



The Hague International
Model United Nations

BASIC GUIDELINES FOR DELEGATES PARTICIPATING IN THIMUN CONFERENCES



THIMUN The Hague



THIMUN Singapore



THIMUN Qatar

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STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE

At THIMUN conferences there are several forums in which you can represent your assigned delegation. Depending on the conference some of the forums listed below might not be available at the conference you are attending:



- The **General Assembly (GA)** is the largest forum. It occupies a central position as the chief deliberative, policymaking, and representative organ of the United Nations. Comprising all 193 members of the United Nations, it provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the UN Charter. The GA is divided in six committees:
 - **First committee on Disarmament and International Security (GA1)** deals with disarmament, global challenges and threats to peace that affect the international community and seeks out solutions to the challenges in the international security regime.
 - **Second Committee on Economic and Financial (GA2)** deals with issues relating to economic growth and development such as macroeconomic policy questions (including international trade, international financial system, debt and commodities), financing for development, sustainable development, human settlements, poverty eradication, globalization and interdependence, operational activities for development, and information and communication technologies for development; also considers issues relating to groups of countries in special situations such as the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs).
 - **Third Committee on Social, Humanitarian and Cultural (GA3)** has agenda items relating to a range of social, humanitarian affairs and human rights issues that affect peoples all over the world; also discusses the advancement of women, the protection of children, indigenous issues, the treatment of refugees, the promotion of fundamental freedoms through the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, and the promotion of the right to self-determination; also addresses important social development questions such as issues related to youth, family, ageing, persons with disabilities, crime prevention, criminal justice and drug control.
 - **Fourth Committee on Special Political and Decolonization (GA4)** considers a

broad range of issues covering a cluster of five decolonization-related agenda items, the effects of atomic radiation, questions relating to information, a comprehensive review of the question of peacekeeping operations as well as a review of special political missions.

- **Fifth Committee on Administration and Budgetary** (GA5) is the Committee of the General Assembly with responsibilities for administration and budgetary matters; it considers and approves financial and budgetary arrangements with specialized agencies and makes recommendations to the agencies concerned; also deals with administrative and budgetary aspects of UN Peacekeeping.
 - **Sixth Committee on Legal** (GA6) is the primary forum for the consideration of legal questions in the General Assembly.
- The **Economic and Social Council** (ECOSOC) is the principal organ to coordinate economic, social, and related work of the 14 UN specialized agencies and five regional commissions. The Council also serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to Member States and the United Nations system. It is responsible for promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress; also, for identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems, facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation and for encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.
 - The **Security Council** (SC) has responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security; recommends to the parties, when a complaint concerning a threat to peace occurs, to try to reach agreement by peaceful means; tries to bring to an end a dispute leading to fighting as soon as possible; may issue cease-fire directives to prevent wider hostilities; also sends United Nations peace-keeping forces to help reduce tensions in troubled areas, keep opposing forces apart and create conditions of calm in which peaceful settlements may be sought; may decide on enforcement measures, economic sanctions (such as trade embargoes) or collective military action. Please note that there is a separate guideline for participants in the Security Council (see <https://thehague.thimun.org/educational/>)
 - The **Disarmament Commission** (DC) is a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, composed of all Member States of the United Nations. It was created as a deliberative body, with the function of considering and making recommendations on various issues in the field of disarmament, such as non-proliferation of nuclear or chemical weapons, control of production, stockpiling and trade of arms.
 - The **Environment Commission** (EC) does not exist as a UN forum. It has, in the THIMUN Conferences, the position of a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, like the Disarmament Commission. It was created as a deliberative body, with the function of considering and making recommendations on various issues in the field of environment and ecology, such as climate change, sustainability, protection of biological diversity.
 - The **Human Rights Commission** (HRC) does not exist as a UN forum either. Since 2006, the UN has replaced it by the Human Rights Council composed of 47 countries. THIMUN has decided to keep the former Commission gathering all Member States.

The Commission is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe. It has defined the Human rights as rights inherent to all human beings, whatever the nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status.

- The **Sustainable Development Commission** (SDC) does not exist as a UN forum. It was created by THIMUN to focus on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the UN member states in 2015. The Sustainable Development Commission is a deliberative body, with the function of developing a platform of dialogue between delegates on economic and social affairs, to find solutions to the problems raised by the SDGs on a global, regional, and local scale. It is also a way for THIMUN participants to be more linked to the UN and its actions.
- The **Special Conference** (SPC on ...) also does not exist as a UN forum. The Special Conference gives, every year, the main theme of the THIMUN Conferences. Most of the time, THIMUN uses the Millennium Development Goals, established by former Secretary General Kofi Annan in 2000, as its main source of inspiration for the year theme.

