


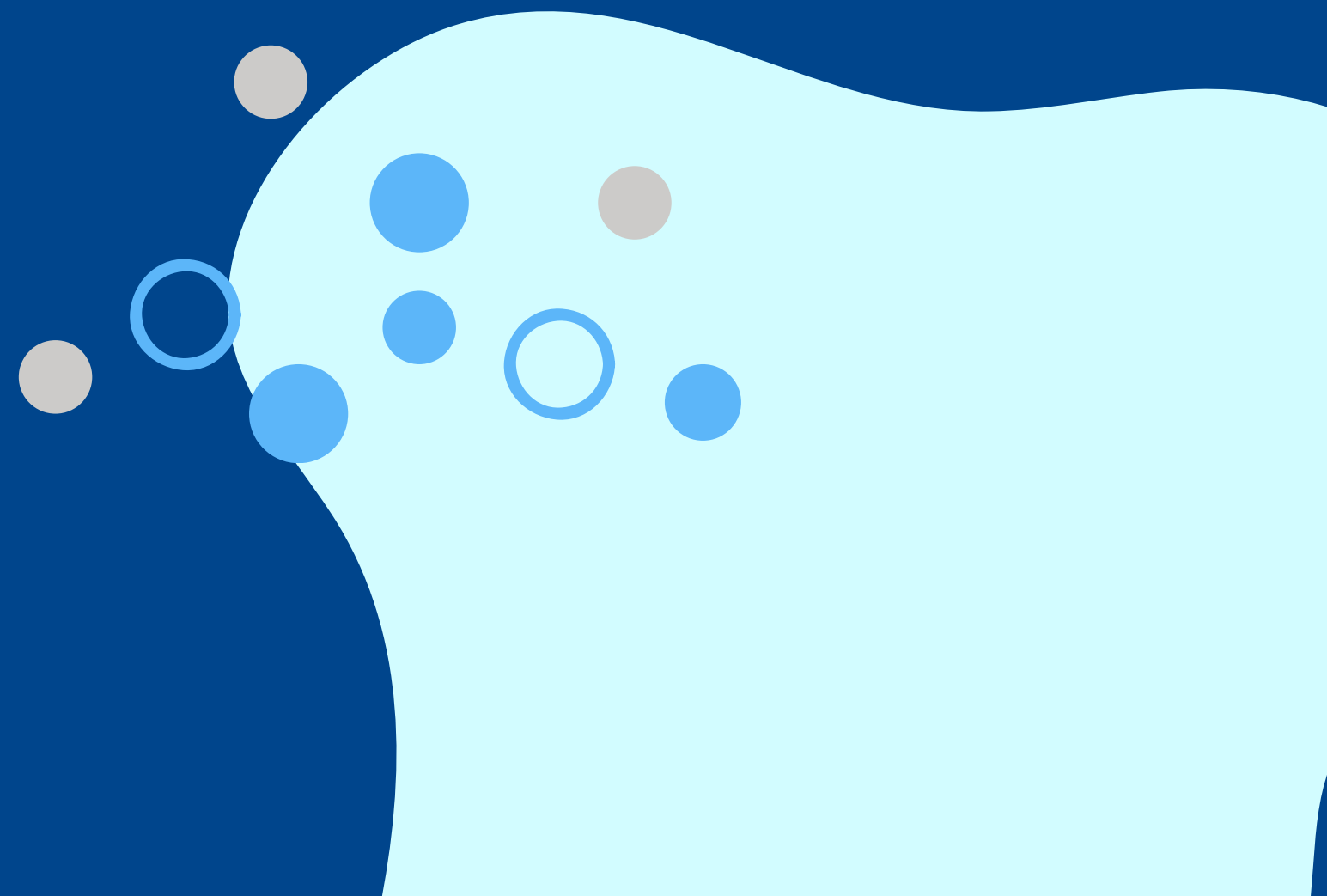
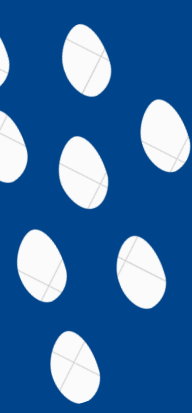
# Sec Gen's Guide to Writing a Resolution

