

WASMUN 2019

March 2nd and 3rd, 2019 | University of Washington | Seattle, Washington



Delegate Preparation Guide

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Preface

Welcome to Washington State Model United Nations 2019!

Washington State Model United Nations (WASMUN) got its start in March 2001 as a joint initiative between the World Affairs Council and students at the University of Washington. Seventeen years later, students from universities across the Pacific Northwest continue to volunteer with WASMUN to further its mission of providing an economically accessible, high-quality, and fun academic experience to Northwest high school students. Over the past year, the Executive Secretariat and volunteer staff have prepared an intensive two-day conference simulating many United Nations organs. WASMUN strives to provide a fun yet challenging Model United Nations (MUN) experience, and this year's committees were chosen to appeal to the broad interests of hundreds of delegates, originating from Washington State, the Pacific Northwest, and beyond.

Unlike other high school MUN conferences, WASMUN aims to allow delegates to learn more about the experience of MUN at the collegiate level, providing the academic rigor of a collegiate conference while maintaining some of the more familiar structures of high school MUN. WASMUN's goal is to be a transitory conference, and to that end we focus a great deal on teaching delegates how to research, write, and debate in a mature and detail-oriented manner. Further, WASMUN seeks to help delegates gain knowledge, skills and experiences that will apply both in and beyond the academic setting. Clearly, the university MUN experience is something WASMUN staff and Executive Secretariat are used to, and we hope that WASMUN will be a good introduction to that world for all those attending.

Learning from past WASMUN conferences, the Executive Secretariat and volunteer staff have found that the key to success in any MUN conference is thorough and comprehensive preparation. It is our hope that this guide will successfully prepare all participating delegates for this conference. This brief guide is broken down into sections that will help delegates prepare their research, write their position papers, and understand committee flow—including the rules of procedure, the process of debate, working papers and draft resolutions, and voting procedure—as well as the differences between high school and college MUN.

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Introduction

A brief overview of Model United Nations

Model United Nations, most often referred to as Model UN or MUN, is as old as the United Nations itself. Model UN first began as the Model League of Nations, which is believed to have begun in 1920. It transitioned to become Model UN after the formation of the United Nations in 1945. Most Model UN conferences cater to high school or college students, though there may also be instances of middle school conferences.

Model UN conferences simulate various UN bodies, usually major organs such as the General Assembly and the Security Council. Depending on the conference, other principal UN bodies or specialized bodies can also be stimulated. Participants in MUN conferences, usually called delegates, represent a country – called Member States in UN parlance – and discuss various topics in committees. Topics in each committee can differ greatly depending on the mandate of the committee.

Most of the work delegates will have to do will be preparing for the conference, most notably through the writing of a position paper. However, it is good to note that some specialized bodies, such as the International Court of Justice (ICJ), may require something different. During committee sessions, delegates will discuss potential solutions to the topics at hand from the position of their Member State and will work together with other delegates to draft an outcome document, most commonly in the form of a resolution, which will detail solutions that delegates have crafted during the course of the conference.

While Model UN conferences may seem daunting for first-time delegates, this delegate preparation guide will be extremely helpful in preparing for this conference. The sections below will provide more in-depth explanations and guidance to acquaint new delegates with MUN processes and serve as a refresher for more experienced ones.

Research

Starting Points

Research can be a daunting task, especially for delegates new to Model UN. To make it more approachable, it is useful to consider this layered approach:

1. **Research the history, structure, and work of the United Nations.**
 - This is essential to your fundamental understanding of how the United Nations works in general
2. **Understand the history and socio-economic and political situation** of your assigned country. This also applies to those assigned non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
 - This will be an essential starting point in understanding the position your country will take on the topics of your committee.
3. **Research the mandate, structure, and function of your committee.**

- A good place to start researching will be reading the committee overview in your committee's background guide. Understanding what the committee's goals are and its abilities will allow you to structure your approach to addressing the topics.

