

Resolution Paper Guide

What is a Resolution Paper?

A **resolution** is essentially one very long sentence, broken down into small parts, that describes why a committee wants to take action, and which actions it wants to take. There are three main parts to a resolution: the heading, the pre-ambulatory clauses, and the operative clauses.

The **heading** contains four pieces of information: the committee name, the topic, the sponsors and the signatories. The sponsors are the authors of the resolution paper. The signatories are other delegates in the committee who do not necessarily agree with the resolution but would like to see it debated.

The **pre-ambulatory clauses** are the clauses that state the issues the committee wants to resolve, but they do not contain substance and are not legally binding in any committee. They include: past actions taken by UN bodies, past statements by United Nations agencies, general information or facts about the topic, the significance of the topic and previous efforts. A pre-ambulatory clause starts with a pre-ambulatory phrase in bold, followed the statement, ending with a comma.

Operative clauses contain all the solutions that the sponsor(s) of the resolution propose. These clauses set out actual solutions and initiatives for the committee to undertake. They implement new policies or make a statement. It is important that each clause should aim to solve a specific aspect of the issue, and not be too broad. An operative clause starts with a bolded operative phrase, followed by the substance, and ends with a semicolon. The last operative clause finishes with a period.



Example Resolution Paper

Committee: UNESCO

Topic: Strengthening UN coordination of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies

Sponsors: United States, Austria, United Kingdom, Italy, and Japan
Signatories: Finland, South Africa, Germany, India, Egypt, and Venezuela

The General Assembly,

1. **Reminding** all nations of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which recognizes the inherent dignity, equality and inalienable rights of all global citizens,
2. **Reaffirming** its Resolution 33/1996 of 25 July 1996, which encourages Governments to work with UN bodies aimed at improving the coordination and effectiveness of humanitarian assistance,
3. **Noting** with satisfaction the past efforts of various relevant UN bodies and nongovernmental organizations,
4. **Stressing** the fact that the United Nations faces significant financial obstacles and is in need of reform, particularly in the humanitarian realm,

1. **Encourages** all relevant agencies of the United Nations to collaborate more closely with countries at the grassroots level to enhance the carrying out of relief efforts;
2. **Urges** member states to comply with the goals of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs to streamline efforts of humanitarian aid;
3. **Requests** that all nations develop rapid deployment forces to better enhance the coordination of relief efforts of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies;
4. **Calls for** the development of a United Nations Trust Fund that encourages voluntary donations from the private transnational sector to aid in funding the implementation of rapid deployment forces;
5. **Stresses** the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;
6. **Calls upon** states to respond quickly and generously to consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance, and
7. **Requests** the expansion of preventive actions and assurance of post conflict assistance through reconstruction and development.



Pre-ambulatory Clauses

Acknowledging	Concerned	Deeply regretting	Further recalling	Noting further
Affirming	Confident	Desiring	Guided by	Observing
Alarmed by	Conscious	Emphasizing	Having adopted	Reaffirming
Appreciating	Contemplating	Expecting	Having considered	Realizing
Approving	Convinced	Expressing	Having examined	Recalling
Aware of	Declaring	Fully alarmed	Having heard	Recognizing
Bearing in mind	Deeply concerned	Fully aware	Having received	Seeking
Believing	Deeply convinced	Fully believing	Keeping in mind	Taking into consideration
Commending	Deeply disturbed	Further deploring	Noting with regret	Welcoming

Operative Clauses

Accepts	Considers	Expresses its hope	Invites	Seeks
Affirms	Declares accordingly	Further invites	Notes	Solemnly affirms
Approves	Deplores	Further proclaims	Proclaims	Strongly condemns
Authorizes	Designates	Further recommends	Reaffirms	Suggests
Calls for	Draws attention to	Further reminds	Recommends	Supports
Calls upon	Emphasizes	Further requests	Regrets	Takes note of
Condemns	Encourages	Further resolves	Reminds	Transmits
Confirms	Endorses	Has resolved	Requests	Urges
Congradulates	Expresses its appreciation	Hopes	Resolves	Welcomes

