



2021 Orientation Webinar – all delegates

18 March 2021

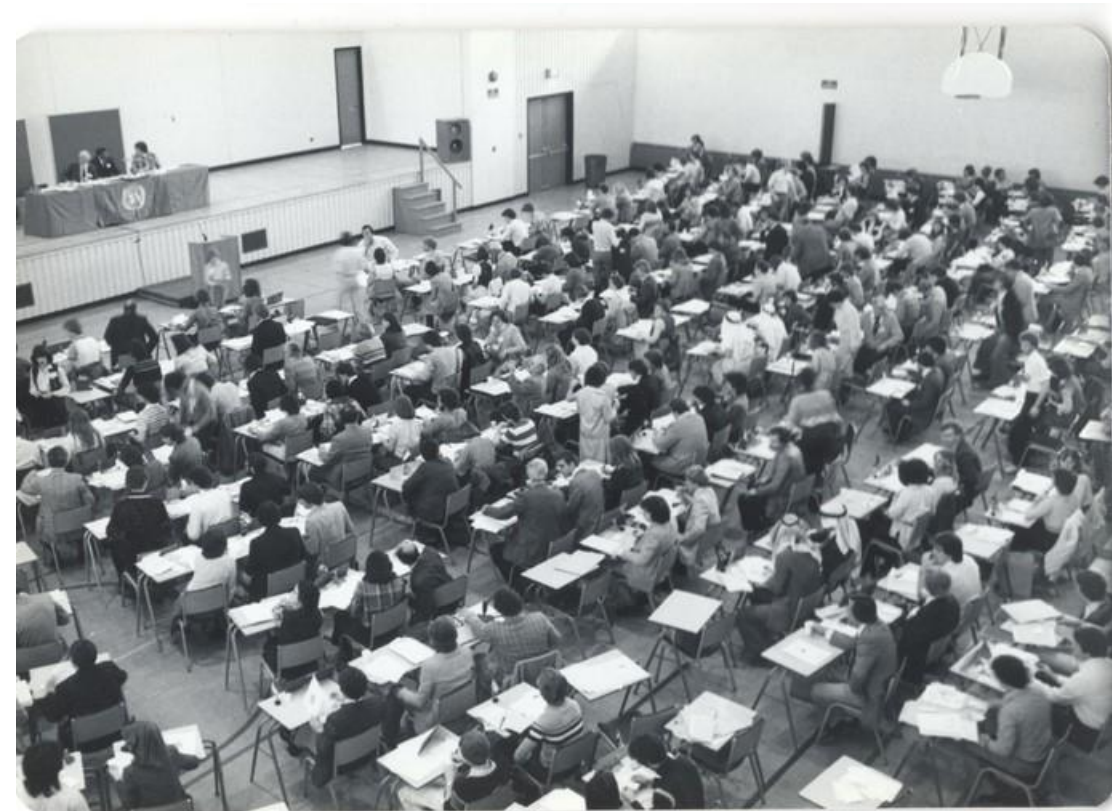
| Time | Topic |
|-------------|---|
| 7.5 min | Part I: Welcome and Intro to the Winnipeg MUNA |
| 7.5 min | Part II: Understanding the UN General Assembly |
| 30 min | Part III: The MUNA Experience at a Glance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening Plenary Session• Initial Committee Meeting• Informal Consultations• Final Committee meeting• Closing Plenary Session• Rules of procedure and proper conduct |
| 15 min | Part IV: Questions |

Part I: History of the Winnipeg MUNA

“I believe participating in the Model UN was one of the formative experiences of my youth.”

Dr. Lloyd Axworthy,
Chair – World Refugee Council,
Former Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Nobel Peace Prize Nominee,
Graduate of first Winnipeg MUNA

**63 years simulating debate of
global issues in the United Nations
General Assembly**





2019 Winnipeg MUNA
78 delegations from
Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario,
North Dakota, Minnesota



Part II: Understanding the UN General Assembly


Resolutions, Not Laws

- The UN Charter does not allow the General Assembly to enforce its decisions.
- **General Assembly (GA) ★ resolutions are not legally binding.** They are nothing more than recommendations (i.e., resolutions).