4. Research your committee topics.

- Start with reading the background guide in its entirety. Please note, however, that the background guide is merely a starting point to your research—it is expected that all delegates conduct further research on all their committee topics. In the background guides, all sources are cited and generally hyperlinked – use these to help with additional research.

5. Investigate your country's position on each of the topics.

- This will be key in your approach to the topics. Be sure you have a good grasp of your country's position and act in accordance with it.
- Finding your country's concrete position can be challenging as countries most often do not clearly or publicly state their policies. However, positions can be constructed using official statements, speeches made by representatives of your country, and work that your country has done.
- Below are some guiding questions:
 - Have they done anything regarding the committee topics? If yes, what kind of work has my country done (nationally, regionally or internationally)? What were the outcomes of these actions?
 - How does my country feel about the committee topics? What kind of statements have they made on these topics?

Please keep in mind of the importance of individual research. At WASMUN, we recommend using any newspaper articles and official documents or other literature provided by bodies associated with the UN. Do not be afraid to use non-UN resources, but use your best judgment in confirming their reliability. Academic sources are of great value and often overlooked – the UN oftentimes collects and summarizes research rather than conducting it itself – try to find the original studies and draw your own conclusions from them. Keep in mind that the majority of your preparation for the conference will consist of research on your committee topics and your country's position on those topics before the conference. Make sure that you are preparing for the correct country, committee, and topics.

Researching Committee Topics

It is strongly recommended that all delegates understand all the topics on their committee's agenda. Understanding all topics is not only beneficial, but it ensures that each delegate feels confident and is ready to fully participate once during the conference. Delegates should refer to the background guide as a starting point for their research. Further, it is suggested that delegates utilize the footnotes and bibliography in the background guide for further research. The background guide is a general overview for the topics at hand and should only be used as a starting point for research. It is important to note that because the topics on the UN agenda are extremely vast and complex, delegates are recommended to consider the mandate of their committee, which provides an idea

of the tone and type of work done within a specific committee. Additionally, it is important to search for speeches made by the assigned country or resolutions your country have supported to be successful in committee.

Topic overviews in your background guides are often organized in the following manner:

- **Introduction:** This section explains what the topic is and why it matters, specifically to the committee. In certain topics, background guides will provide key terms delegates should know in order to adequately address the topics at hand.
- **International Framework:** Many committee topics are long-term and complex issues, and as such, numerous international treaties, frameworks and UN resolutions have been passed regarding them. This section outlines key documents that will aid in your understanding of the topic.
- **Role of the Committee:** Your committee cannot do everything. Some committees are advisory bodies, which means they can provide recommendations, but cannot act. Some deal primarily with human rights, while others address development. Even if you know what needs to be done about an issue in a general sense, you can only do what is within your committee's mandate. This section will also give you a general idea of what your committee has done regarding the topic in the past. Consider the outcomes of those actions and learn from their success or failure.
- **Role of the International Community:** Your committee needs to work with other UN agencies, regional bodies, and civil society organizations to try and solve the issue. This section outlines some of the bodies also doing work on the issue. This will be crucial to see how others have addressed the issue, how to incorporate their work in your solutions and how to cooperate with them on the issue.
- **Key Issues:** The background guide will outline key issues, which are important complicating or unresolved aspects of the topic. Most guides point out two issues that are important, but delegates are not required to focus solely on those key issues. As topics are often broad and multifaceted, delegates are encouraged to focus on key issues within the topic that their assigned country feels are important in addressing the issue.
- **Conclusion and questions for further research:** Background guides will also pose questions that may help to guide further research into your committee's topics.

Here are some questions you may want to ask yourself as you research your committee topics:

- What is my country's relation to this issue? Is it a victim, a perpetrator, a bystander, or working to fix the issue?
- Does my country believe the international community has a role to play in addressing this topic? If so, what does it believe the bounds of that response should be and what actions has it take on the issue? If not, why?
- Which countries share similar views to mine, both regarding the role of the international community and the topic itself?

