



ELARAKI Model United Nations 2019

3rd Edition



**THE ELARAKI
MODEL UNITED
NATIONS CONFERENCE
2019**

“3rd Edition”

**8th, 9th and 10th Feb,
2019**

**BRIEFING PACK FOR
ADVISORS AND
DELEGATES**

What is a Model UN Conference?

A Model UN Conference simulates a session of the UN General Assembly through a creative forum of role play and debate. Participants, working in teams, step into the shoes of country ambassadors and draw on negotiation and diplomacy skills to ensure their views are heard.

The objective of a Model UN Conference is to find the best possible solution to the problem at hand through multilateral diplomacy. A successful conference is achieved when delegates can reach a compromise based upon their own country's national interests, international responsibilities and humanitarian obligations. The outcome is formalised in the adoption of a sound resolution.

By taking part in a Model UN Conference, participants not only learn about UN bodies and member states, but also about the importance of dialogue, diplomacy, negotiation, and building consensus. These skills are fundamental to the development of global citizens and future leaders.

Why should I attend?

Model UN Conferences help further strengthen students' knowledge in history, geography, global politics, civics and citizenship as well as enhance their public speaking and leadership skills.

Step 1: Research

The research is the most important part of any Model United Nations conference. Before you can go to the conference, before you can even start thinking about what you're going to say and write in a resolution and definitely before you begin planning your outfits, you must do the research.

Each committee in the conference will have an issue that it will be addressing.

It is a very good idea to research the background of your country thoroughly. It would be terribly embarrassing if another delegate came up with a fact about any problems in your country's past of which you were unaware and as such were not prepared to deal with.

What to research?

There are two aspects on which a delegate should be very well informed. The first is the delegate's country or NGO, and the second is the issues the delegate is going to debate.

If you are able to answer each of the following questions, you will be in a good position to start writing a resolution or preparing for a conference.

Country Policy

- Is it a LEDC (less economically developed country) or a MEDC (more economically developed country)?
 -) Example: Is a big percentage of the population below the poverty line?
 -) Example: Is the literacy rate high?
- What type of government does it have?
 -) Example: Democracy?
 -) Example: Dictatorship?
- Which nations are my allies?
 -) Example: Which nation is my main trade partner?
- What are the greatest difficulties my nation faces?
 -) Example: Rebels?
 -) Example: Trans-national disputes?

Geographical information Location?

-) Example: Continent?
-) Example: Landlocked?
-) Example: Neighbours?
- Natural resources?
 -) Example: Oil?

Economic information

What do we export?

- Is it a stable economy?

Cultural information

Which religion is most common?

- Which ethnic groups live in my country?
- Are there difficulties in the relation between the different ethnic groups?

Information concerning the topic

Is my country directly involved in the Issue?

- Is my country indirectly involved?
 -) Example: The problem concerns one of your allies?
 -) Example: Does your economy indirectly suffer from it?
 -) Example: Negotiation nation?
 -) Example: Peacekeeper nation?
 -) Example: Aid workers?
- Has my nation signed any treaties concerning the issue?
- Why/Why not?

World Politics

Of what NGOs and IGOs are you part?

-) With which world powers are you friendly?
-) Are you noted for your views on any world issues?
-) Are you well-known for being particularly vocal about anything?
-) What is your history with regards to the United Nations?
-) What is your record of achievements within the United Nations?

NGO/UNO Policy

What is the purpose of the organization?

-) Example: Amnesty International - compliance with Human Rights
 - How does it attempt to achieve this?
 - How is the system organized?
-) Example: Where does it get its funding from?
 - Where does it mainly operate?
 - When was it founded?
 - Is it affiliated to other organizations?
 - Is my organization directly or indirectly involved in the issues?

The issues

What is the issue?

- What is the background to the issue?
- Is the Issue related to recent events?
- Who is involved in the issue?
 -) example: NGO's
 -) example: Countries
 -) example: Unions, etc

- What has been done to solve the issue?

-) example: Conventions
-) example: Agreements
-) example: Resolutions

- Has anything been effective? Yes/no
- Why has or hasn't it been effective?

