



Canadian High Schools Model United Nations Conference

CAHSMUN

Vancouver, British Columbia | March 2nd to 4th, 2012

Historical UNSC
Kosovo Crisis

Canadian High Schools Model United Nations 2012

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Dear Delegates,

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It is an absolute pleasure to welcome you to CAHSMUN 2012 and, more specifically, to the Historical Joint-Crisis Committee. The historical committee is the only committee with the power to change the past, with the hope of building a better present. This year, the historical committee will be composed of both the North Atlantic Council and the United Nations Security Council, two of the most powerful security agencies in the world. These two councils will convene in their respective headquarters in Brussels and New York in order to discuss an issue which not only plunged parts of the world into chaos for years, but still remains unresolved today: the Kosovo War. The delegates of these councils will travel back in time to January 16, 1999. There, they will be expected to debate and deal with the issues at hand, as well as to react in a timely manner to various crises. Hopefully, you as delegates will be able to solve the issue and rectify the mistakes of the past.

The Chair for the Historical Security Council committee, Varun Banthia is a Grade 12 student at St. George's School, and has been an avid participant in Model United Nations for the past six years. Katherine Wong will serve as the Assistant Director. A senior student at Pinetree Secondary School. Her interests include international business and relations as she hopes to pursue a career in international commerce in the future. Pradeep Venkatesh, a Grade 12 student in the International Baccalaureate Program at Semiahmoo Secondary School, will serve as the committee's Director. His academic interests include operations research and game theory, and applying those skills to economics, public policy, and international relations.

Sincerely,
The Staff of Historical UNSC

Writing Position Papers

What are Position Papers?

Position papers are a reflection of the preparation that delegates put towards a Model UN conference. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned country, NGO, or expert role. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee.

CAHSMUN will reward awards to delegation with the best position paper in each committee. In order for your position paper to be eligible for awards, please follow these guidelines:

- You must submit your position paper to your committee's email no later than February 24, 2012;
- Length cannot exceed two pages;
- The font must be Times New Roman, between 10 and 12 points;
- The margins must be one inch on all sides;
- The file format must be PDF or Word (.doc and .docx);
- Each topic is clearly segregated; and
- No national symbols (e.g. flag, coat of arms) can be displayed on the position paper.

Double Delegates will only need to submit one version of their position paper.

Committee Email Addresses

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The following is a sample of an acceptable position paper.
(Courtesy of the National Model United Nations Conference)

Delegation from
The United Mexican States

Represented by
(Name of College)

Position Paper for the General Assembly Plenary

The issues before the General Assembly Plenary are: the Use of Economic Sanctions for Political and Economic Compulsion; Democracy and Human Rights in Post-Conflict Regions; as well as the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa. The Mexican Delegation first would like to convey its gratitude being elected and pride to serve as vice-president of the current General Assembly Plenary session.

I. The Use of Economic Sanctions for Political and Economic Compulsion

The principles of equal sovereignty of states and non-interference, as laid down in the Charter of the United Nations, have always been cornerstones of Mexican foreign policy. The legitimate right to interfere by the use of coercive measures, such as economic sanctions, is laid down in Article 41 of the UN-charter and reserves the right to the Security Council.

Concerning the violation of this principle by the application of unilateral measures outside the framework of the United Nations, H.E. Ambassador to the United Nations Enrique Berruga Filloy underlined in 2005 that the Mexico strongly rejects “the application of unilateral laws and measures of economic blockade against any State, as well as the implementation of coercive measures without the authorization enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.” That is the reason, why the United Mexican States supported – for the 14th consecutive time – Resolution (A/RES/60/12) of 2006 regarding the Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.

In the 1990s, comprehensive economic sanctions found several applications with very mixed results, which made a critical reassessment indispensable. The United Mexican States fully supported and actively participated in the “Stockholm Process” that focused on increasing the effectiveness in the implementation of targeted sanctions. As sanctions and especially economic sanctions, pose a tool for action “between words and war” they must be regarded as a mean of last resort before war and fulfill highest requirements for their legitimate use. The United Mexican States and their partners of the “Group of Friends of the U.N. Reform” have already addressed and formulated recommendations for that take former criticism into account. Regarding the design of economic sanctions it is indispensable for the success to have the constant support by all member states and public opinion, which is to a large degree dependent the humanitarian effects of economic sanctions. Sanctions must be tailor-made, designed to effectively target the government, while sparing to the largest degree possible the civil population. Sanction regimes must be constantly monitored and evaluated to enable the world-community to adjust their actions to the needs of the unforeseeably changing situation. Additionally, the United Mexican States propose to increase communication between the existing sanction committees and thus their effectiveness by convening regular meetings of the chairs of the sanction committees on questions of common interest. An example is the case of negative spill-over effects of economic sanctions on neighboring countries, in which affected countries additionally need to be enabled to voice their problems more effectively, as addressed in the resolution Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions (A/RES/54/107). Non-state actors have in the last years tremendously grown in their political importance, especially with regard to the international fight against terrorism. Their position and the possibilities of the application of economic sanction on non-state actors is another topic that urgently needs to be considered.



