

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY MODEL UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

Rules of Procedure of the Security Council

S-1. Rule of Priority and Precedence. These rules are the official rules of the ASU Model United Nations Security Council and will be used for the transaction of all business before that body. Legality of proposals shall be determined according to the Charter of the United Nations unless otherwise specified by the Rules Committee.

S-2. Rules Committee and Changes in the Rules. A committee composed of the President and Legal Counsel of the Security Council and the Secretary-General reserves the right to make changes in the rules and to present them to the members at any time as they see fit. Such changes shall be made only to accommodate the desires or complaints of the members or to facilitate in some way the business of the Council. Representatives wishing to voice opinions on the rules should communicate those opinions to the President or Legal Counsel for referral to the Rules Committee.

S-3. Suspension of the Rules. Under no circumstances may the Security Council suspend any part of these rules without first obtaining the approval of the Rules Committee.

S-4. Appointment and Powers of the President of the Security Council. The President shall be appointed by the Steering Committee of the ASU MUN. The President shall at no time be accorded the right to vote. If at any time the President finds it necessary to be absent from the meeting of the Council, he/she may appoint a person to assume his/her duties until he/she returns. His/Her designate shall assume all the rights and powers of the President. The President, or his/her designate, shall preside at all meetings of the Security Council and its committees and, under the authority of the Council, shall represent it in its capacity as an organ of the United Nations. In addition to those duties and rights listed elsewhere in these rules, the President, or his/her designate, shall declare the opening and closing of all meetings, direct the discussion during the meetings, insure the observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to a vote and announce decisions, have complete control of the proceedings at any meetings and insure the observance of parliamentary procedure, propose limiting the time allowed to speakers, propose limiting the times a speaker may speak on a specific question, propose limiting the time for consideration of an agenda item and/or proposal, propose the closure or adjournment of debate, propose the suspension or adjournment of the meetings and propose the limiting of debate on the item under consideration.

S-5. Appointment of Other Officers. The Steering Committee of the ASU MUN shall appoint a Legal Counsel and a Secretary to assist the President in the performance of his/her duties.

S-6. Representation and Credentials. Each member of the Security Council shall be represented at the meetings of the Security Council by at least one accredited delegate who shall be appointed by his/her delegation's Head delegate. Seating will be made available for up to two representatives from each member nation.

S-7. Credentials of Non-Member Representatives. Any member of the United Nations not a member of the Security Council and any state not a member of the United Nations, if invited to participate in a meeting or meetings of the Security Council, may be represented by at least one delegate appointed by his/her Head Delegate. The credentials of this representative shall be communicated to the President prior to the time the representative shall be allowed to be seated. The President shall have the option of accepting or rejecting these credentials.

S-8. Non-Member Participation. Any member of the United Nations not a member of the Security Council may be invited by the Security Council to participate, without the right to vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Council when the council or President feels that the interests of that member are specifically affected, or when a member brings to the attention of the Council any matter in accordance with Article 35(1) of the Charter. Any member invited to participate in discussion of the Council may submit proposals and draft resolutions. The president shall raise the issue and the Council may decide, upon approval of the President, to accord either full or partial debating privileges to the non-member participant. The Council may also invite representatives of organizations to discuss specific matters or to make statements to the Council under the restrictions stated above.

S-9. Meetings of the Security Council. All meetings of the Security Council and its committees shall be held at the call of the President and at the time(s) and place(s) as published in the schedule of events. Any schedule may be revised by the Council and /or the President as the need arises. The President shall also call the Council into session if a dispute or situation is brought to the attention of the Council under Article 35 or under Article 11(3) of the Charter, or if the General Assembly makes recommendations or refers any question to the Council under Article 11(2) of the Charter, or if the Secretary-General brings to the attention of the Council any matter under Article 12(2) of the Charter. Unless it decides otherwise, the Council shall meet at all times in public. If the Council decides to meet in closed session, the President shall issue a communique at the end of each such meeting, approved by the members, detailing issues discussed and progress made.

S-10. **Language of the Security Council.** English shall be the official speaking Language of the Security Council. Representatives desiring to make use of another language must first acquire the permission of the President and also offer simultaneous translation into English for all members of the Council.