Wide view of the General Assembly Hall. UN Photo/Manuel Elias

Voting in the GA has its challenges

- The consequence of adopting a resolution by vote is that only a simple majority needs to agree on the text of a resolution.
- The majority doesn't need try to understand the perspectives of the minority who disagree, nor even care about these perspectives.
- **Such a process can be divisive and does not encourage negotiation to find common ground.** 

The Consensus Approach

- **Experience has shown that reaching the best way for resolution to be implemented by the most Member States is for all to agree on the same text,** ★
- This is called achieving a consensus
- When adopting resolutions by consensus, one needs to be concerned about the viewpoint of every country and engage in negotiations that often result in compromises so that different points of view are taken into consideration.
- This process is both inclusive and collaborative.



“When the UN was created in 1945, there were only 51 Member States and resolutions were adopted [mostly] by a vote.

Today, in contrast, there are 193 Member States and roughly 80% of the General Assembly resolutions are adopted by consensus, that is, without taking a vote.”

Drafting Resolutions

- Most draft resolutions are initially written by a Member State or group of Member States (e.g., Group of 77 and China).
- If there is more than one sponsor of a draft resolution, the resolution is tabled by the “**main sponsor**”



General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 October 2015

Seventieth session
Agenda items 15 and 116

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.1)]

70/1. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly

Adopts the following outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda:

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Preamble

This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world on to a sustainable and resilient path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve. They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the



Part III: The MUNA Experience

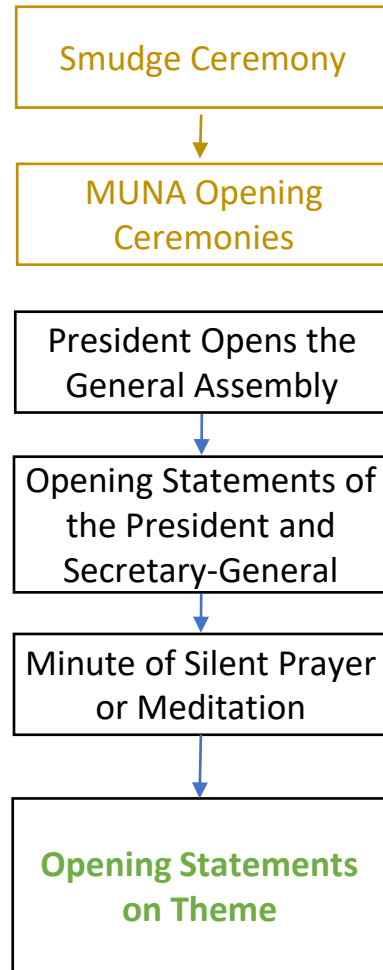


**Visit the “How MUNA Operates”
webpage**

<https://winnipegmuna.ca/how-muna-operates/>

Opening Plenary - Day 1 (9-10:45am)

General Assembly Zoom Link



Opening Plenary Speeches (1.5min each)

- **Country statement** addressing the MUNA 2021 theme of “Equality, Stability and Security”
 - Focus on your country
 - Briefly introduce new resolution (if desired)
- **Right of Reply:** only granted if there is a remark made by a delegation that is clearly offensive to another delegation. If a delegation simply disagrees with a statement made but the statement was not explicitly directed at another Member State, the President or Chair can deny the request.

