# The official IaşiMUN RULES OF PROCEDURE

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# **Foreword**

This document is meant to get you up and running for everything that is bound to happen in this edition of IaşiMUN, whether you are a Chairperson, Delegate, or otherwise. MUN-type conferences (Model United Nations) aren't just simple debates. A conference like this academically simulates the meetings of the UN and aims to challenge delegates on big stages such as legal questions, health problems, security issues, crises, human rights affairs, and also economic and social matters. During a MUN, every participant has the chance of being the delegate of a certain country, representing it in one of the 6 committees:

- 1. The Legal Committee;
- 2. ECOSOC (The Economic and Social Council);
- 3. The Crisis Committee;
- 4. UNHRC (The United Nations Human Rights Council);
- 5. WHO (The World Health Organisation);
- 6. UNSC (The United Nations Security Council).

A MUN far exceeds one's ability to debate, almost immediately triggering an emotion that is described differently by every "MUNer". Each delegate must do their research on the topic to make sure they respect their country's position, perspectives, and policies while trying to find viable solutions for the given issues and write their set of solutions. In a way, MUNs turn a debater into a diplomat, and transform the act of debate into a unique form of strategic role-playing.

For the first time in the history of IaşiMUN, we have finally fully updated the Rules of Procedure, after we observed that most of our former delegates expressed their desire for a change in the course of the debate. Moreover, not only is the new procedure designed similarly to the other important conferences in our country, but it also covers even the smallest issues that could appear in the committee, hence not letting anything be open to interpretation. We do hope that these brand-new rules of procedure are as objective as possible and that they will stimulate entertainment in the committee. That being said, it is our absolute interest that you understand what you have to do in what is about to come in your MUN adventure.

Ştefana Popa, IaşiMUN Secretary-General 2021 Victor-Adrian Roşca, IaşiMUN Deputy Secretary-General 2021

# **Rules of conduct**

## Standards of behaviour

Participants of IaşiMUN are expected to be respectful towards others in the interest of productive discussion and learning. They are also representatives of themselves, their schools, place of origin, and country. Therefore, participants will be held to the highest standards of behaviour, inclusive of the following rules and procedures of the Conference.

- 1. The official language of IaşiMUN is *English* and all delegates are expected to communicate in English during the Conference, without exception. Profane language is strictly prohibited and insults against other participants (direct or otherwise) are forbidden.
- 2. The **Dress Code** for the Conference is <u>strictly formal</u> with **black and white** apparel <u>only</u> (except for social events).
  - 3. Smoking is prohibited on the school premises.
- 4. Alcohol consumption, use, as well as being under the influence of alcohol or other substances which cause a state of ebriety is <u>strictly forbidden</u> during the Conference.
  - 5. Delegates are expected to be familiar with the rules of procedure of IaşiMUN.
  - 6. Use common sense and treat the Conference space respectfully.

<u>Note</u>: Misconduct (especially Rule 3 and/or 4) can and will result in the immediate dismissal of the participant from the Conference.

# The Warning System

Delegates will receive 3 warnings for misconduct:

- 1. On the first warning, no punitive action will be taken;
- 2. On the second warning, the delegate will lose the right to speak;
- 3. On the third warning, the delegate will lose the right to vote;
- 4. On the fourth warning, the delegate will be immediately removed from the Conference.