Useful Resources

There are many sources, especially online, that will help you understand your country, committee, and topics. However, the resources that the UN itself publishes will be invaluable in your research. A few of these resources are listed below:

- **United Nations**: This UN website allows delegates to have access to individual committee sites, links to specific issues on the UN's agenda, links to Member States to the UN, etc.
- **UN Bibliographic Information System (UNBISNET)**: This UN source provides delegates with the access to all documents from speeches by all Member States to adopted resolutions on nearly all topics. It also allows delegates to learn more about the work of the UN on certain topics, agenda items the role of individual Member States.
- **UN Global Issues**: This section of the UN website presents all issues which extend beyond state borders and, usually, individual UN agencies or bodies. Delegates may find this source useful in getting a better sense of their topics.
- **UN Research Guides**: A section of the UNBISNET website, this source allows delegates to have a reliable and helpful starting point for research.
- **UN Member States on Record**: A section of the UN website, this source is particularly useful in providing direct access to official documents reflecting the perspectives of each Member State. These documents range from resolutions and human rights treaties and conventions.
- **Your committee's website**: This is a good place to find the mandate and function of your committee. There are also links to the work that your committee has done, such as resolutions, reports and any publications that your committee has published. Your country may have also made speeches during UN meetings, in your specific committee or other committees that may have discussed this topic. Those are also good places to ascertain your country's position.
- **Your country's mission to the UN**: This is a good place to begin understanding your country's position in general or in relation to the topics. Look at speeches or statements that your country has made. They are critical in giving you clues as to your country's position.

While each of these sources provide excellent starting points for research, delegates should branch out and conduct research on their own in order to form original ideas and suggestions which are in line with their Member State's policy.

Writing Your Position Paper

What is a Position Paper?

A position paper is usually a two-page paper detailing your country's position on the topics of your committee. These papers are the product of your pre-conference research and must be submitted prior to the conference. Position papers are information-heavy documents, and writing one can sometimes be a challenge. In developing your Position Papers, consider the following:

- **Mandate:** Your committee mandate should be the starting point for determining what your committee can and cannot do. You can find these details in the committee overview of the background guides.
- **Existing foundations:** UN resolutions and reports are not created out of thin air. Solid foundations, such as various conventions and treaties, have already been established on the topic. While it is not required, you are strongly encouraged to root at least some of your solutions and ideas in these prior efforts or to contextualize and justify them using the prior work as precedent. You can find key international frameworks for each topic outlined in the background guides under the international frameworks section.
- **Your country's policy:** You are strongly encouraged to form your own solutions and ideas to the topics on the agenda of your committee. However, delegates must also ensure those solutions and ideas align with what their country would support and what the committee is able to accomplish. This is the most important section of your position paper.

Sample position papers for your reference are available on the WASMUN website. Please note that these sample position papers are not perfect and only reflect what WASMUN is looking for in good position papers. Additionally, a template for position papers is provided below, which will also be available on the WASMUN website. The template gives recommendations for the organization and structure of your position paper.

Formatting and Submission

The following guidelines are crucial when drafting and submitting your position papers. Only those delegates/delegations that fulfill these requirements will be eligible for position paper awards. Unless otherwise stated for a particular committee, all position papers must be typed and formatted according to the requirements below:

- Letter-sized paper
- Times New Roman, font size 10 through 12, single spaced
- Minimum of 1 page, maximum of 2 pages
- Your Country or NGO name, school and committee name clearly labeled in the top half of the first page.
- Agenda topics should be listed in the same order as the background guide, clearly labeled in separate sections. All topics must be addressed to be eligible for award consideration.
- Do not cite or reference, directly or indirectly, your sources in your position paper.

Send position papers to your committee dais in **PDF** format using the emails found on the WASMUN website (wasmun.org).

POSITION PAPER TEMPLATE

Delegation from (Bold, Italics)
[Country name] (Bold)

Represented by (Bold, Italics, Right-justified)
[School name] (Bold, Right-justified)

Position Paper for [Committee Name] (Bold, Centered)

Introductory sentence providing an overview of the topics, including some kind of diplomatic greeting or demonstration of your country's commitment to the committee's topic. (Times New Roman, Size 10-12)

I. Topic One Title (Bold, Italics, Centered)

(Paragraph 1) Background information on the topic, why your country thinks it is important, relevant national commitments and action on the issue. Remember to focus on national policies which influence your country's action on this topic within the UN and internationally.