Initial Formal Committee Meetings – Day 1 (after morning break)

First Committee Zoom Link

Resolution #1: Advancing responsible state behavior in cyberspace for international security

Second Committee Zoom Link

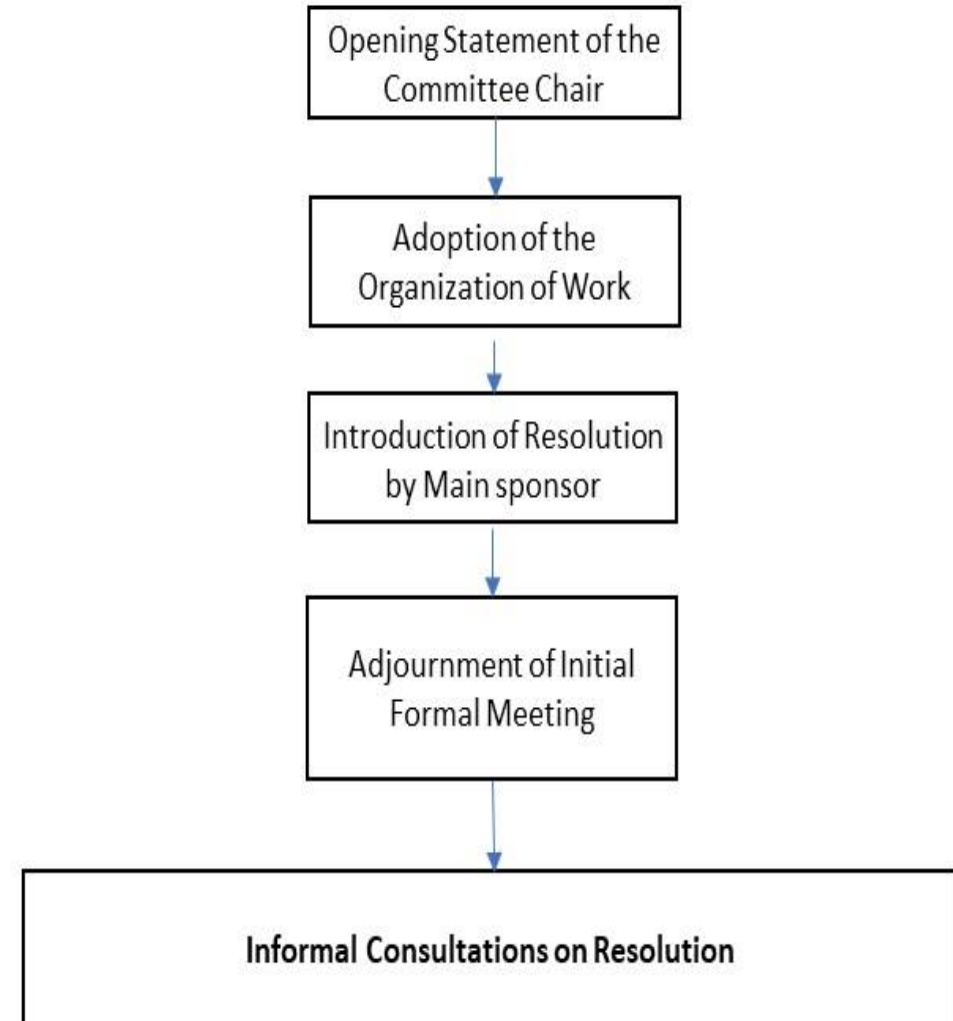
Resolution #2: A comprehensive and coordinated response to the coronavirus disease.

- One delegate must register for First Committee Zoom meeting and the other registers for the 2nd Committee Zoom meeting.
- Counsellors can register for both and move between meetings



Organization of Work for Initial Committee Meeting

Resolution #1 in the First Committee and
Resolution #2 in the Second Committee



Informal Consultations to Consider Draft Resolutions

Part I – Breakout Groups

(Remainder of Day 1,
before and after lunch)

Formal rules of procedure suspended.
But proper and respectful conduct rules always
apply

First Committee Zoom Link

- Breakout Rooms A, B, C, D
- Know which group you are in.