# **Definitions**

- 1. A **MUN Conference** is an academic simulation of the United Nations where students play the role of delegates from different countries and attempt to solve real-world issues with the policies and perspectives of their assigned country. Technically speaking, a MUN is like an improvised play, where everyone has to play a different role.
- 2. A **Committee** is the assembly of countries whose delegates are debating specific topics while being moderated by a Chairperson.
- 3. A **Delegate** represents the Member State in the Committee they are assigned to and follows their country's policies and perspectives in finding a solution to the given topics.
- 4. **The Quorum** signifies the minimum number of delegates who need to be present to open the Committee Session for debate. The Quorum is met when at least one-third of all delegates in the Committee are present at the Committee Session.
- 5. **Chairpersons** (abbr. **Chairs**) are the people in charge of moderating the committee debates, setting debate times, asking for motions, writing the topics for their committees, assigning countries to delegates, and helping delegates write draft resolutions. There are typically 2 or 3 Chairs per committee.
- 6. A **Draft Resolution** represents the set of solutions proposed for a specific topic. A resolution can address only one topic. There must be at least 2 resolutions (which have different approaches towards solving the specific issue) per topic, depending on the committee (check the Security Council procedure). More information regarding resolutions and how to write them will be provided later in this document.
- 7. A **Signatory List** is the document representative of one resolution that must be signed by at least a simple majority of delegates to make the Chairpersons recognise that resolution and make it eligible.
- 8. A **Main Submitter** is the delegate who has helped the most in writing the clauses of a resolution and whose country is most interested in solving the issue.
- 9. A **Co-Submitter** is an assistant of the Main Submitter, no more than three Co-Submitters are allowed to sign the same draft resolution.
- 10. An **Amendment** is a modification, for the resolution being debated, suggested by a delegate. Amendments will be discussed more in-depth further in this document.
- 11. **Notes** are (private) messages that can be sent from a delegate to another or from a delegate to a chair (and vice versa in both cases) which *should* have the main subject be the

debate or the Conference itself. They are expected to be written in English and can be sent *only if* the chair(s) stated that "**Note passing is in order**".

- 12. **Junior Administrative Staff** are the students responsible for passing notes from a delegate to another, counting votes, and serving delegates with cups of water or other such miscellaneous tasks.
- 13. **Administrative Staff** are responsible for the logistics of the Conference and also distributing lunch to delegates and chairs.
- 14. The **Press Corps** constitute the department who interview delegates and chairs and write articles that present the Conference to create the IaşiMUN Observer (the Official IaşiMUN magazine one per day of Conference).
- 15. The **Conference Manager** is the person in charge of coordinating and cooperating with the Head of Administrative Staff, the Head of Junior Administrative Staff, and the Head of Press, whilst ensuring the proper unfolding of the Conference.
  - 16. The **IaşiMUN Advisor** is the coordinating teacher of the IaşiMUN Conference.
- 17. The **Secretary-General** is the Chairperson responsible for the whole organisation of the Conference.
  - 18. A **Point** is a right that a delegate may exert upon themselves.
- 19. A **Motion** is a proposal made by a delegate for all other delegates to decide what will happen in the Committee.
- 20. **The General Assembly** (abbr. **GA**) always taking place during the last day of the Conference is the meeting of all non-specialised Committees (and the Security Council) to debate on every resolution that had passed (to the GA) the prior day. Delegates who have the same country, but who are from different Committees, will form a delegation and will sit together during the entire GA.
- 21. **Procedural Matters** represent the matters related to the functioning of the course of action in the Committee. They may refer to, but are not limited to, voting on Motions, for example. All delegates must vote either in favor or against the procedural matter, *no delegate* is allowed to abstain.
- 22. **Substantive Matters** represent the matters about the substance, to the merits of the topic at hand. During the vote on Substantive Matters, the delegates may vote in favour, against, *or abstain*.

# Key elements of a MUN

# The Powers and Responsibilities of a Chairperson

Chairpersons are responsible for interpreting the rules and procedures in their Committee. Moreover, Chairs are used as intermediaries in the communication between delegates during the debate and have the following responsibilities and powers:

- 1. Setting debate time, speech time, and number of Points of Information (as well as their order);
  - 2. Extending or reducing debate time;
  - 3. Conducting and counting votes;
  - 4. Rejecting amendments on the grounds of redundancy or lack of substance;
  - 5. Overrule motions at their discretion;
  - 6. Clarifying Points of Information;
  - 7. Issuing warnings and dismissing delegates;
- 8. Managing (Junior) Administrative Staff when the Head of (Junior) Administrative Staff is absent;
  - 9. Break any tie-votes (tie-votes are later discussed in this document).
- 10. Request Caucus of the Board: At any point during the debate, the chairpersons may suspend the procedures within a committee for approximately 30 seconds to clarify and agree on internal matters related to the Committee;

# The Powers and Responsibilities of a Delegate

Delegates represent the country they are assigned in a specific Committee while following its perspectives and policies to find the best solutions for the given topics. Once Debate (either Closed or Open) or Moderated Caucus is declared in session, delegates <u>must</u>:

- 1. Use the 3rd form, instead of using the 1st person singular pronoun ("I"), when talking about themselves **or** when addressing another delegate (e.g. "The delegate of X");
- 2. Yield the floor back to the Chairs before the debate or Moderated Caucus can continue (use the phrase: "This delegate yields the floor back to the chairs."). During a Committee Session, a delegate may raise a series of points and motions that are going to be further thoroughly explained.