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II. Democracy and Human Rights in Post-Conflict Regions

As a founding member of the United Nations, Mexico is highly engaged in the Promotion of Democracy and Human Rights all over the world, as laid down in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. Especially since the democratic transition of Mexico in 2000 it is one of the most urgent topics to stand for Democratization and Human Rights, and Mexico implements this vision on many different fronts.

In the Convoing Group of the intergovernmental Community of Democracies (GC), the United Mexican States uphold an approach that fosters international cooperation to promote democratic values and institution-building at the national and international level. To emphasize the strong interrelation between human rights and the building of democracy and to fortify democratic developments are further challenges Mexico deals with in this committee. A key-factor for the sustainable development of a post-conflict-region is to hold free and fair election and thus creating a democratic system. Being aware of the need of post-conflict countries for support in the preparation of democratic elections, the United Mexican States contribute since 2001 to the work of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), an intergovernmental organization operating at international, regional and national level in partnership with a range of institutions. Mexico's foreign policy regarding human rights is substantially based on cooperation with international organizations. The Inter American Commission of Human Rights is one of the bodies, Mexico is participating, working on the promotion of Human Rights in the Americas. Furthermore, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights is the regional judicial institution for the application and interpretation of the American Convention of Human Rights.

The objectives Mexico pursues are to improve human rights in the country through structural changes and to fortify the legal and institutional frame for the protection of human rights on the international level. Underlining the connection between democracy, development and Human Rights, stresses the importance of cooperation with and the role of the High Commissioner on Human Rights and the reform of the Human Rights Commission to a Human rights Council.

Having in mind the diversity of challenges in enforcing democracy and Human Rights, Mexico considers regional and national approaches vital for their endorsement, as Mexico exemplifies with its National Program for Human Rights or the Plan Puebla Panama. On the global level, Mexico is encouraged in working on a greater coordination and interoperability among the United Nations and regional organizations, as well as the development of common strategies and operational policies and the sharing of best practices in civilian crisis management should be encouraged, including clear frameworks for joint operations, when applicable.

III. The Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa

The United Mexican States welcome the leadership role the African Union has taken regarding the security problems of the continent. Our delegation is furthermore convinced that The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) can become the foundation for Africa's economic, social and democratic development as the basis for sustainable peace. Therefore it deserves the full support of the international community.

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The development of the United Mexican States in the last two decades is characterized by the transition to a full democracy, the national and regional promotion of human rights and sustainable, economic growth. Mexico's development is characterized by free trade and its regional integration in the North American Free Trade Agreement. Having in mind that sustainable development is based not only on economic, but as well on social and environmental development, President Vicente Fox has made sustainable development a guiding principle in the Mexican Development Plan that includes sustainability targets for all major policy areas.

The United Nations Security Council has established not less than seven peace-keeping missions on the African continent, underlining the need for full support by the international community. In post-conflict situations, we regard national reconciliation as a precondition for a peaceful development, which is the reason why Mexico supported such committees, i.e. in the case of Sierra Leone. The United Mexican States are convinced that an institutional reform of the United Nations is crucial in enhancing durable peace in Africa. We therefore want to reaffirm our full support to both the establishment of the peace-building commission and the Human Rights Council. Both topics are highly interrelated and, having in mind that the breach of peace is most often linked with severest human rights' abuses, thus need to be seen as two sides of one problem and be approached in this understanding.

As most conflicts have their roots in conflicts about economic resources and development chances, human development and the eradication of poverty must be at the heart of a successful, preventive approach. Lifting people out of poverty must be seen as a precondition not only for peace, but for social development and environmental sustainability.