Second Committee Zoom Link

- Breakout Rooms A, B, C, D

Informal Consultations – Day 1

Part 1: Breakout
Groups to Draft
Operative Paragraphs

Opening Remarks of the
Vice-Chairperson

Assignment of Sub-topics

Breakout Groups to Draft
Operative Paragraphs

*We'll come back to this
later in presentation*



Breakout Groups



Informal Consultation – Part I

Breakout Groups to Draft Operative Paragraphs

- **Identifying your group:** listed on resolution
- **Task:** To develop up to two operative paragraphs for your group's sub-topic. Preambular paragraphs may also be added if desired.
- **Allotted time:** 1 hour and 15 minutes
- **Method:**
 - One delegate pre-assigned as a group facilitator
 - 5 minutes of individual time to reflect
 - Sharing of ideas
 - Reach consensus on best two ideas



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Anatomy of a Resolution

Syntax

2019
MUNA Resolution #1: Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 71/29 of 5 December 2016 and 72/24 of 4 December 2017 on the establishment of a nuclear weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also its resolution S-10/2 of 30 June 1978 which outlines a Programme of Action to achieve the goal of general and complete disarmament,

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, in which all parties declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party,

Emphasizing also that the peace negotiations in the Middle East should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Emphasizing further the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy,

1. **Directs** Member States directly concerned seriously to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,
2. **Strongly encourages** Member States in the region to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,
3. **Calls upon** Member States in the region that have not yet done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,
4. **Invites** Member States, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices,
5. **Demands** the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution,
6. **Urges** all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament in the region of the Middle East.

Title

Preambular
Paragraphs

Operative
Paragraphs



Operative Sub-topics for Resolution #1

Cybersecurity

Sub-topics

- **Group A:** Action related to **urgency and existing and future treaties and resolutions**
- **Group B:** Action related to **preserving and protecting government systems**
- **Group C:** Action related to specific **international cooperation**
- **Group D:** Action related to **creating resilient technological and cybersecurity systems.**

Descriptions

Actions re-affirming other treaties or UN resolutions relevant to the cybersecurity issue

Actions to dealing with identifying the resources necessary to protect government systems

Actions related to creating the mechanisms necessary for multilateralism, or utilizing existing international organizations/alliances.

Actions related to developing systems that can withstand the threats.

Operative Sub-topics for Resolution #2

COVID-19

Sub-topics

- **Group A:** Action related to **multilateralism**
- **Group B:** Action related to **creating resilient health systems**
- **Group C:** Action related to addressing **access to education and combatting misinformation.**
- **Group D:** Action related to **providing economic supports**

Descriptions

Actions related to country efforts for international cooperation to ensure equity and fair access

Actions related to country efforts for enhancing health systems able to cope with the pandemic

Actions related to ensuring the credibility of the scientific community is prioritized and protected and that all children have access to education.

Actions related to ensuring that economic supports for health systems, scientific research and mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 are available.

Informal Consultations to Consider Draft Resolutions

Part II – Line by Line Review

(Remainder of Day 1,
before and after lunch)

Formal rules of procedure suspended.
But proper and respectful conduct rules always
apply

