



# Pre-Summit Briefing

An Introduction to Model United Nations  
and Dunman High Asean Plus 2019

# Briefing Outline

## The Basics

- What is a MUN?
- How do I prepare for it?

## Now What?

- Applying it during the conference

## By The Rules

- Rules of Procedure



# What is the UN?

What are the main organs of the UN?

What are its functions?

# The United Nations

## Four Main Objectives

- ◆ Maintain international peace and security
- ◆ Preserve human rights
- ◆ Encourage friendly relations between nations
- ◆ Promote socio-economic progress

## Six Principal Organs

- ◆ General Assembly (GA)
- ◆ Security Council (UNSC)
- ◆ Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- ◆ International Court of Justice (ICJ)
- ◆ Trusteeship Council
- ◆ Secretariat

The General Assembly in Session  
Source: UN



UN Peacekeepers  
Source: US Navy



From unilateral interests...



From unilateral interests...

... to collective interests!





# What is ASEAN?

ASEAN stands for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

# History of ASEAN

- ◆ Founded in 1967 among five member states to promote interstate cooperation
- ◆ Southeast Asia's most successful attempt at forming a sustainable regional organisation
- ◆ Expanded across the years to reach the ten member states it has today
  - ◆ Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, Brunei, Myanmar, Laos



# Purposes of ASEAN

1. Accelerate **economic growth, social progress and cultural development**
2. Promote **regional peace and stability**
3. Promote active **collaboration and assistance**
4. Collaborate in **agriculture, industries and trade**
5. Promote **Southeast Asian studies**
6. Maintain **relations with other organisations**

# Principles of ASEAN

1. Mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, equality
2. Right of every state to lead its national existence
3. Non-interference
4. Peaceful settlement of disputes
5. Renunciation of threats and use of force
6. Effective cooperation

# ASEAN today

- ◆ Combined political weight at the international stage
- ◆ Increasingly integrated economy
- ◆ Holds regular forums among member states and other nations
- ◆ Consensus voting on declarations

ASEAN leaders at the opening ceremony of the 32nd Asean Summit  
Source: Reuters





# What is MUN?

Model United Nations (MUN) is an academic simulation of the UN or other intergovernmental organisations like ASEAN.

# What is MUN?



WWW: dchappes2018.wordpress.com  
Swedenw11-0

UNSC  
Topic: The Restructuring of the UNSC  
Present: 18 / 18 (112 + 10: 223 = 12)

General Speaks: Single speaker | Moderated Caucus | Unmoderated Ca... | Procedural voting | Roll call vote

Set speaker time: 1 | 30

Filters

- China
- Russian Federation
- India
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- None
- Others

Netherlands

01:05 / 01:30

Before the conference

# RESEARCH

Research is a delegate's sword and armour  
during any MUN debate.

# Knowing your country

## Things to know about the country you are representing:

- ◆ Geographical Traits
- ◆ Government and Politics
- ◆ Culture and Society
- ◆ International Relations
- ◆ Economy
- ◆ Military and National Defence

# Knowing the issue

**Background**

**Problems**

**Solutions**



# Background Information

## Genesis

- Key terms
- When/Why did the issue start?

## Past

- What has happened since the start?
- Why did these happen?

## Present

- What is the current situation?
- Why is it still happening?

# Problems

## Aspects to consider

- ◆ Root causes vs. complicating factors
- ◆ Previous failures
- ◆ Involved stakeholders
- ◆ Different degrees of problems
- ◆ Scope of problem across different aspects

# Solutions

## Aspects to consider

- ◆ Intended outcome
  - ◆ What is needed to achieve this?
- ◆ Past implementations of solution
  - ◆ Why did it succeed/fail in the past?
- ◆ Layers of solution
  - ◆ Global, regional, national level

# Solutions

- ◆ Involved stakeholders
  - ◆ Who will be responsible?
- ◆ Implementation of solution
- ◆ Potential obstacles
- ◆ National interests

# Sources for your research

- ◆ Government sources
  - ◆ Websites, policy papers, ministerial statements
- ◆ UN documents
- ◆ Reliable news agencies
- ◆ BBC Country Profile
- ◆ CIA World Factbook

# BBC Country Profile

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## THE WORLD FACTBOOK

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THE WORLD FACTBOOK ARCHIVE

### WELCOME TO THE WORLD FACTBOOK

The World Factbook provides information on the history, people, government, economy, geography, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues for 267 world entities. Our Reference tab includes: maps of the major world regions, as well as Flags of the World, a Physical Map of the World, a Political Map of the World, a World Oceans map, and a Standard Time Zones of the World map.

