



Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, its main Commissions, the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council

Asociación MINU

Introduction

The present text constitutes the Rules of Procedure for all those delegates that participate in the plenary sessions of the General Assembly, any of its six main Commissions, the Human Rights Council or the Economic and Social Council. Participants' good faith will be applied as the rule of interpretation. That is to say, any way of interpretation that is inherently contradictory or detrimental to the development of the Model will be considered invalid. It is important to highlight that in case of discrepancy in the interpretation of any of the norms contained in these Rules of Procedure, the President of the Organ firstly and the Secretary General ultimately will be the ones to take the final decision. Any doubts regarding the following information can –and must- be submitted to the members of the Organizing Committee.

I. Composition of the Delegations

Article 1

Delegations will be made up by one (1) Ambassador or Head Delegate (in the case of observer delegations) and one or two (1 or 2) Delegates in each Commission in which they are to be represented (Commissions or Plenary Commissions of the General Assembly, Human Rights Council and/or Economic and Social Council), according to what is stated in the application form of the Model.

II. Formal Opening of the sessions

Article 2

The President will declare the session of the organs formally open. Subsequently, he/she will proceed to the Roll Call.

Article 3

If more than one topic is part of the planned agenda, the order in which they shall be dealt will be put to a vote at the beginning of the sessions.

Article 4

Delegations must be present at the time of the Roll Call, so as to have the right of speech and the right to vote. If any delegation arrives late, it will have to send a letter to the Presidency informing their presence in the building in order to be taken into account during the debate.



III. Nature of the Debates

Article 5

The debate in each Commission will be divided into General Debate on the topic and Particular Debate on the working sheet chosen by the Delegations. In case of Plenary Session of the due Organ, the same order will be kept.

Article 6

In all formal instances, those Delegations that are accorded the right of speech must address the due Organ through the Presidency.

IV. General Debate

Article 7

Delegations will be able to make use of the right of speech by means of list of speakers, either by raising their placards, or by any mean stipulated by Presidency.

Article 8

In case a list of speakers is to be produced, Delegations are to raise their placards whenever Presidency requests this so that they can be included in the list.

Article 9

Delegations will only be included once in the list of speakers, unless something else is stipulated.

Article 9 bis

The list of speakers can be drawn at once, or be redrawn in many occasions. Those Delegations that were not included in the list of Speakers at the beginning will be able to be included later throughout the debate. Nonetheless, they can only be included once in each dealt topic.

Article 10

If the General Debate follows the raising placard method, Presidency will accord the right of speech with no pre-established order, following the criteria previously explained.

V. Development of the General Debate

Article 11

The Presidency will call upon the Delegations to reach the podium, so that they can express their opinion regarding the subject matter, according to the established dynamic.

Article 12

No more than 2 (two) Delegates will be able to reach the podium at the same time, no matter what delegation they represent.

Article 13

Each delegation called upon to reach the podium will have the right of speech for no more than two minutes (2') to produce its statement. Subsequently, Presidency will accord one extra



minute (1') that the speaker delegation might use for one of the following mutually exclusive options:

- a) Yield the extra time so that Presidency can make use of it. (Delegations on the podium return to their seats). No points of further questions will be able to be posed.
- b) If there is an accompanying Delegation, yield the extra time to this delegation so that it can make use of the right of speech. This delegation will only deliver a speech during that time, with no possibility of answering any questions. Points of further questions can not be posed neither to the first delegation, nor to the second one.
- c) Submit to questions by the rest of the Delegations, who will have to raise their placards, so that Presidency can pick one of them. The delegation on the podium will answer as many questions as it can within one minute (1').
- d) Once the minute for answering questions is over, Delegations will be able to pose a Point of Further Question. The Delegation on the podium reserves the right of accepting it or not. In case of accepting it, the Delegation will have the same time, that is to say, one minute (1') to answer the posed question.

Article 14

After its available time expires, the Delegation will get down from the podium and return to its seat. No further statements will be able to be made.