(The information for this chapter is mainly taken from www.un.org)

DIFFERENT POSITIONS A STUDENT CAN ENROL AT THIMUN

There are five positions that students at THIMUN can participate in:

- 1. Delegate
- 2. Delegate as Ambassador or Head of Delegation
- 3. Student Officer
- 4. MUNITY Press Team
- 5. Admin Staff

1. Student as a Delegate

A delegate represents a country, a UN organisation, or an NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) in a forum. As a delegate you participate as a representative to the country or organisation you have been assigned to.

Before the conference, the delegate's tasks are:

- To **research the country or organisation** (see pages 11 - 12 Checklist on a Country or pages 13 Checklist on an Organisation).
- To **research the issues of your forum** (see page 14 - 15 Checklist on an Issue). This document will help the delegate to be aware of the country or organisation's views on the issues.
- To **write a policy statement** (see page 16 How to write a Policy Statement and page 17 for a sample Policy Statement).
- To **write a draft resolution** (see page 18 How to write a Resolution and page 20 for a sample Resolution).

During the conference, the delegate's tasks are:

- To **lobby** (see page 24 Lobbying).
- To **debate on the resolutions** (see page 25 During debate time).

2. Student as a Delegate Ambassador or Head of Delegation

In a sense, all MUN delegates assume the role of an ambassador in the committees they have been assigned to. However, each country delegation is also headed by the Ambassador of that country. Each Non-Member delegation is headed by the Head of delegation. Ideally, the Ambassador/Head of delegation as head delegate of the team is the **most reliable and experienced delegate**. On top of his tasks as a delegate, the Ambassador/Head of Delegation is given several responsibilities prior to and during the MUN conference.

Before the conference, the Ambassador's or Head of delegation's tasks are:

- Together with your MUN-Director you guard the team spirit of all delegates; you also make sure that all members of your team are preparing themselves properly for the conference. You take special care with new members of the team. At all times you show you earn respect.
- Your MUN-Director might ask you to prepare appropriate delegate **notepaper** (see page 23) for the whole team.

The role of the Ambassador or Head of Delegation during the conference are:

- at most conferences you will be given the opportunity to put forward your country's general views and policies in a formal, **one-minute opening speech** (see page 21). Obviously, this speech is based on your excellent research of your country and all the

issues to be discussed at the conference. It will also be beneficial to the team members who wish to find out how their committee issue relates to the general set of policies your country adheres to. You will also need it if you are called upon in the Security Council.

- Maybe your proudest moment of the conference will be when you participate in the flag parade during the Opening- and Closing Ceremony of THIMUN. You will be asked to carry your nation's flag on to the podium.

3. Student as a Student Officer



Each appointed Student Officer will receive a copy of the THIMUN Student **Officer Manual**. All Student Officers must write **Research Reports** on the issues in their forum, to aid delegates with their preparation and research for a conference. Research reports are a great starting point to one's research on an issue and it provides a general view on the issue and provides factual and relevant information to the issue.

The research report is compiled of:

- an introduction and overview of the issue
- the definition of key terms
- major parties involved.
- timeline of events
- UN involvement
- official documents and treaties about the issue
- previous attempts to resolve the issue.
- suggestions on how to resolve the issue.
- bibliography

During the lobbying process, the role of a Student Officer is that of intermediary, bringing the various interest groups into contact with one another to ensure more worthwhile debate during the formal sessions.

The chairs or presidents of a forum are also in charge of monitoring the debate; they will ensure that the rules and procedures are followed for a smooth and productive debate. Chairs need extensive MUN experience to conduct the debates appropriately. Dedicated and knowledgeable chairs are vital to a successful conference as they are like role models to the

delegates.

Their roles include more than simply ensuring that procedure regulations are abided by; they stimulate steady progress throughout the debate, encourage the involvement of all delegates without sacrificing the substance of debate, prevent the rules from becoming obstacles and exercise strict self-discipline to always remain impartial.

The chairs' knowledge of the issues debated is assumed to be good and can provide the delegates with fresh ideas. They should constantly remind the delegates of the importance of cooperation and compromise for resolutions to benefit the international community.

4. Student in the MUNITY Online Press Team



Press delegates will be under the direction of a Press Coordinator and will be responsible for producing the conference online content. The press team includes layout, editors, text editors, reporters, artists. Students who would like to apply should have some journalistic skills, be able to work with word processing and desktop publishing. These delegates will publish their content via the THIMUN App.

5. Student as Administrative Staff (Admin Staff)

Without the Administrative Staff there would be no conference. The Admin Staff makes sure that the conference runs smoothly by:

- Welcoming all the participating schools (= Information Desk)
- Setting up the various forums
- Passing notes between delegates in the different forums (= Messengers)
- Taking care of the general security

Thanks to the Admin Staff, the delegates can concentrate on lobbying and debating while they take care of the conference. For organisational reasons, the Admin Staff at THIMUN The Hague is selected from students attending schools in the Hague area only. For THIMUN Singapore the Admin Staff is composed by students from the Hwa Chong Institution.

