

MONTANA MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Resolution Writing Guide and Forms

Draft realistic, negotiable, and properly formatted committee action

What a Resolution Is

A resolution is the formal product of committee deliberation. It records the committee's understanding of a problem and the actions it recommends, requests, encourages, or—when the body has authority—authorizes. At MMUN, delegates develop resolutions collaboratively through research, speeches, caucusing, drafting, review, amendment, and voting.

Document Stages

Stage	Meaning
Working paper	A developing document that has not yet been accepted by the dais.
Draft resolution	A properly formatted working paper accepted and numbered by the dais for formal consideration.
Resolution	A draft resolution adopted by the committee.
Amendment	A proposed change to the operative text of a draft resolution.

Sponsors and Signatories

- Sponsors are principal authors who support the document and control whether a proposed amendment is friendly.
- Signatories want the document discussed. A signatory does not necessarily support the document and may ultimately vote against it.
- A working paper must meet the sponsor/signatory threshold announced by the dais. Under standard MMUN rules, the combined total is at least 25 percent of members present.

Write Within the Mandate

- Identify what the committee can recommend, request, coordinate, fund, monitor, or authorize.
- Do not command sovereign states, non-UN organizations, or another UN body when the committee lacks that authority.

- Use existing institutions when possible. Avoid creating a new agency, fund, or reporting system without explaining why existing mechanisms are insufficient.
- Specify implementation, resources, oversight, and reporting when they are necessary to make a proposal credible.

Resolution Structure

Heading

List the committee, topic, sponsors, signatories, and code assigned by the dais.

Preambulatory clauses

Explain the problem, legal basis, principles, and relevant prior action. Each begins with an italicized or underlined phrase and ends with a comma. Preambulatory clauses are not amended at MMUN.

Operative clauses

State the proposed action. Each numbered clause begins with an underlined action verb and ends with a semicolon, except the final clause, which ends with a period. Use lettered subclauses when needed. MMUN working papers must contain at least four preambulatory and four operative clauses unless the dais announces otherwise.

Useful Opening Phrases

Preambulatory	Operative
Acknowledging	Affirms
Affirming	Calls upon
Alarmed by	Condemns
Aware of	Encourages
Bearing in mind	Endorses
Deeply concerned	Invites
Emphasizing	Recommends
Guided by	Requests
Having considered	Supports
Recognizing	Urges
Recalling	Authorizes*
Reaffirming	Decides*

*Use coercive verbs only when the committee possesses the relevant authority.

Quality Test

- Is every clause connected to the topic?
- Is the action within the committee's authority?
- Does each operative clause identify an actor and action?
- Are costs, capacity, oversight, and reporting addressed where relevant?
- Could countries with different interests negotiate around the proposal?
- Does the document build on existing action rather than repeat it?
- Can every factual or legal reference be verified?

Resolution Template

Committee	[Committee name]
Topic	[Official topic title]
Sponsors	[Countries]
Signatories	[Countries]
Code	[Assigned by dais]

The [Committee Name],

Recalling [relevant Charter provision, treaty, or resolution],

Recognizing [important condition or prior action],

Deeply concerned by [specific dimension of the problem],

Emphasizing [principle, need, or shared objective],

1. Calls upon [actor] to [specific action];
2. Encourages [actor] to [specific action, including implementation detail];
3. Requests [appropriate UN body or official] to [report, coordinate, assist, or monitor];
4. Recommends [final action or follow-up mechanism].

Sample Resolution

Committee	United Nations Environment Assembly
Topic	Environmental Sustainability of Artificial Intelligence Systems
Sponsors	Pacifica, Montierra, Norland
Signatories	Asteria, Belvar, Coastalia
Code	UNEA/I/1

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 and its commitment to sustainable development, including affordable and clean energy and responsible consumption and production,

Recognizing the potential of artificial intelligence to support environmental monitoring, climate science, and efficient resource use,

Deeply concerned by the energy, water, mineral, and electronic-waste demands associated with rapidly expanding digital infrastructure,

Emphasizing the need for transparent and comparable environmental information that does not prevent developing states from accessing beneficial technologies,

5. Encourages Member States and technology providers to develop voluntary lifecycle assessments addressing energy use, water consumption, mineral inputs, equipment longevity, and electronic waste;
6. Requests the United Nations Environment Programme, within existing resources and in consultation with relevant technical bodies, to compile available measurement practices and identify gaps affecting developing states;
7. Invites regional organizations, universities, and industry partners to support training and data collection for governments with limited technical capacity;
8. Recommends that voluntary national reporting distinguish between the environmental costs of AI infrastructure and documented environmental benefits produced through its use.

Amendment Form

Committee: _____

Draft resolution code: _____

Submitting country or countries: _____

Proposed Change

Action	Select one
Add	☐
Delete text within an operative clause	☐
Replace or revise text	☐

Operative clause number

Exact current wording

Exact proposed wording

Reason for the change

Sponsor Review

If every sponsor approves, the amendment may be treated as friendly after dais approval. If any sponsor does not approve, the amendment must meet the signatory requirement for an unfriendly amendment and be voted upon.

Sponsor country	Approve?	Initials

For Dais Use

Status	Code / notes
☐ Friendly amendment accepted	
☐ Unfriendly amendment accepted	
☐ Returned for revision	
☐ Out of order	