Resolution Writing Guide

What is a Resolution?
A resolution is an official document adopted and written by a United Nations body that expresses the expectations of the body for member nations. The goal of any general assembly committee in a Model United Nations conference is to write and pass a resolution to address the topic of the committee.

What MiddMUNC is Looking for in a Resolution
The MiddMUNC Secretariat is looking for delegates to focus on creating substantive policy recommendations while prioritizing collaboration between delegates. We understand that every delegate wants to be the sponsor of a resolution that is passed at the end of committee, but that is not necessarily a prerequisite for winning an award. Your chairs will look favorably upon delegates who work to build bridges across blocs and draft a resolution that brings together as many delegates and their ideas as possible. Bear in mind that in the actual United Nations, forming alliances and making compromises is the key to passing any resolution and we hope the same will hold true at MiddMUNC.

Resolution Terms
Sponsors- a sponsor is an author of the draft resolution. MiddMUNC general assembly sponsors are capped at four delegates so, should a draft resolution have more than four authors, sponsors should be the delegates who have contributed the most to the draft resolution.

Signatories- a signatory is a supporter of the draft resolution. All working papers must have a minimum of four signatories in order to be introduced as a draft resolution; there is no upper limit for signatories.

Working Paper- the term for a set of preambulatory and operative clauses before it has been formally introduced as a draft resolution.

Draft Resolution- the term for a set of preambulatory and operative clauses once it has been formally introduced but before it has been passed by the committee.

Amendments- clauses that are added to a draft resolution once it has been formally introduced in committee. Amendments can be either friendly or unfriendly.

Friendly amendments- amendments that are supported by all of the draft resolution’s sponsors. Friendly amendments can be written by any member of the committee and are automatically added to the resolution once the chair confirms that every sponsor supports the amendment.

Unfriendly amendments- amendments that are not supported by all of the draft resolution’s sponsors. Unfriendly amendments will be voted on by committee prior to voting on the resolution as a whole (please see the Rules of Procedure for further explanation of procedure for voting on unfriendly amendments).

Resolution- the term for a set of preambulatory and operative clauses once it has been formally introduced and passed by committee.
Components and Structure of a Resolution

Note: A resolution is basically one, unending sentence that is broken down into smaller components using commas and semicolons. Please see the template below and the sample resolution on the MiddMUNC website to see what this looks like.

Heading:

The heading for a resolution should state the committee, sponsors, signatories, and topic of the committee.

Preambulatory Clauses:

The preamble is made up of preambulatory clauses that state the issue(s) that the committee is attempting to cover but do not contain any substantive actions or recommendations.

Preambulatory clauses can cover general information about the topic, the significance of the topic, past actions taken by the United Nations that apply to the topic, etc.

All preambulatory clauses must start with a preambulatory phrase followed by the content of the clause and a semicolon at the end. Normally the phrase is italicized but as your resolutions will be handwritten they can be underlined instead. A list of preambulatory phrases that are commonly used in MUN are listed below:

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

Operative Clauses:

The operative clauses contain the substantive part of the resolution aka the solutions proposed by the committee.

Each clause should address a specific component of the issue at hand in order to allow for specificity and focus in each clause. Long or important clauses can be broken down into sub-clauses to address all aspects of a particular issue.

A resolution should have more operative than preambulatory clauses as it is the operative clauses that provide for actual policy writing (a good rule of thumb is that the preambulatory clauses introduce the issues that the operative clauses will address).

All operative clauses start with an operative phrase followed by the content of your phrase with a semicolon at the end. If an operative clause has sub-clauses then the beginning of the clause should end with a colon and the
following sub-clauses end in commas, with the last sub-clause ending in a semicolon. The last clause or sub-clause of the resolution should end in a period (this will be the only period in the entirety of the resolution. Normally the phrase is italicized but as your resolutions will be handwritten they can be underlined instead. A list of operative phrases that are commonly used in MUN are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accepts</th>
<th>Draws the attention</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affirms</td>
<td>Emphasizes</td>
<td>Proclaims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approves</td>
<td>Encourages</td>
<td>Reaffirms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorizes</td>
<td>Endorses</td>
<td>Recommends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calls</td>
<td>Expresses its appreciation</td>
<td>Regrets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calls upon</td>
<td>Expresses its hopes</td>
<td>Reminds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condemns</td>
<td>Further invites</td>
<td>Requests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirms</td>
<td>Further proclaims</td>
<td>Solemnly affirms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congratulates</td>
<td>Further reminds</td>
<td>Strongly commends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Considers</td>
<td>Further recommends</td>
<td>Supports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declares accordingly</td>
<td>Further requests</td>
<td>Takes note of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deplores</td>
<td>Further resolves</td>
<td>Trusts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designates</td>
<td>Has resolved</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Best Delegate

Draft Resolution Template

*Please use this draft resolution template when writing your own draft resolution in committee. Feel free to also consult our Sample Resolution on the MiddMUNC website under “Delegate Information” to see what a finished MUN resolution looks like.*

Committee:
Topic:

Sponsors:
Signatories:
Topic:

The Committee,

Expressing concern for the people, countries, or groups that are affected by the issue;

Bearing in mind past resolutions, specific UN legal documents, topics debated in committee;

Guided by whatever statute established the committee;

1. Calls upon member nations to take the following actions to address a component of the issue covered in Committee,
   a. First action,
   b. Second action,
   c. Third action;
2. Recommends the following parties (countries, NGOs, etc.) take a specific action to address the issue at hand;
3. Welcomes another UN body take action on a component of the issue at hand in the following manners:
   a. First action
   b. Second action.

**Amendment Templates**

*Please use the following templates when writing amendments to be added to one of the draft resolutions at MiddMUNC.*

**Add a Clause**

Sponsor(s): 
Signatories: 

Add clause (insert clause #) in Draft Resolution (insert draft resolution #):
Clause #. Text of the clause that the Sponsor is proposing be added to the draft resolution.

**Remove a Clause**

Sponsor(s): 
Signatories: 

Delete clause (insert clause #) in Draft Resolution (insert draft resolution #):
Clause #. Text of the clause that the Sponsor is proposing be removed from the draft resolution.

**Edit a Clause**

Sponsor(s): 
Signatories: 

Edit clause (insert clause #) in Draft Resolution (insert draft resolution #), which shall now be as follows:
Clause #. Edited text of the clause that the Sponsor is proposing be changed within the draft resolution.

**Example**

Sponsor: Egypt
Signatories: Brazil, Georgia

Add clause 5 in Draft Resolution 1:
5. Supports the UNHRC to establish a global media campaign in the form of advertisements on social media, popular websites, and national government websites to inform and empower average citizens in identifying and reporting misinformation and dangerous speech which would include the following:
   a. Tips for identifying misinformation and dangerous news on websites,
   b. Educating the public on how social media and search engine algorithms promote content based on interaction and that there should be mindfulness in engaging with suspected misinformation or dangerous speech;