The United Mexican States want to express their esteem for the decision taken by the G-8 countries for a complete debt-relief for many African Highly-Indebted-Poor-Countries. Nevertheless, many commitments made by the international community that are crucial for Africa's sustainable development are unfulfilled. The developed countries agreed in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development (A/CONF.198/11) to increase their Official Development Aid (ODA) "towards the target of 0,7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) as ODA to developing countries and 0,15 to 0,20 per cent of GNP of developed countries to least developed countries". Furthermore, the United Mexican States are disappointed by the result of the Hong Kong Ministerial conference of the World Trade Organization, which once more failed to meet the needs of those, to whom the round was devoted: developing countries and especially African countries, who today, more than ever, are cut off from global trade and prosperity by protectionism.

With regard to the African Peer Review Mechanism, the United Mexican States want to underline that good governance is an integral part of sustainable development. Therefore, we support all efforts by African countries to make the mechanism obligatory to increase transparency and accountability in all African countries.

Committee Background

Established in 1946, the Security Council is an important body within the United Nations system. The Security Council maintains control of international peace and security. As outlined in the United Nations Charter, the Council holds authority in peacekeeping, international sanctions, and endorsement of military actions. The Security Council utilizes its influence through its resolutions upon the inclusive for instigating harmonization internationally.

The council consists of 15 Member States, five of which are permanent and exercise veto powers. The five are China, Russia, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms. The current non-permanent members are Gabon, Gambia, Malaysia, Namibia, Argentina, Bahrain Brazil, Canada, and the Netherlands. Non-members are routinely invited to take part when disputes arise and external party views are in consideration.

Adapted on September 23, 1998, Resolution 1203 echoes the provisions of Resolution 1199 vis-à-vis Kosovo. Through Resolution 1199, the Council demanded that the Yugoslavian and Albanian parties in Kosovo reach a ceasefire. Furthermore, Yugoslavia was to end hostilities so that the civilian population and international monitors were guaranteed freedom of movement. Both Serbia and the Kosovo Albanians were to take immediate actions to improve the humanitarian situation on the ground.

Resolution 827 established the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. The Security Council passed this on the May 25, 1993, and consolidated its jurisdiction over offenses against the laws of warfare and international humanitarian law in the former Yugoslavia.

The presence of the United Nations has greatly influenced the activities in the former Yugoslavia. As an body able to issue binding resolutions, the Security Council works to promote peaceful settlements of disputes and when the situation worsens, such as that in the former Yugoslavia, it does it utmost to protect civilians and implore the international community to act to end hostilities.

Topic: Kosovo Conflict

History of the Region

1919 – 1946

Under the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, the region of Kosovo was divided and re-divided into many different counties as the Kingdom underwent civil restructuring. However, the ethnic divisions within the Kingdom led to thousands of alleged killings, culminating in the Albanians within Yugoslavia to ask the League of Nations to unite Kosovo with Albania. However, the League neglected to act, and Kosovo remained part of Yugoslavia. The Kachak, an armed movement of Albanians within Yugoslavia, was formed with the intent of being annexed by Albania. As a result of this movement, many Serbians and Croats within Yugoslavia increasingly began to see the Albanians as a hostile separatist movement, further deepening ethnic divisions. During the Interwar Years, the Yugoslavian government instituted colonization programs for Kosovo, so that the relative supermajority of native Albanians within the region would be reduced. During this time period, land was illegally appropriated from Albanians, and most of the Albanians were encouraged to leave. However, the initiative failed, and the region remained staunchly ethnic Albanian.

After the outbreak of World War II, the government of Yugoslavia joined the Tripartite Pact on March 25, 1941. However, the government was overthrown soon afterwards and a new, anti-fascist government was installed. Immediately following this, on April 6, 1941, the German Army invaded Yugoslavia. The Yugoslav Army was unable to mount a counter-offensive, and collapsed within weeks, solidifying German control over Yugoslavia. Under German rule, nearly 100,000 ethnic Albanians moved into Kosovo, further increasing the Albanian majority within the region.

Resistance to the German occupation was extremely widespread within Yugoslavia during the war. In particular, the chief of the Communist Party, Marshall Josip Broz Tito, organized and led a guerrilla resistance force to fight the German Army. He garnered support from many countries, such as the United Kingdom, which sought to gain allies against Nazi Germany. The support gained by Tito and the Communist Party allowed them to consolidate power shortly after the war. However, the many Albanians within Kosovo were brutalized by the resistance, having been accused of following fascism.