By Nakai Mudiwa



**WHEN I FIRST STARTED MUN IN 2ND YEAR I WAS TOLD BY EVERYONE THAT THE BEST WAY TO LEARN HOW TO DEBATE AND WRITE RESOLUTIONS WAS TO THROW YOURSELF INTO IT WITH NO EXPECTATIONS, AND I AGREE, BUT I ALSO THINK THAT WITH A LITTLE EXTRA HELP AND SOME POINTERS, MUN CAN BECOME A LOT LESS INTIMIDATING!**

So here is a guide to writing your first resolution - possibly the most daunting aspect of MUN, to help you get started and make sure you're feeling confident when you stand up to debate it



# PART I: THE BASICS

Canva

# INTRODUCTION

QUESTION OF: [Insert your chosen topic]

SUBMITTED BY: [Insert the name of your delegation/country]

CO-SUBMITTED BY: [This is optional, if you wrote the resolution with someone else write their country name here, otherwise leave it out]

THE \_\_\_\_\_ COMMITTEE,: [Insert your committee name]

QUESTION OF: Species Extinction

SUBMITTED BY: Thailand

CO-SUBMITTED BY:

THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE,

*Bearing in mind that extinction of a particular animal or plant sp*

# PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES

These lay out any definitions or statistics needed to define the problem at hand, they can be kept short as most delegates will have read briefing papers to inform themselves already. 5-7 preambles is plenty.

Italics should be used and the first word should be underlined or made bold.

End each clause with a comma instead of a full stop.

Remember they can't be referred to during debate!

***Bearing in mind** that extinction of a particular animal or plant species occurs when there are no more individuals of that species alive anywhere in the world and that those that are most threatened are placed within the next three categories, known as the threatened categories—vulnerable, endangered, and critically endangered,*

***Noting with regret** that the average wealth of native species in most major land-based habitats has fallen by at least 20%, mostly since 1900, and that at least 680 vertebrate species had been driven to extinction since the 16th century and more than 9% of all domesticated breeds of mammals used for food and agriculture has become extinct since 2016, with at least 1,000 more breeds still threatened,*
















***Noting with deep concern** that similar trends have occurred in most major regions of the world, in freshwater and dryland ecosystems, and in the oceans as well as on land,*

***Fully aware** that three-quarters of the land-based environment and about 66% of the marine environment have been significantly altered by human actions and more than a third of the world's land surface and nearly 75% of freshwater resources are now devoted to crop or livestock production,*

***Emphasising** that the highest priority for action should be the prevention of extinction because the extinction of any species is an irredeemable loss,*

# PREAMBULATORY PHRASES

Use these to start off your preambulatory clauses. This is not an exhaustive list so look up some more if you need to!

- |   |            |   |             |   |                   |
|---|------------|---|-------------|---|-------------------|
|   | AFFIRMING  |   | REALISING   |   | HAVING CONSIDERED |
|  | ALARMED BY |  | RECALLING   |  | DEEPLY CONCERNED  |
|  | AWARE OF   |  | DECLARING   |  | KEEPING IN MIND   |
|  | CONVINCED  |  | EMPHASISING |  | CONFIDENT         |
|  | GUIDED BY  |  | RECOGNISING |  | BELIEVING         |
|  | OBSERVING  |  | WELCOMING   |  | APPROVING         |

# OPERATIVE CLAUSES

This is the part of your resolution that is actually being debated. They state what you want to achieve with this resolution and how you plan to solve the issue being debated. There are a good few rules for formatting them, here is an example of what they might look like:

2. **Recommends** the management of responsible fishing especially in marine protected areas, through the use of,
  - a) effective fishing quotas to reduce overfishing which would include
    - i. increasing the size of holes in nets to ensure only mature fish are caught
    - ii. the setting of catch quotas with reference to studies of fish populations turned in for scientific review by a third party
  - b) protecting and managing key marine biodiversity areas and
  - c) working closely with producers and consumers,
  
3. **Encourages** the reduction of run- off pollution, which consists of the contaminants picked up by rainwater and melting snow that wash off the many impermeable surfaces found in urban environments, and which is a significant source of ocean pollution, threatens ocean biodiversity and is also a threat to both the quantity and quality of our water supply through introducing vegetative buffers along coastlines that are vulnerable to it;



# OPERATIVE CLAUSES RULES

Operative clauses are numbered and the operative phrase is underlined AND made bold.