VI. Working Sheets

Article 15

The Working Sheets are those manuscripts on the Draft Resolutions that Delegations will be able to submit, in order to offer an answer to the topic that is being dealt.

Article 16

Production of the Working Sheets shall be made at any moment of informal sessions (Moderated Caucus), including meal-time, recesses after each working day and specific moments to do so accorded by Presidency.

Article 17

Working Sheets are to be drawn up in an analogous way to the real Resolutions of the Organ/Commission that is being simulated, so that they can be accepted by the Approval Board. The clauses that made up the Working Sheet must make explicit allusions to the Thematic Axes proposed by the Organizing Committee. For that purpose, Delegates will have to include a special section for each Axis that must contain all the clauses that refer to it.

Article 18

The heading of each Working Sheet must contain:

- a) Name of the Organ or Commission
- b) Topic it refers to.
- c) List of Supporting Delegations



Article 19

The body of each Working Sheet must have a Preambulatory section and a Resolution one. The Preambulatory section must contain the reasons that legitimize the Working Sheet. These must be based upon past International Law instruments and documents, the local and international situation and the statements of the General Debate. The Resolution Clauses must contain all the measures and actions that would be taken from the coming into effect of the submitted document on.

Article 20

The Clauses of the Working Sheet must make explicit allusions to the Thematic Axes proposed by the Organizing Committee. This will be an excluding condition for the approval of the manuscripts on behalf of the board.

Article 21

The Resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council are of a non-binding nature. Delegations must refrain of including clauses that make reference to such attribution- exclusive of the Security Council-, otherwise, they shall not be accepted by the Approval Board.

Article 22

Together with the Working Sheet, Delegations will hand in an extra sheet containing the Working Sheet's sponsors. The support shall be legitimized by the signature of any of its Delegates to the Organ/Commission, or the Ambassador.

Article 23

Working Sheets must count with the support of at least 20% of the attending Delegations. The support of the Observer Delegations is accepted, but shall not be counted for its lack of right to vote.

Article 24

Each Delegation will be able to support no more than one (1) Working Sheet in each topic, with the possibility of not supporting any of them if so the Delegation wishes it.

Article 25

The group of supporting Delegations of one Working Sheet will choose three (3) Representative Delegations. The first of which will be able to produce a statement for no longer than two (2') minutes, in order to defend the Working Sheet before the rest of the Organ/Commission; the two (2) remaining Delegations will be able to answer questions on the Working Sheet. It is left to Presidency's judgment whether to accord these questions to the representatives of all Working Sheets, or just to those of the chosen Working Sheet, after the voting procedure.

Article 26

Before submitting the Working Sheets, these shall be revised by the Approval Board, which could suggest recommendations related to questions of norm, or if that should be the case, of content.



Article 27

Once the formal session restarts, the Approval Board will give reading to each of the submitted Working Sheets, and Presidency will call upon each chosen representative so that they can present their due arguments. Subsequently, the Working Sheets will be submitted to a substantial vote, therefore the possibility of abstention is allowed.

Article 28

Should any of the Working Sheets obtain a special majority of 40% + 1 of the votes for it, it will be directly established as the Draw Resolution to be dealt with by the Commission. Otherwise, the commission shall proceed to a closed debate-through a Moderated Caucus- to discuss about the convenience of each Working Sheet. Subsequently, there will be a substantial vote that will define, with a simple majority, which of the Working Sheets will be chosen as the Draft Resolution.

VII. Particular debate

Article 29

At the beginning of the particular debate –had they not been called before- the two representatives of the chosen draft resolution will answer the amount of questions established by Presidency. If that amount of established questions happens to be an odd number, the first chosen delegation will answer more questions than the other one. If a Point of Further Question is forwarded, and actually accepted by Presidency, the second delegation will be the one to answer to that question.