1946 - 1980

After the war, the Kingdom of Yugoslavia was reorganized into the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY). It was a federation composed of the six socialist republics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia. Marshall Tito's role in the resistance allowed him and the Communist Party to consolidate power in the SFRY. Although Tito promised an independent state of Kosovo, he backed a plan for Kosovo to remain a part of Serbia so as to gain favour among the Serbian population. The constitution of the SFRY did not recognize Kosovo as an independent republic or as a semi-autonomous state under Serbia, nor did it recognize Albanian status as an official nationality. However, Kosovo was to be governed by the central government, not by Serbia.

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After the Tito-Stalin Split of 1948, Yugoslavia ended diplomatic relations with Moscow-friendly Albania, a significant blow for Albanians within Kosovo. Many Albanians were arrested during this period, having been accused of being loyal to Stalin. In 1963, the little autonomy Kosovo enjoyed was stripped away when an amended constitution placed the governing of Kosovo under the Serbian government. The Yugoslavian government quickly became neutral in the Cold War, and went on to become a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement. Due to its strategic position in Eastern Europe, Yugoslavia became key in East-West negotiations as an intermediary between the two sides of the Cold War. This led to much financial support for Yugoslavia from the West.

The Serbian government, under the leadership of Alexander Rankovic, was extremely intolerant of the Albanian Kosovars. Through the institution of varied social policies, these Albanians were repressed by the Serbian majority. In 1967, following a state visit to Serbia, Marshall Tito removed Rankovic from power, an act which caused elation within Kosovo. The new government instituted many concessions for the ethnic Albanians, including protection of language and guarantee of education for Albanian children. The pro-Albanian reforms continued and culminated in the redrafting of the SFRY constitution in 1974. This constitution made Kosovo an autonomous state, making it independent from Serbia. During this time, vast numbers of Serbians left Kosovo, increasing the percentage of ethnic Albanians living within Kosovo. However, this stunted the economic development of the region, as the Serbians were usually better educated than the ethnic Albanians. A dramatic increase in the birth rate of Albanian Kosovars also heightened the divide.

1980-1992

On March 4, 1980, Marshall Tito died in Slovenia. This greatly destabilized the SFRY, as Tito had been the country's dominant figure since its inception. After Tito's death, the SFRY was governed by a collective presidency. Amongst other effects, Tito's death devastated many Albanian Kosovars, who felt that Tito had championed the drive for Kosovo's independence for many years. A year after Tito's death, violent riots erupted in Kosovo. Ignited by student grievances over a sub-standard education, the riots quickly consumed Serbia. Many Serbian and Montenegrin citizens were beaten and killed by Albanian Kosovars. The new collective presidency was forced to declare a state of emergency within the region. Once the riots had died down, many more ethnic Serbs fled Kosovo for fear that the riots would reignite. By the middle of the decade, many extremist Albanian Kosovars were calling for an ethnic cleansing of Serbs within Kosovo.

In 1987, the soon-to-be President of the SFRY, Slobodan Milosevic, made a diplomatic visit to Kosovo. He was quickly won over by the Serbs and Montenegrins within the region, who demanded action against the Albanians accused of condoning attacks upon the Serbs. Milosevic approved a plan in 1989 to strip Kosovo of its independence, placing it back under the control of the Serbian government.

1990 began with a great amount of civil disturbance within Kosovo, as thousands of Albanian workers took to the streets to protest for their independence. Violence by the Albanian Kosovars was countered with violence by Serbian paramilitary security forces. In July 1990, the Serbian government decreed that the Kosovo Parliament was banned from meeting. In response, leaders of Albanian Kosovars proclaimed the Sovereign Republic of Kosovo, declaring it to be an separate state under the SFRY. As a counter-measure, the Serbian government imposed emergency measures with the intent of reducing the power of the Albanian supermajority within Kosovo, sometimes by violent means.

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All during this time, the economy and government of the SFRY was in shambles. The dissolution of the Soviet Union caused the SFRY to lose its key position as a buffer state between East and West, which resulted in the cessation of financial aid from the United States. Additionally, the collective presidency was seen as weak by many of the constituent states of the SFRY. This led to a rise of nationalism within these states.