(Paragraph 2) International commitments and your country's support of specific resolutions, initiatives, conventions or treaties. Describe what actions have been taken by your country to address prior international agreements made by your country. In other words, what types of policies or actions would your country support? What does the country want to see happen within the committee?

(Paragraph 3) Specific and concrete proposals for next steps on the topic, priority issues, and how your country can move forward on addressing the topic. This is the most important section of the position paper and should be the longest paragraph.

II. Topic Two Title (Bold, Italics, Centered)

(Paragraph 1) Background information on the topic, why your country thinks it is important, relevant national commitments and action on the issue. Remember to focus on national policies which influence your country's action on this topic within the UN and internationally.

(Paragraph 2) International commitments and your country's support of specific resolutions, initiatives, conventions or treaties. Describe what actions have been taken by your country to address prior international agreements made by your country. In other words, what types of policies or actions would your country support? What does the country want to see happen within the committee?

(Paragraph 3) Specific and concrete proposals for next steps on the topic, priority issues, and how your country can move forward on addressing the topic. This is the most important section of the position paper and should be the longest paragraph.

Use this template to format your position paper. You may organize your position paper's content differently. Use Times New Roman, single-spaced, size 10 through 12.

The Conference

The Flow of Committee

During the first session of your committee, the dais will give a brief introduction and then officially start committee by taking attendance through roll call. The dais are conference staff members in charge of each committees. It is composed of the Director, the Assistant Director, and in most large committees, the Chair. They help facilitate the flow of committee and are important resources when questions about either substance or procedure arise.

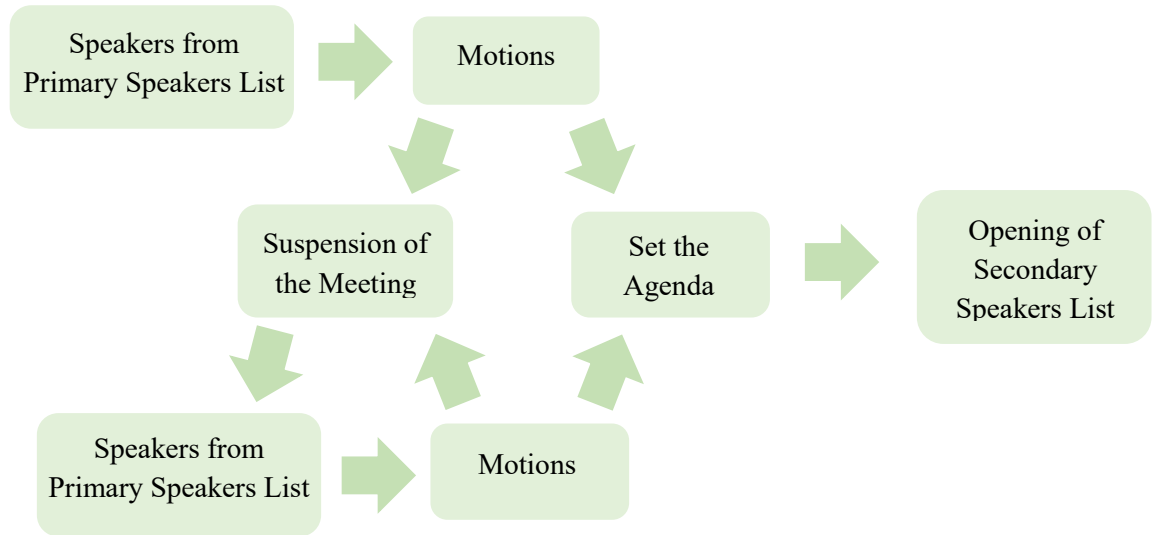
After starting formal session, the Chair will open the primary speakers list to facilitate delegates' discussion on setting the agenda. Setting the agenda determines the order in which the topics are discussed. Due to the time constraints of most conferences, delegates usually manage to only finish addressing one topic. This is a crucial thing to keep in mind when setting the agenda. Which topic does your country want to address more?