HOW TO BE A GOOD DELEGATE

General behaviour of a delegate

THIMUN is a simulation of the United Nations Organisation, therefore you are, as a student, considered to behave like a diplomat of the country you represent. In addition, you are a representative of your own school. This double representation implies that you must always behave as appropriately as possible inside the Conference Centre during the conference and outside (public transportation, streets, places such as shops, cafés etc.).

THIMUN Dress Code

As a serious simulation, THIMUN expects personal appearance to be appropriate for a professional setting. For you as a delegate and as for all participants at THIMUN, Student Officers, Admin Staff, MUN-Directors, a correct outfit is mandatory during the duration of the conference. This dress code has been fixed to prove our respect towards the countries that are represented at the THIMUN Conference.

Participants should not wear clothing, jewellery, or accessories which are distracting, inappropriate, or which may call attention to themselves – either individually or as a group. Inappropriate dress includes, but is not limited to:

- Team accessories such as scarves, hats, non-THIMUN badges/buttons/pins.
- Sports shoes & denim clothes.
- National costume or military attire.
- School uniforms.

Boys should be dressed in a formal suit, shirt, tie, or similar alternative i.e., formal trousers.

Girls should be dressed equally formally in suits, smart separates (whether trousers or skirts) or dresses. The hot climate in Singapore is not an excuse for wearing noticeably short skirts or low necklines.

HOW TO RESEARCH A COUNTRY, NON-MEMBER DELEGATION OR AN ISSUE

There are two fields of research that you must focus on when preparing for any MUN conference. First you need to learn about the **Country or Non-Member Delegation** you represent and then there are the **issues** on the agenda.

How to research a country

When researching your country, you have several options. One of them is trying to contact its Embassy in your country. You will find that some Embassies are cooperative, and others will be less so. You will just have to try.

Another option is to use the internet. A widely used website for this is the **CIA World Factbook** (www.cia.gov). Choose the country you represent, and you will find the information you need. If you need a guideline on what you need to know about your country, you can refer to the **Council of World Affairs**. This is a particularly useful site, by the way, in preparing for many aspects of a conference. Alternatively, you might try individual **countries' websites**.

How to research a Non- Member Delegation (Official Observers (OOs), Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs), UN Organisations and Specialised Agencies)

As a representative of one of these organisations, you need to be an expert in its field of specialisation. When researching your first port of call should be the website of the organisation. You will have a political agenda of your own. It is your job to raise awareness of the Member States and you will need to work hard in the lobbying process to make sure that what you want to achieve is included in any resolution being debated.

How to research an issue

The issues on the agenda of a THIMUN conference are taken from the **UN website**. Hence going to this website and typing in the issue on the agenda into its search engine will be a good way to start your research on these issues. Member states have websites for their **Permanent Missions at the UN** that can also be useful if you want to learn about the views of your country on a given issue. You can also try its Embassy in your country, but cooperation may again vary.

In addition, 4 – 6 weeks before the conference the **Research reports**, written by the expert chairs of each forum, will be published on the **THIMUN website**. These research reports contain a lot of useful general background information on each issue on the agenda and will form the basis for debate during the conference.

Useful websites

THIMUN	http://thimun.org/
United Nations	http://www.un.org/
Permanent Missions in New York	http://www.un.org/members/
CIA World Fact Book	https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/
Embassies Worldwide	http://www.embassyworld.com/
The Economist	http://www.economist.com/
CNN	http://www.cnn.com/
BBC World	http://www.bbc.com/
International Crisis Group	http://www.crisisgroup.org/
Wikipedia	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_Wikipedia/
Best Delegate	https://bestdelegate.com/

CHECKLIST ON A COUNTRY

When learning about the country you will be representing, you should ask yourself the following questions and make yourself familiar with the answers.

Name of the country: _____

1. IDENTITY

Geography:

- What is the surface, population, capital of the country?
- Where is the country located?
- Which countries are its immediate geographical neighbours?
- What significance does the geographical location of the country have in its politics and/or economic situation? (Small island state, land-locked mountainous region etc.)

Politics:

- What kind of government does the country have? (Monarchy, Republic, Parliamentary democracy etc.)
- What is the origin of the governmental and political structures?
- Who is the current Head of State?
- Who is the current Head of Government?
- What are the main political parties?
- How stable is the current political structure?

History and Culture:

- What historical events have helped to shape the current state?
- What is/are the official language(s)?
- What are the main religious and ethnic groups?
- What role does religion and/or ethnicity play in the country's internal or external politics?
- Is the country a former colony? If yes since, when is it independent?

Economics:

- How self-sufficient or dependent is the country economically?
- What is the country's GDP?
- Is it an MEDC or an LEDC?
- What natural resources does it have?
- What basic commodities or manufactured articles does it produce and export?
- What basic commodities or manufactured articles does it have to import?
- What economic and/or trade organisations does it belong to or is it affiliated with?

2. INTERNATIONAL POSITION

Defence:

- What is the country's military strength or weakness?
- What defence alliances does it belong to?
- Has it been involved in any internal or external conflicts in its recent history?