Where to research?

You should be able to look up information about your country in any good encyclopedia or reference book. Go to the school library or sit at your computer and dig for information. There is always a lot to find on the news, or from reading the "World News" sections of the newspapers. You could consult with experience MUNners from your school who have attended other conferences or you could ask experts who may have information on these issues (i.e. your teachers/lecturers). Another place to ask is the country's embassy or consulate - you may be able to write to, or e-mail, them.

Step 2: How to Write a Position Paper

Writing a position paper might appear to be a daunting task, especially for new delegates. But with enough research, you will find that writing a position paper will be easy and useful.

Position papers are usually one to one-and-a-half pages in length. Your position paper should include a brief introduction followed by a comprehensive breakdown of your country's position on the topics that are being discussed by the committee. A good position paper will not only provide facts but also make proposals for resolutions.

Be sure to include all the required information. You are provided a background guide to the issue. Usually, the background guide contains questions to consider. Make sure that your position paper answers these questions.

A good position paper will include:

- a. A brief introduction to your country and its history concerning the topic and committee;
- b. How the issue affects your country;
- c. Your country's policies with respect to the issue and your country's justification for these policies;
- d. Quotes from your country's leaders about the issue;
- e. Statistics to back up your country's position on the issue;
- f. Actions taken by your government with regard to the issue;
- g. Conventions and resolutions that your country has signed or ratified;
- h. UN actions that your country supported or opposed;
- i. What your country believes should be done to address the issue;

- j. What your country would like to accomplish in the committee's resolution; and
- k. How the positions of other countries affect your country's position.

Position Paper Tips

1. **Keep it simple.** To communicate strongly and effectively, avoid flowery wording and stick to uncomplicated language and sentence structure.
2. **Make it official.** Try to use the seal of your country or create an "official" letterhead for your position paper. The more realistic it looks, the more others will want to read it.
3. **Get organized.** Give each separate idea or proposal its own paragraph. Make sure each paragraph starts with a topic sentence.
4. **Read and reread.** Leave time to edit your position paper. Ask yourself if the organization of the paper makes sense and double-check your spelling and grammar.
5. **Speech! Speech!** Do you plan to make an opening statement at your conference? A good position paper makes a great introductory speech. During debate, a good position paper will also help you to stick to your country's policies.
6. **Let the bullets fly.** Try not to let your proposals become lost in a sea of information. For speechmaking, create a bulleted list of your proposals along with your most important facts and statistics so that you will not lose time looking for them during debate.

SAMPLE POSITION PAPER

Committee: Disarmament and International Security

Topic: Nuclear Test Ban

Country: The Republic of Sierra Leone

[Section A should discuss history/background of the issue] The nuclear test ban issue has been the first item on the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament since 1978 with good reason. In 1963, the United States, the United Kingdom, and the USSR entered into the Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT), which prohibited testing in the atmosphere and underwater. In 1974, the United States and the USSR entered into the Threshold Test Ban Treaty (TTBT) which placed an upper limit of 150 kilotons on nuclear tests.

The next logical step, a comprehensive test ban treaty (CTBT), has been long overdue. Nuclear weapon testing allows the arms race to continue and even escalate. The implementation of a test ban would slow down the development of new nuclear weapons and thereby slow down the arms race. Furthermore, a CTBT would not, as some states have claimed, threaten the stability of the policy of nuclear deterrence, on which both superpowers rely. In fact, a CTBT would maintain stability by preventing innovations and developments which could potentially give one nuclear state a unilateral advantage. Moreover, the increasing use of super-computers has essentially eliminated the need for actual testing.

[Section B should discuss your country's position/history on topic] The Republic of Sierra Leone believes disarmament to be crucial for the maintenance of worldwide security and considers a nuclear test ban to be an important step in the process of reaching that goal. Sierra Leone is not a nuclear power nor does it aid other countries in producing nuclear weapons. Our policy in the past has been to work diligently toward a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. We wish to accomplish this goal through negotiation in the Conference on Disarmament. In accordance with this policy, the Resolution 485 banning nuclear testing in Africa and Resolution 781 banning nuclear testing in Southeast Asia received wholehearted support from Sierra Leone. Furthermore, our government received glowing reports from the international press for our stance on the issue. The African Journal wrote that "To maintain the fundamental principles of Africa, the UN needs more nations like Sierra Leone" (Volume 48, 1993, pp. 12).