Once speakers have been added to the primary speakers list, the dais will usually allow a few delegates on the speakers list to make their speeches before taking any points or motions. This is the time where delegates on the speakers list are able to make speeches regarding their preferred ordering of the agenda. This is a great way for delegates to address the entire committee to make their agenda known.

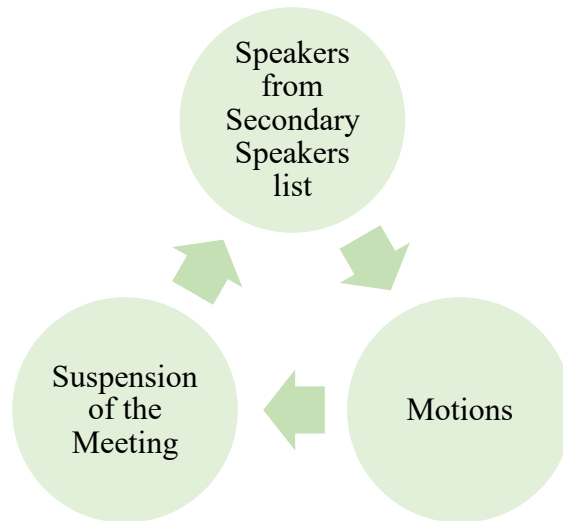
Once the dais has accepted a few speakers, they will call for motions. At this time, delegates may motion to suspend the meeting for a certain period to discuss the agenda order or motion to set the agenda. There are two types of suspensions: unmoderated and moderated. As the name suggests, unmoderated suspensions of the meeting are free-form; delegates are able to move around the room to talk to other delegates. On the other hand, moderated suspensions of meeting are run by the dais and delegates are free to raise their placards to be called to speak to the body. To motion for a moderated suspension, delegates should motion for a suspension of the meeting with the desired speaking time. Suspensions without speaking times are automatically assumed to be unmoderated.

Upon returning to formal session, the dais may call for motions, at which delegates can motion to set the agenda in the order they desire. The first motion to set the agenda that passes shall set the order of the agenda items. If all motions presented fail, the dais will continue with the primary speakers list and will call for motions after a few speakers. After the agenda is set, the dais will open the secondary speakers list for the first topic on the agenda.

The following chart shows the possible ways that the first session can proceed:



Once the secondary speakers list has been opened, the committee will move on to discussing the first topic on the agenda. As before, the dais will accept a few speeches from the secondary speakers list before opening the floor up to motions. Delegates are strongly encouraged to use suspensions of the meeting to further their discussion on the topic and work on drafting working papers with fellow delegates. The committee will proceed in this fashion:



It is important to keep in mind that if the speakers list is exhausted, meaning it runs out of names, the committee will automatically move into voting bloc. This occurs regardless of whether there are any draft resolutions to be voted on. If there are none to be voted on, the committee then moves onto the second topic of the agenda, and may not return to the first topic.

Rules of Procedure

Here at WASMUN, the rules of procedure are the same for every committee except the International Court of Justice and the Security Council. The specific rules for these committees can be found on the WASMUN website.

Delegates are advised to thoroughly read and understand the rules of procedure prior to the conference. The rules of procedure are intended to facilitate the workings of the committee throughout the conference. The dais reserves the right to rule motions that may be considered disruptive to the committee proceedings out of order. As a result, delegates are encouraged to act diplomatically by avoiding the presentation of redundant, inappropriate, or time-consuming motions. A more comprehensive rules of procedure—in both long and short form—is available on the WASMUN website.