- Does it possess nuclear weapons?

International relations:

- What role does it play and what influence does it have on world stage?
- Since when is it a member of the United Nations?
- Is it regularly a member of the Security Council or ECOSOC? If yes, when was the last time?
- What direct involvement does it have with any United Nations organs or agencies?
- How is the relationship with its bordering countries?

CHECKLIST ON A NON-MEMBER DELEGATION

When learning about the Non-Member Delegation you will be representing, you should ask yourself the following questions and make yourself familiar with the answers.

Name of the organisation (give the full name and the acronym): _____

1. IDENTITY

- What kind of organisation is it? (UN Agency, NGO etc.)
- In which city and country is the Head Office located?
- Who is the current head of the organisation?
- Who are its members, if any?
- How is the organisation constituted?
- What is the origin of the organisation?
- What is its function or role within the international community as a whole?
- What are the official aims and objectives of the organisation?
- How are these aims of the organisation are compatible with those of the United Nations?

2. ACTIONS OF THE ORGANISATION

- What are the different actions led by the organisation? (try to be specific on the different fields of the actions)
- Locations of the interventions? (give figures and various examples if possible)
- Who were helped by the interventions (give figures and various examples if possible)
- What reports and documentation does it produce? (try to obtain the most recent publications)

3. NEEDS OF THE ORGANISATION

- What are the financial needs of the organisation?
- What are the material needs of the organisation?

4. PARTNERS OF THE ORGANISATION

- Who are the **partners** of the organisation? Why?
- What is the relationship of the organisation to the United Nations?

5. NEW INTERVENTIONS TO BE SET UP

- What kind of interventions the organisation would like to set up in the future?

CHECKLIST ON AN ISSUE

When researching the issue on the agenda and its relevance to the country or non-member organization you are representing, you should use the following checklist:

Issue on the Agenda: _____

1. Key words and Definitions

2. Official References and Documents

- Existing Resolutions
- Websites Relevant to the Issue/Resolution
- Name of the commission/council/organisation's working on the issue
- Websites of the above mentioned.
- Conferences/Summits held that had relevance to the Issue

3. Current Situation on the Issue – Give Figures, Locations, and other relevant information to the Issue.

4. Position of the Country / Organisation on the Issue

- Did the Country / Organisation sign or ratify any documents (Resolutions) on the Issue? If so, what are the specifics.
- Has the Country / Organisation done anything relevant to the Issue? If so, give explanations.
- What elements does the Country / Organization have that can be added or changed on the issue. Give explanations.

HOW TO WRITE A POLICY STATEMENT

What is a Policy Statement?

In preparation of an MUN conference, you should write a policy statement. This is a document that briefly and clearly explains the **policies** of your country/organisation with respect to the issues dealt with at the conference. There are two important reasons for drawing up this document:

- On the one hand, it forces you to focus on the exact points of view of your country/organisation.
- On the other hand, it serves as a reference document to your delegation members and committee members during the conference.

Thus, policy statements may provide an excellent tool in the lobbying process; they may also serve as the basis for your opening speech in your committee.

What a Policy Statement consists of

To produce a useful policy statement, you ought to carry out thorough research. You should also bear in mind that a policy statement consists of five parts in which you:

1. Explain and define the issue and its most important terms.
2. Provide a short summary of recent international action related to the issue.
3. Refer to key documents that relate to the issue.
4. State the country's general position on the issue.
5. Make suggestions of your own that are in line with your country's policies to provide a solution to the issue.

Make sure that your policy statement does not exceed **300 words**.

To sum up, the policy statement sets out to answer three basic questions:

1. What is the background to your country's point of view on the issue?
2. What is your country's current position on the issue?
3. What does it hope to achieve in relation to the issue?

Additionally, you might add strength to your position by answering the following question:

4. What have other member states that share my country's view done in this area?

You can carry out most of your research online, but it might also be an excellent idea to contact the embassy of the country you are representing to ask politely if they are willing to comment on the accuracy of your policy statement.

What to remember about a Policy Statement

In a sense, the brevity and clarity of your policy statement shows how well you have prepared for the conference. Make sure that you read out your policy statement to your fellow-delegates at several stages of your research. You will be surprised to find how many things that are clear to you as an expert on an issue are hard to understand for those who have not carried out your research. Your fellow-delegates' questions and comments will lead to a clearer document that will be an excellent starting-point for your lobbying, resolutions and opening speech.