Sub clauses do not need to start with an operative phrase. They are denoted with a), b), c) etc. and sub-sub clauses are denoted by i., ii., iii, iv. etc. You cannot have sub-sub-sub clauses.



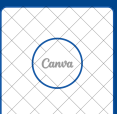















You cannot repeat an operational phrase but you can use eg. “Requests” and “Further Requests”.

End each clause with a semi colon (;) and each sub-clause with a comma. Only end the last clause of the resolution with a full stop.



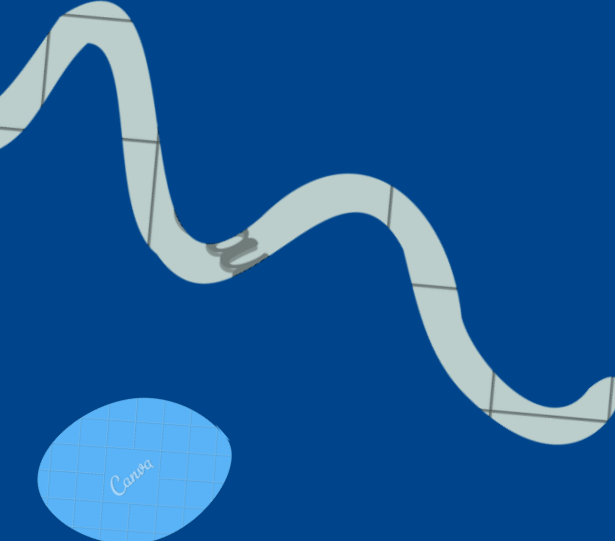
# OPERATIVE PHRASES

Use these to start off your operative clauses. This is not an exhaustive list so look up some more if you need to!

	APPROVES		FURTHER REQUESTS		ENDORSES
	ASKS		FURTHER RECOMMENDS		REMINDS
	CALLS/CALLS UPON		SUPPORTS		AFFIRMS
	CONFIRMS		TRUSTS		CONDEMNS
	EXPRESSES ITS HOPE		URGES		DEMANDS
	FURTHER INVITES		ENCOURAGES		STRONGLY CONDEMMSN

Security Council Only!





# **PART 2: GUIDELINES**

**Make sure you stick to these rules if you want to ensure your resolution gets through approval panel and can be debated!**






# LENGTH OF RESOLUTION

Your clauses should not be shorter than 2 lines, if they are they will probably be vague, making them weak to criticism and ineffective. Shorter clauses also mean your resolution will immediately be judged as weak.

The limit for PARKMUN resolutions is 20 operative clauses, including sub-clauses but not including sub-sub clauses. Keep your resolutions at 20 clauses or shorter if you want them to be debated. A well thought out resolution can fit a huge amount in these 20 clauses.



