



Guide to MUN

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What is MUN?

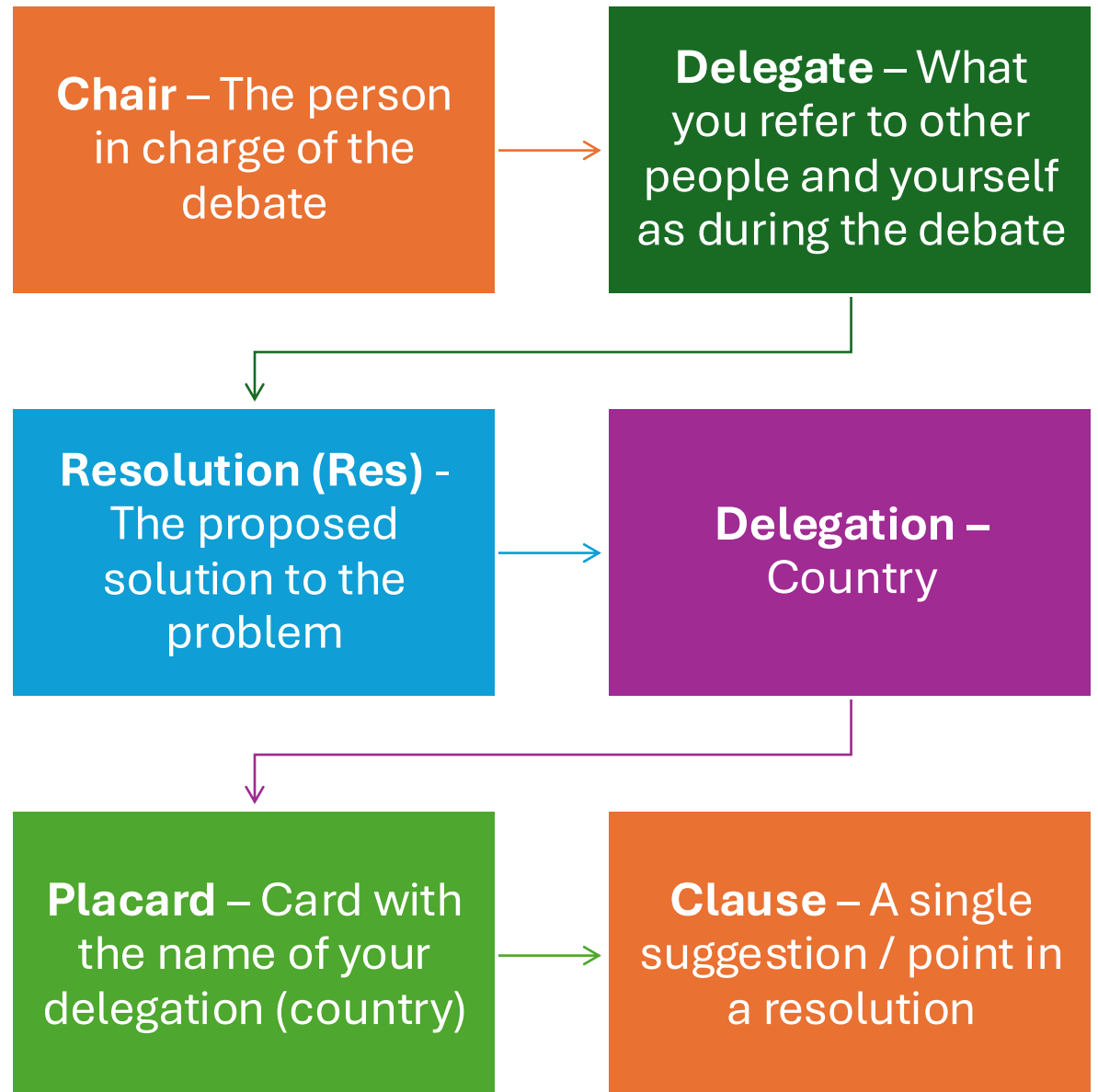
Each person is "representing" a country

The goal is to agree on a solution to a world problem

It is a formal debate (Must use "Parliamentary Language" etc.)