A SAMPLE POLICY STATEMENT

DELEGATION: Brazil

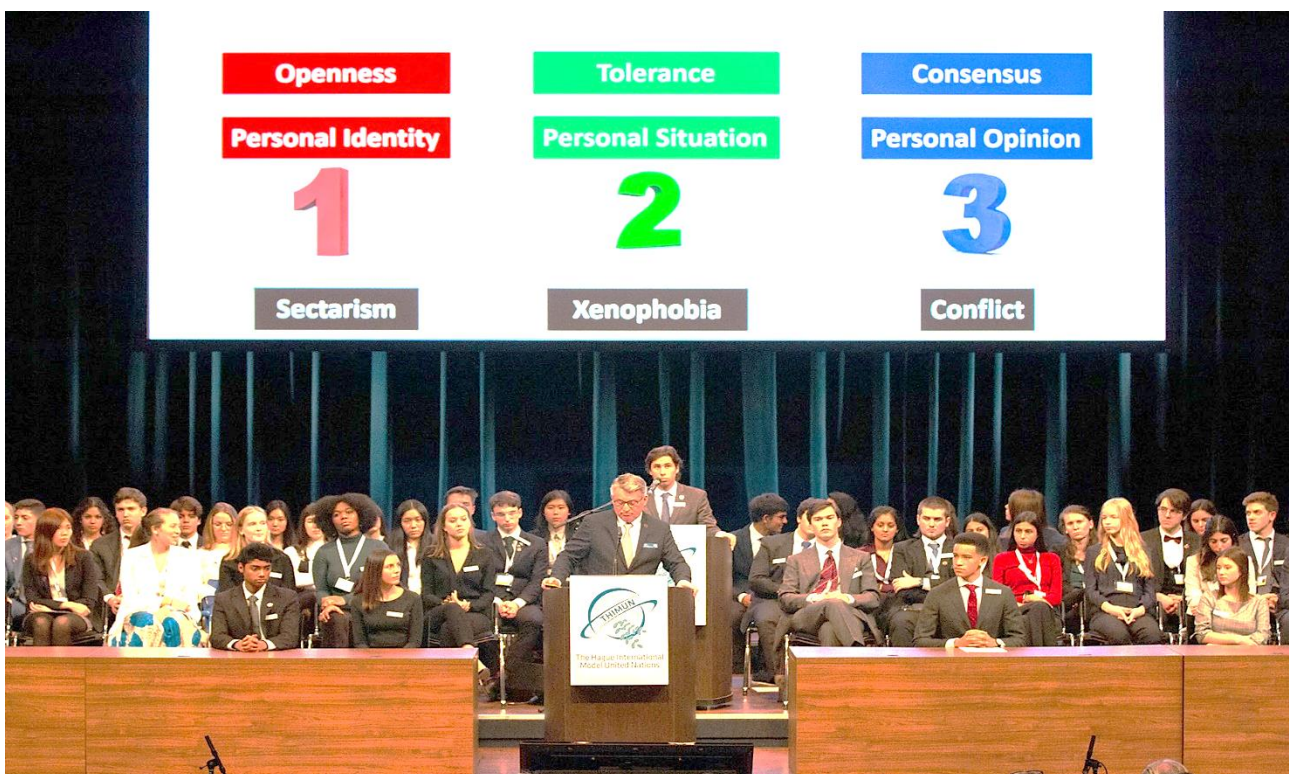
DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

QUESTION OF: Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

Brazil fervently supports measures to support the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs in its attempts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction (WMD), as it believes such efforts are necessary to combat the global threat of terrorism.

Brazil endorses the Outcome Document of the 2005 World Summit, adopted 13 September 2005, which condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and strives to set up an international system that strictly monitors the transfer of materials that may be used to produce WMD.

Brazil, one of the driving forces behind the 1967 Treaty of Tlatelolco, which turned Latin America into the world's first nuclear-free zone, applauds the recent efforts made by the Members of the UN to free the world of any type of WMD. We feel especially responsible as our nation commands huge uranium resources. We view with satisfaction the recent efforts of Member States to prevent the use of WMD by terrorists. However, Brazil expresses its deepest regret that, despite recent efforts to combat the acquisition of WMD by terrorist groups, some countries have refused to abide by the will of the international community. It is our deepest interest to ensure a world untroubled by the transfer of WMD and materials that can be used in the production of any such weapons.



HOW TO WRITE A DRAFT RESOLUTION

What is a Resolution?

Before an MUN Conference, you write one or two draft resolutions. The issues of the resolutions can be found in the agenda of the conference. With a draft resolution in your hand, you will participate actively during lobby and debate.

A resolution is initially a formal statement of a proposal to a UN Council, Committee or Commission. It consists of **one** long, but coherent, **sentence divided into clauses and sub-clauses**. A resolution should not represent the position of one country but rather of several UN member states.

How to write a Resolution

The language of a UN resolution is very formal, diplomatic, and somewhat legalistic. To help you, please read the 4 following questions:

A/ What is the preamble?

The preamble is the introduction of the resolution. It contains the background and the argumentation to the issue you have chosen.

B/ How to write the preambulatory clauses?

You will write your references to former UN resolutions, ratified conventions, and/or declarations.

You will provide official figures, the most recent ones possible, to illustrate the issue.

You will congratulate countries and/or organisations (i.e., UN organisations, NGOs) which have worked on the issue.

