

# General Assembly Procedure

## General rules

1. General Assembly is open to members of the general public.
2. During the General Assembly, the participants discuss each motion for a resolution separately in strict accordance with this procedure.
3. There should be adequate amount of time (at least 45 minutes) scheduled for each motion for a resolution to be discussed.
4. A break has to be provided after every two motions for a resolution have been discussed, with the exception that once every day three motions for a resolution may be discussed in a row and without a break.
5. General Assembly is a formal event. All participants are required to observe appropriate and respectful manners and wear formal attire.
6. The board of the International Session leads the General Assembly and has the final authority on decisions within the boundaries of this General Assembly procedure.
7. Any participant wishing to speak during the General Assembly may only do so after having been recognised by the board.
8. The content of the points made by the participants must be related to the resolution under consideration.
9. Any points made by the participants are delivered from the floor, unless stated otherwise.
10. Each committee is provided with a set of placards (abbreviation of the committee name, direct response, personal privilege, order).
  - a. The committee name placard is raised when a member of the committee would like to address the assembly.
  - b. The direct response placard is raised together with the committee name placard when the committee would like to exercise their right to use the direct response.
  - c. The personal privilege placard is raised to indicate that a member of the committee cannot hear or comprehend what is being said.
  - d. The order placard is raised together with the committee name placard when the board violates this procedure.

## Procedure

1. At the beginning of each debate, a member of the board announces the name of the proposing committee and the topic of the motion for the resolution.
2. The board then reads out any friendly amendments that have been submitted by the proposing committee. These amendments then immediately become part of the motion.
  - a. If a proposing committee wishes to submit a friendly amendment it must do so in written form through its chairperson.
  - b. The board can set a deadline for the submission of friendly amendments.
  - c. Friendly amendments may not substantially change the direction that the motion for a resolution proposes.

- d. The board makes the final decision on whether it approves an amendment or not.
3. The board then reads out any (unfriendly) amendments that have been submitted and with which the proposing committee has not agreed.
  - a. If a committee wishes to submit an unfriendly amendment it must do so in written form through its chairperson.
  - b. The board can set a deadline for submitting unfriendly amendments.
  - c. Unfriendly amendments have to improve the resolution and be constructive.
  - d. The board makes the final decision on whether it approves an amendment or not.
  - e. Unfriendly amendments approved by the board will be open for debate and must be voted on separately before the whole motion for a resolution is discussed.
  - f. Unfriendly amendments require a majority to be accepted. If accepted, the motion for a resolution stands as amended.
4. On behalf of the proposing committee, one speaker reads out the operative clauses of the resolution from the speaking platform.
5. On behalf of the proposing committee, one speaker delivers the defence speech from the speaking platform. The speech may last no longer than three minutes.
6. The board has to grant the opportunity for the delivery of two attack speeches. The board assigns two minutes to each speaker to deliver a speech from the speaking platform.
  - a. These attack speeches have to be in fundamental disagreement with the direction that the motion for the resolution proposes.
7. The proposing committee has the possibility to respond to these attack speeches. One speaker may use 90 seconds to respond on behalf of the proposing committee.
8. The board opens up the discussion on the motion for the resolution to the entire assembly. Any delegate can voice their opinion on the motion for the resolution.
  - a. Adequate time should be provided to the proposing committee so that they may react to the ongoing discussion.
  - b. Only one point at a time may be voiced.
  - c. The board moderates the discussion.
  - d. Delegates express their personal opinion on the motion under consideration.
  - e. Every committee has the right to appoint a direct response to a delegate once per debate. The appointed delegate will be recognised by the board immediately as the next speaker. The speaker has to directly address the last point made by the preceding speaker. If the speaker breaks this rule, the board will immediately derecognise the speaker and the committee loses their right to use the direct response for the remainder of the debate.
9. On behalf of the proposing committee, one or two speakers conclude the debate with a summation speech from the speaking platform. The speech may last a maximum of three minutes.
  - a. If two speakers deliver the speech, only one person may speak at a time and the microphone can be passed only once.
10. The motion for a resolution is submitted to a vote by the assembly.
  - a. Each delegate has one vote and votes in line with their personal opinion. No proxy voting is allowed.
  - b. A delegate can decide to vote either in favour, against or abstain from voting for the motion for a resolution. The board may not encourage a specific vote.

- c. A majority is required for a motion to pass, be adopted and published in a final resolution booklet. The motion for a resolution is adopted when there are more votes in favour than votes against. In the event of a tie, the motion fails.
- d. Voting is carried out by a show of hands. The board decides on the visual majority. If the result is not clearly determinable, an exact count of the votes has to be conducted.