Slovenia was the first of the constituent states to declare independence, which occurred June 25, 1991. Immediately following this act, the Yugoslav Army invaded Slovenia. However, after ten days of combat, the Yugoslavian government accepted the decision of the Slovenian people, and the Yugoslav Army left the newly formed Republic of Slovenia. On the same day, the Republic of Croatia declared independence. However, in contrast to the relatively bloodless independence of Slovenia, the Croatian declaration of independence ignited the Croatian War, which consumed the country. The two major factions in the war were the forces loyal to the new Republic of Croatia and those loyal to the SFRY, mostly composed of ethnic Serbs, along with local Serbian militia. Even though the SFRY officially ceased military operations in Croatia in 1992, the Serbian militia kept fighting, desiring independence for small pockets of ethnic Serbs within Croatia. The war finally ended in 1995, with total Croatian victory. The Republic of Croatia was finally established. On September 8, 1991, Macedonia declared independence from the SFRY. This declaration was relatively bloodless; aside from a few minor border changes, the declaration was accepted by the SFRY. Macedonia also remained peaceful through both the Croatian and Bosnian Wars. On March 1, 1992, the federal unit of Bosnia and Herzegovina subsequently declared independence from the SFRY, proclaiming the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Akin to the Croatian declaration of independence, the proclamation within Bosnia and Herzegovina plunged the region into war. Parallel to the war in Croatia, the Bosnian War was fought between forces loyal to the new republic and Serbs loyal to the SFRY. The Serbian militia was again unable to gain control over the lands they desired within Bosnia. The Bosnian War ended in December 1995 with victory for the Republic.

Following the cessation of the rest of the former Yugoslavian nations, Serbia and Montenegro decided to reform the SFRY into the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), with Milosevic as president. Serbia and Montenegro would remain independent republics, yet be united under the banner of the Federal Republic. The FRY was formally established April 26, 1992.

Current Situation (1992 - Present)

Growing Ethnic Tensions

Currently, the Albanian-Muslim Kosovars and the Orthodox Christian Serbs are living in a state of separation within the region known as Kosovo. The FRY government has imposed anti-Albanian measures within their country. Albanian culture has been decried within the state; Albanian is no longer recognized as an official language. The original Kosovar police force has been replaced with Yugoslav troops, who seek to keep order among dissidents. This new paramilitary force has been known to use violence against the ethnic Albanians with little to no provocation. This continuing Serbian oppression has led to the radicalization of many Kosovars, who previously believed that independence could be gained through non-violent means.

Political Strife

In March 1997, the uncovering of nationwide pyramid schemes within Albania rocked the country, creating massive strife. Albania descended into anarchy, with a resultant ten-day civil war. The situation, although leaving Albania scarred, was resolved on July 24, 1997, when the president, Sali Berisha, was toppled from power. This situation highlighted the failures of Albania, and has led many to question the viability of creating a Greater Albania and removing Kosovo from Serbian authority. The idea of uniting Albania no longer seems to be a realistic possibility to many, both inside and outside of Kosovo.

The Road to War

By the middle of 1998, many Albanians in Kosovo had become extremely worried about the situation. They saw the treatment of Albanians by the FRY paramilitary forces as inhumane and morally wrong. The passive resistance of the Kosovars ignited when, in response to an attack by the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) in the Likosane region of Serbia, FRY paramilitary forces pursued the KLA forces and started a firefight. When the dust settled, the FRY forces had killed 30 Albanian civilians. The war had begun.

Both sides of the war have committed unspeakable acts of violence, such as the Gornje Obrinje Massacre and the establishment of the Lapusnik prison. The Serbian people have whole-heartedly rejected foreign intervention in the situation, and hold that the civil war is an internal matter. The war has brought great instability to the region, forcing thousands of refugees to flee to safe havens in surrounding nations.

Foreign stances upon the war have been varied. NATO has condemned the war, issuing an "activation warning" for the FRY. This took NATO to a higher level of military readiness, preparing them to launch an aerial campaign over the region. The UN have adopted Resolution 1199, demanding that all parties in the FRY lay down arms and cease fighting.

The Račak Incident

On January 15, 1999, 45 Albanian Kosovars were killed in the village of Račak by FRY forces. It is currently unclear if they were killed in self-defence, combat, or were massacred. Early reports state that the dead include three women, one child, and several elderly men. While the FRY maintains that the dead were all members of KLA rebel forces, various human rights groups and many nations have characterized the incident as a deliberate, cold-blooded massacre.



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Questions to Consider

Should Kosovo be declared independent, remain governed within Serbia, or become a United Nations protectorate?

Should Kosovo be declared a Muslim nation?

Should the international community intervene within Kosovo?