Committee sessions come in two types: formal and informal. Formal sessions are the default mode of the committee and are dictated by the rules of procedure. Delegates may make motions, when allowed by the dais, to suspend the meeting and enter into informal session. There are two types of informal sessions: moderated and unmoderated. Moderated suspension is a popcorn-style discussion where the dais will call on delegates who raise their placards to speak, while unmoderated suspensions allow delegates to roam freely, talk to other delegates and work on working papers. The following table shows the main differences between the two types of sessions:

Formal vs. Informal

Formal Session	Informal Session (Suspension of the meeting)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rules of procedure are enforced by the dais ● Consists of continuation of the speaker’s list ● Delegates are expected to be in their seats and attentive ● Delegates are expected to be quiet and respectful of other delegates ● During formal debate, delegates can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be added to the speaker’s list - Raise points or motions ● Technology <u>cannot</u> be used during formal session; Delegates are expected to put them away once formal session begins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ However, delegates are permitted to read off from their devices during their speeches ○ The use of technology to write speeches during this time is not allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rules of procedure are not enforced by the dais ● Consists of both moderated and unmoderated suspension of the meeting ● Delegates are expected to remain respectful of and diplomatic toward other delegates ● During <u>moderated suspensions</u>, technology may be used for further research/ writing a speech only; delegates are still expected to remain attentive towards other delegates who are speaking ● During <u>unmoderated suspensions</u>, delegates can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walk around the committee room talking to other delegates about their country’s position on topics/ ideas on what to do about the topic at hand - Draft working papers - Discuss and gather support for working papers or draft resolutions - Review work being done in other groups ● All technology can be used during informal session

Outcome Documents

Most of delegates' work during the conference will focus on creating an outcome document for their committee. In most committees, the outcome document takes the form of a resolution, but in some specialized committees, the outcome document may come in other forms. Committees with other forms of outcome documents will specify the kind and outline its structure during the conference. Through a combination of formal and informal sessions, delegates will begin to craft solutions to the topic at hand and draft it in a working paper. The working paper will then be submitted to the committee dais for multiple rounds of edits and will be accepted as a draft resolution once the dais feels that it is adequate. Once all working papers have been accepted as draft resolutions, the committee will move into voting bloc and vote on these draft resolutions to pass them as resolutions of the committee. The following table shows the main differences between the two:

Working Papers vs. Draft Resolutions

Working Paper	Draft Resolutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Content can be changed and added without any formal process ● Multiple working papers can be merged into one working paper ● Sponsors may integrate ideas to other working papers, meaning a delegate can be a sponsor on multiple working papers ● Lists all sponsors and signatories at the top of the document 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Only operative clauses can be changed ● Changes to operative clauses can only be made by an amendment ● Merging draft resolutions together is not allowed ● Sponsors and signatories do not appear on the draft resolution(s) because it is now the property of the committee

Format

Throughout the conference, delegates will work to draft what will eventually become draft resolutions to be passed as resolutions. These should include the following:

- **Perambulatory Clauses:** provides context and background information for topic;
- **Operative Clauses:** Details specific actions the committee is taking/ should take.

Draft resolutions are composed of multiple clauses and should flow as one long, cohesive sentence. Therefore, draft resolutions do not contain any periods until the very end, at the last clause. Ideally, draft resolutions should follow the hourglass format, going from the broadest perambulatory clause to the most specific, and transition to the most specific to the broadest operative clause. Each perambulatory clause should relate to an operative clause – concision and precision are the two most valuable characteristics of a draft resolution

Perambulatory Clauses

Perambulatory clauses are intended to provide the history of the issue as well as justify the actions taken by various actors. Perambulatory clauses aim to provide the foundation for the actions that will be discussed later in the operative clauses. Each perambulatory clause starts off with a perambulatory word or phrase in italics and ends with a comma. The clauses should ideally start from the broadest concept (e.g. the Universal Declaration of Human Rights) to the most specific (e.g. citing a meeting that occurred on a specific date).