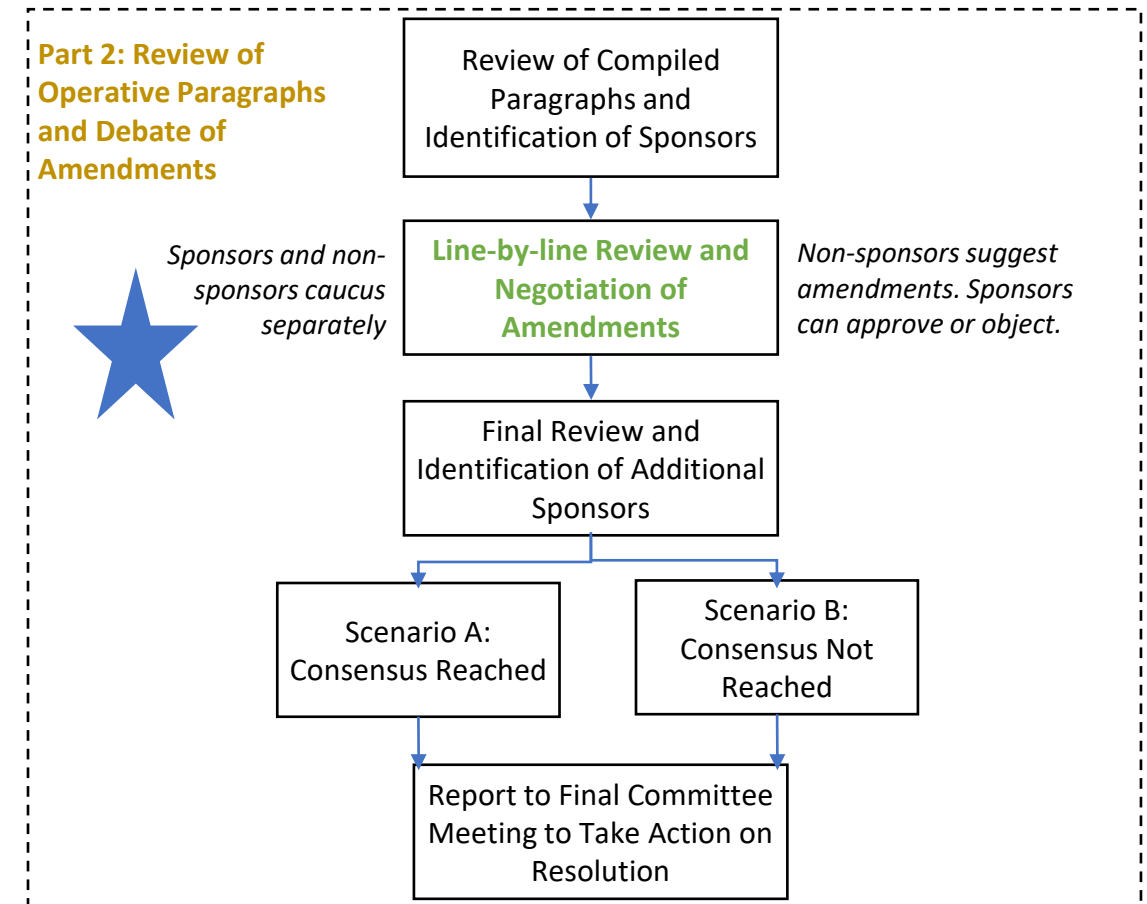
First Committee Zoom Link

- One meeting for all

Second Committee Zoom Link

- One meeting for all

Informal Consultations – Day 1



Informal Consultation – Part II

Line-by-Line Review and Striving for Consensus

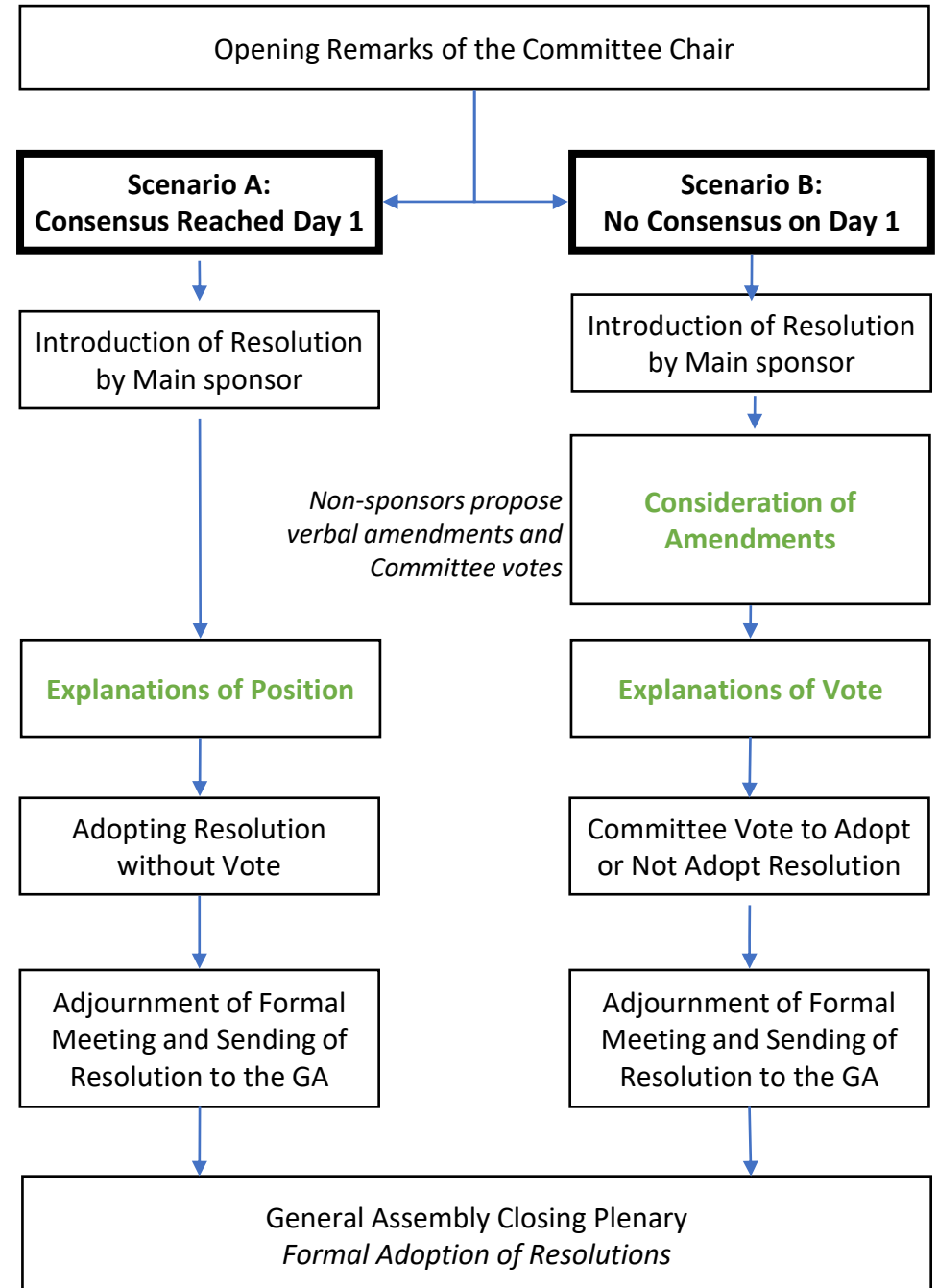


- Ten minutes to review full text
- Vice-chair will ask which countries would like to be added to the list of sponsors for this resolution (this means you generally support it as currently worded).
- Non-sponsors will get a chance to suggest changes
- Sponsors can object to a change and explain why
- If needed on certain amendments, the vice-chair will create breakout rooms so the sponsors and non-sponsors can caucus
- **Work toward consensus**

Final Committee Meetings to Take Action on Resolution

- Resolution #1 by First Committee
- Resolution #2 by Second Committee
- **Formal rules of procedure now apply.**

Final Committee Meeting – Day 2 (morning)



General Assembly Closing Plenary

General Assembly Zoom
Link (same as Day 1)

Closing Plenary - Day 2

2 min

President Opens the
Closing Plenary

58 min

**Taking Action on
Resolutions 1 and 2**
* *Rapporteur Report*
* *Explanations of Position/Vote*
* *Adoption*
* *Right of Reply*

[LUNCH, Noon-1:00pm]