Article 30

The Particular Debate will consist of formal sessions, semi-formal sessions (Moderated Caucus) and informal sessions. Delegations will devote to the discussion and negotiation of Amendments and of the Draft Resolution. The formal sessions will consist in the introduction, debate and voting procedure of the introduced Amendments, as well as the final vote of the Draft Resolution.

Article 31

When any Delegation is accorded the right of speech during the semi formal sessions, it will be able to make use of one minute (1'). It will only be possible to produce a speech regarding the destiny and content of the Draft Resolution, its thematic axes and either the made modifications, or the modifications to be made. It will not be possible to submit to questions.

VIII. Amendments

Article 32

An amendment is a tool through which Delegations will be able to add, delete or modify clauses of the dealing Draft Resolution.

Article 33

The introduction of an amendment to the debate covers to stages: the Production Stage (Informal) and the Introduction Stage (Formal).



Article 34

The Production Stage will take place during the informal and semi-formal sessions of the debate, and it will consist of the entire completion of the two copies of the Amendment form. Only one copy is to be sent to Presidency; the other is to be kept by the introducing Delegation.

Article 35

A minimum sponsorship of 10% of voting Delegations will be required. That sponsorship will be manifested through the signature of the Delegates in that Organ/Commission, or their Ambassador in the obverse of the Amendment form. The sponsorship of Observer Delegations is allowed to be made, but it will not be counted as a vote of the minimum required for the introduction of the Amendment.

Article 36

The maximum number of Amendments that Delegations will be able to introduce and sponsor will be stipulated by the Organizing Committee. Delegations will not be able to request, neither complete more forms than those allotted, unless a particular disposition expresses the contrary.

Article 37

The Assessors will be responsible for taking the Amendments to Presidency, who will inform the reception of those to the Organ/Commission.

Article 38

It will not be possible to sponsor its own Amendment, neither to sponsor a same amendment more than once.

Article 39

It will not be possible to amend the previously modified clauses. It will only be possible to re-amend the blank lines in the original Working Sheet, in which case the annexed text will be added to the previous one.

Article 40

The Introduction Stage will take place during any of the formal sessions that occur after sending the Amendment to Presidency, provided that the Amendment has been approved by the Approval Board.

Article 41

When Presidency deems it necessary, the formal sessions will be reopened. And it will call upon those delegations, which have sent Amendments in the established way, to reach the podium. These Delegations will be able to make use of one minute (1') to introduce their Amendments.

Article 42

Once the Delegation is called upon to reach the podium, Presidency will read out all the sponsor Delegations. After that, the text composing the Amendment will be read.



Article 43

Once the Amendment is understood by the whole Organ/Commission, the Organ/Commission will proceed to the Internal Debate of the Amendment, in which different Delegations will have the opportunity to express themselves for or against the introduced modification.

Article 44

Two (2) speakers against and two (2) in favor will be able to produce a statement alternately. Nonetheless, the quantity of speakers will be determined by Presidency, who will be able to reduce the Internal Debate of the Amendments, so as suppress it, shall it be considered unnecessary.

Article 44 bis

Presidency will offer the Delegation on the podium the possibility of being the last speaker in favor of its amendment. Shall this offer be declined, Presidency will choose a speaker from the group of candidates that raise their placards.

Article 45

Once the Internal Debate is closed, the Organ/Commission will proceed to a substantial voting procedure, which will require an absolute majority of votes in favor in order to be passed.

Article 46

Once the voting procedure has taken place, provided that at least fifteen seconds (15) remain, Presidency will ask the Delegation on the podium if it would like to make any further comments regarding the dealing of the Amendment.

Article 47

The Introduction Stage of the Amendment will finish then. The delegation will have to return to its seat without being able to submit itself to questions.

IX. Voting Procedure on the Draft Resolution

Article 48

When the Particular Debate finishes, the Commissions will proceed to the final voting procedure on the Draft Resolutions, before which Presidency is entitled to bestow instances of Moderated Caucus with the aim of enabling the Delegations to debate before voting.