The following is a list of some perambulatory words and phrases:

Acknowledging	Encouraged	Noting with deep concern
Affirming	Expressing concern	Noting with regret
Alarmed by	Expressing its appreciation	Noting with satisfaction
Appreciating	Expressing satisfaction	Observing
Approving	Firmly convinced	Reaffirming
Aware of	Fulfilling	Realizing
Bearing in mind	Fully aware	Recalling
Believing	Further deploring	Recognizing
Concerned	Further recalling	Referring
Confident	Guided by	Regretting
Conscious of	Having adopted	Reiterating
Considering	Having considered	Reminding
Deeply concerned	Having examined	Seeking
Deeply disturbed	Having received	Stressing
Deeply regretting	Having reviewed	Taking into account
Deploring	Having studied	Taking into consideration
Determined	Having considered	Taking note
Emphasizing	Keeping in mind	Underlining
	Mindful	Viewing with appreciation

Operative Clauses

Operative clauses are the solution that delegates have created to address the issue outlined in the perambulatory clauses. These clauses are action-oriented and begin with operative words or phrases. Operative clauses are numbered and italicized. They may contain subclauses which do not need to begin with operative words or phrases. Each clause ends with a semicolon and the last operative clause ends with a period. Opposite from the perambulatory clauses, operative clauses should be arranged in most specific to least specific clauses.

Below are some useful operative words and phrases:

Acknowledges	Encourages	Proclaims
Advises	Endorses	Reaffirms
Affirms	Expresses its appreciation	Recalls
Appeals	Expresses its hope	Recognizes
Calls for	Expresses its regret	Recommends
Calls upon	Further invites	Regrets
Condemns	Further proclaims	Stresses
Confirms	Further recommends	Strongly advises
Declares	Further reminds	Strongly condemns
Demands	Further requests	Strongly encourages
Deplores	Further resolves	Suggests
Designates	Instructs	Supports
Draws the attention	Introduces	Takes note of
Emphasizes	Invites	Trusts

Sponsors vs. Signatories

Each working paper is required to have a certain number of sponsors and signatories, which is outlined in the long-form rules of procedure. Below is a quick table showing the key differences in the two terms:

Sponsors	Signatories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member States that have drafted clauses in the working paper and are responsible for seeing it through until voted on Can approve friendly amendments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member States who are interested in bringing it forward for consideration by the committee Do not need to support the document in its entirety

Amendments

An amendment is a clarification or change in a draft resolution that incorporates additional interests or concerns after a working paper has been formally submitted to the dais of the committee. Only operative, not preambular, clauses may be amended. There are two types of amendments: friendly and unfriendly.

Friendly	Unfriendly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be written by any Member State Must be approved/accepted by all Sponsors of a draft resolution Upon the agreement of all original sponsors, the change is incorporated into the draft resolution without a vote by the committee <u>Important note:</u> If all the sponsors are not present, the amendment is no longer friendly, but unfriendly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A modification that can be proposed by any Member State Does not have the support of all the sponsors Must be submitted in writing and objected to by at least one sponsor Requires signatures of at least 1/5 of the committee, voted on before voting on the resolution as a whole

Voting Bloc

Procedure

Once the dais has approved all working papers, voting bloc will take place. It is important to note that voting bloc procedures may differ in certain committees such as the Security Council and the International Court of Justice. Voting bloc generally takes place during the final committee session. During these last sessions, delegates review draft resolutions distributed to the committee, submit any amendments (friendly or unfriendly), and move on to voting bloc. Voting bloc is undoubtedly the most formal part of the conference; delegates may not speak to each other, and no delegate may leave or re-enter the room once voting bloc has begun.

During voting bloc, each draft resolution is considered in the order in which they were received. If there are unfriendly amendments for a draft resolution, they will be voted on **before** the draft resolution, and then the amended text will be voted on. The order in which amendments are considered is from most destructive (i.e., they change the most) to least destructive (i.e., they change the least), which is determined by the dais.