45 min

**Consideration of New
Resolutions (Serious)**
* *Selection of resolutions*
* *Introduction by sponsor*
* *General debate*
* *Reply by sponsor*

[BREAK, 1:45-2:00pm]

35 min

**Consideration of New
Resolutions (Fun)**
* *Selection of resolutions*
* *Introduction by sponsor*
* *General debate*
* *Reply by sponsor*

10 min

* *Closing Statements by
DSG and President*
* *Adjournment*

30 min

* *MUNA Closing
Ceremonies & Awards*
* *MUNA debrief and
nominations for 2022
Student Organizing
Committee*

Consideration of New Resolutions

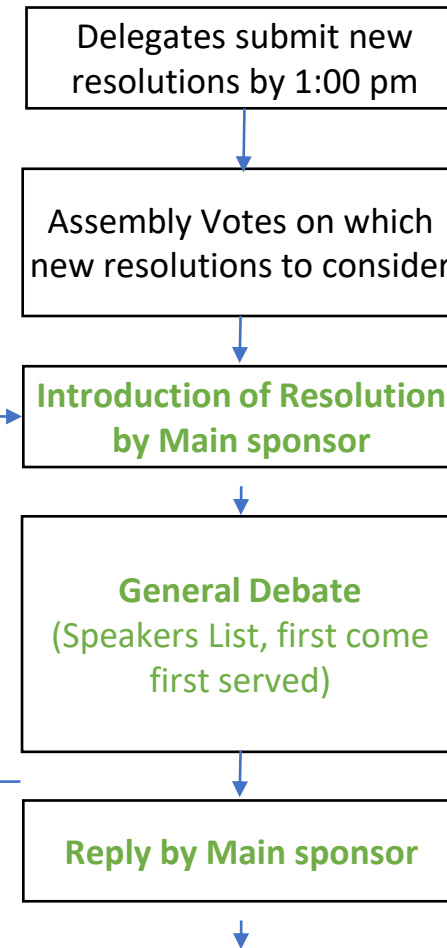
- Serious and Fun Topics
- Delegates must email new draft resolutions to Secretariat by 1:00pm on Day 2 using template provided (see website)
- Each new resolution must have a main sponsor and at least one co-sponsor
- Must have both a preambular and operative section

Guidance on the form and syntax of General Assembly resolutions is available at:

<https://outreach.un.org/mun/content/drafting-resolutions>



Repeat for two or three serious resolutions and one fun resolutions



Understanding MUNA Rules of Procedure

- **Review the MUNA Rules of procedure in advance**
 - <https://winnipegmuna.ca/how-muna-operates/muna-rules/>
- **Speaking time limits**
 - Opening Plenary – 1.5 minute
 - Closing Plenary (3 minutes for Rapporteurs)
- **Addressing the Assembly or Committee**
 - No one may intervene in the debate (i.e. speak so as to be heard by the conference) without having been given the floor by the Chair. Delegates must address their remarks to the President of the GA or Chair of a Committee, although everyone understands that what they say is meant for the whole conference.
 - Say “Mr. President/Chair” or “Madame President/Chair”. This should be used instead of “Honourable President” or “Honourable Chair” which are never used at the real the United Nations.
- **Right of Reply** (one minute) – only in response to an official statement that is clearly offensive.
- **Point of Order**– Delegate can raise a point of order if he/she believes the President or Chair is not following the Rules of Procedure.

Rules of Proper Conduct at MUNA



- **All discussions between delegates must adhere to proper respectful conduct.** This applies to discussions during the formal MUNA sessions either in person or via Chat/messaging and during breaks and off-hours. Disrespectful, hurtful and hateful communication with your fellow student delegates or to CMU students, staff or guests is not tolerated at MUNA.
- Complaints should be directed to your counsellor, who will then direct it to one of the MUNA organizers
- Under a zero-tolerance policy, a student found in breach of conduct will be removed from MUNA by the organizers.



Questions?