## **Points**

## I. The **Point of Information**:

- 1. May be addressed to the delegate who has the floor <u>and</u> has finished holding their speech <u>only if</u> they clearly state they are open to Points of Information;
  - 2. Must be a question and must directly refer to the resolution being debated;

- 3. If a delegate has asked their Point of Information and wishes to ask another, they can ask their Chairperson for a Follow-Up (can be denied or granted by the Chairperson);
  - 4. Delegates need to raise their placard to ask a Point of Information;
  - 5. May not interrupt a Speaker;

# II. The Point of Personal Privilege:

- 1. Should be used <u>only</u> when there is a problem with audibility or comfort (i.e. the room is too hot, the delegate of X is not speaking loudly enough);
  - 2. It is the only point that may interrupt a Speaker;

#### III. The Point of Order:

- 1. A delegate may raise a Point of Order if another delegate or the Chairperson is not properly observing the Rules of Procedure;
  - 2. May not interrupt a Speaker;

# IV. The **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry**:

- 1. Should be used if the delegate is uncertain regarding a technical aspect concerning the rules;
  - 2. May not interrupt a Speaker;

# V. The **Point of Personal Inquiry**:

- 1. Is used to ask a question that is not appropriate for any other point or motion;
- 2. May not interrupt a Speaker;

## VI. Right of Reply:

A delegate whose personal or national integrity has been infringed upon by another delegate may, after the latter's speech, request a Right of Reply by raising their placard;

The Chairs shall decide upon the request immediately and may or may not grant it. The decision of the Chairs is not subject to appeal. If the Right of Reply is granted, the allotted speaking time is 30 seconds. A Right of Reply to the Right of Reply is out of order.

#### **Motions**

## I. Motion to Establish/Verify the Quorum:

- 1. This motion is raised at the beginning of each Committee Session and passes automatically;
- 2. Chairpersons shall make a roll call of all Member States in the Committee for them to state their status of attendance;
  - 3. Delegates may reply only with *Present* or *Present and voting*;
- 4. The Committees may start their activity only when at least  $\frac{1}{3}$  (one-third) of all delegates are present.
- 5. If any delegates were not present during the roll call, upon their arrival, they shall send a note to the Chairperson clarifying their status of presence. Only after the Chairpersons

have acknowledged their presence, may the delegates take part actively in the debates and voting procedures.

6. Upon establishing the Quorum, the Chairpersons will state the Simple Majority and Two-thirds Majority;

**Note**: If a delegate replies with "Present and voting", he may not abstain during the voting on **substantive matters**.

## II. Motion to Change the Speaking Time on the General Speakers' List:

- 1. A delegate deeming that extending or reducing the time limit for individual speeches on the General Speakers' List would be beneficial to the debate may raise a Motion to Change the Speaking Time on the General Speakers' List at any time when the floor is open;
  - 2. The Motion shall be immediately ruled upon by the Chairpersons at their discretion;
  - 3. The decision of the Chairpersons is not subject to appeal;

#### **III.** Motion to Move into Moderated Caucus:

- 1. A delegate may propose a Motion for a Moderated Caucus when he/she wishes to focus the debate on a specific sub-topic;
  - 2. The author of the Motion needs to propose:
    - a. the total duration of the moderated caucus;
    - b. the speaking time of each delegate;
    - c. the topic of the moderated caucus;
  - 3. The Motion is not debatable and shall be put to vote;
- 4. If the Motion passes, the Speakers' List shall be suspended and the delegates shall speak in the order in which they were recognized by the chairperson. To be recognised, a delegate needs to raise his/her placard when the current speaker finishes his/her statement;

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**Note**: Time cannot be yielded in the Moderated Caucus. Therefore, the remaining time will be automatically yielded back to the chairpersons.