What should happen to the Serbian minority within Kosovo if Kosovo becomes independent?

Should displaced Serbs and Kosovaars be granted a right of return and given compensation?

Should KLA and FRY leaders be tried for war crimes?

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Conference Rules

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 1 – Date of Meeting

The bodies of the Canadian High Schools Model United Nations shall meet every year in regular session.

Rule 2 – Delegations

The delegation of each Member State shall consist of no more than two representatives in any committee.

Rule 3 – Duties of the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General of the Canadian High Schools Model United Nations shall act as the highest presiding officer and shall direct the staff of all bodies. The Secretary-General may designate an officer of the Secretariat to act on his or her behalf.

Rule 4 – Duties of the Chairman

The Chairman, as a presiding officer acting under the authority of the Secretary-General, shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the committee, enforce the rules of procedure, accord the right to speak, and announce decisions. The Chairman shall rule on points of order and may propose motions to the committee. Motions shall be addressed by the Chairman upon his or her discretion. The Chairman shall accept, approve, and introduce draft resolutions to the committee.

Comment: Working papers will be submitted to the Director of each committee, who will provide stylistic and substantive edits. Working papers will be introduced to the floor at the discretion of the Director; delegates no longer move to introduce a draft resolution.

Rule 5 – Invitation to a Moment of Silence

Immediately upon the opening of the meeting, a Member State may move to observe a moment of silence.

Comment: The purpose of the moment of silence may not be directed towards a single event. For example, a delegate may dedicate a moment of silence to those affected by famine, but may not dedicate it to those affected by the 2011 famine in the Horn of Africa.

Rule 6 – Provisional Agenda

Each committee shall order the provisional agenda provided by the Secretary-General. A proposed agenda shall include all topics provided in the provisional agenda. A simple majority is required to approve an agenda order. A speakers list shall be established for the purposes of discussing the order of the agenda. Motions to set the agenda will be voted upon in the order in which they were received.

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Rule 7 – Amendment to the Agenda

A committee may change the order in which it considers topics. The Chairman may entertain one speaker for and one against a motion to amend the agenda. A simple majority is required to approve this motion.

Comment: A motion to amend the agenda will only be entertained after a topic has been closed and all related substantive matters have been put to a vote. A Member State may not move to amend the agenda during substantive debate.

Rule 8 – Quorum

The Chairman may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed or a procedural vote to be taken when at least one-quarter of the Member States are present.

Rule 9 – Speeches

No Member State may address a committee without the explicit consent of the Chairman. Member States shall address the committee in the order of the speakers list. The Chairman shall call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion. The Chairman shall establish a time limit on speeches upon the opening of the meeting and may entertain motions to amend the time limit. The Chairman may entertain one speaker for and one against a motion to amend the time limit. A simple majority is required to approve this motion.

Comment: Delegates may speak as often as they wish, but each country may only appear once in the active speakers list. For Member States with two delegates, courtesy dictates that only one delegate shall address the floor during substantive and procedural speeches.

Rule 10 – Questions to the Speaker

When the committee is discussing a substantive matter, a time limit has been placed on speeches, and the speaker has not exhausted the allotted time, the speaker may inform the Chairman that he or she will accept questions from the floor. At such time, the Chairman will recognize two Member States to pose substantive questions to the speaker in regards to the preceding speech. The speaker shall have the remaining allotted time to answer both questions.

Rule 11 – Yields

When the committee is discussing a substantive matter, a time limit has been placed on speeches, and the speaker has not exhausted the allotted time, the speaker may yield his or her remaining time to another Member State. The subsequent speaker may not yield any additional time. Representatives may not yield to another representative of the same Member State.

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Rule 12 – Closing of the Speakers List

The speakers list may be closed at any time upon the majority vote of the Member States present and voting.

Comment: When a speakers list is exhausted, debate automatically ends and the committee automatically enters into voting procedure.

Rule 13 – Reopening of the Speakers List

The speakers list may be reopened upon a motion from an Member State as long as there are active speakers on the speakers list at the time of the motion. The Chairman shall entertain one speaker in favour and one opposed to this motion. A simple majority is required to approve this motion.

Rule 14 – Right of Reply

If a speaker has impugned the national integrity of another Member State or Observer, or the personal integrity of another representative, the Chairman may allow that Member State or representative appropriate speaking time to exercise the right of reply.

Comment: The delegate must submit a written statement to the Director at the conclusion of the remarks in question, explaining why a right of reply is warranted. The Director will approve or reject the right of reply; if approved, the Director will ask the delegate to read the same written statement to the committee.