Article 49

The Draft Resolution will be submitted to a substantial vote and will become a Resolution of the due Organ/Commission if it obtains the absolute majority of votes of the Member States in favor.

Article 50

Shall Presidency see it deem, it will be possible to bestow the Delegations with the possibility of justifying their votes, which can be affirmative, negative or neutral. Delegations will be able to produce a speech for no more than a minute (1'), without being able to submit themselves to questions.



X. Alternations of the flow of Debate

Article 51

Throughout the formal sessions, Delegations will have tools that will allow them to influence in certain procedures that concern the course of debates. There are two types of tools: Points-minor alterations required spontaneously by Delegations- and Motions, forwarded only when Presidency indicates so.

Article 52

Those points that are required appropriately and that fulfill the due requirements will be sustained, unless Presidency considers there are relevant reasons for not doing this. In contrast, Motions can be sustained or overruled by Presidency, or be put to a substantial voting procedure, in which Delegations will take part.

Article 53

Those Delegations willing to forward a point will have to raise their placard and stand up, declaiming aloud the point that is being forwarded. If Presidency sees it deem, Delegates could be enquired about the reasons founding the Point, and then decide how to proceed.

Article 54

There are three (3) types of Points:

- a) Point of Privilege: It will be able to be forwarded when the forwarding Delegation feels affected by external factors unconnected with the content of the Debate-, that are detrimental to the comprehension of it. Given its urgent nature, it will be able to interrupt both, Presidency's as Delegates' speech, in which case the affected Delegation will have to specify the inconvenient that diminishes it, when Presidency requires it.
- b) Point of Further Question: It will only be able to be forwarded if the Delegation answering questions on the podium concludes its answer in less that two thirds (2/3) of the allotted time. In that case, Delegations belonging to the audience will forward the point, and the Delegation on the podium will be entitled to accept it or not. If it is accepted, the Delegation will be able to answer a further question with the possibility of completing the minute and a half that was allotted in the first place.
- c) Point of Procedure: It will be able to be forwarded only if nobody is producing any kind of statement. It is used to enquire Presidency on questions related to procedure that took or that will take place during the debate, and that can not be clarified by the Assessors.

Article 55

During the formal sessions, Presidency can allot a certain time for Delegations to forward Motions, for which Delegates are to raise their placards and wait until Presidency accords the right of speech to one of them. Once this is done, the chosen Delegation will have to mention the name of the Motion that is being forwarded and it will also be possible to specify the reasons that justify the suggestion that is being made. Presidency will take a note of this, and will repeat this procedure until there are no more motions to be forwarded. It will not be possible to forward more than one motion per Delegation, neither to forward a motion which has been forwarded within the same space of time.



Article 56

There are three (3) types of Motions:

- a) Motion for Debate Closure: if any Delegation considers that the Debate shall be closed before stipulated for any reason, and exposes the substantial reasons to justify its will, it will be possible to require this motion to close the Debate. Provided it is submitted to a vote, the Motion will be passed if it obtains a qualified majority.
- b) Motion for Recess: It is used when requesting to proceed to a Recess in order to continue with the Debate informally. The forwarding Delegation will be able to suggest the duration of the Recess, but Presidency will always be the one to have the final say. If the Motion is put to a vote, it will be passed with a simple majority.
- c) Motion for Moderated Caucus: It is used when requesting to proceed to a Moderated Caucus in order to continue with the debate in a semi-formal instance. The forwarding Delegation will be able to suggest the length and the nature of the Moderated Caucus. In both cases, those questions will be set by Presidency. If submitted to a vote, this Motion will be passed with a simple majority.

XI. Moderated Caucus

Article 57

Moderated Caucus is an informal instance within the Debate, but it is regulated by Presidency, which bestows it with a status of –semi-formality-. During it, Delegations will be able to produce speeches for no longer than one minute (1'), which might be used to refer to any issue that Delegates believe is important to be mentioned.