## IV. Motion to move into Unmoderated Caucus:

- 1. A delegate may propose a Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus when he/she wishes that the work of the Committee be conducted without the mediation of the Chairpersons. During an Unmoderated Caucus, delegates can move freely around the debate room to facilitate communication with each other;
  - 2. The author of the Motion needs to specify:
    - a. the duration of the Unmoderated Caucus;
    - b. its purpose;
  - 3. This Motion is not debatable and shall be put to vote;

<u>Note</u>: Although Unmoderated Caucuses are not mediated by the chairpersons, the official language of the committee **remains English.** 

## V. Motion to Extend Caucus Time:

1. May be used at the end of caucus time if a delegate believes there needs to be more debate on the given topic;

- 2. Must also state the duration by which debate/caucus should be extended;
- 3. The extended time cannot exceed the initial time;
- 4. This motion requires a second and a simple majority to pass;

# VI. Motion to Split the Topic Area:

- 1. This motion enables the committee to debate on subtopics within the agenda item and produce a resolution for each one of them;
- 2. The motion requires an explanation of the subtopics that the agenda item would be split into and justification for the necessity to split the topic area;
- 3. This motion requires a second, two speakers in favour and two speakers against, and needs a 2/3 majority to pass;

## VII. Motion for a Minute of Silence:

- 1. Any delegate may motion for a minute of silence before the start of a committee session. They must indicate the reason behind the minute of silence;
  - 2. This motion is immediately adopted unless deemed out of order by the Chairs;
  - 3. This motion may only be proposed once per session;

# VIII. Motion to Appeal the Decision of the Chairpersons:

A decision made by the Chairs may be appealed immediately by a delegate. The Chairs may speak briefly in defense of their decision and then immediately put the appeal to a vote. The decisions of the Chairs will stand unless overruled by a 2/3 majority. The appeal can be overturned by the Secretariat.

# IX. Motion for the Consultation of the Whole (Tour de Table):

- 1. A delegate may propose a Motion for the Consultation of the Whole if they wish for all delegations to speak. Delegates may indicate their desire to speak by raising their placards;
- 2. A delegate proposing this Motion must indicate the total duration and a topic area within the agenda item;
- 3. If the Committee is unable to maintain decorum during this consultation of the whole, the Chairs may intervene and continue it as a regularly moderated caucus. If there are delegations who have not been consulted within the total duration, the Chairs may intervene to assure that all delegations speak;
- 4. This Motion requires a second, a speech in favour, a speech against this Motion, and a simple majority to pass;

## **X.** Motion to Adjourn the Session:

- 1. Is used when it is time to go into the Lunch Break or Coffee Break;
- 2. This motion can automatically pass at the discretion of the Chairs;

# **XI.** Motion for the Suspension of the Meeting:

- 1. May only be raised at the end of the Conference;
- 2. This motion requires a second and a simple majority;

3. This motion is voted upon;

#### **XII.** Motion to Close Debate on the Draft Resolution:

- 1. A delegate may propose a Motion to Close the Debate on a Draft Resolution if he/she wishes that the Committee ceases all debates on the Draft Resolution under consideration. The Committee may not return to a Draft resolution once a Motion to Close the Debate was adopted. The form in which the Draft Resolution finds itself at the moment when the Motion is adopted shall be considered final and is the form that shall be put to a vote when the debate is closed on the topic area.
- 2. The Chairpersons shall entertain two speakers in favor and two speakers against the Motion. The Motion requires a 2/3 majority to pass.

# **XIII.** Motion to Move into Voting Procedure:

- 1. May be used at any point during the debate of a resolution if a delegate feels that further debate will not change the outcome of the vote;
- 2. This motion requires a second and a two-thirds majority to pass;

<u>Note</u>: If there are several Motions on the floor, the Committee shall vote first on those that are the most disruptive for the course of the debate. The order is decided by the Chairpersons.

#### Resolutions

A resolution is a document that contains a specific topic that the Committee wants to solve and the proposed solutions to it. The main author of a resolution is called the Main Submitter and the delegates who also contributed to writing it are Co-Submitters.