Rule 15 – Point of Order

A Member State may rise to a point of order to bring attention to the Chairman an error in the execution of the rules. The representative may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Comment: Delegates should allow the courtesy of letting the speaker finish before rising to a point of order; nonetheless, we recognize the need to interrupt the speaker. The point of order will be the only point recognized at CAHSMUN in order to reflect the actual United Nations procedures as much as possible and to reduce the frequency of filibustering. If a delegate wishes to rise to a point of parliamentary inquiry or a point of personal privilege, he or she should communicate privately with the Director.

Rule 16 – Appeal of the Chair

A Member State may appeal a discretionary ruling of the Chairman. The representative may explain the nature of the appeal and the Chairman may explain the basis of his or her ruling. A simple majority is required to overturn the discretionary ruling of the Chairman.

Comment: A “Yes” vote means that the delegate wants to overrule the decision of the Chairman, whereas a “No” vote means the delegate agrees with the discretion of the Chairman.

Rule 17 – Suspension of the Meeting

A Member State may move to suspend the meeting for a specific amount of time. A simple majority is required to suspend.

Comment: Suspensions are used for caucusing and breaks between sessions. Based on his or her judgement of the committee's progress, the Director may suggest an alternative amount of time for the suspension. In order to reflect actual United Nations procedures and to reduce the frequency of filibustering, all suspensions will be "unmoderated." Provisions for moderated debate is set out in Rule 18.

Rule 18 – Moderated Debate

At any point after a draft resolution has been introduced, a Member State may move to enter moderated debate on a draft resolution. The motion to enter moderated debate must specify the draft resolution. A simple majority is required to pass this motion.

Comment: During a moderated debate, the speakers list is temporarily suspended and the Director will identify each speaker from those wishing to speak. During a moderated debate, the discussion may only pertain to the draft resolution in question and should be used for clarification and discussions of amendments in a more structured setting.

Rule 19 – Closure of Debate

A Member State may move the closure of debate on the topic under consideration. The Chairman shall recognize only two Member States opposing the closure to speak. A two-thirds majority is required to pass this motion, and if passed, the Chairman shall declare the topic closed.

Comment: When debate is closed on a topic, the committee immediately goes into voting procedure and consider all draft resolutions and amendments on the floor. Motions to close debate are generally ruled dilatory until there has been substantial discussion on the topic.

Rule 20 – Adjournment of Debate and Reconsideration

A Member State may move to adjourn debate on the topic under consideration. The Chairman shall recognize two Member States in favour of and two against to speak. A simple majority is required to pass this motion. If this motion passes, the body will begin discussion on the following topic on the agenda without deciding on the adjourned topic.

A Member State may move to reconsider a topic that has been adjourned. The Chairman shall recognize one Member State in favour of and one against to speak. A two-thirds majority is required to pass this motion.

Comment: Adjournment of debate is used to end discussion on a topic without voting and move on to the next item of the agenda. If an adjourned topic is approved for reconsideration, it shall be placed as the following topic on the agenda after the discussion on the current topic expires.

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Rule 21 – Adjournment of Meeting

A Member State may move to adjourn the meeting and reconvene the body at the next scheduled date. A simple majority is required to adjourn the meeting.

Comment: This motion can only be used during the last committee session and during the closing ceremonies.

Rule 22 – Resolutions and Amendments

Resolutions and amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Chairman, who shall circulate copies to Member States upon approval. No resolutions or amendments shall be voted upon unless copies have been distributed to the body.

Comment: All working papers must be submitted to the Director, who may provide substantive and grammatical edits on the paper and return it to the authors before approving it to be a draft resolution. The number of sponsors and signatories must add up to 20% of the quorum of the committee or five Member States, whichever number is greater. Sponsorship indicates support for and agreement with the working paper or amendment. A signatory does not necessarily support or agree with the document; this Member State simply wishes the document to be discussed. Working papers, as they are unofficial documents of the committee, will not be distributed by the Director and cannot be referred to in speeches.

Rule 23 – Voting Rights

Each Member State of the United Nations shall have one vote.

Comment: Observer delegations may note on procedural motions but not on substantive matters. Member States with two representatives still have one vote.

Rule 24 – Presence

A Member State who is “present and voting” shall only cast an affirmative or negative vote in substantive matters. A Member State who is “present” may choose to abstain in substantive matters. All Member States may only vote in the affirmative or the negative in procedural matters.

