

Resolution Writing Tips

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What is a Resolution?

- A resolution is a proposed solution to an issue.
- It is the document that is being debated.
- A resolution is made up of different plans to tackle an issue. These are called clauses.
- In every committee bar UNSC it is a recommendation for what the UN and nations must do i.e. it is not legally binding

Why should you write one

First and foremost, it can help you and your delegation win awards

If you have a res debated, you are guaranteed a speech

By researching for a res, you can better understand your topic

It is fun

Even if it doesn't get debated it can help you with amendments, just copy and paste from your own resolution

If it passes it could go to ga, which can help win delegation awards.

Research

Research is always the first step make sure you understand the topic and have plans to tackle the various issues.

Even if you are not writing a res, research your topics.

Find out, what has already been done, who it affects and what do the issues stem from, also what your nations viewpoint on the topic is.

There are many ways to research a topic, you can read UN and NGO reports, articles and videos from trusted media outlets, find research papers etc.

Heading

Committee: Environment



What kind of topics you debate

Topic: The Question of Deforestation



The specific problem you are debating

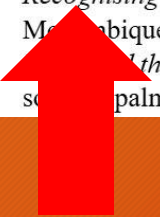
Submitted by: Ecuador



The delegate / delegation who wrote the resolution

The heading is at the top of the resolution and says what committee/forum it is what the topic (TQO) is what issue the res is tackling and Submitted by/main submitter is what delegation the author of the res is. Conferences often have different rules and procedures on how they would like it to be laid out but normally it is TQO, Main submitter, Committee.

The Preambulatory Clauses



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 Madagascar are also large contributors to the deforestation of natural forests,
Noting 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
- Pream can include stats, definitions and reference to previous UN resolutions and treaties
- Ideally a res would have between 4-8 preambulatory clauses but it can have more or less

Each preambulatory line must begin with a phrase such as "disturbed by" or "recognizing". It also must be in *italic*.

The Operative Clauses

- 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 this must always begin with a suggestive term such as "calls for," or "suggests". It must also be underlined

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

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)

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:

- 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,

The Operative Clauses-Part 2

There are many different types of clauses and the types of one you use is up to you. Read other resolutions if you need ideas for clauses. Here are some ideas that are usually in resolutions.

- The creation of a sub-body, this will normally carry out the resolution along with other tasks. It will also normally have a name E.G. United nations Tracking and Regulation of Environmental Endearment (UNTREE)
- The creation of a conference, this normally has a couple tasks it could be to, create guidelines, discusses resolutions implantation etc.
- A report - compiles information and data to help the implementation of your resolution
- A mass media campaign. This is a program to raise awareness about and issue by using adds on social media, tv and radio or articles on un.org
- A deadline. This sets out a point where the res but be implemented by like 2030 – will always be challenged no matter what date you set – even if you don't have one.

Key terms

Biennial Conference – a conference that takes place once every two years

Bi-annual Conference – a conference that take place twice a year

Public-Private Partnership- collaborations between a government agency and a private-sector company

Sub-body- an Organization that operates below a UN body with a focus on a set issue

Taskforce- group assembled to complete a specific task or address an issue.

Peacekeepers- UN's Military personnel with the role of upholding Peace agreements and protecting civilians etc.

NGO – a Non-Governmental Organisation such as charities, humanitarian organisations etc

LEDC – Less Economically Developed Country

MNC – Multinational Corporation

Notes and legalities

Please note that you are only supposed to have one full stop in the resolution and that is at the very end of the resolution.

If you want to create a taskforce, employ sanctions or deploy peacekeepers you need a referral to the UN security council

Only UNSC is legally binding, so every resolution is just a recommendation for a member state to adopt

For the purposes of MUN the UN has unlimited funding, therefore you can ignore funding constraints.

Formatting

- *Italicize* the first word in each preambulatory clause, and finish it with a comma.
- Underline the starting phrase in each clause, and end each clause with a semicolon (;)
- If a clause has subclauses and/or sub-subclauses, end each one with a comma and conclude the last one with a semicolon.
- Denote your clauses with numbers, your subclauses with letters, and your sub-subclauses with roman numerals, (i,ii,iii,iv).
- End your resolution with a full stop.
- Note that a resolution is one continuous script, so you may not use full stops in it, except for at the very end.
- Use a clear, readable font, preferably Times New Roman and a
- Standard font size, preferably 11 or 12

Tips

Have UN bodies work together. UN works off bureaucracy, and cooperation

Do not have single line clauses or sub clauses, in your clauses always explain what is being done, how it will be done, why it will be done, and what it will achieve.

Do not be afraid to add detail where needed but use your own judgement to decide whether a clause needs huge amounts of detail or works better or looks more appealing with a bit less.

Always have a UN Sub Body to oversee your resolution, whether you create a new one or use an existing organisation.

Do not be afraid to take risks! At a conference if it a big enough issue someone will submit and amendment, although it may reduce positive debate on your res.

Tips- part 2

Expand the main body of your clauses, for example if it a conference have were will it be held, how often it will be held, who is hosting it, how can people attend,

Plan your resolutions first.

Have an oversight body, it adds detail and accountability as well as showing off your knowledge

Show off your knowledge. A resolution with detail about the issue is better than one that seems just copy on past, (people will call this out.)

Make it presentable. There are people who don't read the res and just vote on how it looks

How to get it debated

After you write your res make sure you submit it on time and following the correct submunion format by the conferences ie. Word, PDF or google docs.

At a conferences you will need to get signatures. It is you get people to either sign your res with their country or sign a sheet with your reses topics and country on it. It tends to need one third of the committee. Make sure to check with your chairs

Be nice to your chairs and people in your committee. Chairs are more likely to pick your res and people are less likely to vote against it.