<u>Note</u>: A resolution may have up to 3 Co-Submitters. Resolutions are divided into three main parts:

- I. Topic, Main Submitter, Co-submitters, the Committee name;
- II. Preambulatory Clauses;
- III. Operative Clauses.

## **Preambulatory Clauses (PCs):**

- 1. Contain all the significant information, risk factors, and the things that require considering for the specific topic;
  - 2. Every Preambulatory Clause must be followed by a comma (",");
- 3. Every Clause will begin with a Preambulatory Phrase from the given list (delegates will receive a folder in which they will find this list, it can be found on the website or any other website approved by the chairpersons);
  - 4. Their Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics;
  - 5. Must not be numbered;
  - 6. Amendments for Preambulatory Clauses are out of order.

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# **Operative Clauses (OCs):**

- 1. Contain all the solutions proposed for the specific topic;
- 2. Every Operative Clause must be followed by a semicolon (";");
- 3. Every Operative Clause will begin with an Operative Phrase from the given list;
- 4. The Operative Phrases will be written in bold;
- 5. The last Operative Clause must end with a full-stop (".");

# The flow and progression of the debate

# The General Speakers' List

Once the agenda has been adopted, the Committee shall establish a Speakers' List following the adoption of a Motion to Establish the Speakers list, which does not require a second. The Motion is not debatable, shall not be put to a vote, and shall be automatically accepted by the Chairpersons.

During the formal debate, the Chairpersons shall keep a Speakers' List, which will determine the order of speakers with a specific time per speech, set at 90 seconds. Delegates may raise a Motion to Change the Speaking Time on the General Speakers' List should they feel that extending or reducing the time limit would be beneficial to the debate. The decision to change the speaking time on the General Speakers' List may also be taken by the Chairpersons at their discretion.

A delegate may request to have the name of the Delegation added to the Speakers' List by raising the placard upon the general invitation of the Chairpersons or by sending a note to them. If circumstances do not allow determining clearly which delegate has requested to be included in the Speakers' List first, the Chairpersons shall decide on the order of the speakers by taking into account considerations of equity and the good functioning of the Committee.

A delegate whose Delegation's name is already included in the Speakers' List shall not be added again until given the floor or asked to be removed from the Speakers' List. Should the Speakers' List elapse, the debate on the agenda item shall be considered finished and the Committee shall move into voting procedure.

## **Yields**

At the end of a formal speech (during the General Speakers' List) a delegate is required to yield their remaining time. They may:

- a. Yield to the Chairpersons;
- b. Yield to **Another Delegate**: A delegate may yield their time to another delegate. The Chairs will ask the other delegate whether they would like to accept the yield. If the delegate accepts the yield, then they will have the remaining time to address the Committee. This time **cannot be extended nor yielded** to another delegate, or to any Points of Information;
- c. Yield to Points of Information: A delegate may yield their time to Points of Information. The Chairs will ask the Committee if there are any points on the floor at which time the delegate may raise a Point of Information to ask a question to the speaker. The Chairs will pause the time for the question to be phrased. The speaker will have the remaining time to answer the question. A speaker may answer multiple questions, if the time allows it.

**Note:** The time can be yielded **only once** during a speech.

# **Special Rules for the Security Council**

#### A. Motions

#### I. Motion to Declare the Vote Substantial:

- 1. This motion may be proposed, when the floor is open, on any procedural vote. The purpose of this motion is to make a procedural vote into a substantial vote. If a procedural vote, such as a motion for a moderated caucus, becomes substantial then it follows the rules regarding the substantial voting procedure. Delegates may vote "Yes", "No" and "Abstain" on the vote. If a procedural vote is made substantial then it requires **a qualified majority** in favour to pass. If a Permanent Member uses their veto, then the motion automatically fails.
- 2. When this motion is proposed, the procedural motion, in question, is declared substantial. The Chairs will then ask if there are any objections. If there is an objection then the committee votes on whether to redeclare the motion procedural.
  - 3. This motion to re-declare the motion procedural is a substantial vote.