Rule 24 – Method of Voting

All motions, draft resolutions and amendments, unless specified in the Rules of Procedure, require a simple majority to pass. If a vote is equally divided, that motion, draft resolution, or amendment fails. A two-thirds majority is required for certain motions. Abstentions do not count as votes for the purposes of determining a simple or two-thirds majority. All votes shall take place by a show of placards.

A Member State may request a roll-call vote on a draft resolution or amendment. The roll-call vote shall take place in the English alphabetical order of the names of the Member States, beginning with the Member State who requested the roll-call vote. Unless a Member State is “present and voting”, each Member State may choose to vote “yes”, vote “no”, or abstain. (continued on next page)

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All Member States may also choose to “pass” and when the Member State is called upon a second time to cast a vote, the representative may only vote in the affirmative or the negative. A roll-call vote is granted upon request and does not require a decision from the body or the Chairman. At the discretion of the Chairman, Member States may explain their vote (yes, no, or abstain) after a roll-call vote. Sponsors to the draft resolution or amendment may not explain their vote after a roll-call vote.

Rule 25 – Conduct during Voting Procedure

Once the Chairman announces the beginning of voting procedure, the meeting room shall be closed and remain closed for the duration of voting procedure. Proper decorum shall be observed by Member States. Member States may only speak upon the Chairman’s request for points or motions.

Rule 26 – Amendments and Divisions of the Question

Amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Chairman before the commencement of voting procedure and shall be entertained first for each draft resolution. If there are several amendments under consideration, those that are “friendly” shall be automatically incorporated into the draft resolution without a vote. The Chairman shall order the “unfriendly” amendments in the order of most destructive to least destructive. A simple majority is required to approve “unfriendly” amendments.

After the incorporation of amendments, A Member State may move to divide certain operative clauses of the draft resolution. The intent of such a division is to highlight the operative clause(s) in question.

1. The Chairman shall recognize two speakers in favour of and two speakers against such a division. A procedural vote will take place to determine if the body wishes to proceed with such a division.
2. If the procedural vote passes, the body shall then consider the placement of the clause(s) in question in a substantive vote. If this vote passes, the clause(s) will be placed in the Annex of the draft resolution. If this vote fails, the clause(s) will be discarded.
3. If the procedural vote fails, the clause(s) in question will remain in the main text of the draft resolution and no further vote will take place on the motion.

Only operative clauses can be subjected to amendments and divisions of the question. Member States may only divide entire operative clauses.

Rule 27 – Voting on Draft Resolutions

Draft resolutions for a topic shall be considered in the order in which the Chairman had recognized them as official documents of the body.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

Motion	Purpose	Debate	Vote	Explanation
Point of Order	Correct an error in procedure	None	None	
Appeal the Decision of the Chair	Challenge a decision of the Chair	None	Majority	Applicable to the Chair's discretionary decisions
Suspension of the Meeting	Recess for a defined period of time	None	Majority	Go into unmoderated caucus
Moderated Debate	To discuss the clauses of a draft resolution	None	Majority	Moderated debate is only applicable once DRs are on the floor
Closure of Debate	To conclude topic by entering into voting procedure	2 con	2/3 rd	End discussion on current topic
Adjournment of Debate	To conclude topic without voting	2 pro/2 con	Majority	Should only be used on the final day
Reconsideration	To reopen debate on an adjourned topic	1 pro/1 con	2/3 rd	The reopened topic will be placed next on the agenda
Adjournment of Debate	To conclude the conference for the year	None	Majority	Can only be used during the last committee session
Division of the Question	To consider clauses in question separately from the rest of draft resolution	Part 1: 2 pro/2 con Part 2: None	Part 1: Majority Part 2: Majority	Motions will be voted upon in the order of most destructive to least destructive
Roll Call Vote	Vote by roll call instead of a show of placards	None	None	Automatically granted
Set Speakers Time	To set the time allowed for speeches	2 pro/2 con	Majority	Default is 60 seconds - should only be moved upon the suggestion of the Director
Close/Reopen the Speakers List	To alter the status of the speakers list	None	Majority	When closed, no additional Member States will be added and if the list exhausts, committee enters voting procedure
Adoption of the Agenda	To approve the agenda for the committee	None	Majority	Motion should include the order for all topics under consideration

DIVISION OF THE QUESTION: A VISUAL EXPLANATION