[Section C should outline ideas and policy proposals] The Republic of Sierra Leone supports the following proposals for a nuclear test ban treaty:

The treaty must be a comprehensive and permanent one. Although Japan's proposal to have a progressive lowering of the threshold limit until it reached zero is an interesting idea, not only does this legitimize nuclear weapon testing, it also delays a true resolution of the problem. In addition, it gives the nuclear states a greater opportunity to escape their obligations through inevitable loopholes in the treaty.

Although peaceful nuclear explosions could potentially bring about beneficial results, the nearly insurmountable difficulty in differentiating between nuclear tests for weapons and nuclear tests for peaceful purposes makes such a distinction infeasible. The proposal that a state must provide the Secretary-General with all relevant data about the planned explosion is laudable, yet proper assurance of the peaceful nature of a test would require a degree of monitoring to which most nuclear states would not agree.

States can rely not only on all national means of verification which are consistent with international law, but also an international verification system. Current seismic monitoring systems, such as the Norwegian Seismic Array (NORSAR), are sufficiently advanced to determine whether states are complying with a CTBT. In addition, the 1984 experiment involving the World Meteorological Organization/Global Telecommunications System (WMO/GTS) illustrates the viability of an international seismic network. As per the Ad Hoc Group's report, Sierra Leone is in favor of an international network of seismic monitoring stations which would send their data to International Data Centers (IDCs) for analysis. These IDCs would automatically give out type I data (basic information) with type II data (data subjected to more advanced analysis) available upon request. Of course, even after the conclusion of a CTBT, there should be further research into the development of even more sensitive and accurate seismic monitoring equipment and analysis techniques. If the test ban treaty involved the gradual reduction of the threshold limit, then that limit should reflect current seismic monitoring technology. In addition, on-site inspections should be allowed.

Regarding compliance, a test ban treaty is of such paramount importance that violators should be punished. Yet the fact remains that embargoes would most likely have little if any effect on most nuclear states. Perhaps compliance measures will eventually rely on first convincing the superpowers, and any other nuclear states, to enter into a CTBT and then getting the superpowers themselves to ensure that their allies abide by the treaty.

Step 3: Guide to Resolution Writing

A resolution is a proposal which outlines what you think your country would do in order to solve certain issues. Remember, above all things, you are a representative of your country and you must put forward the appropriate views.

In some conferences you will be asked to prepare a resolution in advance (with your adviser's help if needs be), whilst in ELARAKI MUN, the resolutions will be built and debated during the conference.

Format

For ELARAKI MUN, resolutions should be a maximum of one side of A4 in length.

Resolutions are made up of clauses. The clauses are divided into two sections: preambulatory Clauses and Operative Clauses. The preambulatory clauses try to outline the issue that is being discussed, and draws attention to any previous attempts and efforts to solve it. The Operative clauses propose the solution that your country has decided upon. A Resolution should be able to be read as a single sentence.

) Resolutions always begin with four headings:

Committee: - write your committee name, be it Political, Economic and Social, Ecology and Environment etc.

Question of: - the issue that you are debating, as it appears in the conference's agenda.

Submitted by: - the country that you are representing (**not** your name).

Co-submitted by: - Other countries that merge with, or support, your resolution will add their names here.

) The headings are followed by your clauses:

Preambulatory Clauses - each clause should start with a **capital letter** and end in a **comma**. Leave a line between each clause to make them easier to see.

Operative Clauses - again, each clause starts with a **capital letter**, but this time should end with a **semi-colon**. Each clause should be **numbered**.

Any subclauses should be **lettered** (a, b, c, d, etc.), start with a **lower-case** letter and also end in a **comma**.