Before the conference

# POSITION PAPER

Homework before the MUN conference



# Why prepare a position paper?

## **For you, the delegate**

To ground your research and help you understand what you will be discussing in council.

## **For the chairs**

To know your understanding of the topic and its nuances, and the role you can play in discussions.

# Structure of your Position Paper

1. Background
2. Past involvement of your country
3. Stance of your country
4. Problems
5. Potential Solutions

# Process during MUN



During the conference

# SPEAKING

Speaking is how you will express your ideas to  
your council

# Speaking

## Reacting to someone

- ◆ Agree/Disagree
- ◆ Easy way to craft your speech
- ◆ Base your speech off what others have said

## Being proactive

- ◆ Expand on previous ideas
- ◆ Raise your own ideas

## Consolidating Debate

- ◆ Package everyone's ideas such that the majority can agree
- ◆ Put together council's content

During the conference

# LOBBYING

Lobbying is the process of persuading someone to agree with you on an issue

# Lobbying

- ◆ Make friends with delegates
- ◆ Join them for lunch and dinner
  
- ◆ Try to seek common ground
- ◆ Engage with delegates during breaks
- ◆ Don't be intimidating or aggressive

During the conference

# RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions are the ultimate end goal of every conference and the product of your hard work



# Resolutions

## Understand the issue

- ◆ Sensitivity
- ◆ What needs to be solved
- ◆ Solutions the council has agreed upon

## Understand the council

- ◆ What can you do?
- ◆ What can you not do?

## Understand the stakeholders involved

- ◆ Know what their interests are

# Components of a Resolution

## ◆ Preambulatory Clauses

- ◆ Summarises historic justification or reasons that have been discussed
- ◆ “*Recognising* the importance of .....

## ◆ Operative Clauses

- ◆ Details the proposed actions/suggestions to solve the issue
- ◆ “Recommends the creation of .....

# People behind a Resolution

## ◆ 1 Main Submitter

- ◆ Primary author of a resolution, in charge of defending it and making sure it gets passed

## ◆ 2-3 Co-Submitters

- ◆ Supports the main submitter

## ◆ At least 20% of council as **Signatories**

- ◆ Delegates that want to see the resolution being debated, may or may not agree with it

**Conference:** Alpha Beta Model United Nations (ABMUN)

**Committee:** World Health Organisation

**Topic:** The Issue of Substance Abuse and its Effects on World Health

**Main submitter:** The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

**Co-submitter:** The People's Republic of China, The Russian Federation, The French Republic

**Signatories:** The Federative Republic of Brazil, The People's Republic of China, The Republic of India, The Islamic Republic of Iran, The United Mexican States, The Republic of Singapore, The Socialist Republic of Vietnam, The Ukrainian Republic

The World Health Organisation,

*Reaffirming* the role of the World Health Organisation (WHO) as a multilateral body, for the purpose of co-operation among member countries and with others to promote and protect the health of all peoples, as stated in the Constitution of the WHO (1948),

*Guided by* the primary principle of the WHO, as outlined by the Constitution of the WHO (1948), that "the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health in one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition,

**ARTICLE III:**  
**Measures to Reduce Demand**

21. Requests all Member States to adopt measures in line with;
  - a. Article 14, paragraph 4, of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988), which states that “appropriate measures aimed at eliminating or reducing illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,
  - b. Clause 7(d), article 2, of General Assembly A/RES/S-20/3 (1998), which encourages states to “enter into bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements aimed at eliminating or reducing” the demand for drugs;
  
22. Further requests all Member States to impose guidelines on medical practitioners regarding the appropriate dosages for prescription drugs, and implores Member States to sanction and penalize medical practitioners who unjustifiably provide excess medical drugs, with the guidelines on dosage being agreed upon and updates regularly by a Working Group under the WHO, as elaborated under Clause 37;
  
23. Calls for member states to distinguish between drugs used for medical purposes, under the prescription of qualified and licensed medical practitioners, and recreational drugs, with clauses below mainly referring to recreational drug use;

During the conference

# RULES OF PROCEDURE

Who gets to speak when and on what?

# Layout of a MUN council

**The Floor**  
(for speaking)

**The Dais**  
(Chairs)

**The House**  
(Delegates)

# Roll Call

- ◆ ‘Attendance-taking’ in MUN council
- ◆ Raise your placard and state your presence when your country is called by the dais
- ◆ **‘Present and voting’** (for members only)
  - ◆ Member intends to vote only ‘For’ or ‘Against’ on substantive matters in that session
- ◆ **‘Present’** (for both members and observers)
  - ◆ Members can abstain on substantive matters





# MOTIONS

Motions are something you raise that  
you want the council to do.