#### II. Motion for the Invitation of an Ambassador:

- 1. Any Member State of the United Nations, which is not a member of the Security Council, may be invited to participate without a vote in the discussion on the topic area when the Security Council considers the interests of that Member State to be of importance to the topic.
- 2. This motion is not debatable and is at the discretion of the Chairs whether it is possible at the time of the proposal.

#### **II.** Motion for a Closed-Door Session:

- 1. During a Closed-Door Session only delegates of the Member States, the Chairs, the Secretariat, and persons authorized by the Secretary-General may attend the meeting.
- 2. The time for the Closed-Door Session is specified by the delegate. Rules for the Moderated Caucus shall apply.
- 3. A delegate may ask for a Motion for a Closed-Door session at any time the floor is open, but not during speeches.
- 4. The Motion requires a second, is not debatable, and shall immediately be put to vote. It needs a qualified majority (2/3) to pass.
  - 5. The Chairs may rule out the Motion.
  - 6. The time for a Closed-Door Session may be extended once.

## **III.** Motion for a P5 Caucus:

- 1. Any Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council may propose this motion when the floor is open.
- 2. The P5 Caucus will be held in a separate room with the participation of the Permanent Members and one of the Chairs.
- 3. The P5 Caucus will take the form of an informal debate for the Permanent Members to come to a consensus.

4. The Chairs will entertain this motion at their discretion. If any Permanent Members object to this motion, then the motion will be overruled.

# **B.** Votes in the Security Council

- 1. During voting on procedural matters there are no veto rights. During substantive matters, the Permanent Members of the Security Council (China, USA, UK, France, Russian Federation) must vote either "Yes" or "Abstain" for a substantive matter to pass.
- 2. The "Veto" vote refers to the use of veto power from a Permanent Member of the Security Council. If one of these states votes "No" on a substantive matter then the matter fails immediately.

# **Special Rules for the Crisis Committee**

- 1. The Committee Session begins with a Motion to Verify the Quorum (Roll Call);
- 2. After the Quorum is established, the crisis will be introduced;
- 3. Delegates will be given time to research the problems issued by the crisis through a Motion to Move into Unmoderated Caucus that should either be raised or smiled upon by the Chairs;
- 4. After the Unmoderated Caucus time elapses, a Motion to open the General Speaker's List is either raised or smiled upon by the Chairs;
- 5. During the General Speaker's List, delegates should raise a Motion to Move into Moderated Caucus to discuss certain aspects of the emergency;
- 6. Also during the General Speaker's List, the Chairpersons can receive updates related to the crisis that they will introduce to the rest of the committee;
- 7. By the time the General Speaker's List ends, delegates should raise a Motion to Move into Unmoderated Caucus to write the Set of Directives. If not, the crisis will not be solved and a new one will be introduced.

# **Introducing a Draft Resolution**

After the Draft Resolution has been distributed to all the delegates, its Main Submitter may propose a Motion to Introduce the Draft Resolution. The Chairpersons shall automatically accept the Motion.

After the Motion has been accepted, the Main-Submitter shall be invited to read out the Operative Clauses. They will then be allocated a 5 minute speech in favour of the Resolution, with the possibility of yielding the remaining time to Points of Information or to another delegate.

The Chairpersons shall afford an appropriate amount of time for correcting any grammar, spelling, or technical errors. The appropriate changes shall be adopted without a vote.

The Committee shall then establish a new Speakers' List for the debate on the Draft Resolution. The previous Speakers' List shall be suspended.

<u>Note</u>: The first speech in favour of a Resolution has the special property of **double yielding.** Double yielding is the act in which the first delegate to be yielded the time after the first speaker may yield their time once again to another delegate, on the condition that the two delegates are co-submitters of the resolution.

## **Amendments**

An Amendment is a request (made by a delegate) to modify the resolution being debated. One can add, remove and/or modify the resolution through an Amendment. Amendments are debated on identically as resolutions but in far less time.

The Amendments shall be submitted to the chairpersons in written form, only while the floor is open to Amendments. The Chairpersons shall afford an appropriate amount of time during the debate on a Draft Resolution in which the delegates will discuss and prepare Amendments.