) Aiming to write **five** Preambulatory and **five** Operative might seem like a nice place to start.

) **Amendments** can add clauses to or remove clauses from your resolution, or change the wording of an existing clause.

Preambulatory Clauses

Your research will have inspired you enough to start writing something down. In the Preambulatory Clauses (or Pream) you have the chance to bring a number of things to the attention of the committee. You can let them all know how your country feels about the issue. You can inform them about what has been done in the past to tackle the issue. You can inform them about the major problems that effect any possible solutions.

If you discover a problem, you should also try and identify a solution, which belongs in the next section of the resolution.

Operative Clauses

The Operative Clauses are your chance to propose solutions. If you have researched both your country and your issue properly, then you will be fully prepared to come up with some ideas for things that may not have been tried before. Good Operative clauses set achievable goals and provide good reason for other states to agree with them.

As a rule, you might want to consider mentally pairing your Preambulatory Clauses with your Operative Clauses. If you decide upon "*Urges state to sign up to the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT)...*" as an Operative clause, make sure that your concern for the lack of nations who have currently signed the treaty is written down in your Preamble. This will make sure that the rest of the committee know why you want to implement the changes, and it might encourage them to see the seriousness of the matter that they might otherwise have missed.

There are special words/phrases which should be used at the beginning of each clause, which should be underlined. These phrases include:

Initiating Phrases

Preambulatory Clauses

<i>Affirming</i>	<i>Emphasizing</i>	<i>Having received</i>
<i>Alarmed by</i>	<i>Expecting</i>	<i>Keeping in mind</i>
<i>Approving</i>	<i>Expressing its appreciation</i>	<i>Noting with regret</i>
<i>Aware of</i>	<i>Expressing its satisfaction</i>	<i>Noting with satisfaction</i>
<i>Believing</i>	<i>Fulfilling</i>	<i>Noting with deep concern</i>
<i>Bearing in mind</i>	<i>Fully Aware</i>	<i>Noting further</i>
<i>Confident</i>	<i>Further deploring</i>	<i>Noting with approval</i>
<i>Conscious of</i>	<i>Further recalling</i>	<i>Observing</i>
<i>Contemplating</i>	<i>Guided by</i>	<i>Realizing</i>
<i>Convinced</i>	<i>Having adopted</i>	<i>Reaffirming</i>
<i>Declaring</i>	<i>Having considered</i>	<i>Recalling</i>
<i>Deeply concerned</i>	<i>Having considered further</i>	<i>Recognizing</i>
<i>Deeply convinced</i>	<i>Having devoted attention</i>	<i>Seeking</i>
<i>Deeply disturbed</i>	<i>Having examined</i>	<i>Taking into account</i>
<i>Deeply regretting</i>	<i>Having studied</i>	<i>Taking note</i>
<i>Desiring</i>	<i>Having heard</i>	<i>Welcoming</i>

Operative Clauses

<i>Accepts</i>	<i>Emphasizes</i>	<i>Reaffirms</i>
<i>Affirms</i>	<i>Encourages</i>	<i>Recommends</i>
<i>Approves</i>	<i>Endorses</i>	<i>Reminds</i>
<i>Authorizes</i>	<i>Expresses its appreciation</i>	<i>Regrets</i>
<i>Calls</i>	<i>Expresses its hope</i>	<i>Requests</i>
<i>Calls upon</i>	<i>Further invites</i>	<i>Resolves</i>
<i>Condemns</i>	<i>Further proclaims</i>	<i>Solemnly affirms</i>
<i>Congratulates</i>	<i>Further recommends</i>	<i>Strongly condemns</i>
<i>Confirms</i>	<i>Further reminds</i>	<i>Supports</i>
<i>Considers</i>	<i>Further requests</i>	<i>Trusts</i>
<i>Declares</i>	<i>Further resolves</i>	<i>Takes note of</i>
<i>Deplores</i>	<i>Have resolved</i>	<i>Urges</i>
<i>Draws attention</i>	<i>Notes</i>	