# Types of Motions

- ◆ Motion to open General Speakers' List (GSL)
  - ◆ Can speak about anything on the topic
  - ◆ Usually 90 seconds, subject to the discretion of the chairs
  
- ◆ Motion to move into moderated caucus
  - ◆ Speakers' list with a specified topic
  - ◆ State topic, total speaking time, individual speaking time, and whether you will be speaking first or last

# Yielding

- ◆ After your speech, you will need to **yield** your time. There are three ways you can yield:
  - ◆ Yield to Chair
  - ◆ Yield to Points of Information (POIs)
    - ◇ Accept questions from the floor
  - ◆ Yield to another speaker
    - ◇ Another delegate of your choice will speak using your remaining time

**Yielding is only applicable during open debates (eg. GSL).**

**Yields to the second degree are not permitted.**

# Types of Motions

- ◆ Motion for an unmoderated caucus
  - ◆ Suspend ROP for more informal discussion
  - ◆ State total time and topic
  - ◆ Delegate who raised this motion must give summary at the end
  
- ◆ Motion to introduce Working Paper / Resolution
  - ◆ Different from voting on the resolution

# Types of Motions

- ◆ Motion to move into direct voting procedures (DVP)
  - ◆ Voting to decide whether to vote
- ◆ Motion for roll call vote
- ◆ Motion to divide the house / question
- ◆ Motion to suspend / adjourn debate



# DELEGATE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

Delegates have rights, too.

# Rights & Privileges

- ◆ Point of Personal Privilege
  - ◆ Matters pertaining to delegate welfare (using the washroom, adjusting the room temperature)
  - ◆ Only a point regarding audibility may interrupt a speaker
- ◆ Point of Parliamentary Inquiry
  - ◆ Clarify with chairs about ROP
- ◆ Right to Reply
  - ◆ Raised after a speech when you feel the delegate has insulted you

# Rights & Privileges

- ◆ Points of Information (POIs)
  - ◆ Only when speaker has yielded/opened to POIs
  - ◆ Must be in the form of a question
  - ◆ Number of POIs taken based on time remaining





# VOTING

A democratic process at the UN.

# Types of Votes

## Procedural Voting

- ◆ On matters pertaining to procedure (motions)
- ◆ Chairs will ask for seconds and objections
- ◆ If put to a vote, simple majority of entire council
- ◆ All present delegates must vote
- ◆ Yes or No

## Substantive Voting

- ◆ On resolutions and amendments
- ◆ Two-third majority of voting delegates
- ◆ Only delegates with voting rights can vote
- ◆ Yes, No or Abstain (unless you stated 'Present and Voting')



## DEBATES ON RESOLUTION / AMENDMENT

Focused discussion on a resolution or  
amendment.

## Closed Debate

- ◆ Following the introduction of a resolution or amendment, the council will move into **closed debate**
- ◆ Debate must be on the resolution / amendment
- ◆ Usually two speakers for and two speakers against
- ◆ Yields not in order

# Open Debate

- ◆ Similar to GSL, but on the resolution / amendments
- ◆ Yielding in order
- ◆ Dais will be open to amendments / further amendments



## AMENDMENTS

Amendments are used to edit resolutions that have already been introduced.

# Types of Amendments

## Friendly Amendments

- ◆ Requires approval of all submitters
- ◆ Will automatically pass

## Unfriendly Amendments

- ◆ Does not require approval of submitters
- ◆ Must be debated and voted on (just like a resolution)



## GENERAL GUIDELINES

Hang in there, we're almost at the end  
of the presentation!



# General Guidelines

- ◆ **Speak in third person:**
  - ◆ No 'I, me, myself': "This delegate believes that..."
  - ◆ No personal names: Refer to another delegate by their country
- ◆ **No cross talking**
  - ◆ Show respect to the speaker
  - ◆ Communicate with other delegates through notepaper

# General Guidelines

- ◆ Be respectful and polite to everyone
- ◆ Only speak when you have been recognised
- ◆ Inform the dais if you are going to be absent or late

# DHAP Academic Policy

- ◆ DHAP takes a serious stance on the issue of academic integrity
- ◆ Delegates that are found guilty of plagiarism or other acts that give them an unfair advantage over others may be disqualified from awards

# Things to Bring

- ◆ Stationery and writing materials
- ◆ Notepaper
- ◆ Laptop and charger
- ◆ Water bottle
- ◆ Prior research
- ◆ An enthusiastic mentality!



# Thanks!

## Any questions?

You can direct any inquiries through DHAP's Instagram page at @dhaseanplus or email [aseanplus.communications@dhs.sg](mailto:aseanplus.communications@dhs.sg).