You will emphasise the difficulties that have been encountered in the past.

You will need to begin the preambulatory clauses with a present or a past participle or an adjective. See the following list:

PREAMBULATORY PHRASES

Acknowledging	Expecting	Noting with appreciation
Affirming	Expressing its appreciation	Noting with approval
Alarmed by	Expressing its satisfaction	Noting with deep concern
Approving	Fulfilling	Noting with regret
Aware of	Fully alarmed	Noting with satisfaction
Believing	Fully aware	Observing
Bearing in mind	Fully believing	Pointing out
Confident	Further deploring	Reaffirming
Congratulating	Further recalling	Realizing
Convinced	Guided by	Recalling
Declaring	Having adopted	Recognising
Deeply concerned	Having considered	Referring
Deeply conscious	Having devoted attention	Reminding
Deeply disturbed	Having examined	Seeking
Deeply regretting	Having received	Taking into account
Deploring	Having studied	Taking into consideration
Desiring	Keeping in mind	Viewing with appreciation
Emphasising	Noting further	Welcoming

C/ What are the operative clauses?

The operative clauses contain the policy statements of the body making the resolution. The clauses should be clear and unambiguous. They present by order of importance what the UN should do or what attitude it should adopt.

D/ How to write the operative clauses?

This question is the most difficult one. You must ensure that your proposals are workable and that they fully reflect the existing policies of the country or agency you represent. You encourage, and/or invite countries to sign/ratify a convention/declaration.

You may propose, welcome, or deplore all new situations.

You may support, congratulate, or refuse new proposals.

You may confirm, regret what it is already existing.

You must begin the operative clauses with verbs in the third person singular of the Present Tense. See the following list:

OPERATIVE PHRASES

Accepts	Designates	Regrets
Affirms	Encourages	Requests
Approves	Endorses	Resolves
Asks	Expresses its satisfaction	Seeks
Authorizes	Expresses its hope	Strongly affirms
Calls for	Further recommends	Strongly urges
Calls upon	Hopes	Suggests
Congratulates	Invites	Supports
Confirms	Proclaims	Trusts
Declares accordingly	Proposes	Transmits
Deplores	Recommends	Urges

Rather than just borrowing/copying clauses from UN resolutions or resolutions from previous conferences, you will be in a much better position to defend and debate during the conference if you write your own resolution from scratch.

How to present a Resolution

The heading, which appears on each page, must state specific information:

FORUM: *you write down the forum you belong to.*

QUESTION OF: *you copy the issue of the resolution.*

SUBMITTED BY: *you write down the name of your delegation country or organisation.*

The opening verb of each clause is underlined. There is a line-space between each clause.

The lines of the resolution are NOT numbered. Each operative clause IS numbered.

The sub-clauses begin with a), b), c), etc.; sub-sub-clauses begin with i), ii), iii), etc.

Acronyms and abbreviation are written out in full the first time they are used.

Each preambulatory clause is followed by a comma. Each operative clause is followed by a semicolon.

There is only one full stop, that is, at the END of the resolution.

Do make sure that you not only take a few hard copies of your draft resolution but also an electronic version (e.g., USB, laptop, etc.)

A SAMPLE RESOLUTION

FORUM: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION OF: Peace, security, and reunification on the Korean peninsula

SUBMITTED BY: _____

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/11 of 31 October 2000, in which it welcomed and supported the inter-Korean summit and the joint declaration adopted on 15 June 2000 by the two leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security,

Convinced that inter-Korean dialogue and cooperation are essential for consolidating peace and security on the Korean peninsula and contribute to peace and stability in the region and beyond, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Recognizing that the summit held in Pyongyang from 2 to 4 October 2007 between the two leaders and their Declaration on the Advancement of North-South Korean Relations, Peace and Prosperity represent a major milestone in improving inter-Korean relations,

Recalling the statements welcoming the inter-Korean summit made on 1 October 2007 by the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly, and recalling also the statement welcoming the adoption of the Declaration made on 4 October 2007 by the Secretary-General,

1. Welcomes and supports the inter-Korean summit held from 2 to 4 October 2007 and the Declaration on the Advancement of North-South Korean Relations, Peace and Prosperity adopted on 4 October 2007 by the two leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea.
2. Encourages the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea to implement the Declaration fully and in good faith, thereby consolidating peace on the Korean peninsula and laying a solid foundation for peaceful reunification.
3. Invites Member States to continue to support and assist, as appropriate, the process of inter-Korean dialogue, reconciliation, and reunification so that it may contribute to peace and security not only on the Korean peninsula but also in north-east Asia and the world.

HOW TO WRITE AN OPENING SPEECH

Why do you have to write an Opening Speech?

At THIMUN, you can be asked to deliver an opening speech in your committee or commission. The list of delegations holding opening speeches in the Committees of the GA, the Sub-Commissions, the Special Conference and ECOSOC will be published on the THIMUN website beforehand.