SAMPLE RESOLUTION

<p>Preambulatory Clauses</p> <p>Separate Preambulatory Clauses with commas</p> <p>Underline (italicize) initiating phrases</p> <p>Indent 5 spaces</p> <p>Operative clauses</p> <p>Number Operative clauses</p> <p>Use a semicolon to separate operative clauses</p> <p>Use a period to end a resolution</p>	<p>The General Assembly</p> <p><i>Recalling</i> its resolution 22/18 k of 24 January 1979 and 34/931 L of 12 December 1974, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/50 of 23 July 1980,</p> <p><i>Reaffirming</i> once again the special responsibility of the United Nations and the international community towards the oppressed people of South Africa and their national liberation movement,</p> <p><i>Noting</i> the great advance of the movement against apartheid and for initiating phrases national liberation and the rise in political consciousness of the oppressed people of South Africa,</p> <p><i>Condemning</i> the violence and repression by the apartheid regime against all opponents of apartheid,</p> <p><i>Recognizing</i> the need for increased humanitarian and educational assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa as well as direct assistance to the liberation movements in their legitimate struggle,</p> <p>1. Appeals to all States to provide humanitarian, educational, financial, and other necessary assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa and their national liberation movement;</p> <p>2. Urges the United Nations Development Program and other agencies within the United Nations to expand their assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa and the South African liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity, in consultation with the Special Committee Against Apartheid ;</p> <p>3. Urges all agencies within the United Nations system to ensure the participation of the South African liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity in their relevant conferences and meetings, and to provide financial</p>
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assistance for that purpose;

4. *Decides* to continue the authorization of adequate financial provisions in that budget of the United Nations to enable the South African liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity - The African National Congress of South Africa and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania - to maintain offices in New York in order to participate effectively in the deliberations of the Special Committee and other appropriate bodies.

Step 4: Lobbying and Merging

The conference process begins by presenting the point of view of your country regarding the issue of each committee. The informal lobbying will take place immediately after presenting your countries views in which delegates from different nations negotiate. Delegates from different countries sharing the same problem can start writing a draft resolution that will be submitted to the secretariat of the conference.

Not all of the resolutions will be accepted for debate. However, delegates should not be discouraged if their resolution does not reach the committee floor. Their preparation has not been wasted, for delegates can still attempt to add a few of their most important clauses to a more popular resolution. All delegates should remember that their main objective is to represent their country actively and constructively in the debates and to participate fully in the discussions.

➤ The procedure for processing resolutions

1. Discuss your draft resolution with other delegates during Lobbying and agree on additions, deletions or mergers.

2. Type up the merged resolution on a USB. (Laptops will be provided)

3. Take the USB and resolution to the chair or co-chair, who will read it and correct spelling or grammar mistakes.

5. If no changes or corrections are necessary, the chair "approves" the resolution and signs three copies. One copy of the approved resolution you must bring to the SECRETARIAT for copying and distribution. The second copy the chair keeps it. You, the delegate submitting the resolution, retain the third copy.

If the changes or corrections ARE necessary, you make the necessary changes on the USB. You deliver the USB with the changed resolution to the SECRETARIAT to print out 3 new copies. Take the 3 new copies, together with the original, hand-corrected version, back to the chair, who will compare the old version with the new to see that the changes have been

made. If the required corrections have been made, the new version is approved and you must bring one copy of it to the SECRETARIAT for copying and distribution.

If you have handed in a resolution at the chair stay close in case of questions or changes! The changes will be marked on two copies of the draft resolution.

The chair keeps one copy with the changes.

Please observe the following rules:

You may submit or co-submit only ONE resolution on any one issue.

Only resolutions, which confirm to the requested format, will be accepted.

No alterations may be made to a draft resolution between being approved and being presented for formal debate.

Step 5: Debate Procedure

The Speaker

Any delegate may speak once it is their turn and they have been recognized or acknowledged by the Chair. The speaker is said to "have the floor" and usually will speak from a podium at the front of the committee. Usually there is a set time that a speaker can have, and they may be asked to "come to their closing remarks" if they go on for too long.