# FORMATTING

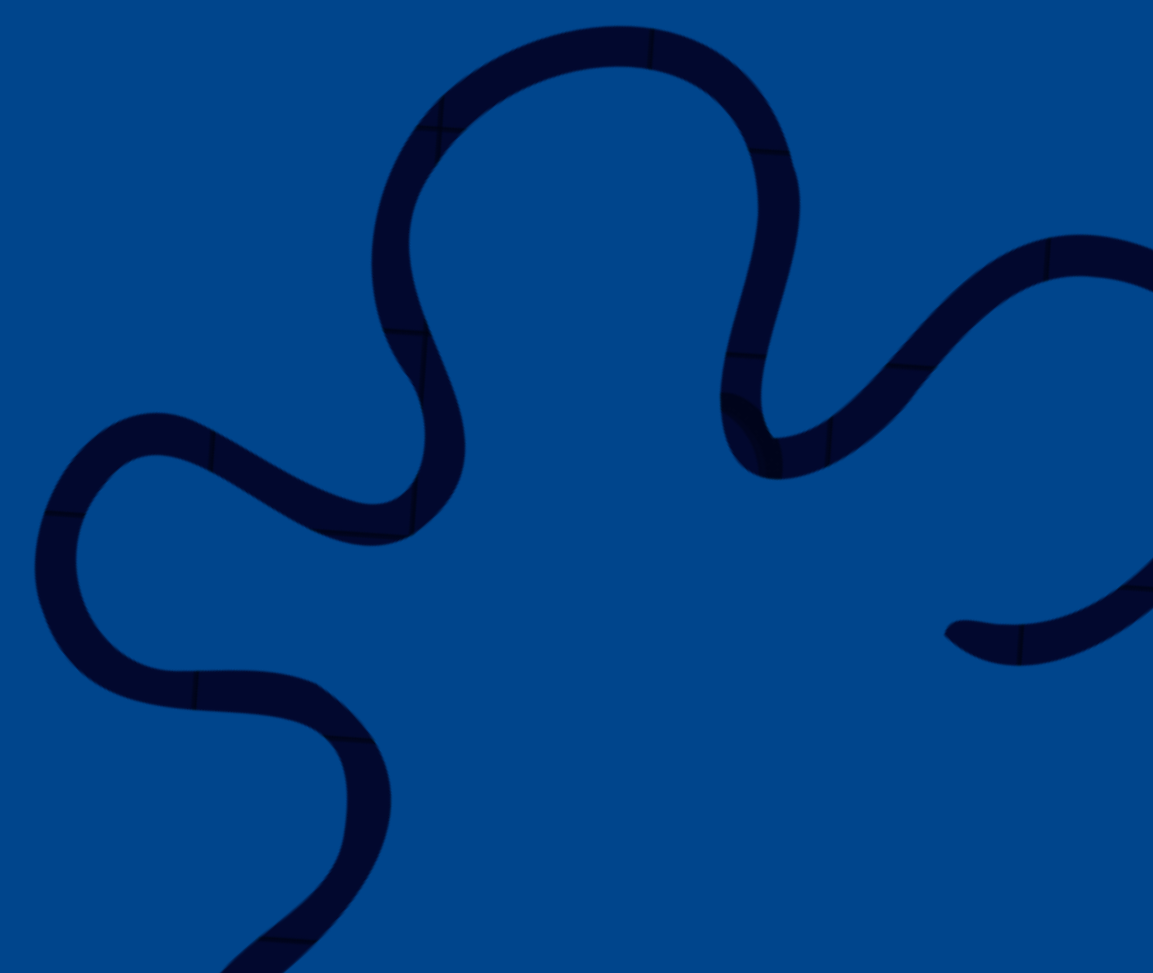
## PREAMBS

- Underline the preambulatory phrase or make it bold.
- Do not number the clauses.
- End each clause with a comma, including the last one
- Remember to write out any acronyms in full for the first time that you use them. Eg. : WHO (World Health Organisation)

## OPERATIVE

- Underline the operative phrase AND make it bold.
- Number the clauses, then use a), b), c) and i., ii., iii., iv, for sub-clauses and sub-sub clauses.
- End each clause with a semi colon, then end the last one with a full stop

# PART 3: TIPS



# TIPS FROM SEC GEN!

1

If you are looking for definitions of terms (for in preambles) look on the UN website first, and then in resolutions that have already been passed by the UN.

3

Make sure not to create UN agencies or taskforces without checking that they don't already exist, and in general be aware of the legislation already existing around the issue. Make sure to read briefing papers for more information.

2

Put more important clauses first in the resolution (as there is often not enough time to thoroughly debate all clauses). However the timeframe (which should always be included) can be at the very end.

4

Make sure your clauses are clear in what they are trying to solve and exactly how they will be carried out and who will oversee this. This shows that your resolution is well thought out. When it comes to funding - in MUN there is unlimited funding but you still have to refer to what body will fund it (WHO or IMF).



# YOUR FIRST CONFERENCE

If PARKMUN is going to be your first conference, don't feel any pressure to write a resolution, but do try to speak with a POI or a speech for/against another resolution. The sooner you do this the more relaxed you'll be for the rest of the conference, and the less intimidating it'll feel next time!

Don't forget that this experience is all about meeting new people too, so don't be afraid to start a conversation, you already have one thing in common and that's  
**MUN!**

Hopefully this guide helps, good luck!





**GOOD LUCK!**