S-11. **Statements by the Secretariat.** The Secretary-General, or a designate acting on his/her behalf, may make oral or written statements to the Council concerning any questions under consideration. The President may accord precedence to the Secretary-General, his/her designate, or any Committee Chair, so that they may present such statements.

S-12. **Agenda.** The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the President of the Security Council. This agenda shall be communicated to the members of the Council prior to the convening of the first session, but in emergencies may be communicated simultaneously with the notice of a special meeting. The first item of the agenda shall be the adoption of a working agenda.

S-13. **Order of Consideration.** During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move to adjournment of debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the mover of adjournment, one representative may speak in favor of and one against the motion, after which the motion shall immediately be put to the vote. In order to reconsider an item which has been adjourned, a motion must be made by a representative who voted in the affirmative (i.e., voted to adjourn debate on the topic). A motion to reconsider an item by a representative who voted against adjourning debate is not allowed. In addition, a two-thirds majority must be obtained to reconsider a topic.

S-14. **Submission in Writing.** Proposed draft resolutions, amendments and substantive motions shall normally be placed before the President, in writing, for circulation to the members of the Council. The President may use discretion in this matter, due to the limited time available.

S-15. **Closure of Debate on Agenda Topics/Voting on Resolutions.** All draft resolutions are considered to be substantive and are subject to the veto. The Council may consider several resolutions on the same subject matter simultaneously and it may pass out more than one resolution on an agenda topic. In order for the council to vote on resolutions, there must be closure of debate on the agenda topic. Upon closure of debate on an agenda topic, the Council moves into voting procedure. All resolutions under the agenda topic will be voted on in the order of their submission prior to voting on the resolution they purpose to amend. At anytime prior to coming to a vote on a specific resolution or amendment, motions to divide the question may be introduced (See Rule S-8). A motion to divide the question is the only motion permitted during voting procedure. The above procedure allows the Council to consider the various issues involved in a wide-ranging single topic item, without having to deal with them all as one single complex resolution.

S-16. **Amendments.** There are no primary, secondary, or "friendly" amendments in the Security Council; there are only simple amendments. Amendments will be subject to either procedural or substantive voting procedure depending on the proposals they are modifying.

S-17. **Point Order.** of During the discussion of any matter, a representative may at any time raise a point of order, and the point of order shall be decided immediately by the President in accordance with these Rules. A point of order is raised when a representative believes that Rules of the Council are being violated; such point may interrupt a speaker. A representative may not, when so rising, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

S-18. **Point of Information.** If a representative wishes information on any matter, he/she may rise to a point of information. The point of information may not interrupt a speaker. The President shall answer the question posed. The Chair will ask the delegate if he/she will yield for a point of information at the end of his/her speech.

S-19. **Point of Personal Privilege.** If a delegate wishes to raise a question or make a request relating to the organization of the meeting, personal comfort or the conduct of fellow delegates or staff, he/she may rise to a point of personal privilege. When a delegate rises on privilege, the chair shall take such action as is necessary. A point of privilege may not interrupt a speaker.

S-20. **Speeches and Rights of Reply.** The President shall call upon representatives to speak in the order in which they signify their desire to do so. The President may, at his/her discretion, accord the right of reply to any member if a speech by another representative makes this desirable. Such a request must be submitted immediately to the President in writing and the President shall state his/her decision and the amount of time allowed for the reply. The policy of the President shall be to accord the right of reply when a speech has contained extraordinary comment bearing on national or personal dignity of a representative. The decision of the President is not debatable and shall not be put to a vote, nor is it appealable.

S-21. **Main Motions.** Under Council rules, all motions not otherwise specified in the Rules of Procedure will be considered main motions or substantive motions and are thus subject to veto. All main motions are voted upon in the order of their submission.

S-22. **Seconds.** Written seconds are required on all amendments before they may be considered.

S-23. **Withdrawal.** A motion or draft resolution may be withdrawn at any time so long as it has not been amended or voted upon in any manner. A motion or draft resolution may be taken up by any other member as his/her own after the original mover has withdrawn the motion.