An opening speech should last **1 minute**. In this minute, you should address very clearly to the audience the position of the country/organisation you represent on the primary concerns about the state of the world.

The different parts of an Opening Speech

There are a few things to keep in mind when preparing for an opening speech:

- First, there is the beginning of the speech. It is customary to address the President of the GA and the delegates present by starting your speech, saying something like: *'Honourable President, Distinguished Delegates'*
- and then go on to the main body of your speech.

The main body of your speech should address the issue on the agenda your delegation feels most strongly about. Some delegates think that this part of the speech should be funny and entertaining. This is not what the speech is about at all. Keep it diplomatic and concentrate on getting one single message across.

It is standard practice to end the speech with a flourish such as: *'Thank you, Mister President'*.

How to deliver an Opening Speech

When speaking to the delegates of your forum at THIMUN, you can be easily in awe of the number of people you are facing. You will be nervous. The best way to overcome this is by practising the delivery of your speech in your school and having your MUN-Director present and maybe your fellow delegates. Ask them what they think about your speech and adjust it if you think it needs that.

You should open your speech with a strong sentence to gain audience attention.

Also, when delivering your speech, you must remember to speak slowly and clearly. As a rule of thumb, you are speaking slowly enough when you think to yourself: *'I am speaking too slowly now.'* Have the speech timed and see that it does not exceed the time allotted to you. If necessary, the President will remind you that your time is almost up by saying: *'Will the Delegate please come to His closing remarks'*. If you hear this said to you, please act accordingly.

With regards to vocabulary and use of English, if you are a native speaker, bear in mind that there will be non-native speakers in your audience. If you are a non-native speaker, do not worry about making mistakes. You will not be the only one to make them.

Summing up, an opening speech consists of an opening flourish, a main body that drives home one point only and a closing flourish.

A SAMPLE OPENING SPEECH

DELEGATION: France

Honourable President, Distinguished Delegates,

France recognises the need for multilateral efforts to achieve a greater balance in terms of development between the nations in the world. However, France also believes that any hope of achieving an acceptable economic balance in terms of global standards of living must take into consideration the environmental impact of such efforts.

France applauds the recent changes in tone apparent in the North-South dialogue and calls for greater attention to be paid to the interrelatedness of development planning and environmental security. Environmental threats from industrialisation must be eliminated from development planning. Therefore, France stands firmly behind the idea that aid and investment should occur at the local level, where traditional knowledge about the environment can play an important role in the development.

Thank you, Mister President.



OFFICIAL NOTEPAPER

What is the use of official notepaper?

During debating time, conversation between delegates is not allowed. You should focus your attention on the different interventions within the House. You should also be well ready to intervene in the debate at any times.


However, it is instrumental that you should remain, during this period, in contact with your fellow delegates to establish a common strategy. The notepaper is the perfect way to communicate. On your notepaper, write the delegation's name of your addressee.

Write in English, and English only, what you want to say to the other delegate. Then raise your hand with the notepaper. A member of the Admin Staff will take your note and bring it to your addressee.

A sample notepaper

A notepaper should have:

- A5 format,
- a flag of the delegation,
- a list of the whole delegation with their positions (optional)

From: LEBANON	
Forum: _____	
To: _____	
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
GA1: Peter Smith GA2: Alexandra Cortes GA3: John Mulder GA4: Mary O'Connor (Ambassador) HRC1: Philip Jones HRC2: Nicola Mak DC1: Theo Callun DC2: Helen van der Linden	

LOBBYING

This is probably the most important part of the conference. The key to successful lobbying is to be pro-active, which means taking active steps to present and discuss your proposals. Keep an eye on the fact that the aim is to negotiate to reach consensus.

Before the start of the formal conference, you informally try to gain the interest and support of other delegates for your draft resolution. As a basis for a **draft resolution**, a well-researched and well-written **policy statement** can be used. You may find other delegates with a similar resolution and decide to merge the two, making the resolution stronger and more likely to succeed in debate. This is the time for delegates to air their views. **Allies** need to be found to support the draft resolution. Sometimes a delegate might abandon his/her own resolution in favour of another, better one.

Your draft resolution should not be longer than **two A4 pages** and be clearly expressed in the official format (see page 18 How to write a draft resolution). It forms the basis for discussion, and you should expect your resolutions to be merged with others if national interests and security are not undermined. You should create resolutions that are representative of the policies of specific interest groups and that make realistic recommendations for actions to be taken in dealing with the issues.

The Chairs should coordinate the work of the delegates in the lobbying process to prevent unrealistic or illogical resolutions being produced. This is the time when you will try to obtain sufficient co-submitters to register your resolution. Generally, time spent on lobbying usually results in a stronger resolution.



DURING DEBATE TIME

Definition of key words used in the forums.

The chair: The chairman or chairperson is the one conducting the debate and maintaining order while remaining totally impartial.

The House: All the members of the forum except the chairman.

The submitter: The person who is proposing the motion in the form of a draft resolution for debate.