The Amendments should have one submitter. Amendments do not require any Signatories. Based on the decision of the Main Submitter of the Draft Resolution, amendments can be categorised as follows:

# I. Friendly Amendments

Amendments that are approved by the Main Submitter of the Draft Resolution shall be considered Friendly and automatically incorporated into the document. Amendments to Friendly Amendments are not in order.

## II. Unfriendly Amendments

Amendments that are not approved by the Main Submitter or the Draft Resolution shall be considered Unfriendly. The Chairpersons will entertain one speech in favour and one speech against the proposed Unfriendly Amendment, then immediately proceed to vote for the proposed Amendment. Amendments to Unfriendly Amendments are in order.

**Note**: Delegates may not abstain from voting on an Unfriendly Amendment.

<u>Note</u>: Chairpersons can deny Amendments on the grounds of redundancy, lack of substance, or time restrictions

# **The Voting Procedure**

Once the Speaker's List has been exhausted or a Motion to Close the Debate on a Topic Area has passed, the Committee shall automatically enter the voting procedure.

During the voting procedure, entering or exiting from the room is prohibited. Note passing is suspended, cross-talking and the use of laptops are out of order.

Observers, members of the Press Team, and any other guests shall be invited to leave the room. The only people who are allowed to be in the Committee room during the Voting Procedure are the Delegates, the Chairpersons, and the members of the Secretariat.

No Motions are in order, except for the Motions listed below:

<u>Note</u>: The Voting Procedure also applies to Motions (if there are objections), Amendments, and Draft Resolutions.

Note: A Delegate who is in favor or against a Draft Resolution may also vote *In Favor with Rights* or *Against with Rights*. In this case, upon the completion of the voting procedure on the Draft Resolution in question, the Delegates who voted with Rights shall be invited to explain their vote. The Chairpersons shall set the speaking time at their discretion. Voting with rights is only in order if the delegate has expressed an opinion that doesn't reflect their vote during the debate.

# I. Motion to Split the House:

- 1. Can only be used during the voting procedure;
- 2. Can be smiled upon by the Chairperson if (either 1 or 2):
  - a. Votes Against + Abstentions > Votes For;
  - b. Votes For + Abstentions > Votes Against;
- 3. This motion requires a two-thirds majority and a second;

# **II.** Motion to Vote by Roll Call:

- 1. This motion can only be raised before the start of the voting procedure;
- 2. This motion can pass automatically, should the Chairs allow it;
- 3. This motion is not voted upon and is not debatable;

## **III.** Motion to Divide the Question:

- 1. A Motion to Divide the Question requests that specific clauses of the Draft Resolution are voted upon separately.
- 2. The Motion will be in order immediately after the Closure of Debate, *but before* the Committee starts voting on any of the Draft Resolutions.
- 3. If the motion passes the Draft Resolution is divided into different parts accordingly, and a separate substantive vote will be taken on each divided part.
- 4. Parts of the Draft Resolution that are approved by the Committee will be recombined into a final document and put to a substantive vote as a whole.

<u>Note</u>: During a Vote by Roll Call, a Delegate may choose to pass. In this case, the Delegate shall be called upon to state their vote after all other delegates have voted. A delegate who passes may neither pass again nor abstain.

# **Majorities**

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Simple Majority \geq floor (Quorum/2 + 1);
Two-thirds Majority \geq floor (2 \cdot Quorum/3 + 1).
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#### **Edge Cases**

If any of the conditions from the Motion to Split the House apply, then the motion comes in order and should be raised;

If even after the Motion to Split the House, the votes in Favour are equal to the votes Against (For = Against), the Chairs will:

- 1. Ask for one speech For and one Against and retake the vote;
- 2. vote For or Against the Motion/Amendment/ Resolution. This procedure is called breaking the tie-vote and should be used only if point i. failed to offer a viable solution;

If at any time during the voting procedure, the sum of all votes does not equal to the Quorum ( $For + Against + Abstentions \neq Quorum$ ), the Chairperson will smile upon a Motion to Vote by Roll Call.

<u>Note</u>: The Motion to Vote by Roll Call can also be raised by any delegate during the voting procedure, even if the previously mentioned condition does not apply.