Article 58

Because of its informal nature, in this instance of the Debate it is not necessary for Delegates to address the Organ through Presidency, which will only accord or revoke the right of speech alternatively to those Delegations that require it. In order to produce a speech in the Moderated Caucus, Delegations will have to raise their placards when Presidency indicates it, and once the right of speech is accorded, the chosen Delegation will stand up to produce its statement.

Article 59

There are two types of Moderated Caucus: General and Thematic. During the General Moderated Caucus it will be possible to debate those questions that are stipulated in Article 57 of these Rules of Procedure. During the Thematic Moderated Caucus it will only be possible to debate on any of the Thematic Axes proposed by the Organizing Committee, or on any specific topic suggested by Delegations.

Article 59 bis

In case Delegations would like to propose a Thematic Moderated Caucus on a question that is not part of the planned agenda, they shall send a Letter to Presidency, describing the Thematic to be debated. The proposal will have to count with the sponsorship of, at least, 10% of the attending Delegations. These will have to sign the obverse of the Letter.



XII. Right of Reply

Article 60

Rights of Reply constitute a right that every Delegation has in order to refute and rectify any declarations that constitute an offense against it.

Article 61

To require Presidency the possibility of giving vent to feelings before the rest of the Delegations, the offended Delegation will have to complete the due form, specifying which were the offenses and what Delegation produced them. If approved by Presidency, that Delegation will have one minute (1') to make its reply.

Article 62

No Delegation will be able to submit a Right of Reply to refute offenses committed against another Delegation, neither to submit a Right of Reply regarding offenses that were not explicitly addressed to the Delegation that feels diminished.

Article 63

It will not be possible to refute a statement produced through a Right of Reply by means of another Right of Reply (Reply of Reply). Delegations will have the possibility, in this case, of sending a letter to Presidency rectifying the statements, or during Moderated Caucus.

Article 64

Presidency will inform publicly when Right of Reply forms are received, but the possibility of giving vent to feelings will depend of the importance of the offenses and the availability of time.

XIII. Majorities

Article 65

The Majorities required in the different instances of the Debate can be:

- a) Qualified Majority: It represents two thirds (66,6%) of the votes of the attending Member States.
- b) Absolute Majority: It represents 50 % + 1 of the votes of the attending Member States.
- c) Simple Majority: It represents one more vote for a certain option than against it.
- d) Special Majority: It represents 40% + 1 of the votes of the attending Member States. It is only used when voting the Draft Resolution.

XIV. Treaties

Article 66

During the sessions, Delegations will be able to present International Treaties.

Article 67

International Treaty shall be understood as a written document that includes the content of the reached agreements among subjects of International Law, in the case of the Model, Delegations.



Article 68

Treaties must correspond with the topics dealt during the sessions of the Model.

Article 69

Treaties must be drawn up according to the international uses and carry the signature of the Ambassador of every joining Delegation.

Article 70

Treaties will be composed of two parts: a Preamble, in which the aims of the treaty are stated; and a Dispositive Part, in which the content of the Treaty will be included in the form of articles or clauses.

Article 71

Treaties must be sent to Presidency of each Commission, according to the issue dealt in that Treaty. Presidency will send the Treaty to the Secretariat and will inform the Commission, as well as the other Presidencies of the existences of it. Nonetheless, Presidency can reject treaties that do not fulfill the requirements stipulated in Articles 68, 69 and 70.

Article 72

Different types of Treaties will be recognized according to the way in which they are drawn up:

- a) Bilateral: these are the treaties that involve two Delegations.
- b) Multilateral: these are the treaties signed by many Delegations. There are three types within them:
 - i. Closed: these are the treaties that are confined to the Delegations that originally signed, and have no clauses that allow the addition of third parties.
 - ii. Open: these are the treaties that allow the addition of any other Delegation, without being necessary an explicit invitation of the signatory parties for this.
 - iii. Open with restrictions: these are the treaties that allow the addition of other Delegations, previously accepted by the originally signatory Delegations or that satisfy the criterion determined in the Treaty.