Writing Resolutions**

A resolution consists of three sections: the heading, preambulatory clauses, and operative clauses.

**Heading**

The heading contains four pieces of information: the committee name, the sponsors, the signatories, and the topic.

Resolution UNCT/3510/1.1

**UN Counter-Terrorism Committee**  
Sponsors: China, Russia and Kazakhstan  
Signatories: Bolivia, Ethiopia, Italy, Senegal  
Topic: Stopping terrorist financing

*Sample resolution heading*

- The committee name will be the same for all resolutions.
- The sponsors are the authors of the resolution. Each resolution must have a minimum of two sponsors.
- The signatories are other delegates in the committee who do not necessarily agree with the resolution but would like to see it debated. Each resolution must have a minimum of two signatories. (If there are four sponsors, no signatories are needed.)
- Only UNSC members can serve as sponsors or signatories. Invited delegations can lobby SC members and can even help draft resolutions but cannot themselves be sponsors or signatories.
- The president and vice-president are responsible for ensuring that draft resolutions correspond to this format and for assigning numbers according to the format in the upper right corner. Each new draft resolution should be numbered sequentially (1.1, 1.2, etc.) in chronological order of submission.

**Preambulatory Clauses**

The preamble of a draft resolution states the reasons for which the committee is addressing the topic and (optional) highlights past international action on the issue. Each clause begins with a present participle (called a preambulatory phrase or action word) and ends with a comma. Preambulatory clauses can include:

- References to the UN Charter;
- Citations of past UN resolutions or treaties on the topic under discussion;
- Mentions of statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or agency;
- Recognition of the efforts of regional or nongovernmental organizations in dealing with the issue; and
- General statements on the topic, its significance and its impact.

Sample preambulatory action words:

Affirming	Deeply conscious	Emphasizing
Alarmed by	Deeply convinced	Expecting
Approving	Deeply disturbed	Further deploring
Bearing in mind	Deeply regretting	Further recalling
Believing	Desiring	Guided by
Confident	Emphasizing	Having adopted
Contemplating	Expecting	Having considered
Convinced	Expressing its appreciation	Having examined
Declaring	Fulfilling	Having received
Deeply concerned	Fully aware	Keeping in mind

Noting with deep concern  
Noting with satisfaction  
Noting further  
Observing  
Reaffirming

Realizing  
Recalling  
Recognizing  
Referring  
Seeking

Taking into consideration  
Taking note  
Viewing with appreciation  
Welcoming

### **Operative Clauses**

Operative clauses offer solutions to issues addressed earlier in a resolution through the preamble section. These clauses are action oriented and should include both an underlined verb at the beginning of your sentence followed by the proposed solution. Each clause should follow the following principals:

- Clause should be numbered;
- Each clause should support one another and continue to build your solution;
- Add details to your clauses in order to have a complete solution;
- Operative clauses are punctuated by a semicolon, with the exception of your last operative clause which should end with a period.

### Sample operative action words:

Accepts  
Affirms  
Approves  
Authorizes  
Calls  
Calls upon  
Condemns  
Confirms  
Congratulates  
Considers  
Declares accordingly  
Deplores  
Designates  
Draws the attention  
Emphasizes  
Encourages  
Endorses

Expresses its appreciation  
Expresses its hope  
Further invites  
Deplores  
Designates  
Draws the attention  
Emphasizes  
Encourages  
Endorses  
Expresses its appreciation  
Expresses its hope  
Further invites  
Further proclaims  
Further reminds  
Further recommends  
Further requests  
Further resolves

Has resolved  
Notes  
Proclaims  
Reaffirms  
Recommends  
Regrets  
Reminds  
Requests  
Solemnly affirms  
Strongly condemns  
Supports  
Takes note of  
Transmits  
Trusts