S-24. **Security Council Priority.** The General Assembly may discuss but may not vote on matters concerning the maintenance of international peace and security under the jurisdiction of the Security Council until the Council has come to a vote on the issue. A suspension of discussion or action of more than six hours by the Council will be considered its final action on a particular issue, allowing the General Assembly to come to a vote. While the Security Council is exercising the functions assigned to it in Charter, with respect to any dispute or situation the General Assembly shall not make any recommendations with regard to the dispute or situation, unless the Security Council so requests. The Secretary-General shall notify the General Assembly at each session of any matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security which are being dealt with by the Council and, also shall notify the Assembly and its committees immediately after the Council has ceased to deal with such a topic.

S-25. **Matters on which the Security Council is Seized.** The Secretary-General or the President of the Security Council shall communicate each day to the members of the Security Council a summary of the matters on which the Council remains seized from the preceding meetings and of the stage reached in its decisions.

S-26. **Order of Procedure.** Principal motions and draft resolutions shall have precedence in the order of their submission. The following motions have precedence in the order stated over all principal motions and draft resolutions relative to the subject before the meeting:

1. Suspend the Meeting;
2. Adjourn the Meeting;
3. Refer any matter to a Committee or to the Secretary-General;
4. Close Debate on Item(s) Under Discussion;
5. Adjourn Discussion on Item(s) to a Certain Hour, Day, or Indefinitely;
6. Introduce an Amendment

The President may refuse to recognize a motion to adjourn the meeting if the Council has not yet completed the business before it.

S-27. **Appeal the Decision of the Chair.** If a representative raises a point of order, the President shall immediately state his/her ruling on the point. If that decision is challenged, the President shall submit his/her decision to the Council for an immediate vote, and it shall stand unless overruled by nine representatives voting for the appeal.

S-28. **Division of Proposal.** A motion to divide the question, proposing that parts of an amendment or resolution be voted on separately, is in order at any time prior to commencement of voting on a specific resolution or amendment. Motions to divide are the only motions permitted during voting procedure. Motions to divide shall apply only to operative clauses. Permission to speak on the motion shall be granted to one speaker in favor and one opposed, after which there shall be an immediate vote. The first motion for division to receive a majority vote shall become the final manner in which the proposal is presented. Those parts of the proposal which are approved shall be put to a vote as a whole. If all operative clauses of a proposal have been rejected, the proposal as a whole has been rejected.

S-29. **Conduct and Method of Voting.** Each member of the Security Council shall have one vote. Voting in the Security Council shall be in accordance with the relevant articles of the Charter and with the Statutes of the International Court of Justice. Voting shall normally be conducted by a simple show of hands. A member has the option of a Yes, No, Abstain, or Pass vote, or he/she may refrain from voting altogether. A member may request a roll-call vote on any issue. If the President concurs, the roll-call shall be taken in English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with a member chosen at random by the President. The names shall be called by the Secretary and a member may vote in any of the aforementioned manners. If a member does not answer the roll-call the first time through, he/she may not vote on the second reading. Two passes by a member shall be recorded as an abstention. The results shall be announced immediately and inserted in the record.

No request for roll-call shall be debated upon or voted upon. Once voting has begun no member may interrupt the conduct of the vote except on a point of order concerning the conduct of the vote. A member may request a change in vote only once. The President may allow a member to explain his/her vote at the conclusion of a roll-call and he/she may limit the time allowed for explanations. All matters considered by the Council must receive at least nine affirmative votes to be adopted unless otherwise specified.

S-30. **Motion to Table.** This motion may be used to lay aside current business for more pressing matters. The proposal may be tabled for a definite period of time or indefinite period to time. If tabled indefinitely, a proposal need not be acted upon prior to completion of committee business. There will be one pro and one con speaker. A majority is required.

S-31. **Motion to Take From the Table.** This motion is used for removing items from the table that have been tabled indefinitely. To be in order, other business must have been transacted since the question was tabled. It is not in order if there is a motion or proposal/amendment on the floor. There will be one pro and one con speaker. A majority is required.