Fantastic opportunity to develop your public speaking, problem solving, persuasion and negotiation skills, as well as to meet new people

MUN Vocab



Guide to Resolutions – The Headers

Committee: Environment

What kind of topics you debate

Topic: The Question of Deforestation

The specific problem you are debating

Submitted by: Ecuador

The delegate / delegation who wrote the resolution

Guide to Resolutions – The Preambulatory Clauses (Preambles)

Defining deforestation as the action of clearing a wide area of trees,
Alarmed that around 15.3 billion trees are cut down each year and that it has been estimated that 35% of forests have been lost in the last 300 years,
Noting that nearly two million hectares of trees were cut down in Brazil alone in 2022,
Aware that an estimated 1.5 billion tons of CO2 are released each year due to the cutting and burning of forests,
Recalling the agreement signed by nations that hold 85% of the world's forests at the COP26 summit to end deforestation by 2030, despite a similar agreement signed in 2014 that according to experts “failed to slow deforestation at all”,
Conscious of the illegal logging practices being carried out in the Amazon and Cerrado rainforests and that up to 94% of the trees cut down in these areas may have been done so illegally, using forged permits and without due regard to tree species protected by law,
Recognising that Nations in Africa and Asia such as India, Indonesia, Tanzania, and Mozambique are also large contributors to the deforestation of natural forests,
Disturbed that some of the most commonly found goods and products such as beef, soy and palm oil drive the majority of tropical deforestation,

- Important pieces of information about the topic
- Give context
- Explain the roles of existing organisations in the problem
- Defines key terms
- Shows what is already being done
- Not incredibly important, more for use if you don't know much about the topic
- Do not take any action or make any changes

Guide to Resolutions – The Main Body

- The most important part of the resolution
- Where action is taken
- The only part of the resolution that is debated

The main clause – The main idea of the clause



1. Calls for the organisation of a new UN sub body to operate under the name the United Nations Organisation for Tracking and Regulation of Environmental Endangerment (UNTREE) to work with the UN Environment Program (UNEP), to oversee the objectives such as but not limited to:

Sub-clauses – an extension of the main clause with more details



- a) Help local law enforcement agencies to crack down on illegal logging practices by
 - i) Using arial observation to see what areas of forest have been cut down off record,
 - ii) Supply information of known criminal organisations that engage in illegal logging,
 - iii) Tailoring what resources are supplied to different regions based on their unique needs,
- b) Track the purchasing and sales of illegally sourced wood and timber products in an attempt to identify the trade rings of criminal groups,

Sub-sub-clauses – an extension of the sub-clause and effectively does the same job but for a more specific suggestion (They are quite uncommon)

How the Debate Works

1. The Main Submitter will be asked to **read a bit of the resolution**
2. The chair will allow a short period of **reading time**
3. The main submitter will make a **speech**
4. They may then open themselves up to "**Points of Information**" (**POIs**) (questions), from the floor, which they will answer.
5. The chair will select a delegate to **speak**
6. They may open themselves up to **POIs**
7. At the end, we vote on the resolution. You can vote **in favour**, **against**, or **abstain** from voting (you choose not to vote)

Conference Procedure

- **Open debate** – Speeches **for and against** and **amendments**
- **Yield** – after a speech you **choose who speaks next** (they **must speak in favour if you speak in favour, or vice versa**) - cannot be from your school
- **Amendments** – During open debate you can **suggest a change to the resolution** – add a clause, change/edit a clause, strike a clause etc. - Can also amend an amendment with an **amendment to the second degree** – change or add to it – if a second-degree amendment passes, the whole amendment passes, if it fails you return to open debate on the original amendment
- **Closed debate** – the **chairs** can **decide** if they want a speech **for or against** – no amendments
- **General Assembly** – **one** resolution **passed** by each committee is debated – **NO AMENDMENTS** – only speeches for or against and POIs. - **Yields** very useful for speaking time.
- **Voting** – On a **resolution** as a whole – can **vote for, vote against**, or **abstain** from voting – on an **amendment or second degree** amendment – only **vote for or against**.

Remember

- **You are representing a country** - refer to yourself and others in the third person (we, they, this delegate, etc.)
- **Be respectful** – Remember the work people put into resolutions and speeches – Don't make any hurtful/offensive remarks – Don't disrupt people when they're talking
- **You will not understand everything immediately** – MUN can be complicated and takes time to get used to, but it's worth it!
- **Ask Questions** – The best way to find your feet is to ask questions. Don't be afraid!
- **Enjoy Yourself!** - You are here to have fun!