The motion: The proposal for debate, which will eventually be voted upon.

A point of information: A question directed either to the speaker who has the floor or to the chairman by a delegate of the House who has been duly recognised by the chairman.

A point of order: A question directed to the chairman by a delegate of the House who feels that a mistake has been made in the order of debate or who requires clarification of the rules of procedure.

A point of personal privilege: A question directed to the chairman by a delegate who refers to the comfort and well-being of the house (e.g.: audibility, temperature in the house).

To have the floor: To have been given the right to speak in debate before the House.

To yield the floor: To give up one's right to the floor either finally or temporarily for a point of information to be asked.

Modes of address during formal debates

A/ Parliamentary behaviour by delegates

1. Speakers need to always address each other in the Third Person. Always "*honourable speaker*" or "*fellow delegates*", never "*You*" or "*I*".
2. Delegates should **stand** when speaking and should not sit down until after the speaker has finished answering the delegate's question.
3. Delegates must avoid the use of insulting or abusive language.
4. Delegates should address the chair and the House before presenting their speech
Example: "*Honourable Chair, fellow delegates...*"

B/ Phrases to be used by delegates of the House.

- "*Mr./Madam Chairman...*".
- "*The delegate of ... requests the floor*" or "*wishes the floor*".
- "*The delegate of ... would like to rise a point of information/ point of order*".
- "*The delegate of ... wishes to speak in favour of/against this motion/resolution/amendment because...*".
- "*Is the chair /the speaker (not) aware that...*".
- "*Does the speaker (not) agree with me that...*".
- "*The speaker stated in his/her speech... Doe he/she (not) realize that...*".
- "*The delegate of ... moves to amend the resolution by striking/inserting/adding the words...*".
- "*The delegate of ... urges the House to give its support by voting for/against this motion/resolution/amendment*".

C/ Phrases to be used by the chairman.

- "*The House will come to order*" or "*Will the house please come to order*".
- "*The chair calls upon the delegate of ... (the submitter) to read the resolution to the House*".
- "*The House has heard the resolution. Is there a second?*".

- *"The chair fixes a debate time of 10 minutes for and 10 minutes against the motion"* .
- *"The delegate of ... has the floor"* .
- *"All points are out of order until the speaker has concluded his/her speech"* .
- *"The chair recognizes the delegate of..."* .
- *"To what point does the delegate of ... rise?"* .
- *"Please rise and state you point of information/point of order"* .
- *"Will you please state your point in a form of a question"* .
- *"The speaker appears not to have heard/understood your question"* .
- *"Will you please repeat/rephrase your question"* .
- *"Are there any further points on the floor?"* .
- *"Are there any further points of information to this speaker?"* .
- *"There is a point of order on the floor. Please rise and state your point"* .
- *"Your point is (not) well taken"* .
- *"Will the speaker please make his/her concluding remarks"* .
- *"Debate time for/against the resolution/the amendment has been exhausted/has expired. Will the speaker please yield the floor"* .
- *"The chair proposes an extension of debate time by 5 minutes for and 5 minutes against the motion"* .
- *"The debate is now closed. We will move into voting procedures"* .
- *"All points are out of order"* .
- *"The motion will now be put to the vote"* .
- *"Will all those in favour of the resolution/the amendment, please raise their placards"* .
- *"Will all those opposed to against/against the resolution, please raise their placards"* .
- *"Will all those abstaining, please raise their placards"* .
- *"The motion/the resolution/the amendment has passed by..."* .
- *"The motion/the resolution/the amendment has failed by..."* .
- *"With x votes in favour, y votes against and z votes abstaining, the motion/the resolution/the amendment has passed/failed"* .
- *"Clapping is (not) in order"* .

VOTING

At THIMUN all delegates (member states and non-member delegations) have full voting rights i.e., they can vote on amendments and resolutions. Delegates voting on a resolution or amendment may vote in favour, against or abstain. A resolution or amendment will pass if the number in favour exceeds the number against regardless of the number of abstentions. A resolution or amendment with a tied vote fails.

ESSENTIAL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE CONFERENCE

Delegates should bring with them:

- **Draft resolutions** for use in the initial lobbying process
- **Appropriate official headed delegation notepaper**, as it is a way for delegates to communicate to one another privately during debate and allows each other to exchange views on the issue and gain an understanding from the standpoint of others. Notes will only be passed if on official notepaper.
- A **laptop** or another device they can work with. It is a good piece of equipment to bring, as you can store your information, speeches, and suggestive clauses on it, and where you can merge resolutions together.
- A **USB stick** is necessary during the lobbying stage. When it would come to merging resolutions, there is not enough time to retype a whole clause, but rather copy it from one soft copy resolution and paste it into the other and then make the required changes. The same reasoning applies when one is a main submitter as most of the resolution comes from the main submitter's own resolution.
- Other necessary equipment such as **chargers, adaptors, pens, notepad, etc.**