The Chair should ask all delegates to raise their placards if they would like to speak, and then select a speaker from those who have shown willingness.

When starting a speech, you always have to address the chair and the house first. Therefore start a speech with something like "Honourable chair and fellow delegates..."

"Third Person"

Speaking in the "first person" (i.e. saying *I* think...) is not permitted, and the requirement to speak in the "third person" (i.e. *China* thinks..., *The honorable delegate* thinks...) is probably the most common mistake that beginner delegates make.

In the Model United Nations (as in the real United Nations and other political forums), delegates are asked to refer to themselves in the third person to make sure that they are not representing themselves personally, and instead representing their constituents.

Do not worry if you accidentally say "*I* want to make sure that....," all that will happen is the Chair will correct you once your speech is over.

Time For

In the first half of most debates, the speakers will be describing why their countries think that the resolution is a good thing. Speakers take this opportunity to highlight excellent clauses and outline why they think the issues will be tackled by this particular resolution. The delegate who submitted the resolution is usually asked to be the first speaker.

Time Against

During the second half of the debate, delegates who do not support the resolution will have their turn to "take the floor" and outline why they will not be voting for it. They may point out gaps that the resolution does not cover, or ideas that the resolution has that will not solve the problem.

Amendments

Amendments may be submitted at any time, but will usually be debated during Time Against a resolution. Amendments are a kinder alternative to voting against a resolution, as they offer a chance to alter the resolution in subtle or major ways to make it more to a delegate's liking. Amendments are debated with time for and time against.

Yielding

Any speaker during the debate can "yield the floor" to another delegate. Yielding means that you ask another delegate to take the floor after the end of your speech. It is advisable to select a speaker who will agree with and back up the points that you have made, and to that end it is also advisable to agree the yielding with the delegate beforehand.

Yielding is always at the discretion of the Chair, they have the right to decide whether or not you are able to yield. A good chair will give a reason as to why that is or is not in order. Usually yielding will be permitted, but a delegate who has been yielded to would not be allowed to yield to a third delegate.

A series of delegates yielding to each other is known as a *yield chain*.

Point of Information

Every speaker will be asked by the chair at the end of their speech if they will take questions from the other delegates. These questions are called points of information. A delegate can decide how many Points of Information they would like to answer, but the Chair will decide who asks the questions.

Point of Order

This point may be raised when you feel that a delegate or the Chair is not abiding by correct parliamentary procedure (as laid out for the conference). A point of order is not allowed to interrupt the speaker. Points of Order are usually raised when a delegate has insulted another country, made a false accusation, or in any other way contravened the rules of the conference. If

the delegate is found to be guilty, they may be asked to retract their statements or apologise, and may be evicted from the debate.

Point of Personal Privilege

This point is used to indicate personal discomforts or impediments to debate. It may be raised during the debate if, for example, you cannot hear the speaker or feel uncomfortably hot or cold. This point is allowed to interrupt a speaker, but may not refer to the content of any speech or resolution.

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

This point is used when a delegate feels as if the proper procedures as outlined on this page or in the conference handbook are not being followed or need clarification. These are usually used to clear up issues to do with voting procedures.

Voting

At the end of the debate time, the resolution as a whole will be placed up for a vote. Delegates who wish to vote in favour of the resolution (or to vote "for") are asked to raise their placards, then those who wish to vote "against" the resolution. Finally those who do not wish to vote (or who wish to "abstain") are asked to raise their placards. The votes will be counted and verified by the chair, who may also take note of who voted for and against. Submitters and co-submitters have to vote for the resolution, unless it has been amended.

Delegates are usually asked to wait until they have been told to do so before raising their placards, and likewise should keep them raised until the vote has been completed and they have been told to lower their placards. This makes sure that those who are counting the votes are able to do so properly and accurately during the first attempt without having to consider a recount.

Abstentions

Any delegation is allowed to abstain from a vote for whatever reason they choose. Traditionally, no abstentions are permitted during amendments, but are permitted at any other time. If a large number of abstentions occur in a vote, a Motion to Divide the House may be suggested, which would remove the right to abstain if it was successful.