Points and motions in order during voting procedure, in order of precedence, are as follows:

1. **Point of Order:** To correct an order in procedure. No debate, no vote required—addressed by the dais
2. **Point of Information:** Used to inquire about substance or procedure. Dais will immediately answer the question. No debate, no vote.
3. **Division of the Question:** Intended to highlight, not remove, a specific clause. This is usually done if it is believed that clause can stand on its own. This applies to operative clauses only. Requires both procedural and substantive votes.
4. **Vote by Acclamation:** Pass a draft resolution without vote. Must occur without any objections. The dais will call for objections 3 times. A delegate may object by raising a placard if they plan to vote no on the draft resolution, not if they plan to vote yes or abstain.
 - a. If an objection occurs during Vote by Acclamation, the committee will automatically move to **Vote by Placard**, in which delegates vote by raising their placards.
5. **Vote by Roll Call:** No debate or vote required. This motion passes automatically unless the Dais must reject in the interest of time. The dais will call on delegates by roll call and delegates will vote “yes,” “no,” “abstain” or “pass.” Member States indicated as “Present and Voting” may not abstain. Abstentions do not count as votes for purposes of determining a majority. Should any delegate vote “pass”, the roll call will proceed for a second round only for those delegates. During the second round of voting, delegates who voted “pass” are called upon to vote again, and may not abstain during the second round of voting.

More detailed explanations can be found in the long-form rules of procedure on the WASMUN website.

Words of Advice

Before the conference

- Thoroughly read through the background guide and use it as a starting point for further research.
- Make sure you write your position paper. The research needed to write this paper will give you the necessary information to succeed in committee. It will also be a valuable quick reference during the conference.
- Understand the workings of your committee, topic and country position.
- Bring laptops as well as notepads and journals. These will be particularly helpful during committee sessions. Please note that laptops may be used during informal sessions, but not during formal sessions. In this case, using journals/notepads will be very useful during formal sessions, which often consist of speeches.

Attire

- All delegates are required to dress in western business attire for the duration of the conference.
- Standard attire is a business jacket, slacks/skirt, dress shirt or blouse, a tie (for men) and appropriate dress shoes.
- Clothes that expose excessive bare skin, reveal undergarments, or are otherwise revealing are considered inappropriate.

During Committee Session

- Make sure you have your credentials and placard during committee session. The dais will not recognize any delegate lacking their credentials to speak or vote on any motions.
- Be respectful during formal session, meaning you will not speak to other delegates or interrupt speeches.
- Remain on-task, both during informal session and formal session. This includes using time in an unmoderated caucus to write, research, and debate the current topic and making substantive speeches during formal sessions addressing the topic.
- Follow your country's policy, even if it contradicts your own personal views.

For Working Papers and Draft Resolutions

- Strive to build upon previous research, acknowledging work the UN already does on the topic and using outside research to suggest bolder solutions. At WASMUN, we don't expect delegates to get to all topics, so use the time to dig deep into issues and write complex solutions.
- Work with many groups of writers to tackle the issue from different sides. This can be done by having resolutions originating from regional groups, economic blocks, and other partnerships as the delegate sees fit.
- Take time to develop ideas and work with other delegates to build upon each other's work.
- Follow advice of the Dais after receiving edits on working papers and draft resolutions. The edits may seem daunting to address, but the dais will provide explanations for edits and be available if you need any help.

Miscellaneous Tips

- Do not feel intimidated by the dais—they are there to help! Approach them with any questions, substantive or procedural, you may have during informal sessions.
- Research, research, research. Researching for Model UN is highly important for a delegate to succeed in a conference. In addition, the more knowledge one has, the more one can participate, ensuring a valuable and fun experience. Research binders are highly recommended! For example, during both moderated and unmoderated caucuses, delegates may choose to refer to their research binders for information on the topic discussed at a particular time.
- Remember that Model UN is a learning experience. It is a great chance to develop important professional and interpersonal skills. Don't be afraid to talk to other delegates, participate in committee and don't hesitate to ask questions.

Conclusion

By the end of WASMUN, delegates should be able to:

- Understand the inner workings of the United Nations,
- Articulate what they learned during the conference,
- Have a greater understanding of international relations and affairs,
- Improve their public speaking, research and writing skills,

- Cooperate and collaborate with others effectively towards a common goal

Questions?

Please contact the Director-General at dg@wasmun.org, or Assistant Director-General at adg@wasmun.org with any substantive questions. Direct any other questions you may have to the Secretary-General at sg@wasmun.org.